



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

# Aberdeen City

Local Policing Plan 2014-2017



**ABERDEEN**  
CITY COUNCIL

# Aberdeen City

## Local Policing Plan 2014-2017

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- 5. Hindi** 'यदि आप यह जानकारी किसी वैकल्पिक प्रारूप अथवा भाषा में प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं – कृपया अपनी आवश्यकताओं के बारे में विचार करने के लिए हमसे संपर्क करें'।
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- 13. Chinese traditional** 如果您希望以其他的格式或語言獲得這些資訊，請聯繫我們以討論您的需求。
- 14. Gaelic** Ma tha sibh ag iarraidh an fhiosrachaidh seo ann an riochd no cànan eile, nach cuir sibh fios thugainn gus ur cuid fheumalachdan a dheasbad.

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# **POLICING PLAN FOR 2014-2017**

## **1. Introduction**

This plan sets out the local policing priorities and objectives for the local authority area of Aberdeen City for 2014-2017 and is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. It is produced as part of a planning process which takes account of the Scottish Government's overarching vision for public services, the Strategic Police Priorities set by Scottish Ministers, the Scottish Police Authorities Strategic Police Plan and the Chief Constable of Scotland's Annual Police Plan.

The Local Policing Plan for Aberdeen City represents a critical part of the delivery process for the service, demonstrating our commitment to local policing within the national planning framework and enabling us to respond effectively to the concerns of local communities as well as meet and tackle nationwide demands. This plan will be supported by 13 Multi Member Ward Level Community Policing Plans which respond directly to local needs and demands.

Aberdeen City is a diverse city perceived as being wealthy and economically buoyant, with a growing population, low unemployment and vibrant economy. Despite this, there are sharp differences between affluent and deprived areas of the city. Many of the city's regeneration areas feature heavily in the Scottish Index of Multiple Social Deprivation, and it is no surprise that these areas are the ones that contain the most significant health inequalities and wider social problems.

This plan sets out the key strategic priorities for policing the City of Aberdeen. These have been set by taking account of a range of information sources and reflect nationally set priorities and crime analysis, but more critically by consulting with local communities and partner agencies so that these priorities are focused on policing local communities across Aberdeen.

It is only by working together with you, the people of Aberdeen, that we can truly make a difference. Partnership working is key to delivering on the Single Outcome Agreement and Aberdeen Cities 2020 vision and we will continue to develop our work with the extensive network of agencies and organisations across all sectors of the economy. We will continue to look across Scotland for examples of best practice which will enhance the way in which we deliver our service.

The City of Aberdeen has never been safer. Violent crime and antisocial behaviour have been consistently reduced in recent years and the city regularly features highly in employers' global quality of life surveys. It is our commitment, working closely with partners and the communities themselves, to ensure that Aberdeen continues to be one of the safest and most welcoming cities in the country.

## **2. Foreword by:**

### **Sir Stephen House QPM, Chief Constable of the Police Service of Scotland**

The first year of Police Scotland has seen significant change in many aspects of the organisation, however, the delivery of locally-focused operational policing remains the bedrock of this service. I remain strongly committed to the principle that community-based policing, which responds to local need and demand, is crucial to delivering services that keep people safe and maintain public confidence.

One of the ways in which we can visibly demonstrate this commitment to local policing is by listening to communities and asking them to help shape our priorities. We have consulted widely across the council area with local people and other organisations to help identify our priorities. By combining the information we received through this consultation process with analysis of crime and other performance data we have established the priorities and objectives that are set out in this plan.

In developing this plan the Local Policing Team, led by the Local Commander, has worked closely with public, private and third sector organisations as well as directly with communities, because we recognise that partnership working is critical to making our communities safer. Importantly, this approach has also ensured that our planning process is aligned to the broader vision set out in the Community Plan and supports the Single Outcome Agreement. This plan is therefore a commitment to working across agencies to deliver better outcomes for communities as well as setting out how policing will be delivered in this area.

I am pleased to say that we have achieved much in the first year of Police Scotland to tackle crime and prevent harm - reducing the number of people who have been the victims of violence and the number killed and injured on our roads as well as addressing other crucial priorities for communities. This plan sets out an agenda to build on that success by tackling the issues that will improve the safety and wellbeing of communities across this local authority area.

### **Vic Emery OBE, Chair of the Scottish Police Authority**

I passionately believe that the establishment of Police Scotland and the SPA has created significant opportunities to strengthen the effectiveness of policing. We want you the public to have a real say on local priorities and for policing to listen to that public voice. This plan is where that comes together. It sets out what your local priorities are – identified from what local people are saying is most important to them, and underpinned by local evidence and intelligence gathered by policing in this area.

We want you to be able to question, and judge, how well the police are performing against those priorities. So we will expect your local commander to report publicly and regularly on how they are achieving the priorities set in this plan, so you and your community can assess for yourselves how policing is working for you.

We want residents to be able to see how money invested in policing is being used and what results it brings, and to understand better how national and local policing decisions are made and why.

Scotland is a country with reducing levels of crime, and a strong bond of trust between the Police service and the Scottish public. Local partnerships, a focus on prevention and collaboration, and genuine accountability at both local and national level underpin that bond.

Working together to turn this plan into results, as professionals and members of the public, is about making this part of Scotland a place of greater safety – and a greater place to live.

**Councillor Len Ironside CBE, Convenor of the Social Care, Wellbeing and Safety Committee, Aberdeen City Council**

To follow.

### **3. Priorities and Objectives**

#### **Priority - Antisocial Behaviour**

Antisocial behaviour is the umbrella to a wide range of crimes and offences including youth annoyance, street drinking, public urinating, antisocial driving and vandalism, and is prevalent to varying degrees across the city. From the sobriety figures of those apprehended by the police in relation to crimes involving antisocial behaviour, alcohol can often be a contributing or exacerbating factor and this sort of disorder or annoyance can also sometimes be a precursor to more serious crime types. Like crimes of violence it is reported most frequently within the city centre as well as within Aberdeen's regeneration areas where a higher level of social deprivation tends to be present.

There is a clear correlation between excessive alcohol consumption and instances of disorder and analysis of problem premises and persistent offenders enables us to proactively target disorder 'hot spots'.

We are committed to reducing the number of people affected by antisocial behaviour and will continue to work closely with partner agencies to exploit all opportunities to prevent crime, manage offenders through our pioneering youth justice strategy and support victims through collaborative joint working. We will rigorously pursue the application and enforcement of Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBO), sharing relevant information with partners to assist in early eviction of problem tenants.

There has been a reduction in antisocial behaviour in recent years and we will continue to use intelligence analysis to proactively target and manage perpetrators of violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour, not only in the city centre, but throughout our communities, to ensure a better quality of life for all.

Focused activity through our successful 'Maple'<sup>1</sup> and 'Oak'<sup>2</sup> Strategies, with the addition of work under the 'Trinity'<sup>3</sup> Strategy, has seen overall reductions in all instances of antisocial behaviour throughout our communities. Throughout the forthcoming year we will continue to deliver these overarching strategies.

#### **Objectives:**

- Reduce the number of incidents of antisocial behaviour reported by members of the public;
- Decrease the number of complaints regarding youth disorder;
- Decrease instances of vandalism.

Our officers are dedicated to tackling all levels of antisocial behaviour, which are significant causes of concern for our communities as highlighted within our Community Policing Plans.

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<sup>1</sup> Maple – A multi-agency approach to tackle antisocial behaviour, alcohol related crime and violence.

<sup>2</sup> Oak – A long-term multi-agency strategy to tackle city centre crime and violence.

<sup>3</sup> Trinity – A strategy to combat the antisocial use of motorcycles.

## **Priority - Housebreaking**

Whilst there has been an overall reduction in all types of acquisitive crime throughout Aberdeen city over the past five years, it is acknowledged that Aberdeen continues to record a higher than average rate of crimes of dishonesty per head of population. Whilst there is a general longer term decrease in all forms of dishonesties, there has been a rise in all forms of housebreaking during 2013/14 and consultation indicates that this intrusive crime is a concern to communities.

Housebreaking refers to all crimes where property is stolen or attempted to be stolen from a secured home, business or outbuilding including sheds and garages and it affects, to varying degrees, all our communities and demographics. Crime analysis indicates a direct correlation between housebreaking and the theft of or from vehicles and that generally these crimes are opportunistic.

Evidence derived from custody debriefing and sources of information from partner agencies, generally shows a link with substance misuse, employability and the associated chaotic lifestyle. It is likely that the recent prolonged period of economic austerity and the changes to welfare reform has resulted in an increase in housebreaking. Consequently, all community planning partners understand the requirement to focus activity on tackling the issue with evidence-led policies advocating proactive, early intervention with a focus upon repeat victimisation and crime prevention.

We have established dedicated units focusing upon housebreaking and are working with criminal justice partners to ensure that our investigations are supported with bail conditions, curfews and other forms of interventions to reduce offending and influence behaviour.

To effectively deal with this priority we will continue to undertake intelligence gathering, conduct crime pattern analysis and deploy targeted police patrols. In addition, we will endeavour to heighten public awareness of the situation to achieve a reduction in the risk of them becoming a victim of this type of crime.

### **Objectives:**

- Reduce the level of all forms of housebreaking;
- Increase the detection rate for all forms of housebreaking.

We will focus our policing activity on detection opportunities, using our resources intelligently, collaborating with partners to reduce the opportunity for housebreaking and to effectively targeting those involved in this intrusive crime.



## **Priority - National Security**

Aberdeen City has several sites of critical national infrastructure, many of which are connected to the energy sector. The close proximity to the oil and gas fields of the North sea have resulted in Global Headquarters buildings, control rooms and key network points being located in Aberdeen. In addition, the city has a busy seaport, International Airport and a large number of high profile visitors including The Royal Family. The city also has large and diverse University population.

'Keeping People Safe' clearly includes protection from the threat of terrorism and we are committed to the aims and objectives of the United Kingdom Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST).

CONTEST comprises of the 4 'P's:-

- Protect - strengthening our borders, infrastructure, buildings and public spaces from an attack;
- Prepare - where an attack cannot be stopped, to reduce its impact by ensuring we can respond effectively;
- Pursue - to disrupt or stop terrorist attacks;
- Prevent - to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

In line with the aims of the 4 'P's we have delivered inputs to the public, private and third sectors to assist in strengthening their protection against a terrorist incident and mitigating the impact should such an attack take place. We have also created a National Security Action Plan, and a Divisional CONTEST Multi-Agency Group which focuses National Security as a priority business issue for each Organisation across the four strands of 'CONTEST'. The Objective of the Group is to develop and co-ordinate a multi-agency response by reducing the threat posed by violent extremism and terrorism at a local strategic level.

The importance of community resilience in the fight against the threat of terrorism and violent extremism is crucial, and it is recognised that this can only be fully achieved with the support and co-operation of our communities. We will therefore maintain our focus on the themes contained within the CONTEST Strategy, with our partners and those in our communities, to maintain our resilience and reduce the risk from domestic and international terrorism.

### **Objectives:**

- Increase community engagement and intelligence in support of the CONTEST Strategy;
- Deliver training and briefings to organisations, community groups and partner agencies in support of the 4 'P's';
- Co-ordinate the work within the Divisional Action Plan through the Divisional CONTEST Multi-Agency Group.

The overarching desire of the strategy is to reduce the risk we face from terrorism so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

## **Priority - Protecting People**

Protecting people is a key priority and we are committed to keeping people free from physical, sexual or emotional harm, irrespective of their age or social background. Addressing vulnerability and preventing harm are therefore core business for the police and community planning partners. It applies not just to adults who may be unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or financial affairs through disability, illness, physical or mental infirmity, but equally also to children for whom the management of concerns is one of the Scottish Government's five strands of work for implementing the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) approach.

Domestic abuse is an insidious issue often hidden from the focus of agencies that can provide support. Our priority is to robustly tackle domestic abuse by managing the risk of harm posed by dangerous offenders, while protecting and supporting victims and their families.

Tackling rape and other serious sexual offences is of utmost importance. We will continue to deliver a victim-centered approach whilst managing offenders to reduce the risk of harm through early and effective intervention together with the timely and appropriate sharing of information. In addition, dedicated officers will continue to proactively manage Registered Sex Offenders residing within Aberdeen. Acknowledging the importance of this work stream, dedicated Rape and Domestic Abuse Investigation Teams will feature as mainstream units within Aberdeen City Division.

Aberdeen, as the third largest city in Scotland is not immune from the presence of the sex industry. However, it is recognised that women involved in this lifestyle are often not there by choice. They are likely to have chaotic lives and are often drug dependent. Along with our partner agencies and through the Begonia<sup>4</sup> Strategy we are working on a dual approach to both divert these vulnerable women into rehabilitation programmes and also to proactively target those who seek their services.

### **Objectives:**

- Deliver and embed GIRFEC into the practices of Officers and Staff across Aberdeen City Division;
- Enhance child protection by ensuring police attend partner agency Child Protection hearings;
- Work together with partners to protect adults at risk as effectively as possible;
- Increase detection rates for crimes of domestic abuse and sexual offences.

The focus of police activity will be to ensure that the most vulnerable people in our communities are protected and feel safe. This will be achieved by identifying victims of crime and ensuring support mechanisms are in place for them.

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<sup>4</sup> Begonia – A strategy to combat Street Prostitution.

## **Priority - Safer Roads**

Road safety and road crime is a key priority and we will pursue all opportunities within Aberdeen City to positively influence driver behaviour in an effort to reduce road collision casualties and deny criminals the use of our road network. Our priority aligns to Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020 - Go Safe on Scotland's Roads it's Everyone's Responsibility - which articulates the desire of *"A steady reduction in the numbers of those killed and those seriously injured, with the ultimate vision of a future where no-one is killed on Scotland's roads, and the injury rate is much reduced."* The multiagency Operation Whitebeam strategy has been locally devised together with partners to ensure that all opportunities are being exploited to reduce casualties. Police and Roads Safety partners meet regularly in support of the Single Outcome agreement objective.

In recent years, several targeted operations and problem based partner activities, focusing predominantly on vehicle users, has realised an overall reduction in fatal and serious injury collisions. In contrast, there has been an increase in pedal cyclist collisions, linked to prevalence of commuting cyclists, and child pedestrian casualties generally associated with urban areas. We now have a dedicated Roads Policing Unit with enforcement activity linked to schools, residential streets and areas of community concern with a strong emphasis on prevention and education.

Thefts of vehicles by young drivers who steal keys to vehicles have been rising within Aberdeen. This behaviour creates potential for harm to our communities and we will continue to proactively target this high risk behaviour through intelligence gathering and directed enforcement activity against those involved.

Enhancing the quality of the current road network through capital projects such as the Western Peripheral Route and the developments outlined in the Aberdeen Local Development Plan, will create both challenges and opportunities in how the roads network is engineered and we will ensure, together with partners, that Safer Roads are at the forefront of all these enhancements.

### **Objectives:**

- Decrease the number of person killed or seriously injured on our roads;
- Increase the enforcement activities and visibility on our streets and roads.

We will continue to work with partner agencies to ensure people using our roads are kept safe through adopting an intelligence led approach to the reduction of road casualties by targeting speeding motorists, uninsured and disqualified drivers, drink and / or drug driving, those not wearing a seatbelt and individuals who use mobile phones while driving.

## **Priority - Serious and Organised Crime**

Our priority is to keep people safe by reducing the risk of harm posed by Serious Organised Criminal Groups (SOCGs).

The vibrant Aberdeen economy is seen as a lucrative market for criminals profiting from the distribution of drugs. These groups often originate from major English cities and are facilitated in Aberdeen by the use of local and travelling 'couriers', targeting the young and vulnerable members of our communities. Local consultation confirms that the sale and supply of drugs on a local level severely impacts upon the quality of life of individuals and throughout communities. We will continue to focus policing resources and those of our partners through our 'Maple' strategy on identifying and targeting those criminals who supply drugs and support organised criminals. We will continue to work in partnership to reduce harm, identify antisocial behaviour and prevent access to illegal substances.

In line with the Scottish Governments 'Letting Our Communities Flourish - A Strategy for Tackling Serious Organised Crime in Scotland' we aim to embrace all opportunities for focused intelligence gathering and continued collaborative working with communities, public and private sector bodies and key partner agencies, to give serious organised criminals no place to hide. This strategy focuses upon the 4 key elements known as the 4 D's:

- Divert individuals (particularly young people) from engaging in or using the products of Serious Organised Crime;
- Disrupt the activities of Serious Organised Crime groups;
- Deter Serious Organised Crime by implementing measures to protect communities, businesses and the public sector;
- Detect; to give Serious Organised Criminals no place to hide by boosting capacity, improving coordination and detecting offenders;

Police in Aberdeen have access to a variety of resources, skills and experience from across Scotland to tackle Organised Crime. Locally we have established a dedicated team who are targeting those whose activities blight our communities and we are supported nationally to ensure that our interventions are effective and impactful.

### **Objectives:**

- Increase the use of the Proceeds of Crime legislation to deprive serious organised crime groups of assets
- Increase the detection for the supply of drugs

We will maintain the drive to actively decrease the impact of SOCGs on our communities through targeted enforcement and disruption of their criminal activities.

## **Priority - Violent Crime**

Violent crime affects all our communities but tends to be prevalent in city centres and areas of urban and social deprivation. Aberdeen is no exception in this regard. Although levels of these crimes have reduced in recent years, we continue to recognise this as a priority; tackling violence in all its forms whether it be in a domestic or public setting.

The excessive consumption of alcohol can often increase the likelihood of both perpetrating and being a victim of a violent crime. Misuse of alcohol is an obvious 'golden thread' throughout most of the 16 National Outcomes within the Single Outcome Agreement, and also features as a necessary priority within both the Community Planning Aberdeen and Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessments.

Our continuing commitment to delivering tangible outcomes through our well established multi-agency Oak and Maple strategies are key to success in this area. These strategies focus on the problems caused by alcohol and drugs across all communities and tackle violence and disorder through a policy of early intervention and joint work alongside partners. Together, they allow us to deal with these issues throughout the city.

We remain committed to tackling Robberies within the city. We will continue to proactively disrupt criminal behaviour and use a variety of tactics, including stop and search activity to prevent crime, recover harmful drugs and remove knives and other weapons from within our communities.

In conjunction with the Single Outcome Agreement and Community Planning partners we have increased our focus upon those who commit Domestic Abuse, supporting and encouraging victims whilst targeting offenders who persistently engage in a crime type which is traditionally difficult to detect. Through proactive policing, supportive partnership interventions and supervisory investigative review we ensure that all investigative opportunities are rigorously pursued in an effort to bring the offenders to justice.

Early intervention work has been carried out in conjunction with partner agencies in relation to those in custody for violent offences to offer them support in respect of alcohol or drug consumption.

### **Objectives:**

- Decrease the number of Assaults;
- Increase the detection rate for crimes of violence;
- Decrease the number of Robberies.

We will use intelligence-led methods and systems to proactively target and manage perpetrators of violence across the city. In this way our efforts, and those of our partners, will together make Aberdeen a safer, welcoming and more prosperous city for all who live, work, visit or socialise here.

#### **4. How we identified our Priorities and Objectives**

The Scottish Policing Assessment sets out the priorities for the Police Service of Scotland to the year 2015. It is a key document for the police in the continuous process of meeting future challenges and ensuring that the service the police provide to the communities of Scotland is of a high standard.

The assessment draws on information and intelligence provided by all the Scottish Divisions and law enforcement agencies as well as information from key partner agencies including the Scottish Government, local authorities and the public. It is through this assessment that risk in relation to crime and disorder is prioritised.

Community Planning Aberdeen has recently developed a Strategic Assessment providing agreed city-wide priorities which are clearly outcome focused and very much in line with the national review of Community Planning and the Single Outcome Agreement.

The priorities identified in this plan have been identified through further analysis of local crime trends and information. The desire of key service providers detailed in the Aberdeen City Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2013 -16, has also been integral to the identification of the city's priorities, through partnership analysis, risk assessment and a shared vision of better outcomes for all.

Since 2010, we have adopted a Local Policing model across the Aberdeen area consulting listening and responding to feedback from communities across the city. We have developed our policing plan based on the ongoing consultation processes with community councils, key individual networks, elected officials and communities. This programme of engagement and consultation have made the critical contribution to identifying issues for local communities and these have been translated into the key policing priorities for Aberdeen City.

All of our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity, in our dealings with the public we serve as well as our own staff.

We recognise that effective and fair policing is about reflecting the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities. Survey results show that different communities have differing expectations and contrasting experiences of the service provided by the police. Our aim is to ensure that our service to all is fair and consistent, keeping those who are most vulnerable safe and enhancing their quality of life.

## **5. Local Policing Arrangements**

Our mission is to 'Keep People Safe'. We aim to deliver policing that is visible accessible and responsive to the needs of the communities across the city.

Aberdeen City Division services the major population areas and business and commercial environs of the city of Aberdeen. We also have responsibility for the operational policing of the North Sea energy sector, with 25,000 workers offshore at any given time, a vibrant city centre economy, a wide variety of international conferences and events including football and rugby as well as areas of the city which suffer from multiple levels of deprivation.

Local Policing is at the heart of our service delivery. Listening and responding to the changing needs of our communities is key and in response to this the 14 local Community Policing Teams are focused upon community issues. They are empowered and encouraged to work with partners to resolve local challenges and respond to incidents.

We continually strive to improve the accessibility of our services, either directly to the customer or through improved working practices with the public and partners to achieve solutions to issues identified through our consultation with communities. A multi-agency 'Safer and Stronger Aberdeen' Hub seeks to signpost those families that are assessed as benefiting from additional support and intervention. The hub has a focus on Community Safety issues, with the emphasis being squarely on reducing re-offending and enhancing community safety through tackling the identified priorities within the Community Safety Partnership's Strategic Assessment.

Individual multi member ward community policing plans are available at [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)

## 6. Local Contribution to National Outcomes and National Policing Priorities

The Scottish Government has 16 National Outcomes which demonstrate a commitment to improving all aspects of life within Scotland. Progress on achieving these outcomes is reported on annually by each Community Planning Partnership within Scotland.

Policing in Aberdeen City can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the city.

The priorities in this plan will be reflected in the Single Outcome Agreement for Aberdeen City which will also include a range of indicators and targets focused on delivering improved services.

Scottish Ministers have also established Strategic Policing Priorities and these reflect the contribution that policing can make to achieve the National Outcomes.

Our local priorities align to the Strategic Policing Priorities and the Government's National Outcomes as follows:

<b>Aberdeen City Division Priorities</b>	<b>Strategic Policing Priorities</b>	<b>SOA National Outcomes</b>
Antisocial Behaviour	Priority 1, 2, 4	Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9, 11
Housebreaking	Priority 1, 2, 4	Outcomes 1, 9, 10, 11
National Security	Priority 1, 2, 3, 4	Outcomes 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15
Protecting People	Priority 1, 2, 3, 4	Outcomes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16
Safer Roads	Priority 1, 2, 4	Outcomes 9, 11, 16
Serious and Organised Crime	Priority 1, 2, 3, 4	Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 16
Violent Crime	Priority 1, 2, 4	Outcomes 9, 11, 13

Further information on National Outcomes and Strategic Policing Priorities can be accessed at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk>



## **7. Performance and Accountability**

To support this plan, Police Scotland have developed a national performance framework which allows the service to measure progress, monitor activity, identify key areas where resources need to be focused and demonstrate how successful we are in meeting our key priorities and objectives as set out in this plan.

We are committed to publishing our performance information and will use this as the foundation for reporting to Aberdeen City Council and local communities. This information is available upon request or at [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

In addition to the Local Policing Plan for Aberdeen City, each multi member ward will have an individual Community Policing Plan which will address the priorities specific to that area and is aligned to this plan. These plans will be delivered by having identifiable officers located in each geographic community, continuing engagement with the communities, and adopting a shared partnership problem-solving approach to dealing with issues.

## **8. Local Scrutiny and Engagement**

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, includes a framework for local scrutiny and engagement arrangements between local authorities and the police service.

In Aberdeen City, local scrutiny and engagement will ensure that the locally set objectives will deliver the statutory purposes of improving the safety and wellbeing of our communities. It will ensure that local priorities are understood and that community concerns are reflected. It will promote joint working to secure better outcomes and best value and will provide strategic leadership in order to influence service delivery and support continuous improvement by providing constructive challenge.

Local Policing will be overseen by members of the Social Care, Wellbeing and Safety Committee of Aberdeen City Council. This committee consists of 15 Elected Members from across the city. The council commenced shadow scrutiny arrangements from November 2012, as part of the Scottish Government Pathfinder Strategy and will monitor and provide feedback to the Local Policing Commander and their team with regard to:

- The committees views on any matter concerning or connected to the policing of its area and;
- Any recommendations for the improvement of the policing in its area that it thinks fit.

Our long standing Local Policing strategy means that we will undertake to regularly attend Community Councils and other community meetings holding surgeries and other events to ensure that the views of the local communities are considered in the way in which we police Aberdeen City. The commander and his team variously attend, chair and actively contribute in a number of partnership arrangements and make contributions towards achieving the wider vision for the city.

## **9. Equalities**

All of our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity, in our dealings with the public we serve, as well as our own staff. This commitment is strengthened by our values of Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

We recognise that effective and fair policing is about reflecting the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities. Survey results show that different communities have differing expectations and contrasting experiences of the service provided by the police. Our aim is to ensure that our service to all is fair and consistent, keeping those who are most vulnerable safe and enhancing their quality of life.

## **10. Local Contact Details**

Aberdeen City Division  
Queen Street  
ABERDEEN  
AB10 1ZA

Telephone Number: 101

For more detailed information about this plan and other services that Police Scotland provides, please refer to the Force website at [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)

We will continue to keep in touch with you to keep you updated on the ongoing work being done to tackle the issues that are affecting life for you and your community.

- Dial 999 for an emergency that requires urgent police attention;
- For non-emergency contact, call 101, the single non-emergency number;
- If you have information about crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call CRIMESTOPPERS on 0800 555 111;
- Service users who are deaf or have a hearing impairment can contact Police Scotland via TextRelay in an emergency on 18000 or non-emergency on 18001 101.

We respect your right to confidentiality and will not visit you without checking first.