

**ITEM No ...3.....**

**REPORT TO:** COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE –  
23 AUGUST 2021

**REPORT ON:** POLICE SCOTLAND SURVEY – LOCAL POLICE PLAN REVIEW

**REPORT BY:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

**REPORT NO:** 226-2021

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of a response provided to a recent Police Scotland survey entitled Local Police Plan Review,

**2.0. RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that Committee notes the report.

**3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

**4.0 MAIN REPORT**

Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority and COSLA have agreed to work together to undertake a review of the development of the current Local Police Plans to identify areas of development and best practice which will then inform future local planning processes. They invited local authorities to complete a survey to assist them in this process.

The timeframe for completing the survey fell during the summer recess. A draft response to the survey was produced by officers and thereafter circulated to the Convener, Group Leaders and Independent Members to provide an opportunity for comment, prior to the survey being returned by the deadline.

The survey return is included at Appendix 1, and Committee is asked to note the response for information.

**5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no policy implications associated with report.

**6.0 CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 The Council Management Team were consulted on the preparation of this report and agree with its contents.

**7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None

Elaine Zwirlein  
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Tom Stirling  
Head of Community Safety and Protection

11 August 2021

**Appendix 1: Local Police Plan Review – Survey Response**

***[N.B. The options for questions are Yes, No or Not Sure.***

***The scale for questions with a numbered range is from 1 (not at all) to 5 (very well)]***

Response ID ANON-VJV4-3NUB-2  
Submitted to Local Police Plan Review  
Submitted on 2021-07-30 12:21:38  
About you and your organisation

- 1 Which organisation are you answering on behalf of?  
Organisation: Dundee City Council
  
- 2 Your contact details:  
Name: Tom Stirling  
Email address: tom.stirling@dundeecity.gov.uk  
Job Title / Role: Head of Community Safety and Protection  
  
Setting Local Priorities, Objectives and Agreeing the Local Police Plan
  
- 3 Does Police Scotland share the findings and information used to determine local priorities and objectives for policing with you / your Local Authority?  
Yes
  
- 4 How effectively does Police Scotland engage with you on changing local priorities?  
4
  
- 5 Are there any further comments you would like to make on how local priorities are identified and set? Please provide details:  
  
Police Scotland is a key partner in the Dundee Partnership and the various forums and Executive Boards that feed into it and contributed to the work of the Dundee Drugs Commission. Through these mechanisms, there are ongoing discussions and opportunities to feed into what are emerging priorities.
  
- 6 Please provide detail of any additional activities you feel Police Scotland could take to enhance how Local Authorities are engaged and involved in the priority setting process, and in the development of the overall Local Police Plan's contents? Please provide details here:  
  
It may be beneficial to hold workshop sessions with relevant LA Services, including elected members (and other partners) to share thinking and to discuss priorities for inclusion in the LPP.
  
- 7 What would be most supportive in enabling Local Authorities to give their feedback and input into the priority setting process?  
  
Please provide details:  
  
Full and early consultation, providing opportunities for discussion at relevant forums including at the relevant Thematic Board (or equivalent) that are in place in Dundee to oversee progress on City Plan (LOIP) priorities.
  
- 8 How can Local Authorities support Police Scotland with this e.g. dedicated planning and community engagement officers to help gather and coordinate feedback?  
  
Please provide details:  
  
Dundee City Council is happy to discuss with our Divisional Commander how best to support the priority setting process for the LPP, bearing in mind that our resources are limited. In the period

running up to the preparation of a new LPP, we could consider setting up a mechanism to coordinate our input into the process.

- 9 How does the Local Authority/Community Planning Partnership provide evidence to Police Scotland to inform the development of Local Police Plans? Please provide details:

Police Scotland is represented on numerous forums across the Dundee Partnership and is invited to attend Local Community Planning Partnership meetings across the city. Through their participation Police colleagues are part of discussions and party to reports etc.

For example, Police Scotland is a key partner on Dundee's Chief Officer- Public Protection Group.

- 10 In what ways can this be enhanced going forward? For example, in providing feedback to Police Scotland, adjusting timescales for reviewing and developing Plans, providing intelligence and evidence obtained by the Local Authority or Community Planning Partnership? Please provide details:

We are open to suggestions, but in our view, there are sufficient means by which Police Scotland receive information and evidence on what are priorities for Dundee and Police colleagues are key partners and contributors to the groups that are in place to address the challenges the city faces. Strong partnership is a key feature of Dundee's approach to meeting these challenges.

Wider Integration of the Local Police Plan and Performance Measurement

- 11 In your view, could the process to develop the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) in your area be enhanced to more effectively embed the role of policing?

Yes

If yes, how do you think the process could be enhanced?:

In developing the current LOIP (City Plan) which covers the period from 2017 to 2026, Police Scotland colleagues were key partners, in particular setting priorities and performance measures for the Community Safety and Justice Executive Board. Police Scotland co-chair this Board with the City Council's Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services. This plan will be reviewed next year, and there will be an opportunity for Police Scotland to contribute to this process and to ensure there is close alignment between and the Dundee Partnership and therefore the city's priorities for example in reducing the harm caused by illicit drugs.

- 12 In your view, could the process to develop key local strategies and plans (such as the community safety strategy) in your area be enhanced to more effectively embed the role of policing?

Yes

If yes, how do you think the process could be enhanced?:

There is a long established track record of collaboration between Tayside Police/D Division and the City Council on Community Safety. Police Scotland

have previously been involved in reviewing and developing strategies in this area. Police are partners in various forums and therefore an integral part of developing strategies in, for example, the work of the Dundee Alcohol and Drug Partnership. We welcome and value the continued contribution of Police Scotland as partners.

- 13 How effectively does Police Scotland demonstrate the benefit of access to national services to local communities?

- 14 How effectively does Police Scotland engage at a local level in the review of Local Police Plans?

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- 15 In what ways could the reviewing of a Local Policing Plan (prior to committing to refresh/replace) be enhanced going forward? Please provide further details:

As stated at questions 6 and 7, similar engagement would enhance the review of LPPs:

It may be beneficial to hold workshop sessions with relevant LA Services, including elected members (and other partners) to share thinking and to discuss priorities for inclusion in the LPP.

Full and early consultation, providing opportunities for discussion at relevant forums including at the relevant Thematic Board (or equivalent) that are in place in Dundee to oversee progress on City Plan (LOIP) priorities.

- 16 To what extent does Police Scotland measure progress against delivering the objectives set out in Local Police Plans?

5 (Very well)

- 17 How well do performance measures used help to assess whether implementation of the Local Police Plan is making a positive difference locally, and making a contribution to delivery of the LOIP?

Please provide further details:

Dundee's City Plan (LOIP) contains a range of targets and performance measures for which Police Scotland are a key partner, for example, in relation to Domestic Violence, Antisocial Behaviour, Reducing levels of crime and the fear of crime. These performance measures are overseen by the Community Safety and Justice Executive Board. Clearly, the work of Police Scotland is integral to achieving these goals and these priorities are reflected in the Local Policing Plan. Police Scotland report quarterly to the Council's Community Safety and Public Protection Committee on their performance against their priorities and answer questions from elected members. All elected members of Dundee City Council sit in this Committee. Through these mechanisms, performance measures to assess the implementation of the LPP are in place and work well.

- 18 In your view, does the current performance reporting provided by Police Scotland enable your role to undertake effective scrutiny and promote accountability?

Yes

If no, what do you think could enable this?:

- 19 Would the development and introduction of national practical guidance / standards on local scrutiny be helpful, with the guidance / standards aligned to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015?

Not sure

Would your Local Authority like to be involved in the development of such guidance / standards?:

We would welcome the opportunity to comment on any proposed guidance. Any such guidance should allow for local circumstances to be taken into account in determining the most appropriate scrutiny of Police Scotland performance.