Response ID ANON-AQ5Z-JHBD-S

Submitted to Joint Strategy for Policing 2023-2026
Submitted on 2023-04-18 14:57:30

Introduction

1 I confirm that I have read the draft Strategic Police Plan.

I confirm

2 Are you answering as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Organisation

Organisation:
Scottish Community Safety Network

3 Are you a police officer, member of police staff, or otherwise employed by the Scottish Police Authority?

No

Survey

4 Do you agree with each of the five strategic outcomes?

Outcome Agreement - Outcome 1 - Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service:
Strongly Agree

Outcome Agreement - Outcome 2 - The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery:
Strongly Agree

Outcome Agreement - Outcome 3 - Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing:
Strongly Agree

Outcome Agreement - Outcome 4 - Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public:
Strongly Agree

Outcome Agreement - Outcome 5 - Policing is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges:
Strongly Agree

Please use the box below to add any comments on the strategic outcomes:

Outcome 1 -

We welcome and understand the focus on the digital environment, as well as the physical due to the recent notable increase in scams/online fraud and online hate crime. In particular, we welcome the focus on women's safety, due to the increased fears around women's safety in public and online places and the disturbing rise in domestic violence during the pandemic.

We would like to see a firmer commitment in the outcomes regarding a commitment to tackling hate crime (including misogyny) given the delays to the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill and the findings of the HMCIS Thematic Inspection of Hate Crime report. We would also like to see more tangible action from Police Scotland to restore confidence in policing after a series of damning reports of institutional racism and misogyny.

We greatly support the intention to redefine the relationships that Police Scotland has with its partners to better support vulnerable people and the victims of crime, and would be keen to support this in any way we can. We absolutely support a commitment to design services jointly - especially for well-being and proactive prevention. We feel this lends itself to more joined-up and partnership working to create a more holistic approach to reducing harm.

We would have liked to see a commitment to more meaningful participation with communities through taking place-based approaches and engaging with those with lived experience.

We fully endorse more support for policing through proactive prevention and continue to be supportive of increased efforts to share the analytical capacity of Police Scotland across partnerships in a more proactive way.

Outcome 2 -

We welcome the commitment to understand our communities and deliver the right mix of services to meet their needs. We would like to see some intention to view safety through different lenses (i.e. gender, race etc.).

As with Outcome 1, we would like to see increased commitments to tackling hate crime and more mention of meaningful participation with communities.

We are very aware of the financial constraints Police Scotland are facing, however we still see much value in community and relationship-based policing, especially in terms of prevention and believe this approach is cost-saving in the long-term.

In terms of supporting the changing nature of communities, we would reiterate the above, as well as highlighting that the changing nature of communities and in turn policing, is reflected in recruitment messages, probationer training and ongoing workforce development.

Outcome 3-

We agree that future developments in policing and technology will require ongoing dialogue with the public about how to strike the right balance between privacy and protection as well as managing public expectations about deployments, benefits and use. Policing by consent and public trust and confidence are inextricably linked and must be considered regarding new developments in policing and technology, such as use of drones, body-worn cameras, facial recognition and artificial intelligence (AI). Especially AI, an emerging technology which will definitely transform all our lives, including justice.

We would have liked to see mention and a firm commitment to trauma-informed policing in the section on protecting the public and promoting well-being across Scotland, especially given the priority given to trauma-informed practice in the Vision for Justice 2022.

We strongly support the intention to work with local groups and public, third and private sector organisations to better support the communities. As before, we think this hinges on effective partnerships, relationships and joined-up 'holistic' and 'whole-systems' working. Within this, more focus on information sharing, community and relationship-based policing and participation/place-based work would be welcomed.

We are delighted to see the intention to put in place a framework for a human rights approach to policing and look forward to more detail on how this will be embedded and evaluated.

We agree that a growing prevalence of mental health issues and cases of vulnerable individuals - is top priority for policing in Scotland. We would be keen to see more attention given to looking at well-being and safety through a variety of lenses, and what this means for various communities when it comes to policing.

Outcome 4 -

We support prioritising well-being, core values and leadership, and especially welcome the focus on addressing discrimination and supporting mental health.

We agree that it is essential to the legitimacy of policing and maintenance of public trust and confidence that Police Scotland's workforce both reflects and respects the diversity found within communities. We feel that the priorities should also cover Police Scotland's commitment to ensuring staff are internally supported to identify behaviour and conduct that is not suitable for a serving police member of staff.

We feel the intended human rights framework will hugely enhance the work identified in the priorities and the model of policing by consent.

Outcome 5 -

We support the use of innovative approaches to accelerate capacity and capability for effective service delivery, especially closer collaboration and partnership other public, third and private sector organisations. We agree this will require a collaborative approach and one which ensures data and information are shared within the boundaries of the legislation as well as accepted privacy and ethical standards. We note, in order for this to be successful, good relations must be maintained with partners to ensure a national, uniform approach. Where Police Scotland can share analytical capacity locally, this would help a depleted national picture.

We applaud the commitment to making a positive impact through outstanding environmental sustainability and contribution to the Scottish Government's 2040 carbon neutral and 2045 zero greenhouse gas emissions targets.

Please note - it would have been helpful to have included the underpinning actions to each outcome under each outcome, to help complete this consultation.

5 Do you have any other comments about the Joint Strategy?

Please use the box below for any additional comments, for example if there is anything else that you think could be included. :

We are supportive that Police Scotland shares and participates, where appropriate, towards achieving the Vision for Justice 2022, especially regarding delivering trauma-informed services, supporting rehabilitation, reduced use of custody and work to reduce re-offending and re-victimisation. In general, we would liked to have seen more detail around embedding these aims from the Vision for Justice in the detail of the intended outcomes.

About You

6 Which location best describes where you live?

Location:

7 Which of the following best describes you?

Not Answered

If you selected Other please specify below:

8 Do you consider yourself to be trans or have a trans history?

Not Answered

9 What is your age group?

agegroup:

10 Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Not Answered

If you selected other, please specify below:

11 Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or appearance related conditions, lasting or expected to last for 12 months or more?

Not Answered

12 What is your ethnic group?

ethnicity:

If you selected other, or if your ethnic group is not shown, please specify below.:

13 What is your religion?

religion:

14 Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either: long-term physical / mental ill-health / disability; or problems related to old age?

carer:

15 Do you have care experience?Care experienced means you are or were formerly looked after by a local authority, in the family home (with support from social services or a social worker) or elsewhere, for example, in foster care, residential/secure care, or kinship care (with family friends or relatives) and you have not yet reached your 26th birthday.

care: