

What are your priorities for your
police service?

A REVIEW OF OUR SCOTTISH STRATEGIC POLICE PRIORITIES



The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Our Police Service

In April 2013 the structure of policing in Scotland changed. The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 brought together eight former police forces, and the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency to create a single police service for Scotland – Police Scotland.

- **the main purpose of policing is to improve the safety and well-being of persons, localities and communities in Scotland**
- **led by a national Chief Constable who has overall responsibility for the administration and management of police operations across Scotland**
- **14 local senior commanders with local responsibility**
- **overseen nationally by the Scottish Police Authority which holds the Chief Constable to account for policing and the delivery of Police Scotland's functions**
- **subject to scrutiny locally by 32 local authority committees**
- **independent of the Scottish Government**
- **Independently reviewed by the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMICS)**

Police Reform

The three main aims of Police Reform in Scotland are;

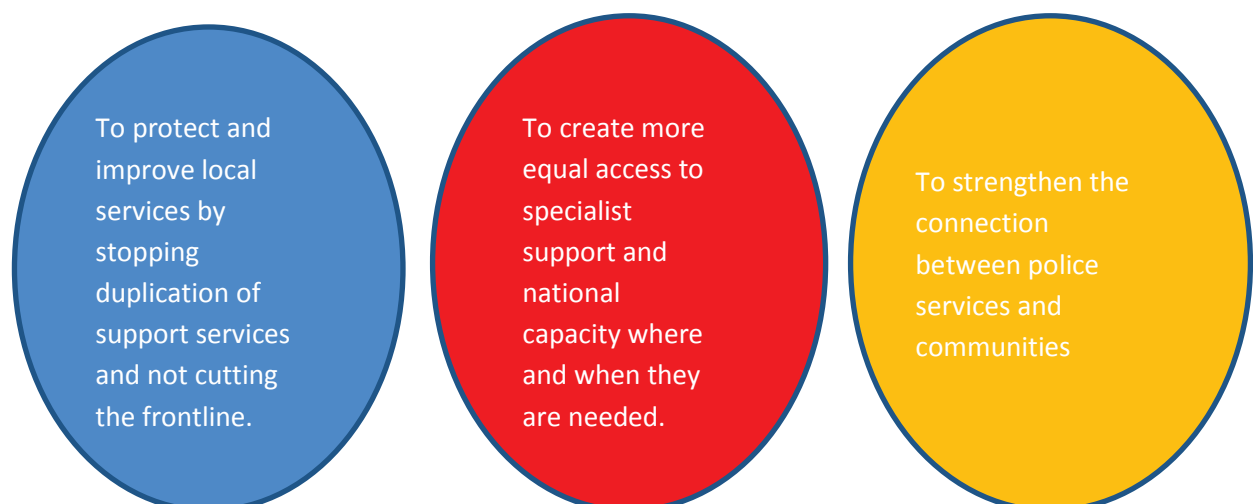


Figure 2 – 3 Aims of Police Reform in Scotland

Our Strategic Approach to Policing

At this time, the national vision for our Single Police Service was captured in 4 Strategic Police Priorities. Designed to capture a clear link between operational policing and the Scottish Governments national outcomes.

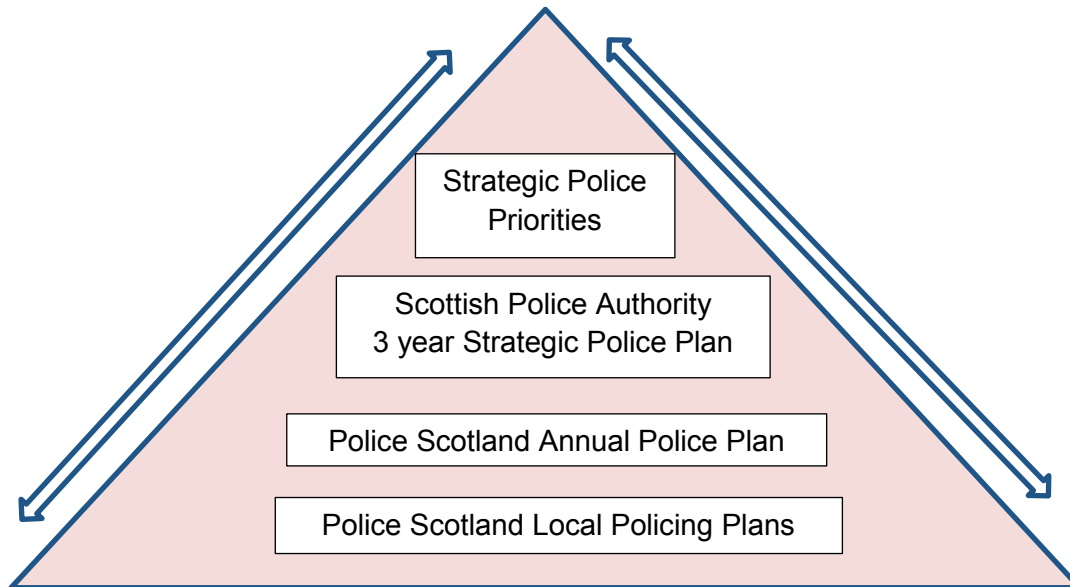


Figure 2 - Strategic Planning Structure

The current Strategic Police Priorities that we are looking to revise

- 1. Make communities safer and reduce harm by tackling and investigating crime and demonstrating pioneering approaches to prevention and collaboration at a national and local level.**
- 2. Strengthen Scotland's reputation as a successful and safe country by demonstrating excellence in effectively planning for and responding to major events and threats.**
- 3. Provide an efficient, effective service focused on protecting frontline services, delivering the benefits of police reform, and promoting continuous improvement.**
- 4. Make communities stronger and improve wellbeing by increasing public confidence and reducing fear of crime, making the new Police Service of Scotland an exemplar of visible, ethical and responsive policing.**

To find out more about the current Police Priorities and about how these plans support Policing in Scotland visit: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Justice/policies/police-fire-rescue/police-scotland/StrategicPolicePriorities>

What do we know?



Crime has fallen by more than a third since 2006/07 and is at the lowest level since 1974.

But...

The risk of being a victim of crime is higher for adults living in the most deprived communities than elsewhere in Scotland



Half of all crime was cleared up in 2014/15

But...

Clear up rates vary across local authorities from 35% to 82%.

AND

While more than three quarters of violent and sexual crimes are cleared up, it is just one third for crimes of dishonesty



Around six in ten people agreed in 2013 that the police have a good understanding of local issues

But...

Younger people are less likely to agree than older people.

AND

Those in the most deprived areas are less likely to agree than others.



The number of people who think that local crime has stayed the same or improved has increased from 65% to 76% between 2006 and 2012/13

But...

People were less positive about the national crime rate with 44% thinking it had increased in 2012/13. It has in fact fallen to a 41 year low



Policing isn't just about enforcement after a crime has been committed. Police play a big role in preventing crime.

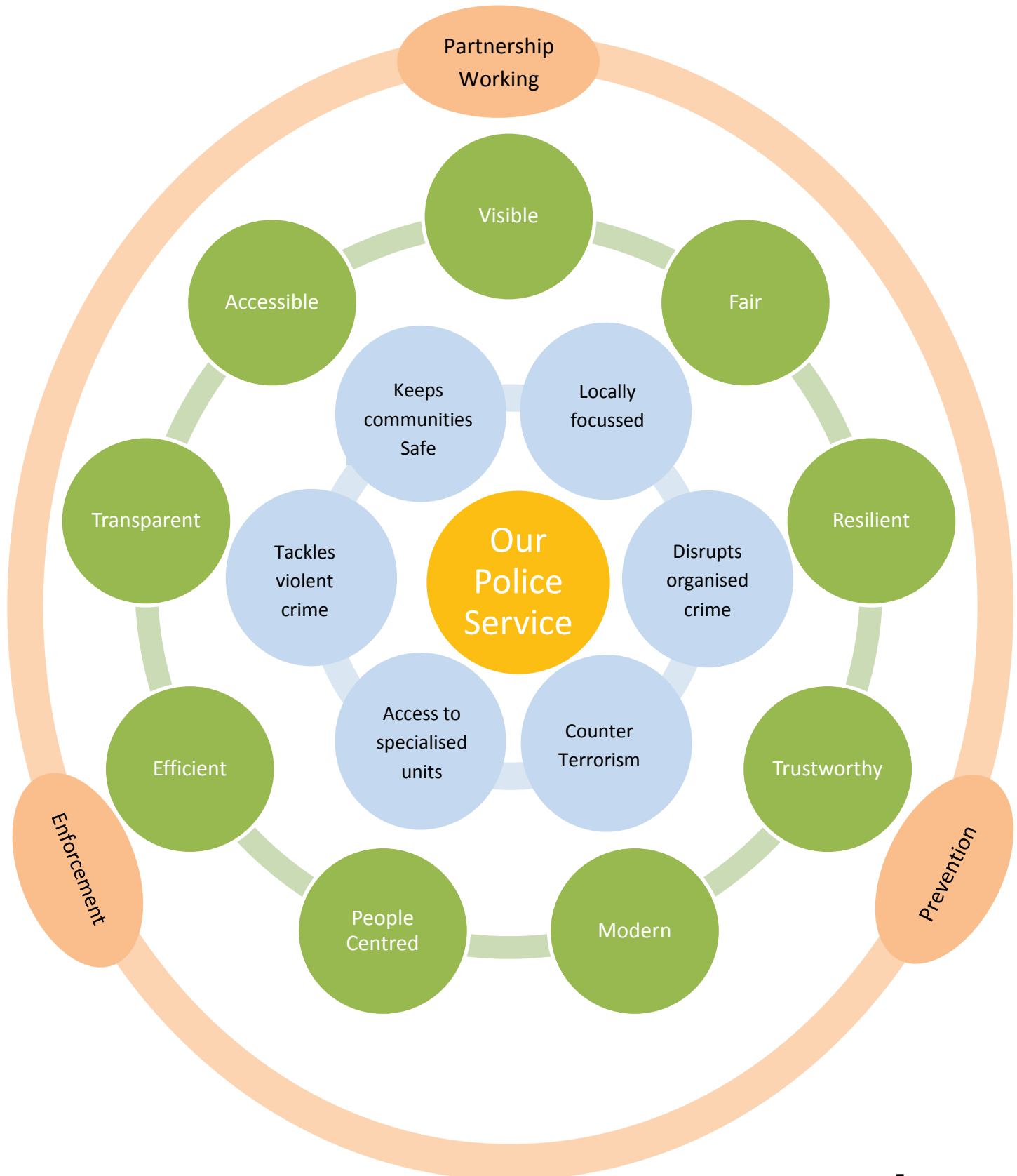
Such as...

Local and national initiatives around keeping you and your property safe; work with local groups and other partners to support local projects

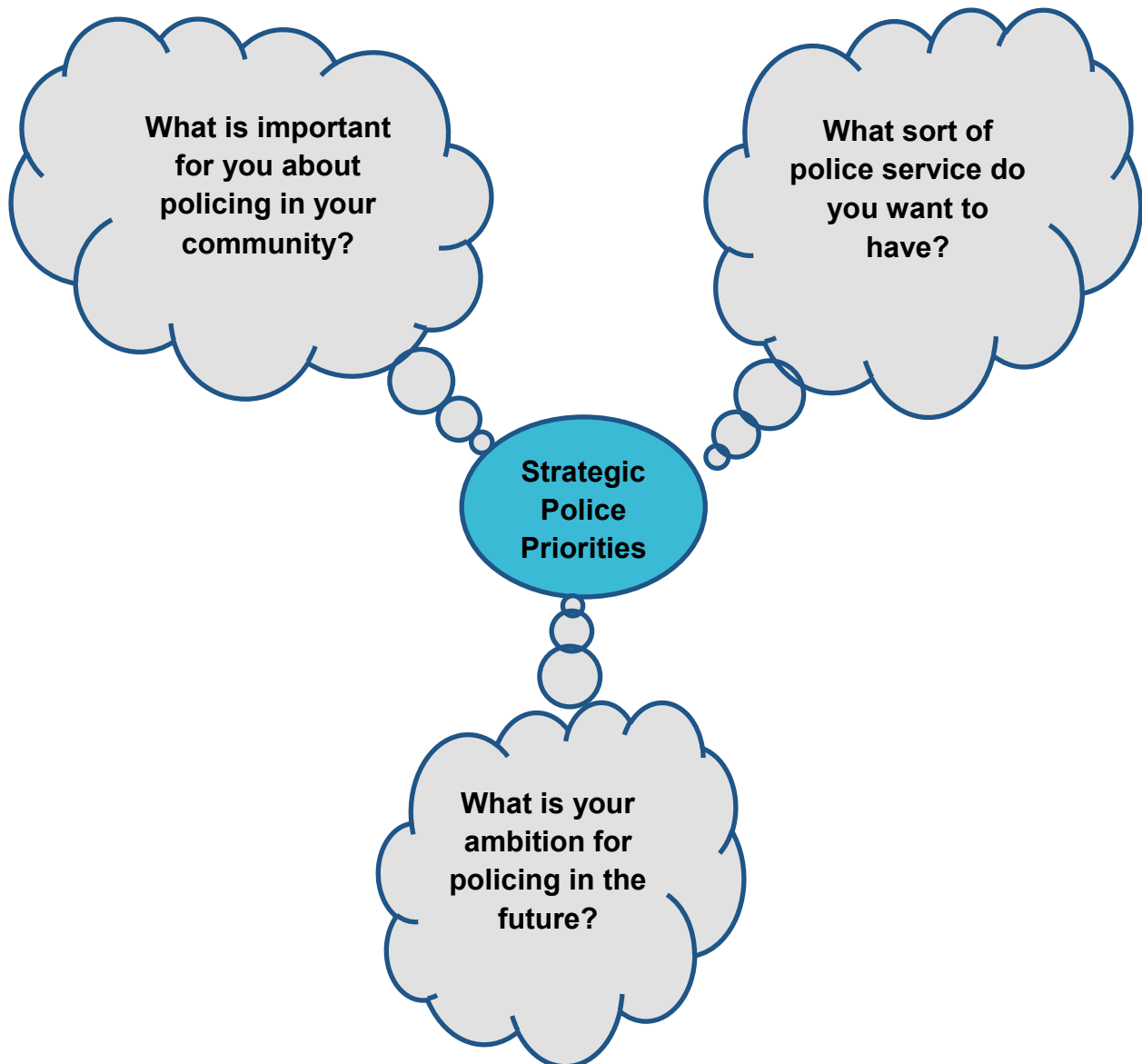
*Evidence taken from:
Recorded Crime in Scotland 2014/15
Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2012/13
Scottish Household Survey 2014
Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2013*

We want to hear about what is important to YOU.

As we approach three years since the introduction of Police Scotland the time is right to review how we expect our police service to meet the needs of the people and communities of Scotland. **We want to hear your thoughts about what new national police priorities could cover. This might include;**



We want you to tell us what your priorities for policing are. Your opinion is valuable and will be used to help shape how police services can match the needs of the people and communities of Scotland. Here are some questions to help start the discussion.



We want to hear from you

Please send us your comments about what is important to you regarding policing by 12 February 2016. You can respond as an individual or on behalf of a group or organisation. It would be helpful, if possible, if you could indicate who you are and, if relevant, who you are responding on behalf of. It would also be helpful if you could indicate whether you would be happy for us to use your comments in our ongoing work.

You can do this by:

- emailing: ScotPolicePriorities@gov.scot
- via the Scottish Government Digital 'Dialogue' feedback platform <https://ideas.scotland.gov.uk/>
- via twitter using the hashtag **#ScotPolicePriorities**
- or you can post them to:

Strategic Police Priorities Review
Police Division
Scottish Government
1WR St Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

This discussion paper is part of the information gathering to revise the Strategic Police Priorities. Your feedback will be used to draft revised Strategic Police Priorities which would then be subject to a formal Scottish Government consultation exercise in early 2016.

For further information please visit the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Justice/policies/police-fire-rescue/police-scotland/StrategicPolicePriorities>



© Crown copyright 2015

OGL

This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3 or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available at www.gov.scot

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

ISBN: 978-1-78544-888-1 (web only)

Published by The Scottish Government, December 2015

Produced for The Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland, 21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA
PPDAS61357 (12/15)

W W W . G O V . S C O T