



**POLICE**  
**SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

**Argyll & Bute**  
**Local Policing Plan**  
**2017 – 2020**



# 1. Introduction

This is the third Local Policing Plan (LPP) for Argyll and Bute published by Police Scotland. This bespoke plan should be viewed as a living document which will evolve to meet emerging threats and needs, and be subject to formal review on at least an annual basis. It has been formulated through careful consideration of the most current data, feedback from consultation with local communities and stakeholders, and giving due regard to national policing priorities. The publication of this LPP is a statutory requirement derived from the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and demonstrates Police Scotland's legislative responsibility and operational commitment to the delivery of local, national, and corporate outcomes with regard to crime, safety, and wellbeing in our communities.

However, Police Scotland in Argyll and Bute is not working in isolation. Section 6(1) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires each Community Planning Partnership to produce and publish Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs), with the key focus on the delivery of shared outcomes at a local level. LOIPs will replace the Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs) and will take a more systematic and collaborative approach to performance improvement in areas of identified need. More than eighty percent of police activity in Argyll and Bute does not relate to crime, but to providing emergency and acute support to individuals and communities in a huge variety of crisis situations, and exercising other functions for the benefit of communities. Accordingly, this iteration of our Local Policing Plan has been designed to articulate our broad contribution to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan for Argyll and Bute, in keeping with our commitment to tackling chronic and long term issues in partnership with local partners and indeed communities themselves.

At a national level The Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland are developing a new long term strategic plan, which will also influence how we deliver policing services in Argyll and Bute. The main themes emerging in this plan are:

- **Prevention – *Tackling crime inequality and chronic issues.***
- **Protection – *Based on Threat, Risk and Harm***
- **Communities- *Focus on localism, diversity and the virtual world.***
- **Knowledge – *Informing the development of better services.***
- **Innovation – *Dynamic, adaptable and sustainable.***

We believe that our 2017-2020 Local Policing Plan fits well with these themes for policing over the next decade and moreover will contribute to the delivery of a safe and successful Argyll and Bute in the shorter term.

## 2. Consultation

In 2016 Police Scotland introduced “Your View Counts”, an ongoing electronic and paper based Public Survey process. This living document ensures that local needs and expectations are captured and reflected in Argyll and Bute Local Policing Plan. In addition, Police Scotland has taken into account information captured from other sources including surveys, public events, internal dialogue and personal communication and consultation with Local Authority and other Community Planning Partners.

The results from this ongoing engagement process have identified the issues that affect people from communities across Argyll and Bute.

## 3. Police Priorities and Objectives

Police Scotland has created this 2017 -2020 Local Policing plan to support Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership’s Single Outcome Agreement (soon to be Local Outcome Improvement Plan). This plan also supports National and Local Policing priorities, and it is critical that all three sets of priorities are linked. We have listed all priorities, both local and national below:

### National Policing Priorities

Police Scotland have set National Priorities derived from Scottish Government, Scottish Police Authority and National consultation exercises.

These priorities are:



***Counter terrorism/national security.***



***Road Safety/ Road Crime***



***Violence Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour***



***Serious organised crime.***



***Protecting People at Risk of Harm***

## Local Policing Priorities

Police in Argyll and Bute constantly engage with the local communities by means of the “Your View Counts” Survey, which is both an online and a traditional paper survey. We also regularly seek the views of our key partners including Community Councils, and we use qualitative and quantitative data to create our 2017- 2020 Divisional Strategic Assessment to identify the most important policing priorities for Argyll and Bute. **It must be stated that our local priorities are shaped on an ongoing basis and as we continue to consult the public, local priorities may change.** Currently the local Policing priorities are:



***Drug dealing/ drug misuse***



***Antisocial Behaviour***



***Road Safety/Road Crime***



***Acquisitive Crime – Homes being broken into***



***Protecting People at Risk and Harm***

## SOA/LOIP Priorities

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has an overarching strategic aim that “Argyll and Bute’s economic success is built on a growing population”. 6 outcomes have been developed to support this aim. They are:

**Outcome 1** - The Economy is diverse and thriving

**Outcome 2** - We have an infrastructure which supports sustainable growth

**Outcome 3** - Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all

**Outcome 4** - Children and Young People have the best possible start

**Outcome 5** - People live active healthier and independent lives

**Outcome 6** - People live in safer stronger communities

Using the SOA Outcomes as the principle driver for this Local Policing Plan, we will evidence how Police Scotland will support each Outcome, and outline generic Policing tactics which will be used to deliver Policing Services in line with these outcomes.

## Outcome 1 – The Economy is Diverse and Thriving

Argyll and Bute has a diverse range of industry which contributes to the economic growth of the area. The aquaculture, tourism, and agriculture sectors are all heavily represented in Argyll and Bute, but the area also has some heavy industry, a retail sector and, of course, the world famous scotch whisky industry. Whilst some of these sectors of the local economy are thriving, others are finding the current economic climate very challenging, and crime and the other social issues which Police Scotland deals with on a daily basis can make the difference between the success and failure of a business or indeed a community. Police Scotland recognises the impact of crime on the local economy, and also recognises the part that policing can play in supporting that economy. Over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 1.



### Target Serious and Organised Crime

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime (SOC) is a National Priority, however a wide range of illegal activity across Argyll and Bute affects local and rural economies. From the simple act of people shoplifting in our towns to pay for illegal drugs, through to the illegal electro-fishing for razor clams, to the illegal mismanagement of effluent from fish farms, organised criminality affects the economy in one way or another. Drug misuse has also been identified as a Local Priority and those concerned in the large scale supply of illegal drugs into Argyll & Bute are actually Organised Crime Groups (OCG), some of which are based in Argyll. Over the course of this Plan we will continue to target the kind of criminality identified above, and not only arrest the perpetrators, but under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) we will seize their assets, so that they can eventually be re-invested legitimately to the benefit of Argyll's citizens and economy.



### Target Drugs

Through the use of “Your View Counts”, and consultation with partners, local communities have identified that Drug Misuse, Drug Dealing and Housebreaking as priorities for our local policing teams. These crimes directly affect the economy in Argyll and Bute. Drug abuse continues to prevail in the larger towns such as Oban, Helensburgh, Dunoon, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown, however some high profile cannabis cultivations have been discovered in more rural locations.



### Target Acquisitive Crime

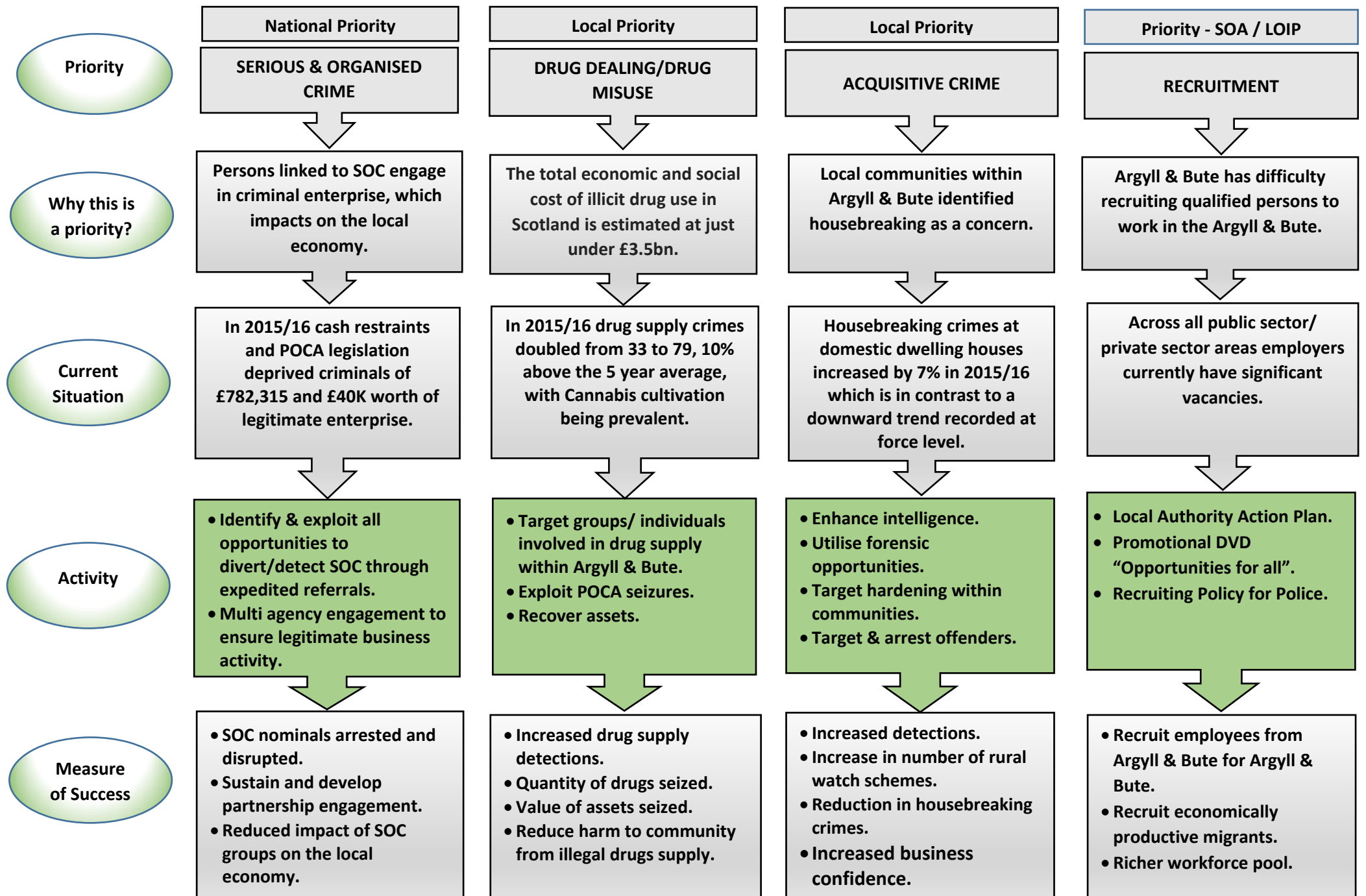
Houses being broken into in rural towns has a significant impact on the fear of crime, and does not promote a positive image of Argyll & Bute as a place to live, work or invest. In addition break-ins to commercial premises impact directly on the local economy.



### Prioritise Local Recruitment

All employment sectors in Argyll struggle to attract qualified professionals to their ranks. To support Outcome 1 Police Scotland will strive to develop joint resourcing and recruiting policies, with the aim of recruiting local Officers to serve local communities. This will support long term sustainability and underpin the aspirations of local thriving communities in Argyll and Bute.

## Outcome 1 - The Economy is Diverse and Thriving



## Outcome 2 – We have an infrastructure which supports sustainable growth

It is critical to support growth and ensure that the infrastructure throughout Argyll and Bute is safeguarded, maintained and protected. Police Scotland recognises that transport and communication links are pivotal to supporting this and over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 2.



### COUNTER TERRORISM

The threat from terrorism is real and it is a national priority. Argyll and Bute has strategic sites and a vast coast line with many small ports. It is important that we protect our communities from Terrorism and ensure that we have watchful, knowledgeable and resilient communities who can prevent Terrorism occurring through education, information and vigilance. Police Scotland work closely with Argyll & Bute Council, West Dunbartonshire Council and other partners through the joint Local Resilience Partnership (LRP).



### TARGET CYBER CRIME

The communities and businesses of Argyll and Bute are geographically isolated and rely heavily on secure ICT connectivity. Cyber-crime is an emerging national priority with significant attacks and frauds on many international and local businesses. It is important that we safeguard the cyber community within Argyll & Bute, be it for business purposes or indeed social or private use.



### PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY

Road safety has been identified as both a local and national priority. The main issues affecting Argyll & Bute are road deaths, and lengthy road closures caused by either Serious Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) or weather episodes. The main trunk roads of the A82, A83, and A85 are critical to all businesses in Argyll, either for the transport of commodities or for customer access. In addition, local consultation has identified that speeding motorists and dangerous driving on rural roads is a concern for residents. Police Scotland is aware of the continued popularity of the use of rural roads by motorcyclists. Adverse Weather affects many roads throughout Argyll & Bute, and it is critical that a quick Multi-Agency (MA) response is coordinated to ensure that road closures are kept to a minimum or practical diversions are implemented.

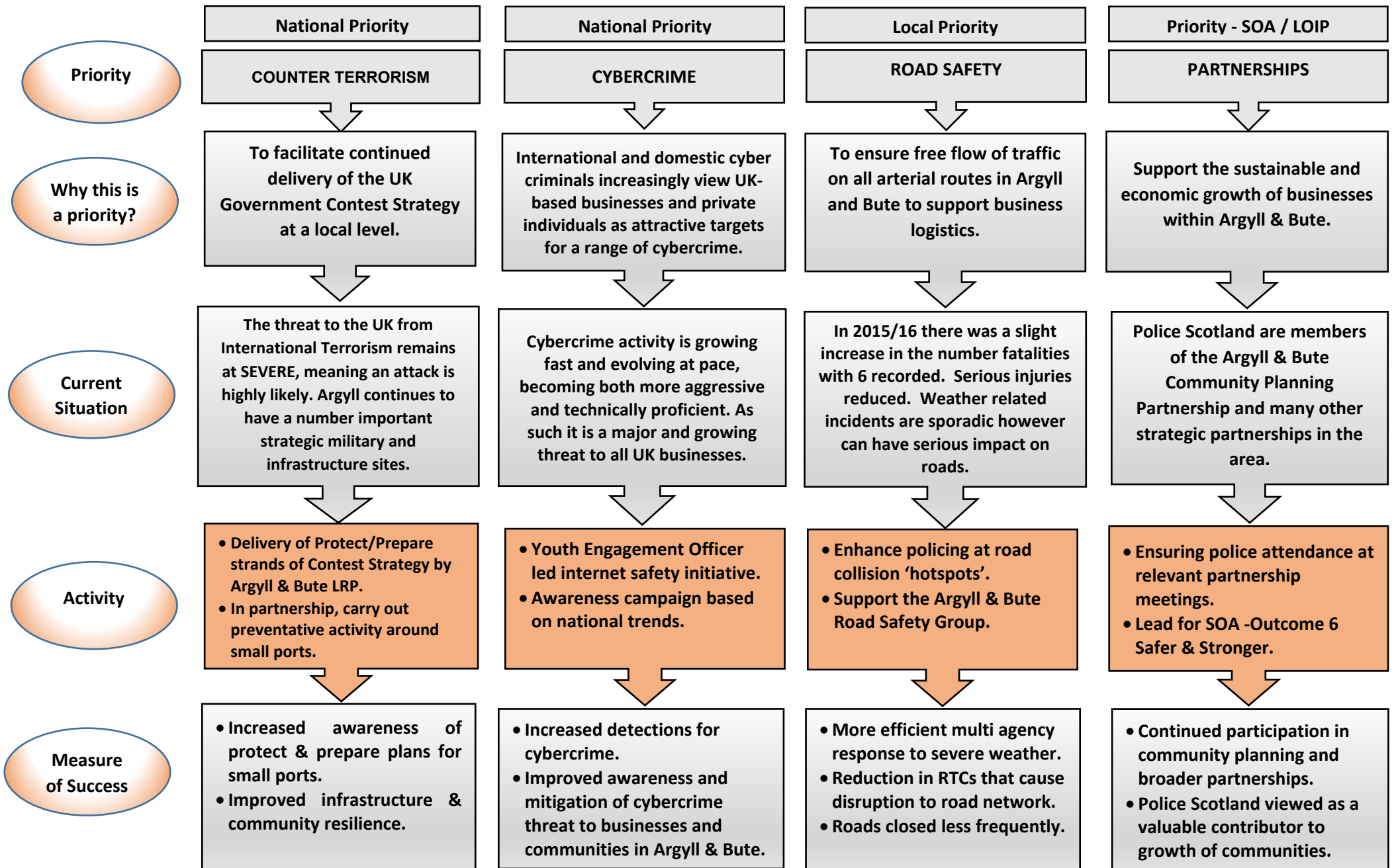


### PROMOTE PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Partnership Working is essential in ensuring that Argyll and Bute have a strong and robust infrastructure. Police Scotland is involved in several groups ranging from the CPP to Pub Watch and Rural Roads Group, all of which contribute to growth and regeneration.



## Outcome 2 – We have an infrastructure which supports sustainable growth



## Outcome 3 – Education, skills & training maximises opportunities for all

Police Scotland acknowledge that a highly skilled and educated local population can only enhance Argyll and Bute and make it attractive for resettlement and inward investment. Life skills and life learning will make young people more confident and resilient. Over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 3.



### Target Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse is both a Local and National Priority and continues to impact on families across Argyll and Bute. It is critical that we mentor, guide and educate our local communities, while targeting perpetrators and breaking the cycle of violence. We will strive to educate our communities both to recognise Domestic Abuse, but also install confidence in victims to report incidents and decrease community tolerance to this crime.



### Target Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and Organised Crime continues to be a national priority and falls under the Scottish Governments National Outcomes - 1, 8, 9 and 11. Locally Youth Engagement Officers and Community Policing Officers will carry out presentations across Argyll and Bute to highlight the most common form of Serious and Organised Crime, and how it impacts locally. These presentations will also highlight how the public can report or act when faced with this type of criminality.



### Target Drugs

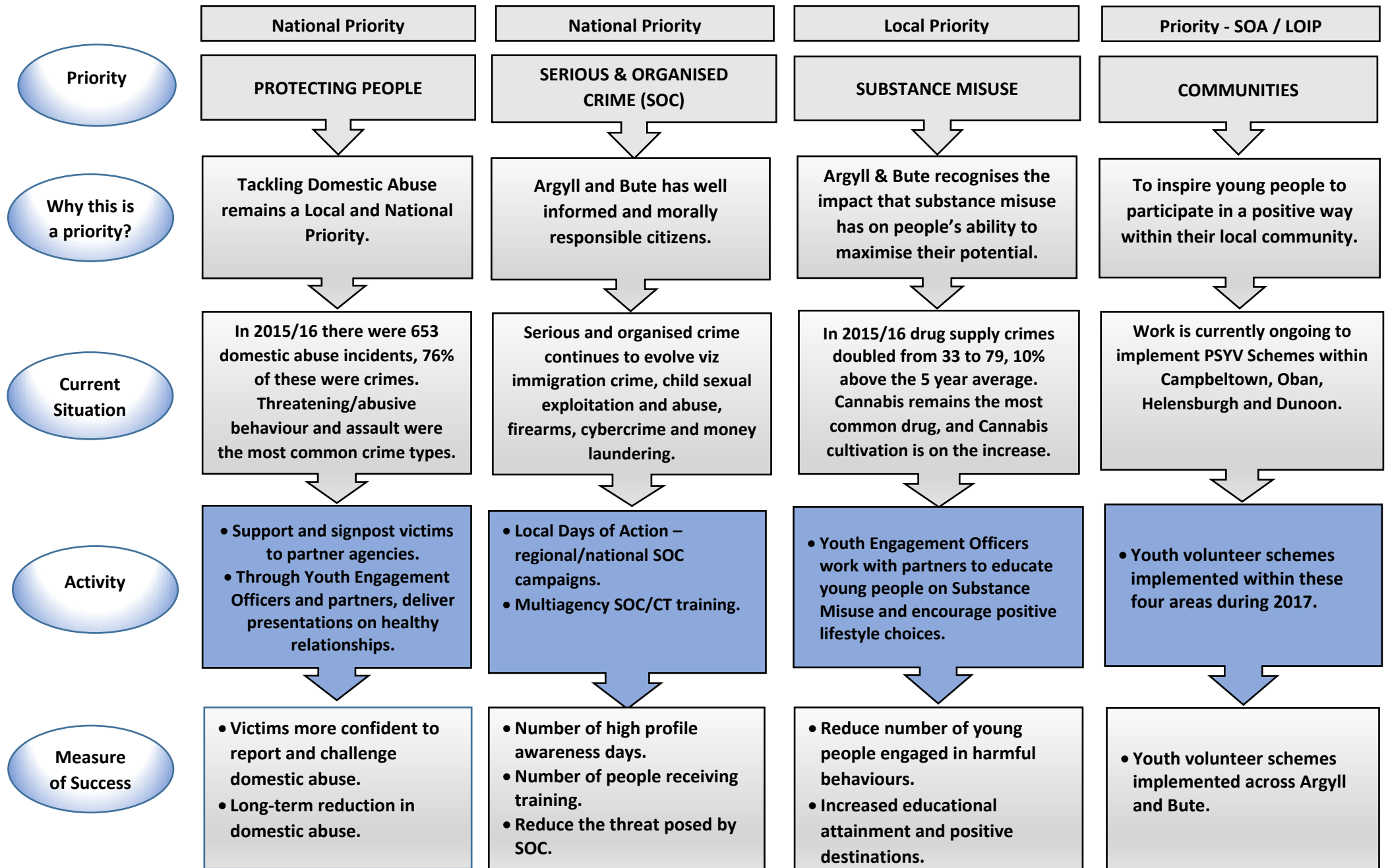
Drug Misuse throughout Argyll and Bute continues to be an issue and has been identified as a local priority. Through engagement in schools, Police Scotland Youth Engagement Officers, will carry out drug awareness presentations to educate young people across Argyll and Bute, to raise awareness of drug abuse, including emerging Drugs and trends - for example new psychoactive substances (NPS).



### Communities

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV). This scheme is a nationwide Police initiative designed to inspire and mentor young people to participate positively in their communities. Police Scotland provide skills and training to 10 - 18 year olds, ranging from First aid, working at major events to promoting Community Safety. There are plans to have PSYV schemes in Campbeltown, Dunoon and Oban, and work is well underway to establish groups in these areas.

## Outcome 3 - Education, skills & training maximises opportunities for all



## Outcome 4 – Children & Young People have the best possible start

Police Scotland recognise the importance of supporting and mentoring young people to ensure that we maximise their potential. In partnership we will strive to protect them from abuse, neglect and harm while promoting and safeguarding the rights of children and young people. Over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 4.



### Target Child Abuse

Child abuse has been identified as both a local and national priority. To this end Violence Against Women (VAW) are developing a local version of the national Equally Safe initiative. Argyll and Bute Child Protection Committee have also developed an Early Help strategy. Both initiatives are designed to support young people exposed to domestic abuse.



### Target Cyber- Crime

Cyber-crime is an emerging national priority. It is important we safeguard young people who use technology on a daily basis from exploitation, intimidation bullying and abuse. We will use Youth Engagement Officers (YEOs) to educate and mentor young people on all aspects of cyber-crime including vulnerability and possible exploitation on- line via social media.



### Target Domestic Abuse

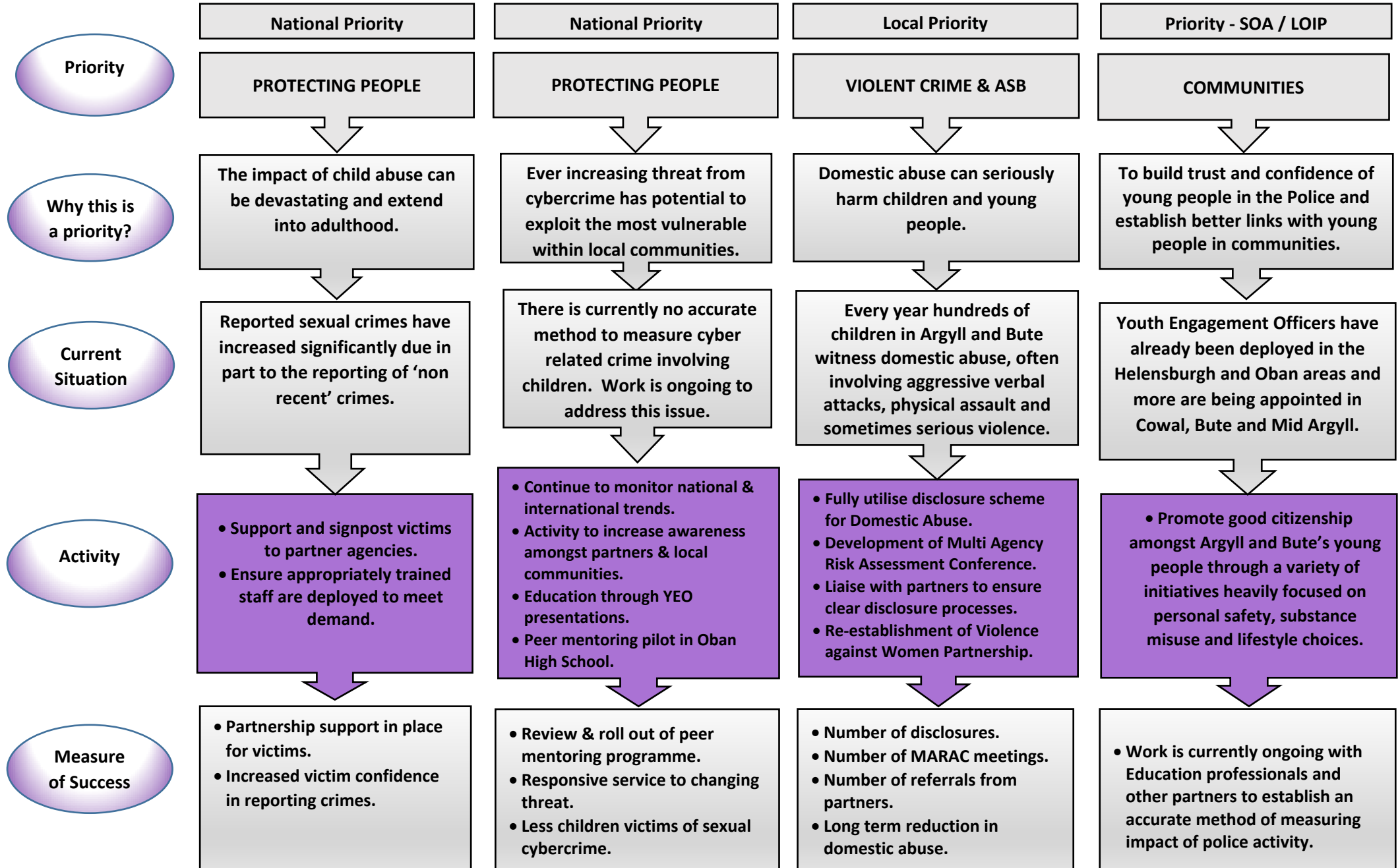
Police Scotland record the number of young people who are present during incidents of domestic abuse. As Domestic Abuse is a national and local priority the assessment of potential risk and harm for every child is managed through Multi Agency meetings for example - Disclosure Scheme Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings. This ensures a coordinated multiagency approach is taken for each and every child to ensure the threat and risk of harm is reduced as much as possible.



### Communities

Police in Argyll and Bute have introduced Youth Engagement Officers (YEOs). These officers have the remit of building links and trust between the Police and young people. Most offenders are between the age of 16-24 and Police have always encountered difficulties engaging with this community. The remit of the YEO is to engage with young people, build relationships and breakdown barriers, encouraging Young People to make positive life choices.

## Outcome 4 – Children & Young People have the best possible start



## Outcome 5 – People live active healthier and independent lives

Police Scotland recognise the importance of people leading active, healthier and independent lives. Every day Police Scotland attend to support and protect people who are displaying mental health issues. Police Scotland support our mature residents throughout Argyll and Bute and recognise the importance they play in creating stable and resilient local communities. The effects on health caused by Drugs and Alcohol, and its close relationship to violence and Antisocial Behaviour is well documented. Over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 5.



### **Protect People – Missing Persons**

Protecting People is a local and national priority. 80% of all incidents managed by Police Scotland are non-crime related. With 2 large residential homes in Helensburgh and Dunoon, there were 466 incidents reported last year with regard to Absconders and Missing Persons. Every report has resource implications for Police Scotland and partners, it is critical that Police Scotland support partner agencies to ensure vulnerable people are managed effectively.



### **Targeting Bogus Callers/workers**

Bogus caller and bogus worker crimes impact on the elderly and erode confidence in independent living. This issue has been identified as a local priority in Argyll and Bute, and although incident rates remain very low, when they do occur it impacts significantly on local and rural communities.



### **Targeting Antisocial Behaviour**

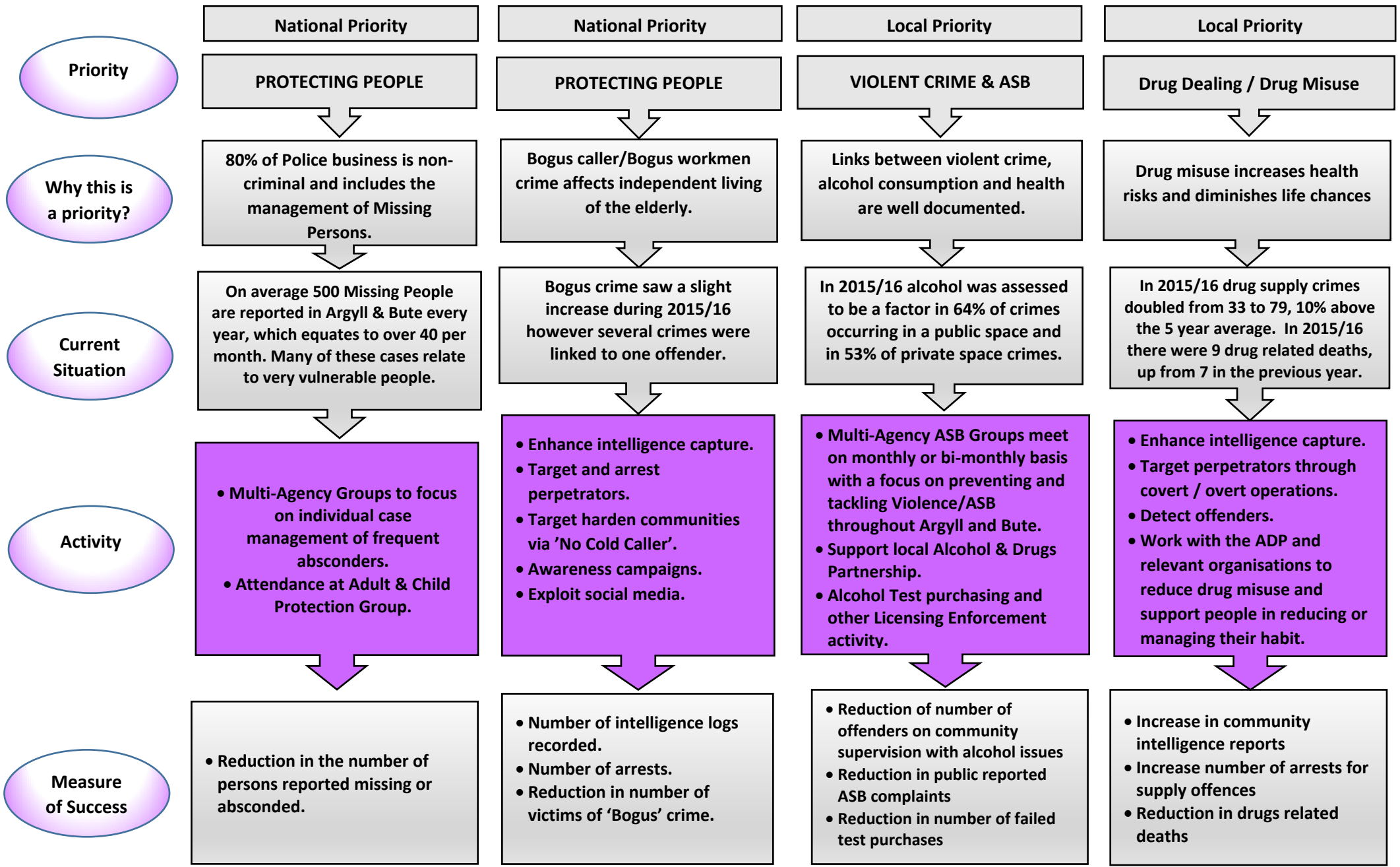
Antisocial behaviour has been identified as a local priority. In Argyll and Bute alcohol features in a significant number of ASB incidents, therefore working with partners in the Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Police Scotland aim to reduce alcohol related incidents of ASB through prevention strategies such as Alcohol Test Purchasing (ATP).



### **Targeting Drugs**

Drug misuse has been identified as a local priority in Argyll and Bute, and it is also a national priority under Serious and Organised Crime. Police Scotland are committed to supporting Outcome 5 through robust enforcement which will reduce the availability of drugs in rural towns across Argyll and Bute.

## Outcome 5 – People live active healthier and independent lives



## Outcome 6 – People live in safer, stronger communities

In order for Argyll and Bute to attract inward investment and relocation to the local communities, communities must be safe and resilient. Police Scotland and its partners strive to empower communities to become strong and safe. Over the next 3 years Police Scotland will carry out the following activity in support of Outcome 6.



### Promote Counter Terrorism

Counter terrorism is a National priority. To ensure a safe and strong Argyll and Bute, Police Scotland will continue to carry out training and awareness events to Public Sector Partners. Police Scotland will continue to deliver the UK Contest strategy utilising Prevent, Prepare, Protect and Pursue model (4Ps), and through our work with our partners to ensure communities understand their responsibilities and how to report information or behaviours that are unusual.



### Target Violent Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

Violent crime is a national priority, and is linked to the local priority of ASB. A significant amount of Violence in Argyll and Bute centres around Domestic Abuse which is covered in outcomes 3 & 4. Violent crime is one of the few areas where crime has increased, and although this increase is marginal it is an area of concern, and will remain a priority for Police Scotland.



### Target Road Crimes

Road safety continues to feature as a local priority in particular speeding. Although speed is not the main causal factor for road collisions, there is a public concern over this issue, especially with regard to Motorcycles.

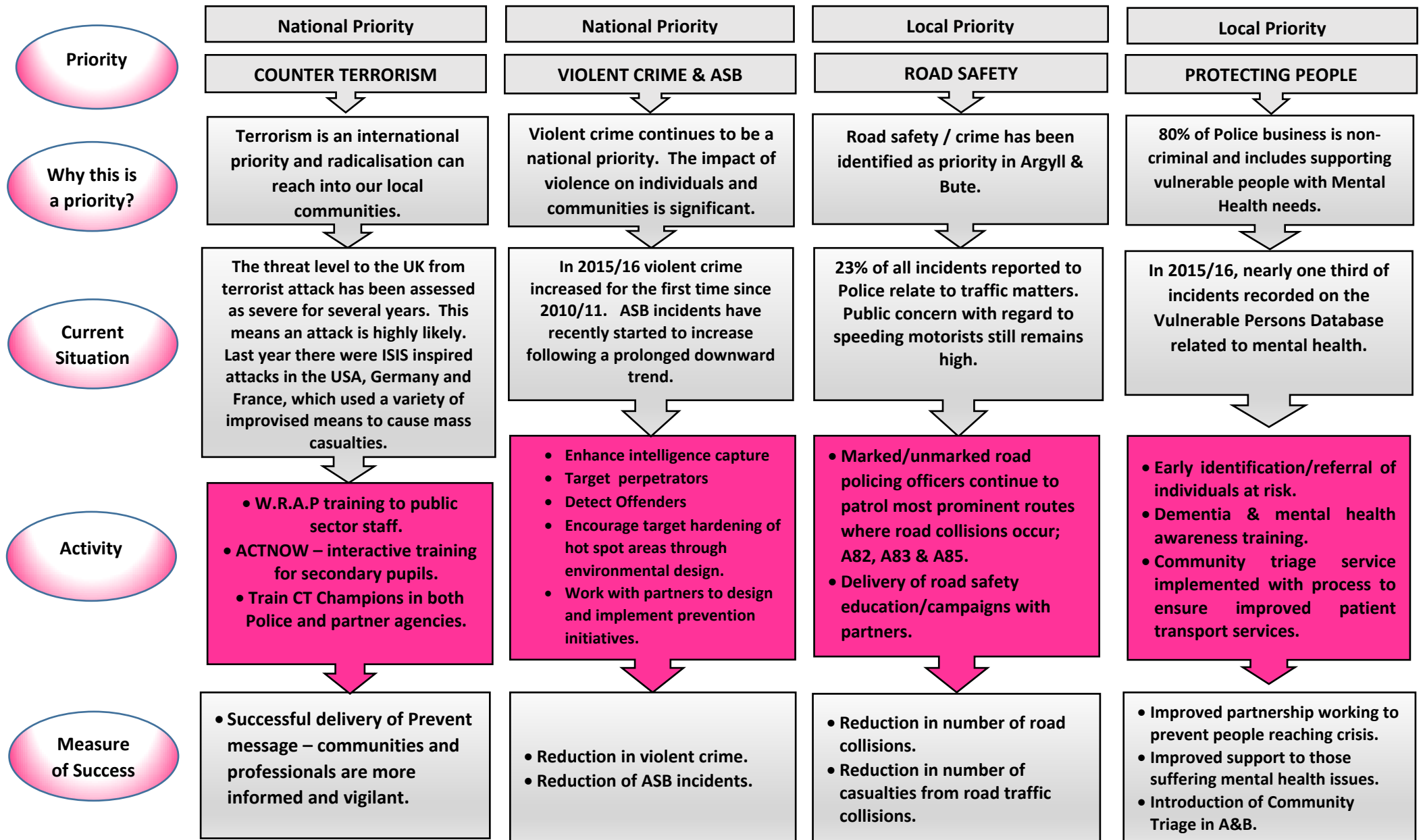


### Protecting People – Mental Health

Protecting People is a local and national priority. 80% of all incidents managed by Police Scotland are non-crime related. 36% of all incidents recorded on the Vulnerable Persons Database (VPD) relate to people in distress or displaying mental health issues. This takes up a significant amount of Police resources in Argyll and Bute, and requires Officers to be trained and have expertise in dealing with individuals. It also requires a multi-agency partnership approach.



## Outcome 6 – People live in safer, stronger communities



## 4. Local Policing arrangements

We aim to deliver policing that is visible, accessible and responsive to the needs of the people of Argyll and Bute. We acknowledge the diverse communities ranging from the population hubs to the rural villages and islands.

Effective policing within these diverse environments can be challenging, however, we believe that we are succeeding due to the excellent joint working we enjoy with our partners within the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership.

The Divisional Senior Leadership Team are responsible for the delivery of policing in Argyll and Bute, At a local level we have local management teams that are proportionate to the number of staff working in our local communities and equally importantly, that it is proportionate to actual crime and incident levels. At a time when Police Scotland is still going through organisational change it is critical that our Operational response still delivers against the key priorities identified by our local communities.

In 2017 we will review our Multi Member Ward Policing plans and will be replacing them with localised plans. These plans will form part of the Local Outcome improvement Plan, which will shape how Police Scotland, and our partner agencies, will address local priorities across Argyll and Bute.

## 5. Performance and Accountability

Within Argyll and Bute we will aim to achieve the highest standard of performance whilst at the same time recognise we are a values based organisation and how we serve our communities is as important as the results we achieve.

Our values, **Integrity, Fairness and Respect** are the touchstones for all our interactions and form the basis of everything we do and every decision we reach. By applying our values we will continue to receive public consent to policing through improved relevancy, trust and support.

National performance frameworks have been developed allowing 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.

We are committed to publishing our performance information and will use this as the foundation for reporting to Argyll and Bute Council and local communities.

This information is available upon request or at [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk) .

## 6. Local Scrutiny and Engagement

Performance against this Local Policing Plan will be continuously scrutinised by the Performance and Scrutiny Committee of Argyll and Bute Council. The Local Police Commander will present a report to the Committee for scrutiny on a quarterly basis outlining policing performance in respect of the priorities highlighted within the Plan.

This scrutiny process is vitally important as we recognise that local communities must influence policing services in Argyll and Bute.

The Local Authority, Elected Members and partners have a role to play and their views are taken into account by the Local Police Commander. This is a formal route to influence police services and to retain and develop the already successful Community Planning Partnership.

The Scottish Police Authority is the body with formal responsibility for scrutiny and to hold Police Scotland to account. They will continue to actively engage with Argyll and Bute Council to build and develop the relationships already formed, ensuring an understanding of policing performance at a local level.

## **7. Equalities**

Crime in Argyll and Bute is falling and public confidence in the police is high. However, we will not be complacent and will continue to work with all sections of our community, including the most vulnerable, to improve our service. We will strive to make our organisation reflective of the communities we police which will increase public trust and confidence in us.

We recognise that effective and fair policing is about addressing the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities and our aim is to ensure that our service meets and exceeds these expectations.

With the introduction of the Equality Act 2010, we have a duty that requires us, both as an employer and in policing our communities to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other prohibited conduct
- Advance equality of opportunity among people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations among people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

Equality and diversity outcomes have been developed across Police Scotland in consultation with equality organisations and our staff associations with representation across all protected groups.

We have also engaged with our community to identify local equality and diversity priorities which link into Police Scotland's strategic Equality Outcomes. Through this engagement we have formed our relevant policing priorities and these reinforce our commitment to equality and diversity.

## 8. Local Contact Details



Local Police Commander,  
Dumbarton Police Office,  
Stirling Road,  
Dumbarton,  
G82 3PT



Dial 999 for an emergency  
Dial 101 for routine matters and non-emergency attendance  
TextRelay 18000 for an emergency  
TextRelay 18001101 for a non-emergency response  
Dial 0800 555111 for Crimestoppers



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