



Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date: 18 March 2019
Report By:	Hugh Scott, Service Manager, Inverclyde Council & Derek Lang, Superintendent, Police Scotland	Report No:
Contact Officers:	Simon Wright, Area Commander, Police Scotland & William Rice, Community Safety & Resilience, Inverclyde Council	Contact No: 714245
Subject:	Community Safety & Violence Prevention Initiative	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the partnership brief for a proposed area based Community Safety & Violence Prevention Initiative in Inverclyde and to seek agreement from the Inverclyde Alliance Board to proceed with implementation.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The National Performance Framework has 11 Outcomes which set out the vision for improving the quality of life for people in Scotland. In terms of community safety the Outcome that “We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe” is most relevant. The indicators for this Outcome are that we address perceptions of the local area; loneliness; local crime rates; community land ownership; crime victimisation; access to green and blue space; places to interact and social capital.
- 2.2 The Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017/22 sets out the outcomes that the Inverclyde Alliance will seek to improve. Three strategic priorities have been identified: Population; Inequalities and Environment, Culture and Heritage. The strategic priorities link to the National Performance Framework Outcomes and in particular Outcome 11, “We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.”
- 2.3 The Local Police Plan for Inverclyde sets out local priorities against overarching national objectives. The priorities are directly drawn from Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) and Police Scotland's Strategic Assessment and these priorities are: Protecting people at risk of harm; serious and organised crime; Violence, Anti-social behaviour and disorder; Road safety and road crime; and Counter terrorism and Domestic Extremism.
- 2.4 The development and delivery of the proposed area based Community Safety & Violence Prevention Initiative will make a significant contribution towards delivery of those previously noted national and local Outcomes and is designed to evidence true local collaborative working and leave a legacy benefit within the community which increases community resilience, support and responsibility.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Alliance Board agrees to:

- a. Approve development of an area based Community Safety & Violence Prevention Initiative with Police Scotland and Inverclyde Council as lead partners;
- b. Deliver, monitor and evaluate the initiative through the Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership; and
- c. Deliver the initiative over a 9 month period from 1st April 2019 followed by critical evaluation and full post-project evaluation within 12 months of completion.

**Derek Lang, Superintendent,
Police Scotland
Chair of Inverclyde Community Safety
Strategy Group**

**Hugh Scott, Service Manager,
Inverclyde Council
Chair of Inverclyde Community Safety
Co-ordinating Group**

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Following community consultation and the completion of a strategic assessment, the Community Safety Partnership has set out 3 overarching strategic priorities for 2018/19 and these are Reducing Violence, Crime and Disorder; Reducing Unintentional Harm and Injury; and Promoting Community Resilience. Currently, the majority of responses to violence, anti-social behaviour and disorder are reactive and Police led, with preventative work taking place in school settings through the delivery of initiatives such as Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) and No Knives Better Lives (NKBL).
- 4.2 Whilst such responses and initiatives undoubtedly make a contribution to reducing violence, crime and disorder, the recent delivery and success of a multi-agency approach in Renfrewshire warranted consideration for a learning and improvement opportunity for subsequent development and delivery within Inverclyde. A summary of the Renfrewshire initiative is included at Appendix I for reference.
- 4.3 Project evaluation information from Police Scotland and information from Renfrewshire Council has been used to inform the development of the proposed area based Community Safety & Violence Prevention Initiative in Inverclyde through the Community Safety Partnership. (Appendix 1)
- 4.4 Delivery of the initiative will be aligned with the LOIP Locality areas and will be area based to ensure effective community buy-in as well as ensuring best use of the existing resources of all organisations.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The methodology for assessment and identification of the most appropriate area for delivery of a pilot initiative is based on the triple criteria of crime statistics, SIMD outcomes and existing community engagement and capacity. The Community Safety Partnership Data Analyst will undertake assessment of statistics relative to the LOIP Locality Areas. A weighted assessment tool will be developed to assess the criteria and identify the most appropriate area for delivery of a pilot initiative. The assessment tool will also factor in the LOIP priorities and Local Policing priorities.
- 5.2 Governance of the proposed initiative will be undertaken via the existing Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group, which comprises appropriately authorised Officers of partner organisations and which reports directly to the Inverclyde Alliance Board. Delivery of the pilot initiative would be administered via the Community Safety Co-ordinating Group, which already comprises Officers who are appropriately authorised to commit resources of their respective organisations, under a multi-agency tasking group. Delivery will have a strong focus on measureable tasks and actions with a considerable element of community engagement. Terms of Reference for the initiative will be drawn up which sets out the membership and clear remit of the tasking group.
- 5.3 Robust data analysis is a cornerstone of the initiative and will be used to establish a performance baseline and inform critical evaluation upon completion of the pilot initiative. The Community Safety Partnership Data Analyst will provide regular performance monitoring throughout the term of the pilot of agreed performance indicators and at agreed monitoring timescales.
- 5.4 The success of the pilot relies on effective community engagement and it is proposed to engage with the community using the Place Standard tool, within the National Standards for Community Engagement, to identify the Community's priorities and to identify issues which may also require attention to maintain current good performance. Responses from the recent 'Our Place, Our Futures' consultation event will be analysed relevant to the pilot area to further inform community priorities. Ongoing engagement will primarily be directed by a clear and consistent communication strategy.
- 5.5 Evaluation of the project will be done in two stages. There will be an initial, stakeholder based post-project critical evaluation undertaken within 3 months of completion of the pilot initiative, to inform development and delivery of the initiative in other locality areas. The Place Standard tool will be used to undertake a legacy based evaluation which aims to identify the overall impact of the initiative. The legacy based evaluation will be undertaken 12 months after completion of delivery of the pilot initiative.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Legal:
There are no legal implications and the initiative will be delivered within existing legislative frameworks.
- 6.2 Finance:
There is no direct spend associated with delivery of the initiative, outwith the existing budgets of partner organisations. In the long term it is expected that successful delivery will lead to budget savings on a preventative spend basis.
- 6.3 Human Resources:
There are no Human Resource implications.
- 6.4 Equality and Diversity:
An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and this is attached at Appendix 2.
- 6.5 Repopulation:
Delivery of a violence reduction initiative, which engages and involves the community, makes our communities safer and addresses fear of crime within communities. The legacy benefit from the initiative will make our communities stronger and more resilient and this contributes to a stable population and makes Inverclyde an attractive place for people to relocate to.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 Community consultation forms the backbone of the initiative and an appropriate period for pre and post-initiative community consultation has been included. Delivery partners have been consulted through their membership of the Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Not applicable.

BUILDING SAFER AND GREENER COMMUNITIES



Erskine communities lead way in tackling local issues

A national intervention programme continues in Erskine, Renfrewshire to help build safer communities through close partnership working between key services and local communities.

A multi-agency group led by Police Scotland and supported by Renfrewshire Council, Engage Renfrewshire, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, works closely with communities to carry out targeted interventions in areas in need of additional support.

Communities are consulted on what they consider to be the priorities to improve their area and all local partners work together to make a positive difference, with Erskine the latest community to benefit from the programme following successful interventions in Ferguslie and Gallowhill.

Erskine residents identified underage drinking, littering, anti-social behaviour and a lack of police presence as the key issues in their area in need of attention.

Police officers, Renfrewshire Wardens and the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership Youth Team carried out joint patrols to provide visible reassurance and address youth-related anti-social behaviour, with over 100 young people spoken to with the aim of discouraging offending. Underage drinking was also targeted with large quantities of alcohol seized from youths with Police Scotland and the Youth Team carrying out follow up visits with parents to discuss the behaviour of their children.

After conducting an Environmental Visual Audit partners conducted litter picks, graffiti removal and shrubbery/tree removal along with members of the community. In addition, education and targeted enforcement around dog ownership was conducted.

Councillor Marie McGurk, Convener of Renfrewshire Council's Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board, said: "We want to help our local communities to ensure safe, welcoming places for our residents which is why we are asking them to identify the issues which matter to them.

“Once the key issues are identified, we're working alongside our partners to take action and make real improvements to the lives of people in the local community.

“The approach is showing fantastic results so far with significant reductions in anti-social behaviour and it is encouraging to see such a positive outcome in tackling the priorities of local people.”

The intervention in Erskine has shown positive results with vandalism offences reducing by more than half and disorder offences dropping by 24% in relation to the corresponding period last year. There was a 50% increase in the number of arrests for drug offences, which could be explained by the increased police presence in the area during the intervention period.

Chief Inspector Simon Wright, Paisley Area Commander stated "Working in partnership, targeting community priorities, can produce positive outcomes for individuals, communities and businesses. Our collective response to these local priorities has clearly made a positive impact in Erskine and I'd like to thank all those who took the time to support the work we've been doing.

Our Erskine Community Safety Partnership Group will continue to meet and be chaired by Police Scotland to continue the support from all partners and to ensure the positive outcomes are maintained.

Equality Impact Assessment

This document should be completed at the start of policy development or at the early stages of a review. This will ensure equality considerations are taken into account before a decision is made and policies can be altered if required.

SECTION 1 - Policy Profile

1 Name/description of the policy, plan, strategy or programme	Community Safety & Violence Reduction Initiative (working title)
2 Responsible organisations/Lead Service	Inverclyde Council and Police Scotland
3 Lead Officer	Hugh Scott
4 Partners/other services involved in the development of this policy	Community Safety Partnership
5 Is this policy:	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed/Revised <input type="checkbox"/>
6 What is the purpose of the policy (include any new legislation which prompted the policy or changes to the policy)?	To develop and deliver an area based Community Safety & Violence Reduction Initiative, which makes significant contribution towards delivery of national and local outcomes and leaves a legacy benefit within the community.
7 What are the intended outcomes of the policy?	A reduction in recorded crimes associated with violence and anti-social behaviour within that area and an improved level of community participation, activism and resilience.
8 Geographical area (Inverclyde wide or a specific location)	As yet unidentified intermediate geography (ies) within a LOIP Locality area.
9 Is the policy likely to have an impact on any of the elements of the Council equality duty (if yes, please tick as appropriate)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foster good relations between people from different groups
10 Will those who may be directly or indirectly affected by this policy be involved in its development?	Yes. Community engagement and participation forms the basis for successful delivery

SECTION 2 – Impact on Protected Characteristics

Which of the protected characteristics will the policy have an impact upon? (see guidance for examples of key considerations under each characteristic)

Protected Characteristic	Impact					Reason/Comments
	Positive		Neutral	Negative		
	High	Low		High	Low	
Age		X				The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Disability	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Gender Reassignment	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Pregnancy and maternity	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Race	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Religion or Belief	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Sex (Male or Female)	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Sexual Orientation	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.
Other groups to consider (please give details)	X					The area based initiative aims to address violence and anti-social behaviour and build community resilience for all residents within community.

SECTION 3 – Evidence

What evidence do you have to help identify any potential impacts of the policy? (Evidence could include: consultations, surveys, focus groups, interviews, projects, user feedback, complaints, officer knowledge and experience, equalities monitoring data, publications, research, reports, local, national groups.)

Evidence	Details
Consultation/Engagement (including any carried out while developing the policy)	Community consultation will be undertaken to identify the particular issues within the pilot area and will shape the focus and delivery of the initiative. Existing community consultations will be analysed for area specific information.
Research	The Community Safety Data Analyst will use existing datasets within the defined methodology and triple criteria of Crime; SIMD outcomes and existing community capacity to identify and area for delivery of a pilot scheme.
Officer's knowledge and experience (including feedback from frontline staff).	Local knowledge will be considered will support the outcome of the Data Analyst research.
Equalities monitoring data.	Reports of hate crime will be considered and responses to this will form part of the initiative.
User feedback (including complaints)	Reported crime will be considered and responses to this will form part of the initiative.
Stakeholders Other	Community engagement and delivery through the Community Safety Partnership will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to be involved in shaping and delivering the initiative.
What information gaps are there?	

SECTION 4 – CONSEQUENCES OF ANALYSIS

What steps will you take in response to the findings of your analysis? Please select at least one of the following and give a brief explanation.		
1. Continue development with no changes	X	The proposed initiative will have the support of partner agencies prior to launch and community engagement forms the first part of the initiative and the final evaluation.
2. Continue development with minor alterations		
3. Continue development with major changes		
4. Discontinue development and consider alternatives (where relevant)		
How will the actual effect of the policy be monitored following implementation?		
<p>Analysis and comparison of recorded crime figures against the baseline will be used for monitoring the effect of the initiative. The use of the Place Standard assessment tool will allow the legacy impact of the initiative to be assessed.</p>		
When is the policy due to be implemented?		
1 st April 2019		
When will the policy be reviewed?		
January 2020 (critical evaluation immediately after completion) and again in January 2021 (Place Standard legacy evaluation 12 month after completion).		
What resources are available for the implementation of this policy? Have these resources changed?		
It is expected that the initiative can be delivered within existing resources.		

Name of Individual(s) who completed the Assessment

Name(s): William Rice

Position: Team Leader, Community Safety & Resilience

Date: 24th January 2019

Authorised by

Name:

Position:

Date:

Please send a copy of all completed forms to Janice Boyd, Equalities Officer at janice.boyd@inverclyde.gov.uk