



# ACPOS

ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS IN SCOTLAND

## SCOTTISH STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2010/2011



# FOREWORD



This, the second public version of the Scottish Strategic Assessment (SSA), highlights to the people of Scotland the Very High Risk crime and disorder issues which the Scottish Police Service has identified as impacting on communities. It outlines the strategies that the police and partner agencies have adopted in tackling these issues and the role that the public can play in assisting with this.

The Assessment draws on a wide range of information and intelligence, most notable of which is the opinions of you the public about those issues that impact detrimentally on your communities. The Very High Priorities span across all types of crime and disorder from Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence at a local level to Public Protection, Serious Organised Crime Groups and Terrorism which cut across local and international boundaries. The direct impact of some of these issues is often not as visible or frequent but Scotland's communities expect us to work with our partners to tackle them and preserve and enhance our safety and wellbeing.

The Assessment allows the Scottish Police Service to deploy the finite resources that are required in the most effective and efficient way possible to police and protect the communities of Scotland in line with the Scottish Government's vision of a Safer and Stronger Scotland.

**Patrick Shearer** QPM MA LLB

Chief Constable  
ACPOS President

# THE CHALLENGE

The Scottish Police Service is committed to assisting in the delivery of the Scottish Government's 5 Strategic Objectives of a **Wealthier and Fairer, Smarter, Healthier, Greener** and **Safer and Stronger Scotland**, with a particular focus in developing a Safer and Stronger Scotland through the delivery of effective and visible policing in Scotland's communities.

Ensuring that police officers and staff across Scotland are focused on those issues which cause the most significant harm and deployed within those areas which experience the greatest need is essential in delivering the best possible service to communities. In order to achieve this, the Scottish Police Service have listened to and taken cognisance of the views of the Scottish public as well as information gathered from partner agency and internal police systems. This has identified the Very High Priorities for policing in Scotland as;

- Public Protection (including familial abuse and neglect, domestic abuse, missing children, sexual offences and offenders)
- Terrorism
- Serious Organised Crime Groups (including drugs, firearms, human trafficking, violence, fraud, money laundering, e-crime, intellectual property crime and environmental crime)

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Violence

These represent those issues which create the most significant crime and disorder threats in Scotland, increase fear of crime in communities and impact detrimentally on the social and economic well being of the country. The Scottish Police Service is committed to tackling these issues in the year ahead, working with communities to deliver the Scottish Government outcomes of 'reducing the overall crime rate by 2%', 'increasing positive public perception of the crime rate in the local area' and 'increasing the number of adults who rate their neighbourhood as a good place to live'.

In addition to the Very High Priorities the SSA also identified Road Safety, Acquisitive Crime, Hate Crime, Bogus Caller Crime and Wildlife Crime as priorities for Scottish policing. These are not discussed in further detail in this booklet; however, they remain important areas of business for the Scottish Police Service and will continue to receive the appropriate level of resources.

## THE RESPONSE

The Scottish Police Service is committed to tackling crime and disorder issues in communities through the application of a three strand strategy;

- Robust enforcement against those who commit crime and disorder in communities
- Working with the public and partners to gather information and intelligence to ensure that resources continue to be deployed appropriately
- Preventing further crime and disorder through partnership working to tackle underlying social problems which contribute to crime and disorder including alcohol and drug misuse and deprivation

Through this approach the Scottish Police Service aims to continue to reduce levels of crime and disorder in communities and increase public reassurance and confidence so that Scotland's citizens can live free from fear or intimidation.

## PUBLIC PROTECTION

The Scottish Police Service is committed to protecting the most vulnerable members of society who are often victims of significant and sustained abuse. Domestic abuse, child abuse and neglect and sexual exploitation of individuals take place within Scotland's communities. The police are committed to working with the public to identify and offer support and assistance to victims of these crimes and arresting and bringing to justice those perpetrators who commit these crimes through;

- Pursuing the perpetrators of domestic abuse and protecting victims
- Continuing to adopt '*Getting It Right for Every Child*' protocols to ensure effective information exchange and timely delivery of child protection services
- Maximising opportunities provided by the new rape and sexual offences legislation

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Tell us about children that you are worried about in your community so that we can work with partners to offer assistance
- Report prostitution offences occurring in your community to your local police station to allow them to take appropriate preventative and enforcement action



# TERRORISM

Tackling the threat which international terrorism poses to the communities of Scotland remains a Very High Priority for the Scottish Police Service. The Scottish Police Service continues to tackle terrorism through application of the UK CONTEST strategy including;

- Pursuing those individuals who would commit terrorist atrocities
- Developing and delivering counter terrorism advice to the Scotland's business communities and key partners
- Preventing terrorist attacks through engagement with key stakeholders

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Report any suspicious activity to the terrorist phone line
- Highlight acts of intolerance occurring in communities which can contribute to higher community tensions and divisions



## SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME GROUPS

Reducing the harm caused by Serious Organised Crime Groups (SOCG) in communities of Scotland remains a Very High Priority for the Scottish Police Service. These groups perpetrate fraud, violence, intimidation and exploitation, contributing to levels of drug misuse, drugs deaths and fear of crime. The police continue to disrupt the activities of these individuals as part of the Scottish Government Serious Organised Crime (SOC) strategy;

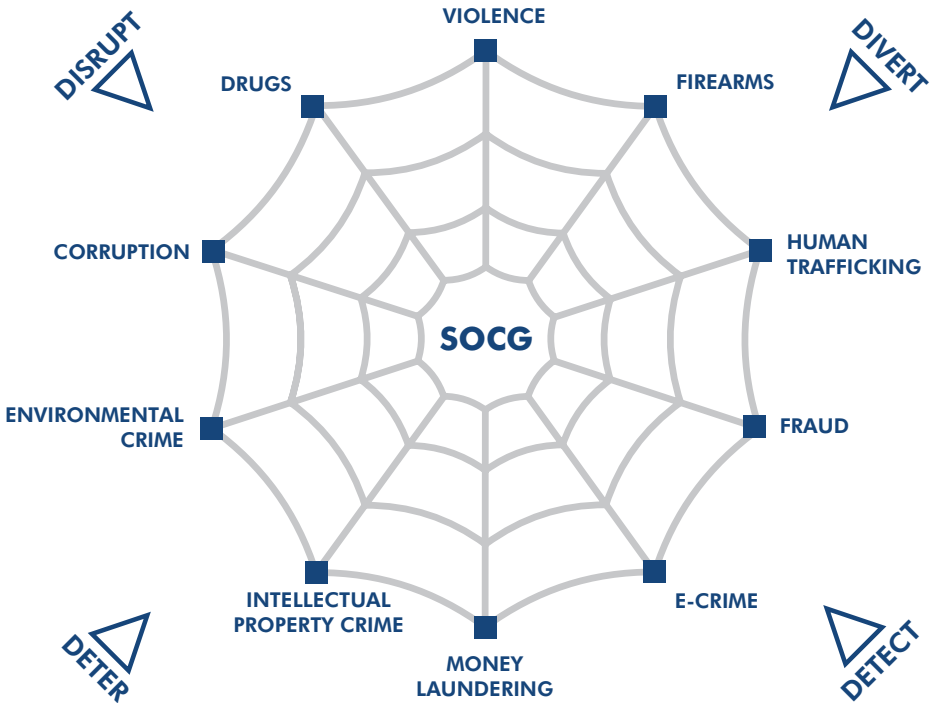
- Divert individuals (particularly young people), from engaging in or using the products of SOCG
- Disrupt the activities of SOCG by arresting and dismantling the groups
- Deter SOC by implementing measures to protect communities, businesses and the public sector
- Detect to give SOCG no place to hide by boosting capacity and improving coordination pro-actively targeting SOCG causing the most harm to the communities of Scotland

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Contact Crimestoppers to highlight concerns regarding drugs or other SOCG activity in your local area
- Refuse to support SOCG by not purchasing illegal commodities, including counterfeit goods



# SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME GROUPS



The diagram above shows the complexity of the web of SOCG activity.

# ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Effectively tackling the sheer volume of incidents related to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is a key challenge for law enforcement in reassuring the public and preventing escalation in further criminality. The Scottish Police Service recognise that ASB stems from a wide-range of issues, often deeply embedded within communities and deep and long-term solutions will be required to break this cycle. Strategies adopted by the police in tackling this issue include;

- Effective enforcement of available legislation to reduce occurrences of ASB in communities
- Maximising information gathering to enhance understanding of nature of ASB in local communities
- Engaging with communities and partners to divert young people into intervention programmes

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Report all incidents of ASB in your community to help target it most effectively
- Tell us about those individuals who illegally supply alcohol to underage youths in your community



# VIOLENCE

The Scottish Police Service recognise that violence is too regular an occurrence in Scotland's communities, which can take the form of assaults and murders in public places or escalating disagreements within homes and workplaces and prisons. Tackling these diverse strands of violence is a key challenge for the police who are addressing this through;

- Working with local licensing boards to reduce impact of alcohol related crime and disorder
- Gathering information to target repeat offenders of violence in communities
- Using stop and search powers to target knife carriers

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Tell us about those individuals carrying knives in your community.
- Tell us who, where and when violence is occurring in your community to allow us to deploy resources appropriately



# OUTCOMES FOR 2010/11

Policing is entering a challenging period. While the operational threats faced by the Scottish Police Service remain vast and diverse, constraints on the public purse mean that increasingly forces and agencies will be asked to deliver the required outcomes with a smaller financial settlement. The Scottish Police Service, however, remains committed to delivering the following outcomes;

- Increasing confidence of victims to report crime
- Achieving high detection rates for crime and disorder across Scotland
- Reducing the risk to communities from dangerous offenders
- Disrupting terrorist networks
- Effectively tackling radicalisation in Scotland's communities
- Reducing the harm caused by SOCG
- Diverting young people from involvement in drugs.
- Impacting on levels of ASB in communities
- Combating violence in Scotland's communities
- Working with partners to tackle underlying causes of crime and disorder

## WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN TACKLE CRIME

We are interested in your views on our priorities. Please email:

[nim@tulliallan.pnn.police.uk](mailto:nim@tulliallan.pnn.police.uk)



- British Transport Police (Scotland)
  - Central Scotland Police
  - Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary
  - Fife Constabulary
  - Grampian Police
  - Lothian and Borders Police
  - Northern Constabulary
  - Strathclyde Police
  - Tayside Police
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- HM Revenue and Customs
  - Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency
  - Scottish Government
  - Scottish Prison Service
  - Serious Organised Crime Agency
  - United Kingdom Border Agency

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