

Policing Plan 2023-24

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Isle of Man
Government

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Department of Home Affairs

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Policing Plan 2023-24

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Foreword



Hon. Jane Poole-Wilson, MHK
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Under the Police Act 1993 the Department of Home Affairs, after consultation with the Chief Constable, determines the objectives and strategic priorities of the Isle of Man Constabulary. These are determined annually and a report is then laid before Tynwald. This enables Government to provide high-level direction to the Constabulary without impacting on their operational independence.

This Policing Plan aims to contribute towards the Council of Ministers' overarching vision of a secure, vibrant and sustainable future for our Island nation.

Community safety has always been a key contributor to maintaining, and improving, our quality of life and is a consistent driver for economic growth. That is why this plan requires the Constabulary to put community based neighbourhood policing at the heart of its approach.

The independent inspection of the Constabulary, by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services identified a number of areas of improvement, many of which are now complete. I am keen though that improvement is not seen as a response to an inspection, but rather a continuous process of learning and developing. I offer the new Chief Constable my full support and backing in developing the capability and competence of our Constabulary as he responds not only to this plan but also the inspection outcomes.

One of the findings from the independent inspection was that there is insufficient public input to the Policing Plan. While the plan is informed by work undertaken by the Constabulary's engagement with every local authority across the Island, I am keen to also develop a mechanism where members of the public can also contribute to the plan. This will be in place by the time we start the development of the next Policing plan at the end of 2023.

The risk from Organised Crime Groups has not diminished. These groups bring real harm to our Island including violent crime, sexual assault, domestic abuse, and child exploitation. That is why tackling these groups remains a priority for the Chief Constable.

Many of the challenges facing us can only be addressed through effective partnership working. The Department urges the Chief Constable to maintain the commitment to developing the newly established Community Safety Partnership.

Continuing to develop our capacity to tackle economic crime, particularly that involving international money laundering and the financing of terrorism, is key to meeting global standards and reducing the impact of fraud and cybercrime on our community.

Finally the Constabulary has made huge strides towards digitisation already and I support the Chief Constable's aim to use technology to drive more effective and efficient ways of working. I would like to see this developed to ensure policing is both sustainable and adaptable to address future demands.

The Constabulary is front and centre of delivering the Government's vision of a secure, vibrant and sustainable future for our Island nation and public confidence is critical at a community, national and also international level.

Hon. Jane Poole-Wilson, MHK

Minister for Justice and Home Affairs

April 2023

Government Policy

This Policing Plan has been informed by the aims and deliverables set out in the Island Plan, the Department's Delivery Plan, and also the threats to the Island identified by the Isle of Man Constabulary.

Aims

To ensure that the Isle of Man continues to be the safest island in the British Isles, the plan sets out the following three overall aims for the Constabulary, whilst putting the victim at the centre:

Protecting the vulnerable | Reducing harm | Tackling criminality

Priorities

1. Tackling international money laundering and the financing of terrorism;
2. Community policing based on neighbourhood policing principles;
3. Deterring, pursuing and preventing organised crime in the Isle of Man;
4. Tackling exploitation of vulnerable people;
5. Reducing and preventing youth offending and reoffending, including anti-social behaviour;
6. Reducing the harm caused by violence and tackling violence against women and girls and domestic abuse;
7. Reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads; and
8. Building organisational capacity and capability.

Enablers

- People
- Understanding of strategic threats and risks
- Business Delivery
- Partnership and Collaborative working
- Demand Reduction
- Digital

Tackling international money laundering and the financing of terrorism

The Constabulary must focus efforts on tackling complex international money laundering and the financing of terrorism. The Constabulary's role in supporting the Island's overall objective of compliance with international financial standards is crucial and must be seen as a priority.

★ Objectives

- Ensure the new proactive international money laundering investigation team is fully operational by June 2023;
- Deter, detect, disrupt and bring to charge those who commit organised economic crime, in particular international money laundering and the financing of terrorism; and
- Participate in the cross-Government work to ensure the Island is compliant with international standards including FATF.¹

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Increased number of international money laundering prosecutions.
- Increased amount of funds seized.
- Increased investigative activity in relation to international financial crime.

¹ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. It sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society.

Community policing

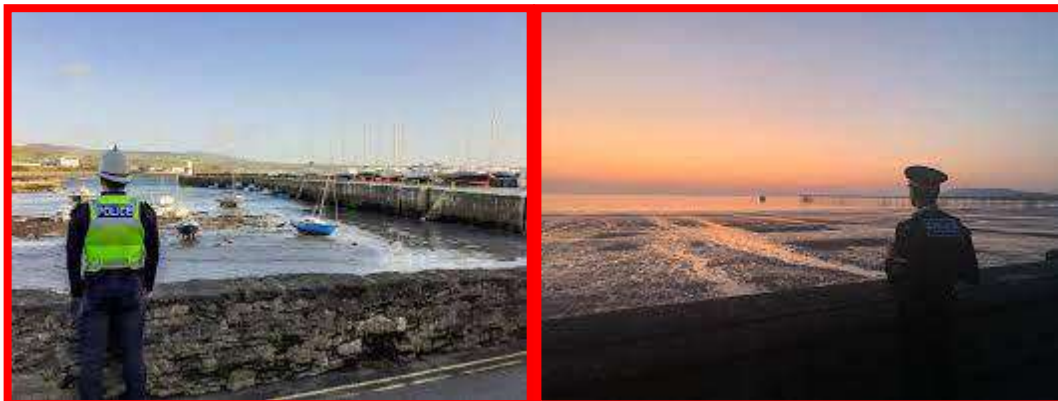
Community policing is fundamental to the Isle of Man's success as a safe place to live and work. It forms the basis of preventative work and builds trust and confidence between the Police and the communities they serve. In the Island plan, the Council of Ministers commits to building great communities. The Department of Home Affairs sees Community policing focused at a neighbourhood level as a key part of delivering this commitment.

★ Objectives

- Engage and consult with communities about the things that matter to them;
- Focus on proactive prevention and early intervention;
- Identify and prioritise those groups with greatest need; and
- Partnership working to tackle low level offending and anti-social behaviour.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Reduced incidents of antisocial behaviour.
- Increased numbers of people who say they feel safe or very safe in their community.
- Crime reduction in local areas.
- Increased outcome rates.



Deterring, pursuing and preventing organised crime in the Isle of Man

Organised Crime Groups (OCG) target and exploit the Isle of Man as it is a lucrative market for the sale of drugs. This is not a victimless crime. Drugs gangs target vulnerable people and exploit them. The sale of drugs leads to violence and harm. It is a priority to prevent criminal gangs from bringing drugs to the Island.

★ Objectives:

- Work with partners to reduce vulnerabilities in the Island's borders;
- Work with partners to deter and prevent organised crime groups from targeting the Isle of Man, pursuing those who do seek to commit crime here; and
- Implement the Violence Reduction Plan.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Increase in amount of drugs seized.
- Increase in amount of drug money seized.
- Increase in prosecutions of and disruptions to OCGs and members.
- Reduce levels of recorded violent crime linked to drugs.
- Numbers of people safeguarded from OCGs.



Tackling exploitation of vulnerable people

We know that children and vulnerable adults are being exploited by serious criminals, particularly in relation to drugs. In addition, complex vulnerability amongst the community is a considerable driver of police demand. These are not problems the Constabulary can tackle alone and the Department understands that this is a problem which can only be solved with partners in other agencies.

★ Objectives

- Continue to analyse data to ensure there is a comprehensive understanding of issues connected to the exploitation of children and vulnerable adults, including from partner agencies outside the Constabulary;
- Support bespoke interventions, and sharing of information, to reduce the risk of exploitation;
- Establish a multi-agency safeguarding hub with other partners by full co-location no later than June 2023; and
- Proactively work to safeguard victims of fraud.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Reduction in the number of vulnerable people and children who are repeat victims of crime.
- Increase in the number of young or vulnerable people removed from exploitation.
- Victim satisfaction rates.
- Increased numbers of potential victims safeguarded from fraud.

Reducing and preventing youth offending and reoffending, including anti-social behaviour

Children who break the law should be treated differently than adults. Much youth offending is short term and is a response to other things happening in a child's life. While a great deal of youth offending is lower level anti-social behaviour, the impact on our community should not be underestimated and it must be addressed.

The Police Early Action Team works with young people and their parents/carers and the evidence shows their interventions work to deter the vast majority from further criminal behaviour. For a minority, more sustained and multi-agency approaches are needed.

Preventing youth offending is not simply a job for the Police alone. The Police must work closely with those in health and social care, education and the voluntary sector to prevent offending from happening in the first place and to reduce reoffending.

The Department recognises the conclusions and recommendations in the Tynwald Constitutional and Legal Affairs and Justice Committee's report on youth justice, and requires the Constabulary to work with others to develop a meaningful, corporate approach to youth justice.

★ Objectives

- Improve early identification of vulnerability and those at risk of offending in children and young people;
- Support and participate in the Community Safety Partnership;
- Provide interventions to divert those at risk of offending;
- Provide input and support to the work on Adverse Childhood Experiences;
- Continue to develop and participate in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub;
- Work with partners to provide an effective approach to youth justice and youth offending; and
- Continue to support and develop community policing.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Increased referrals between partner agencies.
- Reduced offending and reoffending rates for young people.

Reducing the harm caused by violence and tackling violence against women and girls and domestic abuse

The harm caused to individuals and our community by serious assaults and sexual assaults is significant. Violence against women and girls is extremely harmful. All violence is preventable.

The new Domestic Abuse legislation has already proved successful, giving Police extra powers to prevent harm and bring perpetrators of domestic abuse to justice. There must also be commitment from other agencies to truly begin to make a difference.

The link between drugs and violence is inescapable. Where a drug debt cannot be paid or there is a dispute between rival drugs gangs, violence is routine. This violence is not acceptable in our community and must be tackled.

★ Objectives

- Support delivery and operation of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre opening in 2024;
- Tackle offending that causes the most harm;
- Implement the Violence Reduction Plan;
- Continue to work to support and protect victims and survivors of domestic abuse;
- Support a multiagency approach to increase the number of places where disclosure of abuse can take place; and
- Demonstrate proportionate use of new powers in the Domestic Abuse Act and the new offences in the Sexual Offences and Obscene Publications Act.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Reduce the number of repeat victims of domestic abuse.
- Reduce the number of serious assaults.
- Increase the number of prosecutions for sexual assaults.
- Increase the number of rape prosecutions.
- Improve satisfaction rates for victims of rape and sexual assault.
- Reduce overall harm levels measured by MoRILE².

² Management of Risk in Law Enforcement is an approach which allows law enforcement agencies to understand risk and harm and so prioritise action and resources accordingly.

Reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads

There will always be road traffic collisions but through the Road Safety Strategy there is a commitment to reduce the harm caused by serious collisions. We must keep visitors and residents safe during motorsport events and tackle the harm caused by those who drive while under the influence of drink and drugs.

★ Objectives

- Continue to work with partners to deliver the Island's Road Safety Strategy;
- Target those who choose to drive while under the influence of drugs and alcohol; and
- Keep people safe during motorsport events.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads.
- Increase the number of vulnerable road users who say they feel safe on our roads.
- Increased time spent on speed enforcement.
- Number of convictions for drink and drug driving.



Building organisational capacity and capability

It's vital that the Police service in the Isle of Man is skilled, flexible and represents the community it serves. It must be enabled by technology, but responsive to people. The Constabulary must continue to transform Policing through the use of digital solutions to improve access, reduce bureaucracy and increase efficiency.

Strong links with UK policing and other agencies are vital to our resilience, therefore the Chief Constable should continue to strengthen existing links and build new relationships. The Island must continue to develop its capability to deal with disasters, major incidents and civil contingencies. The Chief Constable should focus on building capacity in this area.

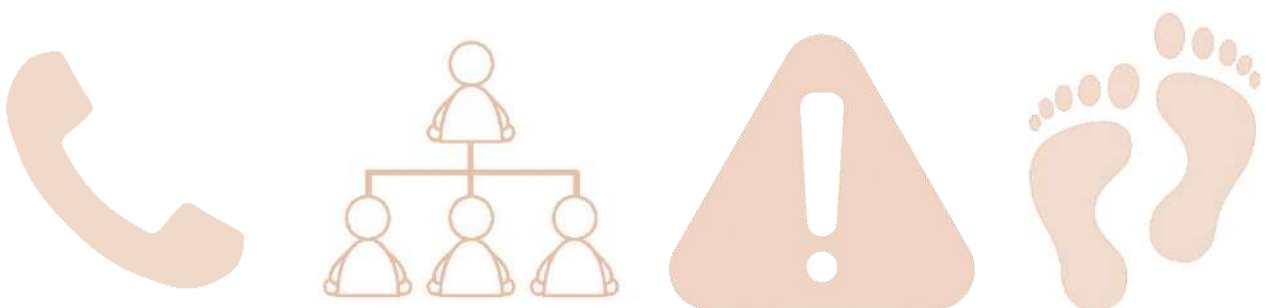
Succession planning must also be a critical focus for the Chief Constable to ensure the Constabulary is able to continue developing for the future.

★ Objectives

- Introduce online public engagement tool;
- Continue to develop the mobile capability of the Constabulary;
- Participate in the development of a Blue Light Strategy working with partner agencies;
- Ensure services are digitally enabled, using opportunities provided by technology to keep people safe and support transformational change;
- Minimise the impact Police operations have on the environment; and
- Promote greater collaboration between emergency services.

★ How will we know we're successful?

- Improved public access to information systems.
- Reduced inquiry calls to police and increased number of online submissions of low level crimes.
- Reduced carbon emissions.





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