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East Dunbartonshire Council

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COUNCIL THURSDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

REFERENCE: EDC/012/23/CL

LEAD OFFICER: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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SUBJECT TITLE: ANNUAL REVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCESS
FOR THE EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE LOCAL
POLICE PLAN

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this Report is to invite Council to review and scrutinise the local progress report of Police Scotland for 2022-23.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- 2.1** scrutinises the progress report for 2022-23 against the respective East Dunbartonshire Local Police Plan 2020-23; and,
- 2.2** agrees that progress against the current Local Police Plan will continue to be monitored by means of scrutiny and review at Council on an annual basis. The Community Planning Partnership Board will also continue to receive regular progress reports.

ANN DAVIE
DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

3.0 BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 3.1** Council will be aware that the Police Service of Scotland came into force on 1 April 2013, replacing the existing police services throughout Scotland, including Strathclyde Police, which covered East Dunbartonshire. The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 makes provision for the preparation of a local policing plan. This plan needs to be considered and approved by the Council, with an associated review and scrutiny process taking place.
- 3.2** The Local Police Area Commander is required to review the Local Police Plan at least every three years. The production of the Local Plan is an important part of the national planning process. It takes account of the Scottish Government's overarching vision for public services, the Strategic Police Priorities set by Scottish Ministers, the Scottish Police Authority's Strategic Police Plan, and the Chief Constable of Scotland's Annual Police Plan.
- 3.3** The plan is also linked to locally identified priorities and objectives through the Community Planning Partnership and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP), with Local Outcome 4 (Safer and Stronger Communities) being particularly relevant. Continued progress with the Co-production arrangement that exists within East Dunbartonshire between Community Protection and the local policing teams also requires to be reflected.
- 3.4** The East Dunbartonshire Local Police Plan 2020-23 is contained in **Appendix 2** and was approved by Council on 19 November 2020 (**PNCA/087/20/EB**). Appropriate review and scrutiny of the Plan ensures that the relevant provisions of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 are being met on a local basis. The annual progress report for 2022-23 is detailed in **Appendix 1** and scrutiny of progress is carried out against the Local Policing Plan for East Dunbartonshire 2020-23. This reporting will be accompanied by a brief presentation to Council from the Local Police Area Commander.
- 3.5** It should also be noted that a new East Dunbartonshire Local Police Plan for the 2023 to 2026 period has already been produced. The new plan was approved by Council on 9 March 2023 (**PNCA/030/23/EB**).
- 3.6** By way of further background to the wider scrutiny process, a non-statutory national framework for scrutiny has recently been produced by the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and COSLA in close collaboration with key strategic partners, including representatives from several Local Authorities. The framework is intended primarily for use by Elected Members in local authorities, who are responsible for scrutinising delivery of local police and fire and rescue services. It describes the relationship between the Local Police Plan and other strategic plans at a national and local level and suggests areas where scrutiny may have a focus at different times during the planning cycle. The framework document can be viewed via the following link - https://www.cosla.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/40906/FINAL_Local-Police-Plan-Scrutiny-Framework-January-2023.pdf

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

The implications for the Council are as undernoted.

- 4.1 Frontline Service to Customers – None.
- 4.2 Workforce (including any significant resource implications) – None.
- 4.3 Legal Implications – Council complying with obligations in relation to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 through application of appropriate approval, scrutiny and review processes.
- 4.4 Financial Implications – None.
- 4.5 Procurement – None.
- 4.6 ICT – None.
- 4.7 Corporate Assets – None.
- 4.8 Equalities Implications – None.
- 4.9 Corporate Parenting - None.
- 4.10 Other – None.

5.0 MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The risks and control measures relating to this Report are as follows: -

- 5.1 Police Scotland is a key partner within the Community Planning process in East Dunbartonshire. Failure to effectively deliver the Local Police Plan creates risk in terms of successfully delivering the outcomes contained within the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and successfully delivering wider Council objectives. Progress in relation to the Local Police Plan and with local policing activity is of particular significance in terms of delivering safer and stronger communities within East Dunbartonshire. The application of robust scrutiny and review processes, in line with the requirements of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, will help to control the risk.

6.0 IMPACT

- 6.1 **ECONOMIC GROWTH & RECOVERY** - Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will indirectly support the delivery of Local Outcome 1 of the LOIP and Council objectives in relation to economic growth and recovery.
- 6.2 **EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS** - Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will indirectly support the delivery of Local Outcome 2 of the LOIP and Council objectives in relation to employment and skills.

- 6.3 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE** - The priorities contained within the Local Police Plan for East Dunbartonshire are closely aligned to Local Outcome 3 of the LOIP and Council objectives in relation to delivering for children and young people. Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will help to ensure that the children and young people within our local communities are safe, healthy and ready to learn.
- 6.4 SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES** - The priorities contained within the Local Police Plan for East Dunbartonshire are closely aligned to Local Outcome 4 of the LOIP and Council objectives in terms of community safety. Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will help to ensure that East Dunbartonshire is a safe place in which to live, work and visit.
- 6.5 ADULT HEALTH & WELLBEING** - The priorities contained within the Local Police Plan for East Dunbartonshire are closely aligned to Local Outcome 5 of the LOIP and Council objectives in terms of adult health and wellbeing. Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will help to ensure that the people of East Dunbartonshire experience good mental health and wellbeing with access to a quality built and natural environment in which to lead healthier and more active lifestyles.
- 6.6 OLDER ADULTS, VULNERABLE PEOPLE & CARERS** - The priorities contained within the Local Police Plan for East Dunbartonshire are closely aligned to Local Outcome 6 of the LOIP and Council objectives in terms of our older adults and vulnerable people. Effective delivery of the Local Police Plan will help to ensure that our older and more vulnerable citizens are properly supported, both to maintain their independence and to enjoy a high quality of life.
- 6.7 CLIMATE CHANGE** - No significant impact.
- 6.8 STATUTORY DUTY** - Application of appropriate approval, scrutiny and review processes will allow Council to fulfil relevant obligations under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

7.0 POLICY CHECKLIST

- 7.1** This Report has been assessed against the Policy Development Checklist and has been classified as being an operational report and not a new policy or change to an existing policy document.

8.0 APPENDICES

- 8.1 Appendix 1** – Local Policing Plan, Progress Report for 2022-23.
- 8.2 Appendix 2** – East Dunbartonshire Local Police Plan 2020-23.