Community safety requires more than SNP promises - Motion as adjusted approved.

13 Councillor Rashid Hussain, seconded by Councillor Elaine McDougall, moved that:-

“Council highlights the recent comments by Jo Farrell, who has called on the Scottish Government to provide additional funding to enable the recruitment of at least 350 new police officers, citing increasing pressures on policing and growing demands across frontline services.

Council notes that Police Scotland currently has approximately 16,400 officers, compared with more than 17,200 a decade ago, and acknowledges concerns expressed by Police Scotland that frontline policing resources have become increasingly "reactive rather than proactive".

Council recognises the vital role that visible neighbourhood policing plays in preventing crime, tackling antisocial behaviour, supporting victims, reassuring local communities and maintaining public confidence in policing.

Council notes with concern that communities across Glasgow continue to raise issues relating to antisocial behaviour, public disorder, road safety, drug-related offending and other community safety concerns, and believes that effective community policing remains one of the most important tools available to address these challenges before they escalate.

Council further notes that while the SNP Administration in Glasgow frequently cites community safety as a key priority, the SNP Government in Edinburgh is now being told by Scotland's most senior police officer that further investment is required to deliver the neighbourhood policing that communities expect.

Council believes that this disconnect between rhetoric and reality raises legitimate concerns regarding the long-term sustainability of community policing and the resources available to keep communities safe.

Council expresses concern that, despite repeated assurances from the SNP Scottish Government regarding police funding, the Chief Constable has publicly stated that additional investment is required to recruit a further 350 officers and strengthen frontline policing capacity.

Council believes that Glasgow residents deserve a police service that is adequately resourced to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour rather than one increasingly forced to respond after problems have already occurred.

Council therefore:

1. Supports the call by Jo Farrell for additional investment to increase police officer numbers and strengthen frontline policing capacity.

2. Calls upon the SNP Scottish Government to engage urgently with Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority to provide the resources necessary to recruit additional officers and support community policing.
3. Calls upon the Scottish Government to bring forward a sustainable long-term workforce plan aimed at increasing officer numbers and restoring proactive neighbourhood policing.
4. Agrees that Glasgow residents deserve a visible and accessible police presence within local communities and that community policing should be prioritised as a cornerstone of public safety.
5. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, the Chair of the Scottish Police Authority and Jo Farrell setting out Council's support for increased investment in policing and seeking assurances that Glasgow communities will benefit from any future increase in officer numbers.

Bailie Paul McCabe, seconded by Bailie Anne McTaggart, moved as an amendment that:-

Delete all and insert:

"Council recognises that community safety remains one of the most important issues for residents and communities across Glasgow and notes concerns regarding antisocial behaviour, violence, retail crime, violence against women and girls, and disorder in parts of the city.

Council rejects attempts to portray these challenges as unique to Glasgow or Scotland and notes that communities across the UK continue to experience similar pressures arising from the cost-of-living crisis, organised criminality, drug misuse, social inequality and years of Westminster austerity.

Council welcomes continued Scottish Government £1.7 billion for 2026-27 investment in policing, justice and violence prevention, alongside ongoing partnership work through the Safe Glasgow Partnership, Police Scotland, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and community organisations to tackle crime, improve public safety and support vulnerable people.

Council further welcomes recent Scottish Government action to tackle misogyny, violence against women and girls, strengthen community cohesion and support safer communities through targeted funding, prevention initiatives and partnership working.

Council notes that Scotland remains one of the safest countries in the world and that recorded crime remains significantly below historic levels, while recognising that public safety challenges remain and require continued action.

Council acknowledges operational pressures facing Police Scotland and believes these should be addressed through continued collaboration between the Scottish Government, local government, policing, health and community partners.

Council therefore:

- Reaffirms its commitment to working with Police Scotland and the Safe Glasgow Partnership to improve safety and public confidence across the city.
- Recognises the importance of prevention, early intervention and public-health approaches alongside effective enforcement.
- Welcomes continued Scottish Government investment in policing, justice, violence prevention and community safety.
- Supports efforts to strengthen frontline policing and reduce the burden of non-policing demands on police officers.
- Welcomes initiatives which combine enforcement, prevention and early intervention to address the root causes of crime and antisocial behaviour.
- Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs seeking continued support for Glasgow's community safety, city centre policing, violence prevention, retail crime and violence against women and girls priorities."

Bailie Martha Wardrop, seconded by Councillor Jon Molyneux, moved as an amendment that:-

(1) in the first paragraph between "comments by" and "Jo Farrell", insert: "Police Scotland's Chief Constable";

(2) delete paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 beginning "Council further notes…" and ending "…frontline policing capacity.", and replace with:

"Council recognises there is a rolling out of a redesigned Local Policing Model which is restructuring the response teams into three distinct functions of Community Policing, Community Investigation Hubs, and Incident Response. Council notes that the evaluation process has assisted to inform and iterate the model, and approach, as it launches across Scotland throughout 2026.

Council believes it is important that people have confidence in the Police and acknowledges that the Chief Constable has welcomed the introduction of the Police Vetting Regulations, which came into force in April 2026, and notes the significant public interest in the issue of re-vetting serving police officers. Council welcomes that the Chief Constable has also recently announced to the Scottish Police Authority Board that she has commissioned an independent review following the Greer case. Council recognises that the delivery of a programme of re-vetting across the police workforce will require sustained investment and resources to support its implementation."

(3) in current paragraph 8, remove “to prevent” and replace with “as part of a wider strategic approach to preventing” and remove the rest of the sentence after “…antisocial behaviour.” :

(4) in the bulleted list,

(a) item 1, add “Chief Constable” between “call by” and “Jo Farrell”

(b) item 2, remove “SNP”

(c) item 3, after “neighbourhood policing”, add: “to rebuild public trust and confidence, collaborating directly with local youth workers and schools to include young voices in how their neighbourhoods are policed.”

(d) item 4, after “public safety”, add: “, with Poverty-Aware and Trauma-Informed Practice equipping frontline police officers with training to understand structural inequality.”

(e) item 5, add “Chief Constable” between “Authority and” and “Jo Farrell”

(f) item 5, after “Council’s support for”, insert a sub-list with the remainder of the sentence added as item (a), and the following additional items added:

(b) collaboration between local elected representatives, the Scottish Police Authority and COSLA through a formal national partnership agreement, dedicated scrutiny frameworks, and shared forums.
(c) dedicated initiative which is driving equality, diversity and inclusion with a zero-tolerance approach to racism, sexism, and discrimination within the police workforce and during public contact.
(d) the decentralised complaint systems which is moving complaint handling away from local police stations to independent, specialised teams.

Adjournment.

14 In terms of Standing Order No 17, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1610 hours.

Resumption of meeting.

15 The meeting resumed at 1629 hours.

During the debate, Councillor Hussain, with the approval of his seconder, accepted the amendments by Bailie McCabe and Wardrop, resulting in the following adjusted motion:-

"Council recognises the vital role that visible neighbourhood policing plays in preventing crime, tackling antisocial behaviour, supporting victims, reassuring local communities and maintaining public confidence in policing.

Council recognises that community safety remains one of the most important issues for residents and communities across Glasgow and notes concerns regarding antisocial behaviour, violence, retail crime, violence against women and girls, and disorder in parts of the city.

Council highlights the recent comments by Chief Constable Jo Farrell, who has called on the Scottish Government to provide additional funding to enable the recruitment of at least 350 new police officers, citing increasing pressures on policing and growing demands across frontline services.

Council rejects attempts to portray these challenges as unique to Glasgow or Scotland and notes that communities across the UK continue to experience similar pressures arising from the cost-of-living crisis, organised criminality, drug misuse, social inequality and years of Westminster austerity.

Council welcomes continued Scottish Government £1.7 billion for 2026-27 investment in policing, justice and violence prevention, alongside ongoing partnership work through the Safe Glasgow Partnership, Police Scotland, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and community organisations to tackle crime, improve public safety and support vulnerable people.

Council further welcomes recent Scottish Government action to tackle misogyny, violence against women and girls, strengthen community cohesion and support safer communities through targeted funding, prevention initiatives and partnership working.

Council notes that Scotland remains one of the safest countries in the world and that recorded crime remains significantly below historic levels, while recognising that public safety challenges remain and require continued action.

Council acknowledges operational pressures facing Police Scotland and believes these should be addressed through continued collaboration between the Scottish Government, local government, policing, health and community partners.

Council recognises there is a rolling out of a redesigned Local Policing Model which is restructuring the response teams into three distinct functions of Community Policing, Community Investigation Hubs, and Incident Response. Council notes that the evaluation process has assisted to inform and iterate the model, and approach, as it launches across Scotland throughout 2026.

Council believes it is important that people have confidence in the Police and acknowledges that the Chief Constable has welcomed the introduction of the

Police Vetting Regulations, which came into force in April 2026, and notes the significant public interest in the issue of re-vetting serving police officers.

Council welcomes that the Chief Constable has also recently announced to the Scottish Police Authority Board that she has commissioned an independent review following the Greer case. Council recognises that the delivery of a programme of re-vetting across the police workforce will require sustained investment and resources to support its implementation."

Council therefore:

- Supports the call by Chief Constable Jo Farrell for additional investment to increase police officer numbers and strengthen frontline policing capacity.
- Reaffirms its commitment to working with Police Scotland and the Safe Glasgow Partnership to improve safety and public confidence across the city.
- Support collaboration between local elected representatives, the Scottish Police Authority and COSLA through a formal national partnership agreement, dedicated scrutiny frameworks, and shared forums.
- Recognises the importance of prevention, early intervention and public-health approaches alongside effective enforcement.
- Welcomes continued Scottish Government investment in policing, justice, violence prevention and community safety
- Supports efforts to strengthen frontline policing and reduce the burden of non-policing demands on police officers to rebuild public trust and confidence, collaborating directly with local youth workers and schools to include young voices in how their neighbourhoods are policed.
- Supports dedicated initiative which is driving equality, diversity and inclusion with a zero-tolerance approach to racism, sexism, and discrimination within the police workforce and during public contact.
- Supports the decentralised complaint systems which is moving complaint handling away from local police stations to independent, specialised teams
- Welcomes initiatives which combine enforcement, prevention and early intervention to address the root causes of crime and antisocial behaviour with Poverty-Aware and Trauma-Informed Practice equipping frontline police officers with training to understand structural inequality.
- Requests that the Leader of the Council write to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs seeking continued support for Glasgow's community safety, city centre policing, violence prevention, retail crime and violence against women and girls' priorities.

The motion, as adjusted, was thereafter unanimously approved.

Adjournment.

16 In terms of Standing Order No 5 (12), the time being after 1630 hours, the Council agreed to adjourn the meeting, the remaining items of business being 7(c), 7(d), 7(e), 7(f) 7(g) 7(h) and 7(i).