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“People want to know what’s going on nationally but are more concerned by what happens when they open their front door” Not my words, but the words of the UK Police Minister introducing the Neighbourhood Policing Programme.

Good morning, my name is Jim Tyner. I’m here to talk to you about the Neighbourhood Policing journey in the UK. I have 17 years operational experience and I’m passionate about Neighbourhood Policing

The National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) is an agency that provides guidance to the different police forces of England and Wales. The UK does not have a national police force, but 43 separate police forces covering the different counties of England & Wales. The purpose of the NPIA is to make a valuable contribution to improving public safety.

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There are increasing demands for our policing services. So you might be asking yourself, with these competing demands, how can we justify officers dedicated to neighbourhood policing. I’m going to explain the principles of neighbourhood policing in terms of Why, What , How and Who

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We’ll start with WHY? Despite falling crime rates every year for the past 15 years, public confidence in policing has fallen.

NP needs to be seen in the context of many other challenges across a complex environment

Many of these issues are non-negotiable, we cannot ignore them

Included in this is public confidence, which is essential in providing the legitimacy & support that the Service needs to operate successfully against all these threats

That is why neighbourhood policing is a touchstone for what we do

Community perception disproportionately influenced by community safety issues such as

- Abandoned vehicles
- Clearing graffiti
- Nuisance neighbours

Sights like these can have a big impact on the sense of well being.

But although confidence in the police can be affected by issues like these, responding to these issues is not just a responsibility of the police.

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Moving on to the WHAT? Neighbourhood Policing is about working alongside other agencies to create **confident, safer and secure** neighbourhoods where people know that the police and partners understand the issues that matter most to them and are able to tackle them **together.**”

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The following ten nationally agreed principles of Neighbourhood Policing will be the foundations upon which Local Police Officers and Local Policing Teams will base their work.

I. Organisational Strategy

Local Policing is the strategy that supports close working relationships between police, partners and the public to solve problems of crime and disorder and make communities feel safe and confident about where they live

II. Integration with Mainstream Policing communities feel safe and confident about where they live. Local Policing will remain one of the Four Tracks of Policing and be managed and integrated within mainstream policing. It will not diminish activity to address volume and serious crime.

III. Evidence-Based Deployment

Neighbourhood Policing requires evidence-based deployment of Local Policing Teams against identified problems. It is about achieving the right people in the right numbers in the right place at the right time.

IV. Dedicated Teams

Local Policing establishes dedicated, identifiable, accessible and responsive Local Policing Teams that provide all residents within a particular area with a named point of contact. These teams will also include Special Constables and Community Support Officers, (of which more later).

V. Locally Dependent

The approach of Local Policing Teams will reflect local conditions and will be flexible and adaptive. Local Policing Teams will be successful if they understand the needs of the respective communities within their areas and reflect this in their policing response.

VI. Public Priorities

Local Policing requires Local Policing Teams to work directly with local people in identifying the problems that are most important to them, thereby giving people direct influence over local policing priorities.

VII. Collaborative Partnerships

Local Policing establishes a regime for engaging other agencies and the public in problem-solving mechanisms.

VIII. Intelligence Led

Local Policing uses the National Intelligence Model (NIM) as a basis for deployment. The NIM is a resource allocation model for ensuring your officers are in the right place at the right time.

IX. Community Engagement

Local Policing requires an effective community engagement, communication and feedback strategy, and a clear explanation of where accountability lies. This needs to be done in a format and context that meets locally identified needs.

X. Performance Management

Local Policing will be subject to rigorous performance management including clear performance monitoring against a local plan and commitments made to local communities.

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So WHAT is Neighbourhood policing? It is part of a wider agenda to improve public services by change at neighbourhood level

There are 3 key themes to neighbourhood policing

- The consistent presence of dedicated neighbourhood teams capable of providing control visible, accessible, skilled, knowledgeable and known to the community

- Intelligent identification of community concerns prompt, effective, targeted action against those concerns
- Joint action with the community and other local partners to improve the local environment and quality of life within the community

In all their dealings, neighbourhood policing teams should be Citizen-focussed, intelligence led, performance managed

And the outcomes of – Increase trust and **confidence**, Reduce fear of crime, Reduce crime and ASB

We advise our police manager to ask themselves:

Do communities have **confidence** that Police **understand** the issues that matter to them?

Do communities have **confidence** that Police **will deal with** issues that matter to them?

Do you know what issues are important to your communities?

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There are now 3,600 Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) across the UK. Neighbourhood Policing works because it addresses the needs of people who live or work in a neighbourhood with regard to:

Access - to local policing services through a named point of contact

Influence - over policing priorities in their neighbourhood

Interventions - joint action with partners & the public

Answers - sustainable solutions & feedback on what is being done

This means that neighbourhood policing teams:

publicise how to get in touch with them, find out what the local issues are that make people feel unsafe in their neighbourhood and ask them to put them in order of priority. They then decide with partners and local people what should be done to deal with those priorities and work with them to deliver the solutions. Its vital to let people know what is being done and find out if they are satisfied with the results..

If you get these 4 community expectations right is the key to successful neighbourhood policing and increased public confidence

The way that Neighbourhood Policing is delivered will vary in different areas, as it is designed to be flexible and responsive to local needs and resources.

You will see from the above therefore, that community priorities are set at a local level, **by the local community**, not by the government, and not through the NPIA.

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And now to the 'Who' of Neighbourhood Policing. In the UK Neighbourhood Policing Teams are made up of Police Constables (with full policing powers of arrest, etc) and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) who are employed the police but have limited police powers. The main purpose of the PCSOs is to provide visible patrols in the community. 80% of their time should be spent in

their communities. This is significantly more than their constable colleagues, who are often abstracted to deal with the complexity of issues I showed in the earlier slides.

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But the benefits of Neighbourhood Policing are significantly enhanced when the Neighbourhood Policing Teams don't work in isolation:

- Other police colleagues; detectives, roads policing units and other departments also work in neighbourhoods. So it is important that, for example, when a search warrant is executed at the home of a suspected drug dealer, that the local neighbourhood policing team are involved in providing reassurance. This increases confidence that the police are dealing with issues that matter to the community and can lead to further intelligence about criminality.
- Working closely with the local council to address some of these issues. For example, cleaning up graffiti is the responsibility of the council but if it remains in place, a community can feel that they are in a high crime area.
- Other parts of the community, such as volunteers and charities have an important contribution to make. In some areas of the UK faith groups provide 'Street Pastors' who go on 'patrol' on Friday and Saturday nights in some of our cities. They are able to provide help and support to people suffering from drunkenness, leaving police free to target more serious issues.

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In all aspects of Neighbourhood Policing you should be able to evidence why you are taking particular action. This is closely linked to the community expectations of Access, Influence, Intervention and Answers I mentioned earlier. 'You should be able to say to your communities: 'You asked, we did'

And speaking of evidence. I want to finish with evidence that Neighbourhood Policing actually works. This is based on the trial of Neighbourhood Policing in the UK. Confidence rose by 15 percentage points in the trial sites during the intervention period, compared to 3 percentage points in the control sites. This impact was sustained a year after the trial officially ended.

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And finally, a challenge for you. I asked this earlier, but I want to leave you with this question:

Do communities have **confidence** that Police **understand** the issues that matter to them?

Do communities have **confidence** that Police **will deal with** issues that matter to them?

Do you know what issues are important to your communities?

Thank you for your attention.