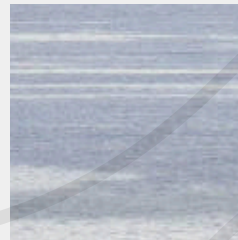
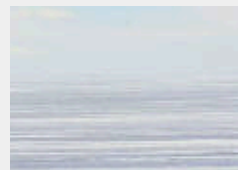
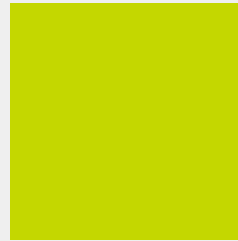


Shetland Isles

# Public Protection Committee Strategic Plan 2025/2028

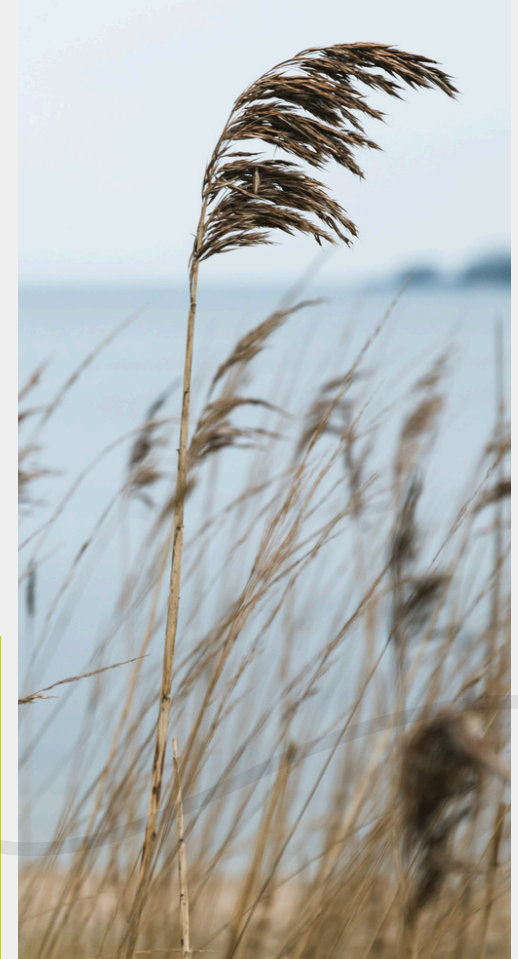


Shetland Public  
Protection Committee



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# Opening Remarks by Shetland Islands Chief Officers



**Maggie Sandison**  
Chief Executive  
Shetland Island Council

*"This Plan demonstrates our multi-agency commitment to collaborative working through active senior officer commitment and engagement in COG.*

*By adopting this plan COG provide collective strategic leadership to secure the improvement of our services to enhance the effectiveness of our Public Protection arrangements in Shetland*



**Brian Chittick**  
NHS Chief Executive

*"As Chief Officers, we are committed to work together in a compassionate way to deliver the SPPC Strategic Plan to support those most at risk in our community."*



**Jo Robinson**  
IJB Chief Officer

*The Strategic Plan is a great way of setting out how we will achieve our vision of 'Working together to keep everyone safe in Shetland'*



**Chris Sewell**  
Shetland Area Commander  
Police Scotland

*"I fully support the Shetland Public Protection Committee's Strategic Plan, which reflects our shared commitment to safeguarding the most vulnerable and strengthening multi-agency working to prevent harm across our community"*



## Our Vision

Shetland Public Protection Committee Strategic Plan 2025-2028 has set out the Committee's vision: *"Working together to keep everyone safe in Shetland"*

The Public Protection Committee aims to:

- Strengthen public protection by fostering effective collaboration between partners and streamlining the planning processes
- Ensure that public protection arrangements are well-supported, regularly reviewed, and closely monitored
- Take charge of the strategic development and execution of services for those at risk of or experiencing significant harm
- Collaboration between partners to promote compassionate communities by addressing, reducing and eliminating stigma



## Our Strategic Aims

1. **Prevention:** Focus on those at risk of harm by identifying and addressing risk factors, promoting awareness, and implementing early intervention strategies
2. **Protection:** Ensure the safety and well-being of individuals at risk by providing immediate support, safeguarding measures, and effective response mechanisms.
3. **Partnership:** Foster collaboration among various agencies, organisations, and communities to create a coordinated and comprehensive approach to public protection.
4. **Participation:** Engage individuals and communities in the development and implementation of public protection strategies, ensuring their voices and experiences are heard and considered.
5. **Assurance:** Establish clear accountability mechanisms to monitor and evaluate data and the effectiveness of public protection interventions and prevention activity. Facilitate learning reviews and implement improvements.

# Key foundations of Public Protection

The Shetland Public Protection committee, under the direction of the Chief Officers Group, plays a dedicated role in addressing protection issues and overseeing all protection work. It is tasked with the significant responsibility of strategically developing and delivering services to the most vulnerable individuals at risk of significant harm. The committee will continue coordinating efforts across various partners to ensure it fulfills its responsibilities to work around:

Adult Support and Protection

Child Protection

Violence Against Women Children  
and Young People

The committee is established according to the provisions outlined by the following strategies, ensuring robust frameworks for safeguarding adults, protecting children and young people, and promoting equality and safety across all sectors.

- [Adult Support and Protection \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#)
- [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 - updated 2023](#)
- [Protecting children and young people: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer responsibilities Scottish Government 2019](#)
- [Equally Safe 2023 - preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls](#)

Its primary objective is to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of public protection activities through comprehensive strategic oversight and performance review of the arrangements. In fulfillment of statutory obligations, particular attention is given to high-risk groups, ensuring that robust arrangements are in place and addressing any overlaps between these groups. Responsibilities of the SPPC include:

- effective planning and governance
- performance monitoring and providing training
- identifying and mitigating risk factors
- Operational activities are conducted in a timely, proportionate, and focused manner

Performance of the strategic plan will be monitored through the creation of Performance and Quality Assurance Framework 2025-28. Performance indicators specified in the framework will serve as the key data incorporated into the aligned Public Protection Committee dashboard.

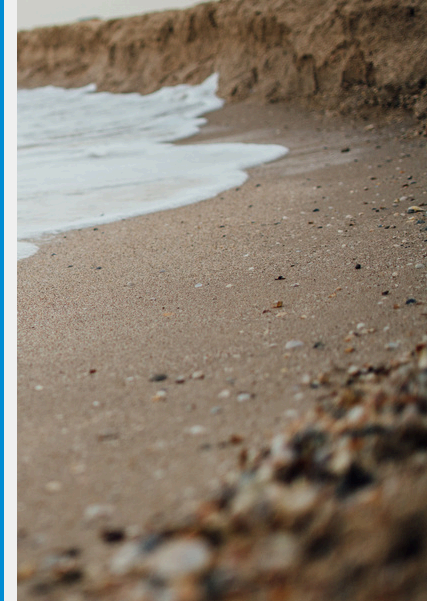


# Our main areas of focus

In the Strategic Plan, these areas of focus would be structured within the key pillars of Public Protection, with clear objectives, initiatives, and outcomes mapped out for each focus area.

By addressing these areas in a structured and coordinated way, a strategic plan can provide a clear roadmap for achieving long-term public protection goals, ensuring a safer and healthier environment for all members of the community.

In delivering the Strategic Plans, SMART annual workplans will provide the essential flexibility to handle new challenges as they come up and will be updated throughout the plan's duration.



**LIVED EXPERIENCE**



**MULTI AGENCY  
CHRONOLOGIES**



**ONLINE SAFETY**



**ADDRESSING  
GENDER BASED  
VIOLENCE**

Implementation of the Strategic Plan will be the responsibility of the Shetland Public Protection Committee and its sub-committee's.



# 1. Lived Experience

## Our objectives:

Our leaders will make sure that the views of adults and children at risk of harm and their unpaid carers are integral to protection policy formulation and planning. We want to involve individuals with lived experience in decision-making processes to empower them and promote inclusivity. We acknowledge their values and ensures that their voices are heard and respected.

## Our Initiatives:

We will engage people with lived experience in the development and evaluation of policies to ensure that these policies are more relevant and effective.

## Our Outcomes:

- Develop equitable methods to identify and recruit individuals with lived experience.
- Provide training and support to individuals with lived experience to help them effectively share their insights, and create a safe and respectful environment where individuals feel comfortable sharing their experiences.
- Establish mechanisms for individuals with lived experience to provide feedback on the engagement process and the impact of their contributions.

## How does this focus area support the strategic goals of the Committee?

This focus area involves people with lived experience in support and protection processes. Their input will help agencies, including frontline staff to improve services and outcomes for those at risk.

These activities can help create a more inclusive and effective public protection system that truly reflects the needs and experiences of those at risk of harm.

- Actively involve individuals with lived experience in consultations, focus groups, and advisory panels.
- Regularly evaluate the impact of involving people with lived experience and report on these findings. This can help demonstrate the value of their contributions and identify areas for improvement

## 2. Multi Agency Chronologies

### Our objectives:

Our leadership and management were recognised as critical factors in improving chronology practice, with effective leadership, supervision support, and clear expectations playing key roles.

### Our Initiatives:

We will focus on creating a comprehensive framework for the use of multi-agency chronologies to support cases and information sharing. We will implement strategies that agencies can enhance their collaboration and improve outcomes for those they serve.

### Our Outcomes:

1. Engage in national meetings to learn how to establish a good chronology
2. Transfer the national knowledge into a local single agency chronology
3. Combine single agency chronology into a multi agency chronology

### How does this focus area support the strategic goals of the Committee?

Multi-agency chronologies enhance staff collaboration and informed decision-making by providing a comprehensive view of an individual's history. They also promote accountability and reflective practice, helping staff improve their interventions and contribute to better outcomes for individuals and the community.



## 3. Online Safety

### Our objectives:

We will address online safety by providing education on recognising the risks associated with being online. We will encourage open communication, and setting clear online behaviour guidelines. We will ensure to support victims, monitor online activity, and promote positive digital citizenship to create a safer online environment.

### Our Initiatives:

We will promote safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones, especially among children, young people and vulnerable adults. We will provide resources and activities to educate children, parents, and vulnerable adults about online safety and how to handle online risks. We will engage schools, organisations, and communities to participate in creating a safer online environment.

### Our Outcomes:

- To define bullying and cyberbullying with examples to help everyone understand what is considered inappropriate conduct. Promote a positive culture and educate about the impact of bullying.
- Provide multiple ways to report incidents to ensure that everyone feels safe and comfortable coming forward
- Outline steps for handling reports and supporting victims, including investigation procedures, support for victims, and consequences for perpetrators
- Offer support for both victims and perpetrators of bullying and digital abuse. This might include counseling services, peer support groups, and educational programs to address underlying issues.
- Regularly train staff; Raise awareness among children and young people, parents and the community on risks and how to report them.
- Establish methods to continuously assess and improve procedures
- Ensure compliance with laws and ethical standards
- raise public awareness around scams, offer support and training on financial harm including scams, relationship fraud and sextortion

### How does this focus area support the strategic goals of the Committee?

Online safety and anti-bullying initiatives enhance community safety by preventing harm and fostering a supportive environment. They reduce the risk of online abuse and bullying, promote awareness, and ensure effective responses to incidents, creating a safer and more cohesive community.



## 4. Addressing Gender Based Violence

### Our objectives:

We want to frame the issue with a focus on challenging the behaviour, understanding its roots, and explore the cultural and societal implications of Gender Based Violence. We need to educate people about consent and respect, provide early response to support victims and families, and challenge harmful behaviours. Engaging men and boys in these conversations can help create an equal more respectful society. We will work with different agencies to provide comprehensive support for victims and families, and create strategies for prevention and early intervention.

### Our Initiatives:

In partnership with Shetland Violence Against Women Children and Young People, we aim to reduce stigma of addressing Gender Based Violence in our community by educating public, challenging harmful myths and stereotypes, supporting survivors and their families, while promoting positive behaviours, and advocate for protective policies.

### Our Outcomes:

- Educating and awareness raising about consent, respect, and healthy relationships
- Communicate clear policies that define gender based violence, outline unacceptable behaviors, and specify the consequences for violations.
- Establish support systems for victims and perpetrators, including counseling, healthcare, and legal assistance.
- Create well publicised reporting paths
- Train staff, students, and community members on recognising, preventing, and responding to signs of Gender Based Violence. This includes bystander intervention training.
- Clearly outline the consequences for those found guilty of Gender Based Violence including but not limited to sexual violence and domestic abuse
- Foster a culture of respect and inclusion by engaging the community in discussions and initiatives to combat Gender Based Violence. Communicate a clear message that addressing Gender Based Violence is everyone's responsibility.

### How does this focus area support the strategic goals of the Committee?

Challenging the roots of gender based violence supports staff and communities to foster a safe and respectful environment. This involves implementing training programs to recognise and prevent harmful behaviors, providing support systems for vulnerable people, and ensuring strict policies and procedures are in place to handle incidents effectively.



# Shetland Public Protection Committee Strategic Plan 2025-28 on a page

## Vision

"Working together to keep everyone safe in Shetland"



## Strategic Aims

### Prevention

Prevent harm by identifying risks, raising awareness, and implementing early interventions.

### Protection

Ensure safety by providing immediate support, safeguarding measures, and effective responses.

### Partnership

Collaborate with agencies, organizations, and communities for a coordinated approach.

### Participation

Involve individuals and communities in developing and implementing strategies, considering their voices.

### Assurance

Set up mechanisms to monitor, evaluate, and improve public protection efforts.

## Main Areas of Focus and Description

### Lived Experience

We will explore the involvement of lived experience and how it can be used to strengthen our public services and communities.

### Multi Agency Chronologies

We will focus on creating a comprehensive framework for the use of multi-agency chronologies to support cases and information sharing.

### Online Safety

We will provide resources to educate about online safety and handling cyberbullying. We will engage schools, organisations, and communities in creating a safer online environment.

### Addressing Gender Based Violence

We will address, reduce and eradicate stigma by engaging the community in discussions and initiatives to combat Gender Based Violence.