

Policing Plan 2016

INTRODUCTION by The Connetable

I am delighted to write the introduction to Grouville's first annual policing plan. I consider the Honorary Police to be the bedrock of the Honorary System, and am very grateful to those who give up their time to help ensure that our Parish and Island are a safe and enjoyable place to live. The Parish is committed to ensuring that our officers are provided with the equipment that they need to carry out their work in a safe and effective manner. It is unfortunate that we are short of our complement. This puts additional pressure on those officers who serve currently, and we must do everything we can to recruit more volunteers. I like to think that I have a good working relationship with all of Grouville's officers, and will give them any support that I can.

FOREWORD

This document is intended to inform parishioners about the work done by their Parish Police in helping to make Grouville a pleasant and safe place in which to live.

It will set out the objectives of the Parish Police, and show the resources, with their costs, required to implement the plan. It will be presented to the Parish ratepayers at Assembly for approval.

We have in the last year, continued with ongoing training for our officers, and it is important that we have a plan for 2016 to continue to develop our officers policing skills in a manner that will give them the confidence to handle our everyday, and our most frequent call-out tasks, and to do so in a way which embodies the special ethos of the Grouville Police.

Grouville Police have been for a number of years among the foremost of those parish forces embracing the many changes needed to improve efficiency and the safety of our officers; whilst not losing sight of the parishioners expectations of the method or style of policing. It can only

assist us to prepare for the future by starting with a simple policing plan, and as we carry it out, to modify it in the light of experience.

This Plan is written fully appreciating the ever-closer relationship between the States and Honorary Police which we encourage, to help us make best use of what we acknowledge to be: limited manpower and skills resources.

STRATEGIC POLICIES

A very good starting point, is The “Vision Statement” emanating from the States 1995 Strategic Policy review, which included among its Primary Purposes the provision of:

- “...a high quality of life...”;
- “...the protection of persons and property...”

and included in the objective of “Quality of Life” were:

- “to reduce the level of crime”;
- “to reduce the detrimental impact of traffic on the lives of Island residents”;
- “to limit the impact of noise and other nuisances”.

AIM & POLICING OBJECTIVES

The AIM of the Grouville Honorary Police is:

To maintain a high quality of life in the Parish for all residents, and visitors, by keeping the peace, preventing offences and nuisances against people and property, and bringing offenders to justice in a manner that maintains and promotes public confidence.

From this flow our Objectives in our police work, which are:

- to keep our public places and roads safe and free from nuisance
- to bring offenders to justice in a fair, correct and equitable way
- to keep the Parish roads free from the risk of death and injury or damage
- to ensure that the rights and needs of victims, witnesses and suspects are met
- to identify and address the causes of any threats to public safety and security, which includes planning for possible Mass Fatality and other Disaster incidents
- to communicate our plans to, and co-ordinate our activities with those of The States Police to maximum effect
- to assure all persons in the Parish, both by the efficiency of our work and our general conduct, that there is no unrealistic fear of crime or nuisance

These objectives sum up our role as Honorary Police.

SUPPORTING OBJECTIVES

Our structure, administration, training, recruitment, communications, equipment; all need to be of the best to make us effective in achieving our objectives. We thus need to strive for the optimum achievable standards in:

- the training and development of our officers
- the health & safety of our officers and that of the public with whom we interface.

a comprehensive scheme of insurance to provide a fair level of cover for our officers for all duties.

- the investigation and handling of any complaints against officers
- the provision of quality equipment and training in its best use
- communication with the public we serve
- the maintenance of the ethos and spirit of honorary policing
- ongoing development of policies and procedures to equip us to handle change

VALUES & ETHOS

Our position in the Community has weathered the great changes in society and the continually changing mixture of origins and expectations of our residents, and will keep having to adapt whilst maintaining the ethos of the Honorary Police. As we seek optimum performance of our tasks, to match our objectives, we must always keep in mind the high standards expected of us, to maintain our credibility and the confidence of the community. These are best considered as our **Values**.

We will strive to achieve our objectives:

1. In partnership with The States Police, other agencies, and the Community, in a manner that is acceptable to all of them;
2. With integrity, good judgement, and a justifiable and reasonable manner in all tasks
3. Treating everyone fairly regardless of ethnic origin, gender, orientation, disability, attitudes, or social background;
4. With openness and transparency, being fully accountable to our public.

At a time of ever faster change in both society and technology, we need to identify our strengths and weaknesses, to see how we can best adapt to match changing expectations of us, without losing sight of our values and ethos, and a realistic understanding of the limits of our remit and our capabilities.

POLICIES & INITIATIVES

1. Maintaining and improving the safety of our roads.

This has long been a high priority of Grouville Honorary Police. Road safety has improved greatly in the last 25 years, and the opportunity to further that will come from the planned TTSD traffic calming measures on La Rue de la Ville es Renauds, on the arrival early in 2016 of the cycle track, at Grouville School. The addition of a 30mph speed limit on Grouville coast road, would be a further enhancement, and is a matter for public consultation and parish assembly decision. We will provide –

- A. Vehicle and foot patrols to identify dangers, and to maintain a visible presence providing assurance to all road users in The Parish.

- B. A programme of speed and road, checks, timed and located to maximise identification of speeding, and unroadworthy or defective vehicles.
- C. Monitoring of traffic and parking “ blackspots “, and explaining to offenders the safety reasons for our actions, when giving “ Words of Advice “ and requesting that these messages be shared with others.

A good dialogue with the media will assist in promoting such messages

- D. By fostering the very best liaison with our States Police partners, to obtain as much of their skilled policing time as they can provide, to support a measured and balanced policing presence.

Joint policing provides excellent training for our people, and enhances in the eyes of the public and the media, the positive message of close co-operation in policing; to best achieve our aims.

- E. With the help of our Parish Administration, maintain an up-to-date database of the locations and ownership of livestock; to enable swift action to be taken on any escape of livestock on to the roads.

2. Keeping our Parish safe and free of the fear of crime

As a country Parish, with growing built-up areas, there has been traditionally a low risk, and a minimal apprehension of crime, which can induce complacency about security of property and vehicles. We intend to maintain this comfort level by:-

- A. Patrolling areas identified at any time, as of concern, in a clearly visible manner, to pro-actively deter and prevent property crime.
- B. In conjunction with The Parish Hall staff to promote the long-standing “ Vacant Property Check “ system, whereby we are notified of empty properties, so that these can be monitored in the absence of occupiers.
Promoting the message across the community that encourages swift reporting of any incident or issue that gives rise to concern.
- C. Continuing our long partnership with Grouville School and Gorey Youth Club in fostering relations with young people in The Parish and improving their understanding of society’s expectations of them.
- D. By regular checks on licensed premises, ensuring that managers and staff are fully aware of their responsibilities under the licensing law.

3. Supporting the Community

- A. We will continue to provide policing on the roads for Fetes, Church Weddings, Funerals, and all types of event, where our presence is helpful.
- B. In partnership with the Parish team of roads inspectors, we will in bad weather, ensure that the Parish roads are cleared or closed, as the needs of road safety dictate.
- C. In January of each year we will entertain the senior citizens at lunch.
- D. At all times of the week the Duty Team are available to offer help and advice to parishioners, and to solve problems. We will put them in touch with the appropriate agency to assist in achieving a solution, where we do not have the powers or skills to find a resolution.
- E. Policing the new 2016 Dogs Law.
- F. Assisting other parishes' police with major and Island Events, such as Liberation Day, Battle of Flowers, and The Air Display. This provides the opportunity for our officers to work with and learn from, other officers.

4. The Parish Hall Enquiry

Efficient conduct of Parish Hall Enquiries, tempered with an understanding of the position of those attending, and in compliance with the Attorney General's guidelines; has long been a priority policy in Grouville. We will continue to work with our partners in the judicial process to develop the alternatives to prosecution in the Magistrate's Court. This we will achieve by :-

- A. The professional management of all aspects of the Parish Hall Enquiry, to ensure that all attendees are seen promptly, courteously, and with empathy for any difficulties they may be undergoing in their attendance.
- B. Making their rights clearly known to individuals at all times.
- C. Maintaining referenced records of all Enquiries and police processes to enable swift recovery of information at any later date. Such records to comply with the requirements of Data Protection.
- D. In conjunction with other agencies, making use wherever appropriate of the process of "Deferred Decision" to prevent wherever possible, first time offenders acquiring a criminal record, with all its attendant effects.

- E. Making best use of the concept of “ Restorative Justice “ which promotes reconciliation between victims and offenders, and encourages an understanding in offenders of the consequences of their actions.
- F. Not overlooking the importance of keeping victims informed of outcomes, in all instances where this is possible.

The Parish Hall Enquiry system is a vital part of the Judicial Process in Jersey, strongly supported for it's effectiveness, and carrying major public support.

5. Major Incident Planning

Whilst the likelihood of a Mass Fatality Incident (MFI) in Grouville is assessed as low, it is both prudent, and a principle of planning, to consider possible eventualities; and formulate appropriate plans. Foreseeable MFI's –

1. Aircraft Crash – MFI
2. Gas Explosions – MFI
3. Terrorism – MFI
4. Epidemic of serious disease – MFI
5. Flooding after heavy rain – CD
6. Prolonged snowfall makes roads impassable – CD
7. Major Fire – many homes destroyed/uninhabitable – CD
8. Mass Immigrant landing on beaches – CD

Your Centeniers have considered the impact on the resources of the Honorary Police and of The Parish, which are primarily, a first and quick response until the arrival from town of the Emergency Services. After which the provision of manpower for cordons, and to help man Recovery Centres, which will be a major demand. This will involve drafting officers from other parishes, and in the event of 6. Calling up retired police officers.

Suitable buildings, led by the Parish Hall, have been identified for use as –

- Casualty Bureau
- Victim Reception Centre
- Survivor Reception Centre
- Family and Friends Centre
- Temporary Mortuary

These outline plans will be discussed with the States Police Civil Emergency Officer, and refined as knowledge is accumulated.

Resources and Finance

We believe that is a major responsibility to our ratepayers, who fund the Parish Police, to provide excellent value for money; and to seek at all times to keep the costs of operation of the Grouville Honorary Police low.

The 2016/2017 Police Budget will be added to this document in good time before the July Parish rates assembly

This should contain sufficient detail to obtain approval, and is an appropriate place to state our training plans for the forthcoming year.