

Report To: Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel **Date:** 25 Jan 2024

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development **Report No:** P&F/02/24/HS

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Subject: Police Scotland Estate Strategy Consultations

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 This report informs the panel about Police Scotland's national consultation on their estate strategy and potential local implications.
- 1.3 This report presents a draft response to both the national consultation on the estate strategy and the local consultations on Port Glasgow and Greenock Police Stations.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the panel approves the proposed response to:
1. the national consultation on the Police Scotland estate;
 2. the local consultation on the Port Glasgow Police Station; and
 3. the local consultation on the Greenock Police Station

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Police Scotland are undertaking engagement activity to listen to the feedback and views of local communities about their future estate changes and progress they have made so far towards their Estate Strategy, published in 2019.
- 3.2 Police Scotland have stated that on the creation of the national force they inherited a vast and aging estate, much of which was not fit for purpose. This included high maintenance costs, environmental inefficiencies, and locations no longer meeting the needs of local communities. Over time, operational bases were established within communities and co-located with partners, resulting in underutilised properties and instances of multiple operational bases within five miles of each other.
- 3.3 The strategy seeks to move towards more police stations co-located with partners where possible, to ensure services are delivered in the most efficient and effective way. There are currently over 60 such co-locations, providing sustainable, modern, and secure workspaces for Police Scotland personnel.
- 3.4 The strategy reinforces the notion that co-location with partners is not only the best way to deliver savings to the public purse, but it also facilitates more integrated and effective public services with better outcomes, particularly for the vulnerable in our society.
- 3.5 The Police Scotland long-term estate vision is that in the future they will have an estate that:
 - Visibility and presence: Maximises local visibility and presence driving highest possible confidence levels in community policing.
 - Wellbeing focus: Provides significantly improved user experience through fit for purpose workspaces driving smarter working and improved well-being.
 - Collaboration: Enables integrated cross-agency services through co-locating with local partners driving better services and cost reduction.
 - Biodiversity consideration: Supports our duty to biodiversity driving reduced environmental impact across all sites and incorporating biodiversity initiatives covering strategic and operational processes.
 - Productive and mobile: Enables our people to be empowered and productive, working from modernised well-serviced workspaces driving digitally enabled processes, mobility, shared corporate services.
 - Economics optimised: Facilitates maximum income and receipts to be reinvested from commercial and surplus assets driving enhanced future estate and policing services in local communities.
 - Cultural change: Facilitates co-location within the community driving an embedded service which enables a joint working ethos and ends 'us' and 'them' silos.
 - Commercial innovation: Is financed through commercially innovative approaches e.g. Joint Ventures, Third Party Income and Gain Shares driving best value outcomes and improved policing for local communities.
 - Strong governance: Is supported by a strong central governance framework with appropriate delegation driving aligned and transparent timely decision-making and delivery of estate change programme.
 - Optimised, modernised estate: Provides a smaller, more efficient local operation driving improved responsiveness to community demand, accessible public interface and fit for purpose facilities.
 - Empowers: Empowers Divisional Commanders, within a national governance framework, to design and implement effective estate solutions in a timely manner driving accelerated improvement.

3.6 The following table highlights what Police Scotland have indicated will be different for future policing.

Today	In the future
309 sites consisting of 329 buildings – too many buildings with locations/layouts driven by legacy not existing/future organisational need	A working environment much more conducive to the well-being of colleagues
Around 80% owned and limited co-location/collaboration (over 90% standalone from other agencies)	The number of properties that we own and solely occupy will decrease significantly
100+ buildings poorer than condition B (i.e. considered safe with minor deterioration)	Many activities will transfer to modern facilities co-located with partners; or partner agencies working alongside us in our accommodation
200+ buildings over 40 years old – many approaching end of life	Geographical footprint and our visibility/presence will improve (i.e. the number of locations/contact points will not change overall and our presence will improve)
Negligible spend on lifecycle maintenance (£9 per sq m compared to Government benchmark of £120 per sq m) leading to buildup of significant backlog maintenance and cost	A significant reduction in our floor space via transferring to space efficient, well-utilised modern facilities and the introduction of Smarter Working principles (working from home for eligible roles)
Unsuitable for digitally-enabled working and limited ability to support workforce/ workplace development	Owned properties restricted to business critical circumstances
Facilities to support colleague well-being not available as standard	Digitally enabled, flexible workspaces supporting colleagues to do their jobs well

3.7 Police Scotland are accelerating plans to dispose of an additional 59 police buildings over the next three years, to allow them to further streamline their estate and reallocate resources to frontline policing and service delivery.

3.8 There are currently three public consultations relevant to the Inverclyde community:

- The public consultation, National Conversation, which seeks to gather public feedback on the Police Scotland Estate Strategy 2019
- The public consultation on Port Glasgow Police Station; and
- The public consultation on Greenock Police Station

3.9 There has been a significant degree of public confusion around these consultations with conflicting messages around release dates, response timescales, pre-determined outcomes, and future police estate presence within Inverclyde. Media stories began to appear in mid-December regarding the potential closure of Greenock Police Station and a reported timescale of just 6 weeks for an online public consultation. An emergency meeting of the Inverclyde Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel was scheduled for January to ensure that the members had the opportunity to consider a response to the reported timescale of 31 January 2024 for the consultations. Despite the public awareness of the local building consultations, they did not open until 21 December 2023, with differing response timescales eventually determined as 31 January 2024 for Port Glasgow, 31 March 2024 for Greenock, and 31 July 2024 for the National Conversation. The Port Glasgow consultation was subsequently amended to 18 February 2024.

3.10 Chief Superintendent Gordon McCready and Chief Inspector Damian Kane met with Inverclyde's elected members on the 18 December 2023 to provide information on the consultations.

4.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION – NATIONAL CONVERSATION

4.1 Police Scotland have launched a National Conversation about their estate, to gather public feedback on the experience of communities since the launch of the Estate Strategy four years ago in 2019. The consultation opened on the 14 December 2023 and closes on the 31 July 2024.

4.2 The Police Scotland Estate Strategy 2019 outlines significant changes for the police estate in Scotland, with a focus on efficiency, sustainability, and community engagement. The key points of the strategy are:

- **Reduced Footprint:** Police Scotland will own fewer buildings overall, aiming for a more streamlined estate. Surplus properties will be sold, with the proceeds potentially reinvested in modernising remaining facilities.
- **Partnership Focus:** New police stations will often be co-located with other public services, like social work or council offices. This collaboration aims to improve service delivery and resource utilisation.
- **Community Visibility:** The strategy emphasises increased local officer presence. With less time spent commuting between stations, officers can stay in communities longer, enhancing engagement and responsiveness.
- **Modern Facilities:** New and renovated police stations will be modern, digitally enabled, and environmentally friendly. This includes improved IT infrastructure and energy-efficient designs.
- **Focus on Demand:** The strategy is demand-driven, meaning decisions about facilities will be based on local policing needs and community input. This aims to ensure resources are effectively allocated.
- **Challenges:** Implementing the strategy requires managing strong collaboration with local partners and addressing the potential impact on police housing, particularly in remote areas.

4.3 The Estate Strategy, consultation, and frequently asked questions can be accessed online at the following link <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/52e22ece/>

4.4 The consultation questions and proposed response are presented in appendix 1 to this report for consideration by members of the panel. The Panel members felt that there was insufficient engagement on the strategy for a fully informed response but have made comment on both the potential benefits and drawbacks with the implementation of the strategy.

5.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION – LOCAL CONSULTATION ON EACH BUILDING

5.1 There will also be a local consultation on each building where there is a proposed change. The consultation will provide some information on each building and why they are consulting on it.

5.2 The consultation will seek the public's views on how the buildings are used:

- by the public for engaging with police
- by police officers and staff for operational policing
- by members of the public as a safe space
- other (please specify)

It will also look for views on the overall impressions of the building in the value it brings to the local community and to what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to dispose of this building for the reasons stated. The local building consultations list can be accessed from following this link <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/b47b9a36/>

5.3 Port Glasgow Police Station Consultation

The consultation on Port Glasgow Police Station opened on 21 Dec 2023 and closes on 18 February 2024. The following information has been provided in relation to the consultation:

“Police Scotland, like all public services, must use our resources effectively to deliver excellent services that the people of Scotland can rely on. This means that we have to carefully consider the appropriateness of maintaining some buildings that are not required. Our Port Glasgow building has been vacant for some time and has been declared surplus to requirements. No police officers or police staff are currently based there. Our officers deploy from nearby locations to maintain effective service delivery for the public. This also ensures that our people have working environments which are safe and fit for purpose. We are proposing to sell this property and we are seeking your views.”

The consultation proposed response is presented within appendix 3 to this report.

5.4 The public counter service of the Port Glasgow Police Station ceased operation in early 2014.

5.5 Greenock Police Station Consultation

The consultation on Greenock Police Station opened on 21 Dec 2023 and closes on 31 March 2024. The consultation information and proposed response are presented within appendix 2 to this report.

5.6 The response recognises the value of having a visible and accessible Police Station centrally located within the local authority and raises concern around the reported withdrawal of custody suites from Inverclyde and impact that will have on local policing. The Panel members also felt there was insufficient detail presented on the options appraisal and alternative model to consider a fully informed response to the consultation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk		X
Human Resources		X
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)	X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X
Children & Young People’s Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

6.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.3 Legal/Risk

There are no legal/risk implications contained within this report.

6.4 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications contained within this report.

6.5 Strategic

Changes to the local policing model have potential strategic implications for the delivery of the Inverclyde Alliance Partnership Plan and Local Policing Plan.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 There were no consultations required outside those noted in the report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 There are no background papers associated with this report.

Appendix 1: National Conversation About Police Scotland Estate

Question 1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that our organisational objectives within the Estates Strategy meets your expectations for the Police Service of Scotland?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Increased accessibility and visibility				X		
A more mobile and productive operational workforce						X
Local model to meet needs of changing communities			X			
More partnership working		X				
Equitable service provision			X			
Equal career progression opportunities, regardless of geography			X			
Improved response time and ICT connectivity		X				
Response to growing cyber/covert demand		X				
Support people in custody into recovery pathways		X				
Wellbeing of officers and staff delivering corporate services			X			
Improved service quality and reduced administration			X			
Increased service efficiency and redirected budget to frontline policing		X				

Please provide any further comments

Members of the Inverclyde Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel felt that the lack of in-depth engagement by Police Scotland on their strategy limited their ability to give fully informed feedback. Additionally, members stressed that the success of the factors presented above would depend heavily on specific implementation details and how they work in different local contexts. Despite these reservations the Panel have considered both the potential benefits and challenges of the perceived high-level strategic objectives.

Inverclyde Council acknowledges the potential benefits of the proposed strategy, including the modernisation of infrastructure, financial savings, and the opportunity for co-location of police services with other community-based agencies. We recognise that the strategy has the potential to create modern, fit-for-purpose facilities that are more accessible to our residents, particularly those with disabilities. The emphasis on community hubs and co-location of police services with other local agencies presents an opportunity to streamline access to various support services for our residents. Additionally, the integration of digital tools and online reporting options could enhance the accessibility of police services for individuals who may face challenges in physically visiting a police station. We acknowledge the strategy's focus on visibility through community engagement and proactive policing initiatives, which has the potential to increase police presence in certain areas, thereby boosting public confidence.

However, we also have concerns regarding the potential drawbacks and challenges associated with the proposed changes. Specifically, we are mindful of the need for careful resource allocation to ensure equitable access to new facilities and services across all areas within the local authority. It is essential that the implementation of the strategy does not lead to unequal access to new facilities and services, particularly in communities that may already face challenges in accessing essential services. There are concerns that the reduction in the number of Police Stations overall will not lead to an increased visibility of policing, and locally there is particular concern around the loss of a custody suite within the area. We are also conscious of the importance of community buy-in and the potential for digital exclusion, particularly among residents with limited digital literacy. Addressing these concerns will be crucial to ensuring that the proposed changes do not inadvertently exacerbate existing inequalities within our communities. Additionally, we are attentive to the potential loss of local touch due to the centralisation of resources and decision-making. It is important to consider the potential impact on community engagement and the perceived accessibility of police services, especially in remote areas where a perceived disconnect between the police and certain communities may arise.

Question 2. How important is it to maintain proactive, visible policing services in the following ways?

	Very important	Important	Neither Important or Not Important	Not Important	Not Important at All	Don't know
Enabling officers to be mobile within communities using digital devices to connect with policing systems		X				
Keeping the public, communities and partners engaged and		X				

	Very important	Important	Neither Important or Not Important	Not Important	Not Important at All	Don't know
informed using digital tools like our website						
Working alongside other community-based services through co-location to improve experiences accessing services		X				

Please provide any further comments

We believe that equipping officers with digital devices and mobility within communities could enhance proactive policing. Real-time data access empowers officers to identify and address potential issues before they escalate, while increased visibility fosters a sense of security and builds trust with residents. However, we acknowledge the importance of addressing potential challenges such as the digital divide, privacy concerns, and cybersecurity threats. To mitigate these risks, we recommend focusing on equitable technology access, investing in robust security measures, and prioritising officer training on responsible data collection and community engagement.

Utilising digital tools like your website and online platforms can be a powerful tool for transparency, public engagement, and crime prevention. By sharing timely information, facilitating two-way feedback, and empowering residents to report suspicious activity, these tools can contribute to a safer and more informed community. However, we recognise the need to address the digital divide, combat misinformation, and ensure website security. We encourage ensuring website accessibility, implementing strong editorial policies and fact-checking measures, and conducting ongoing website evaluations based on community feedback to address these concerns.

Co-locating police with other essential services could create a one-stop-shop for residents seeking help. This streamlined approach not only improves service access but also fosters early intervention, collaboration, and trust between police and other community agencies. However, successful co-location requires careful consideration of resource allocation, data privacy, and organisational integration challenges. We recommend securing long-term funding, establishing clear data-sharing protocols, and investing in cultural awareness training for police and service providers to ensure smooth collaboration and maximise the benefits of co-location.

We believe that all three proposed methods, implemented with careful consideration and community engagement, have the potential to enhance proactive, visible policing and contribute to a safer and more inclusive community.

What are your views on Police Scotland proposing to reduce the number of buildings it owns in its estate to enable a modernised and effective policing service?

Inverclyde Council acknowledge the potential benefits of Police Scotland's proposal to reduce its estate size. However, we believe it is crucial to carefully consider the potential drawbacks and ensure a transparent and collaborative approach throughout the process.

The financial savings and regeneration opportunities presented by redevelopment of vacated stations are appealing. Modernised facilities with improved service delivery and strengthened partnerships are also desirable goals. However, these potential benefits cannot come at the expense of a perceived or actual decrease in police presence within our communities. We are particularly concerned about the impact of closures on communities already lacking sufficient police visibility.

Furthermore, we express concern about the potential for increased centralisation and reduced local influence on policing priorities. It is vital for local authorities to maintain a meaningful voice in decisions that directly impact the safety and well-being of our residents. Open communication and transparent decision-making throughout this process are key to building trust and ensuring the final plan effectively balances national objectives with local needs.

Therefore, we call upon Police Scotland to:

- Conduct thorough and inclusive consultations with all affected stakeholders, including local authorities, residents, and businesses.
- Present clear and detailed plans for the use of vacated buildings, prioritising community-focused redevelopment projects.
- Develop transparent decision-making processes that ensure local authorities retain a meaningful voice in shaping the final proposal.
- Address concerns about reduced police presence in vulnerable communities by exploring alternative approaches.

We believe that through open dialogue, careful consideration of potential drawbacks, and a commitment to mitigating negative impacts, Police Scotland can achieve its objectives while preserving the vital and necessary connection between police and the communities they serve. We stand ready to engage in constructive collaboration to ensure any estate reduction plan ultimately contributes to a safer and more secure environment for all.

What other feedback, if any, do you have on Police Scotland's estate transformation?

We are keen to ensure the proposed estate transformation programme is as transparent a possible, what questions do you have for the team that can help shape our communications activity?

- Will you provide access to options appraisal information for any local building consultations?
- Will you provide detailed plans for the alternative model to ensure the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel can adequately assess the impact of the proposed disposal of local buildings?
- Will the estate decision-makers engage with the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel on any local building consultations?

What further comments do you have about our estate transformation programme?

There have been frustrations with the abrupt announcements and limited timeframe for our local community to voice their concerns in relation to local building consultations. To ensure this proposal truly serves the best interests of all involved, a more inclusive, and transparent consultation process with adequate local engagement is necessary.

APPENDIX 2: GREENOCK POLICE STATION CONSULTATION - INFORMATION

Area	Details
Condition of building (inside and outside)	C: Poor - Showing major defects and/or not operating adequately
Annual running cost	£650,790.00
Maintenance backlog cost expected (to bring to acceptable standard)	£2,373,500.00
Proximity to next nearest Police Scotland building	TBC within local area



Police Scotland, like all public services, must use our resources effectively to deliver excellent services that the people of Scotland can rely on. This means that we have to carefully consider the

appropriateness of maintaining some buildings that are not required or no longer fit for purpose.

Due to the historical poor condition of Ayr, Oban and Greenock police stations, collectively these stations have been our highest priority in terms of identifying new alternatives that are fit for 21st century policing. We have delivered in 2023, a new, fit for purpose police station at Newton House, Ayr, whilst detailed design is underway for a new-build police station in Oban where we propose to co-locate with aligned public sector partners. We are now turning our attention to Greenock where we are exploring options for a new Greenock police station and proposing to close the 'old' Greenock police station at Rue End Street.

There will be no change to the current levels of police presence in Inverclyde and there will be no change to the current number of operational officers in Inverclyde as a result of the proposed closure and relocation.

Greenock police station as it stands is in a poor and deteriorating condition, it is no longer fit for purpose and is no longer affordable to operate and maintain. As per our Estate Strategy, it is our intention to reduce our physical and environmental footprints; to provide modern, energy-efficient and affordable working environments for our officers and staff to enhance their wellbeing, morale and service delivery; and to remain visible, accessible and present within communities. It is our intention to relocate to a new Greenock police station and options are currently being explored.

If financial resource was available, we would propose to direct that investment into a new Greenock police station and not into a building which is now aged, deteriorating, no longer fit for purpose, costly to maintain and located in isolation from our partners. **We will not leave this building until a new location is confirmed in Greenock.**

Our current building provides space for functions such response and community policing, CID etc. A public front counter is also provided in this facility. This provision would be replicated at any new site.

Greenock also has custody provision on site, and Police Scotland is currently reviewing options available to us.

We are seeking your feedback and views on all of this.

Question 1. What are your impressions of this building in how it is currently used in the following ways?

By the public for engaging with police

The Greenock police station serves as a central hub for public engagement, prominently located in the town centre and readily accessible. This accessibility fosters a sense of openness and encourages frequent community interaction. The design prioritises clear signage and designated areas for inquiries, reports, and interactions with officers, facilitating ease of navigation and reducing anxiety for first-time visitors. However, some members of the Panel have highlighted parking around the station as an accessibility issue.

By police officers and staff for operational policing

Greenock town centre police station serves as a crucial operational hub for various policing functions. Its central location facilitates rapid response times across the area. Dedicated facilities and resources cater to both traditional police work and community engagement initiatives. Notably, the station also provides a space for functions such as the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), offering a robust platform for criminal investigations. Additionally, the integrated public space CCTV suite operated by the council, in close collaboration with police, provides real-time monitoring and proactive security measures. Having a custody suite within the local police office ensures prompt and secure detention of individuals arrested in the vicinity, reducing potential risks associated with transporting them elsewhere and ensures efficient use of officer time that would otherwise be spent transporting out of the area.

By members of the public as a safe space

Though not officially designated as a "safe space," Greenock police station does convey a sense of security and accessibility. Its prominent location and visibility serve as a constant reminder of police presence, deterring crime and offering comfort to residents. The clear signage, and dedicated areas for reporting and interaction create a welcoming environment for anyone seeking help, regardless of their reason. Furthermore, the presence of community policing officers, and confidential conversation spaces provides a more secure and comfortable atmosphere for vulnerable individuals reporting sensitive issues.

Other (please specify)

Question 2: What are your overall impressions of the building in the value it brings to the local community?

Greenock police station serves as a vital contributor to the community, offering security, engagement, accessibility, and efficient handling of arrests through its integrated custody suite. Its central location provides a readily accessible hub for diverse purposes. The station functions as a collaborative platform for crime investigation, CCTV collaboration enhancing security, and community policing fostering trust. The layout facilitates ease of navigation and interaction, encouraging residents to report incidents, seek information, or connect with officers. This accessibility contributes to a stronger police-community connection.

Question 3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to dispose of this building for the reasons stated at the start of this section?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / No opinion
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to dispose of this building for the reasons stated at the start of this section?			X			

Please provide any further comments

Members of the Panel feel they have not been provided with sufficient information on option appraisal for the building or the proposed alternative local policing model to adequately assess the impact of the proposal. However, they harbour deep concern regarding the proposed shift to a new police station absent a custody suite. This drastic change jeopardises both public safety and operational efficiency, potentially impacting the effectiveness of local law enforcement.

Firstly, the absence of a custody suite within the community presents a significant logistical hurdle. Timely and secure detentions become compromised, forcing the transport of arrested individuals elsewhere. This increases risks, lengthens response times, and strains resources throughout the system. Furthermore, concerns emerge about detainee welfare and adherence to due process when handling them outside the community they reside in.

Secondly, the operational implications are substantial. Investigations become disjointed, communication channels fragment, and valuable synergies between investigative units and the custody suite vanish. This hampers information flow, potentially putting case outcomes at risk and ultimately impacting public safety.

The potential consequences reach far beyond mere inconvenience, potentially compromising the safety of officers, detainees, and the community as a whole.

Therefore, the panel urges a re-evaluation of the proposed plan. Reassessing the viability of including a custody suite or exploring alternative solutions that maintain operational efficiency and prioritise public safety, is paramount. Ignoring these concerns and proceeding with the current proposal without fully engaging on more detailed alternative plans would be a serious error with detrimental consequences for the community.

Additionally, the members of the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel are concerned about the lack of transparency surrounding the proposed closure/disposal of the Greenock Police Station. We request access to the full options appraisal, including details of alternative proposals and the rationale behind favouring closure/disposal over refurbishment. Additionally, we seek opportunities for engagement with estate decision-makers before any decisions are made. This will allow us to fulfil our role in representing the community and ensure a thorough and transparent process.

Appendix 3: Proposed Consultation Response on Port Glasgow Police Station

Question 1. What are your impressions of this building in how it is currently used in the following ways?

By the public for engaging with police

The building is completely inaccessible to the public

By police officers and staff for operational policing

The building is completely unused by police, and has no impact on operational efficiency and responsiveness in the area

By members of the public as a safe space

The building is completely inaccessible to the public

Other (please specify)

Question 2: What are your overall impressions of the building in the value it brings to the local community?

While the currently vacant police station provides a temporary site office for contractors working on the redevelopment of the nearby community centre, the building currently offers limited value to the wider community.

Question 3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to dispose of this building for the reasons stated at the start of this section?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / No opinion
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to dispose of this building for the reasons stated at the start of this section?		X				

Please provide any further comments

There should be open dialogue with the local authority and other partners on the next steps for the building, with the provision of a clear and detailed plan for the use of the vacated buildings, prioritising community-focused projects.

It is worth noting that this Panel previously voiced its opposition to the closure of this Police Station as it played a crucial role in maintaining public safety within the Port Glasgow area.