Your Police:   
Our Big Youth Conversation Resource Pack

# Your Police: Our Big Youth Conversation Resource Pack

The past few years have been unlike any in recent history. Now, more than ever, we need young people like you to make your voice heard so we know how best to support you.

Tell us what you love and what you think needs to change. Your ideas and opinions will not only help us to improve policing and services for young people in your local area, but will also help us build safer communities for everyone.

Our Big Youth Conversation aims to reach young people in all of Scotland’s communities. The survey will remain open all year, until 31 March 2024. We will report on what you tell us throughout this year to decision makers within Police Scotland and within other public services in your local area. We will share what we have learned and invite young people like you to take part in focus groups, workshops or other discussions.

But we won’t only wait until the end of March 2024 to respond to what you tell us. All feedback is analysed and shared with decision-makers regularly, so that we can act quickly on what you tell us.

We may not be able do something about concerns, but being more aware of what is important to young people in their communities is the start of Police Scotland working together with our partners in your area to make a difference.

In this pack we have included lesson/session plans, communications templates, videos and example wording to support you.

If you have any questions, or if you require any materials in accessible formats, please get in touch: [InsightEngagement@scotland.police.uk](mailto:InsightEngagement@scotland.police.uk).

The Survey can be found in the following ways:

* [Young Scot Membership](https://tinyurl.com/7j3457p9) platform
* Children without a Young Scot Membership account (e.g. younger children) can use the [direct link to the survey](https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2023-2024/).

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Description automatically generated

# Resource: Communications Template

Please circulate information about the survey to young people you work with via newsletters, social media, websites, as well as in person through youth groups and assemblies.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Young people**  If you have any youth focused social media outlets, or to share with your Community Learning & Development – youth work colleagues, local Facebook group. | **Your Police survey**  Police Scotland wants to know and understand the views of Scotland’s diverse communities and young people. Your Police 2023-24 is now live on their Engagement Hub and Police Scotland is inviting anyone living in Scotland to take part.  The survey is open all year and asks about your experiences of feeling safe in your community and what you think about the police. The survey also aims to help the police understand more about your experiences of interacting with them.  Young people, and those who support them, are encouraged take part and to share the opportunity with anyone in their community – friends, family, neighbours; get involved! 150 Young Scot Rewards points are on offer for taking part.  Take part in the survey here >  <https://tinyurl.com/ms7h3skv> |
| **Twitter 1** | Have your say about #YourPolice. @PoliceScotland wants to know and understand the views of Scotland’s diverse communities. Influence the decisions they take about how things are done here.  Take part in the survey > <https://tinyurl.com/ms7h3skv> |
| **Twitter 2** | As part of the conversation with #YourPolice, you are invited to take part in the conversation to help make policing better where you stay.  Let @PoliceScotland know how they can help make your community feel safer > <https://tinyurl.com/ms7h3skv> |

# Resource: Lesson Plan

Students may be familiar with their local police through campus or school-based officers, community police officer, school liaison officer, youth engagement officer or school link officers.

**Teacher input**: “This lesson will examine the role of the police and policing in your local community. It is important that you are engaged and understand that you can make a difference in your local area. One of the ways you can do this is by engaging with Police Scotland’s ‘Your Police’ survey. By providing your feedback this will help shape what police do nationally and locally to keep people safe.”

**Videos to share/show on screen at front of room** (sound is required):

* [Recruitment advert: Showing the real people in policing](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f5CYgkixWi4) – this video highlights some of the real people young people may see in their communities who are part of our police service.
* [How and why we prioritise calls](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jkk9sbHYlVE) – this video shows how we take the feedback people tell us in our Your Police survey seriously.

**Activity**:

1. **Input Introduction:** Brief teacher-led discussion to establish level of student knowledge of their local police. Write the word “Police” on the board and ask the class to discuss/feedback. Students are asked to write “three things that come to mind when you think about the Police” on post-it notes and place them on the board. (Feel free to take a photo of the board and send it to our email!)
2. **Group discussions** (activity 25 mins).   
   Put students into five groups, write each discussion topic on a different piece of paper (A3) and place each topic in the centre of five individual tables. Have the groups circulate each of the different tables and **discuss each** **topic** highlighted on that table for five minutes each. Leave pens on tables if students want to note anything they have discussed on the paper.

* What is important to you in your local community, including where you spend your time in any online community?
* Do you have any worries about safety in your local community or online?
* What are your perceptions of your local police?
* What could your local police be doing better?
* How would you like to engage with the police?

We hope this activity will help students reflect and inform their answers when completing the survey.

1. **Invite students to fill out the Your Police survey for themselves** (QR code provided which can be displayed on digital whiteboard or printed out for use by students on their own mobile device or school-issued laptop/tablet) (approx. 10 minutes)

**Additional activity for primary school aged children**

Police officer character building exercise

Show video:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For younger primary school children  [My Police Book](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcldqwwyPng)  [People who help us](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YndDf0i4qU4) | For primary 7 children  [Recruitment advert: Showing the real people in policing](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f5CYgkixWi4)  [How and why we prioritise calls](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jkk9sbHYlVE) |

Give each student a copy of the police officer outline (appendix 1) on a blank background with colouring pencils. Ask the students to write inside the officer what they feel a police office is like on the inside, the characteristics of a police officer, what they think a police officer is. Ask the students to write around the outside of the police officer how they think the officer helps the community, what the officer provides the community with, what impact they have on people, how they help the community.

* Depending on the educator or group leader, it might then be appropriate to support older primary school-aged children (Primary 7) through completing the Your Police survey on class/individual laptops or tablets. Please don’t ask children to complete the survey in small groups.
* Children without a Young Scot Membership account (e.g. younger children) can use the [direct link to the survey](https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2023-2024/).

**Key learning areas**

This resource, lesson plans, videos and participation in the Your Police survey supports learning within the Curriculum for Excellence. Key areas of focus are:

* Democracy and justice
* Participating actively in decision-making and making your voice heard to influence public life
* Explore the role of law in maintaining order and making people feel safe in a democratic society
* Taking ownership within their local communities
* Understanding the role of citizens, including children and young people in holding public services to account
* UNCRC Articles 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 27, 34, 36.

**Reporting a crime or providing information about an incident**

Please ensure that children and young people know that the survey is not for reporting crime, providing information about an incident, or asking the police for help. No information they provide will be added to crime reporting systems and we cannot follow-up on anything they tell us here as it is anonymous.

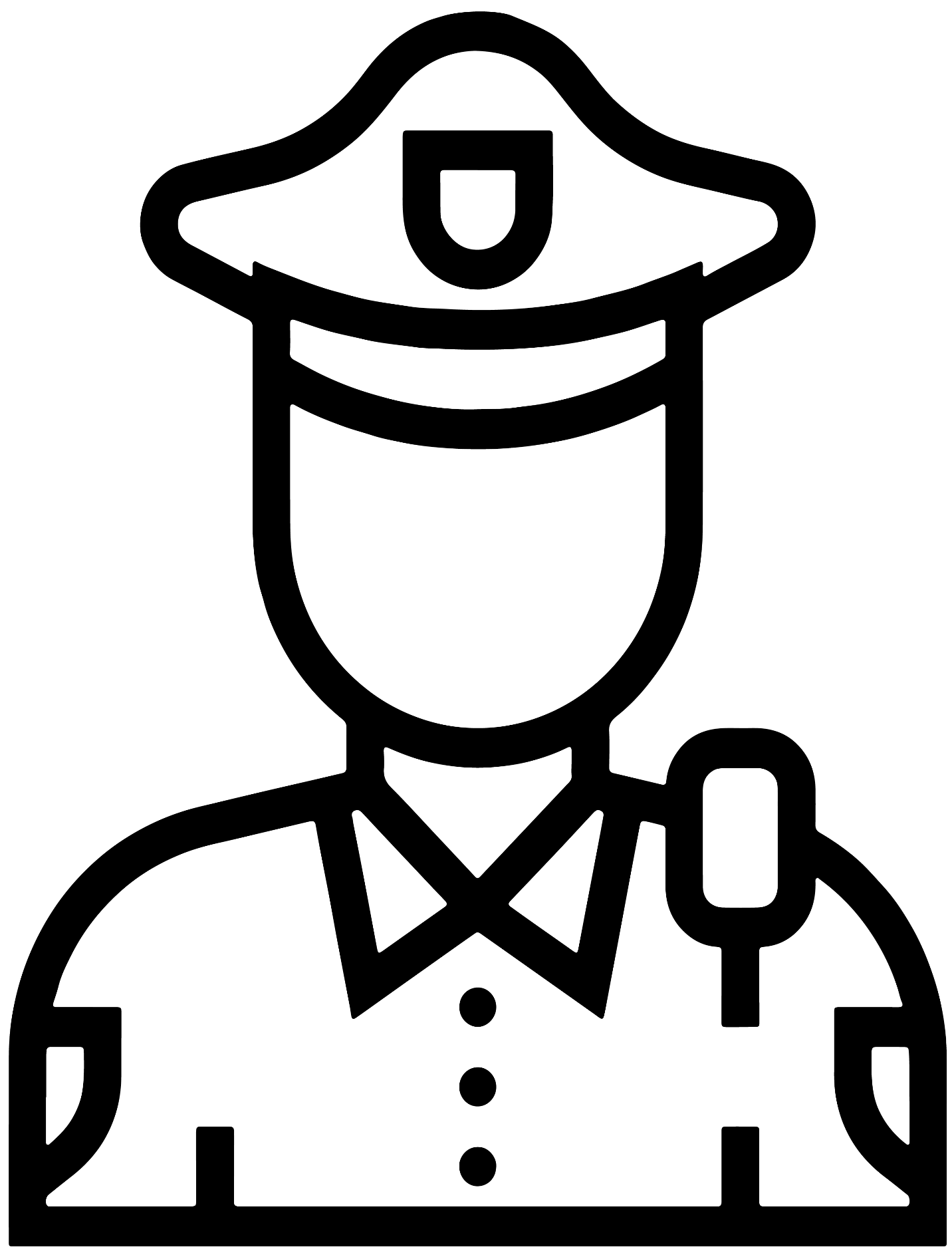
Remind children and young people that if they would like to report a crime or to contact the police to ask for help should they need to, they can visit our website or call us on 101. If they or someone else needs urgent help, they feel scared or unsafe, or they or someone else is in danger, they should dial 999 on a phone as soon as they can.

When they call 999, someone will answer their call immediately and ask if they need fire, police, ambulance or coastguard.

* They should say ‘police’ if they are in danger or feel unsafe or scared
* Ambulance if someone is hurt
* Fire if there is a fire, they can smell or see smoke or if someone is in danger at the river or a loch.
* If someone is in danger in the sea (like at the beach), they should say coastguard.

[Video resource for primary school aged children on how to call 999](https://youtu.be/kX2pwVxgtIQ).

# Activity for primary students (Appendix 1)



# Promotional text (Appendix 2)

**Your Police: Our Big Youth Conversation**

Aged 11-25?

Fancy getting your hands on 150 Young Scot Rewards points and making your voice heard? You could also win one of 10 £20 Love2Shop vouchers via your Young Scot Membership!

Have your say about #YourPolice. Police Scotland wants to know and understand the views of Scotland’s young people in our diverse communities.

Influence the decisions the police and our partners take about how things are done in your local area.

150 Young Scot Rewards points are on offer for taking part. If you redeem your points code, you will automatically be entered into the draw for your chance to win a £20 Love2Shop voucher.