



COMMUNITY POLICING



What is Community Policing

- Community Policing is a philosophy that guides Police Management styles and Operational strategies (Community Policing: Policy Framework and Guidelines, 1997:2);
- It is seen as the approach to policing which recognises the interdependence and shared responsibility of police and community in maintaining safety and security;
- It emphasises the establishment of Police Community Partnerships and joint problem solving approach responsive to the needs of the Community.



Legal framework

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996

South African Police Service Act, No. 68 of 1995

National Development Plan: Vision 2030

National Crime Prevention Strategy, 1996

White paper on safety and security, 2016

White paper on Policing, 2016

South African Police Service Guideline for the establishment of Crime Prevention Partnerships

Sector Policing Operational Guideline

SAPS Interim Regulations for the establishment of CPF and boards, 2001

Community Policing: policy framework and guidelines, 1997

Partnership Policing

Partnership Policing means a collaborative relationship between the South African Police Service (SAPS) and external stakeholders including community organisations, business, private sector, non-governmental organisations and civil society and which are outcomes driven.



The different types of partnerships

The SAPS is committed to establishing effective and efficient partnerships. The SAPS is already involved in a number of partnerships, including amongst others:

- Business partnerships;
- International partnerships;
- Faith-based organisations;
- Traditional-based partnerships; and
- Governmental/Non-governmental organisations (including NPOs).

Benefits of partnership policing

- Promoting communication between the service and the community;
- Involvement of the community in creation of safe spaces in their communities;
- Create good working relationship;

- Improved rendering of police services to the community ;
- Improved joint problem identification and joint problem solving initiatives;
- Maintain and build trust between the community and the SAPS;
- Allow the community to get to know their communities;
- Improved community safety (including women, children and elderly);
- Enhanced community confidence and willingness for cooperation;
- Mutual exchange of information and personal views;
- Improved transparency in the service and accountability of the Service to the community.

The Objectives of establishing partnerships

- To facilitate and encourage shared accountability for community safety and policing outcomes;
- To improve communication mediums in addressing crime;
- To promote cooperation by ensuring joint problem identification and joint problem solving;
- To improve the rendering of basic police service to all inhabitants of South Africa; and
- To improve the local safety and security by taking proactive and reactive initiatives to address factors that cause or enable crime to take place.



Establishment of partnerships

The type and scope of the partnership to be established will depend on amongst others the following:

- The crime threat analysis;
- Crime trends and pattern analysis;
- Operational area;
- The type of crime to be addressed;
- The community within the operational area.

Process to establish a partnership:

- Either part may initiate a partnership;
- The SAPS with potential partner discuss areas of collaboration;
- The drafting of the agreement must be done in consultation with Legal Services.

Community Police Forum/Board

Is a forum/board whereby the SAPS and the community jointly work in collaboration to address crime and come up with crime prevention initiatives to deal with the identified crime challenges.

Objects of Community Police Forums and Boards

The Service shall, in order to achieve its object, liaise with the community through CPFs and Boards with the view to:

- Establishing and maintaining a partnership between the community and the Service;
- Promoting communication between the Service and the community;
- Promoting co-operation between the Service and the community in fulfilling the needs of the community regarding policing;
- Improving the rendering of police services to the community at national, provincial, area (currently cluster) and local levels;
- Improving transparency in the Service and accountability of the Service to the community; and
- Promoting joint problem identification and problem-solving by the Service and the community.



According to SAPS interim regulations, the forums / Boards should be established as follows:



Drafting of CPF/ CPB Constitution



Members serving at the station/cluster if elected at CCPB/PCPB automatically relinquish the previous position and should be relieved at his /her duties at the lower level.



Characteristics of a functioning Forum/Board

A functioning CPF or Board should:

- Have a written and signed constitution;
- Have a community safety plan;
- Hold meetings as stipulated in the constitution (taking into consideration what would constitute a quorum at a meeting);
- Conduct social crime prevention projects as per annual project plan i.e crime awareness campaigns, izimbizo or community education;
- Compile minutes and feedback reports of meetings and projects held;
- Perform functions as set out in section 18 of the SAPS Act, Act 68 of 1995.

Dated attendance register must be attached to minutes or feedback reports.

Sector Policing

Sector Policing is a policing approach that adopts a decentralised and geographical approach to Policing by dividing a station's area into manageable sectors to enhance policing, service delivery and community involvement/interaction.

Sector policing objectives

- To render a quality service with the support of the local community;
- To bring the police service closer to the local community;
- To improve interaction between the community and the police service; and
- To establish partnerships with the community.



Minimum implementation criteria for Sector Policing



**Demarcate
policing area**

Demarcate the police station area in at least two sectors.

Obtain demarcated map and display in CSC and the sector file



**Sector
Commander**

Appoint a permanent member(s) in writing to manage and coordinate the policing of all crime-related activities in the demarcated sector(s).

One sector commander may be appointed to manage all the sectors.



Sector Profile

Compile sector Profile for each Sector

Update at least quarterly

The sector profile is aligned to the Station Profile and Station Intelligence Profile



Deployment

Deploy available operational members and resources in accordance with the CPA and CTA to perform policing duties in demarcated sectors



Sector Forum

Establish a Sector Forum or implement alternative arrangements to ensure community participation.

The Sector Forum may be utilised as the Rural Forum in a rural sector

Functions of a Sector Commander



Constitution

Constitution must set out:

- Name
- Aims and objectives- Objectives must contain Objects set out in Sec 18, SAPS Act.
- Code of conduct
- Membership requirements- not unfairly discriminating
- Composition, powers and functions of executive committee
- Election procedures- members of executive committee
- Term of office
- Basic meeting procedure- What constitute quorum, voting procedure during meetings, minutes must be taken and kept, notification of meetings
- Communication with members and community
- Procedure for amending the constitution
- Management and control of financial affairs
- Dispute resolution procedures
- Procedure for dissolution

Integrated Community Policing Diagram



