

What We Heard Report: Policing Priorities 2026/2027

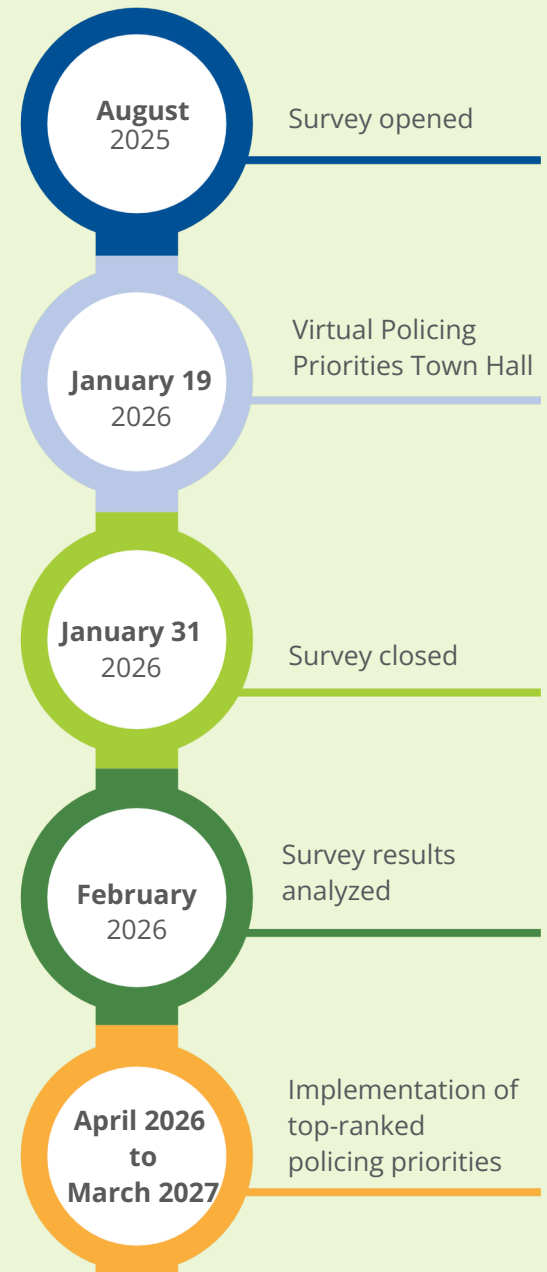
Community Survey, August 2025 - January 2026

Overview

This report explains what we learned from the community to help choose the Sturgeon County RCMP policing priorities for 2026/2027. From August 2025 to January 2026, the County ran a Policing Priorities Survey to learn what residents think about crime prevention and community safety. A total of 149 people completed the survey, giving us a strong picture of what matters most to the community.

To add to the survey, we also hosted a virtual policing priorities town hall. Residents were able to join from home or from one of four watch stations located across the County. This report describes how we talked to the community and shares the main themes we heard through the engagement.

This information will help guide RCMP policing plans for 2026/2027 so our community can be safer and feel more supported.





Public engagement – What we did

Survey

A survey was created to gather feedback. People could fill it out online or on paper. Paper copies were offered at community events and at the town hall watch stations so everyone could choose their preferred method of completing the survey.

Virtual Policing Priorities Town Hall

A virtual Policing Priorities Town Hall was held on January 19, 2026. All three RCMP detachments joined the meeting. In the event, each detachment explained their area, shared crime numbers and new trends, and talked about which priorities were most important over the past year. Residents were able to ask questions to officers. Any questions that were not answered during the town hall were posted on the website afterward.

Residents could join online from home or from one of the following watch stations:

- Pinnacle Ridge Hall
- County Centre
- Riviere Qui Barre Community Hall
- Redwater Legion

Survey and Town Hall Promotion

Multiple methods were used to let people know about the survey and the town hall, including:

- Inserts in utility bills
- County road signs
- Lobby screens at County Centre
- The weekly e-newsletter
- Social media posts on Facebook and Instagram
- Notices in two local newspapers

Engagement in Numbers

Total Survey Responses

- 149 responses collected (paper and online)

Virtual Policing Priorities Town Hall

- 69 people watched the live event
 - 38 attended from home
 - 15 attended the Redwater Legion watch station
 - 8 attended the RQB Community Hall watch station
 - 3 attended the Pinnacle Ridge watch station
 - 5 attended the County Centre watch station

What we asked

Residents were given short descriptions of each possible policing priority and a list of ways the RCMP could address each one. Residents were asked to rank the priorities from 1 to 10, based on how important they felt each one was.

Engagement in Numbers

Policing Priorities Web Content (August 2025 to January 2026)

Policing Priorities webpage

- 560 page views
- 270 unique visitors
- 149 form contributions

SturgeonCounty.ca - Events Calendar

- 292 views

SturgeonCounty.ca - News Post

- 328 views

Town Hall Live and Video

- 69 live views
- 44 views after posting

Social Media Posts

Virtual Policing Priorities Town Hall

Instagram (total)

- 1,192 views
- 11 interactions

Facebook (total)

- 24,895 views
- 32 reactions
- 713 clicks

Policing Priorities Survey

Twitter (total)

- 73 impressions
- 2 engagements

Instagram (total)

- 292 views
- 5 interactions

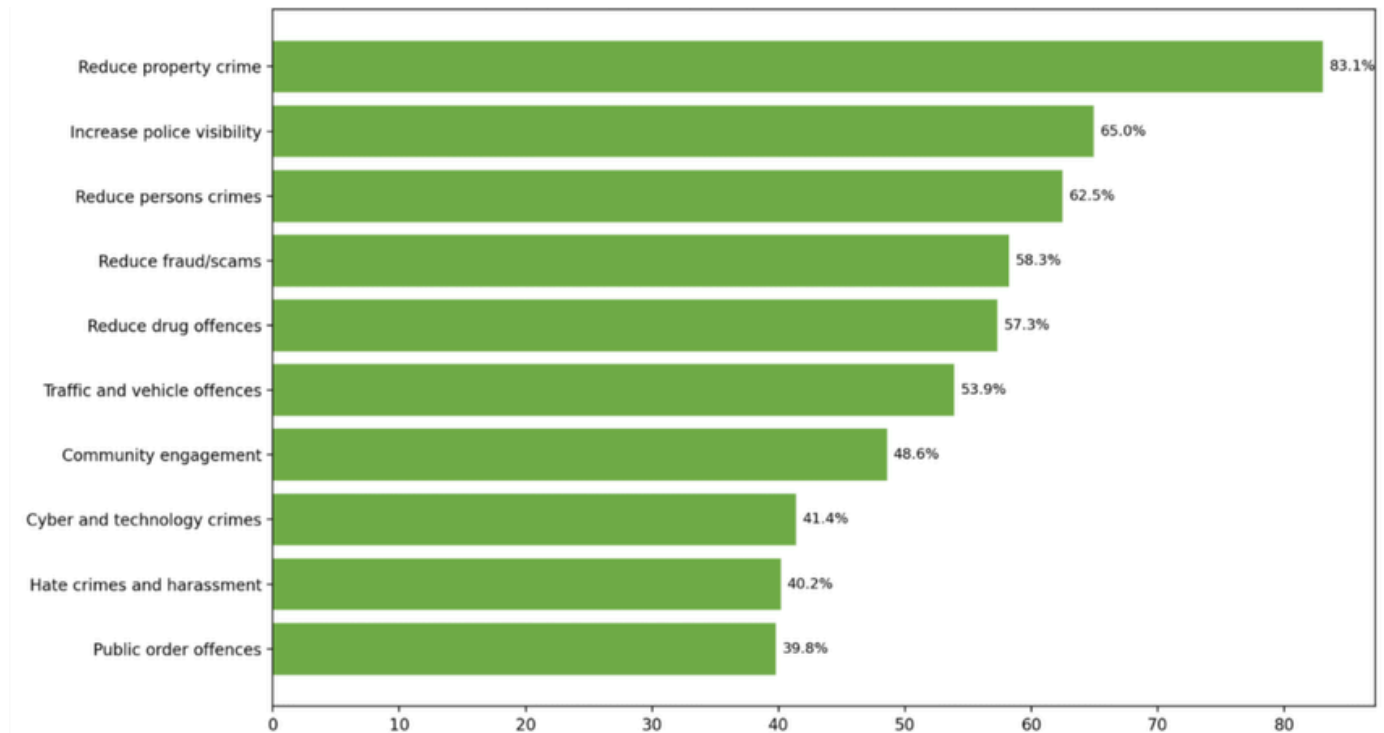
Facebook (total)

- 1,876 views
- 5 reactions
- 47 clicks

What we heard

Results

The following is a summary of the survey results:



Sturgeon County Priorities – 2026/2027

Based on what residents told us, the following three priorities are recommended as the RCMP's main focus for 2026/2027:

1. Reduce Property Crime

This includes vehicle theft, theft from vehicles, break and enter, vandalism, mischief, theft, possession of stolen property, and property damage.

Possible strategies:

- Patrol areas where theft happens often
- Teach people how to prevent theft
- Promote [C.A.P.T.U.R.E.](#)
- Share safety tips through the [RAVE Program](#)
- Focus on repeat offenders
- Promote [CPTED](#)
- Work with [Sturgeon Rural Crime Watch](#)
- Use data to predict property crime
- Use targeted investigations

2. Increase Police Visibility

This includes more officer patrols, being present in schools, and attending community events.

Possible strategies:

- High-visibility patrols
- Extra police presence in problem areas
- Police at community events
- Coffee with a Cop
- School Resource Officer
- Joint operations with Municipal Enforcement and Sheriffs
- [RAVE Program](#)

3. Reduce Persons Crimes

This includes assault, domestic violence, threats, robbery, homicide, and kidnapping/abduction.

Possible strategies:

- Patrol areas where violence happens often
- Check on people who have curfews, probation, or release conditions
- Collect field intelligence
- Preserve evidence
- De-escalate violent situations
- Watch for times and places where violence increases
- Use search and seizure powers when lawful
- Check in regularly with schools or highrisk youth

Conclusion

Community feedback plays an important role in helping choose policing priorities. When RCMP actions reflect what residents want and need, trust grows and our community becomes safer. The information gathered through this process will help guide public safety work in 2026/2027 and supports stronger, more connected neighbourhoods.