



Northumberland Police Services Review Presentation to Council

Northumberland County

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Working on your project...



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We are excited to work with you!

Project Context

Ontario's policing sector is experiencing a period of significant transformation that will impact Northumberland municipalities

- Northumberland County is growing, and it is projected that the population will reach 122,000 by 2051.
- The County is also managing growing social challenges, including homelessness, encampments, and mental health and addictions issues, that are straining social service and emergency response providers.
- Ontario's policing landscape is undergoing significant changes with the introduction of the **Community Safety and Policing Act (2019)**, increased public scrutiny, and resource constrained services.

Purpose of the Police Services Report

- The purpose of this report is to inform a discussion about the future needs of policing, including service requirements and costs.
- This report will take stock of the current services provided, assess future cost drivers, and provide an analysis of the potential options available for policing in Northumberland.
- This report will provide Northumberland County Council with the information necessary to determine what next steps could be considered to support effective public safety services as Northumberland grows and changes.
- It is important to remember that local municipalities determine how policing service are provided in their communities.

Project Objectives





StrategyCorp has been engaged to conduct a thorough review of policing services in Northumberland and identify effective and affordable policing options for the long-term.

We will compare and contrast the delivery of policing services through specific scenarios. These scenarios will enable Northumberland County to compare the current state delivery model versus other options that could be pursued over a 15-year timeframe.

SCENARIO OPTIONS	COMPARISON	COSTING
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Status Quo – Maintain the current state2. Amalgamation – Create a new consolidated service for some (e.g., through the creation of an amalgamated service for Cobourg, Port Hope - Ward 1 and Ward 2, and Hamilton Township) or all of Northumberland3. External Option – Empower a neighboring police service (e.g., Durham, Peterborough) or the OPP to provide services for the entire county4. Other potential opportunities that represent the best option for policing in Northumberland	<p>Each scenario will be evaluated based on its advantages and disadvantages, focusing on both cost implications and service quality.</p>	<p>A critical review to determine if pursuing a formal costing analysis is justified for each scenario, considering long-term financial sustainability and service effectiveness.</p>

Understanding Policing Dynamics

To ensure the final report accurately reflects the political and economic realities of the current situation in Northumberland County and its policing landscape, it is imperative to recognize the following dynamics.

KEY DYNAMICS	DETAILS
 Understanding the Differences – OPP vs. Municipal Police Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OPP: Responsible for policing large geographic areas, often rural, and providing specialized services.• Cobourg and Port Hope: Municipal services catering to the specific needs of more urban communities.
 Addressing Urban-Rural Dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Urban: Higher population density, diverse challenges, and emphasis on community engagement and crime prevention.• Rural: Vast areas, sparse population, focus on patrolling vast territories and responding to emergencies efficiently.
 Municipal Support for Police Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Municipalities provide varied support mechanisms to their police services, such as capital investments, administrative assistance, IT support, etc.• Differences in funding allocation and resource availability.
 Resource Sharing and Strategic Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The OPP, and sometimes larger municipal services, help provide higher-order services such as specialized units, forensic expertise, and major investigations.• Other cooperative efforts include training, joint operations, and information sharing.

Areas for Review

This report is not a full costing. We will examine key cost and performance drivers of policing and provide a fair analysis of the current costs and future risks.

KEY COST DRIVERS



Capital

- Infrastructure investments including police stations, vehicles, and specialized equipment.
- Long-term planning for infrastructure maintenance and upgrades.



Patrol

- Personnel costs for frontline officers patrolling communities.
- Allocation of resources for proactive policing and emergency response.



Equipment and Technology

- Procurement and maintenance of technology tools such as body cameras, communication systems, etc.



Executive and Admin. Support

- Administrative staff salaries and operational expenses.
- Resources for leadership, policy development, and strategic planning.



Cost Offsets

- Revenue sources such as fines, grants, and criminal record checks.
- Efficiency measures to optimize resource utilization and reduce costs.



Performance & Workload Metrics

- Metrics to evaluate operational effectiveness, response times, and crime reduction efforts.
- Analysis of workload distribution and resource allocation.



Governance

- Oversight and governance structures impacting resource allocation and decision-making.
- Collaboration among municipal councils, police boards, and police services.

Project Methodology

The project methodology includes four key components:



Interviews

Engagement with key stakeholders, such as police leaders (Chiefs / Detachment Commanders), other public safety representatives, and mayors, will be conducted through structured interviews, providing an understanding of their perspectives and priorities, crucial for shaping the direction of the project.



Data and Document Review

The identification and review of relevant data and documents for the three police services as well as peer benchmarking will be used to facilitate the development of a detailed comparison of the scenario options.



Information Sharing

An information page about this project has been created on Northumberland County's Join In Northumberland website. It includes an overview of plans and timelines, a link to today's presentation, an opportunity for people to subscribe to the page to receive any future updates, and an email address for people who have questions or comments.



Council Presentation

In the second half of 2024, the draft report will be presented to Northumberland County Council. This will allow for a thorough review and discussion, ensuring alignment with the community's expectations and priorities.

Finishing the Report

- The final report will be presented to Northumberland County Council in the second half of 2024.
- At that time, Council may determine Phase 2 activities that could include:
 1. Consultation and engagement with community members on preferred options
 2. A full costing review
 3. Discussions with the three police service providers on cost or service improvement initiatives



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