

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY POLICING IN NIGERIA, ENHANCING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND PROMOTING PUBLIC SAFETY, TRUST, AND COLLABORATION; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS, 2024

Sponsored by: Hon. Isa Mohammed Anka

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria-

1 PART I - COMMUNITY POLICING FRAMEWORK

2 1.-(1) A Community Policing Board (CPB) shall be established in
3 every state and local government area in Nigeria.

Establishment
of Community
Policing Board
(CPBs)

4 (2) The CPB shall consist of:

5 (a) Representatives of the Nigeria Police Force;

6 (b) Community Leaders (including traditional rulers, religious
7 leaders, and civil society representatives);

8 (c) Local Government Representatives;

9 (d) NGOs and Community Organizations;

10 (e) Youth Representatives.

11 (3) The CPB shall be responsible for overseeing the
12 implementation of community policing strategies, recommending policies,
13 and ensuring that community concerns are addressed.

14 2.-(1) Every police officer shall be required to attend quarterly
15 town hall meetings and interactive sessions with local communities to foster
16 trust, dialogue, and understanding.

Mandatory Police-
Community
Interaction Programs

17 (2) These sessions shall be organized by the CPBs, with input from
18 community stakeholders.

Neighborhood Policing Units	1	3.- (1) The Nigeria Police Force shall establish Neighborhood
	2	Policing Units (NPU) that will be responsible for specific communities,
	3	ensuring that officers develop a familiarity with local issues and are able to
	4	provide continuous service to those communities.
	5	(2) The NPUs will be tasked with:
	6	(a) Addressing local crime issues;
	7	(b) Building relationships with community members; Identifying
	8	safety concerns in neighborhoods.
Youth Engagement Programs	9	4.- (1) The police shall collaborate with local organizations to create
	10	Youth Engagement Programs aimed at providing mentorship, educational
	11	workshops, and skills training for young people.
	12	(2) These programs will provide alternatives to criminal activities and
	13	reduce the risk of youth involvement in crime.
Community Safety Patrols	14	5.- (1) Community-led safety patrols shall be established to work in
	15	collaboration with local police units.
	16	(2) These patrols will focus on maintaining public order, reporting
	17	crimes, and deterring criminal activity, under the supervision of the Nigeria
	18	Police Force.
Social Media Reporting Platform	19	6.- (1) The Nigeria Police Force shall create a secure online platform
	20	for community members to report crimes, share safety concerns, and provide
	21	feedback.
	22	(2) This platform will be monitored by law enforcement officers, and
	23	reports will be addressed in a timely manner.
	24	PART II - ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY
Police Transparency Audits	25	7.- (1) Independent audits of police operations and interactions with
	26	communities shall be conducted annually by an external body to ensure
	27	transparency and accountability.
	28	(2) The findings of these audits shall be made publicly available to
	29	foster trust between the police and the community.

1	8. -(1) An independent oversight body shall be established to	Police
2	handle complaints against police officers, ensuring that investigations are	Accountability
3	impartial and fair.	Mechanisms
4	(2) The oversight body shall recommend appropriate actions,	
5	including disciplinary measures, for officers found guilty of misconduct.	
6	9. -(1) Conflict resolution specialists shall be employed by law	Conflict
7	enforcement agencies to mediate disputes between police officers and	Mediation
8	community members before they escalate.	Specialists
9	(2) These specialists will help de-escalate tensions and ensure that	
10	both parties have a chance to express their concerns.	
11	PART III - POLICE TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT	
12	10. -(1) Every police officer shall undergo training on community	Mandatory
13	policing, which includes:	Community
14	(a) Conflict resolution;	Policing Training
15	(b) Cultural competence;	
16	(c) Public relations;	
17	(d) De-escalation techniques.	
18	(2) Training shall be provided annually and updated regularly to	
19	incorporate new developments in community policing strategies.	
20	11. -(1) Police officers shall participate in cultural sensitivity	Cultural Sensitivity
21	training to understand the diverse backgrounds of the communities they	Awareness
22	serve.	
23	(2) This training will cover ethnic, religious, and socio-economic	
24	differences within communities, ensuring that police officers can	
25	effectively engage with all members.	
26	12. -(1) Priority shall be given to recruiting police officers from the	Recruitment of
27	communities they will serve.	Local Police
28	(2) This recruitment strategy will help build trust and ensure that	Officers
29	officers have a deep understanding of local concerns.	

1 PART IV - COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Community Policing Fund

2 13.-(1) A Community Policing Fund shall be established to support
3 community-based initiatives, including crime prevention programs,
4 educational outreach, and public awareness campaigns.

5 (2) The Fund shall be administered by the CPBs and allocated based
6 on community needs.

Crisis Response Units

7 14.-(1) Specialized Crisis Response Units shall be created to handle
8 mental health crises, domestic violence cases, and non-violent offenses.

9 (2) These units will be trained in de-escalation techniques and will
10 work in collaboration with mental health professionals.

Whistle blower Protection

11 15.-(1) Individuals who report misconduct within the police force
12 shall be protected from retaliation through whistle Blower protection laws.

13 (2) A confidential reporting mechanism shall be established to allow
14 for safe reporting.

Victim Support Units

15 16.-(1) Police departments shall establish Victim Support Units that
16 provide counseling, legal assistance, and rehabilitation for victims of crime.

17 (2) These units shall work in collaboration with social service
18 agencies to ensure comprehensive support for victims.

19 PART V - PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION

Public Safety Education Campaigns

20 17.-(1) The Nigeria Police Force shall organize regular public safety
21 workshops and campaigns to educate citizens on crime prevention, self-
22 defense, rights protection, and how to interact with law enforcement officers.

School Policing Programs

23 18.-(1) Community policing programs shall be introduced in schools
24 to teach students about safety, their rights, and the role of the police in society.

25 (2) Police officers will engage with students in schools through
26 mentorship and educational programs.

27 PART VI - TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Collaborative Crime Mapping

28 19.-(1) Law enforcement agencies and the community will contribute
29 to a crime-mapping system that identifies crime hot spots and allows for
30 targeted interventions.

1	20. -(1) The Nigeria Police Force shall utilize data analytics to	Data-Driven Policing Initiatives
2	guide community policing strategies, ensuring that resources are allocated	
3	to areas with the highest need.	
4	21. -(1) The Nigeria Police Force shall adopt sustainable and eco-	Sustainable Policing Practices
5	friendly policing practices" such as the use of solar-powered streetlights and	
6	electric vehicles, to reduce the environmental impact of policing operations.	
7	22. -(1) A fund shall be established to support the development and	Police Innovation and Technology Fund
8	implementation of technology solutions aimed at enhancing community	
9	policing, including AI tools for crime prediction and communication	
10	platforms.	
11	PART VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS	
12	23. -(1) The Ministry of Interior shall oversee the implementation	Implementation and Review
13	of this Act.	
14	(2) A review committee shall be established to assess the	
15	effectiveness of community policing strategies every two years.	
16	24. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:	Interpretation
17	"Community Policing" refers to a strategy of law enforcement that	
18	encourages collaboration between the police and the community to identify	
19	and solve problems related to crime and disorder;	
20	"Community Policing Board (CPB)" refers to a board established at local	
21	and state levels for the purpose of coordinating and overseeing community	
22	policing initiatives;	
23	"Police Officer" means any member of the Nigeria Police Force;	
24	"Community" refers to a group of people living in a particular area with	
25	shared interests and concerns.	
26	25. This Bill may be cited as the National Community Policing Bill	Citation
27	2024.	

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish a comprehensive framework for Community Policing in Nigeria, enhancing the relationship between law enforcement agencies and local communities, and promoting public safety, trust, and collaboration.