LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD

INVERCLYDE

FEBRUARY 2018

Report to	Police and Fire Scrutiny Sub Committee
Date of report	01/02/2018
Subject	Police Scotland Scrutiny Board Report - Inverclyde

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Inverclyde Council Police and Fire Scrutiny Sub Committee of Police Scotland's performance and activities during the reporting period April 2017 – December 2017.

PERFORMANCE

2. The management information provided in this report is supplemented by the appendix which provides statistical information relating to the period 2016/17, and relates to the specific key objectives detailed in the Inverclyde Local Policing Plan 2017-2021.

A summary of the key performance indicators are provided below:

Crimes of Violence in Inverclyde have generally followed a decreasing trend with the 2016/17 total volume representing a six-year low. Whilst there is a 16.4% increase in volume for this period, the gradual shift from outdoor to private space violence continues, with almost a 50/50 split, which is consistent with the national trend and increase in familiar violence.

Murder has increased in number by two for the same period whilst Attempted Murder remains at 1.

Serious Assaults have generally followed a deceasing trend over the last 5 years, and although there has been an increase by 8 for this review period, the total number has reduced in comparison to the 2016/17 year end figure. The detection rate for Serious Assault has increased by 2.6%.

Common Assault is at 566 for the reporting period. Whilst this is an increase of 17.4% compared to the previous year, it is a 10% reduction on the 5 year average.

Robberies fell to a 6 year low last year. Although the volume of Robberies has increased by 4 for this period, it is still a reduction on the 5 year average.

A 7.2% increase in Hate Crime is recorded, which is predominantly due to an increase in race, sexual orientation and disability aggravated crimes. A significant proportion of offences were targeted at police officers and other emergency workers in the course of their duties and often dealing with another matter.

Under the CONTEST strategy, 'Prevent' inputs to external partners have been successfully delivered to raise awareness of the threat of terrorism and increase participants' confidence to pass on information. Several Divisional Days of Action have also contributed to increased levels reassurance and vigilance in key locations in the area.

Over the winter months our Festive Road Safety campaign is running with the focus being drink and drug driving. Drink and drug driving is up by more than 13% on the previous year's volume, against an overall decrease in RT offences. Offenders are generally 20s-30s and are well in excess of the new and what was the old prescribed limit.

There has been 1 more fatality than the same period last year, however a significant 18 less injuries for 2017/18.

Housebreaking figures for both dwelling and commercial premises have generally followed a decreasing trend over the last 5 years. Whilst the figures show a 25.5% increase for this reporting period (which includes attempts, garden sheds, and garages) the overall total is less than 2016/17.

POLICING PRIORITIES

3. Police Scotland is committed to working with its Community Planning partners in all sectors to keep the people of Scotland and its communities safe. Partnership working to achieve this goal is recognised as a critical element of our strategy.

Police Scotland Priorities
Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Serious and Organised Crime
Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism
Protecting People at Risk of Harm
Road Policing
Acquisitive Crime

Figure 1: Police Scotland Operational Priorities, 2017/18

Source: Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2017/18

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. Inverclyde Council are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

VIOLENCE, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

5. Alcohol continues to be a factor in crimes of violence, we have a dedicated team of officers in our Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit who proactively police areas known to us for violence.

We work closely with our partners to educate and raise awareness of alcohol related violence, recently the 'One Punch' campaign ran nationally and many of the local license premises also assisted in this campaign.

Weapons are used frequently in the commission of violent incidents across Inverclyde. During the reporting period, there has been 41 arrests of those committing offences involving weapons, and 51 arrests of individuals who have been found in possession of offensive weapons.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

6. Within Renfrewshire & Inverclyde each Serious and Organised Crime group is managed by an officer of Chief Inspector or Inspector rank. Every officer in the division is briefed on these groups and are encouraged to submit intelligence in order for the division to manage the threat level. This also ensure that all officers are familiar with the members of Serious and Organised crimes groups.

COUNTER TERRORISM AND DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

7. Areas of increased risk or exposure to this type of incident continue to be patrolled daily.

PROTECTING PEOPLE AT RISK OF HARM

8. We continue to see an increase of sexual crime being reported to us with an increase of 7.1% from previous years.

Analysis indicates an increasing trend in terms of non-recent crime being reported, which can pose more challenging when investigating and detecting such offences. Also the increasing usage of technology presents growing opportunities for cyber-facilitated sexual offences; which is a rapidly growing national trend.

We continue to visit schools and education establishments in order to deliver online and social media safety to children and also their parents and teachers. We also regularly circulate online safety information on our social media sites to raise awareness.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME

9. The Divisional Road Policing Unit continue to police the road network to influence driver/road user behaviour and detect and deter criminality on the roads. There are no main hotspots identified for fatalities to occur throughout Inverclyde.

We continue to work alongside our colleagues in Inverclyde Road Safety and Education to carry out a series of joint activities throughout the year to raise awareness about road safety in Inverclyde. The intention is to better educate all road users in safe and considerate road use. Joint patrols from DRPU, Neighbourhood and Community Enforcement Officers continue around all schools and has been well received.

We are actively involved in the schools working group hosted by Inverclyde Council Road Safety Officers to look at ways of preventing accidents around our schools.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

10. Pro-active patrols in key areas help deter offenders and we continue to promote safety advice and guidance via social media to ensure the public maximise personal security at every opportunity.

We look at emerging trends and various MO's used during these crimes and of late, a number of these crimes have been attributed to one individual or group working together; who have subsequently been identified and charged. All investigatory options are considered to investigate this type of crime - making use of scenes of crime (although exposed locations can prove more difficult to extract prints or impressions), CCTV, media and local knowledge to identify perpetrators.

APPENDIX

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Inverclyde
December 2017

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
1	Total No Group1: Crimes of Violence	85	73	12 more	16.4%
2	Murder	3	1	2 more	200.0%
3	Attempted Murder	1	1	same number	0.0%
4	Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	0	None	-
5	Culpable Homicide (other)	0	0	None	-
6	Serious Assault detection rate	70.5%	67.9%		2.6%
7	Serious Assault	61	53	8 more	15.1%
8	Robbery detection rate	71.4%	90.0%		-18.6%
9	Robbery	14	10	4 more	40.0%
10	Common assault detection rate	70.5%	72.2%		-1.7%
11	Common assault	566	482	84 more	17.4%
12	Number of complaints regarding disorder	3,002	2,856	146 more	5.1%

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Inverclyde
December 2017

	Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (continued)				
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
13	Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported to the Police	705	681		3.5%
14	Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	415	395		5.1%
15	Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime being recorded	47.1%	43.8%		3.3%
16	Total crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents detection rate	67.7%	73.7%		-6.0%
17	Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	37	30		23.3%
18	Ensure 95% of domestic abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24hrs)	85.8%	-		-
19	Hate Crime and offences detection rate	79.6%	72.4%		7.2%
	Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour - Stop and Searches				

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017 Positive	Victims	% Change
20	Number of stop and searches conducted (total)	274	109		
21	Number of statutory stop and searches conducted	274	109		
22	Number of consensual stop and searches conducted	0	0		
23	Number of consensual stop and searches refused	0	-		
24	Number of seizures made	20	-		
On the 11th May 2017 Police Scotland adopted a new code of practice on the use of stop and search. At this time the use of non-statutory (Consensual) search ceased. The period covered by this report includes searches conducted prior to the introduction of the code. The table above provides information on consensual searches carried out before 11th May. Further information on Police Scotland's use of stop and search and on the code of practice is available on the Police Scotland Website.					
(Context)					

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Inverclyde
December 2017

Additional Identified Local Priorities					
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
25	Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	53	73		-27.4%
26	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	17.5%	14.9%		2.6%
27	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	177	141	36 more	25.5%
28	Theft by shoplifting detection rate	78.4%	81.7%		-3.3%
29	Theft by shoplifting	264	240	24 more	10.0%
30	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief detection rate	14.4%	12.5%		1.9%
31	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief	459	606	147 fewer	-24.3%
32	Number of detections for Consuming Alcohol in a designated place (where appropriate byelaws exist)	83	154		-46.1%

Public Protection					
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
33	Number of Sexual Crimes	136	127	9 more	7.1%

34	Sexual Crimes detection rate	45.6%	59.1%		-13.5%
35	Rape detection rate	25.0%	64.0%		-39.0%

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Inverclyde
December 2017

Road Traffic Casualty Statistics				
	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
People Killed	3	2	1 more	50.0%
People Seriously injured	8	11	3 fewer	-27.3%
People Slightly Injured	76	91	15 fewer	-16.5%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	None	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	1	1	same number	0.0%

Road Safety & Road Crime				
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
36	Dangerous driving	24	23		4.3%
37	Speeding	259	360		-28.1%
38	Disqualified driving	6	5		20.0%
39	Driving Licence	72	101		-28.7%
40	Insurance	158	215		-26.5%
41	Seat Belts	38	76		-50.0%
42	Mobile Phone	29	74		-60.8%

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Inverclyde
December 2017

Public Confidence			
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	
		Number of Complaints about the Police	Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents
43	Complaints received about the Police	47	27.2
		On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
44	Total Allegations Recorded	66	0	14	80

Scottish Crime Recording Standard Quarter 3 & 4 Audit 2016/17 *(not available at Local Authority level but detailed at Divisional and Force level for information purposes)*						
Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Test 1 - Incidents			Test 2 - Recorded Crime		
	Incidents Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	150	6	96.00%	76	6	92.11%
Force	2,193	162	92.61%	1,219	89	92.70%
Details of the methodology for Audit 1 can be found in Appendix A						

Audit 2 - Divisional Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarter 3/4s (October to March)	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	203	21	89.66%
Force	3,435	280	91.85%
Details of the methodology for Audit 2 can be found in Appendix A			

Audit 3 - "No Crime" Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Number of "No Crimes" Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	78	4	94.87%
Force	944	48	94.92%
Details of the methodology for Audit 3 can be found in Appendix A			

APPENDIX "A" - AUDIT METHODOLOGY

Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime

The audit sample was selected from Command and Control incidents over a specific four day

period with initial call types CR-60 to CR-79 within the Crime category, and incidents with initial call types AB-57 Communications, AB-58 Hate Crime, PW-40 Domestic Incident and PW-76 Child Protection. The incident sample selected for audit ensured, working to a 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of ⁺/-3%, that the sample audited was statistically representative of all incidents of this type recorded during the four day audit period. A formula was applied to the total number of incidents per Command Area and apportioned out between Divisions in that Command Area in order to obtain sample sizes. These were subject to a minimum of 150 and a maximum of 300 per Division.

Compliance in each of the two Tests is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

The audit tested:

Test 1 – Crime Related Incidents
- That incidents initially inferring a crime or apparent criminal activity and closed as a non-crime contained a satisfactory narrative to eliminate any inference of criminality and fully justify a non-crime disposal.
- That each incident clearly indicated a crime or non-crime as a disposal on the incident text.
- Where an incident was closed as a crime, the corresponding crime record was traced.

Test 2 – Recorded Crime
- The correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit.

Audit 2 - Recording of Specific Crime Types (Divisional Crime Audit)

To ensure that a number of different areas of crime recording are represented by Audit 2, samples were obtained from the following categories:

- Assault (Common Assault only)
- Group 1 Crime (Crimes of violence)
- Group 2 Crime (Sexual offences)
- Group 3 Crime (Crimes of dishonesty)
- Group 4 Crime (Damage to property)
- Other Crimes from Groups 5, 6 and 7

While not as statistically representative of all records within the audit period as Audit 1, the sample sizes in Audit 2 were weighted to take into account higher volumes of crime being recorded in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 100 records and a maximum of 300 records.

The audit tested the correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit. Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

Audit 3 - Crime Records Reclassified to "No Crime"

The third principle of SCRS states "once recorded, a crime will remain recorded unless there is credible evidence to disprove that a crime had occurred".

The audit tested the correct application of this principle in respect of recorded crime which was reclassified to "No Crime" following Police enquiry into the reported circumstances. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime reclassified incorrectly was counted as having failed the audit.

The sample sizes in Audit 3 were weighted to take into account the higher number of records reclassified to "No Crime" in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 50 and a maximum of 100.

Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

In order to allow Divisions a reasonable period of time to ensure that records are complete and compliant with SCRS, audits are generally undertaken once a period of three months from the date of the incident/crime has elapsed. Any record incomplete at the time of audit will be audited based on the information available at the time.