



Keeping People Safe in Inverclyde

Our Purpose:- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



Overall, Group 1 Crimes of Violence have increased by 24 crimes to a total of 107, with attempted murders and serious assaults both rising by eight.

There were no murders or culpable homicides in the reporting period - three fewer victims than the same period last year.

449 fewer disorder complaints (-16.6%)

There have been 489 recorded common assaults (75 fewer victims) - down 9.7% on the previous year. 71 assaults targeted police officers, with 11 further assaults on other emergency workers. 22 police assaults occurred while the offender was in custody.



The rate of overall violence per 10k population in Inverclyde is 74.3 - below the national average of 89.2. Meanwhile, the detection rate for crimes of violence is 63.3%, compared to a national position of 69.3%. Nearly half of all recorded serious assaults in Inverclyde involved uncooperative/hostile complainers or witnesses. In Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Division, there has only been one Taser

Acquisitive Crime



Shoplifting has increased 30.2% to a total of 341 crimes - 79 more than last year. Food and grocery thefts are up 67%.



Housebreaking crimes (inc attempts) - have fallen by 29.9% (53 fewer crimes). 72% of HBs targeted dwelling houses.

While the majority of categories of crimes of dishonesty have fallen considerably on the previous year, an increase in fraud (+83%) has offset this decrease to a degree, resulting in an overall decrease of 0.3 percent in acquisitive crimes (three fewer crimes) Online credit/debit card fraud and automated checkout fraud continue to be



There have been three reported bogus workmen crimes - the same volume as the previous year. Tactics used by suspects included posing as utilities workers to gain access to properties and steal from within, and charging complainers for construction work which was thereafter not completed.

Inverclyde

Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020)

Reporting Period: 1 April - 31 December 2018

Public Protection

Reported sexual crimes have increased slightly on the previous year, to a total of 143 - two more than 2017/18. In Inverclyde, 18.1 sexual crimes were reported per 10k population, slightly below the national rate (18.5).

57% of sexual crimes involved victims aged 15 years or less at the time of the offence, with a significant proportion (44%) of these crimes involving non-recent reporting. Nearly a third of all sexual offences were cyber-enabled.



1,222 adult / child concern Vulnerable Person forms in the current year - down 7.6% on the same period last year.

644 domestic abuse incidents have been recorded, down 8.7% on the previous year. 42.1% of these incidents resulted in a crime report being raised - a decrease on the 47% conversion rate recorded last year. Meanwhile, of the total 16,669 recorded police incidents, there were 552 public safety incidents (one more than last year).

21 complaints have been received in relation to the Police within Inverclyde (12.6 complaints per 10,000 incidents). A total of 28 allegations have been made.

74% of sexual offences occurred in dwelling houses and other private settings, with open spaces featuring in only 15% of sexual crimes. Meanwhile, 43% of reports were non-recent in nature.

The detection rate for sexual crime is 42% - down from the 45.4% recorded last year.

150 missing person incidents have been reported year-to-date - up from 138 the previous year. 31% of all incidents related to the top five repeat missing persons. Neil Street Children's Unit was the most common location for people to go missing from.

Major Crime & Terrorism



59 individuals linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested in Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Division. In addition, £807,434.82 has been seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

There have been 58 drug supply charges raised year-to-date, three more than the previous year. Cannabis was involved 50% of supply charges, while cocaine and crack cocaine featured in 28%, a notable increase on the previous year

There have been 14 confirmed drug - related deaths between April and December 2018 with two further suspected drugs deaths (awaiting toxicology results). Etizolam and methadone featured in the majority of the confirmed drug deaths.



Cyber-enabled crime continues to be an issue, with 35 crimes year-to-date having a 'cybercrime' marker applied (up from 21 last year). Recent crimes threatening to disclose private sexual images and recordings, indecent communications and online credit card fraud.

Road Safety & Road Crime



No road fatalities were recorded in the period April - December 2018. This represents three fewer road deaths than the previous year. Meanwhile, serious road injuries increased by four to a total of 11, while slight injuries fell to 53 (33 fewer than last year).



While offences relating to motor vehicles have fallen 18.4% on the previous year, proactive road policing has contributed to an increase in license and insurance offences, in addition to dangerous and disqualified driving offences.

POPULATION

Respected

Wellbeing Matters - Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division has recently recruited 4 more officers to become wellbeing champions to help support and deliver on the organisation wide wellbeing initiative. Future planned activity includes a Wellbeing Day in March bringing together advisors for health, finance and social support, better resourcing the quiet rooms in each of our offices and free health checks for staff.

Organisational Improvement - Contact Assessment Model - As society changes, the demand on our service is changing with more than 80 per cent of the calls we receive not related to crime. In order to meet this evolving need, Police Scotland are introducing a new Contact Assessment Model (CAM) which will empower frontline staff to make dynamic assessment of threat, risk and harm at first point of contact providing greater focus on individual caller needs and potential vulnerability. CAM will commence in early spring within Lanarkshire Division with Renfrewshire and Inverclyde planned towards the end of 2019. In January 2019 local elected members visited our Contact Command and Control Division at Govan where senior officers explained the changes and provided a tour of the facility.

Police Scotland National Recruitment Campaign - Police Scotland have recently launched a recruitment campaign for police officers. Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division is keen to support local residents who are considering applying and are offering opportunities to talk to local officers for advice on the role and recruitment process.

Supporting the New Scots Families in Inverclyde - Since 2015, local officers have been regularly involved in supporting the New Scots Families who have settled in Inverclyde through both the Afghan and Syrian Refugee Schemes.

In partnership with HSCP, The Trust, Your Voice and Magic Torch, our Safer Communities team recently supported Project 22 which is a youth led programme for refugee children and young people exploring integration and topics like children's rights and hate crime. The young people developed an interactive comic referencing these themes which can be used as a resource for future families. Aileen Campbell MSP the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government recently recognised this as an outstanding project.

Police Scotland Youth Hub - Police Scotland has launched its first dedicated internet page and social media channel dedicated to the children and young people of Scotland. The new platforms are a result of feedback from national consultation with young people who requested better access to information and modern ways to communicate with police.

Counter Terrorism Awareness - In November 2018 the youths at PSV Inverclyde received a presentation from the Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer. The ACT For Youth presentation, designed by National Counter Terrorism Police, is designed to teach 11-16 year olds how to act in the unlikely event they are caught in a gun or knife attack. The 'ACT For Youth' campaign reinvents the successful 'Run, Hide, Tell' public information films for a new generation. While the chances of being caught up in a terrorist incident remain rare, it is important to be prepared and know how to protect yourself if the need arises.

Partnership Training Opportunities - Officer in Inverclyde are being offered a range of opportunities to increase their knowledge on changing legislation and the roles of other agencies which will better enable them to provide a more efficient service to the public. The Procurator Fiscal and Victim Support Inverclyde have recently provided inputs on their roles and expectations to all officers which generated positive discussion and additional referrals for victims. The neighbourhood officers and local partners have been trained on the No Knives Better Lives and Serious and Organised Crime toolkits aimed at educating young people to make informed choices. Both of these training packages are endorsed by the Scottish Government and help deliver on the national strategy.

Safe

Festive Campaign - Thanks to the co-operation of our local communities, the festive period was one of the quietest for several years. Officers and police staff were still extremely busy however both violent and acquisitive crime was down on the same period last year which was welcomed. Proactive engagement with licensed premises with increased visits and high visibility patrols all contributed to the reduction in crime and helped make it a safer and more enjoyable time for people.

We did receive some reports around antisocial behaviour in areas of Gourrock mainly attributed to a small number of youths. This included damage to two police vehicles whilst officers were dealing with the complaints which has a detrimental effect on our ability to respond to calls whilst these are being repaired. We continue to work with partners to address this issue to safeguard young people and keep communities free from this type of behaviour.

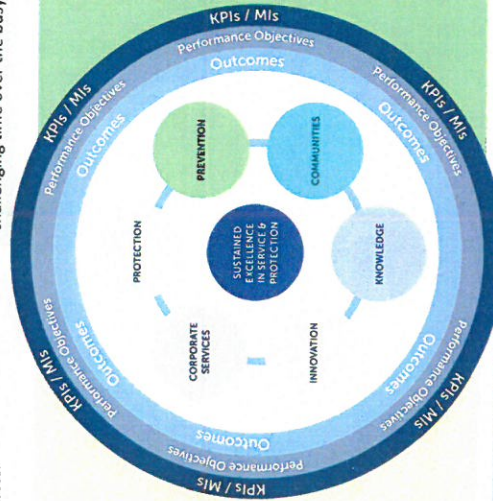
Multi Agency Partnership Incident Response - Officers were called to an ongoing large scale fire at a local furniture shop within Greenock Town Centre. Liaison with SFRS colleagues quickly established the extent of the fire and the requirement to ensure an effective and co-ordinated joint response including the evacuation of neighbouring properties and organising road closures to protect local residents. Officers worked with SFRS, Inverclyde Council and other agencies to facilitate this whilst keeping residents and the wider community updated on developments. The swift and co-ordinated response of all attending agencies at a challenging time over the busy festive period helped ensure public safety and minimise disruption to businesses.

Road Safety Awareness - Local officers together with Roads Policing colleagues have carried out a series of engagement and enforcement initiatives over the last few months aimed at raising awareness about various aspects of road safety. This has included a local plan to visit all schools regularly in November to promote safe and considerate parking, high visibility patrols and road checks during the Festive Drink and Drugs campaign and speed checks at various locations throughout Inverclyde. One incident of note resulted in a 60 year old man being charged with careless driving and threatening behaviour when he was observed by two off duty officers causing fear and alarm to school children due to his manner of driving. Use of local and social media has assisted with highlighting the safety messages.

Protecting People at Risk of Harm - Vulnerable Adult - Police and Paramedics responded to a call from a person reporting to have taken ill due to inhaling gas lighter fluid. Medical care was provided and the patient taken to IRH. Checks of the property revealed a large quantity of butane gas canisters which raised concern about the mental health and future wellbeing of the individual. The safety of neighbouring residents was also a consideration. Escalation to housing, SFRS and social work through our Public Protection Hub will ensure all relevant partners are aware and necessary support is offered.

Notable Arrest - Acquisitive Crime - Community impact - Over a two week period Police Scotland received several reports of crimes including a housebreaking, theft of a vehicle and a suspicious person attending at doors in the Gourrock area. Through extensive pro-activity including high visibility and plain clothes patrols, assistance from air and dog units, intelligence gathering and an overwhelming response from the Gourrock community, officers identified, traced and arrested a 24 year old man. He was charged with 6 offences and is currently remanded pending sentencing. Stolen property was recovered and returned to its rightful owner.

Cybercrime Awareness - Cyber dependent and enabled crimes makes up an increasing proportion of the total crime we aim to prevent and investigate. Police Scotland will be supporting the national Safer Internet Day campaign in February through local and social media messages. On a regular basis neighbourhood officers provide age appropriate inputs to schools and youth groups about cyber safety using nationally approved toolkits. Local officers will also be supporting the RBS 'Friends Against Scams' awareness event along with partners in HSCP, Trading Standards and the banking staff to provide information about online and other scams.



Healthy

INEQUALITIES

Achieving

Responsible

Nurtured

ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Active

Included