
Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	3 September 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/64/19/HS
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott Service Manager	Contact No:	01475 715459
Subject:	Community Safety & Resilience Update Report		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Education and Communities Committee on the work and outcomes of the Community Safety & Resilience Team.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Community Safety & Resilience Team is part of the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate.

- 2.2 The team delivers services on a preventative and early intervention basis and has a remit which touches many aspects of public life in Inverclyde:

- The coordination of the Community Safety Partnership;
- The coordination of the Violence Against Women Strategy;
- The coordination of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC);
- The delivery of Community Mediation;
- School Crossing Patrols;
- Road Safety Education;
- Walked Routes to School;
- Sex Offender Liaison Officer;
- Co-ordinated support for Clune Park Regeneration Task Group.

- 2.3 Many aspects of the team's activities are already reported to the Inverclyde Alliance Board and other committees or scrutiny boards. However, this report provides the Education and Communities Committee with a collated update report so that elected members the public are aware of the co-ordinated approach and the successful delivery of services by the Community Safety & Resilience team.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the content of the update report;
- notes the work of the team and its early intervention and preventative focus; and
- agrees that an annual report on the work of the community safety and resilience team is provided to this Committee

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director- Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Safety and Resilience Team, in its current format, was created following the corporate restructure of June 2018, having previously been part of the former Safer & Inclusive Communities Service.
- 4.2 The team co-ordinates, develops and delivers a wide range of services on a preventative and early intervention basis with a remit which touches many aspects of public life in Inverclyde. Its areas of focus include:
- the coordination of the Community Safety Partnership;
 - the coordination of the Violence Against Women Strategy;
 - the coordination of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC);
 - the delivery of community mediation;
 - school crossing patrols;
 - road safety education;
 - walked routes to School;
 - Sex Offender Liaison; and
 - Co-ordinated support for the Clune Park Regeneration Task Group.

5.0 SERVICE DELIVERY

5.1 Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) co-ordinates and scrutinises community safety activities in Inverclyde and reports to the Inverclyde Alliance Board. Delivery of the community safety agenda is undertaken by two coordinating groups: one which focuses on delivery of the Violence Against Women Strategy (see Para 5.2) and one which focuses on delivery of the action plan arising from the Community Safety Strategic Assessment. Both groups have a number of sub-groups which assist in the delivery of partnership activity.

There are three overarching community safety themes – Reducing Violence, Crime and Disorder; Reducing Unintentional Harm; and Promoting Community Resilience. The work of the sub-groups is thematic and directed by the Community Safety Strategic Assessment. The provision of relevant data sets by CSP partners and the subsequent use of analytical expertise by the CSP analyst help the partnership make informed decisions on its priorities.

Current work streams within the CSP include the delivery of an area-based initiative known as “Improving Inverclyde - a Community Safety Initiative” which has been subject to separate reporting to the Inverclyde Alliance Board. Following the expiry of the previous Inverclyde Antisocial Behaviour Strategy, work is being undertaken to publish a new strategy to ensure that Inverclyde Council meets its legal requirements under the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004. This strategy will ensure Inverclyde Council’s and the CSP’s commitment to addressing anti-social behaviour. The CSP has also progressed work around reducing unintentional harm including: home safety initiatives with a focus on fire safety; a water safety reference group; a road safety (schools) working group; large-scale youth gathering action plan; 5th November action plan; information sharing with Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; fire risk training for staff of partner organisations; and development of a Missing Persons Framework.

All CSP initiatives contribute to improving community resilience in addition to the publication of monthly community safety reports and the promotion of campaigns (such as addressing crimes of dishonesty). A community safety communication strategy has been developed to complement the CSP work and to further promote community resilience.

The delivery of a Deliberate Fire Reduction Task Force contributes to community safety aims by reducing opportunities for secondary fires to occur in communal areas.

Inverclyde Council is represented at the Scottish Community Safety Network and makes a significant contribution to the development of regional and national community safety policies.

5.2 Violence Against Women Strategy

The Inverclyde Violence Against Women Strategy (VAW) Multi-Agency Strategy mirrors the priorities of the Scottish Government for the prevention and eradication of violence against women and girls. The 5 year VAW Strategy sets out 4 priorities within its action plan and performance is reported to the Inverclyde Alliance on an annual basis.

The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 came into force on 1 April 2019. The Act covers behaviour that is already criminal as well as elements of domestic abuse which were not covered by the previous law, for example, coercive control. A comprehensive training programme is being delivered to Police Scotland for all 14,000 police staff to improve awareness. In line with changes to the law the VAW Multi Agency Plan has a significant focus on provision of training and information sessions in 2018-2019 to ensure Inverclyde is able to apply the new law effectively to domestic abuse cases in order to get the best outcomes for the victim.

A VAW co-ordinator is also responsible for the local delivery and promotion of national campaigns, such as the 16 Days of Activism and International Women's Day.

Inverclyde Council is represented at the VAW National Network which allows us to make a contribution to the development of regional and national policy.

5.3 Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

MARAC is a process established to respond to victims of domestic abuse who are at very high risk of serious harm and domestic homicide. The structured response to these high risk cases of domestic abuse fits with the priorities of the Violence against Women Multi-Agency Partnership, strategy and action plan. The MARAC process allows statutory and voluntary agencies to respond in a consistent and structured way to manage high risk perpetrators of domestic abuse. It also allows relevant agencies to share information and decide upon the most appropriate way to reduce or manage risks for victims of domestic abuse.

The MARAC links to the multi-agency tasking and coordinating meetings (MATAC), which target repeat domestic abuse perpetrators, those who present the greatest risk of harm to victims and links to the other multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) which are in place to manage risks to particular groups within society. There are also links to the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) which sets out a formal mechanism to provide information to potential victims who may be in a relationship with perpetrators of domestic abuse. MARAC is co-ordinated by the VAW co-ordinator and uses multi-agency working effectively.

5.4 Community Mediation

The accredited Community Mediation service is delivered by trained mediators who can help neighbours find practical solutions to resolve disputes across a wide range of issues. Mediation is confidential and impartial and the early use of mediation can resolve an issue before it escalates and requires intensive intervention from a range of agencies or services. Table 5.4a highlights the referral routes for mediation from local agencies and from people within the community (self-referrals). Table 5.4b shows the type of disputes referred to the mediation service, highlighting a broad range of issues where mediation can assist in resolving disputes. Information sessions have been held with a range of agencies and with elected members to raise awareness of the service.

Table 5.4a referral routes for mediation

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
ASSIST	7	14	15	11	5
Oak Tree HA	3	5	7	8	7
River Clyde Homes	5	7	3	2	8
Police Scotland	1	2	4	4	8
Environmental Health	11	7	4	5	11
Self-referrals	5	6	7	9	13
Others*	0	3	3	3	2
TOTAL	32	44	43	42	54

(Table 5.4a)

* comprises of Larkfield HA, Cloch HA, Elected members and 3rd sector agencies

Table 5.4b Types of disputes

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Noise	14	14	16	14	24
ASB	4	4	4	12	5
Boundary/Property	7	15	15	12	19
Children's Behaviour	5	8	7	1	2
Other	2	3	1	3	4
TOTAL	32	44	43	42	54

(Table 5.4b)

5.5 School Crossing Patrols

The School Crossing Patrol (SXP) Service is delivered at 35 sites across Inverclyde to ensure that primary school children have a safer place to cross the road. The policy for provision of SXP points utilises guidance from Road Safety GB and uses clear, calculable criteria and a two-stage assessment process for the assessment and allocation of SXP provision. The service is currently staffed by 34 permanent and 10 sessional employees, with emergency cover provided by Council enforcement officers and Community Wardens as and when required.

Inverclyde Council's Road Safety Officers have delivered CPD Training to other local authorities to ensure that appropriate standards are maintained in the delivery of SXP Services across the Road Safety West of Scotland area.

5.6 Road Safety Education

The educational and practical elements of our road safety programme are focused primarily for delivery in our pre-school and primary school establishments. In secondary schools our road safety programmes have a pre-driver focus. The engineering element of road safety work is located within our roads service, which is a shared service with West Dunbartonshire Council.

Our Road Safety (Schools) Working Group comprises road safety officers, roads engineers, property services manager, education/school transport co-ordinator, traffic enforcement officers and Police Scotland (local officers and RPU Officers) who meet on an 8 weekly basis to discuss local issues, agree required actions and implement those actions. Our road safety officers have previously been invited to attend the Police Scotland divisional road safety meeting, which maintained a link between local and regional/divisional road safety priorities and actions of Police Scotland and Inverclyde Council.

Inverclyde Council has recently become Chair of Road Safety West of Scotland for 2019-2021. The partnership is chaired by Councillor Curley as the Council's nominated representative to the partnership. The partnership is focused on the development and promotion of road safety campaigns, the sharing and promotion of best practice, continuing professional development for road safety staff and securing value for money through bulk purchasing of both resources and training.

Table 5.6a below summarises our road safety education delivery programme for 2019/20. The table illustrates the target audience; identifies the source information which evidences the need for action and is subsequently used to monitor improvement; and, sets out the positive health and wellbeing outcomes we expect to achieve.

Table 5.6a road safety education delivery programme

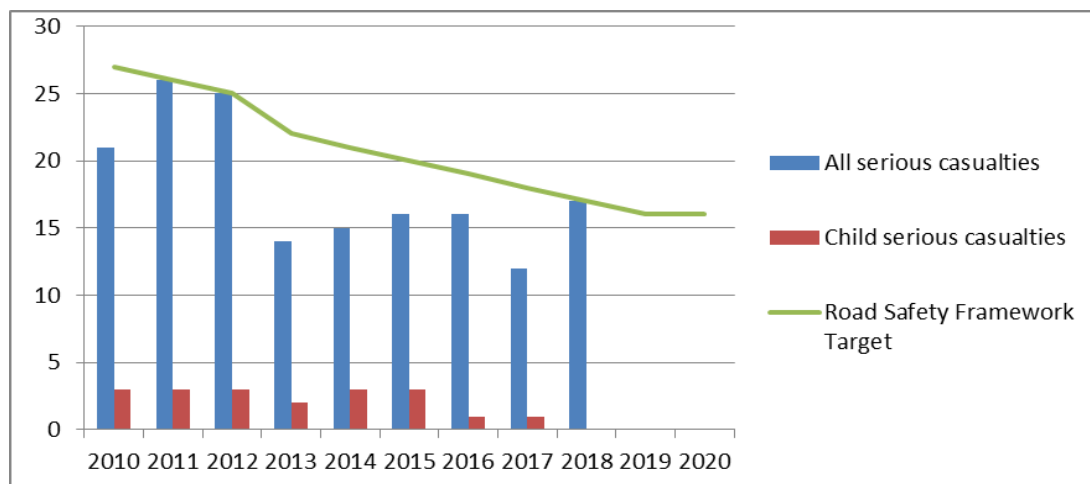
Programme/Plan	Evidence	Health and wellbeing Outcome/Aim
Road Safety Promotion – Ziggy (pre-school to P2)	Road Accident Statistics	Improving child and parental awareness
Traffic Trails – supported walks (pre-school and primary)	Local identified need	Improving child and parental awareness and JRSO involvement
Play on Pedals	Active Travel Strategy & Hands Up Scotland survey	Starting physical activity early
Walking Bus	Road Accident Statistics, Active Travel Strategy & Hands Up Scotland survey	Encouraging physical activity and supporting school attendance
Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs)	Road Accident Statistics	Supporting ambassadorial peer promotion
Bikeability	Active Travel Strategy & Hands Up Scotland survey	Encouraging physical activity and improving on-road confidence
Pre-driver awareness	Road Accident Statistics	Encouraging safe attitudes and practices in driving
Pass Plus	Road Accident Statistics	Supporting additional young driver skills
Promotion of national initiatives	Active Travel Strategy & Hands Up Scotland survey	Encouraging physical activity
In car safety checks	Local identified need	Minimising risk of injury
Road Safety West of Scotland Forum	Road Accident Statistics	Influencing national and regional road safety policy
RSWoS Education, Training and Publicity Group	Road Accident Statistics	Promotion and delivery of policy and programmes. Sharing of regional and national good practice
Road Safety Scotland - Theatre Programme	Road Accidents Statistics	Delivery of alternative routes to learning and increased awareness
Road Safety Scotland – Educational resources	Road Accidents Statistics	Post-school promotion of road safety messages
Cycling Scotland – Educational resources	Active Travel Strategy & Hands Up Scotland survey	Post-school promotion of cycling activities and take-up of cycling

(Table 5.6a)

The delivery of the road safety educational programme makes significant contribution towards our 10 year national road safety framework targets 2010-20 and graphs 5.6b and 5.6c show our performance against targets as at 31 December 2018.

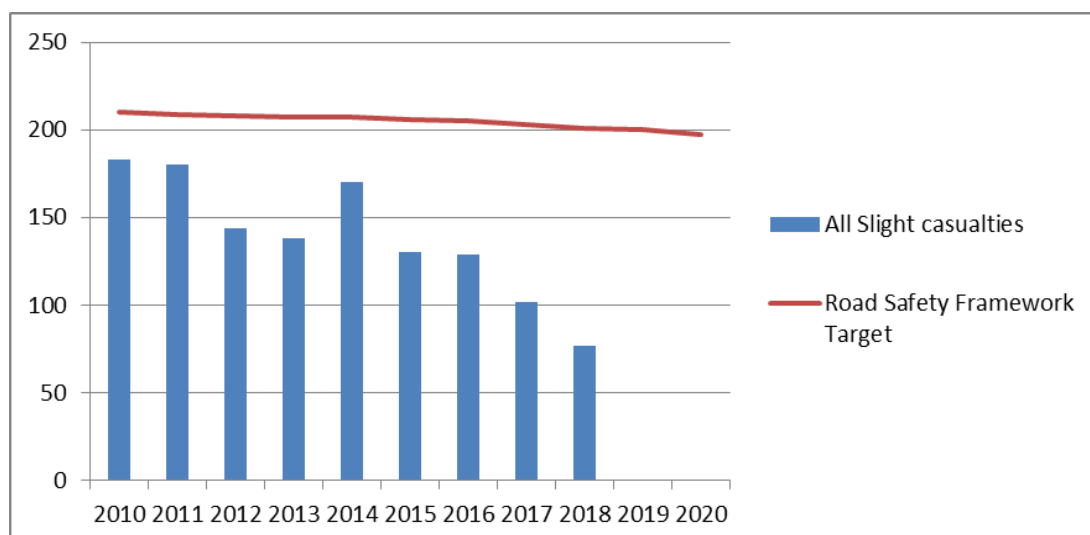
The charts below have been published by Police Scotland and presented to the Road Safety West of Scotland.

Road Traffic Collision Casualties; All Serious and Child Serious: Inverclyde Council Area



(chart 5.6b)

Road Traffic Collision Casualties; All Slight: Inverclyde Council Area



(chart 5.6c) Source: Police Scotland, RSWoS Report, December 2018

As the charts illustrate, we are meeting our national road safety framework targets. We will continue to direct our resources towards early intervention and preventative strategies to maintain this performance.

5.7 Walked Routes to School

The assessment of walked routes to school utilises the Road Safety West of Scotland Guidelines to determine whether or not a route is an acceptable walking route to school. There are three core elements in determining whether or not a route is acceptable and we use quantifiable criteria to determine this acceptability.

The routes are assessed on the basis that children will be accompanied by a responsible adult and that reasonable caution and basic road safety rules will be followed by people using the route. This procedure is in line with Scottish Government guidelines.

Assessments are conducted at a time when children would normally be making the journey and seasonal weather considerations are based on 'normal conditions'.

5.8 Sex Offender Liaison Officer

Senior officers within the community safety and resilience team have responsibility for the development and implementation of appropriate policies, procedures and systems to support

delivery of our statutory obligations and duties in rehousing sex offenders. Officers ensure that measures for public protection and the reduction of serious harm are in place under the multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA)

Liaison and consultation with key partners, including the MAPPA co-ordinator, Police Scotland's Offender Management Unit, Criminal Justice Social Work, Homelessness and local registered social landlords are undertaken as part of an ongoing risk management process for the rehousing of sex offenders within the community.

5.9 Clune Park Regeneration

The regeneration of Clune Park is the Council's primary housing-led regeneration project. The Team Leader of the Community Safety & Resilience Team provides administrative and co-ordinated support for the Clune Park Task Group. This cross-directorate arrangement makes best use of existing specialised knowledge and resources. All updates are provided to the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

6.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With effect from	Annual net impact £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

5.2 Legal

There are no legal implications.

5.3 Human Resources

This report does not impact on Human Resources.

5.4 Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES	
X	NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

5.5 Repopulation

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 There are no background papers.