



Keeping People Safe in Inverclyde

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

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



Group 1 Crimes of Violence have increased by 18 crimes to a total of 91, with serious assaults being the main reason for this increase. The 5 year average for Gp 1 crimes is 66.2.

There was one murder or culpable homicide in the reporting period, which is one up on the same period last year.

150 fewer disorder complaints (-8.1%)

There have been 360 recorded common assaults (37 more victims) - up 11.5% on the previous year. 67 assaults targeted police officers, with 10 further assaults on other emergency workers. Twelve police assaults occurred while the offender was in custody. The 5 year average for common assaults is 314.6



The rate of overall violence per 10k population in Inverclyde remains below the national average rate of 61.1%. The detection rate for crimes of serious violence is 70.8%, compared to a national position of 68.8%. One third of all recorded serious assaults in Inverclyde involved uncooperative/hostile complainers or witnesses.

Acquisitive Crime



Shoplifting has increased 27.9% to a total of 257 crimes - 56 more than last year. Food, alcohol and grocery thefts are up 30%.



Housebreaking crimes (inc attempts) - have increased by 5.7% (5 more crimes). 75% of HBs targeted dwelling houses.

Other categories of crimes of dishonesty have remained broadly similar to the previous year. However opening lockfast vehicles are up from 14 to 24 crimes (+74%), countered by a 39% reduction in theft of motor vehicles.



There have been five reported door step crimes - two more than the same period the previous year. Tactics used by suspects are predominately posing as utilities workers to gain access to properties and steal from within, or bogus workmen or roofers.

Inverclyde

Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020)

Reporting Period: 1 April 2019- 30 Sept 2019

Public Protection

Reported sexual crimes have decreased on the previous year, to a total of 81 - seven fewer than the 2018 period.

The rate of recorded sexual crime per 10k population remains below the national average.

46% of sexual crimes involved victims aged 15 years or less at the time of the offence, with 65% of these crimes involving non-recent reporting. 20% of all sexual offences were cyber-enabled.

Rape and attempted rape are also on the decline – down from 19 to 15 crimes (-21.1%)

Meanwhile, 48% of all sexual reports were non-recent in nature.

The current detection rate for sexual crime is 37.0% - up from the 33.0% recorded last year.

79 missing person incidents have been reported within Inverclyde only, with 30.3% of all incidents involving Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC). 69.6% of all missing person incidents across Inverclyde involved children aged 10-19 years.

1,006 adult / child concern Vulnerable Person forms in the current year - up by nearly 1% on the same period last year.

496 domestic incidents have been recorded, up 16.2% on the previous year. 46.4% of these incidents resulted in a crime report being raised - an increase on the 39.8% conversion rate recorded last year. Meanwhile, of the total 11,403 recorded police incidents, there were 398 public safety incidents (86 less than last year).

Total of 28 complaints have been received in relation to the Police within Inverclyde (24.3 complaints per 10,000 incidents). A total of 45 allegations have been made; of which 13 related to quality of service.

Major Crime & Terrorism



56 individuals linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested in Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. Divisionally £155,873.08 has been seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

There have been 31 drug supply charges raised year-to-date, three less than year previous. Cocaine was involved in 54% of drug supply charges observed during the reporting period, followed by cannabis (35%) and heroin (10%).

There have been 6 confirmed drug - related deaths, with 14 further suspected drugs deaths (awaiting toxicology results). Etizolam continues to feature in the majority of the confirmed drug deaths.



Cyber-enabled crime continues to be an issue, with 92 crimes over the year having a 'cybercrime' marker applied (up from 22 last year). 25% of crimes in 2019/20 related to threatening communications.

Road Safety & Road Crime



There has been one road fatality recorded in the period covered. This represents one more road death than the previous year. Meanwhile, serious road injuries have increased by one to a total of 11, while slight injuries also increased – up to 40 (nine more than last year).



Overall, offences relating to vehicles are down 26.0% on the previous year, particularly speeding (-37.2%), dangerous driving (-41.2%) and Insurance (-38.3%). However, proactive road policing has contributed to an increase in disqualified driving charges (+25.0%).

POPULATION

Brexit - As part of Police Scotland's preparations for Brexit, a number of officers have been deployed as force reserves to manage large scale events. Locally the services of the Brexit teams have been secured on a number of occasions whereby they provide local officers with assistance for Warrant enquiries, Anti-social behaviour and public reassurance patrols throughout Inverclyde. These additional resources have proved invaluable in assisting in a number of occasions.

Gender Neutral Headwear - Police Scotland officers are now permitted to wear police issue 'baseball' caps after requests to allow gender-neutral headwear. The baseball style caps have been widely used by specialist officers for a number of years and other UK forces have adopted them as a non-gendered option. The decision is in line with commitment to support an inclusive workforce and organisation.

Drug Driving - Road policing officers are now using roadside screening testing drivers at the roadside using one of two Home Office type approved devices. Both use saliva samples, and test for Cannabis (THC) and Cocaine only. A positive roadside test empowers officers to arrest a suspected drug driver and make a requirement to provide blood, without contacting a doctor.

Mobile working - Final stages of training for the first officers in Inverclyde to be fully operational using the new Mobile digital notebooks. Mobile Working will enable officers to work in a more flexible way by providing the ability to access national systems and processes whilst on duty and reduce the need to return to stations. This allows officers to be more visible within communities, have access to comprehensive information to assist with critical information whilst dealing with incidents and will increase officer productivity by reducing rekeying and repetition of information.

Work Experience - A number of young adults from Inverclyde schools took part in a work experience program for one week. This provides the future generation of Police officers a unique and invaluable insight to modern policing. The program allowed them to get involved in a number of activities across a wide variety of Policing departments including C3 Contact & Command Centre, Helicopter, Public Order, Mounted Unit, Dog branch and Greenock Sheriff Court where they got to listen to a live criminal trial. Pupils were also shown how to preserve and examine crime scenes and how to take fingerprints and shoe prints for examination.

Stranger Danger - As part of Police engagement within schools in Inverclyde, Local Community Officers have been conducting 'Stranger Danger' inputs to primary pupils to raise awareness of the risks of speaking to strangers and how to keep themselves safe. Community Police engagement has also been recognised during a recent HMI School Inspection which demonstrates our continued engagement within Inverclyde communities.

Notable Arrests - Officers observed a group of males consuming alcohol within Bubbly Jock Brae, West Stewart Street in Greenock. On speaking to one of the males he ran from officers resulting in a foot chase whereby he discarded a knife which was recovered shortly after. As a result a 19 year old male was arrested for a number of alleged offences including being in possession of a knife and held in custody to appear at court, currently awaiting trial.

Protecting People at Risk of Harm - Police responded to a report of a female having jumped into the water at East India harbour. A Co-ordinated response was undertaken from Police, Coastguard, Scottish fire and rescue and Ambulance. Police were able to keep the female above water using throw lines and with assistance from Coastguard the female was rescued and treated by ambulance crews and thereafter taken to hospital for medical assessment.

Multi Agency Partnership Working - Responding to complaints of groups gathering on West Stewart & Kiblain Street in Greenock engaged in Anti-social behaviour. Police conducted additional patrols to detect and deter Anti-social behaviour and have made a number of arrests for various offences. While the behaviour of some are criminal it was recognised that many of the individuals have addiction issues and are isolated within the community using this area as a social gathering spot. In partnership with Your Voice, Inverclyde Council and HSCP a pilot was setup to facilitate community space within IZone to offer a place for people attend, socialise in a safe environment and engage with services to help them into recovery.

No Knives better Lives - As part of Health & Wellbeing strategy and in order to address concerns regarding the perceived increase in Knife crime, both nationally and locally, Campus officers delivered a number of 'No Knives Better Lives' interactive workshops to S2 / S3 pupils across all secondary Schools in Inverclyde. The aim of these inputs is to highlight the dangers and ramifications of carrying knives and the devastation knife crime can have on individuals, families and communities.

Road Safety Awareness - Local and Road Policing officers working in partnership with DVSA enforcement conducted a day of action in Inverclyde to target vehicles without appropriate documentation or unsafe due to defects. As a result over 40 vehicles were stopped and inspected with four offences detected, four vehicles with defects sent for rectification, two vehicles prohibited and two vehicles issued with delayed prohibitions.

Drugs and Weapons Recovery - Pro-active officers observed suspicious activity from three males in a vehicle on Meams street in Greenock. Due to the nature of the activity Police detained the males for search under Misuse of Drug legislation. A search of the males, vehicle and subsequent search of a house under warrant recovered a large quantity of substances believed to be Cocaine and white tablets with an estimated street values of approx. £4,500 and cash to the value of over £5,000. As a result three males aged 18, 19 and 37 were arrested for various alleged Misuse of Drug offences and offensive weapon charges and held custody for Greenock Sheriff court, currently awaiting trial.

