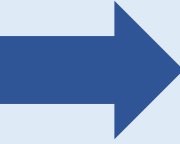


# Keeping People Safe in Inverclyde

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

## Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



Group 1 crimes of violence have decreased by 28.3% to a total of 38. One fewer attempted murder, seven fewer serious assaults (n=23) and two fewer robberies (n=6) were recorded. The detection rate for serious assaults is 78.3% - down 1.7 percentage points on the previous year; while the robbery detection rate increased from 50% to 66.7%.

**Decrease in recorded serious and minor violence.**

Since April 2020, 339 crimes have been identified via police proactivity, an increase of 12.6% on the previous year. This includes weapons carrying and drug offences.

There have been 162 recorded common assaults, a decrease of 17.8% (35 fewer crimes) compared to the previous year. 51 (31%) of these crimes assaults targeted emergency workers. These crimes are most commonly perpetrated against police officers.

14 firearms crimes have been recorded – a decrease of 22.2% on the previous year. The current detection rate is 28.6%, up from 11.1% in the previous year. Half of these crimes involved motor vehicles being set alight, with dwelling house letterboxes also commonly being targeted. Meanwhile, reports of disorder increased by 75.8%, with many incidents relating to perceived or actual breaches of COVID-19 restrictions.

## Acquisitive Crime



**Shoplifting fell by 3.2% to a total of 121 crimes on the previous year – though remaining above the five year average.** Housebreaking crimes (inc attempts) increased by 20% to a total of 48 crimes. 63% of HBs targeted dwelling houses.

Motor vehicle crime increased by 14.7% on the previous year to a total of 39 crimes, with the majority of crimes being thefts from insecure vehicles. The detection rate is 64.1%, considerably above the previous year's detection rate (29.4%).



No bogus crimes have been recorded in the reporting period in Inverclyde.

## Inverclyde

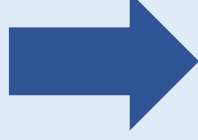
### Local Policing Plan (2020 – 2023)

**Reporting Period: 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020**

#### Public Protection

Reported sexual crimes decreased by 35% on the previous year, to a total of 26 crimes. This is also below the five year average (n=33.4 crimes). The detection rate for sexual crimes is 61.5%, up from 40% in the previous year.

Recorded rape and attempted rape fell from seven crimes in the previous year, to five in the current (-28.6%). The detection rate increased from 14.3% to 60%.



**31% of sexual crimes recorded in the reporting period were against young people (aged under 16 years at the time of the offence).**

31% of sexual crimes were non-recent, with many of these crimes relating to offences against young people. Approximately half of all sexual offences were cyber-enabled to some degree.



There were 16 missing person reports in Inverclyde, down from 41 in the previous year. A quarter of incidents involved a limited number of individuals who went missing on more than one occasion. Young people aged 10 to 19 continue to account for the highest proportion of missing people. The vast majority of missing people were traced in under 24 hours.

234 domestic abuse incidents have been recorded, down by 5.6% on the previous year. These incidents resulted in 119 domestic crimes and offences being recorded – 26.1% below the previous year's volume.

**There were 13 complaints about police during the reporting period. This equates to 21.8 complaints per 10,000 police incidents.**

## Major Crime & Terrorism



Targeting serious organised crime (SOC) continues to be a priority for the division. The Division continues to manage three serious organised crime groups, one of which predominantly impacts on Inverclyde.

**YTD 12 detections of drug supply, production and cultivation offences have been recorded, down from 22 in the previous year.**



There have been 19 suspected drug related deaths (DRDs) in the reporting period (pending toxicology results). This compares to eight confirmed and two suspected DRDs in the same period last year. Drugs commonly suspected to be involved in deaths included Valium, cocaine and heroin.

49 crimes have been designated as 'cyber-crimes' via application of the relevant cyber-crime marker in Inverclyde, compared to 40 in the same period last year. Recent cyber-crimes include fraudulent online applications for universal credit using victims' details; phishing emails inducing complainers to make payments to fraudulent accounts; possession and distribution of indecent images of children; and indecent online communications with children.



## Road Safety & Road Crime



No road fatalities have been recorded year-to-date, while the number of people seriously injured halved on the previous year (n=4). Slight injuries also fell considerably, with a total of three – 24 fewer than the previous year. None of the serious road injuries involved children.



**Overall, offences relating to vehicles increased by 5.3% on the previous year, to a total of 256. This incorporated an increase in speeding offences, licence offences, and insurance offences. Meanwhile, drink and drug driving offences fell by 13.3% to a total of 13.**

**Not Part of the Job – August** - Chief Constable Iain Livingstone QPM has outlined his commitment to reduce the impact of violence and improve the safety of officers and staff in a new pledge. The Chief has made it clear that violence against officers and staff is utterly unacceptable and should never be seen as simply part of the job. Lord Advocate James Wolfe QC and Cabinet Secretary for Justice Humza Yousaf have both supported the pledge, which also calls on the public and partners to support our policing effort. The Lord Advocate has made clear that offending against police officers will be prosecuted rigorously.

This message coincided with an incident whereby local officers were pelted by stones and assaulted by a group of youths in Port Glasgow. Of note, Inverclyde officers have recorded three incidents whereby Police officers were subjected to being coughed on or spat at by people claiming to have COVID. All were held in custody and later remanded.

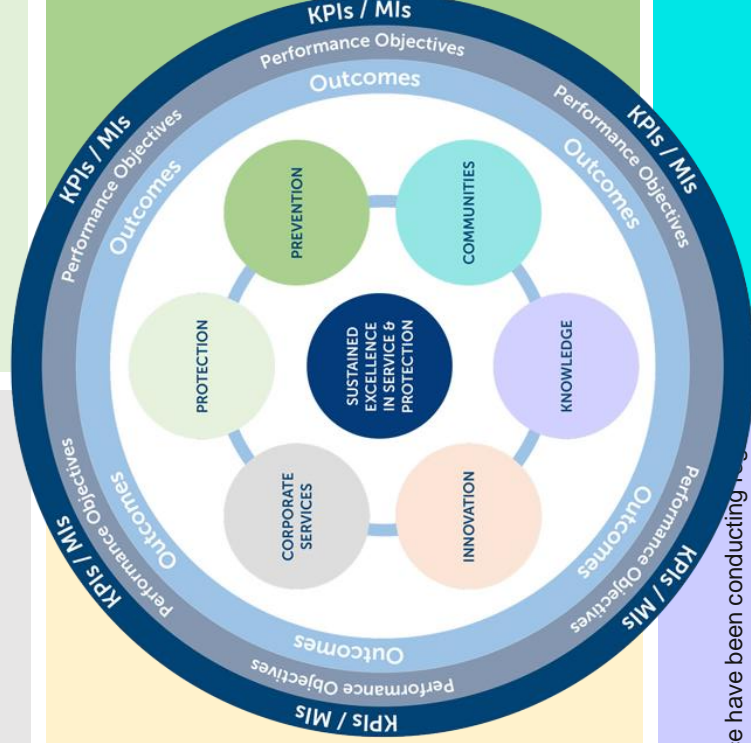
**Virtual Courts** – Due to impact of COVID-19 on the criminal justice system and to ensure critical business continued to operate safely, a newly devised virtual court process was implemented at a number of Police custody suites including Greenock. All of these suites have been fitted with video link capabilities so that individuals deemed at risk of COVID-19, who are due to appear in court, can do so virtually. In addition to this, Police Scotland have also been running a trial whereby all overnight custody cases, which would have previously been held at court the following day, have been held virtually whether COVID-19 or non-COVID-19.

This move will help limit prisoner movements and reduce potential exposure and infection risks to others. Moreover, it improves capacity within the court system which has been constrained due to the backlogs which have built up during the pandemic. It also supports the ongoing physical distancing restrictions within court buildings which are likely to remain for some time to come.

**Licensing – COVID-19** – Since the easing of lockdown restrictions to licenced premises, Police have been conducting patrols to ensure both premises and patrons are acting responsibly and that all reasonable measures are being implemented to limit the spread of Coronavirus. Police Scotland have been taking a measured approach to the guidance by Engaging, Explaining, Encouraging and, as a last resort, Enforcement (if officers are faced with non-compliance). Officers in Inverclyde have conducted over 200 licence premises visits since restrictions were eased for beer gardens on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The majority of premises visited were grateful for Police attendance and were aware of the restrictions imposed and complying as required.

Of note, the licence holder for the premises operating as Cheers Public House in Greenock continued to ignore the requests by Scottish Government and Police by remaining open on Saturday 21st March. As a result a number of widely publicised disorder incidents occurred. On Sunday 22nd March 2020, the Licence holder once again refused to close the premises and was subsequently served with an emergency closure order by Police Scotland.

Due to the above, a comprehensive premises review was submitted to Inverclyde Licensing Board for consideration. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions the Board agreed to hold the first ever virtual Licensing Board hearing which found the licensee to not be a fit and proper person to hold a premises licence and with immediate effect the licence for Cheers Public House was revoked.



**9 Warrants 9 days** – Police executed 9 warrants in 9 days in June in an effort to tackle drugs and serious crime. The co-ordinated string of raids were the result of information coming directly from members of the public. A combination of uniformed, covert and specially trained officers were utilised to target the properties. Specifically a number of addresses on Ann Street in Greenock were targeted due to on-going community concerns raised around drug dealing, anti-social behaviour and violence. Two persons were arrested and charged for drug dealing offences.

**Safeguarding Young people** – As we entered Phase 2 of Lockdown restrictions, Police responded to a significant increase in disorder and Anti-Social behaviour incidents at a number of locations throughout Inverclyde attributed to large gatherings of young people. It was understandable that young people were frustrated with lockdown, however the behaviour was unacceptable with COVID-19 still posing a risk to our community. As part of a co-ordinated approach a number of multi-agency action plans were conducted throughout Inverclyde to mitigate and prevent further instances. Both local and social media outlets were utilised to highlight the issues and help raise awareness to parents and guardians of the dangers posed to their young people, including the #DoYouKnow campaign on Twitter.

Police have seen a reduction in reports of ASB / Disorder associated with young people gathering over the past few weeks due to the pro-active approach taken.

**Vehicle ASBO initiative** – Acting on concerns raised by our communities, local Police and Road Policing Officers have been investigating a number of complaints regarding motorists who are using their vehicles in an Anti-social manner at various locations in Inverclyde. Some of the issues include excessive engine revving, speeding in a car parks and wheel spinning.

Police have been working with partners and the community to help gather as much evidence as possible to allow us to utilise Anti-social behaviour legislation to deal with offences attributed to these motorists.

To date, Police have issued 3 Anti-Social Behaviour warning notices against both the drivers and cars involved. Any repeat offence by either the driver or involving the same cars in 12 months gives Police power to impound the vehicle at the owner's expense.

**Bogus Worker** – On 1st August 2020, Police were contacted regarding a report of a bogus worker who had attended at a vulnerable elderly female's address on Sir Michael Street in Greenock. The suspect requested money to fix the door which had nothing wrong with it. The male was disturbed when a carer arrived and challenged him. The male made off however officers were given a good description and were able to make an arrest for this wicked and despicable incident. The suspect has been released pending trial.

## INEQUALITIES

### Empowered Residents

## Nurtured (Children & Young People

### ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Independent (Older People)

Have your say ! - Your View Counts - <https://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/Police/Views>