

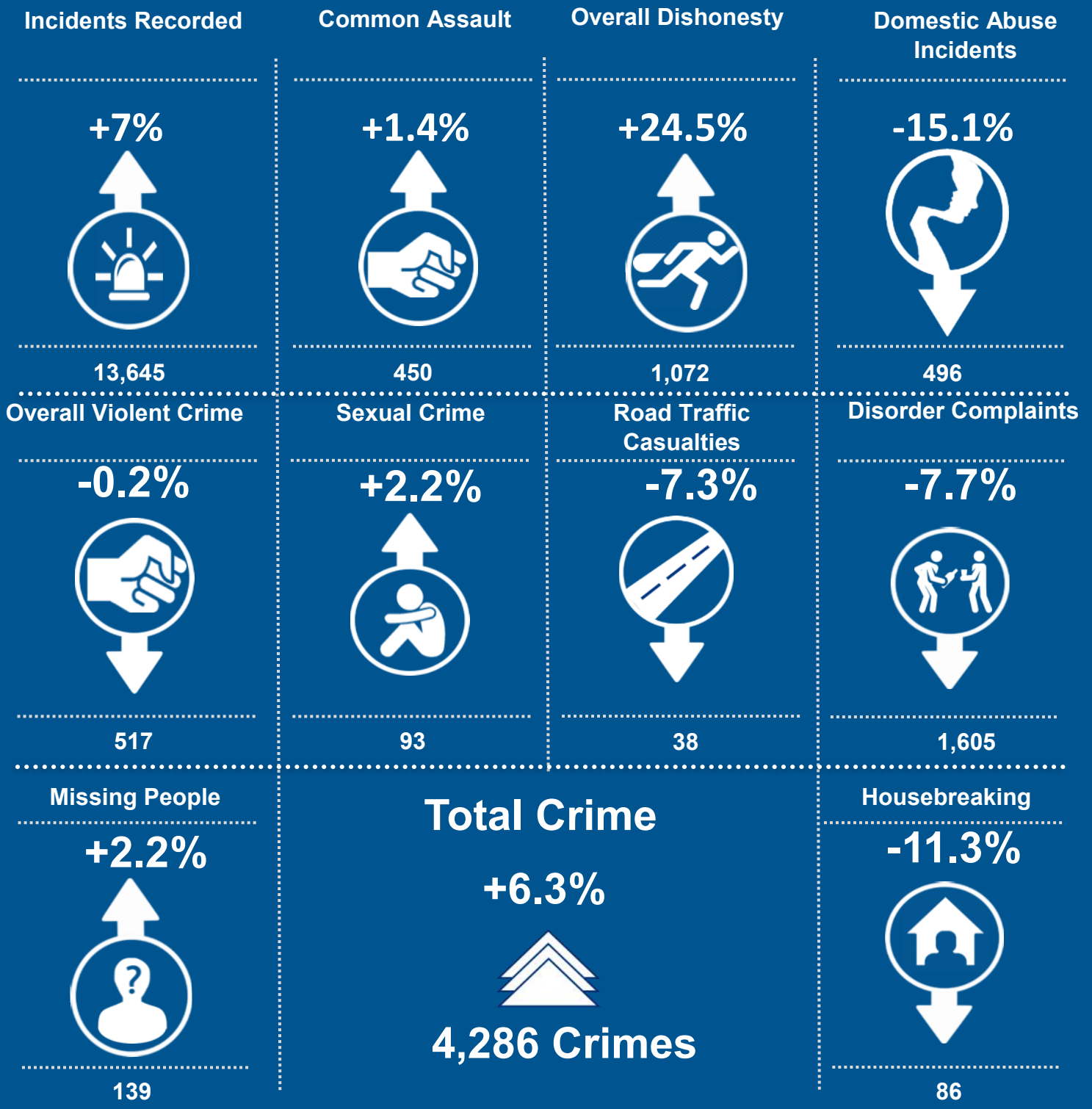


POLICE SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Inverclyde Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/23 - 30/11/23

Unless otherwise stated, all data provided is for the period 1 April 2023 - 30 November 2023, and all comparisons are made with the same period in 2022. All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as of 13 December 2023.



Overall Violent Crime

Sexual Crime

Road Traffic Casualties

Disorder Complaints

Missing People

Housebreaking

Inverclyde Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: 1 April 2023 to 30 November 2023







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Introduction

I am pleased to present this report to the Police Fire and Rescue Committee for its information and consideration. Please note that all data included in this report are management information and not official statistics. All data are sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as of date of publication. Unless stated otherwise, numerical comparisons are against the comparable period in the preceding reporting year.

Chief Superintendent Gordon McCreadie
Local Policing Commander
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division

INVERCLYDE POLICING PRIORITIES 2023/26

PRIORITY	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
 <p>VIOLENCE, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR</p>	<p>In addition to falling by 0.2% as compared to the same period in 2022, the rate of violent crime in Inverclyde (66.5 crimes per 10k population) is below the national average rate. Serious violent crimes in particular fell by nearly ten percent on the previous year. The detection rate is 67.7%, close to the national rate of 69.5%.</p>
 <p>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</p>	<p>Recorded sexual crimes have increased by 2.2% on the previous year, though the rate of these crimes per 10k population in Inverclyde remains below the national average. Almost 31% of these crimes involved non-recent reporting and approximately 40% of crimes were classed as 'non-contact' (including cyber-enabled crimes such as the sending of indecent images). Meanwhile, missing persons reports have increased slightly (+3) to a total of 139, with many of these incidents relating to Looked After and Accommodated Children. There is ongoing liaison with residential units and hospitals to provide advice and guidance into missing persons.</p>
 <p>ACQUISITIVE AND CYBER / DIGITAL CRIME</p>	<p>Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by nearly a quarter to a total of 1,072 crimes in Inverclyde. Nationally, recorded acquisitive crime is also on the rise. Collectively, theft by shoplifting, common theft and fraud accounted for nearly 80% acquisitive crimes. The detection rate for crimes of dishonesty in Inverclyde is 42.4%, compared to the national rate of 32.2%. The Partnerships, Preventions and Interventions Unit continue to engage with local businesses to tackle the issue of acquisitive crime.</p>
 <p>ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME</p>	<p>Overall, road casualties have fallen by three, to a total of 38. There have been no road deaths in the current reporting period, and serious road injuries fell from 18 to 12 year-on-year. Meanwhile, proactivity by Inverclyde officers and the Road Policing Unit has contributed to a rise of 6.2% in recorded road traffic offences.</p>

POLICE SCOTLAND'S POLICING PRIORITIES 2023/24

Protecting vulnerable people

Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division continues to support a multi-agency approach to reduce drug deaths, to engage with Scottish Government and stakeholders to influence approaches to supporting individuals with complex mental health needs, and to work in partnership to develop local effective and efficient pathways to support vulnerable people.

Tackling crime in the digital age

Police in Inverclyde continue to benefit from the support of specialised Police Scotland units such as the Cybercrime Unit and the Economic Crime and Financial Investigation Unit, amongst others. There are continued efforts to ensure our Officers have the training, resources and equipment needed to tackle the threat arising from cyber related criminality and technological advancement.

Working with communities

The Division continues to support this Police Scotland priority and to develop strategic partnerships to find synergy in policy making and shared resources. Police in Inverclyde recognise the importance of engaging with communities to understand their needs, and strive to support innovation in local partnership settings.

Support for operational policing

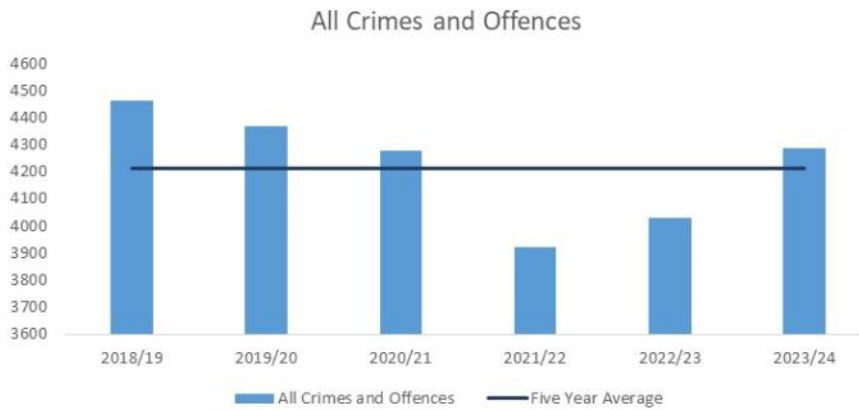
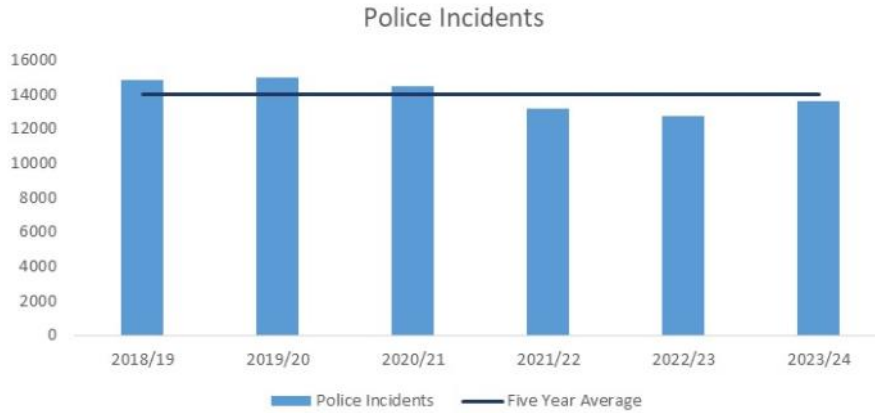
Inverclyde Police continue to link in closely with Police Scotland's Corporate Services who enable and support operational resources to deliver against the strategic priorities and their outcomes. As part of the Digitally-Enabled Policing Programme, migration to new national Core Operational Systems has led to increased efficiency and deployability of local Police Officers, allowing them to more effectively serve Inverclyde's communities.

DEMAND ANALYSIS

PYTD - PREVIOUS YEAR TO DATE

CYTD - CURRENT YEAR TO DATE

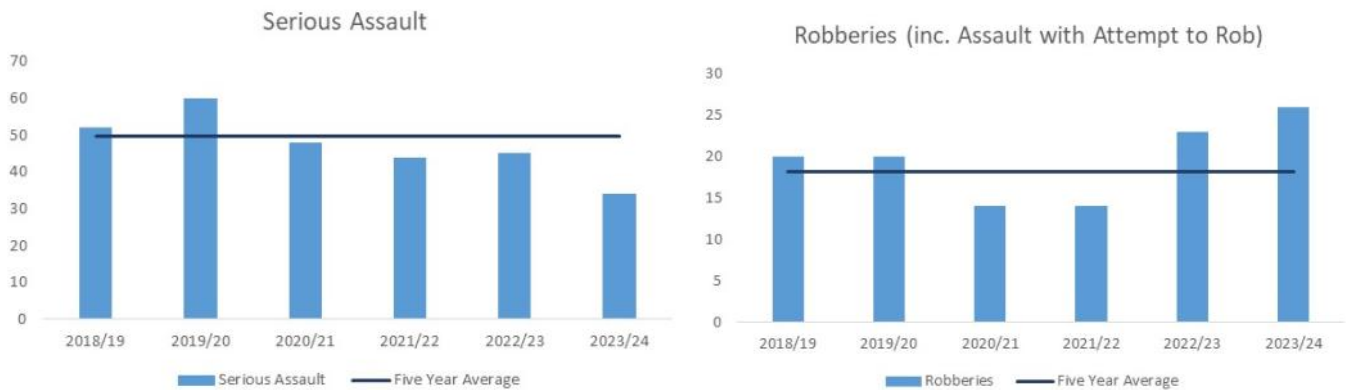
CRIME	PYTD	CYTD	INCIDENTS	PYTD	CYTD
Total Crimes & Offences	4,031	4,286	Total number of incidents	12,749	13,645



The volume of recorded crime and offences in Inverclyde has increased by 6.3%. This is in line with the national picture, with crime figures rising by a similar margin on last year. The overall crime rate in Inverclyde of approximately 551 crimes per 10,000 population remains below the national crime rate of roughly 603 crimes per 10k. Within Inverclyde, the overall rise in recorded crime and offences has been driven by an increase in Group 1 crimes of serious violence, Group 2 sexual crimes, Group 3 crimes of dishonesty (e.g. theft, shoplifting, fraud), Group 5 crimes of proactivity (e.g. drug possession and supply, weapon carrying offences), and Group 7 road traffic offences (e.g. speeding, license offences). Meanwhile, Group 4 crimes of malicious mischief (e.g. vandalism, fire-raising, reckless conduct) and Group 6 miscellaneous offences (e.g. common assault, breach of the peace) have fallen slightly on last year's figures. The overall detection rate for crimes and offences in Inverclyde is 63.8%, close to the national average of 64.3%.

Meanwhile, recorded police incidents have increased by seven percent on the previous year. Although part of this rise can be attributed to an increased in silent/discarded 999 calls (caused by a rise in accidental 999 dials resulting from software updates to some smart devices), there are also indications of a continually growing and evolving demand on Police in Inverclyde, with a rise in crime incidents and external agency requests. This increasing pressure on Police Scotland from other agencies, most of which is non-criminal in nature may be reflective of reduced budgets in other agencies, displacing demand on police and reducing officer time for patrol duties.

VIOLENCE, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DISORDER



Violence

Violent crimes have fallen by 0.2% compared to the same period in 2022, with serious violent crimes in particular decreasing by nearly ten percent on the previous year. In addition, the rate of violent crime in Inverclyde (66.5 crimes per 10,000 population) is below the national average rate (79.6 crimes per 10k). The detection rate is 67.7%, close to the national rate of 69.5%. Approximately 54% of reported violent crimes in Inverclyde occurred in private spaces such as dwelling houses and flats. Violence occurring in private spaces tends to be associated with unique challenges to Police, with limited investigative opportunities (witnesses, CCTV etc) and fewer opportunities for prevention. Whilst this is challenging, particularly in respect of Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls, officers are trained to identify other investigative opportunities where possible.

Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

The number of complaints relating to disorder in Inverclyde fell by 7.7%, to a total of 1,605 incidents. Disorder and ASB is the main focus of the Inverclyde Partnership Hub. This is a police led multi-agency approach to tackling day to day incidents and crimes and seeks to work with both statutory and third sector organisations. While one additional crime of wilful fire raising has been recorded in the reporting period compared to the previous year, crimes of malicious mischief (a category including vandalism, fire raising and reckless conduct) have fallen slightly on 2022/23 figures. During the period such crimes have included open ground where grass fires have been lit, bin fires and derelict properties. The Multi-Agency Fire Raising Group chaired by the Partnerships and Preventions Superintendent including SFRS, Inverclyde Councils ASM team and housing agencies has an established structure which looks at longer term planning and prevention to prevent and detect wilful fires. Community Policing Officers assisted by officers from the Partnerships and Preventions Team have delivered a number of inputs across Inverclyde schools including “No Knives, Better Lives” and have also met with local community groups to tackle specific ASB issues.

Hate Crime

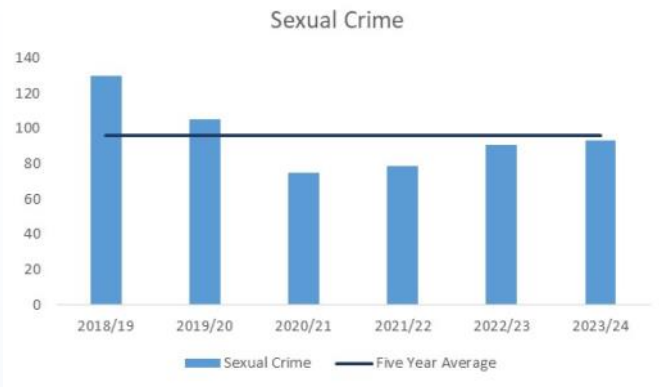
39 hate incidents were reported, with a total of 30 hate crimes subsequently being recorded in the current reporting year. Recorded hate crimes have decreased by approximately 23% on the previous year. A considerable proportion of recorded hate crimes in Inverclyde related to Police Officers being targeted during the course of their duties in relation to actual or perceived protected characteristics. Over half of recorded hate crimes in the reporting period were racial in nature, with hate crimes targeting victims on the basis of other protected characteristics (sexual orientation, transgender identity, religion/belief, and disability) featuring less commonly.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Sexual Crime

93 sexual crimes have been recorded in Inverclyde in the reporting period, an increase of 2.2% on the previous year - in line with the increase recorded at a national level in the same period. However, the rate per 10,000 population in relation to sexual crime in Inverclyde (12 crimes per 10,000 population) remains lower than the national average crime rate. Nearly 31% of sexual crimes in the current year involved non-recent reporting. There are specific challenges associated with the investigation and detection of non-recent sexual crimes, due to the passage of time

and resulting loss of various forensic opportunities. Approximately 41% of sexual crimes recorded in the current year related to non-contact offences - many of these being cyber-enabled sexual offences, including Indecent communications and sharing of intimate images without consent. The detection rate for sexual crimes is 65.6%, considerably above the previous year's rate of 49.5%.



Missing People

In the period April to November, 139 missing person reports have been recorded in Inverclyde, a rise of three reports compared to same period in 2022. All missing people were traced alive, with over 91% being traced within two days of first being reported missing. Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) featured in over a third of missing person incidents, with incidents involving LAAC also rising by over three times the number recorded last year. Repeat missing persons continue to be an issue of concern (particularly in relation to Looked After and Accommodated Children). In the reporting period, over 11,000 officer hours have been spent investigating missing person incidents in Inverclyde.

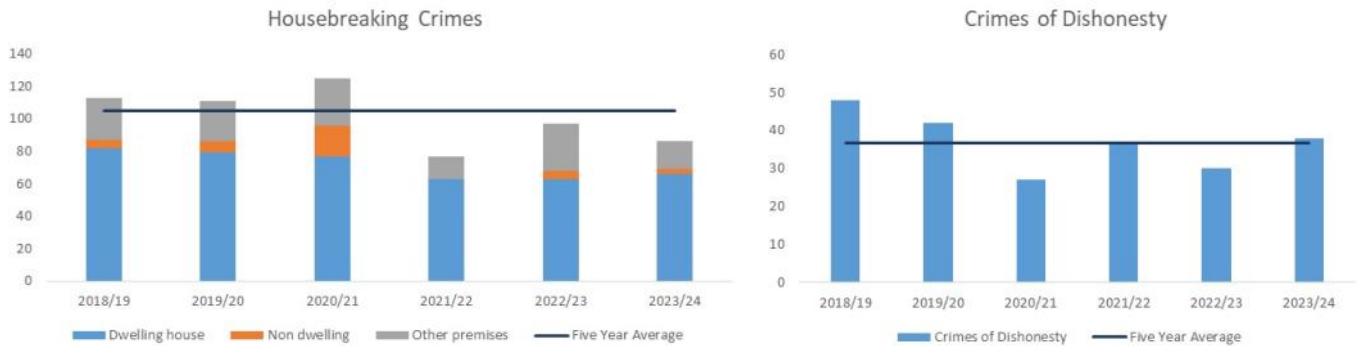
Domestic Abuse

Victims of domestic abuse remain one of Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division's top priorities. While research strongly suggests that domestic abuse continues to be significantly under-reported, Police in Inverclyde continue to work with a range of partners to instil confidence in victims to report abuse to the Police and to continually improve our service to all victims of domestic abuse. Recorded domestic abuse incidents in Inverclyde decreased by 15.1% on the previous year, to a total of 496. 44.4% of all recorded incidents resulted in a crime being recorded. The detection rate for domestic crime decreased by 2.5 percentage points on the previous year, to 74.4% in the reporting period.

Drug Related Deaths

Eight suspected and five confirmed drugs related deaths occurred in Inverclyde in the reporting period. While toxicology results are awaited in relation to the suspected drug related deaths, analysis of confirmed drug deaths identified that while drugs such as cocaine, heroin and Etizolam continue to commonly feature. Police in Inverclyde continue to work alongside a range of partners to tackle drug related harms, with the vast majority of frontline officers now carrying Naloxone and being able to intervene in life threatening situations. Other initiatives include the delivery of educational inputs to schools by local officers and continued proactivity relating to the supply and distribution of illicit drugs within Inverclyde's communities.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME



Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by nearly a quarter to a total of 1,072 crimes in Inverclyde. Nationally, recorded acquisitive crime is also on the rise. 445 theft by shoplifting crimes were recorded - a rise of 32.7% compared to the previous year. Common theft also constituted a large proportion of overall crimes of dishonesty, with 261 crimes - an increase of 14% on the same period in 2022. Recorded crimes of fraud also increased by over 50% on the previous year, to a total of 146. The detection rate for crimes of dishonesty in Inverclyde is 42.4%, compared to the national rate of 32.2%. Meanwhile, the number of housebreaking crimes has fallen by over 11% on the previous year, while the detection rate is 19.8%, a slight rise on last year's rate (19.6%).


The Partnerships, Preventions and Interventions Unit along with Community Policing Team officers continue to engage with local businesses to tackle the issue of acquisitive crime. Exclusion zones continue to be utilised as a tactic to deter the most prolific repeat shoplifters in Inverclyde along with the Radiolink system in Port Glasgow and Greenock. Officers from Community Policing have been working with 'Retailers Against Crime' to develop intelligence gathering opportunities and crime prevention techniques. Officers have been working with local retailers to tackle the issues and have held information sessions in both the Oak Mall and Tesco in Port Glasgow where they interacted with members of the public during a Retail Crime Day of Engagement to give advice on fraud, theft and online safety. Officers from the Violence Reduction Unit were brought into the retail centres to support Community Officers in tackling acquisitive crime. Community Officers also ran community events at the Oak Mall in relation to 'shut out scammers'.

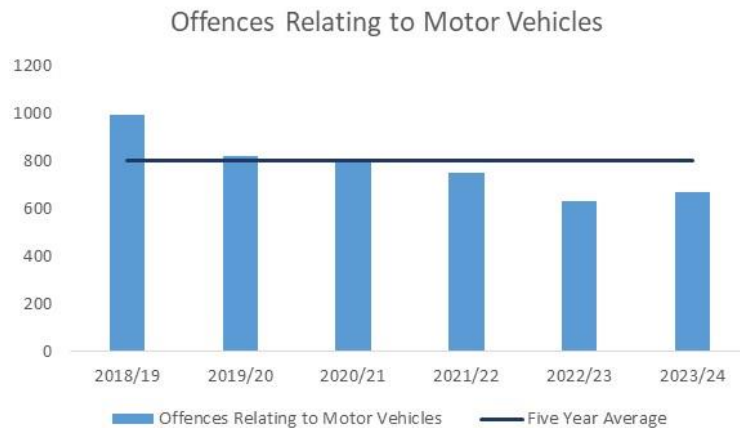
CYBER & DIGITAL CRIME

Cyber-enabled crime continues to impact on the communities of Inverclyde, with analysis indicating that cyber-enabled frauds constitute half of all recorded cybercrimes in Inverclyde. Other cyber-enabled crimes impacting on the communities of Inverclyde include threatening and abusive posts/messages, sexual extortion and indecent communications with children.

Police in Inverclyde continue to engage with the public to raise awareness of online scams and to methods to stay safe online. Officers from the Partnerships and Preventions Team and the Community Policing Team have been visiting secondary schools throughout Inverclyde to provide inputs to school children on Social Media, Sexual Behaviour and Online Safety / Cyber Bullying and Cyber Harm inputs. Inverclyde has had support from national teams in terms of social media and online safety campaigns.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME

Road Traffic Casualties		2022/23	2023/24
	Number of persons killed on our roads	1	0
	Number of persons seriously injured	18	12
	Number of persons slightly injured	22	26
	Number of children seriously injured	3	0
Road Traffic Data from 01/04/2023 to 30/11/2023			



Overall, road casualties have fallen by three, to a total of 38. There have been no road deaths in the current reporting period (compared to one in the same period last year); serious road injuries fell from 18 to 12 year-on-year; and slight injuries increased from 22 to 26.

Meanwhile, proactivity by Inverclyde officers and the Road Policing Unit has contributed to a rise of 6.2% in recorded road traffic offences, as compared to last year’s figures. An increase has been noted in the number of various recorded road traffic offences, including (but not limited to) licence, insurance, mobile phone and seat belt offences.

Inverclyde Police in Partnership with Inverclyde Council continue to promote the initiative which resulted in a ‘Parking Buddy’ being delivered to each Primary School in the area in order to make motorists think about their actions when driving and parking around school zones which should result in more awareness of the safety of children on the roads near to schools.

Officers from the Community Policing Teams have also been delivering targeted inputs to Inverclyde schools regarding road safety.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE: COMPLAINTS & USER SATISFACTION

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE

From 01/04/2023 - 30/09/2023

Table: Complaints and allegations received in the Inverclyde Council area, by period (Apr – Sept) ¹

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
Inverclyde Council	51	37	37.8%	69	62	11.3%

¹ . Data is based on the case received date.

Table: Allegations received in the Inverclyde Council area, by category, type and period (Apr – Sept) ¹

Allegation Category and Type	PYTD	YTD	% change
On Duty - TOTAL	35	47	34.3%
Assault	6	5	-16.7%
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	0	-100.0%
Excessive Force	6	1	-83.3%
Incivility	10	8	-20.0%
Irregularity in Procedure	10	24	140.0%
Neglect of Duty	0	3	x
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	0	1	x
Other - Criminal	2	2	0.0%
Other - Non Criminal	0	1	x
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	0	2	x
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	27	22	-18.5%
Policy/Procedure	5	6	20.0%
Service Delivery	8	4	-50.0%
Service Outcome	14	12	-14.3%
Grand Total	62	69	11.3%

¹ . Data is based on the case received date.

In the period April to September 2023, a total of 51 complaint cases and 69 allegations have been received in Inverclyde in the reporting period. 47 allegations were 'On Duty' with a further 22 relating to quality service.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

From 01/04/2023 - 30/11/2023

76% of respondents to the 'Your Police' survey reported that they felt safe in their local area, compared to the national figure of 78.5%. 39.4% agreed, or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the Police in their local area (national figure - 34.2%). 29.7% of Inverclyde respondents felt that the police were doing a good job in the local area (nationally, 25.1% of respondents felt this way).

Thematic analysis of local issues which reportedly are causing residents concern in Inverclyde identified that drug misuse and drug supply are a common source of worry, with other issues including youth disorder, road traffic concerns such as speeding and dangerous driving. Within Inverclyde, there is ongoing road safety enforcement and deterrent activity supported by Road Policing officers. Proactive drug enforcement by local officers continues to be delivered, supported by the Division's Serious Organised Crime Team and Support Unit personnel.

LOCAL POLICING PRIORITY OUTCOMES – CASE STUDIES

The Partnership Team have ongoing work to review missing person incidents and provide continued training and daily liaison with partners to improve process, communication and reduce demand amongst services. All Local Authority and most of the private children's houses have all been given training on the Not at home and Philomena procedure.

We also carried out an extensive piece of engagement working in partnership with SFRS to deliver Fire Safety inputs to high schools in Inverclyde, where we discussed the dangers of fireworks, fire raising and the consequences along with reporting lines.

Police in Inverclyde also delivered inputs focusing on financial harm and suicide prevention. We worked with Virgin Money to raise awareness of banking scams with customers, and we supported a Rugby Wellbeing day organised by St Columbas in Kilmacolm.

Police in Inverclyde participated in the '16 days of activism to eliminate violence against women and girls' campaign which ran between 25 November and 10 December. This campaign included activities designed to raise awareness of the of gender-based violence, promoting, proactively targeting offenders and operational activity to prevent abuse and keep people safe.

FORTHCOMING INITIATIVES

We are arranging to deliver the Hate Crime/Third Party Reporting Training to staff of partner agencies throughout Inverclyde, to raise awareness of hate crime and enable staff to report incidents online that they become aware of, through their roles working with service users.

We are rolling out training for the Partners Intelligence Portal (PIP) where partners can access an electronic system and input intelligence that gets sent straight to our National Intelligence Bureau.

Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division's Partnerships, Preventions and Interventions Unit will continue to liaise with residential units and hospitals to provide advice and guidance into missing persons. The Philomena protocol - a scheme that asks carers to identify children and young people who are at risk of going missing, and to record vital information about them that can be used to help find them quickly and safely - is now in place in each residential unit in Inverclyde.