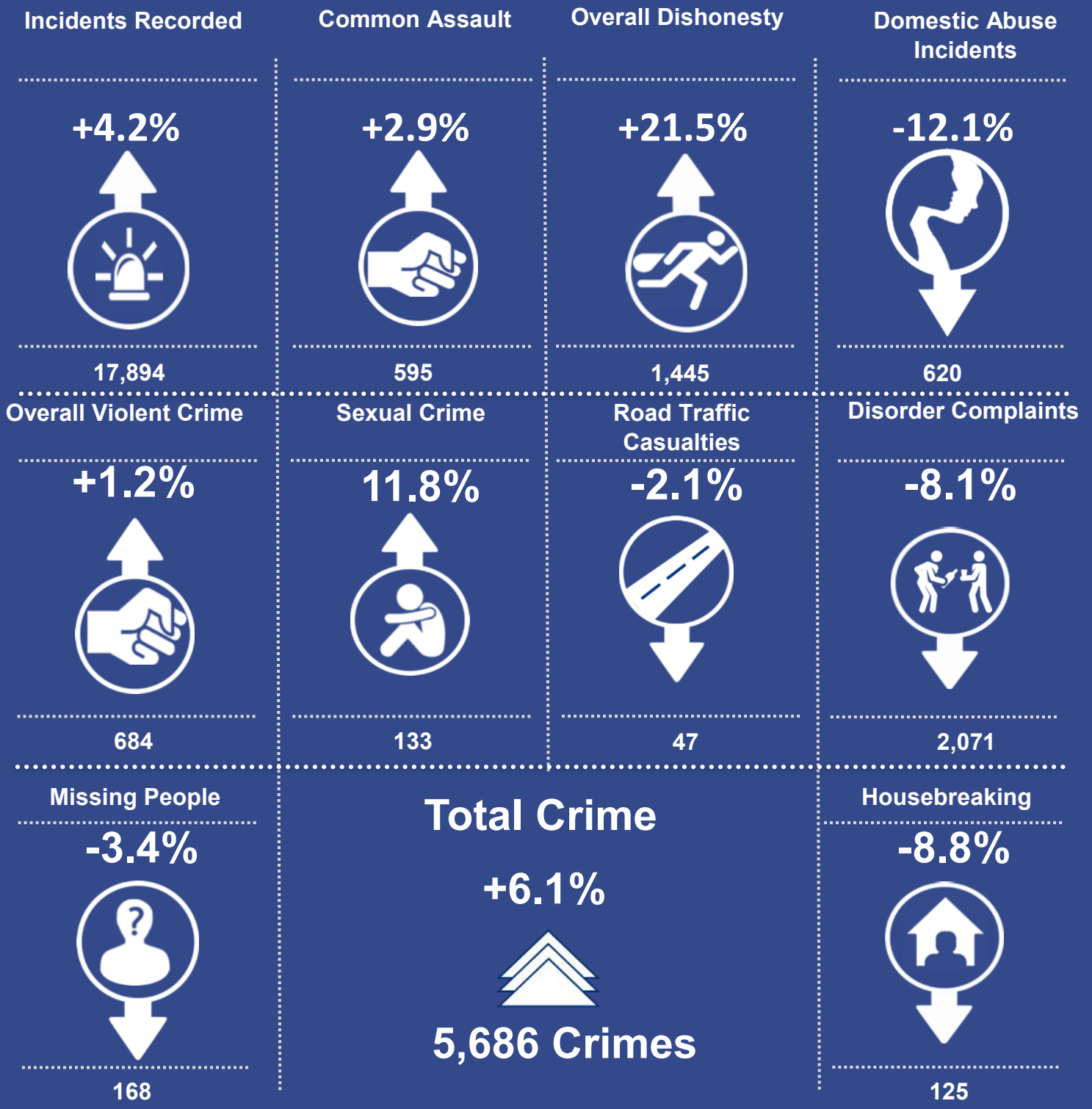




Inverclyde Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/23 - 29/02/24

Unless otherwise stated, all data provided is for the period 1 April 2023 - 29 February 2024, and all comparisons are made with the same period in 2022/23. 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 19 March 2024.





Inverclyde

Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 1 April 2023 to 29 February 2024





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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 - 2026

PRIORITY	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
 <p>VIOLENCE, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR</p>	<p>While recorded violent crimes have increased by 1.2% compared to the same period in 2022/23, there were fewer recorded crimes of serious violence. The rate of overall violent crime per 10,000 population also remains below the national average. More than half of all recorded crimes of violence in Inverclyde in the reporting period occurred within private dwellings. Public reported incidents of antisocial behaviour, and recorded Group 4 crimes of malicious mischief (e.g. vandalism) have fallen on last year's figures.</p>
 <p>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</p>	<p>Recorded sexual crimes have increased by nearly 12% on the previous year. Over a quarter of these crimes were non-recent in nature and more than half involved non-contact offences. Cyber-enabled sexual crimes also constitute a significant proportion of recorded crimes, including crimes such as possession of indecent images of children and indecent communications. Meanwhile, the total number of missing person incidents and the actual number of people going missing - have both fallen on the previous year. Recorded domestic incidents, and domestic crime incidents have fallen by 12.1% and 14.4% respectively.</p>
 <p>ACQUISITIVE AND CYBER / DIGITAL CRIME</p>	<p>Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by 21.5% on the previous year, driven in particular by an increase in recorded shoplifting and fraud crimes. An ever evolving cyber-fraud threat landscape continues to pose key challenges for prevention and detection. Meanwhile, housebreaking crimes have fallen by nearly nine percent on the previous year. We continue to engage with local businesses to tackle the issue of acquisitive crime.</p>
 <p>ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME</p>	<p>There have been no road deaths in the reporting period. Proactivity by Inverclyde officers, with support from the Road Policing Unit, has contributed to a rise of nearly seven percent in recorded road traffic offences.</p>

POLICE SCOTLAND'S POLICING PRIORITIES 2023 - 2026

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 including Cybercrime, Economic Crime & Financial Investigation, Public Protection investigations 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

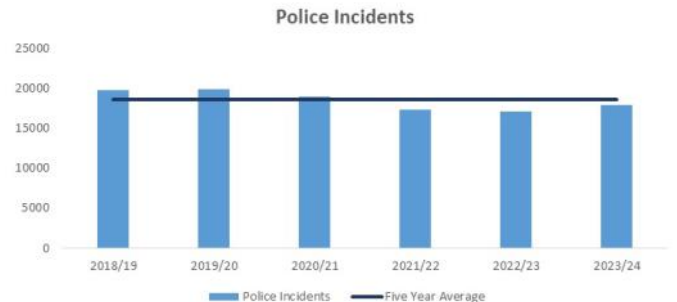
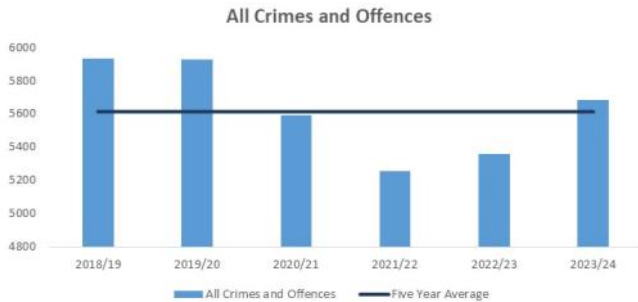
Inverclyde Police continue to link in closely with Police Scotland's Corporate Services who enable and support operational resources to deliver against the strategic priorities and their outcomes. As part of the Digitally-Enabled Policing Programme, migration to new national Core Operational Systems 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

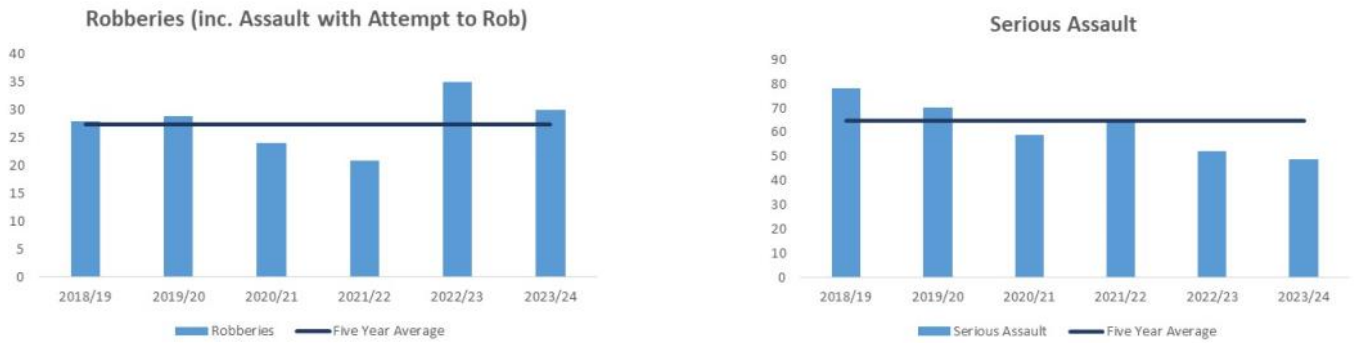
CRIME	PYTD	CYTD	INCIDENTS	PYTD	CYTD
Total Crimes & Offences	5,360	5,686	Total number of incidents	17,168	17,894



Year on year, recorded crime and offences in Inverclyde have increased by 6.1%. 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 730.8 crimes per 10,000 population remains below the national crime rate of 796 crimes per 10k. Within Inverclyde, the overall rise in recorded crime and offences has been driven by an increase in Group 2 sexual crimes, Group 3 crimes of dishonesty (e.g. theft, shoplifting, fraud), Group 6 miscellaneous offences (e.g. common assault, threatening and abusive behaviour) and Group 7 road traffic offences (e.g. speeding, license offences). Meanwhile, Group 1, Group 4 and Group 5 crimes have fallen slightly on last year's figures. The overall detection rate for crimes and offences in Inverclyde is 64.5%, a decrease on the previous year's rate (71.1%).

Meanwhile, recorded police incidents have increased by just over four percent on the previous year, with approximately 17% of recorded incidents resulting in a crime being recorded. 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. including rises in certain crime incidents (including thefts and assaults) and external agency requests. We continue to work closely with partner agencies to ensure the implementation of the most appropriate and proportionate Police response to identified issues.

VIOLENCE, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DISORDER



Violence

Violent crimes have increased by 1.2% compared to the same period in 2022/23, with the total of 684 representing an additional eight recorded crimes. Although 11 fewer crimes of serious violence were recorded, this was offset by an increase of 17 common assaults. In addition, the rate of violent crime in Inverclyde (87.9 crimes per 10,000 population) is below the national average rate (105.7 crimes per 10k). The detection rate is 67.5%, remaining above the national rate for the same reporting period. Similar to the same picture seen in the previous year, 51% of reported violent crimes in Inverclyde occurred in private spaces such as dwelling houses and flats. This proportion increased to 57% in relation to serious crimes of violence such as serious assault and attempted murder. 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 8.1%, to a total of 2,071 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 six additional crimes of wilful fire raising have 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. In recent months, common property types damaged in wilful fire raising crimes includes common close areas of dwelling flats, household wheelie bins, and vehicles. The Multi-Agency Fire Raising Group chaired by the Partnerships and Preventions Superintendent and also including SFRS, Inverclyde Council's 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

48 hate incidents were reported, with a total of 35 hate crimes subsequently being recorded in the current reporting year. Recorded hate crimes have decreased by nearly 29% on the previous year. The majority (51%) of hate crimes in the reporting period targeted complainers in relation to their actual or perceived race. Approximately one quarter of hate crimes targeted Police Officers. It should be noted that the reporting period does not incorporate or extend beyond the introduction of the Hate Crime & Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021. This Act came into effect on 1 April 2024, and introduces new measures designed to tackle the harm caused by hatred and prejudice.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Sexual Crime

133 sexual crimes have been recorded in Inverclyde in the reporting period, an increase of 11.8% on the previous year. In the reporting period, recorded sexual crimes also increased at a national level. 27% of recorded sexual crimes in Inverclyde were non-recent in nature. 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. Nearly half of recorded crimes were non-contact offences, with the majority of these being cyber-enabled sexual crimes such as possession of indecent images of children, and indecent communications offences. The detection rate for sexual crimes is 71.4%, considerably above the previous year's rate of 55.5%.

Missing People

Police in Inverclyde take every report of a missing person seriously and continue to apply a rigorous assessment of threat relating to the risk missing people pose to themselves or to members of the public, and to determine if they will be exposed to risk of harm by others. In the reporting period, 81 individuals in Inverclyde were collectively reporting missing a total of 168 times. Compared to the same period in 2022/23, this equates to a reduction of 25% in the number of unique individuals going missing, and a decrease of 3.4% in the number of missing person incidents. Young people continue to feature in a large proportion of missing person incidents. The rollout of the Philomena Protocol and ongoing coordination and training relating to the national guidance for LAAC who go missing, in terms of the 'not at home', as well as the addition to the establishment of a dedicated Missing Persons Coordinator in the Division, have played a crucial role in reducing missing person incidents.

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 remain committed to delivering a professional, sensitive and consistent service to all victims of Domestic Abuse, in addition to continually striving to improve the service provided to victims. Recorded domestic abuse incidents in Inverclyde decreased by just over 12% on the previous year, to a total of 620. 47.3% of all recorded incidents resulted in a crime being recorded. The detection rate for domestic abuse crimes was 72%, slightly below the previous year's rate of 74.4%. MATAC (Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination) and MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) processes continue to play pivotal roles in safeguarding victims of domestic abuse, ensuring the provision of tailored support, a cohesive partnership response, comprehensive evaluation of risks faced by domestic abuse victims, and the accountability of all case stakeholders.

Drug Related Deaths

6 confirmed drugs related deaths occurred in Inverclyde in the reporting period., with toxicology results awaited for a number of other lifestyle related deaths. Analysis has demonstrated that a range of substances including cocaine, diamorphine and Bromazolam have contributed to confirmed drug related deaths. Police in Inverclyde continue to work alongside a range of partners to tackle drug harms. 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. These activities support the collective response through the Inverclyde Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) where we aim to collaboratively provide support and signposting to reduce drug-related harm locally.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME



Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by 21.5% on the previous year, to a total of 1,445. Nationally, recorded acquisitive crime is also on the rise. Meanwhile, although the detection rate for acquisitive crime in Inverclyde has fallen from 47.9% to 41.9% year-on-year, this remains considerably higher than the national detection rate. The two most significant drivers in the overall increase in recorded crimes of dishonesty are theft by shoplifting, and fraud - with these crime types rising by 36% and 38.2% respectively. Nationally, recorded fraud and shoplifting crimes are also on the rise. Meanwhile, the number of housebreaking crimes has fallen by 8.8% on the previous year. Motor vehicle thefts also fell by over seven percent.


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'.

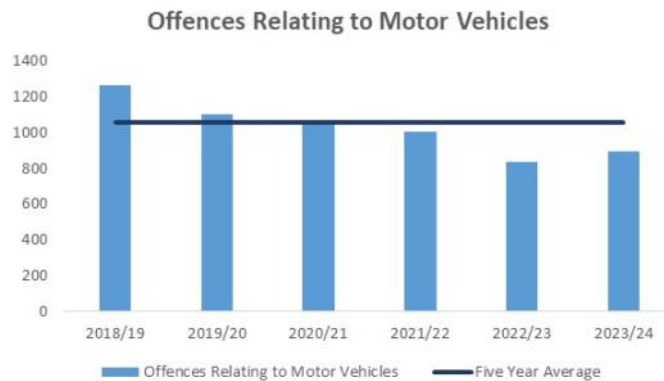
CYBER & DIGITAL CRIME

Cyber-enabled crime continues to impact on the communities of Inverclyde. Crimes of dishonesty, and in particular fraud crimes, continue to constitute the largest proportion of any crime group in relation to cybercrime, with 46% of crimes tagged as 'cyber-enabled' belonging to this category. We continue to raise awareness of online frauds through our many local collaborations and nationally with Cyber Scotland Partnership and the financial industry.

Around 19% of recorded cybercrimes related to sexual offences— another key priority issue that Police in Inverclyde continue to tackle with support from specialist national units. These crimes include sexual online communications with children, disclosure of intimate images without consent, and possession of indecent images of children (IIOC). We engage nationally with partners to raise preventative awareness of online child sexual abuse and exploitation, partners include CEOP, Childline, Barnardo's, UK Safer Internet Centre, Lucy Faithful Foundation Scotland and the Internet Watch Foundation.

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	22	17
	Number of persons slightly injured	25	30
	Number of children seriously injured	12	6
Road Traffic Data from 01/04/2023 to 29/02/2024			



There were 47 road traffic casualties in Inverclyde in the reporting period - a reduction of one compared to the previous year. There have been no road deaths in the current reporting period (compared to one in the same period last year), and serious road injuries fell from 22 to 17 year-on-year. The number of children seriously injured also fell from 12 to 6. However, the number of road traffic casualties involving slight injuries increased from 25 to 30. Overall, recorded Police incidents relating to road traffic collisions fell by 1.7% on the same period last year.

Meanwhile, proactivity by Inverclyde officers and the Road Policing Unit has contributed to a rise of 6.8% 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.

Officers in Inverclyde continue to harness community intelligence to conduct proactive speed checks across the local authority area, targeting areas causing concern to local residents. With ongoing support from the Road Policing Unit, (RPU) local officers work closely with the community and partners to deliver a proactive multi-agency response and to ensure that our roads remain safe for all users. The West Safety Camera Unit (SCU) of Safety Cameras Scotland continues to offer support to Inverclyde Police across the local authority area. These locations are selected using a rigorous assessment of injury collision volumes, severity and causation. Officers will continue to coordinate and map our activity with RPU, partners and our communities.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE: COMPLAINTS & USER SATISFACTION

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE

From 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
Inverclyde Council	101	78	29.5%	152	153	-0.7%

In the period April 2023 to March 2024, a total of 101 complaint cases and 152 allegations have been received in Inverclyde.

Allegation Category and Type	PYTD	YTD	% change from PYTD
On Duty - TOTAL	104	114	9.6%
Assault	18	7	-61.1%
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	1	0.0%
Excessive Force	10	9	-10.0%
Incivility	22	20	-9.1%
Irregularity in Procedure	46	65	41.3%
Neglect of Duty	0	2	x
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	2	3	50.0%
Other - Criminal	4	2	-50.0%
Other - Non Criminal	0	2	x
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	0	3	x
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	1	0	-100.0%
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	49	38	-22.4%
Policy/Procedure	14	9	-35.7%
Service Delivery	15	7	-53.3%
Service Outcome	20	22	10.0%
Grand Total	153	152	-0.7%

114 allegations were 'On Duty' with a further 38 relating to quality of service.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

From 01/04/2023 - 29/02/2024

75.1% of respondents to the 'Your Police' survey reported that they felt safe in their local area, compared to the national figure of 78.5%. 41.1% agreed, or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the Police in their local area - a higher proportion of respondents that gave this response at the national level (34.2%). 31.6% of Inverclyde respondents expressed the opinion that the police were doing a good job in the local area (nationally, 25.1% of respondents responded this way).

Analysis of local issues which survey respondents report cause them concern in Inverclyde identified eight common themes - anti-social behaviour and youth disorder; concerns relating to drug misuse and supply; crime and safety, with specific concerns including housebreaking and car theft; traffic and road safety (with reckless driving, speeding and pedestrian safety issues being highlighted); Concerns relating to a perceived lack of Police presence and proactivity; infrastructure issues such as poor street lighting and a lack of facilities for young people; and fear and safety perception, with some respondents particularly feeling unsafe at night due to fear of crime and disorder.

LOCAL POLICING PRIORITY OUTCOMES – CASE STUDIES

The Preventions Team continue to provide meaningful engagement with young people in school settings, strengthening the relationship and creating opportunities for open discussion on topics such as hate crime, cybercrime and cyberbullying, how to stay safe online and image sharing, along with a number of other topics. In February, they visited St Francis Primary School and discussed personal safety and what the police do to keep people safe with Primary 1 - 3 pupils, where the children had an opportunity to ask a range of questions. They also provided an input to S1 – S3 pupils at St Stephens High School on How to stay safe online.

An input discussing financial harm and personal safety was provided to community group 'The Ripe Bunch', providing information and advice where members had the opportunity to highlight concerns. The Preventions team also attended the No Knives Better Lives event.

We continue to increase awareness and use of the Partners Intelligence Portal with partners, encouraging submission of important information which develops our understanding and response to the threat, risk and harm posed by perpetrators and locations.

Working closely with I Am Me Scotland to strengthen the existing Keep Safe network in Inverclyde, we delivered training to security staff at the Oak Mall Shopping Centre, who recently joined the network. This is a network of local businesses who provide a place where people can go if they feel lost, scared, or vulnerable when in the community and staff are trained to help. The Preventions Team continue to work closely with staff to raise awareness of hate crime and Third Party Reporting. The training enables staff to recognise and report hate crimes.

Along with the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS), officers delivered a fire related anti-social behaviour presentation to S1 - S3 pupils at Inverclyde Academy and supported the recent Fire Skills Safety Course, at Port Glasgow Fire Station, where young people participate in activities that provide important life skills including safety, discipline, respect, CPR, communication, and teamwork.

We continue to assess demand and streamline processes. As part of this we have agreed new processes the Inverclyde Royal Hospital realizing efficiency gains for both Police and NHS. Attendance was also made at a national Missing Persons conference and the national suicide prevention conference, with valuable shared learning and best practice identified.

FORTHCOMING INITIATIVES

Sextortion - a form of blackmail which involves threatening to publish sexual imagery, videos or information about someone, most commonly to extort money - continues to present a cause for concern. Police Scotland are currently spotlighting awareness of sextortion, in particular social media catfishing where young males aged 15-25 are targeted on social media platforms for sexual images then financially extorted. We are working with partners including the Police Service of Northern Ireland, the National Crime Agency and media outlets to produce a national toolkit for preventative messaging and signposting for support and reporting.