

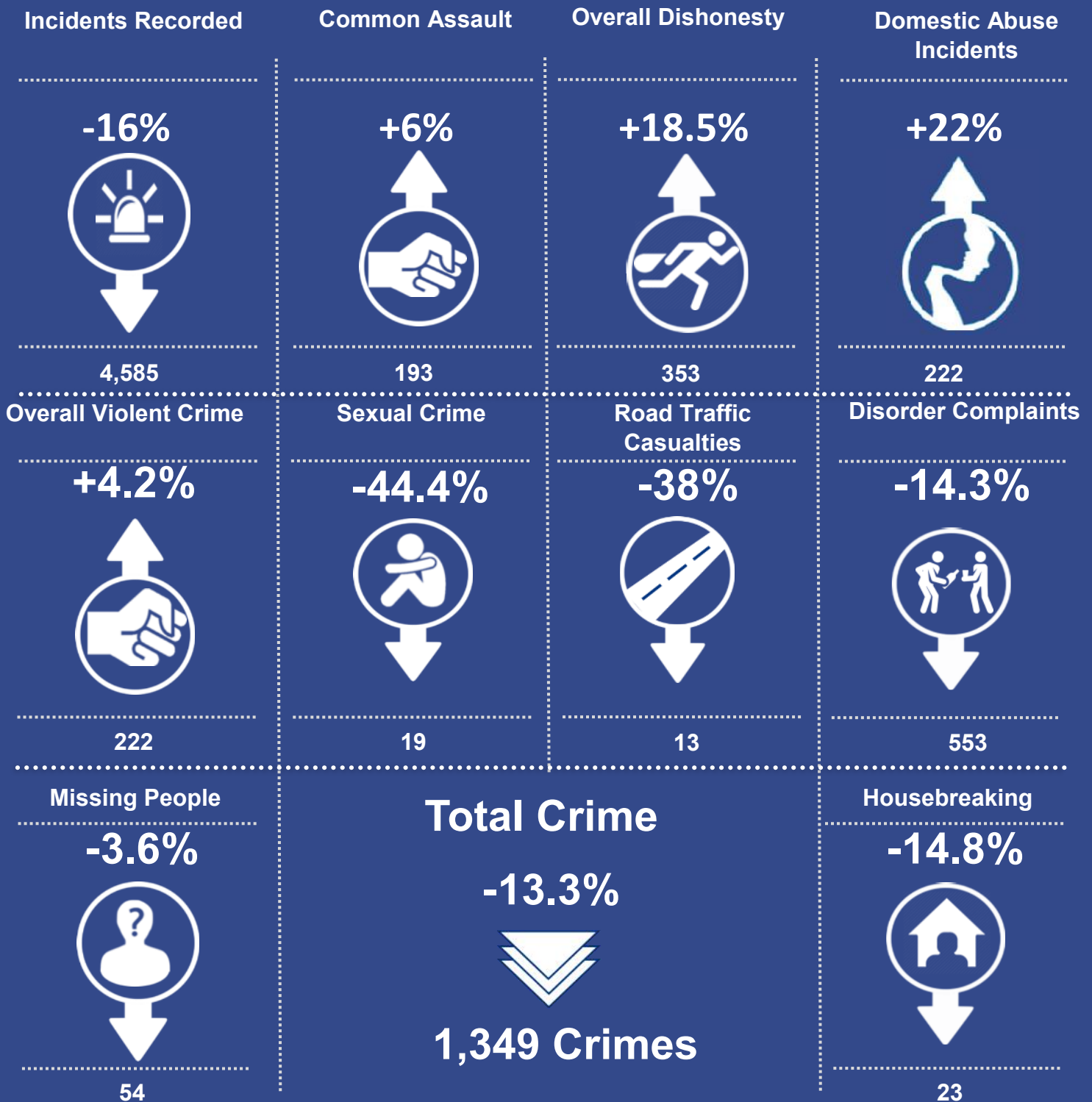


POLICE
SCOTLAND
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Inverclyde Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/24 - 30/06/2024

Unless otherwise stated, all data provided is for the period 1 April - 30 June 2024, and all comparisons are made with the same period in 2023/24. 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 24 July 2024.





Inverclyde Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: 1 April 2024 to 30 June 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>Overall, recorded violent crimes have increased by 4.2% compared to the same period in 2023/24, rising to a total of 222 crimes. However, crimes of serious violence fell by 6.5% to a total of 29 crimes (two fewer compared to the previous year). Meanwhile, crimes relating to damage and reckless behaviour decreased by 17.2% on the previous year, with crimes of wilful fireraising in particular falling from 23 in the same period in 2023/24, to eight in the current reporting period. Public reported incidents of antisocial behaviour fell by 14.3% on last year's figures.</p>
 <p>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</p>	<p>Recorded sexual crimes have fallen by over 44% on the previous year, with 19 recorded in the current reporting period. Reports of non-recent sexual offences have fallen on the previous year, from 11 crimes to only one in the current year. The majority (n=10) of crime reports this year relate to non-contact offences (e.g. indecent communications and threats to disclose intimate images). Meanwhile, the total number of missing person incidents fell on the previous year. Recorded domestic incidents increased by 22%, though the number of domestic crime incidents fell by 2.5% on the previous year.</p>
 <p>ACQUISITIVE AND CYBER / DIGITAL CRIME</p>	<p>Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by 18.5% on the previous year. This is predominantly due to a sharp rise in recorded crimes of theft by shoplifting. Meanwhile, recorded fraud and housebreaking crimes have fallen on last year's figures, while the number of acquisitive crimes involving motor vehicles remains static. 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>There have been no road deaths in Inverclyde in the reporting period. Serious and slight road injuries have also fallen as compared to last year's figures.</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 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

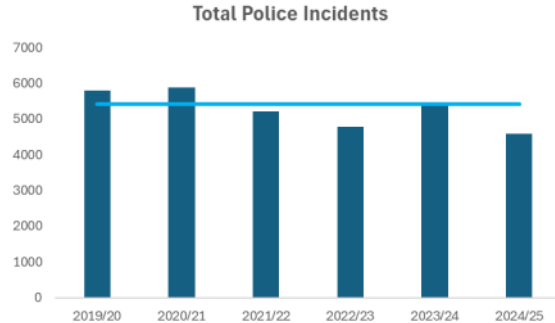
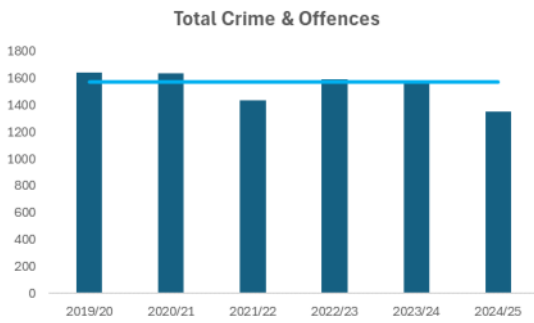
Inverclyde Police continue to link in closely with Police Scotland's Corporate Services who enable and support operational resources to deliver against the strategic priorities and their outcomes. As part of the Digitally-Enabled Policing Programme, migration to new national Core Operational Systems 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	1,556	1,349	Total number of incidents	5,458	4,585



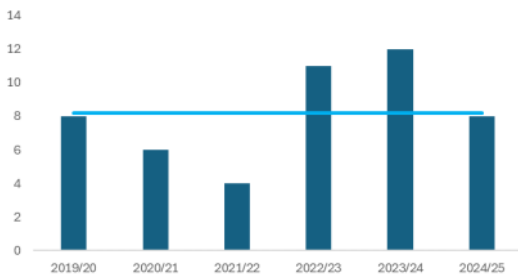
Year on year, recorded crime and offences in Inverclyde have fallen by 13.3% with a total of 1,349. This is in line with wider trends in Scotland, with crime figures falling on the previous year at a national level. In terms of the rate of crime per 10,000 population this equates to 175.9 crimes per 10k in Inverclyde, lower than the national rate of 204.8.

The overall detection rate for crimes and offences in Inverclyde is 67.9%, a slight increase on the previous year's position of 67.2%; the detection rate also remains above the current national position of 62.6%.

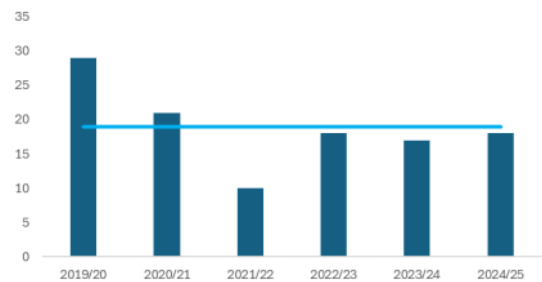
Police incidents recorded this year have dropped by 16%, totalling 4,585. The primary factor behind this decline is a significant reduction in silent or abandoned 999 calls, suggesting that technical solutions addressing accidental emergency dials from certain smartphones are working. Despite the decrease in the total number of incidents, there are indications of growing demand in relation to certain issues, including a rise in recorded 'theft' incidents, domestic incidents/domestic bail checks, and police information incidents. 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

Robbery and Assault With Intent to Rob



Serious Assault



Violence

Violent crimes have increased by 4.2% compared to the same period in 2023/24 with the total of 222 representing an additional nine recorded crimes. This overall rise in violent crimes can be attributed to an increase in minor violence, with common assaults rising by six percent to a total of 193 crimes. Meanwhile, crimes of serious violence fell by 6.5%, with robberies (including assault with intent to rob) in particular falling from 12 to eight crimes, year-on-year. 18 serious assaults were recorded, an increase of one crime compared to the previous year. The rate of recorded crimes of violence per 10k in Inverclyde is 28.9, lower than the national rate of 30.8 crimes per 10k. The detection rate for violent crimes in Inverclyde is 64%, comparable to the previous year's rate. Approximately half of all 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. 40 weapons offences were recorded in the period April to June 2024, representing a decrease of 37.5% on the previous year's figures. 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.

Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

The number of complaints relating to disorder in Inverclyde fell by 14.3%, to a total of 553 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. Meanwhile, crimes relating to damage and reckless behaviour decreased by 17.2% on the previous year, with crimes of wilful fireraising in particular falling from 23 in the same period in 2023/24, to eight in the current reporting period. Premises/property targeted in wilful fireraising crimes included outdoor sports facilities, wasteland and (in two crimes) motor vehicles. Recorded crimes of vandalism also fell by 12.7% on 2023/24 figures. 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.

Hate Crime

39 hate incidents were reported, with 36 of these resulting in a crime being recorded. Recorded hate incidents and crimes increased considerably on the same period in 2023 (with a total of nine incidents recorded). Race was the most commonly targeted characteristic, followed by age. Three crimes involved Police Officer victims, with a further three hate crimes targeting retail workers.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Sexual Crime

19 sexual crimes have been recorded in Inverclyde in the reporting period, a substantial decrease on the same period in 2023/24 in which 34 crimes were recorded. All but one crime recorded in the current reporting year involved recent reporting, with a drop in reports of non-recent sexual offences compared to the same period last year (one crime compared to 11 in the 2023/24 period). More than half of recorded sexual crimes related to non-contact offences, such as sexual exposure and indecent communications. Roughly one third of sexual crimes were cyber-enabled, with recorded offences including possession of indecent images of children, and threats to disclose intimate images online. The detection rate for sexual crimes in the reporting period was 89.5%, substantially above the rate in the same period in 2023/24 (61.8%), and also the national detection rate of 57% for the current reporting period.

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, there were 54 persons recorded as missing - a reduction of two missing person reports compared to the same period in 2023. All missing persons in the reporting period were traced, with the average duration of people being missing being 14 hours. Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) continue to feature in a large proportion of missing person incidents (25%). 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.

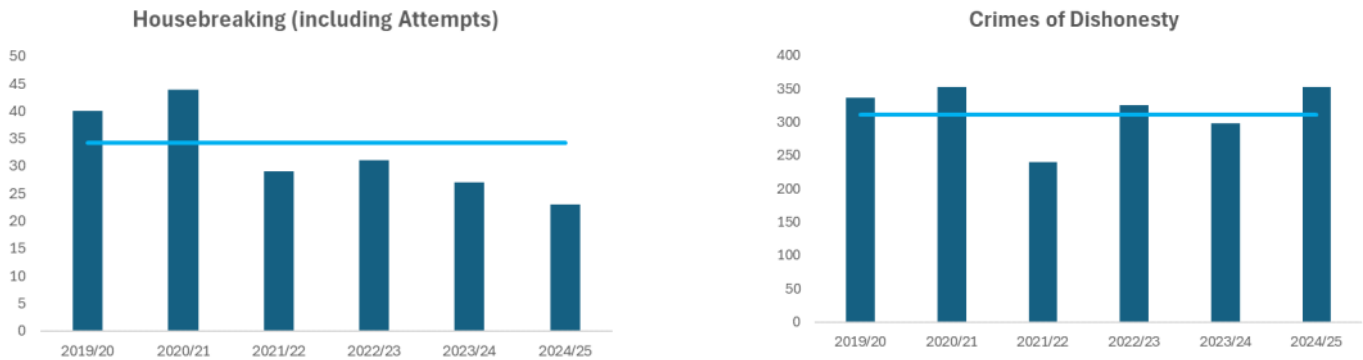
Domestic Abuse

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 increased by 22% on the previous year, to a total of 222. Due to changes in the way that domestic abuse incidents and crimes are recorded which were implemented at the beginning of the 2024/25 reporting year, comparison to 2023/24 figures should be carried out with caution. 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

Five suspected drug related deaths occurred within the reporting period. While toxicology results are awaited, a range of substances including cocaine, heroin and ecstasy are suspected to have contributed to the 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.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME



Overall crimes of dishonesty increased by 18.5% on the previous year, with a total of 353 recorded crimes. The main driver of this rise in acquisitive crime is theft by shoplifting; in addition to constituting over 53% of all crimes of dishonesty, this type of crime has more than doubled on figures recorded in the same period in 2023 (188 crimes compared to 88 last year). Repeat offending has been identified as a significant issue in respect of shoplifting crime, with just five individuals being charged in relation to more than a quarter of all offences recorded in the reporting period. Thefts of alcohol are particularly common, constituting almost 40% of shoplifting crimes. 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.


Almost all other crimes of dishonesty have fallen year-on-year, with common theft dropping by over 16%, recorded fraud falling by over a third, housebreaking crimes falling by almost 15% and thefts/ attempted thefts of motor vehicles falling by 14%. Meanwhile the detection rate for acquisitive crime stands at 50.1%, above last year's rate (44%) and the national rate (34.8%).

CYBER & DIGITAL CRIME

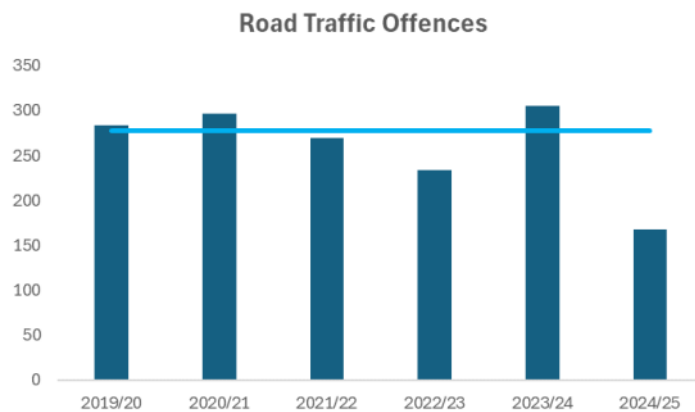
Cyber-enabled crime continues to impact on the communities of Inverclyde. Crimes of fraud continue to be the most commonly reported cyber-enabled crime. We continue to raise awareness of online frauds through our many local collaborations and nationally with Cyber Scotland Partnership and the financial industry.

Sexual extortion crimes (usually perpetrated using various social media platforms), and a variety of other sexual offences including indecent communications, possession and distribution of indecent images of children and threatening and abusive communications offences constituted the majority of recorded cyber-enabled crimes. 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		2023/24	2024/25
	Number of persons killed on our roads	0	0
	Number of persons seriously injured	8	5
	Number of persons slightly injured	13	8
	Number of children seriously injured	0	0

Road Traffic Data from 01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024



During the reporting period, Inverclyde recorded 13 road traffic casualties, representing a 38% decrease compared to the same period in 2023 (n=21). Notably, there were no recorded road fatalities, and the number of serious and slight injuries decreased by three and five, respectively. As in the previous year, no children were seriously injured on Inverclyde’s roads during this period, reflecting a continued positive trend.

Meanwhile, 168 road traffic offences were recorded in Inverclyde in the reporting period, a decrease of 44.9% compared to the same period in 2023/24. This was broadly reflective of wider trends, with a decrease of a similar magnitude noted at the national level.

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 01/04/2024 - 30/06/2024

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
Inverclyde Council	22	30	-26.7%	51	44	15.9%

In the first quarter of 2024/25, a total of 22 complaint cases and 51 allegations have been received in Inverclyde.

43 allegations were 'On Duty' with the majority involving allegations of irregularity in procedure. A further eight allegations related to quality of service.

Allegation Category and Type	YTD	PYTD	% change from PYTD
On Duty - TOTAL	43	29	48.3%
Assault	6	2	200.0%
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	0	x
Excessive Force	7	1	600.0%
Incivility	5	6	-16.7%
Irregularity in Procedure	19	17	11.8%
Neglect of Duty	0	1	-100.0%
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	2	1	100.0%
Other - Criminal	0	1	-100.0%
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	3	0	x
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	8	15	-46.7%
Policy/Procedure	4	3	33.3%
Service Delivery	1	3	-66.7%
Service Outcome	3	9	-66.7%
Grand Total	51	44	15.9%

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

From 01/04/2024 - 30/06/2024

88.9% of respondents to the 'Your Police' survey reported that they felt safe in their local area, compared to the national figure of 77.7%. A third of respondents reported that their concern about crime had increased in the last 12 months, which was a significantly smaller proportion of respondents which responded this way compared to the national picture (55.3%).

29.4% agreed, or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the Police in their local area, with 34.3% of respondents giving this response at the national level. 23.5% of Inverclyde respondents expressed the opinion that the police were doing a good job in the local area (nationally, 26.3% of respondents responded this way).

Residents have raised significant concerns regarding traffic and public safety in the area. There are frequent reports of speeding and reckless driving, particularly at night and near schools, with reports of poor driver behaviour exacerbating the risk of collisions. Anti-social behaviour, including large groups of youths engaging in drinking, drug use, and vandalism, is a recurring issue. Concerns relating to the prevalence of gang activity, drug-related disturbances, and a perceived lack of police presence were also common themes.

LOCAL POLICING PRIORITY OUTCOMES – CASE STUDIES

The Road Policing Unit provided assistance to local officers in Inverclyde to raise awareness of various road safety issues and national campaigns. These included the National Seatbelt Campaign and Child Safety Week, both of which ran in June, and the Motorcycle Safety Campaign Weekend of Action which coincided with the spring bank holiday in May. Local Inverclyde officers attended All Saints Primary School in Greenock to deliver an input on Road Safety which was well received by pupils.

In March, the Partnerships and Preventions Team facilitated a training session for the Head teachers within Inverclyde on the Partners Intelligence Portal. This is the system which allows staff to share important information they receive during their working day, that they believe the Police should know about.

The community group “The Ripe Bunch” welcomed the team back for an engaging talk on personal safety. This event was followed by a day at the Oak Mall speaking to local residents about vehicle and home security. The Shut out Scammers van was on tour promoting advice on spotting the signs of scams and what to do if suspicions are raised.

In May, Woman’s Aid Greenock attended a workshop presented by detectives in the Public Protection Unit where the group facilitated learning from different perspectives with a focus of working together with partners to keep people safe.

The Partnerships & Preventions Team continue to work with the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, working jointly to deliver Fire Skills Safety courses and antisocial behaviour inputs to High Schools. In June they supported Water safety prevention training to S1 and in addition helped with the New Drivers Early Intervention Scheme to senior pupils St Columbus High School. Inverkip Primary School invited the team along to speak about water safety, where the children listened well and asked relevant questions.

FORTHCOMING INITIATIVES

The Road Policing Unit will continue to assist local officers in Inverclyde with various road safety initiatives, including the National Speed Campaign which will run between 9 - 15 September.