

A meeting of the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel will be held on Thursday 6 February 2025 at 3pm.

Members may attend the meeting in person or via remote online access. Webex joining details have been sent to Members and Officers. Members are requested to notify Committee Services by 12 noon on Wednesday 5 February 2025 how they intend to access the meeting.

In the event of connectivity issues, Members are asked to use the *join by phone* number in the Webex invitation and as noted above.

Please note that this meeting will be live-streamed via YouTube with the exception of any business which is treated as exempt in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

Further information relating to the recording and live-streaming of meetings can be found at the end of this notice.

LYNSEY BROWN
Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

BUSINESS

1.	Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest	Page
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT		
2.	Police Scotland Performance Report	p
3.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Performance Report	p
NEW BUSINESS		
4.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Revised Home Fire Safety Visit Programme	p
5.	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p

The reports are available publicly on the Council’s website and the minute of the meeting will be submitted to the next standing meeting of the Inverclyde Council. The agenda for the meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be available publicly on the Council’s website.

Please note: this meeting may be recorded or live-streamed via YouTube and the Council’s internet site, where it will be capable of repeated viewing. At the start of the meeting the Provost/Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded or live-streamed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during any recording or live-streaming will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site or YouTube.

If you are participating in the meeting, you acknowledge that you may be filmed and that any information pertaining to you contained in the recording or live-stream of the meeting will be used for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public. In making this use of your information the Council is processing data which is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. If you are asked to speak at the meeting then your submission to the committee will be captured as part of the recording or live-stream.

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact the Information Governance team at dataprotection@inverclyde.gov.uk

Enquiries to – **Lindsay Carrick**– Tel 01475 712114

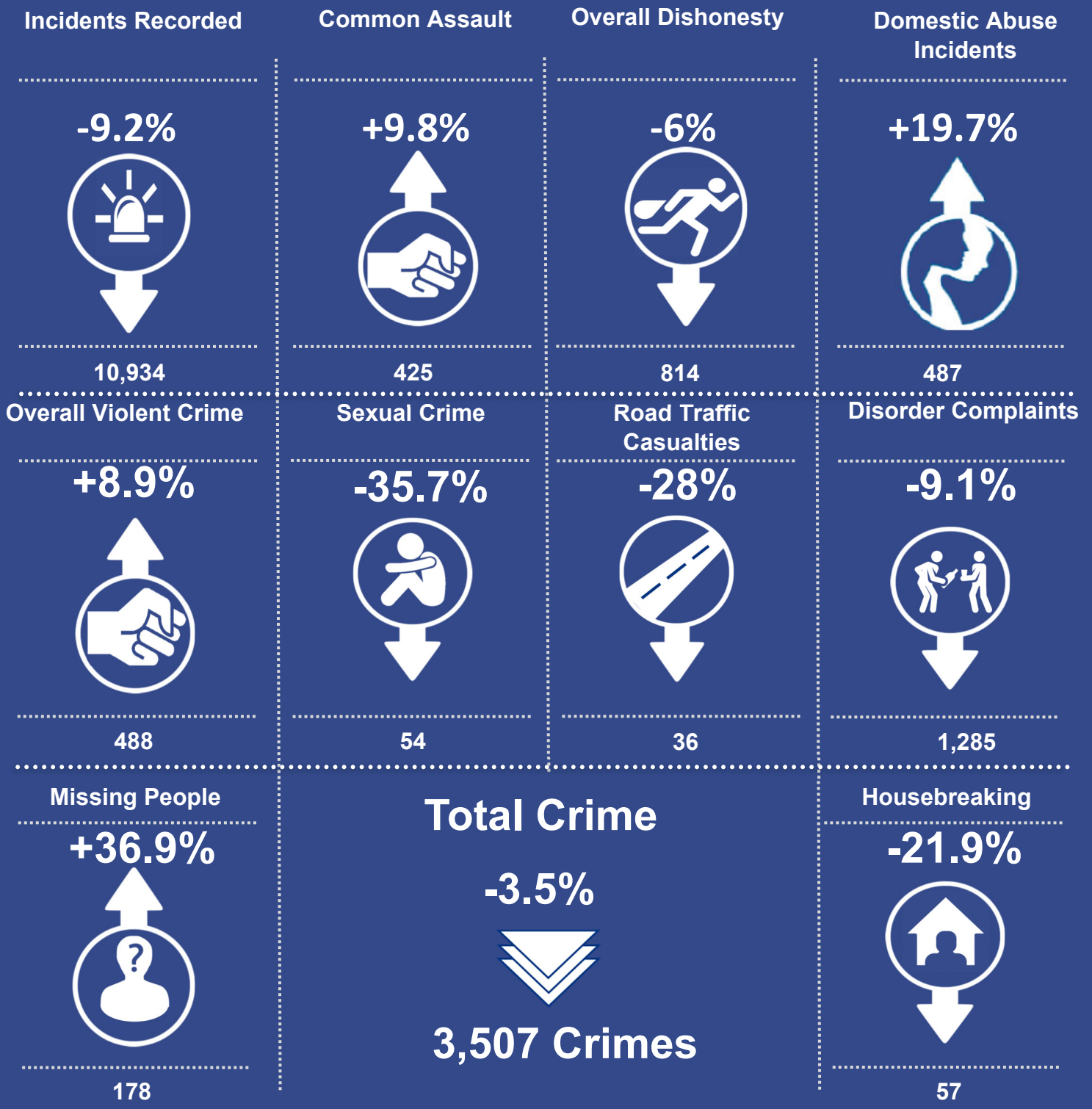


POLICE
SCOTLAND
POILEAS ALBA

Inverclyde Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/2024 - 31/10/2024

Unless otherwise stated, all data provided is for the period 1 April - 31 October 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 27 November 2024.





Inverclyde Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: 1 April 2024 to 31 October 2024

SECTION	PAGE NUMBER
Introduction	2
Executive Summary	3
Demand Analysis	4
Antisocial Behaviour, Violence & Disorder	5
Protecting Vulnerable People	6
Acquisitive Crime	7
Cyber and Digital Crime	7
Road Safety and Road Crime	8
Public Confidence - Complaints & Allegations	9
Local Priority Policing Outcomes - Case Studies	10
Forthcoming Initiatives	10

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 Rhona Fraser
 Local Policing Commander
 Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division

INVERCLYDE POLICING PRIORITIES 2023 - 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Violent crime in Inverclyde increased by 8.9% to 488 crimes, with common assaults up 9.8% and serious violence rising by two crimes, to a total of 63. The detection rate remained strong at 70.1%. Weapons offences fell by seven percent, supported by initiatives like "No Knives, Better Lives". Disorder complaints dropped by 9.1%, vandalism by 20.3%, and wilful fireraising by 68%. Inverclyde recorded 93 hate crimes, with race being the most targeted characteristic.

Protecting People at Risk of Harm

Sexual crimes in Inverclyde decreased by 35.7% to 54 offences, with 57% being non-contact and/or cyber-enabled. The detection rate rose to 77.8%, exceeding last year's 63.1% and the national average of 58.3%. Missing person reports increased by 36.9%, totalling 178, due in part to improved recording practices. Around a third involved care-experienced young people, with all individuals safely traced. Domestic abuse incidents rose by 19.7% to 487, with MATAAC and MARAC continuing to support victims. Five confirmed and five suspected drug-related deaths occurred in the reporting period, with ongoing efforts to tackle drug harm through partnership working, education and enforcement.

Acquisitive and Cyber/Digital Crime

Recorded crimes of dishonesty in Inverclyde fell by 6% to 814, contrary to a 0.9% national rise. The detection rate rose to 51.2%, surpassing both last year's local rate and the national average. Housebreaking crimes dropped by 21.2%, with a 22.8% reduction in dwelling house incidents. Fraud crimes fell by nearly 25%, though it remains a key threat due to continually evolving tactics. Shoplifting rose by 21.7%, with a small number of repeat offenders responsible for a significant portion of crimes. Proactive measures, including local engagement and national collaboration, continue to be developed to address dishonesty and cyber-enabled crimes.

Road Safety and Road Crime

Inverclyde recorded 36 road traffic casualties, a 28% decrease from 2023, with no fatalities and fewer serious and slight injuries. Road traffic offences dropped by 0.9%, compared to a 7.2% national rise. Local officers have supported several national safety campaigns, including National Speeding and Young Drivers Fatal 5 Campaigns. The West Safety Camera Unit continues to aid local efforts, focusing on high-risk areas to improve road safety through strategic camera deployments and community engagement.

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

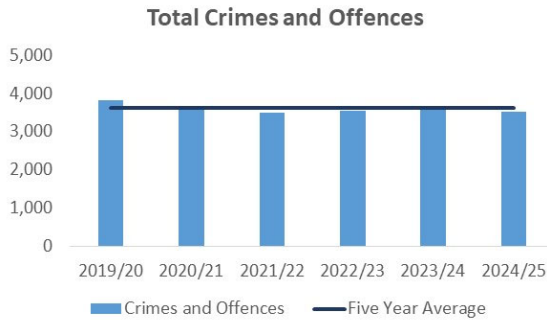
Inverclyde Police continue to link in closely with Police Scotland's Corporate Services who enable and support operational resources to deliver against the strategic priorities and their outcomes. As part of the Digitally-Enabled Policing Programme, migration to new national Core Operational Systems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

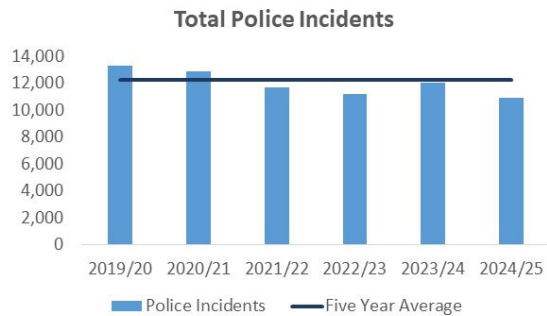
CYTD - CURRENT YEAR TO DATE

CRIME	PYTD	CYTD	INCIDENTS	PYTD	CYTD
Total Crimes & Offences	3,633	3,507	Total number of incidents	12,041	10,934



Crime and Offences

Year on year, crimes and offences in Inverclyde have fallen by 3.5%, to a total of 3,507. Conversely, recorded crimes and offences have increased by 2.4% at a national level. In Inverclyde, the overall decrease in recorded crime has arisen from a drop across several crime categories, including crimes of dishonesty (e.g. fraud and theft by housebreaking), sexual crimes (e.g. sexual assault, indecent communications), crimes of damage and reckless behaviour (e.g. vandalism and wilful fireraising), crimes against society (e.g. weapons carriage offences, drug possession and supply), and road traffic offences (e.g. speeding, drink and drug driving). The overall detection rate for crimes and offences in Inverclyde is 72.2%, an increase on the previous year’s position of 64.2%; the detection rate also remains above the current national position of 66.2%.



Police Incidents

Police incidents recorded this year have dropped by 9.2%, totalling 10,934. One contributory factor in this decrease is a reduction of nearly 37% 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 domestic incidents/domestic bail checks, child protection incidents, missing person incidents and drug/substance misuse 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



Violence

Overall violent crime has risen by 8.9% compared to the same period in 2023/24, with a total of 488 recorded crimes. 63 crimes of serious violence have been recorded - a rise of two crimes on the previous year; while common assaults have increased by 9.8% to a total of 425.

The detection rate for violent crimes in Inverclyde in the reporting period was 70.1%, remaining above the previous year's rate of 66.5% and the national rate of 69.8%. Nearly half of all violent crimes in Inverclyde occur in private spaces like homes and flats, posing unique challenges for law enforcement due to limited investigative opportunities (e.g., lack of witnesses or CCTV). Despite these difficulties, especially in cases of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, officers are trained to identify alternative investigative methods.

Weapons Offences

106 offensive/bladed weapons offences were recorded in the current reporting period, a decrease of seven percent on the previous year. Community Policing Officers and the Partnerships and Preventions Team have worked across Inverclyde schools to deliver programs like "No Knives, Better Lives" and have also engaged with local community groups to address specific antisocial behaviour concerns.

Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Complaints regarding disorder in Inverclyde decreased by 9.1%, with a total of 1,285 incidents reported. Tackling disorder and antisocial behaviour remains a key focus of the Inverclyde Partnership Hub, a police-led multi-agency initiative that collaborates with statutory and third-sector organisations. Crimes involving damage and reckless behaviour also fell by 23.8% compared to the previous year, with reports of vandalism falling by 20.3%. Wilful fireraising crimes fell significantly with 16 crimes compared to 50 in the same period last year (-68%).

Hate Crime

During the reporting period, 93 hate crimes were recorded in Inverclyde. In addition to the impact of new legislation, changes in methodology and counting rules arising from the introduction of new recording systems make comparisons with previous years challenging. Race was the most commonly targeted protected characteristic in Inverclyde hate crimes, featuring in approximately a third of cases.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Sexual Crime

A total of 54 sexual crimes were recorded in Inverclyde during the reporting period, a decrease of 35.7% on the same period in 2023/24. Ten crimes in the reporting period involved non-recent reporting. The majority (approximately 57%) of sexual offences in Inverclyde were non-contact offences, including cyber-enabled crimes such as indecent communications, possession of indecent images of children, and threats to disclose intimate images. The detection rate for sexual crimes was 77.8%, compared to 63.1% in the previous year and the national rate of 58.3%.

Missing People

Inverclyde Police take all missing person reports seriously, using a rigorous threat assessment to determine potential risks to the individual or others. During the reporting period, 87 individuals collectively featured in a total of 178 missing person reports. Compared to the same period in 2023, total missing person reports increased by 36.9%. A significant contributory factor for this increase is the National Missing Persons Unit's implementation of national business rules relating to how these incidents are recorded and when forms must be raised, which have helped establish an accurate reflection of the number of missing people and the resulting demand of these incidents on frontline officers. All individuals were traced, with the average missing period lasting 14 hours. Around a third of all missing people in the reporting period were care-experienced young people.

Domestic Abuse

Tackling domestic abuse remains a top priority for the Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division. Although domestic abuse is widely considered under-reported, the police are committed to providing a professional, sensitive, and consistent response to victims. Caution should be exercised in comparing the number of domestic abuse which involved crimes being recorded, and the detection rate, due to a change in methodology and counting rules in the current reporting year arising from the introduction of new recording systems. With these caveats in mind, recorded incidents of domestic abuse in Inverclyde increased by 19.7% over the previous year, reaching a total of 487 incidents. 240 of these incidents (49%) resulted in a crime being recorded. (MATAC (Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination) and MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) continue to play critical roles in protecting victims, offering tailored support, and ensuring accountability among all stakeholders involved.

Drug-Related Deaths

Five confirmed and five suspected drug-related deaths occurred in Inverclyde during the reporting period, with toxicology results still awaited in relation to the latter. A range of substances are suspected of having contributed to these deaths, with cocaine and bromazolam commonly featuring. We continue to collaborate with various partners to combat drug-related harm, including delivering educational programs in schools and taking proactive measures to address drug supply and distribution within the community.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME



Converse to a rise of 0.9% at a national level, recorded crimes of dishonesty in Inverclyde decreased by six percent on the previous year, with a total of 814 recorded crimes. The detection rate for crimes of dishonesty was 51.2%, remaining above the rate for Inverclyde in the same period in 2023/24 (42.6%) as well as the current national rate (34.6%).

A total of 57 housebreaking crimes (including attempts) were recorded, a decrease of 21.2% on the previous year. Although dwelling houses continue to be the most commonly targeted property type in these crimes, 13 fewer dwelling housebreaking crimes were recorded - a reduction of 22.8% on the previous year.

Although fraud continues to be identified as a key threat in Inverclyde due to ever-evolving methods used by fraudsters. However, recorded crimes have fallen by nearly a quarter on last year's figures, with a total of 90 crimes reported. A wide range of fraud crimes have been observed in the recent period, including conveyancing scams, bank vishing schemes, doorstep crime and fraudulently obtaining monies via use of ATM cash-trapping devices.

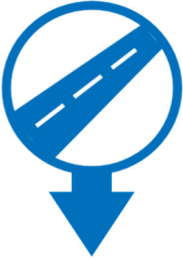
Theft by shoplifting crimes constituted more than half of the overall total number of crimes of dishonesty, with recorded shoplifting crimes rising by 21.7% on the previous year to a total of 426. A relatively small number of prolific repeat offenders have contributed to this rise, with nine individuals charged in relation to nearly a third of the total number of recorded shoplifting crimes. Although a wide range of goods were stolen in shoplifting crimes, alcoholic beverages continue to be targeted most commonly in these crimes.

CYBER & DIGITAL CRIME

Cyber-enabled crime remains a significant concern for the communities of Inverclyde. Half of all crimes flagged with relevant cyber-crime tags fall under crimes of dishonesty, primarily fraud. Miscellaneous offences, including general telecommunications crimes, make up the next largest category of recorded cyber-enabled incidents. While sexual extortion (often carried out via social media platforms) and sexual offences, such as indecent communications and the disclosure of intimate images, represent a smaller proportion of these crimes, they are acknowledged as key threats to Inverclyde's communities.

We actively raise awareness of online fraud through extensive local partnerships and collaborate nationally with the Cyber Scotland Partnership and the financial industry. We also work with national organisations such as CEOP, Childline, Barnardo's, the UK Safer Internet Centre, the Lucy Faithfull Foundation Scotland, and the Internet Watch Foundation to promote prevention and awareness of online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

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	12	11
	Number of persons slightly injured	38	25
	Number of children seriously injured	0	1

Road Traffic Data from 01/04/2024 to 31/10/2024

Total Road Traffic Offences



During the reporting period, Inverclyde recorded 36 road traffic casualties, marking a 28% reduction compared to the same period in 2023 (n=50). Notably, there were no road fatalities, and serious injuries decreased by one, while slight injuries dropped by 13.

A total of 575 road traffic offences were recorded in Inverclyde during the period, reflecting a 0.9% decrease compared to the same timeframe in 2023/24. This contrasts with a national increase of 7.2% in road traffic offences.

Police in Inverclyde received support from Police Scotland's Road Policing Unit (RPU) as part of various road safety and crime prevention campaigns. Initiatives included the National Speed Campaign and Young Drivers Fatal 5 Campaign in September, as well as the Pedestrian Safety and Get Ready for Winter Campaigns in October.

The West Safety Camera Unit (SCU) of Safety Cameras Scotland continues to assist Inverclyde Police across the local authority area. Camera deployment is guided by a detailed assessment of collision volume, severity, and causation. Officers will maintain close coordination with the RPU, partners, and the community to enhance road safety efforts.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE: COMPLAINTS & USER SATISFACTION

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE

From 01/04/2024 -

TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED			Allegation Category and Type			YTD	PYTD	% change
YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change						
40	58	-31.0%	87	82	6.1%	On Duty - TOTAL	76	53	43.4%		
						Assault	9	4	125.0%		
						Corrupt Practice	1	0	x		
						Discriminatory Behaviour	1	1	0.0%		
						Excessive Force	12	2	500.0%		
						Incivility	10	12	-16.7%		
						Irregularity in Procedure	36	26	38.5%		
						Neglect of Duty	0	2	-100.0%		
						Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	2	1	100.0%		
						Other - Criminal	0	2	-100.0%		
						Other - Non Criminal	1	1	0.0%		
						Traffic Irregularity/Offence	1	2	-50.0%		
						Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	3	0	x		
						Quality Of Service - TOTAL	11	29	-62.1%		
						Policy/Procedure	5	6	-16.7%		
						Service Delivery	3	7	-57.1%		
						Service Outcome	3	16	-81.3%		
						Grand Total	87	82	6.1%		

In the reporting period April to September 2024, a total of 87 allegations were received in Inverclyde. 76 of these related to 'on duty' allegations, with nearly half of on duty allegations pertaining to irregularity in procedure. A further 11 allegations were received relating to quality of service.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

From 01/04/2024 - 31/10/2024

83.7% of respondents to the 'Your Police' survey reported that they felt safe in their local area, compared to the national figure of 85.4%. 44.1% of respondents reported that their concern about crime had increased in the last 12 months, lower than the national proportion of 48%.

43.8% agreed, or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the Police in their local area, with 41.6% of respondents giving this response at the national level. 28.9% of Inverclyde respondents expressed the opinion that the police were doing a good job in the local area (nationally, 34.1% of respondents responded this way).

Key concerns raised by the community include drug-related issues such as substance abuse and drug dealing, and local serious and organised crime activity. Antisocial behaviour (ASB) also remains a significant concern, particularly incidents involving e-bikes, e-scooters, and youth disorder. Road safety issues, including antisocial driving, speeding, illegal vehicles, and the use of mobile phones while driving, were frequently highlighted.

LOCAL POLICING PRIORITY OUTCOMES – CASE STUDIES

Fireworks Safety Education

In October, officers in Inverclyde collaborated with the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service to deliver joint fireworks safety sessions to young people in schools. This included a session for S1 pupils at St Stephen's High School. The inputs focused on the heightened risk of accidents and injuries to young people associated with fireworks and bonfires. These sessions were well received, with positive feedback highlighting their relevance and effectiveness in raising awareness among pupils.

Fraud Awareness Outreach

The Preventions Team provided a fraud and scams awareness session to the Gateway Group at Old Gourrock and Ashton Parish Church. Attendees were given essential information and practical advice on preventing a variety of scams, including telephone 'vishing' scams, email and SMS 'phishing' scams, social media fraud, and doorstep crime. The session was designed to empower community members with the knowledge needed to recognize and avoid common fraud tactics.

Home and Vehicle Security Engagement

As part of the 'After Dark' campaign, which addresses the increased risk of theft during darker evenings, Preventions & Interventions Officers engaged with members of the public at the Oak Mall Shopping Centre. Officers distributed guidance booklets offering practical advice on enhancing home and vehicle security. The engagement aimed to raise awareness and encourage proactive measures to reduce the opportunities for theft during the winter months.

FORTHCOMING INITIATIVES

Road Safety Initiatives

Police in Inverclyde will collaborate with colleagues from the Operational Support Division's Road Policing Unit to deliver several road safety campaigns during the first quarter of 2025. These include the National Seat Belt Campaign in January, the Commercial Vehicles Campaign, running from late January into early February, and in March, the Pedestrians and Older Drivers Campaign and the National Speeding Campaign. These initiatives aim to enhance road safety in Inverclyde by positively influencing driver and pedestrian behavior and raising awareness of key safety issues.

Freshers Week

The Preventions Team are attending Freshers events at the Finnart Campus and Waterfront Campus on 29 and 30 January, in order to build positive relationships with students, share personal safety information and enhance community safety throughout this period.

Sextortion Inputs

With support from Education Services in Inverclyde, the Preventions Team will be continuing, and will soon conclude sexual extortion inputs to S5/6 pupils in all Inverclyde High Schools. These inputs have been well received and have raised awareness amongst a particularly 'at risk' demographic for crimes of this type.



**Inverclyde Performance Report
1st October 2024 - 31st December 2024**



**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

Inverclyde Performance Report

Table of Contents

Local Fire and Rescue Service Plan Priorities	3
Inverclyde Activity Summary	4
Domestic Safety - Accidental Dwelling Fires	5
Domestic Safety - Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties	6
Unintentional Injury and Harm	7
Deliberate Fire Setting	8
Non-Domestic Fire Safety	9
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	10

Local Fire and Rescue Service Plan Priorities

The Local Fire and Rescue Service Plan has been developed to set out the priorities and objectives within Inverclyde and allows our local authority partners to scrutinise the performance outcomes of these priorities. We will continue to work closely with our partners in Inverclyde to ensure we are all **“Working Together for a Safer Scotland”** through targeting risks to our communities at a local level.

The plan has been developed to complement key partnership activity embedded across Inverclyde Community Plan and associated Delivery and Thematic plans. Through partnership working we will seek to deliver continuous improvement in our performance and effective service delivery in our area of operations.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Inverclyde identified six areas for demand reduction and is subject to regular monitoring and reporting through the Police / Fire and Rescue Committee. A summary of the priorities and current activity is detailed below with further detail and analysis contained within this performance report.

	Accidental Dwelling Fires	Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties	Unintentional Injury and Harm	Deliberate Fire Setting	Non-Domestic Fire Safety	Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
Inverclyde Central	0	0	1	6	0	7
Inverclyde East	0	0	2	7	1	9
Inverclyde East Central	0	0	4	17	0	1
Inverclyde North	2	0	2	1	0	10
Inverclyde South	1	0	1	9	0	6
Inverclyde South West	0	0	1	6	0	1
Inverclyde West	1	0	1	1	0	1

Total Incidents	4	0	12	47	1	35
Year on Year Change	● -79%	● -100%	● -29%	● -45%	● -86%	● -15%
3 Year Average Change	● -22%	▲ 0%	▲ -2%	● -7%	▲ 0%	● -25%

About the statistics within this report

The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

- Activity levels have reduced by more than 5%
- ▲ Activity levels have reduced by up to 5%
- ◆ Activity levels have increased overall

Inverclyde Activity Summary



fires
primary &
secondary



special
services



false
alarms



54

47

114



215
total number of
incidents



12
fire & non-fire
casualties

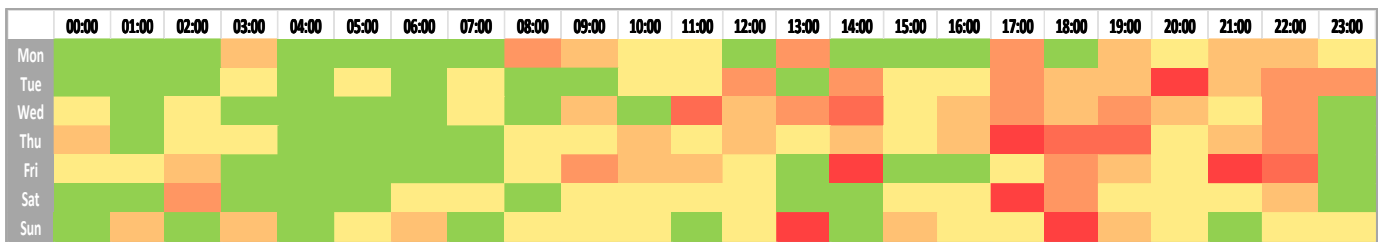


£68,950

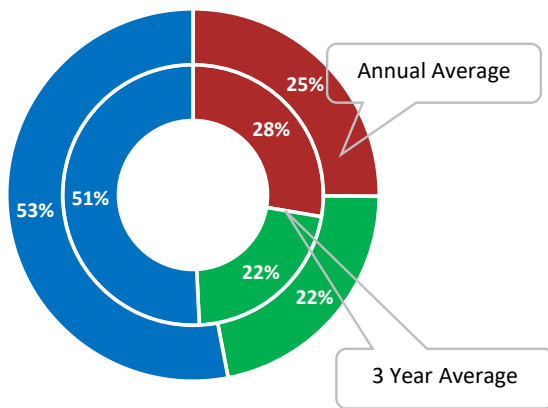
economic cost of
ufas incidents

*data above is year on year change

Activity by Time of Day

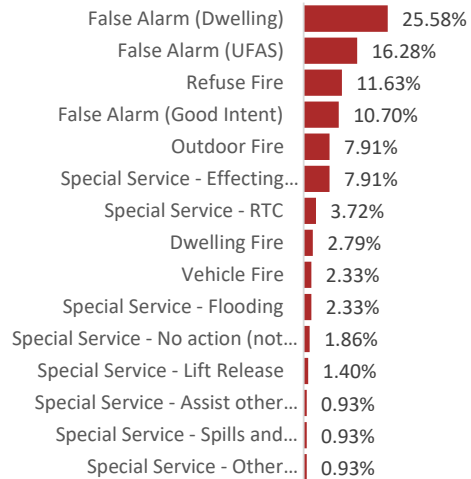


Incidents by Classification

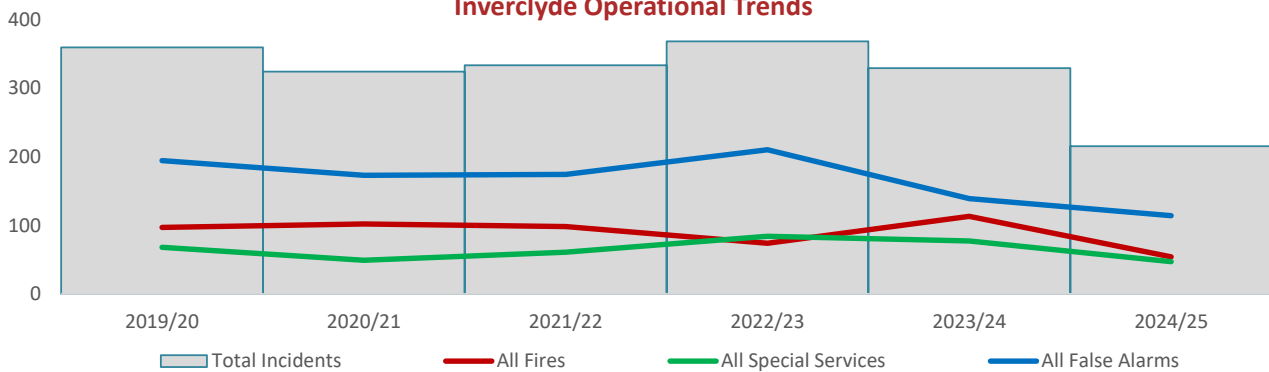


■ All Fires ■ All Special Services ■ All False Alarms

Top 15 Incidents Types by %



Inverclyde Operational Trends

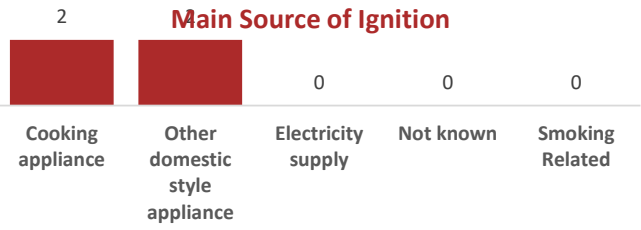
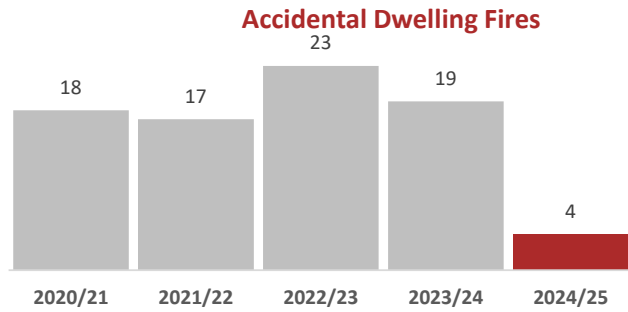


Domestic Safety - Accidental Dwelling Fires

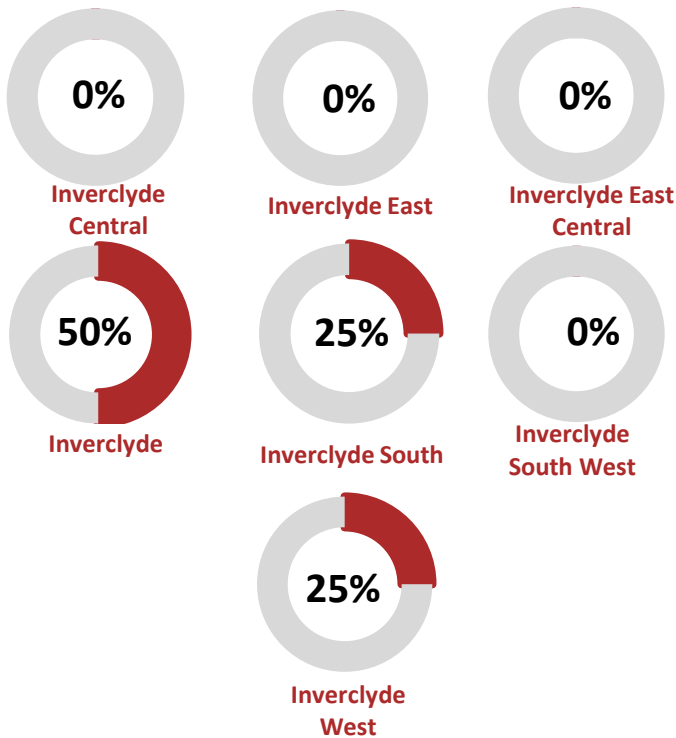


Performance Summary

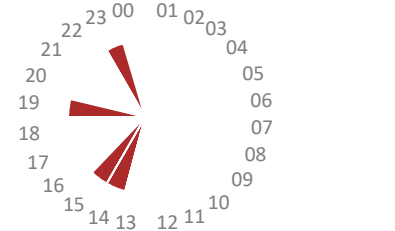
Year on Year **-79%** 3 Year Average **-22%**



Accidental Dwelling Fires Activity by Ward (% share)



Accidental Dwelling Fires by Time of Day



Severity of Accidental Dwelling Fires



Human Factors



Automatic Detection & Actuation



This quarter we are pleased to report 79% reduction in the year on year indicator for accidental dwelling fires, with a 22% reduction in the three year average indicator. The main source of ignition in these fires were cooking or other domestic appliances. Distraction was reported as a contributing factor in 25% of these incidents. In all of the accidental dwelling fires in Inverclyde over this quarter, detection was present and the detection actuated. In only one of these incidents was some form of direct firefighting action by SFRS required. As always, we continue to engage with our communities targeting those most at risk of fire, conducting Home Fire Safety Visits and delivering fire safety education and advice.

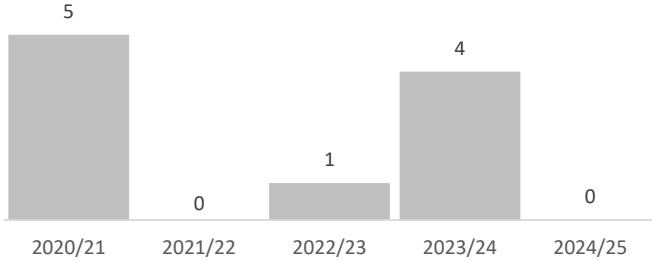
Domestic Safety - Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



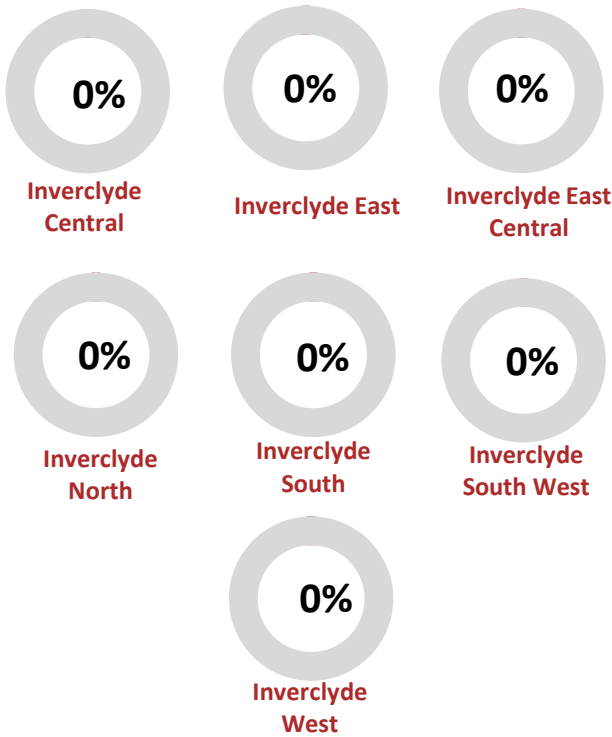
Performance Summary

Year on Year ● 100% 3 Year Average ▲ 0%

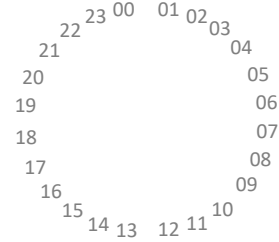
Accidental Dwelling Fires Casualties



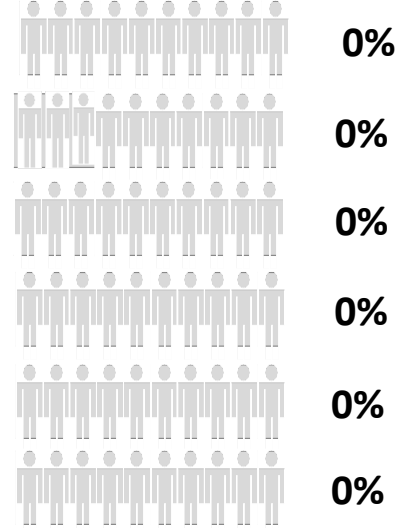
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties by Ward (% share)



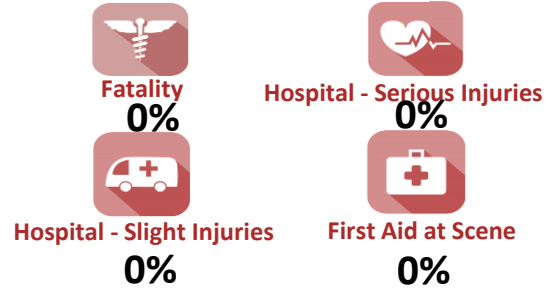
Fire Casualties by Time of Day



Nature of Injury



Extent of Harm

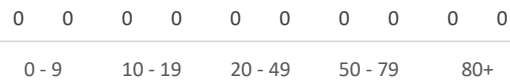


Male
0%

Age / Gender Profile



Female
0%



This quarter we can report a 100% decrease in the year on year figure for accidental dwelling fire casualties with zero, while the 3 year average indicator remains static. There were no accidental dwelling fire casualties recorded within Inverclyde this quarter. Reducing accidental dwelling fires and their associated casualties is one of our local priorities and we remain focussed on domestic safety across Inverclyde. Over this quarter our operational crews and Community Action Team carried out 127 HFSVs, with 39% of these being high risk households and 46% resulted from Post Domestic Incident Responses carried out following incidents within dwellings.

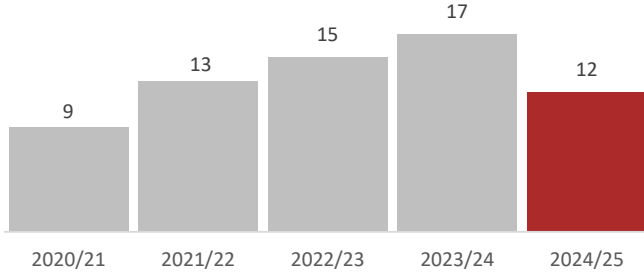
Unintentional Injury and Harm



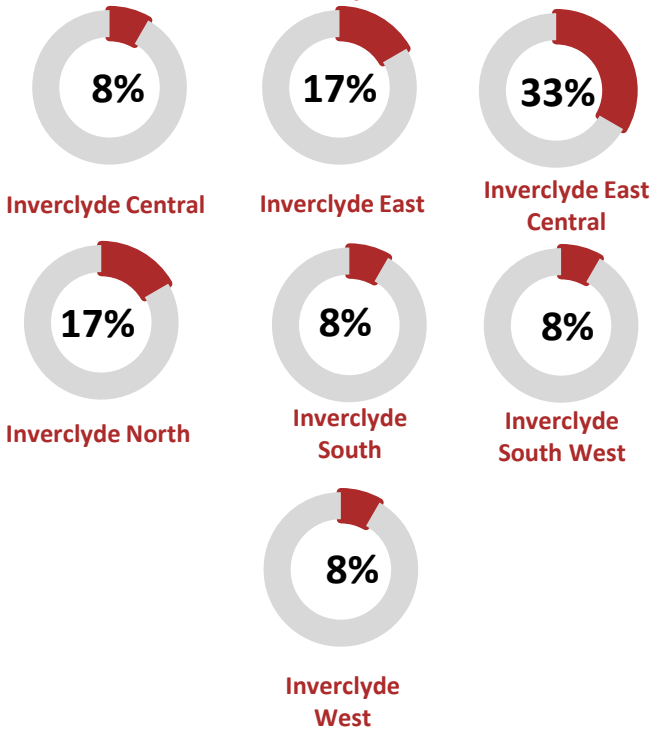
Performance Summary

Year on Year ● -29% 3 Year Average ▲ -2%

Non-Fire Casualties

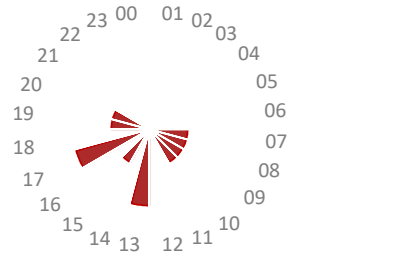


Non-Fire Casualties by Ward (% share)

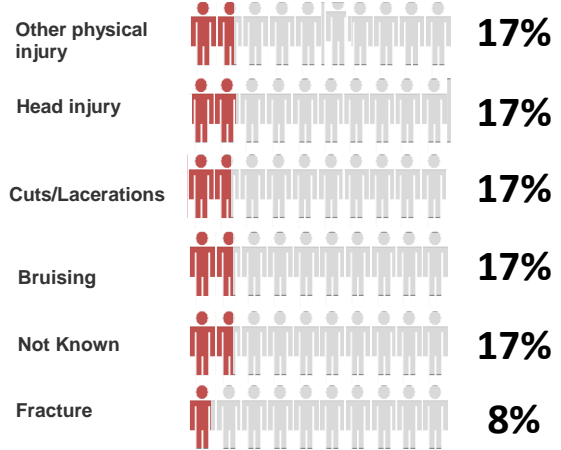


We are reporting a 29% reduction in the year on year indicator for unintentional injury and harm this quarter, with the overall trend continuing downward with the 3 year average indicator showing a reduction of 2%. This quarter, half of the unintentional injury and harm casualties resulted from Road Traffic Collisions, with a further 33% occurring at incidents where SFRS were called to assist other agencies. SFRS continues to work closely with our partners to reduce unintentional injuries and harm amongst members of the community in Inverclyde.

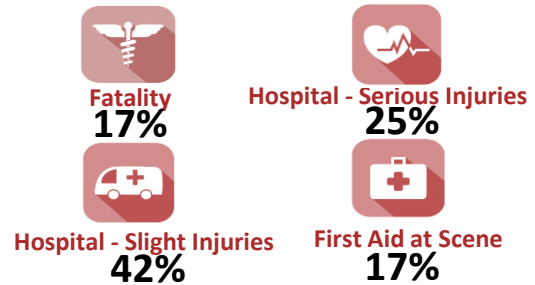
Non-Fire Casualties by Time of Day



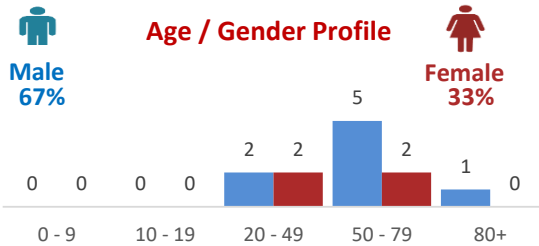
Nature of Injury



Extent of Harm



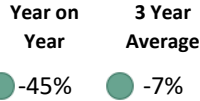
Non-Fire Emergency Activity



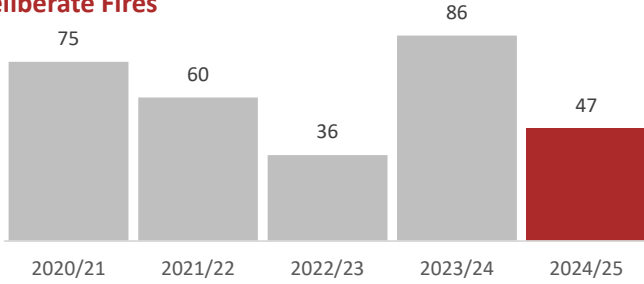
Deliberate Fire Setting



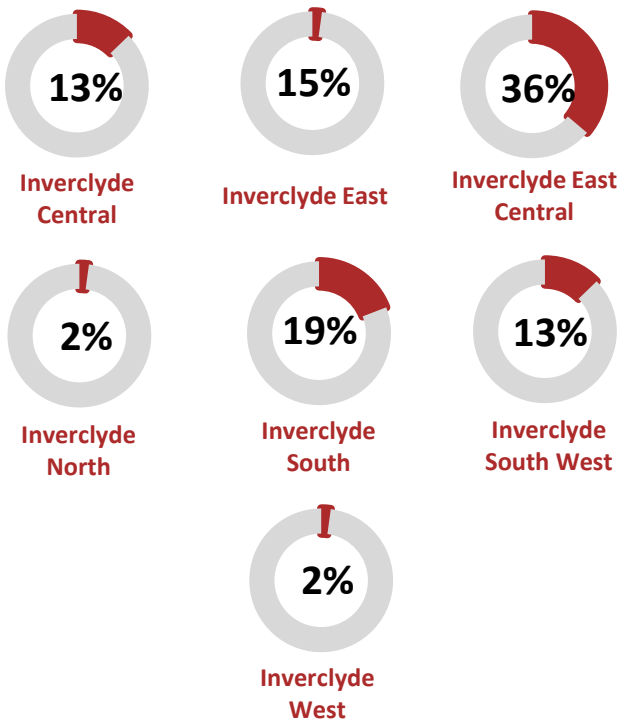
Performance Summary



Deliberate Fires



Deliberate Fires by Ward (% share)

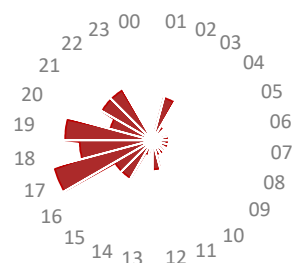


Definitions

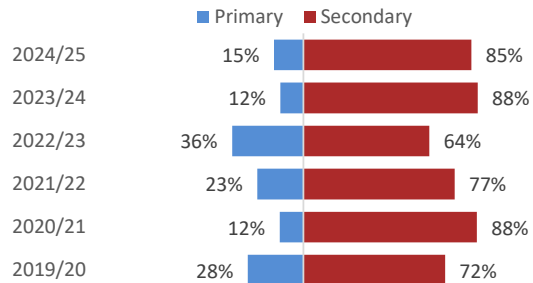
Primary Fires - all fires in buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues or fires attended by five or more appliances

Secondary Fires - fire incidents that did not occur at a primary location, was not a chimney fire in an occupied building, did not involve casualties (otherwise categorised as a primary incident) and was attended by four or fewer appliances.

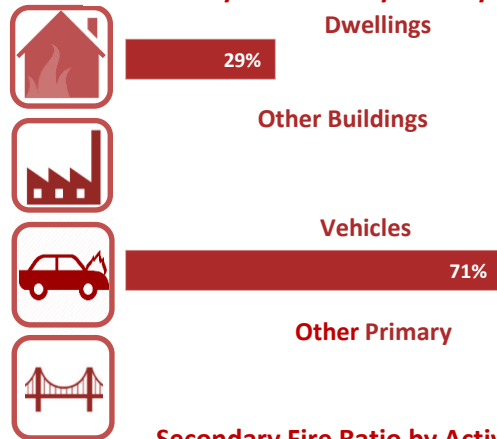
Deliberate Fires by Time of Day



Deliberate Fires by Classification



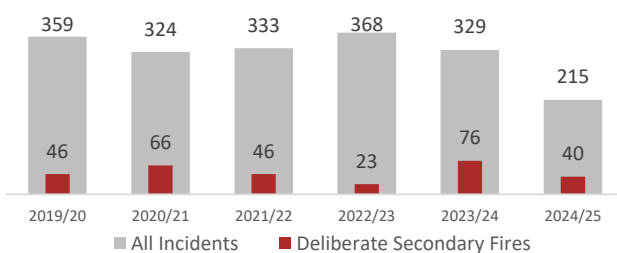
Primary Fire Ratio by Activity Type



Secondary Fire Ratio by Activity Type



Deliberate Fires Compared to Operational Activity

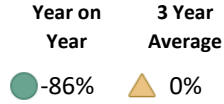


We can report that the statistics for deliberate fire setting for Inverclyde this quarter show a 45% reduction in the year on year indicator along with a 7% decrease in the three year average. Secondary fires accounted for over half of the deliberate fires in Inverclyde this quarter. 71% of deliberate primary fires involved vehicles with the remainder involving dwellings. We continue to work closely with our partners via the Inverclyde Hub etc. alongside our ongoing community engagement activities to tackle the issue of deliberate fire setting.

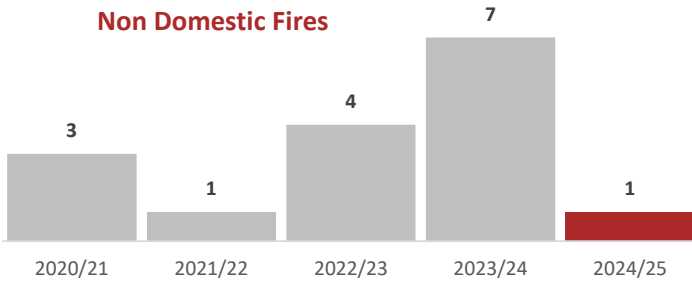
Non Domestic Fire Safety



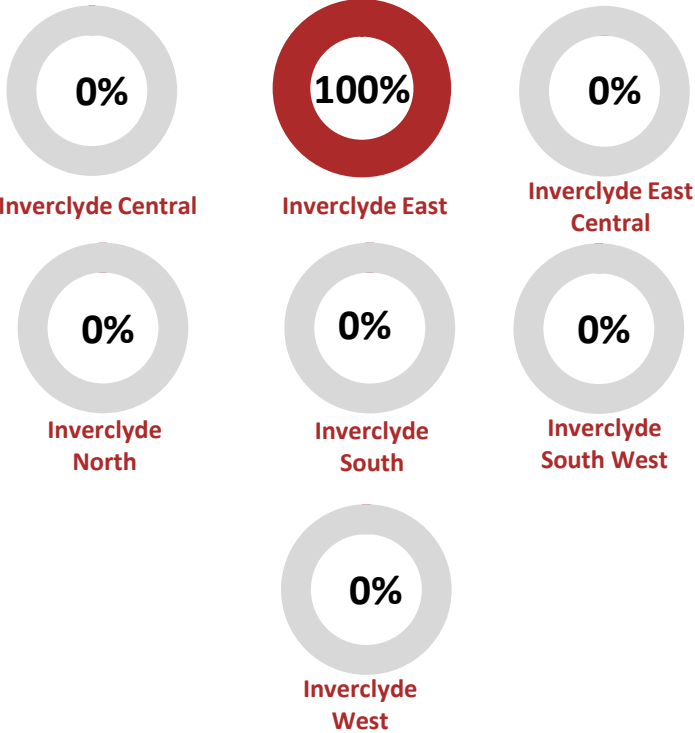
Performance Summary



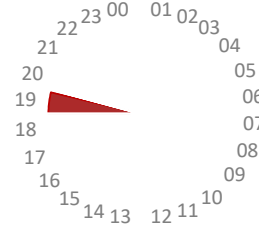
Non Domestic Fires



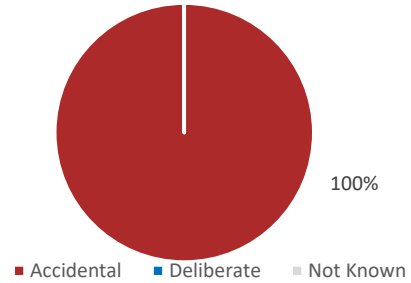
Non-Domestic Fires by Ward (% share)



Non-Domestic Fires by Time of Day



Non-Domestic Fires by Nature of Origin



Severity of Non-Domestic Fires



Non-Domestic Fires by Premises Type



This quarter sees us reporting 86% decrease in the year on year indicator in relation to non-domestic fires, while the 3 year average remains static. The total number of incidents remains low with a single incident, which was accidental in origin. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Team continues to carry out routine fire safety audits of relevant premises across Inverclyde as well as carrying out post fire audits whenever a non-domestic fire occurs.

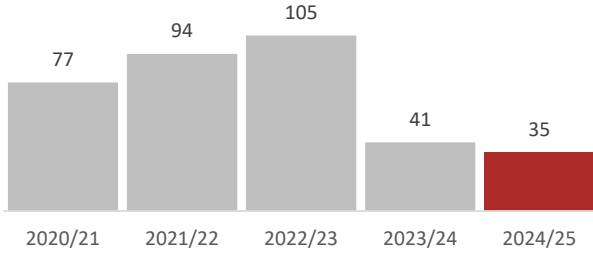
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



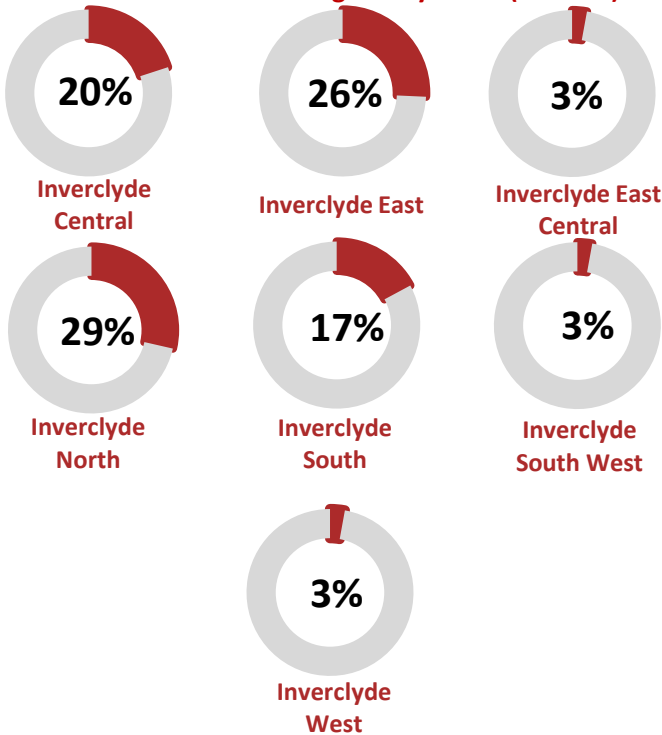
Performance Summary

Year on Year ● -15% 3 Year Average ● -25%

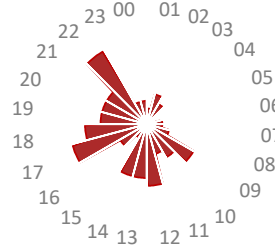
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



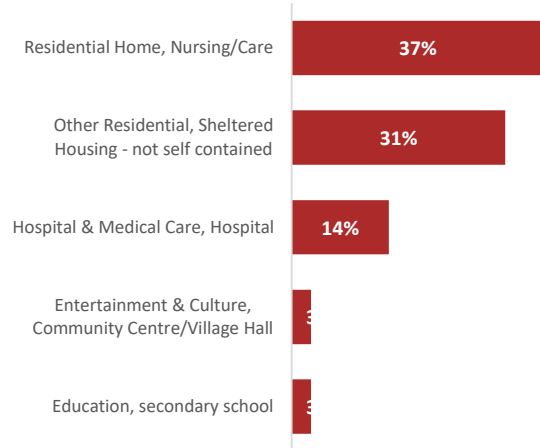
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals by Ward (% share)



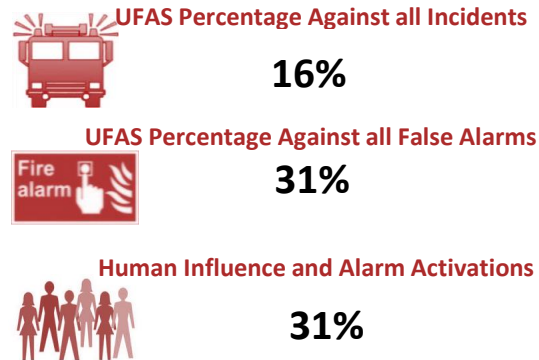
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals by Time of Day



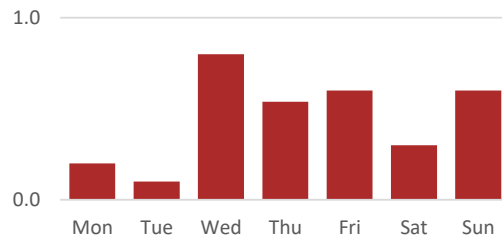
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals - Top 5 Premises



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Activity Ratios



Average Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals per Day



We can report a 15% reduction in the year on year indicator and a 25% decrease in the 3 year average indicator for Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. 16% of all SFRS incidents across Inverclyde this quarter were UFAS incidents, with Nursing/Care Homes and Other residential/Sheltered housing being the 2 main property types involved. Across Inverclyde the overall number of UFAS incidents continues to reduce through a combination of the changes to our UFAS Policy and Procedure and our ongoing engagement with duty holders at premises following a UFAS incident, providing guidance and support to assist in reducing the likelihood of future unwanted actuations of the fire alarm system.

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

Revised Home Fire Safety Visit Programme

Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is making changes to our Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) programme. As one of our key partners we wanted to let you know what these changes are and provide details of how your organisation can assist us to make communities safer through the delivery of this key fire safety programme.

Each year SFRS delivers over 40,000 HFSVs to homes across Scotland. These visits involve SFRS staff engaging with individuals within the home environment, to identify potential fire risks and provide advice and education.

As of January 2025, we will be delivering a more targeted visit to high-risk individuals who meet a new eligibility criterion, incorporating wider health and social care issues. This is based around factors which we know increases someone's risk of fire (fire fatality research). We have also reviewed and updated our visit content and are exploring ways to strengthen onward referrals and signposting to and from partner organisations, as we know from experience that individuals involved in fatal and serious fires are often known to partner organisations, but not SFRS.

Therefore, we want to work with organisations across Scotland to raise fire safety awareness and ensure we have information sharing processes in place to identify and engage with those most at risk.

We are engaging with our contacts within Inverclyde Council and HSCP, as well as our other partners across the Inverclyde, to ensure our continued collaboration with them as valued HFSV partners, building upon the success of our current home fire safety work. SFRS can provide training and support to your staff, and refer individuals to your organisation to access services, where appropriate.

In order for us to identify and reduce the fire risk to the most vulnerable in our communities, we have asked that our partners provide details of a nominated individual who could act as a HFSV Coordinator i.e. someone we can work with to get their organisation and practitioners on board. We will send them a copy of our Partner Guide which provides all the details required, including information on training and support. We have also sought the details of their Information Governance Officer (or equivalent) so we can share our updated Data Sharing Framework (DSF) which needs to be signed by organisations to ensure both parties are sending and receiving referrals in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

The current digital system that SFRS uses (known as CSET) will no longer be available to accept referrals and is being replaced by a new system which your staff will get access to once you have signed up to the new DSF.

To aid with the process and to assist with the transition we have carried out a series of information sessions, provided practitioners with an overview of the new system, how to sign up to make referrals and afforded the opportunity to ask any questions. The training was held via Microsoft teams and lasted around an hour.

Please note that our new HFSV programme will be launched in late January/February 2025. Previous methods of referring service users will no longer be available, therefore, it is important that our partner agencies who wish to become involved in the new process do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about our revised HFSV programme, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at W.ERRI.CommunityActionTeam@firescotland.gov.uk and we look forward to continuing to work with our valued partners to improve the safety of our communities.

3.0 THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD

3.1 The meeting of SPA Board was held on the 28 November 2024 <https://www.spa.police.uk/what-we-do/governance-meetings/board-meeting/28-november-2024/>

and considered several updates, including: -

- COSLA /Local and Regional Scrutiny Engagement
- Mental Health Distress and Vulnerability
- Criminal Justice Committee pre-budget evidence session
- Force Mobilisation Model
- Pay Award 2024-25

3.2 COSLA / Local and Regional Scrutiny Engagement

The Authority Chair updated on the engagement with local and regional police scrutiny representatives. They attend the national COSLA Police Conveners Forum (most recently on 21 November 2024) and regional scrutiny meetings. These forums facilitate information sharing and discussion of local, regional, and national policing issues between police and local government representatives. COSLA plays a key role in these engagements.

3.3 Mental Health Distress and Vulnerability

A Partnership Group led by the Authority has developed a Framework for Collaboration and Collaborative Commitments regarding policing and mental health distress. These documents, expected to be finalised and published in early 2025, build upon the existing Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy (co-sponsored by COSLA and the Scottish Government) and aim to improve access to appropriate services for individuals in mental health crisis who interact with the police.

3.4 Criminal Justice Committee pre-budget evidence session

On October 30, representatives from Police Scotland presented the 2025-26 budget proposal to the Scottish Parliament's Criminal Justice Committee. The proposal included a request for £59.1 million in additional core revenue funding to cover public sector pay assumptions, inflationary pressures, and legislative impacts, including the Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Act 2021 and the Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill. It also called for £25 million in reform funding to support change and transformation, as well as £83 million in capital allocation for replacing fleet, systems, and equipment, upgrading properties, and investing in technology, automation, and innovation. Additionally, the proposal emphasised the need for multi-year funding commitments, borrowing powers, and the ability to carry forward financial reserves. Following the UK Autumn Budget, an extra £25.3 million was added to account for National Insurance costs. Discussions with the Scottish Government are ongoing, with funding decisions anticipated in the coming weeks.

In December the Scottish Government presented its proposed 2025/26 budget to Parliament, including increased funding for policing. The proposed budget includes a £56.5m revenue uplift, and a £75m capital allocation, a £10.5m increase for infrastructure improvements. The Scottish Police Authority welcomed the proposal, which will support a new policing model. The government also reported that it would be supporting Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to deliver with a resource uplift of £13.6 million and increasing capital investment by £10.3 million to £43 million. The budget is now subject to Parliamentary scrutiny and a vote in February 2025.

3.5 Force Mobilisation Model

The Force Mobilisation Model aims to prioritise frontline services and enhance resourcing for events through a new approach for officers working Monday to Friday. It introduces a seven-day shift pattern combined with a demand-led deployment mechanism, requiring officers to undertake 10 operational frontline deployments annually, including two to three high-demand days like Hogmanay and Bonfire Night. This model seeks to reduce cancelled rest days, improve officer wellbeing, and minimise absences, ultimately enhancing service to communities. Following an

informal survey on shift preferences, a formal consultation with officers is now underway, with plans to review other non-seven-day working areas in the future.

3.6 Pay Award 2024-25

A 4.75% pay offer for police officers and staff (made on 18 October 2024) was accepted by Unite members but rejected by Unison members. This led to a formal failure to agree being registered with the PNBS secretariat (on 29 October 2024) and a separate failure to agree registered by Unison (on 4 November 2024), triggering formal dispute processes (both three-stage processes) which are now underway.

4.0 POLICE ESTATES MASTERPLAN

4.1 In November 2024 the Scottish Police Authority published a report on the Estates Masterplan for Police Scotland, which seeks to address the underinvestment in the policing estate over the years. It outlines the need for approximately £500 million in investment over the next decade to modernise facilities, including upgrading existing buildings and constructing new deployment hubs. The current estate is largely outdated, with a backlog maintenance bill of £245 million, and is not designed to meet future policing needs. The Masterplan aims to enhance energy efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of the estate while ensuring alignment with operational requirements through extensive stakeholder engagement. The report seeks endorsement from the Authority for the proposed capital programme as part of ongoing budget negotiations with the Scottish Government, positioning the Masterplan as a strategic framework for sustainable policing infrastructure in Scotland.

4.2 The Estates Masterplan has been developed to provide a strategic framework for the future development of the estate, to address the issue of sustainability, and has been built around the key following principles;

- Maintaining community confidence by having a visible presence in communities and appropriate public access to the police through the estate;
- Supporting a thriving workforce through developing a well-designed and maintained estate that is fit for the future;
- Ensuring the safety of those in custody by developing custody requirements that are effective and fit for purpose;
- Aligning with wider government policy in areas such as a co-location first approach, moving to a smaller modern estate in a move towards Net Zero goals, and freeing up brownfield sites for redevelopment opportunities.

4.3 Whilst the report states that detailed planning and design work has not yet been undertaken, it does highlight priority areas, such as Greenock, as locations with a need for investment.

4.4 The report is available to view at <https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/estates-plan-28-november-2024/>

5.0 POLICE SCOTLAND DOMESTIC ABUSE CAMPAIGN

5.1 Building on the "IsThatMe" campaign, Police Scotland's "Couples Questions" campaign encourages young men to examine their relationship behaviours for signs of abuse, control, or coercion. Targeting younger individuals, the campaign aims to prevent abusive behaviours from developing by promoting early recognition of unhealthy relationship dynamics. Those who recognise themselves in the campaign materials are urged to "#ChooseToStop" and seek help from the Respect Phonenumber, which provides support and advice to people in Scotland concerned about their own harmful or abusive behaviours, offering expert guidance and strategies for change.

6.0 HMICS – THEMATIC INSPECTION OF ROAD POLICING IN SCOTLAND

6.1 On 5 November HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) published a report on their thematic inspection of road policing in Scotland. The report highlights several key issues and recommendations for improvement within Police Scotland. It emphasises the need for decentralisation of driver training to enhance retention of female officers and improve access for those in rural areas. The report also calls for better monitoring of the Policing Together initiative to ensure diversity in recruitment and retention within the Operational Support Division. Additionally, it identifies challenges related to road policing officers' court attendance, which detracts from their ability to maintain road safety, and suggests exploring virtual court appearances to alleviate this burden. The inspection further recommends enhancing intelligence and analytical efforts related to road safety and adopting a trauma-informed approach when supporting individuals affected by serious road collisions. Overall, the findings underscore the importance of addressing these areas to improve the effectiveness of road policing in Scotland.

6.2 The 13 recommendations from the inspection are as follows:

- Police Scotland should review its commitment to and investment in its road policing function, to ensure it is effectively supporting Scotland's Road Safety Framework and that road crime is being actively addressed.
- Police Scotland should take urgent steps to address the backlog in specialist driver training.
- Police Scotland should review its policy position, and the training and equipment provided, for local policing officers responding to incidents on the fast road networks.
- Police Scotland should engage with its criminal justice partners to explore options (including virtual appearances) to reduce the time requirement for officers attending court.
- Police Scotland should engage with Scottish Government to progress a legislative change that will allow the escorting of abnormal loads in Scotland to be carried out by another agency.
- Police Scotland should progress the implementation of a road policing performance framework that provides an indication of progress towards achieving the targets set out in Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2030.
- Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority should create and implement a joint action plan to identify and address the risk posed by drug driving.
- Police Scotland should implement a process to ensure vehicles are equipped in a consistent manner. The views of officers who will be using the vehicles should be taken into account when considering the type of equipment to be fitted, and how and where it is fitted.
- Police Scotland should identify and adopt best practice in the deployment and use of ANPR.
- Police Scotland should progress the facility for members of the public to report road traffic offences by directly uploading journey-cam footage.
- Police Scotland should review its intelligence and analytical commitment in relation to road safety and road crime, to improve focus on these areas.
- Police Scotland should engage with UK Road Offender Education and other key stakeholders to progress the full implementation of educational training courses for people who commit driving offences that may be appropriately addressed through learning.
- Police Scotland should review its policy on the deployment of family liaison officers, to ensure a consistent level of service to people who have been bereaved following a fatal collision.

The report is available to view at <https://www.hmics.scot/publications/thematic-inspection-of-road-policing-in-scotland/>

7.0 SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE – LOCAL FIRE & RESCUE PLANS

7.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has postponed the development of new Local Fire and Rescue Plans. They recently conducted a public consultation to gather input on the future direction of the service. The results of this consultation, along with the development of a new Strategic Plan, will inform the creation of the Local Plans. The SFRS aims to finalise the Strategic Plan in Summer 2025 and will share a detailed timeline for the development of Local Plans in the coming months.

8.0 INVERCLYDE FIRE SKILLS COURSE

8.1 A group of young people learned all about team building, problem-solving and health and safety as part of a Fire Skills course at Port Glasgow Community Fire Station. S3 pupils from Notre Dame High School and Inverclyde Academy took part in the week-long course, which is run in partnership between Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Inverclyde Council. They learned vital skills then rounded off the week with a practical demo in front of representatives from their schools, their families, elected members from Inverclyde Council and other partner agencies. They received certificates to mark their participation by Provost Drew McKenzie and the work carried out during the week will be used as evidence towards accredited awards by Inverclyde Council's Community Safety & Resilience and Youth Work teams.

9.0 IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk		X
Human Resources		X
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

9.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

9.3 **Legal/Risk**

There are no legal/risk implications contained within this report.

9.4 **Human Resources**

There are no human resource implications contained within this report.

9.5 **Strategic**

There are no strategic implications contained within this report.

10.0 **CONSULTATION**

10.1 There were no consultations required outside those noted in the report.

11.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 None.