



Keeping People Safe in Inverclyde

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

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



Group 1 Crimes of Violence have increased by 15 crimes to a total of 131, with attempt murders and serious assaults both increasing by seven and two respectively.

There was one murder or culpable homicide in the reporting period - four fewer victims than the same period last year.

653 fewer disorder complaints (-17.4%)

There have been 650 recorded common assaults (75 fewer victims) - down 10.3% on the previous year. 94 assaults targeted police officers, with 14 further assaults on other emergency workers. 22 police assaults occurred while the offender was in custody.



The rate of overall violence per 10k population in Inverclyde remains below the national average rate. The detection rate for crimes of serious violence is 69.5%, compared to a national position of 80.4%. Nearly half of all recorded serious assaults in Inverclyde involved uncooperative/hostile complainers or witnesses.

Acquisitive Crime



Shoplifting has increased 26.2% to a total of 434 crimes - 90 more than last year. Food and grocery thefts are up 23%.



Housebreaking crimes (inc attempts) - have fallen by 23.1% (48 fewer crimes). 69% of HBs targeted dwelling houses.

While the majority of categories of crimes of dishonesty have fallen considerably on the previous year, an increase in fraud (+66%) has offset this decrease to a degree, resulting in an overall increase of 2.8 percent in acquisitive crimes (36 additional crimes). Automated checkout fraud and taxi fraud have been identified as the main issue.



There have been four reported bogus workmen crimes - one less than the previous year. Tactics used by suspects included posing as utilities workers to gain access to properties and steal from within, and charging complainers for construction work which was thereafter not completed.

Inverclyde

Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020)

Reporting Period: 1 April 2018- 31 March 2019

Public Protection

Reported sexual crimes have decreased slightly on the previous year, to a total of 163 - 16 fewer than 2017/18. The rate of recorded sexual crime per 10k population remains below the national average.



74% of sexual offences occurred in dwelling houses and other private settings, with public spaces featuring in only 26% of sexual crimes. Meanwhile, 45% of reports were non-recent in nature.

35% of sexual crimes involved victims aged 15 years or less at the time of the offence, with a significant proportion (41%) of these crimes involving non-recent reporting. 8% of all sexual offences were cyber-enabled.

The detection rate for sexual crime is 39.4% - down from the 64.0% recorded last year.



160 missing person incidents have been reported year-to-date - down from 168 the previous year. 65% of incidents involved Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) or other young people. 31% of incidents involved a mental health concern.

1,941 adult / child concern Vulnerable Person forms in the current year - down 7.8% on the same period last year.

876 domestic incidents have been recorded, down 1.9% on the previous year. 42.6% of these incidents resulted in a crime report being raised - a decrease on the 46.4% conversion rate recorded last year. Meanwhile, of the total 21,773 recorded police incidents, there were 805 public safety incidents (16 less than last year).

35 complaints have been received in relation to the Police within Inverclyde (17.6 complaints per 10,000 incidents). A total of 55 allegations have been made.

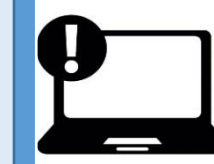
Major Crime & Terrorism



126 individuals linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested in Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Division. In addition, £818,129.82 has been seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

There have been 57 drug supply charges raised year-to-date, nine less than the previous year. Cannabis was involved in 47% of supply charges, while cocaine and crack cocaine featured in 28%, a notable increase on the previous year (14%).

There have been 22 confirmed drug - related deaths in 2018/19, with four further suspected drugs deaths (awaiting toxicology results). Etizolam and methadone featured in the majority of the confirmed drug deaths.



Cyber-enabled crime continues to be an issue, with 56 crimes over the year having a 'cybercrime' marker applied (up from 31 last year). Recent crimes threatening to disclose private sexual images and recordings, indecent communications and online credit card fraud.

Road Safety & Road Crime



No road fatalities were recorded in the period April 2018 to Dec 2019. This represents three fewer road deaths than the previous year. Meanwhile, serious road injuries increased by six to a total of 19, while slight injuries fell to 77 (31 fewer than last year).



Overall, offences relating to motor vehicles have fallen 20.5% on the previous year, in particular speeding and seat belt offences. However, proactive road policing has contributed to an increase in both licence and dangerous driving offences.

POPULATION

Respected

Safe

Wellbeing Matters - National Mental health awareness week is being fully supported to help raise the awareness of mental health stigma and encourage people take the time to listen and understand the positive effect this can have on someone in crisis. Local Wellbeing champions are implementing a number of helpful guides for staff to encourage regular self-checks of their bodies and what to look out for in the aim to raise Cancer awareness.

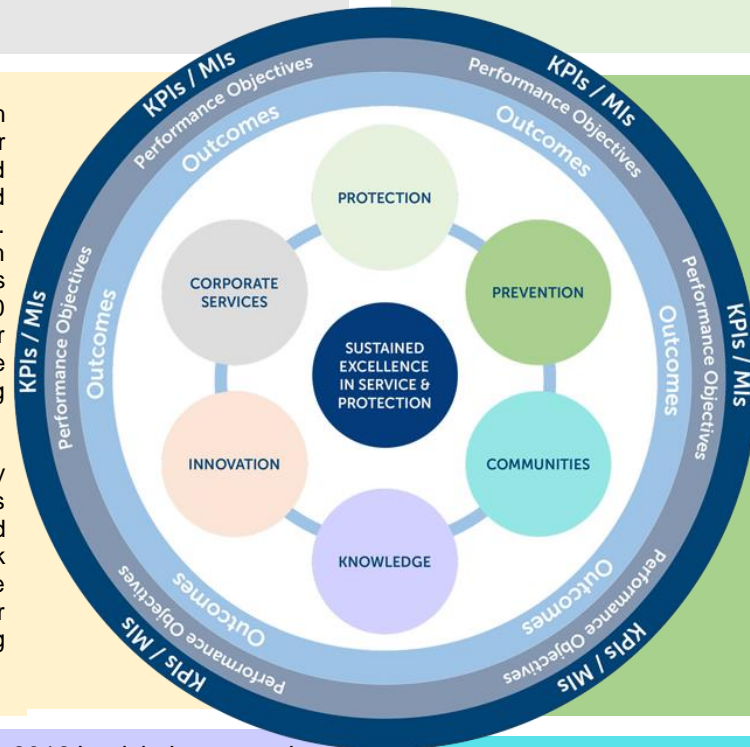
Awards - In April 2019 Local Violence Reduction Unit were presented with divisional commanders award for their outstanding performance in tackling the sale and supply of drugs and making a number of significant arrests over the past year helping to making Inverclyde safer. PC Kirsty Boyd and PC Hazel Dale were also presented with Divisional commander Award for their work with REACH for Autism.

Safeguarding our Young - Over the Easter holidays a number of locations throughout Inverclyde experienced an increase in disorder and anti-social behavior attributed to large gathering of young people in numbers excess of 100 young people, some who were intoxicated, became verbally abusive and throwing glass bottles towards officers and community wardens. The young people gather together from all over Inverclyde and placed themselves at risk of harm due to the actions of a few individuals. Eight youths were arrested over the Easter Holiday period for offences related to anti-social behaviour. A multi-agency action plan with Police, Community wardens and BTP to tackle the issues combined with Local and social media to highlight the issues including the #DoYouKnow campaign, appealing to parents to ask if they really know where their young people were going at night.

Multi Agency Partnership Working - In April 2019, Inverclyde Council CCTV operators spotted a male acting suspiciously on West Stewart Street, and believed that the handle of a concealed weapon could be seen. They quickly liaised with local officers which led to the arrest of a 40 year old male in possession of two large knives. The male appeared at court the following day and was remanded in custody. This example of effective partnership working will reassure the public that we continue to work together to keep people safe in Inverclyde.

Counter terrorism Partnership working - As part of the European Multi-Disciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) Joint Action Day, Inverclyde Police joined forces with their Roads Policing & Specialist Crime counterparts, Divisional Counter Terrorist and Organised Crime staff, as well as partners from the United Kingdom Border Force and the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency to conduct a day long heavy goods vehicle checkpoint operation. The operation was designed to raise the awareness of operators regarding counter terrorism and organised crime, including labour exploitation, as well as ensure that heavy goods vehicles operating on Inverclyde roads are safe and operating in accordance with the law. Over 40 vehicles were inspected on the day with 4 reports being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal for various offences, two vehicles seized for having no valid policy of insurance for the driver, nine immediate prohibitions to drive vehicles issued and one male arrested on an outstanding warrant. The operation will be repeated at intervals throughout the year.

New police equipment - Procurement exercise is now under way for newly developed body armour for all police officers. Six officers have been selected for the wearer trial evaluations which began on 2 April. The updated Body Armour aims to be lighter, more flexible and accommodate a wider range of body shapes in the aim to offer protection and reduce the risk of Musculoskeletal injuries. Samples included overt and overt carriers and the officers were responsible for evaluating each sample across a set range of tasks. The full body armour replacement programme is scheduled for an October rollout date. It will begin by replacing armour which is either at, or has reached, the end of its warranty period.



Multi Agency Partnership Working - Shut out Scammers - In April 2019 Police and Trading Standards commenced a campaign to raise awareness about doorstep crime and the risk of online fraud. Joint events in Oak Mall shopping centre, Gourock Library, South West Library and Tesco Port Glasgow combined with a number of inputs to community groups across Inverclyde were positively received with leaflet drops and letters to key groups ensuring a wide coverage. A number of victims were conducted to provide advice and reassurance and preventative information of emerging Scams. Local and social media highlighted the initiative.

Education prevention - In February 2019 the Divisional Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer delivered a Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent to the Safeguarding Team at West College Scotland, Greenock Finnart Street Campus. Prevent is a fundamental element of the UK's counter terrorism strategy CONTEST, and aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The Workshop was designed to equip the staff with the knowledge to identify when a person may be at risk of radicalisation and the steps to take to safeguard that person and prevent them from being drawn into or supporting terrorism. This workshop was well received by the staff and provided an opportunity for local police to explain the safeguarding aims of the Prevent strategy.

Domestic abuse Update - On 1st April 2019 the new Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 Legislation to combat Mental / Emotional abuse came into force requiring a substantial training program to ensure all police officers were fully aware of the new power. Inverclyde reported one of the first cases in Scotland for a breach of this legislation whereby the accused was arrested, pled guilty and remanded in custody prior to sentencing. This new legislation marks a significant change in approach to domestic abuse investigation and helps in keeping people safe.

Spotting a Fake - Responding to the shift in terrorism attack methodology away from larger more organised attacks to lone attackers and the increase in the insider threat, in February 2019 the Divisional Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer ran a Fraudulent Document Awareness Workshop at the Divisional HQ. This was attended by a number of staff members from Inverclyde Council including officers from Enforcement and Trading Standards. The aim of the workshop was to increase the attendees' knowledge of identity documents and the potential for their abuse by those involved in terrorism or other forms of criminality. The practical workshop provided attendees with the opportunity to examine counterfeit and genuine identity documents to gain a better understanding of the security features, and ultimately enhance the ability of the attendees to spot a fake.

Drugs and Weapons Recoveries - In May 2019 Pro-active officers observed suspicious activity from a male in a vehicle parked on Strone Crescent in Greenock. Due to the nature of the activity Police detained the male for search under Misuse of Drug legislation. A search of the suspect's vehicle and subsequent search of his home under warrant recovered a large quantity of substances believed to be Cocaine, Ketamine, MDMA and Ecstasy tablets with an estimated street values of approx. £77,000 and cash to the value of over £7,000. A 33 year old male was arrested for various alleged Misuse of Drug offence.

Acquisitive Crime – Community Impact – Police received a number of reports of theft / attempted theft from vehicles in Greenock town centre including two separate lone females who were with their vehicle when an attempt to grab their bag was made. Through extensive pro-activity including high visibility patrols and CCTV reviews from a number of premises a suspect was identified whereby a 35 Year old male was traced and arrested. He was charged with four offences and received a six month custodial sentence.

Active

Included

Responsible

Healthy

INEQUALITIES

Achieving

ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Nurtured