

Keeping People Safe in Renfrewshire

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

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



YTD (April to October 2020) 169 Group 1 Crimes of Violence were recorded – a decrease of 13.3% on the previous year, equating to 26 fewer victims. Just over half of Group 1 crimes occurred in private spaces.

Overall downward trend in both serious & minor violence.

995 common assaults have been recorded – 100 fewer than the same period last year (-9.1%). 166 assaults targeted emergency workers an increase of 11 crimes compared to the previous year) – the majority of which targeted police officers.

70 serious assaults were recorded (28 fewer), with a detection rate of 71.4% - no change on the previous year. Meanwhile, recorded robberies increased by three, to a total of 44. The robbery detection rate is 72.9%, up from the previous year's rate of 68.5%. 30% of serious assaults, and 61% of robberies, occurred in private dwellings.

Acquisitive Crime



Crimes of theft by shoplifting fell by 40.5%, to a total of 339. The detection rate is 69.9%, close to the previous year's position (70.2%).



There were 188 housebreakings (including attempts) – 25 fewer than in the previous year. A decrease was noted in respect of HBs to both commercial premises and sheds/outbuildings.

A total of 1,702 acquisitive crimes have been recorded year-to-date – a decrease of 10.7% on the previous year. This was predominantly driven by a drop in common theft and theft by shoplifting. The detection rate for acquisitive crime is 37.5%, 2.7 percentage points below the previous year's position. We continue to assess that the significant increase in cyber-enabled fraud and additional associated complexities of investigation of these crimes is a factor in this decrease.



Nine bogus crimes have been reported, six more than the previous year. Eight crimes targeted elderly members of the community. Crimes typically involved victims being over-charged for roofing and gardening work, which suspects thereafter failed to undertake.

Public Protection



Since 1 April 2020, 1,589 crimes have been identified via police proactivity – up 23.2% on the previous year.

Over 44% of victims were aged under 16 years at the time of the offence. 58% of these crimes targeting young people were non-recent in nature, while nearly a third were cyber-enabled.



There have been 250 missing person incidents in Renfrewshire, of which over 20% involved young people going missing from Young Person's Units. Over three quarters of all incidents involved people aged between 10 and 19 years of age. Repeat missing person incidents continue to constitute a significant proportion of the total – with the top five repeat missing persons collectively accounting for 22% of all incidents.

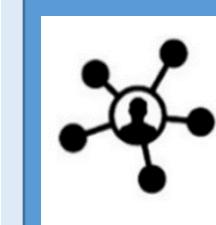
1,302 domestic abuse incidents have been reported to the police, a decrease of 7.9% on the previous year. 794 crimes and offences were raised as a result of reported incidents, representing a decrease of 9.4% on the previous year – with a conversion rate of all domestic incidents into crime incidents of 43.4% (compared to 44.1% in the previous year). Meanwhile, the detection rate for domestic crimes and offences increased from 65.2% in the previous year, to 68.4% in the current period.

Public Confidence

There were 42 complaints about police during the reporting period. This equates to 27.7 complaints per 10,000 police incidents.

Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan (2020 – 2021) Reporting Period – 1 Apr '20 – 31 Oct '20

Major Crime & Terrorism



Targeting serious and organised crime continues to be a priority for the division. One serious and organised crime group (SOCG) which primarily impacts on Renfrewshire is currently being managed by the division. This SOCG is primarily involved in drug supply. Drug supply charges have increased by 18.3% on the previous year, to a total of 97.

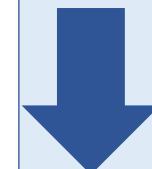


207 crimes have been designated as 'cyber-crimes' via application of the relevant cyber-crime marker. Reported offences included internet order fraud, phishing and threatening communications. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to provide additional opportunities for cybercriminals to target victims.

Road Safety & Road Crime



YTD, there have been no road fatalities within Renfrewshire (one fewer death when compared to the previous year's position). There were 26 serious road injuries (ten fewer than last year), including four children, and 34 slight injuries (52 fewer than the previous year).



2,158 offences relating to motor vehicles have been recorded year to date – a decrease of 1.5% on the previous year. However, notable increases continue to be observed in relation to drink/drug, insurance and licensing offences.

Procurement Improvement Project

The National Procurement Team have recently completed a review of the procurement processes nationally and locally resulting in the creation of a new procurement manual. The manner in which we purchase commodities such as works, good and services is crucial to ensure best value. The successful review will allow us to source the best value goods and services, allowing our officers and staff to meet operational demands in an ethical and sustainable way.

Telematics

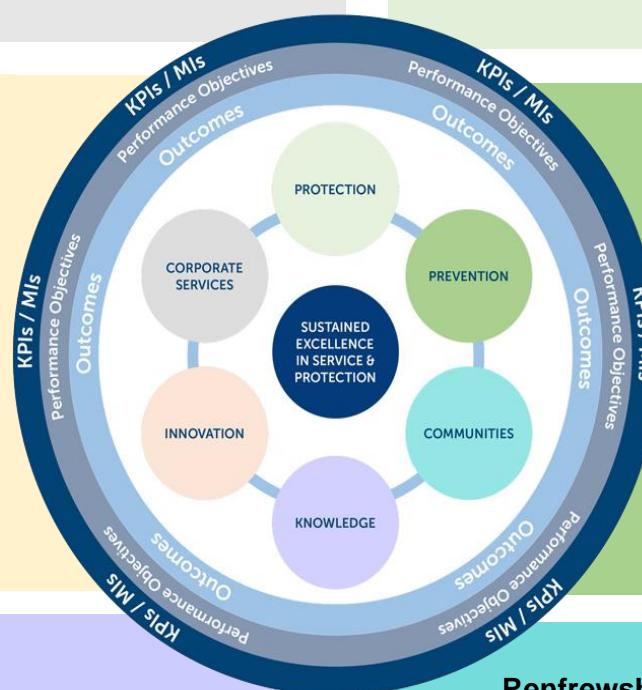
All police vehicles in Renfrewshire are now fitted with a GPS system which can be used to monitor and record details about our fleet. This is a key part of our Fleet Strategy which aims to provide a fit for purpose, safe, reliable and cost effective fleet. This new technology will allow us to ensure the right vehicles are available at the right time, in the right place.

Online Sexual Abuse Taskforce

A national taskforce was established in recent months with the dedicated aim of tackling online child sexual abuse. In its first month of activity 39 individuals were arrested across the country. Dozens of children were identified as being at risk or potentially at risk and have now been protected.

Cyber Bullying and Online Safety

Officers within the Divisional Safer Communities Team have developed a remote educational course. It is being delivered to the Senior Staff members at the High Schools across Renfrewshire. The course, which is delivered by means of online video conferencing, enhances the awareness of cyber bullying, crime and exploitation online.

**The Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 – EP Act**

The 'EP Act' came into force on Saturday 7th November 2020. It repeals S51 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 and removes the defence of 'justifiable assault' carried out in the exercise of a parental right or a right derived from having charge of a child. The act has been designed to bring about behavioural change and to afford the same protection from assault to a child that an adult might expect.

Officers in Renfrewshire have undergone a bespoke training programme in relation to this new legislation to ensure we are able to respond appropriately. We are aware that the change in the law may generate strong emotions in members of the public. Our response must be consistent, impartial and professional but also proportionate whilst recognising the rights of parents to raise their children without undue intervention into their private family life.

Child Protection Flagging System

The protection of the vulnerable in Renfrewshire is a key priority for Police Scotland, never more so than when we are dealing with children and young people. The police IT system for managing, recording and sharing our concerns for the vulnerable in our communities has for the first time been enhanced to include direct access to Child Protection Register (CPR). The CPR is an administrative system for alerting front line practitioners that there is sufficient professional concern about a child (including unborn babies) to warrant an inter-agency Child Protection Plan.

All police officers and staff, including crucially our operational officers, will have real-time access to this information placing them in stronger position to make more informed decisions. Allowing us to enhance the safety of those most in need.

Community Safety Nurses

Police Officers in Renfrewshire have been working closely with partners in the local Authority, Health, Adult and Children Protection Services and many others to develop the innovative role of Community Safety Nurses (CSN). This is a new concept which is designed to benefit the most vulnerable people in Renfrewshire.

A key aspect of the multi-disciplined role of the CSN is to provide individuals with complex mental, physiological and social needs a formal support platform which will manage the clinical risk related to suicide, self-harm and harm to others in the communities of Renfrewshire.

Renfrewshire Area Commander

As of 1 December 2020 the entire geographic area of Renfrewshire falls under the command of one Local Area Commander (LAC) – Chief Inspector Rhona Fraser, based at Paisley Police office. Historically Renfrewshire was serviced by two LACs who had responsibility for two separate areas – KA sub division: Paisley, and KB sub division: Renfrew/Johnstone and the villages. All Renfrewshire wide initiatives straddled both sub divisions with both LACs having to agree support to maintain a corporate approach.

A coterminous Renfrewshire wide sub division has been designed and is being implemented to build better cohesion and synergy with the local authority. It will provide a single representation in terms of partnership working, identification of joint risk and distinct scrutiny representation. The strengthening of partnership working should lead to delivering a policing service which better meets the needs of the communities it serves.