

To: JOHNSTONE & VILLAGES LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

On: 25 AUGUST 2016

Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Heading: COMMUNITY SAFETY & PUBLIC PROTECTION,
PROGRESS UPDATE**

1. Summary

1.1 This report provides a progress update on activities the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership has carried out in the Johnstone and Villages area in quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2016). A number of partners have provided statistical information, including: Police Scotland; Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; and Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership. The report includes information on:

- Johnstone and Villages community safety statistics;
- Environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
- Protecting vulnerable residents;
- Building safer communities;
- Diversionary activities;
- A spotlight on Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC).

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of this progress update report.

3. Focus on Johnstone and Villages

- 3.1 The table below details the number of incidents reported in the Johnstone and Villages Local Area during Quarter 1, 2016/17 (April to June 2016). The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership continues to target resources into identified hotspot areas.

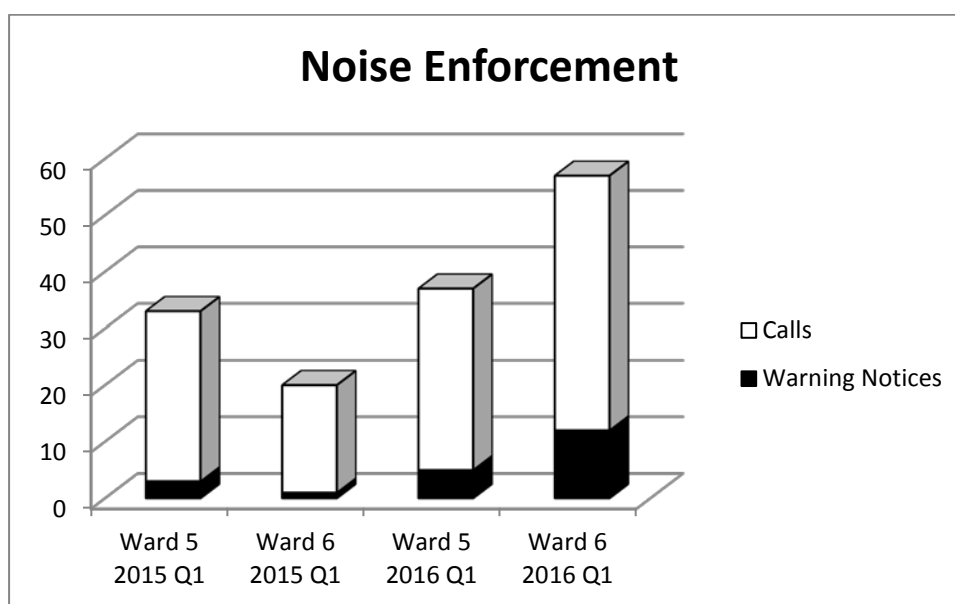
Incidents Reported	Q1 2015/16		Q1 2016/17	
	Ward 7	Ward 8	Ward 7	Ward 8
Serious Violent Crime	4	7	2	7
Minor Assault	27	23	26	31
Drug Crime	31	38	26	50
Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) (number of calls)	242	221	197	278
Vandalism	22	20	27	35

- 3.2 Reductions within Anti Social Behaviour and disorder across the LAC area can be attributed to recent coordinated pro-active interventions from all partners. This has included Police Scotland and Wardens conducting increasingly targeted patrols, and intensive activity from Youth Officers which has included liaison with local shops and Head Teachers/janitors of local schools; community safety visits to all youths identified in youth disorder; leaflet drops to relevant areas and the diversionary activities of Street Stuff.
- 3.3 However, within Ward 8 increases were noted within drug crime, Anti Social Behaviour / disorder calls, and Vandalism. The vast majority of drug crimes were committed within Johnstone Town Centre and immediate surrounds, with 96% of these being for possession of user amounts of (predominantly) cannabis. Due to the drug type and quantity; location; and peak time for offences (1800hrs to midnight); it is most likely that this reflects a seasonal increase in recreational use. The main increase within Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour calls has been within complaints of Public Nuisance, which now peak notably on weekend days. Further analysis indicates that this increase is mainly attributable to an increase in reports of youths gathering and drinking within the Miller Street area during early April. This was met with a coordinated and robust response including increased patrols from both Police and Wardens, as well as engagement from local Youth Officers. This achieved the desired effect, with no further incidents of this type reported during the intervening period to date. The increase in vandalisms can mostly be attributed to a known repeat location in the area of Morrisons Supermarket which suffered nine separate incidents between mid-May to mid-June. There have been no further incidents reported since 20th June, however Wardens and Youth Officers are in regular dialogue with Morrisons to monitor the situation.
- 3.4 **Renfrewshire Wardens' Antisocial Behaviour Calls**
95 antisocial behaviour calls were received by the Renfrewshire Wardens' service for the Johnstone and Villages LAC area during April to June 2016. This is a decrease compared to the same period in 2015 which also corresponds with the reduction of

incidents reported to Police Scotland. 900 patrols took place within the Johnstone and Villages LAC area, many in response to these calls. The calls made to the Wardens also assist in helping the Community Safety Partnership to respond to and direct resources across Renfrewshire.

3.5 Noise Enforcement

During April to June 2016, the number of calls to the Noise Team increased in both wards but especially in Ward 6. There has been a significant increase in the issuing of Warning Notices in both Wards which corresponds to the rise in calls. However, the warning process continues to show that early intervention is working well, with no Fixed Penalty Notices being required for continued excessive noise.



3.7 Noise Action Week

Noise Action Week, to raise awareness of noise, took place on 23-28 May. Noise Action Week was co-ordinated by Environmental Protection UK who assist the work undertaken by professionals in noise management. The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership supported the initiative by sending messages via social media to highlight noise legislation, enforcement action and services provided by the Community Safety Partnership. In May 2016, the service received 108 noise complaints that are being followed up.

4 Environmental Enforcement and Improvements

4.1 Rapid Response Team

The Rapid Response Team has been undertaking daily environmental enforcement patrols within Renfrewshire. Strong links have been established with local businesses and community groups working together to address environmental issues affecting specific areas. Since April 2016 the team have:

- Carried out over 200 investigations of environmental crime including flytipping, backcourt dumping, trade waste, litterbins, flyposting, graffiti and street litter
- Issued 7 Section 34 Notices and 2 FPNs for littering issues;
- Uplifted and disposed of over 4 tonnes of waste.

4.2 **Community Clean Ups**

The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership continue to support community groups and school pupils to do their bit for Renfrewshire by providing the interested groups with litter pickers, graffiti removal kits and by arranging uplift of any rubbish collected. 21 litter picks / clean ups were conducted in Renfrewshire during March-June 2016.

(If you are interested in planning a community clean up please contact us on 0300 300 0380 or litterpicks@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

5 **Protecting the Vulnerable**

5.1 **Renfrewshire Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference**

The Renfrewshire Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process has been established within Renfrewshire since October 2015. Safe Lives, the domestic violence charity, will carry out a full evaluation once MARAC has been operational for 12 months however an interim review of referrals has been carried out with the overview highlighting:

- 4 of the referrals have been suitable for the perpetrator to be referred to the Multi Agency Tasking & Coordinating meeting (MATAC);
- In the 77 referrals to MARAC, there have been 98 children discussed, with appropriate actions being taken from the meeting to safeguard the children from further harm;
- Of the 98 children discussed within the process, 30 were of pre-school age, 48 were Primary school age, 16 Secondary school age, 3 aged 16-18 and 1 aged over 18;
- From the 77 referrals, 100% are where domestic abuse occurred within a male and female relationship.

5.2 Renfrewshire has already been recognised by “Safe Lives” as having developed a solid foundation around the introduction of MARAC and has been recommending the approach as a good practice model to other Local Authorities. Currently Renfrewshire is assisting East Renfrewshire Council and Inverclyde Council to help them establish their own MARAC, sharing good practice and ensuring useful continuity of working practices throughout the Police division locally.

5.3 **I Am Me/Keep Safe**

The I Am Me project was a key speaker at the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Services Hate Crime Conference in Glasgow in March 2016. I Am Me promoted their new teaching and training resources, showing clips from their Primary School Resource films to an audience of around 300 people.

- 5.4 The I Am Me CineBus was launched on the 13th July 2016. The bus will be used to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime by showing films within schools and to groups across Scotland. This mobile cinema/theatre is supported by Renfrewshire Council and will be made available for Community Safety events locally. The bus was donated by Stagecoach and funded through the Keys to Life Development Fund.

- 5.5 The Keep Safe initiative works in partnership with Police Scotland and is supported by the Crown Office. The latest Renfrewshire premises to sign up to Keep Safe are Blend Coffee, Hamishes Hoose, Yorkshire Building Society and Gilmour Street Train Station. There are currently over 140 Keep Safe premises across Renfrewshire. The initiative also operates in Edinburgh, Inverclyde, Borders and Dumfries and Galloway and is in the process of being adopted in the three Ayrshire Councils, East Dunbartonshire, Aberdeen, Dundee and Perth & Kinross.

5.6 **Private Rented Housing Improvements**

New powers, as reported to the Housing & Community Safety Policy Board in May 2016, introduced by the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 are being used to deal with private sector landlords who are not maintaining the physical condition of their property. Landlords who do not meet appropriate standards and conditions can be reported to the Private Rented Housing Panel who can impose sanctions and require that the property condition is improved. This is key to improving the standards of accommodation within the private rented sector - especially accommodation used by the most vulnerable members of our community. There is a disproportionate degree of disrepair in the private rented sector relative to other types of housing tenure, especially for residents affected by poverty and this has been recognised by the Council's Tackling Poverty Strategy which has funded the appointment of a temporary enforcement officer to work specifically in relation to this activity.

5.7 **No Substitute for Life**

The 5th annual No Substitute for Life 7-a-side football tournament was held in Ferguslie Park Sports Centre on 26th June 2016. It brings the community together to raise awareness of suicide, and the services and support available to people in crisis. It also challenges stigma. The annual event established by a local Ferguslie resident raises awareness of the issue from personal experience of losing close friends to suicide. The No Substitute for Life tournament was supported by Street Stuff activities and attended by hundreds of footballers and supporters on the day.

6. **Building Safer Communities**

6.1 **Operation Monarda**

The Trading Standards and Licensing Team supported the Police Scotland led the bi-annual "Operation Monarda" campaign to tackle doorstep crime. Roadstops were undertaken on arterial routes throughout Renfrewshire, to disrupt and deter rogue

traders. Suspected traders were stopped by Traffic Police and drivers were challenged to provide their identities. Contract paperwork was checked and advice and guidance was issued where required. Teams consisting of officers from Trading Standards and Police Scotland also patrolled known doorstep crime “hotspot” areas and tradespeople undertaking work on people’s homes were challenged to ensure compliance with consumer protection legislation. Positively, no rogue traders were found in the course of this work and traders who were subject to challenge welcomed this approach to regulating their business sector and protecting and supporting legitimate businesses.

6.2 Daily Tasking Review

The Community Safety Hub holds a daily tasking meeting to review community safety incidents which have occurred over the past twenty-four hours and tasks them to the relevant partners. This collaborative partnership enables information sharing and pooling of resources to tackle antisocial behaviour and other issues throughout Renfrewshire. In September 2015, a positive evaluation highlighted that Daily Tasking was a very successful joint working partnership approach which now processes over 5,000 referrals per year. This is supported by regular attendance of all key partners including the Health and Social Care Partnership and particular benefits have been seen in supporting earlier interventions in instances where individuals are particularly vulnerable for example due to mental health problems.

6.3 Spring / Summer Events, 2016

During April-August 2016, the Community Safety Partnership including wardens, CCTV and Street Stuff have been supporting various spring/summer events throughout Renfrewshire. This included major national events like the British Pipe Band Championship and Colourfest 2016, the dance festival at Braehead. In addition, they also attended more local events such as Paisley Food Festival, Sma Shot Day, The County Grand Orange Lodge Parade, Building Safer Greener Communities events in Ferguslie Park, local gala days and the Armed Forces Day at Paisley Abbey. The wardens provided the Safe Bus and the CCTV vehicle at many of these events. Meanwhile, Street Stuff was in attendance at the family orientated events like the gala days, providing football and dance activities for young people to participate in.

6.4 The Fire Reach Programme

The Fire Reach programme is delivered by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the Community Safety Youth Team. The course targets young people who have come to the attention of the Community Safety Hub through their involvement in fire related offences. This intensive one week course focuses on raising the awareness of participants about the impact of deliberate fire raising and antisocial behaviour and promotes team building. The last 2 courses took place during May and June 2016 with 24 young people participating. The number of deliberate fires attended by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service across Renfrewshire is higher in 2016 so far when compared to 2015. As a result the Partnership have increased the number of Fire Reach courses to tackle this issue.

7. Diversionary Activities

7.1 Street Stuff

The Street Stuff programme continues to be delivered throughout Renfrewshire and continues to go from strength to strength. To date over 13,000 attendances have been recorded at core activities with around 170 attendances per day at summer holiday activities. Street Stuff's annual Football Festival was held at the Paisley 2021 Stadium during May. Young people aged between 10 and 16 years old competed in 5-a-side games on the main pitch at the Paisley 2021 Stadium. To coincide with the football, Street Stuff's first Dance-Clubbercise class was delivered in the Stadium's new supporters' lounge. Both events were free which helped to increase the total number of participants to a record attendance of 375 on the night.

7.2 Street Stuff Dance has introduced **free** Cheerleading classes for all abilities every Wednesday from 6-8pm at Paisley 2021 Stadium. These classes are for anyone aged 8 to 18, giving young people the opportunity to learn new routines, tricks, make new friends and have fun. Last season the Cheerleaders led out the teams for a few games and will be a key feature for the coming football season backing St Mirren team in every Championship home match.

7.3 Over the summer, Street Stuff has been working with young people to develop 2 new buses to be added to their programme of activities with particular links to the Partnership bid for City of Culture, Paisley 2021. 300 young people have been consulted on what they would like to see on the buses with activities including; music, DJ decks, song writing, recording, media, broadcasting, and production as well as traditional gaming scoring high on the list. In addition, young people are working with Street Threads to design the overall wrap combining Street Stuff & Paisley 2021 branding with images of new activities that will be available board. It is anticipated that both the new buses will be operational for the autumn/winter 2016 programme.

7.4 The table below shows Street Stuff activity and attendance in the Johnstone and Villages LAC area from April to June 2016:

Venue	Attendance
Johnstone Castle Youth Bus and Football	253
West Johnstone Dance	23
Kilbarchan Youth Bus	10
Johnstone TC Youth Bus	24
McMaster Football and Box	638
Total	948

7.5 During the 6 week summer holidays, daytime activities have been delivered on Tuesdays & Thursdays at the McMaster Centre with the delivery of activities and the provision of a healthy meal. The introduction of dance to these activities has proven to be a success and evening classes are being considered in the new block of activities. A verbal update will be provided on the night with the most up to date information.

- 7.6 Funding from this LAC in 2016/17 has allowed Street Stuff to deliver extra sessions in local areas. Street Stuff now provide 10 sessions over 6 days per week in the spring months in the Johnstone and Villages LAC area. Previously in 2015 it was only 6 sessions over 3 days per week. New areas are currently being explored for additional activities to be delivered over the next few months and timetable will be updated accordingly.

(Details of Street Stuff activities are available on the council's website using the following link <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2381/Street-Stuff> and copies of the up to date timetable will be available at the next meeting.)

8 Public Protection Spotlight – Getting It Right For Every Child

- 8.1 Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) is the National approach to improving the services that support the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland. It is an approach that has several principles at its core. GIRFEC:
- puts the best interests of the child or young person at the heart of decision making;
 - takes a holistic approach to the wellbeing of a child;
 - builds on strengths and capacities of children, young people and their families to improve wellbeing;
 - advocates preventative work and early intervention to support children, young people and their families, and, wherever possible to reduce the need for statutory interventions; and
 - builds on developing strong universal services with additional services brought in where required to meet the needs of children, young people and families
- 8.2 The GIRFEC approach ensures that services are brought together more effectively to provide help and support for children, young people and their parents when they need it. The approach supports children's and young people's rights, involving children and young people wherever possible in any decisions that affect them and helping services to support parents while respecting parents' rights and responsibilities for bringing up their children. It recognises that most children and young people usually get the support they need from their parents, wider families and communities and from universal services like health and education.
- 8.3 Children and families can experience difficulties which may affect wellbeing; the approach ensures that children, young people and their parents have a single point of contact if and when they need additional advice or support. The approach recognises parents' role as the primary carers of their children and ensures that parents and families retain control, other than in exceptional circumstances, for example where there are child protection concerns, in which case existing child protection procedures would apply. The approach is based on children, young people

and their parents working in partnership with the services that can help and support them.

- 8.4 The GIRFEC approach will lead to early and effective intervention at any point in a child's life where it is necessary to improve wellbeing outcomes. By acting to support wellbeing as soon as unmet needs or concerns are identified and well before crisis points are reached, the approach ensures that every child is supported in a timely and proportionate way.

(Information for public is available on the Scottish Government website <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright> and Renfrewshire Council website: <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2937/Getting-It-Right-For-Every-Child>.)

Scottish Government will circulate information leaflets and posters to local authority areas shortly and these will be available in schools, health centres and social work offices (they are currently available electronically on the Council website).)

Implications of this Report

1. **Financial** – none.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none.
3. **Community Plan/Council Plan**

Safer and Stronger – The activities set out within this report contribute to ensuring that Renfrewshire is a safe and tolerant place where residents and visitors enjoy a high level of personal safety and public protection, are free from crime and vulnerable children and adults are well looked after and protected.

Greener – Activities set out in this report contribute towards developing the quality of the environment of Renfrewshire in a sustainable way ensuring it is clean, green and safe for all residents and visitors.

4. **Legal** – none.
5. **Property/Assets** – none.
6. **Information Technology** – none.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** – The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.

8. Health And Safety – none.

9. Procurement – none.

10. Risk – none.

11. Privacy Impact – none.

List of Background Papers - none

Author Oliver Reid, Head of Public Protection, Tel: 0141 618 7352
e-mail: oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk