

**To: RENFREW & GALLOWHILL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**On: 30 MAY 2017**

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**Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

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

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## **1. Summary**

1.1 This report provides a progress update for quarter 4 of 2016/12017 on activities the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership has carried out in the Paisley North area. A number of community planning partners have provided statistical information, including: Police Scotland; Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; and Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership. The report includes information on:

- Paisley North community safety statistics;
  - Environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
  - Protecting vulnerable residents;
  - Building safer communities;
  - A spotlight on the Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership.
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## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of this progress update report for Quarter 4, 2016/2017 (1 January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017).

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### 3. Focus on Renfrew and Gallowhill

- 3.1 The table below details the number of incidents reported within the Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area during Quarter 4, 2016/17 (January to March 2017). The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership continues to target resources into identified hotspot areas.

Incidents Reported	Q4 2015/16		Q4 2016/17	
	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 1	Ward 2
Serious Violent Crime	6	3	2	4
Minor Assault	16	22	13	14
Drug Crime	56	33	26	19
Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) (number of calls)	264	228	182	193
Vandalism	30	40	29	18

- 3.2 The incidents reported above are obtained directly from the Police Database (Storm) with many discussed as part of the Daily Tasking meetings. The information gathered allows early intervention and quick resolution to incidents.
- 3.3 From previous years, the Community Safety Partnership often see a pattern with regards to complaints in relation to anti-social behaviour, with an increase from Easter (light nights) through to the end of Summer time and then there is seen to be a decline over the darker nights.
- 3.3 Ward 1: There were reductions across all five incident types during quarter 4 of 2016/17 in comparison to the corresponding period of 2015/16. Serious violent crime incidents remained at a very low level, with only two incidents recorded during the quarter. Further analysis identified that both incidents were unconnected.
- 3.4 Ward 2: There were also reductions across four of the five incident types during quarter 4 of 2016/17 in comparison to the corresponding period of 2015/16. Serious violent crime increased from three crimes to four however remains at a very low overall level. In addition, there were no obvious hotspots or repeat locations/victims identified.

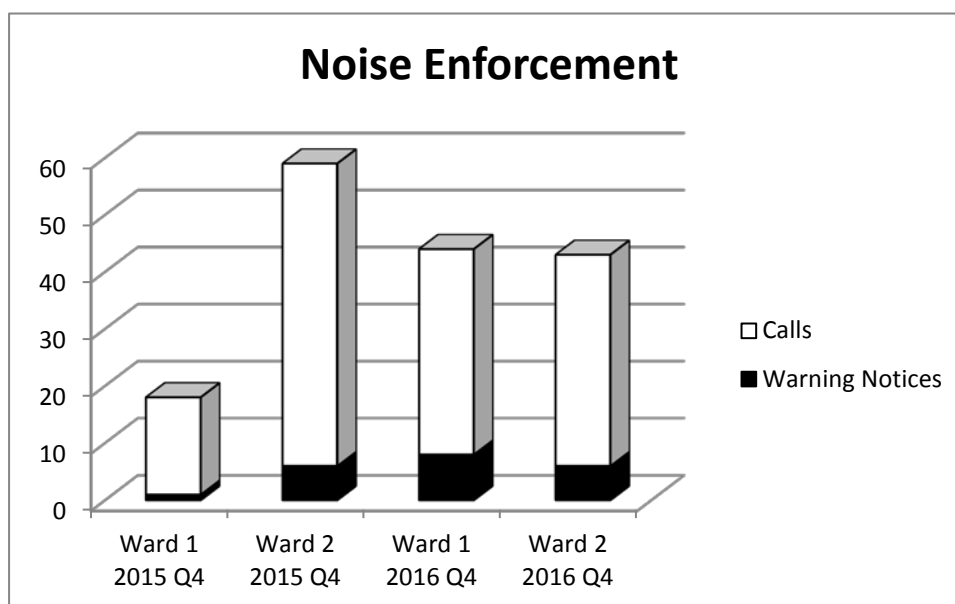
#### **Renfrewshire Wardens' Antisocial Behaviour Calls**

- 3.5 83 antisocial behaviour calls were directly received by the Renfrewshire Wardens' service for the Renfrew and Gallowhill LAC area during 1 January – 31 March 2017. This is an increase compared to the corresponding period in 2016. It should be noted that several of the calls to Wardens will also have been reported to Police Scotland and will be included within the statistics detailed in paragraph 3.1 above. 872 patrols took place within the Renfrew and Gallowhill LAC area, many in response to these calls. The antisocial behaviour calls made to the Wardens assist the Community Safety Partnership in responding to and directing resources across Renfrewshire.

#### **Noise Enforcement**

- 3.6 During 1 January – 31 March 2017, the number of calls to the Noise Team remained at a similar level compared to the same period last year. However, Ward 1

significantly increased by 112% and Ward 2 notably decreased by 30%. The number of Warning Notices issued also increased which corresponds with the calls. The Noise Team has worked with its community safety partners and operated extended hours until 4am on Fridays and Saturdays since 2014. These working practises have established an excellent service with a history of successfully resolving noise complaints, without formal enforcement action being required following the issue or a warning notice.



## 4 Environmental Enforcement and Improvements

### Vehicle Emissions Testing

- 4.1 This bi-annual event took place during March 2017. The Renfrewshire Wardens, working in partnership with Licensing Officers and Police Scotland, carried out emissions testing on light vehicles entering Air Quality Management Areas in the town centres of Johnstone (15 & 16 March) and Renfrew (23 & 24 March). 696 vehicles were tested including 35 taxis and private-hire vehicles, with only 1 fail resulting in the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice to the driver. Although detection was very low for emissions this year, other offences were identified. This resulted in the following: 1 male was arrested for drunk driving, a young driver was reported to the Procurator Fiscal for possession of drugs, 1 private hire taxi was immediately suspended from operating due to an illegal tyre tread and 3 warnings were issued due to minor defects.

### **2017 School Parking Safety and Idling Initiative**

- 4.2 This campaign aims to make drivers aware of the dangers of parking illegally or inconsiderately near schools and the threat that idling engines can pose to children's health. Following on from our campaign of 2015-16 where 18,894 text messages were sent to parents/guardians, combined with thousands of leaflets distributed to drivers, this year's campaign aims to be equally successful. A further 10 schools have been identified to be part of the 2017 School Parking Safety and Idling Initiative. Banners highlighting the issues relating to engine idling and dangerous parking were erected outside these schools and wardens patrolled during key times to reinforce the messages during February-June 2017. Information was also communicated through the Council's website, text alerts, school newsletters, leaflets and local media. This action supported wider activities relating to road safety carried out at schools across Renfrewshire.

### **Secondary Schools Litter Initiative**

- 4.3 Community Resources has received multiple complaints regarding issues of litter generated by the pupils from local high schools at lunchtimes and after school. A variety of shops near the schools offer hot food which pupils use regularly. Renfrewshire Council do not enforce littering on juveniles. However, the Community Safety Partnership together with local schools has implemented a joint action plan during March 2017:

- Areas surrounding the schools were cleaned by Streetscene and the Community Payback Team;
- The Community Safety Youth Team addressed school assemblies regarding pupils' behaviour outside school grounds;
- Litter picks by the school pupils were arranged by the Youth Team with equipment supplied by the wardens;
- Wardens regularly patrolled the local areas and challenged any unacceptable behaviours they observed involving pupils and captured the interaction using body worn video. Footage was forwarded to the schools for follow up action.

### **DVLA Audit of Abandoned Vehicle Procedures**

- 4.4 Renfrewshire Council received over 300 reports of abandoned vehicles in 2016/17. However, after investigation less than 10% of these vehicles were officially categorised as abandoned. There are strict criteria to assess if a vehicle is abandoned and this can include (but is not limited to) flat tyres or removed wheels, smashed windscreens or windows, missing number plates or graffiti. Most of the complaints related to cars that had not moved for a time period and were untaxed, however, they were not deemed to be abandoned once inspected. The DVLA enforce cars that are untaxed and remain on the road and complainants can check on the DVLA website to see if a car is untaxed.
- 4.5 To assist in the delivery of the service, the Council website has been updated to provide more information to the public as to what constitutes an abandoned vehicle. One issue is that many of the complaints were anonymous which resulted in the Council being unable to advise why they were not abandoned and therefore there

were numerous repeat callers. This has been rectified and now to report an abandoned vehicle, the complainer must leave contact details to allow Renfrewshire Council to respond.

- 4.6 The Renfrewshire Wardens Service was externally audited by the DVLA Data Sharing Assurance Team in December 2016. The purpose of this audit was to confirm that the Council was recording and investigating abandoned vehicles to the required DVLA standards. In January 2017, Renfrewshire Council received an overall audit rating of 'Green', which demonstrates a high level of compliance. This allows the Renfrewshire Wardens continued access to DVLA vehicle keeper data which helps to identify abandoned vehicles at the earliest point in the process.

## **5 Protecting Vulnerable Residents**

### **Safe Kids**

- 5.1 Safe Kids is an annual interactive educational programme involving Renfrewshire's Community Safety Partners, delivering messages relating to a range of safety issues to every Primary 6 pupil in Renfrewshire, i.e. 1,830 pupils in total.
- 5.2 The aim of Safe Kids is to reduce the number of accidents involving young people, promote positive behaviour and eliminate risks.
- 5.3 Safe Kids was delivered at St Mirren's Paisley 2021 Stadium during February-March 2017 with pupils transported to the stadium from their respective schools. Workshops were designed to be interactive and short in length (10-12 minutes) to enable partners to get vital messages across in subject areas that can be difficult to discuss.
- 5.4 Workshops this year included - antisocial behaviour; CCTV; alcohol and drug awareness; internet safety; fire safety; litter & dog fouling and Street Stuff. Some new workshops were also included for the first time this year, including raising awareness and encouraging kids to "back the bid" for Paisley - City of Culture 2021, Who Cares Scotland raising awareness of children in the care system and working with the Council's Civil Contingencies Team, to increase awareness of how to prepare for emergency situations.

### **The Street**

- 5.5 'The Street' is an award winning drama project based in Hamilton that helps young people to address antisocial behaviour and keep themselves safe. This 20 minute drama is delivered by young people aged 14-24 with the target audience being other young people. Topics include knife crime; teenage pregnancy; domestic violence and alcohol misuse.
- 5.6 The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership visited the project on 2 occasions during January - February 2017, with young people who come to the attention of the Community Safety Youth Team through their involvement in youth disorder. After watching the drama, the young people attend a 1 hour workshop to assess the impact of their behaviour on themselves and their community.

### **Choices for Life**

- 5.7 Choices for Life is an innovative diversionary and educational initiative aimed at raising awareness amongst young people aged 11-18 about the dangers of substance use and misuse in relation to smoking, alcohol and drugs. It also offers online safety and advice on how to deal with negative peer pressure and provides useful resources for young people and parents, carers, teachers and youth workers at [www.choicesforlifeonline.org](http://www.choicesforlifeonline.org).
- 5.8 The 2017 Choices for Life event took place on 20 March 2017 at Johnstone Town Hall. It was attended by 120 second year pupils from Renfrewshire's Secondary Schools. This event focused on the dangers of alcohol and drugs with inputs from Police Scotland, RADAR, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Renfrewshire Wardens Service and Community Safety Service, Clubbercise with Active Communities and St Andrew's First Aid.

### **I Am Me/Keep Safe**

- 5.9 The I Am Me Cinebus is touring Renfrewshire primary schools to deliver a comprehensive programme which raises awareness of disability, bullying and hate crime. Over 7,000 children have participated in the programme since September 2016. The programme has been designed to complement the curriculum for excellence and a progressive lesson plan is available for each school year (from P1-P7). Feedback from nearly 3,000 participants highlights that 98% of participants have enjoyed the Cinebus visit, 99% know bullying is wrong and 96% would report an incident.
- 5.10 Disability hate crime awareness training is currently being delivered to the Scottish Prison Service. The training is being delivered, in-house, to Polmont young offenders, with excellent feedback and engagement. I Am Me staff recently delivered the training to the Scottish Prison Services Headquarters in Edinburgh and will be delivering the sessions to inmates and staff at Shotts prison in the spring.
- 5.11 Based in Renfrewshire, Keep Safe is now being rolled out in Ayrshire, with Orkney, Highlands and Islands, Stirling and West Dunbartonshire at the early stages of adopting the initiative. The Keep Safe Scotland "phone app" has now been launched and is free to download from iOS and Android. The app can be used to plan routes, highlighting all Keep Safe places and provide details including opening hours, website and telephone number. The app is linked to Police Scotland to dial 101 or 999 with an approximate location displayed allowing officers to find the app user if they are lost or in distress. A link is provided for all local authorities in Scotland, with the option to provide details for community safety events and contacts. The Keep Safe places are being linked with Police Scotland A-Z system to provide additional support, if required.

## **6. Building Safer Communities**

### **Best Bar None**

- 6.1 Best Bar None is an awards scheme which raises standards and rewards excellence for those venues that attain the award standard. This is delivered at a local level in

partnership with the industry, local authorities and Police Scotland. Community Resources' Trading Standards & Licensing Team is responsible for the local co-ordination and assessment of the scheme. Best Bar None Awards are based on core national standards relating to the five licensing objectives, which are:

- preventing crime and disorder;
- securing public safety;
- preventing public nuisance;
- protecting and improving public health; and
- protecting children from harm.

6.2 12 venues attained either gold or silver awards at the local Awards Ceremony on 12 January 2017. 7 venues were presented with awards in specialist categories such as "Best family establishment", "Most improved" or "Heart of the Community". 4 Category winners were shortlisted for categories in the Best Bar None Scotland Awards 2016-17, held at the Hilton Hotel, Glasgow on 30 March 2017. The Tartan Rose, Paisley won the Heart of the Community Award - the first ever National Best Bar None Award for a Renfrewshire venue.

## **7. Strategic Police Priorities**

7.1 At the Housing and Community Safety Police Board on 23 August 2016, Community Resources presented the Renfrewshire Council response to the Scottish Government consultation on the Strategic Police Priorities.

7.2 The strategic priorities have now been published and are in line with Renfrewshire Council's consultation response.

7.3 The Scottish Government has now established seven strategic priorities for Police Scotland to drive their service over the coming years and these are:

- **Localism** – Ensure that the needs of local communities are understood and reflected in the planning and delivery of policing at a local and national level.
- **Inclusion** – Ensure our police service is accessible and responsive to the needs of all people in Scotland.
- **Prevention** – Ensure our police service works to protect people by preventing crime and reducing fear of crime through communication, education, innovation and partnership working.
- **Response** – Focus policing on improving the wellbeing of individuals and communities by tackling crime and responding to and investigating incidents effectively and efficiently.

- **Collaborative Working** – Ensure that our police service works productively with partners at local, national and international levels to deliver better outcomes for people in Scotland.
- **Accountability** – Continuously improve public confidence in policing and inspire trust by being transparent, accountable and acting with integrity, fairness and respect.
- **Adaptability** – Ensure our police service takes advantage of new opportunities and meets emerging threats and challenges.

7.4 Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) launched a consultation on the 2026 Strategy on 27 February 2017. The Chief Constable has advised that the strategy is aimed at making police time more productive and that Police Scotland will work smarter. As part of this, Police Scotland is also introducing new Operational Area models, including across Renfrewshire from 4 April 2017. The focus of the new strategy and operational model is in line with the Strategic Police priorities above and will result in a focus on Community Policing.

## **8 Public Protection Spotlight – Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership**

- 8.1 The Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) is a multi-agency group, which has strategic responsibility to review, develop and deliver local services related to the challenges associated with alcohol and drug misuse. It was established in 2009 and comprises representatives from Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership, Engage Renfrewshire, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services, Scottish Prison Service and Job Centre Plus.
- 8.2 Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership's vision is to ensure that individuals will achieve and sustain recovery from their alcohol and drug use and become contributing members of society.
- 8.3 Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership is responsible for reporting outcomes in their Annual Report (latest 2015/16). The annual report also includes core and local indicators, many of which demonstrate an improving trend.
- 8.4 Renfrewshire ADP has a drug death action plan which outlines key priorities for preventing deaths. Key areas include investigating all drug related deaths and trends and reviewing any areas for intervention. Recent data shows that there were 19 drug related deaths in Renfrewshire in 2015. This represents a 37% decrease compared with 2014 and is in contrast with many other areas of Scotland which experienced a 15% increase.
- 8.5 In the last year, over 98% of individuals in Renfrewshire waited no more than 3 weeks for treatment, which is better than the Scotland wide figure of 96% for alcohol and 93.7% for Drugs. Renfrewshire has consistently exceeded the local target of



91.5% during 2016/17. Improvements seen in waiting times for drug and alcohol services have made services more accessible and increased the numbers attending.

8.6 Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drug Partnership's 2016/17 developments include:

- Implementation of the Scottish Government's Quality Principles which include a detailed self-assessment, and an evidence informed programme of work to support and improve service performance;
- Recruitment of a Licensing Intern who will work with communities to enhance their involvement in the Licensing process;
- Recruitment of a Recovery Development worker to enhance the work related to recovery from drug and alcohol problems in Renfrewshire;
- Funding of the Safe Bus, which seeks to support people who are at risk during the Festive period (Fridays & Saturdays nights in December). The Safe Bus provides a safe environment for anyone who may be vulnerable as a result of being intoxicated, injured or separated from their fellow revellers;
- The continuation of the National Naloxone Programme which aims to prevent drug related deaths. Naloxone is a potentially lifesaving drug which can temporarily reverse the symptoms of overdose. Training is offered on how to administer Naloxone and basic lifesaving skills including Cardio-pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR);
- A Training Needs Analysis is being conducted which seeks to identify training needs amongst staff working in addiction services and other key practitioners. This will inform future workforce development priorities for the partnership;
- Implementation of Peer to Peer programme, which offers training and a recognised qualification for people in Recovery from alcohol and drug use which will allow them the skills to become Peer Support workers.

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**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.

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**List of Background Papers - none**

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