LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD

RENFREWSHIRE

JANUARY 2018

Report to	Renfrewshire Council
Date of report	19/12/2017
Subject	Police Scotland Scrutiny Board Report - Renfrewshire

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Renfrewshire Council of Police Scotland's performance and activities during the reporting period April 2017 – November 2017.

PERFORMANCE

2. The management information provided in this report are supplemented by the appendix which provide statistics relating to the period 2016/17, and relate to the specific key objectives detailed in the Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan 2014-2017.

A summary of the key performance indicators is provided below:

Crimes of serious assault and attempted murder both increased on the previous year, with an increase of 10.9% and 9.1% respectively. Meanwhile, murder also saw an increase of 3 more. While there was a decrease in the detection rate for serious assaults (8.4 %) this remained relatively high at 67.7%.
The total of 1217 common assaults represented 17 more crimes than the previous year.

The number of robberies committed reduced by 8.3% on the previous year.

Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Division continues to engage with local communities in relation to the issue of disorder, which continues to be a concern in the area. This appears to be having a positive impact on the issue as there was a reduction in the number of complaints received by 4.3%

Efforts are ongoing to build strong relationships with Renfrewshire's diverse communities to ensure victims of hate crime feel able and supported to report hate crime incidents either directly or through various Third Party Reporting Centres which have been established across the Local Authority in partnership with Police Scotland.

A continued focus on rigorously tackling the threat posed by Serious and Organised Crime Groups operating within the local area has successfully resulted in charges being raised against several principal members in the recent period, in addition to the recent disruption of an organised crime group producing controlled substances within Renfrewshire and the seizure of more than £2million in commodity.

Under the CONTEST strategy, 'Prevent' inputs to external partners have been successfully delivered to raise awareness of the threat of terrorism and increase participants' confidence to pass on information. Several Divisional Days of Action have also contributed to increased levels reassurance and vigilance in key locations in the area.

The Divisional Road Policing Unit continues to police the road network in order to enforce driving offences and offer advice to motorists and other road users, in addition to delivering Days of Action to raise awareness, particularly in relation to vulnerable road users and groups.

POLICING PRIORITIES

3. Police Scotland is committed to working with its Community Planning partners in all sectors to keep the people of Scotland and its communities safe. Partnership working to achieve this goal is recognised as a critical element of our strategy.

Police Scotland Priorities
Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Serious and Organised Crime
Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism
Protecting People at Risk of Harm
Road Policing
Acquisitive Crime

Figure 1: Police Scotland Operational Priorities, 2017/18

Source: Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2017/18

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. Renfrewshire Council are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

VIOLENCE, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

5. There are no emerging trends within the violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour crimes and incidents being reported with the Renfrewshire area. Paisley town centre/ West End continues to represent the most problematic area for these types of incident. In order to reduce such incidents Operation Wintershield has been running within this area, this is a multi-phase operation involving partner agencies. Additional officers from response policing teams have been dedicated to the area and have been tasked in respect of well know offenders.

Alcohol continues to be a factor in crimes of violence, we have a dedicated team of officers in our Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit who proactively police areas known to us for violence. We also work closely with our partners to educate and raise awareness of alcohol related violence, recently the 'One Punch' campaign ran nationally and many of the local license premises also assisted in this campaign. During the month of November Licensing seminars were held in which the local licensees came along and were given inputs from police and other partners on how to deal with different situations.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

6. Within Renfrewshire each Serious and Organised Crime group is managed by an officer of Chief Inspector or Inspector rank. Every officer in the division is briefed on these groups and are encouraged to submit intelligence in order for Renfrewshire and Inverclyde division to manage the threat level. This also ensures that all officers are familiar with the members of Serious and Organised crime groups, last month officers from Paisleys alcohol and violence reduction unit observed a male from SOCG within a vehicle, the male was stopped and using policing powers searched with a quantity of heroin, scales and a knife being recovered.

COUNTER TERRORISM AND DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

7. Areas of increased risk or exposure to this type of incident continue to be patrolled daily.

PROTECTING PEOPLE AT RISK OF HARM

8. We continue to see an increase of sexual crime being reported to us with an increase of 12% from previous years. Analysis indicates an increasing trend in terms of non-recent crime being reported, the number of offences being reported more than one month after being committed has also increased by 12% compared to previous years. This can pose more challenging when investigating and detecting such offences.

Another area in which we have seen an increase is the number of crimes with a cyber element which has increased by 16% from last year. We continue to visit schools and education establishments in order to deliver online and social media safety to children and also their parents and teachers. We also regularly circulate online safety information on our social media sites in order to reach as many members of the public as possible.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME

9. Over the winter months our Festive Road Safety campaign is running with the focus being drink and drug driving. Drink and drug driving offences have increased by 16% from previous years, with an overall decrease in road traffic offences down 6.8%. We will also be conducting road safety messages in local primary and high schools in order to educate young people and raise awareness of the dangers of these offences.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

10. Housebreaking on domestic properties has increased by 2.9% compared to last year. We have looked at emerging trends and various MO's have been used during these crimes. We have also seen an increase in commercial housebreaking particularly in the Hillington area and in order to combat and reduce the number of housebreaking in both domestic and commercial properties we have introduced a housebreaking initiative in which officers are dedicated to the prevention and detection of such crimes. During a recent alarm activation at a business premises in the Paisley area officers got to the scene early and identified that there was persons within the building, the building was then cordoned and with the use of the police search dogs a male was traced within, arrested and charged with housebreaking offences.

APPENDIX

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November 2017

	Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour				
		Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
1	Total No Group1: Crimes of Violence	183	182	1 more	0.5%
2	Murder	4	1	3 more	300.0%
3	Attempted Murder	12	11	1 more	9.1%
4	Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	0	None	-
5	Culpable Homicide (other)	0	0	None	-
6	Serious Assault detection rate	67.7%	76.1%		-8.4%
7	Serious Assault	102	92	10 more	10.9%
8	Robbery detection rate	61.4%	100.0%		-38.6%
9	Robbery	44	48	4 fewer	-8.3%
10	Common assault detection rate	71.7%	75.2%		-3.5%
11	Common assault	1,217	1,200	17 more	1.4%
12	Number of complaints regarding disorder	6,211	6,489	278 fewer	-4.3%

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	Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (continued)	Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
13	Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported to the Police	1,453	1,524		-4.7%
14	Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	851	913		-6.8%
15	Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime being recorded	45.1%	44.0%		1.1%
16	Total crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents detection rate	65.1%	75.0%		-9.9%
17	Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	64	55		16.4%
18	Ensure 95% of domestic abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24hrs)	91.3%	-		-
19	Hate Crime and offences detection rate	68.8%	71.5%		-2.7%
	Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour - Stop and Searches	Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2017 - Nov 2017 Positive	Victims	% Change
20	Number of stop and searches conducted (total)	1,005	381		
21	Number of statutory stop and searches conducted	1,005	381		
22	Number of consensual stop and searches conducted	0	0		
23	Number of consensual stop and searches refused	0	-		
24	Number of seizures made	224	-		

On the 11th May 2017 Police Scotland adopted a new code of practice on the use of stop and search. At this time the use of non-statutory (Consensual) search ceased. The period covered by this report includes searches conducted prior to the introduction of the code. The table above provides information on consensual searches carried out before 11th May. Further information on Police Scotland's use of stop and search and on the code of practice is available on the Police Scotland Website.

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	Additional Identified Local Priorities				
		Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
25	Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	58	88		-34.1%
26	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	21.8%	24.6%		-2.8%
27	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	280	272	8 more	2.9%
28	Theft by shoplifting detection rate	80.6%	83.1%		-2.5%
29	Theft by shoplifting	655	562	93 more	16.5%
30	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief detection rate	24.2%	22.1%		2.1%
31	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief	946	1,000	54 fewer	-5.4%
32	Number of detections for Consuming Alcohol in a designated place (where appropriate byelaws exist)	634	819		-22.6%

	Public Protection				
		Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
33	Number of Sexual Crimes	215	192	23 more	12.0%
34	Sexual Crimes detection rate	45.6%	55.7%		-10.1%
35	Rape detection rate	42.1%	48.7%		-6.6%

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Road Traffic Casualty Statistics				
	Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
People Killed	2	2	same number	0.0%
People Seriously injured	24	37	13 fewer	-35.1%
People Slightly Injured	192	210	18 fewer	-8.6%
(Context)				
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	1	1 fewer	-

				100.0%
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	3	5	2 fewer	-40.0%

Road Safety & Road Crime				
		Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Apr 2016 - Nov 2016	Victims	% Change
36	Dangerous driving	63	50		26.0%
37	Speeding	429	482		-11.0%
38	Disqualified driving	24	11		118.2%
39	Driving Licence	125	132		-5.3%
40	Insurance	366	340		7.6%
41	Seat Belts	67	105		-36.2%
42	Mobile Phone	94	204		-53.9%

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	Public Confidence		
		Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	
		Number of Complaints about the Police	Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents
4 3	Complaints received about the Police	128	32.5
		On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
4 4	Total Allegations Recorded	150	0	28	178

Scottish Crime Recording Standard **Quarter 3 & 4 Audit 2016/17** *(not available at Local Authority level but detailed at Divisional and Force level for information purposes)*						
Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Test 1 - Incidents			Test 2 - Recorded Crime		
	Incidents Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	150	6	96.00%	76	6	92.11%
Force	2,193	162	92.61%	1,219	89	92.70%
Details of the methodology for Audit 1 can be found in Appendix A						

Audit 2 - Divisional Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarter 3/4s (October to March)	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	203	21	89.66%
Force	3,435	280	91.85%
Details of the methodology for Audit 2 can be found in Appendix A			

Audit 3 - "No Crime" Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Number of "No Crimes" Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance
K Division	78	4	94.87%
Force	944	48	94.92%

Details of the methodology for Audit 3 can be found in Appendix A

APPENDIX "A" - AUDIT METHODOLOGY

Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime

The audit sample was selected from Command and Control incidents over a specific four day period with initial call types CR-60 to CR-79 within the Crime category, and incidents with initial call types AB-57 Communications, AB-58 Hate Crime, PW-40 Domestic Incident and PW-76 Child Protection. The incident sample selected for audit ensured, working to a 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of +/-3%, that the sample audited was statistically representative of all incidents of this type recorded during the four day audit period. A formula was applied to the total number of incidents per Command Area and apportioned out between Divisions in that Command Area in order to obtain sample sizes. These were subject to a minimum of 150 and a maximum of 300 per Division.

Compliance in each of the two Tests is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

The audit tested:

Test 1 – Crime Related Incidents
- That incidents initially inferring a crime or apparent criminal activity and closed as a non-crime contained a satisfactory narrative to eliminate any inference of criminality and fully justify a non-crime disposal.
- That each incident clearly indicated a crime or non-crime as a disposal on the incident text.
- Where an incident was closed as a crime, the corresponding crime record was traced.

Test 2 – Recorded Crime
- The correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit.

Audit 2 - Recording of Specific Crime Types (Divisional Crime Audit)

To ensure that a number of different areas of crime recording are represented by Audit 2, samples were obtained from the following categories:

- Assault (Common Assault only)
- Group 1 Crime (Crimes of violence)
- Group 2 Crime (Sexual offences)
- Group 3 Crime (Crimes of dishonesty)
- Group 4 Crime (Damage to property)
- Other Crimes from Groups 5, 6 and 7

While not as statistically representative of all records within the audit period as Audit 1, the sample sizes in Audit 2 were weighted to take into account higher volumes of crime being recorded in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 100 records and a maximum of 300 records.

The audit tested the correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish

Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit. Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

Audit 3 - Crime Records Reclassified to "No Crime"

The third principle of SCRS states "once recorded, a crime will remain recorded unless there is credible evidence to disprove that a crime had occurred".

The audit tested the correct application of this principle in respect of recorded crime which was reclassified to "No Crime" following Police enquiry into the reported circumstances. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime reclassified incorrectly was counted as having failed the audit.

The sample sizes in Audit 3 were weighted to take into account the higher number of records reclassified to "No Crime" in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 50 and a maximum of 100.

Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

In order to allow Divisions a reasonable period of time to ensure that records are complete and compliant with SCRS, audits are generally undertaken once a period of three months from the date of the incident/crime has elapsed