

**To:           HOUSTON, CROSSLEE, LINWOOD, RIVERSIDE & ERSKINE  
LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**On:           25 MAY 2016**

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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 on activities the Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire and Community Safety Partnership have carried out in the Paisley North area in quarter 4 (1 January – 31 March 2016). A number of partners have provided statistical information, including: Police Scotland and Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership. The report includes information on:

- Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine community safety statistics;
  - Environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
  - Protecting vulnerable residents;
  - A spotlight on the work of the 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.

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### 3. Focus on Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine

- 3.1 The table below details the number of incidents reported in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine Local Area during Quarter 4, 2015/16 (January to March 2016). The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership continues to target resources into hotspot areas including Mimosa Road, Bridge of Weir, Clippens Road, Linwood and Bargarran Shopping Centre in Erskine. The table highlights the continued positive trends in numbers of incidents reported, which have steadily decreased since 2009. Although there are some areas where the number of reported incidents has increased, this can be largely attributed to the success of an increase in communications and publicity in the area to promote the services delivered by the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership and increased reporting of particular problems. In order to respond to reported incidents diversionary programmes such as Street Stuff are now well established in the LAC area, a separate annual report on Streetstuff, including an up to date timetable has been submitted to this meeting.

Incidents reported	Q4 2014/15			Q4 2015/16		
	Ward 9	Ward 10	Ward 11	Ward 9	Ward 10	Ward 11
Serious Violent crime	2	-	1	2	-	2
Minor Assault	17	6	9	15	6	7
Drug Crime	21	5	4	13	1	17
Disorder and ASB (number of calls)	142	66	91	192	78	146
Vandalism	22	12	15	30	14	12

- 3.2 In relation to Environmental Enforcement issues, dog fouling continues to be a concern for residents in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine area. During January to March 2016, 17% of all complaints to Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership (Community Resources) were related to Dog Fouling. 714 community safety patrols were undertaken in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine LAC area with a number of targeted interventions, however it continues to be the case that catching irresponsible owners at the point that dog fouling occurs remains very challenging.

Dog Issues dealt with by actions	Ward 9	Ward 10	Ward 11
Dog Warden Visit/ Patrol	3	0	4
Dog fouling sign erected	0	3	0
Dog returned to owners	0	1	0
Dog taken to SSPCA	2	0	0
Visit re out of control dog	10	9	0
Warning letter issued	1	2	0
Monitoring visit (DCN)	8	6	19

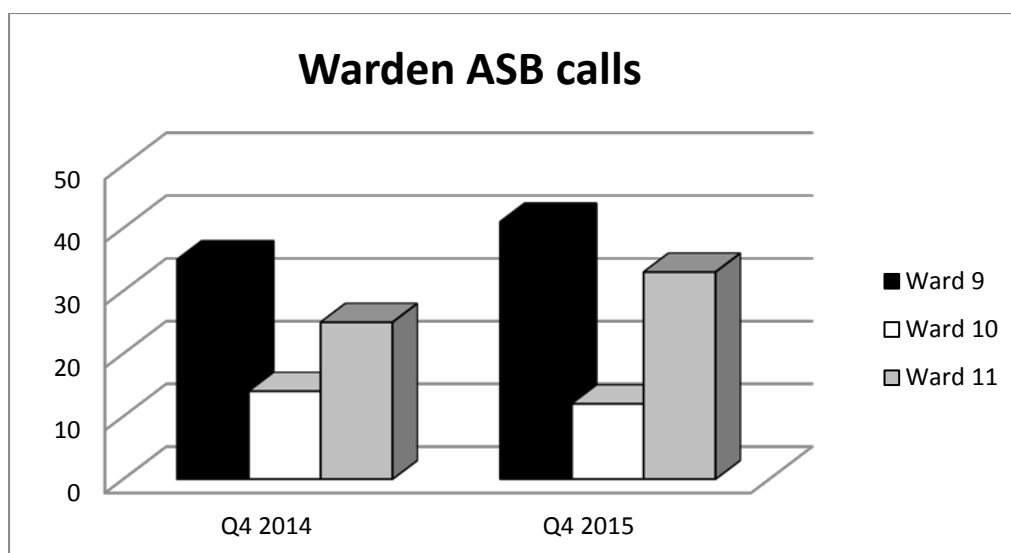
Renfrewshire Council is in the process of developing a draft Strategy on Promoting Responsible Dog Ownership to help address this issue. Evidence from national and local research shows that the impact of dog fouling is one of the most important environmental issues that affect communities. The Strategy on Promoting Responsible Dog Owner was developed in consultation with key partners and has identified 5 key priority areas:

- Enhanced partnership working ;
- Promoting responsible dog ownership in Renfrewshire;
- Tackling persistent offenders;
- Improving Enforcement procedures;
- Tackling Dogs Dangerously Out of Control.

### 3.3 Renfrewshire Wardens' Anti-Social Behaviour Calls

The table below provides details of the number of anti-social behaviour calls received by the Renfrewshire Wardens' service for the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine LAC area during January to March 2016. It shows the comparison to the same period last year and indicates the success of a number of initiatives, including leaflet drops and other communications targeted at increasing reports of anti social behaviour issues in key communities.

The calls made to the Wardens Service help the Community Safety Partnership to respond to and direct resources across Renfrewshire. 714 patrols took place within the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine LAC area, many in response to these calls.



- 3.4 An update from Scottish Fire & Rescue Service will be provided in the report to the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

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## 4 Environmental Enforcement and Improvements

### 4.1 Vehicle Emissions Testing

This bi-annual event took place on 16-17 March 2016, the previous one having taken place in October 2015). The Renfrewshire Community Safety Wardens, working in partnership with the Council's Licensing Officers and Police Scotland, carried out emissions testing on light vehicles entering the Air Quality Management Area in Paisley town centre. 356 vehicles were tested (including 52 taxis and private-hire vehicles), with 6 fails resulting in the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices to the drivers. There were also 5 warnings issued due to minor defects.

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## 5 Protecting the Vulnerable

### 5.1 Safe Kids

Safe Kids is an annual programme coordinated by Community Resources, delivering educational messages relating to a range of safety issues to every Primary 6 pupil in Renfrewshire. In March 2016, the annual Safe Kids event was at St Mirren's Paisley 2021 Stadium. The aim being to reduce the number of accidents involving young people, promote positive behaviour and eliminate risks. Workshops included: antisocial behaviour; Street Stuff; CCTV; First Aid; alcohol and drug awareness; internet safety; fire safety; litter and dog fouling.

## 5.2 **Choices for Life**

Choices for Life is a similar innovative diversionary and educational initiative led by Police Scotland, 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).

- 5.3 The latest Choices for Life, Paisley Event took place on Wednesday 23 March 2016 at St Mirren's Paisley 2021 Stadium. It was attended by 200 second year pupils from four secondary schools; Gleniffer High School, Paisley Grammar School, St Andrew's Academy and Castlehead High School. There was also participation by a small number of pupils from Kibble School and Mirren Park School. This event focused on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) with inputs from Police Scotland, Fire and Rescue, Renfrewshire Council, NHS, Renfrewshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership and St Andrews Ambulance.

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

I Am Me is a community project which works in partnership with Police Scotland to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime. In 2015/26, I Am Me launched a new training pack and DVD film which are available as a free resource to schools and groups. At the official launch at the Showcase Cinema, Paisley, the film was premiered with over 300 guests attending including the Provost, Lord Advocate and Deputy Chief Constable as the main speakers.

- 5.5 Keep Safe works in partnership with Police Scotland and a network of local businesses to create 'Keep Safe' places for disabled, vulnerable, and elderly people when out and about in the community. The Lord Advocate Frank Mulholland QC pledged support to the Keep Safe initiative by making all Procurator Fiscal offices in Scotland Keep Safe places in 2016.

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

- 6.1 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.

- 6.2 The 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.
- 6.3 The Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership is responsible for reporting outcomes in their Annual Report (latest 2014/15). The annual report also includes core and local indicators, many of which demonstrate an improving trend.

<b>Indicators (per 100,000 population)</b>	<b>Base 09/10</b>	<b>Previous 12/13</b>	<b>Current 13/14</b>	<b>National Average</b>	<b>Target 2015</b>	<b>% change</b>
Alcohol Related Hospital Discharges	911	956.4	1011.1	696.9	892.1	+5.7
Alcohol Related Deaths	25.7	30.2	23.9	21.4	25.2	-20.9
Drug Related Hospital Discharges	132.6	123.6	140.9	124.6	130	+12.2
Drug Related Deaths	15.0	15.3	7.9	10	13.9	-48

- 6.4 As seen in the table above the numbers of alcohol and drug related deaths in Renfrewshire have decreased from the 2009 baseline figures in line with the national average. Although we have seen improvements, current rates of alcohol and drug related hospital discharges in Renfrewshire remain above the Scottish average.
- 6.5 In the last year, over 96% of individuals in Renfrewshire waited no more than 3 weeks for treatment, which is better than the Scotland wide figure of 95.6% for alcohol and 95% for Drugs. Renfrewshire has consistently exceeded the target during 2014/15. Improvements seen in waiting times for drug and alcohol services have made services more accessible and increased the numbers attending.
- 6.6 Renfrewshire's Alcohol and Drug Partnership's 2015/16 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.

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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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