

## **Agenda item 2**

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**To: PAISLEY SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**On: 17 NOVEMBER 2015**

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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 some of the activities the Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Partnership have carried out in the Paisley South area in quarter 2 (1 July – 30 September 2015). Statistical information has been provided by a number of partners including: Police Scotland; Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; and Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership. The report includes information on:

- Paisley South community safety statistics;
- environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
- protecting vulnerable residents;
- building safer communities;
- diversionary activities;
- the development of the integrated control room and CCTV;
- the work of Adult Protection.

1.2 Overall, during quarter 2 levels of recorded crime decreased within the Paisley South area when compared with the same period in the last year.

- 1.3 Street Stuff continues to be delivered in the LAC area, with a total attendance of 3,033 participants. The level of vandalism and youth disorder, whilst still low, has increased compared with the same quarter last year. Community Safety Partnership action plans are in place to tackle the issue, including additional warden patrols, Youth Officer visits and the ongoing deployment of Street Stuff activities.
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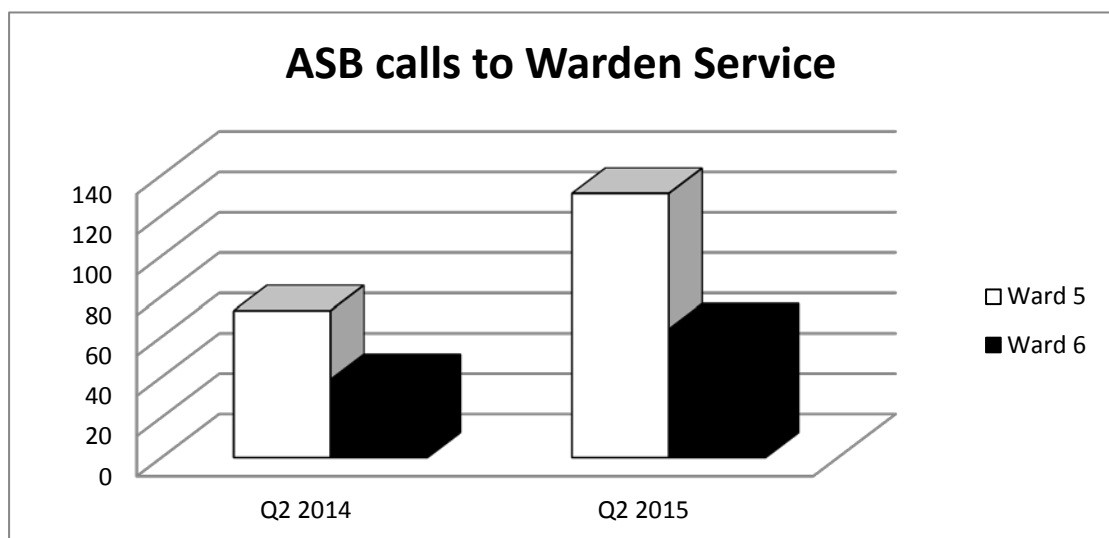
## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Local Area Committee notes the content of this progress update report.
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## **3. Focus on Paisley South**

- 3.1 During this quarter, the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Partnership have continued to target resources into hotspot areas where the highest number of crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB) incidents were reported:
- Reported ASB and disorder within Ward 5 reduced by around 8% in comparison to the corresponding quarterly period last year. The highest tariff complaint type was Public Nuisance, with Skye Crescent identified as the highest tariff location. Peak days/times across the Ward were identified as Saturdays and Sundays between 1800hrs and 2100hrs.
  - Overall, ASB and disorder calls within Ward 6 reduced slightly, by around 5%, in comparison to the corresponding quarter last year. The highest tariff incident type was recorded as Public Nuisance, followed by Noise Complaints. Peak days/times for Public Nuisance complaints were identified as Wednesdays and Fridays between 1900hrs and 2200hrs.
- 3.2 Within Ward 5, crimes of Minor Assault and Vandalism increased (both of which nearly doubled), whilst slight reductions were noted within Serious Violent and Drug-related crime. A slight concentration of Minor Assaults was identified within the area of Stock Street/Neilston Road however no repeat victims were identified. The peak day for all common assaults was Thursdays, whilst there was a notable peak for Vandalisms on Friday nights between 2200hrs and 2300hrs.

- 3.3 This area has been designated for increased provision of activities to compliment partnership action plans, and in addition there is ongoing extra attention from the Wardens. As a result of these measures, which were taken promptly in response to the increase, there has already been a notable reduction in the number of incidents within this area (one common assault and zero vandalism's recorded during the period 01 to 25 Oct 2015). This area will continue to be monitored through ongoing hotspot analysis, however it is expected that there will be no further increases locally, which will be reflected in forthcoming quarterly reporting.
- 3.4 Over the same period, reported ASB and disorder within Ward 5 reduced by around 8% in comparison to the corresponding quarterly period last year. The highest tariff complaint type was Public Nuisance, with Skye Crescent identified as the highest tariff location. This area has subsequently been designated for ongoing extra attention from the Wardens, and has also been included within Police Scotland patrol patterns. Some of the individuals involved have been identified and referred to the Community Safety Youth Team. It is expected that the implementation of these measures will result in a notable reduction in reported incidents from this location, however this area will continue to be monitored through ongoing hotspot analysis. Peak days/times across the Ward were identified as Saturdays and Sundays between 1800hrs and 2100hrs. Street Stuff are currently looking to increase activities during these periods.



- 3.5 Within Ward 6, reductions were noted across all Crime types with the exception of Vandalism, which increased slightly in comparison to the corresponding quarterly period last year. There were no obvious geographic patterns however peak days and times were identified as Wednesday nights between 2100hrs and 2200hrs.

Crime Type	Q2 2014/15		Q2 2015/16		Change	
	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 5	Ward 6
Serious violent crime	2	8	1	2	↓	↓
Minor Assault	12	24	23	18	↑	↓
Drug Crime	19	18	15	8	↓	↓
Disorder and ASB	286	224	262	213	↓	↓
Vandalism	18	27	35	33	↑	↑
	337	301	336	274		

3.6 Unfortunately, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service's statistics are unavailable for this quarter. The next LAC report will provide information for the period July-December 2015.

3.7 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service's initiatives help to contribute to reductions in fires. In August, The Festival of Fire celebrated the West of Scotland's proud fire fighting heritage:

- Thousands of spectators watched the Fire Engine Rally from Johnstone Fire Station to an assemble point at Houstoun Square which allowed residents to get up close to the vintage and current fire vehicles.
- Visitors were able to enjoy family entertainment including chip-pan fire demos, a bouncy castle, birds of prey and a selection of stalls.
- Renfrewshire's Provost Anne Hall also took part in road traffic accident demonstration when she was cut out of a car and 'rescued' by firefighters.

In September, Paisley Community Fire Station was a venue at Doors Open day allowing the public to see the inner workings of the service.

3.8 In the same quarter, 10% of all complaints to Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership (Community Resources) were related to Dog Fouling which continued to be the most common complaint. 1359 community safety patrols were undertaken in Paisley South 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 5	Ward 6
Dog Warden Visit	3	2
Dog fouling sign erected	2	3
Dog returned to owners	2	0
Dog taken to SSPCA	1	2
Visit re out of control dog	6	6
Warning letter issued	3	1
Dog Control Notice issued (DCN)	0	1
Monitoring visit (DCN)	16	36
Stray Found	1	5
Dog Fouling Leaflet Delivered	2	0

- 3.9 The table below shows that calls to Police Scotland relating to vandalism & youth disorder have significantly increased this quarter but overall remain at a low level compared to historical figures.

Vandalism & Youth Disorder			
Ward	Q2 2014/15	Q2 2015/16	% Change
5	37	73	97%↑
6	37	37	↔

- 3.10 Vandalism & Youth Disorder incidents within Ward 5 nearly doubled, rising from 37 incidents to 73. The main cause of this increase was incidents at Skye Crescent, with a peak time identified between 1800hrs and 2000hrs. The wardens regularly patrol this ASB 'hotspot' area. Efforts are currently ongoing to identify all individuals involved, including the viewing of Wardens CCTV footage by local youth officers.

At the same time, incidents within Ward 6 remained at the same level as the corresponding quarterly reporting period last year with 37 incidents.

- 3.11 The Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Partnership's main diversionary project is Street Stuff. This project has now been operating across Renfrewshire for the last 6 years and continues to contribute significantly towards reductions in youth disorder and antisocial behaviour.

- 3.12 The table below shows Street Stuff activity and attendance in the Paisley South LAC area from July to September 2015:

Venue	Sessions	Attendance
Morar Drive Football	14	206
Morar Drive Box	37	295
Lochfield Marshes Football	14	249
Lochfield Marshes Bus	14	288
Glenburn Dance	20	238
Skye Crescent Football	37	1757
Total	136	3033

- 3.13 Funding from this LAC in 2015/16 has allowed Street Stuff to deliver extra sessions in local areas. Street Stuff now provide 14 sessions over 6 days per week in the autumn months in the Paisley South LAC area. Previously in 2014 it was only 8 sessions over 5 days per week. The Street Stuff timetable attached as Appendix 1 shows the locations and dates of activities being delivered from 1 October – 12 December 2015 across Renfrewshire.

## **4 Environmental Enforcement and Improvements**

### **4.1 Keep Scotland Beautiful - Dog Fouling Fortnight (30 September - 13 October 2015)**

Recent research carried out by Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) found that almost 70% of people rated dog fouling as the item on our streets which bothered them most. 64% of KSB campaign supporters also said they encountered dog fouling while carrying out Clean Up events this year. The KSB campaign Dog Fouling Fortnight aims to provoke support from the public in tackling the issue of dog fouling in communities. To support this national campaign the Wardens Service provided high visibility support, utilising existing resources and staff, to highlight the issue, including:

- CCTV vehicles focussed on parks or near open ground and at dog fouling hotspots identified by local knowledge and statistical information;
- Wardens distributed 'Know the Law' dog fouling leaflets and provided advice to dog walkers and residents within local parks and Town Centres.
- Partnership working with Police Scotland and StreetScene staff in sharing information for follow up enforcement or informal educational action.

## 4.2 **Vehicle Emissions Testing**

This bi-annual event took place on 28 and 29 October 2015. Community Safety wardens working in partnership with Police Scotland carried out emissions testing on light vehicles entering the Air Quality Control Management Area in Paisley town centre. During a similar initiative in March 2015, 229 vehicles were tested and 8 failed resulting in the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices to the drivers.

## 4.3 **Town Centre Initiative and Rapid Response Team**

A dedicated town centre Rapid Response Team, comprising of 2 trainees and 1 warden has been developed and is currently being piloted within Paisley Town Centre. This small & dedicated team will provide a focus on domestic and trade waste issues arising in Town centre locations by providing information and advice to residents and businesses. They will also undertake enforcement activities where necessary. This team will support activities currently undertaken by Wardens, EHOs and waste supervisors to ensure that principally trade waste (but also domestic waste) is appropriately presented for collection.

In addition, the team will report issues relating to street cleaning, flyposting and graffiti in the area and will remove, and where possible take enforcement action to detect and deter flytipping.

## 4.4 **Environmental Training Team (ETT)**

The Environmental Training Team (ETT) have carried out a number of activities within Paisley Town Centre & surrounding areas in recent months, including;

- Clearing litter at the Hammills Walkway , the monitoring and maintaining on a monthly basis;
- Painting railings at Bridge Street car park at Mill Street/Cotton Street;
- Painting of Utility Cabinets within the Bid area in Paisley Town Centre;
- The undertaking of a graffiti survey ( 'Tag the Tag') of the town centre within the Paisley First/Business Improvement area and thereafter carry out graffiti removal works in conjunction with StreetScene;
- Clean up of various gap sites through 'Stalled Spaces' funding.

#### 4.5 Seedhill Educational Awareness Initiative

Through analysis of complaints received by Community Safety from both residents and elected members it became apparent that the Seedhill area was identified as a hotspot area for antisocial behaviour and environmental issues. In September, the Community Safety Partnership introduced a multi agency Educational Initiative in the area. The initiative was designed to deliver information around reporting of antisocial behaviour / environmental issues and giving general advice on home safety prevention, health and wellbeing. The initiative was run on the 9-11 and 14-16 September 2015 from noon to 4pm:

- The Safe Bus was located at a different street in the Seedhill area everyday of the initiative. NHS Health and Improvement practitioners and the wardens were available at the bus to give advice. The NHS distributed leaflets covering a range of health topic and gave advice to the local residents on cancer, falls and prevention and nutrition. NHS children service practitioners promoted the current “active children eating smart” (ACES) and advised of the importance of healthy eating and the benefits of physical activities (age group 5 – 15 year olds). The Wardens Service promoted community safety and offered local residence assistance on antisocial behaviour, environmental issues, parking and estate management issues.
- The Seedhill area has a mixed tenure, which is predominantly owned by Williamsburgh Housing Association. All tenements were visited by officers. A perspex information holder was erected to the front & back close doors at McKerrell Street and Seedhill Road as a trial and will hopefully be rolled out to the rest of the area. This allowed residents easy access to all relevant information within their building.
- Housing Officers carried out door to door visits to speak directly with tenants to identify hotspot areas including dog fouling. These visits focused on furnishing residents with information on services available to them to address these issues.
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Officers carried out fire home safety checks to the identified vulnerable adults from the Housing providers and offered fire prevention advice.
- Community Services promoted advice and literature to local residents about the restorative justice service.



- Waste Advisers provided information on segregation of waste to prevent contamination of domestic and recycle wheelie bins providing food bags where required and offering assistance to residence around bin sharing services.

Following on from the initiative, a satisfaction survey was carried out to determine its the impact. Early feedback shows that the initiative was a successful. For example, the Safe Bus was well attended by residents seeking advice on all 6 days of the initiative.

## **5. Protecting the Vulnerable**

### **5.1 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference**

A Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a multi agency victim-focussed meeting where information is shared on the highest risk cases of domestic abuse between different statutory and voluntary sector agencies. The role of the MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety.

- 5.2 These meetings are chaired by ASSIST, a specialist domestic abuse advocacy and support service focused on reducing risk and improving the safety of victims of domestic abuse. ASSIST is managed by Community Safety Glasgow (CSG) a charitable partnership between Glasgow City Council and The Scottish Police Authority. At the last MARAC meeting in August, ASSIST notified all relevant members that they were no longer in a position to continue resourcing and convening MARAC meetings.

- 5.3 The Renfrewshire Safer and Stronger Action Plan highlights Renfrewshire Council's commitment to supporting the roll out of ASSIST and to establishing an active and effective Renfrewshire MARAC. Therefore, from October 2015 Renfrewshire's Community Safety Partnership have taken on the role as MARAC Coordinator, and Police Scotland will chair the meetings. ASSIST will offer a transitional support in taking on the MARAC co-ordination processes and additional training for relevant officers will be sourced. Woman's Aid has also agreed to continue with the support they currently provide around accommodating the monthly MARAC meetings. Current estimates indicate that around 310 cases per year within Renfrewshire will be handled by the MARAC.

- 5.4 A report was submitted to the Community Safety and Public Protection Steering Group on the next steps and it was agreed that MARAC form part of the Public Protection agenda and continue to feed into the Gender Based Violence Steering group.

## **5.5 Keep Safe**

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. People can access these premises to seek assistance and help if they feel lost, confused, scared, in danger, or have been the victim of a crime. The Keep Safe initiative is currently running in Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, and Dumfries & Galloway, and is being rolled out across Scotland in partnership with other Local Authorities. In Renfrewshire, we have signed up 8 new Keep Safe places: Williamsburgh Housing Association, Intu Braehead, Salvation Army - Erskine, Engage Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire Carers Centre, Bluewater Dentist, Mistylaw Medical Centre, and the RSPB Visitor Centre. Work is ongoing to encourage more businesses to sign up and a full list Keep Safe premises can be viewed at [www.iammescotland.co.uk](http://www.iammescotland.co.uk).

## **6. Building Safer Communities**

### **6.1 Stalled Spaces**

Stalled Spaces Scotland is an initiative managed by Architecture & Design Scotland (A&DS) on behalf of the Scottish Government to tackle vacant and derelict land sites. Following the submission of an application to A&DS, Renfrewshire Council was awarded £10,000. This award was matched via funding available from the Council's 2015/16 Local Green Network budget.

- 6.2 Community groups within Renfrewshire have been invited to apply for funding to tackle vacant and derelict land sites within their local communities. Applications are open for grants of between £250 and £5,000, although it is anticipated that the majority of awards will be for approximately £2,000. A&DS stipulate that 75% of funding must be within town centre locations, and emphasise that projects must be of a temporary nature. Examples of projects include growing grounds, art displays or theatre performances.

- 6.3 Half of the Stalled Spaces funding has already been allocated to four community groups:

- (i) Reaching Older Adults in Renfrewshire (ROAR): £2,400 sought for a vacant plot beside the West End Community Centre. The vacant site has been subject to fire raising and antisocial behaviour. ROAR is looking to restore the site to enable use by the local community.
- (ii) I Am Me Scotland: £2,000 sought for a filming project on a derelict mill site in the Johnstone area which has been subject to fire raising and youth disorder.

- (iii) Loud n Proud, Paisley: £2,077 sought for a series of pop up interactive music events in un-used space in the centre of Paisley.
- (iv) West End Community Council, Paisley: £1,100 for the clearance and improvement of two derelict sites.

Renfrewshire Council and Engage Renfrewshire are currently working with a further five organisations on their applications including identifying sites in the Renfrew & Gallowhill LAC area.

- 6.4 Information on how to apply for a grant is given on the Renfrewshire 2023 website ([www.renfrewshire2023.com](http://www.renfrewshire2023.com)). Applications are judged by the Greener Thematic Board on a rolling basis.

## **7. Diversionary Activities**

### **7.1 Street Stuff**

In August 2015, the annual international match between Street Stuff and Football Beyond Borders London was held at St Mirren Park. The London team comprised of young people experiencing difficulties in school. The match was organised by the Scottish Football Partnership and Football Beyond Borders (an international organisation that uses the sport to engage with young people). The Street Stuff team are scheduled to play a return match in London next year at the Football Beyond Borders tournament.

### **7.2 Dance Sessions Extended Renfrewshire wide**

The University of the West of Scotland's 2014 evaluation report of Street Stuff identified that girls wanted more choice in the activities available from the programme. In response, Street Stuff piloted a new dance class in January 2015. In September, Street Stuff rolled out the dance format to other LAC areas due to its popularity.

A dance display was held in Glenburn Community Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> October with young people from Glenburn and Gallowhill with over 100 parents in attendance. Plans are now underway in preparation for a Christmas display with young people from all over Renfrewshire.

### **7.3 Girls Development Programme**

Street Stuff with 'St Mirren in the Community' started a new football initiative in September, the Girls Development Programme. This initiative creates more choice for girls and gives them an opportunity to enhance and develop their footballing skills. The classes are on every Wednesdays for girls in the age groups of 8-10 and 11-14.

#### **7.4 Restorative Justice at Douglas St Nursery**

The Community Safety Youth Team arranged for two young people who had been involved in ASB and vandalism at Douglas St Nursery to participate in a restorative justice task at the Nursery. Both volunteered to complete tasks such as cleaning and weeding garden/play areas and planting. They engaged well during their visit and were very respectful to nursery staff. They learned of the importance of the nursery to the children and the families of the surrounding community and how much the children enjoyed the outdoor space.

#### **8. Integrated Control Room & CCTV System**

The construction of the new Community Safety Hub & Integrated Control Room at Mill Street, Paisley was completed in September 2015. A programme has been developed for the moves of employee groups that will be based in the new facility, from Clark Street and Renfrewshire House, with the moves planned in 3 phases between late September and December 2015. Multi-agency daily tasking meetings are now held there, with the hub staff, CCTV operators and Police Scotland operatives being located within the facility.

#### **9. Public Protection Spotlight – Adult Protection**

##### **9.1 Adult Protection in Renfrewshire**

Renfrewshire's Adult Protection Committee (RAPC) is the inter-agency strategic partnership responsible for the overview and effectiveness of adult protection activity. Their vision statement is:

In Renfrewshire we recognise that adult protection is everyone's business. Our vision is to promote public awareness and to use our collective endeavour to protect adults at risk of harm in Renfrewshire

The RAPC works to provide advice and guidance and is committed to supporting the improvement of skill and knowledge of those working with adults at risk of harm. It can do this by making proposals, giving recommendations and by remitting actions to sub-committees. Some of this can result from critical incident reviews or from self evaluation exercises. The RAPC meets bi-monthly and its members include an independently appointed Chair. It also has representation from a range of public bodies and key community partners. Tasked with submitting a biennial report to the Scottish Government noting its activities and main areas of focus, the RAPC has a commitment to review the practice and performance of adult protection activity in Renfrewshire.

9.2 In general, adults are not considered to require protection. However there are circumstances when adults, over 16, are known or believed to be at risk of harm. This is defined by the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, where adults:

- are unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests,
- are at risk of harm, and
- because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.

The harm can take various forms and is not restricted to only one type occurring at the same time. Harm can also be carried out by any individual and it does not need to be intentional. All three points noted above must be known or believed to be the case prior to making a referral under this Act.

9.3 The point of access for referrals in Renfrewshire is the Adult Services Referral Team (ASeRT). Any individual can make a referral to this team under the Act. 1708 referrals were received during 2014/15 which was a similar to the previous year's total. Police Scotland is responsible for the majority of referrals and this continued in 2014/15 at 73% of all referrals. Social Work Services have a statutory responsibility to make inquiries into every referral. 105 referrals proceeded to investigation in 2014/15 under the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. However, adults can be supported and protected under a number of other Acts.

9.4 The 2007 Act was introduced to expand the protection legislation for adults which also includes the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Adult with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2001. Health and Social Work services can at times only intervene in cases using these Acts when authority has been granted through the Scottish Courts and where there is evidence of significant or serious harm.

## **10. Background**

10.1 The Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Partnership brings together key resources to tackle and address issues to sustain and maintain safer and stronger communities. The Partnership consists of Renfrewshire Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and other community safety agencies.

- 10.2 Our Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Partnership long-term vision is that:  
'Renfrewshire is known as a safe and tolerant place where residents and visitors enjoy a high level of personal safety and public protection and are free from crime. A culture of fairness, respect and equality exists and vulnerable children and adults are well looked after and protected'.
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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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