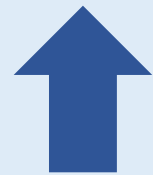


# Keeping People Safe in Renfrewshire

**Our Purpose:- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.**

## Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



**Overall upward trend in both serious & minor violence.**

YTD (April to January 2020) there were 261 Group 1 Crimes of Violence; up 9.2% on the previous year. The 5 year average for Group 1 crimes is 223.4.

**Since 1 April 2019, 1,815 crimes have been identified via police proactivity, up 2.4% on the previous year.**

There were 147 more common assaults (+10.6% to 1539 – higher than the 5 year average of 1440.6) and 259 fewer disorder complaints (-3.6%). 220 common assaults targeted emergency workers, the majority of which are likely to have been police officers.



Robberies and serious assaults experienced a decrease of 11.7 to 68 crimes and 6.4 to 117 crimes respectively. The detection rate for robberies is down to 73.5%, and serious assaults have also decreased to a rate of 76.9% when compared to the previous year.

## Acquisitive Crime



**Shoplifting decreased by 57 crimes to a total of 824. This is a result of a continued decrease in crime in Renfrew (-28%)**



**309 housebreakings (inc attempts) - up by 6.2%, with 18 more crimes. Dwelling houses account for 53% of HBs.**

YTD is showing an increase of 1.7% in the volume of recorded crimes of dishonesty. A decline in motor vehicle and housebreaking is offset by an 8.9% increase in common theft and a substantial increase in fraud (up 50.7% to 336 crimes), 56% were recorded in Renfrew.



YTD there have been 19 reported bogus crimes, up one crime on the previous year. 13 of the victims were over the age of 70 years, including four of whom suffered from ill-health. Common tactics included requests for money in advance for building work which was never completed, and distraction thefts. Most crimes involved bogus workmen purporting to be builders and gardeners.

## Public Protection



Recorded sexual crime has seen a decrease of -9% to 344 crimes when compared to the previous year, with 34 fewer victims.

**36.5% of reported sexual offences in the current year are non-recent in nature, down from 45.5% the previous year.**

**Victims aged 11 - 15 years at the time of the offence constituted 32% of sexual crimes. with 37% of these reports being non-recent and 26% being cyber-enabled.**

The detection rate of sexual crime YTD is 58.4% - down 12.2% on the previous year.



Since 1st April 2019 to 31st January 2020 there have been 359 Missing Person reports in Renfrewshire, of which 38.16% involved individuals residing at Young Persons Units within the area. As such young person units featured in the top five locations for persons to be reported missing from within Renfrewshire. Persons aged 10-19 years were involved in 72.14% of all missing person reports.

**1,944 domestic abuse incidents have been reported to the police, an increase of 7.6% on the previous year. 1,141 crimes were raised as a result of reported incidents, representing an increase of 8.8% on the previous year.**

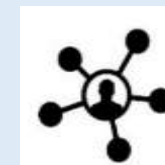
**There were 157 complaints about police during the reporting period. This is 31.7 complaints per 10,000 police incidents.**

## Renfrewshire

### Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020)

**Reporting Period – 1 April '19 – 31 Jan '20**

## Major Crime & Terrorism



Targetting serious organised crime continues to be a priority for the division. Drug related criminality is a significant driver for SOC. YTD there was a decrease of 9.2% on drug crimes. However, there was an increase in supply crimes by 27.2% (+ 27 crimes). Overall detections have increased by 24.8%.

YTD there were 50 drug related deaths in January, most of which await toxicology results. The majority of deaths commonly involve poly-drug use, with etizolam, cocaine, methadone and heroin featuring most frequently.



317 crimes have been designated as 'cyber-crimes' via application of the relevant cyber-crime marker, in 2019/20. Reported offences included online credit and debit card fraud and menacing and offensive communication offences using various social media platforms such as Instagram and Facebook.

## Road Safety & Road Crime



YTD, there has been one road fatality occurring within Renfrewshire; four fewer than last year. Serious road injuries increased by 5.4% to 39 (increase of 2 people), whilst slight injuries fell substantially by 50.5% to 91 people.



Dangerous driving and driving licence offences decreased by 20% and 13.7% respectively. However, the following experienced higher levels compared to the previous year: Speeding up 19.1% to 679 crimes, insurance offences up 3% to 338, seat belt offences up 90% to 57, and use of a mobile phone up 6.9% to 77.

## Our Renfrewshire is fair: addressing the inequalities that limit life chances

### Stonewall Workplace Equality Index 2020

Police Scotland has improved its ranking in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index (WEI) for 2020 by more than 40 places on the previous year. The Stonewall Workplace Equality Index (WEI), which measures organisational progress, reported significant progress by Police Scotland in the way it supports LGBT inclusion, both for Police Scotland officers and staff and the community it serves. It's the sixth year Police Scotland has entered the Stonewall WEI. The organisation has been ranked just outside the top 100 and reached 108th out of 503 organisations which submitted evidence to the index. Building on previous work to improve recruitment, employment practices, procurement, and service delivery.

Three elderly witnesses were within the Paisley Abbey volunteering when 2 male suspects entered through the door of the church. All witnesses were approached asking to see the priest. The witness could not find the minister and returned with the minister's secretary asking if they could assist. The accused replied "I need five pounds for the leccy". The witness informed the suspect that they did not provide that sort of service and suggested social services. Both suspects then left. The witness noticed her handbag on the floor and saw that it was open and checked the bag and found that her purse was now missing. Police witnesses attended and spoke with the witnesses. Police witnesses checked the CCTV and on doing so identified the both the suspects. Town centre community Police officers were on uniformed foot patrol on High Street, Paisley when the suspects were observed running on High Street, Paisley then boarding a bus before alighting at the next stop and entering the common close at Broomlands Street, Paisley. The two suspects were traced and informed they were being detained. Both accused were cautioned, and searched both suspects to which they recovered a quantity of coinage, along with £180 in notes. The suspect was then under arrest for the suspected offence of theft. To which he freely stated 'what if I apologise for this and give the lady her money back'. Both were then conveyed to Govan Police office.

### The Contact Assessment Model project

The official "Go Live" of Contact Assessment Model in the division was Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 with the Local Policing Appointments (LPAs) starting on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

The Contact Assessment Model project will significantly improve the service provided to the public by:

- Improving the assessment of risk and vulnerability whenever a call is received
- Improving prioritisation decisions
- Ensuring immediate despatch of officers whenever required
- Providing a range of resolution options for calls which do not require an immediate police response



### Don't Ask For It Campaign December 2019:

Retailer's packs were distributed to off-licenses across Renfrewshire and Inverclyde as part of our "Don't Ask For It" campaign which aims to raise awareness of the consequences of proxy purchase. The campaign focussed on the following key areas such as Education of Off Sales, Licensed Premises and National Retailers, School Pupils and targeted activity for forthcoming school holidays. Students in partnership with University of West Scotland, West College Scotland and local Licensed Premises through Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Licensing Seminars. Targeted patrols of areas associated with Anti-Social Behaviour in partnership with Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Council. The campaign would be advertised throughout the Division on a mixture of Digital and Traditional Billboards and Bus Stops. Braehead agreed to display campaign messages on the large digital display board prominently located within the middle of the centre and seen by those entering and attending the various busy food courts.

### The Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) Scotland Act 2019 'go live' Monday 20th January 2020.

The Act, which received Royal Assent in June 2019, intends to limit the requirement, in the most serious cases, for witnesses including children who are under 18 years and/or vulnerable adults to give evidence in person during criminal trials. Special Measures set out under the Act include the use of 'Evidence by Commission' that could then be used as 'Evidence in Chief'. Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal's Service (COPFS) has directed that in some circumstances pre-recorded evidence of witnesses should be obtained for use as 'Evidence in Chief'. Police Scotland already has established processes in place with regards to Joint Investigative Interviews (JII) of children, decided and arranged through Child Protection Procedures (Inter-agency Referral Discussion). As JII, in the main, involves children under 16 years, this will reflect the majority of interviews, however as the Act describes children as being under 18 years, additional training and phased roll out will be introduced for VRIs of children aged 16/17 years. In addition, a phased roll out using a cadre of specially trained 'Child Witness VRI' officers is scheduled to take place.

### "You're Home, Your Street, Our Community Campaign"

Paisley Town Centre was identified by the Renfrewshire Community Safety and Public Protection Steering Group as a 'vulnerable community.' These 'vulnerable communities' are being prioritised and targeted for multi-agency initiatives to address issues affecting residents, businesses and visitors. It is expected that this additional focus should result in positive outcomes for the community and fulfill the strategic aim to 'Build Safer and Greener Communities' across Renfrewshire. This follow-up report is based on the findings of the original Paisley Town Centre Signal Interview questionnaire of September 2019 which asked the residents, businesses and visitors to determine how safe they felt within their community and what, if any, fears or issues they wished to highlight. Following the original survey of September 2019, several actions were undertaken based on feedback. The follow-up survey was conducted online using 'Survey123' and promoted through social media campaigns. The results were used to compare the attitudes of residents after the aforementioned actions were carried out to see if perceptions of Paisley Town Centre had changed. The survey was completed by 217 people, 54 respondents indicated that they had completed the initial survey. The social media campaign led by Sergeant Singh was the most recognised action by all respondents (45%) followed closely by high visibility Police patrols (36%). Of those who completed the initial survey, 63% recognised the social media campaign and 50% noticed the high visibility Police patrols. The most successful action carried out was "Rubbish or litter lying about". The least successful action carried out was "Drug dealing/abuse".

## Our Renfrewshire is thriving: maximising economic growth that is inclusive and stable