



**Renfrewshire  
Council**

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

**On: 5 SEPTEMBER 2018**

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**Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES, HOUSING & PLANNING SERVICES**

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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 Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership has carried out in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine area in quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2018). The report seeks to provide contextual information that explains the performance of the partnership across the Local Area Committee area. The report includes information on:

- Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside and Erskine anti-social behaviour statistics;
  - Environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
  - Protecting vulnerable residents;
  - Building safer communities;
  - Diversionary activities;
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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. Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine Antisocial Behaviour Statistics**

- 3.1 54 antisocial behaviour calls were received by the Renfrewshire Wardens' service for the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC area during April to June 2018 which is a significant decrease compared to the 78 calls in the corresponding period in 2017.
- 3.2 587 patrols took place within the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC area, many in response to these calls. The antisocial behaviour calls made to the Wardens help the Community Safety Partnership to respond to and direct resources across Renfrewshire. During the same time period, the number of calls to the Noise Team increased in Ward 10 & 11 but decreased in Ward 12. However, the number of warnings issued reduced from 4 to 2. This highlights the public continue to adhere to initial warnings and modify their noise levels to within legal limits to avoid any enforcement action.

### **4. Environmental Enforcement and Improvements**

#### **Environment & Place – Team Up to Clean Up**

- 4.1 Community groups continue to embrace the Team Up to Clean Up campaign. 101 clean-ups were recorded from January to June 2018 compared to 36 recorded for the same period in 2017. The Facebook community is growing and community groups are now visiting one another to view the results of the work being carried out in communities across Renfrewshire and sharing information on support that external companies can provide.
- 4.2 During the quarter from April to June 2018 there have been 10 clean-ups in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC area where over 95 volunteers removed more than 90 bags of litter. These clean-ups include Erskine Community Garden, Bishopton Community, Erskine Community Garden, Erskine Family Volunteer Group and Houston Litter Crew.
- 4.3 Erskine Community Garden further benefited from the bulbs removed from the flower beds in Renfrew. This group have now created a fairy garden in their area and are in discussion with other community groups offering advice and guidance.
- 4.4 Businesses have also been engaging with the campaign. Glasgow Airport, Chivas and McDonalds have all had employees participate in litterpicks recently. Chivas provided 150 volunteers to clean several locations within Renfrewshire and collected almost 400 bags of litter. The Normandy Hotel, Renfrew, have been assisting with the removal of litter and flytipping for the Renfrew White Cart River Bank and Nature Spot group. They are delighted with the efforts the group are making to improve the walkway at the back of their hotel.
- 4.5 A Senior Community Safety Officer secured funding from the Council Lens project to provide trolley's and relevant tools for community litterpicking groups. The Team Up to Clean Up Caddy will offer brushes, loppers and dog-fouling/graffiti removal kits,

amongst other tools. Work will ensure fair allocation of Caddy's and appropriate Health and Safety and safe use information is provided.

### **Responsible Dog Ownership Strategy**

- 4.6 The Responsible Dog Ownership Strategy has shone a light on the problem of dog fouling and takes positive action to address this issue. 9 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued across Renfrewshire in the period April-June 2018 which is a significant increase on the numbers issued in the same period in previous years. No notices were served in the issued in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC area during this period, however of the 18 streets targeted for interventions 4 were from this LAC area: Locher Crescent, Ardgryffe park, Kilbarchan Park & Tandlehill Road. All streets continue to be monitored in relation to dog fouling however early indications are that there has been a measurable improvement. Feedback from elected members and the public has also praised the work in this area and expressed a noticeable difference in cleanliness.

## **5. Protecting Vulnerable Residents**

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

- 5.1 The I Am Me primary school resources have been developed to form a structured programme incorporating learning materials specific for each age group from P1 to P7. By June 2018, the Primary School programme had been delivered to 49 schools and 10,436 children had participated. 3,374 children surveys have been returned and the headline results are as follows:
- 98% enjoyed the I Am Me visit;
  - 92% are more aware of bullying;
  - 91% are more aware of disabilities;
  - 99% know bullying is wrong;
  - 97% know it is important to report bullying;
  - 93% would tell an adult if they, or someone else was being bullied.
- 5.2 In total 10,848 pupils are booked to attend, with all Renfrewshire Primary and Additional Support Needs schools booked in.
- 5.3 Keep Safe is extending across Scotland, with 20 local authority areas actively rolling out the initiative. As of the end of June 2018, there are 421 Keep Safe places across Scotland, including 129 in Renfrewshire. The Keep Safe Ambassador programme is also going from strength to strength and now has 226 High School Ambassadors, 86 Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Ambassadors, 38 Ambassadors with a learning disability and 54 Keep Safe Ambassador trainers across Scotland. A total of 132 Ambassadors have been trained in Renfrewshire so far.
- 5.4 I Am Me Scotland has been awarded the Queen's Award for Volunteer Groups. This award is the equivalent of an MBE and the highest award given to voluntary groups in the UK. I Am Me Scotland was given recognition for all of the hard work, dedication and support from their volunteers. These volunteers include the Board of Trustees,

Community Management Committee, Keep Safe businesses and Keep Safe Ambassadors.

## 6. Building Safer Communities

6.1 The Building Safer & Greener Communities programme has been implemented in Renfrewshire since 2016. A multi-agency group led by Police Scotland and supported by other partners works closely with communities to carry out targeted interventions in areas in need of additional support. The group's interventions reduce littering, vandalism and disorder offences and increase the number of arrests for drug offences in relation to the corresponding period the previous year.

6.2 Erskine was the third area within Renfrewshire to be identified as a 'vulnerable community', mainly due to the volume of youth disorder and antisocial behaviour incidents during 2016. Local residents were surveyed to find out what issues were affecting them in their area which helped shape multi-agency initiatives to address concerns.

6.3 Interventions statistically have proven successful, with an impact assessment carried out in relation to environmental complaints, crime, and antisocial behaviour/disorder, comparing the period 1st July 2016 to 30th April 2017 (pre-intervention) and the corresponding period of 2017/18 which coincided with the Safer and Greener initiative. The following figures relate specifically to Erskine pre and post the Building Safer Communities intervention.

- **Dog Fouling:** A slight reduction from 48 complaints during 2016/17 to 42 complaints during 2017/18.
- **Litter & Flytipping:** A significant reduction in complaints was noted, with 59 incidents during the period of analysis for 2016/17, compared to 20 incidents during the corresponding period of 2017/18. The greatest impact was incidences of Flytipping, which reduced from 30 complaints to 8 during the two periods of analysis.
- **Vandalism:** Reduced by 29%, from 184 recorded incidents during 2016/17 to 130 incidents for the corresponding period of 2017/18.
- **Serious and Violent Crime:** Nearly halved, with only five recorded incidents of Serious and Violent crime during 2017/18 - this is four less than were recorded during the corresponding period of 2016/17.
- **ASB & Disorder:** Disorder incidents reduced by nearly one-third (32%) - a total of 580 incidents were recorded during the 2016/17 period compared to 395 during the corresponding period of 2017/18.
- **Drugs:** Drugs Crimes increased very slightly, rising from 30 crimes during the 2016/17 period to 34 during the Safer and Greener Intervention period. The

majority of incidents related to possession of user amounts of cannabis and are attributed to the increased Policing presence during this time.

- 6.4 The lessons learned in each new area the group goes into about which interventions have the greatest impact on particular issues of concern are being shared across Renfrewshire. While the next intervention area will be Shortroods in Paisley, the learning from Erskine will also be used in this Local Area Committee area. Successful interventions established in the previous areas of Ferguslie and Gallowhill are also continuing with ongoing support from all partners to maintain positive outcomes.

#### **Spring / summer events**

- 6.5 The Community Safety Partnership including wardens, CCTV and Street Stuff have been supporting key spring/summer events throughout Renfrewshire. This includes national events like the British Pipe Band Championship, CoSLA Convention and Colourfest 2018, the dance festival at Braehead. However, they also attended more local events such as St Mirren Parade 2018, Paisley Beer & Food Festival, Erskine Motorbike Meet, Sma Shot Day, The County Grand Orange Lodge Parade in Johnstone, Erskine Building Safer Greener Communities events, CarFest 2018, Armed Forces Day at Paisley Abbey and gala days including Barshaw and Renfrew. The Wardens provided the CCTV vehicle and the Safe Bus with the lost kids' location at many of these events. Meanwhile, Street Stuff were in attendance at the family-orientated events like the gala days, providing football and dance activities for young people to participate in.

### **7. Diversionary Activities**

#### **Street Stuff**

- 7.1 Street Stuff continues to deliver a variety of activities throughout Renfrewshire. There were over 10,000 recorded attendances in this quarter, 6,000 of which formed part of evening activities. In addition to the normal scheduled timetable, extra afternoon sessions were delivered during the Easter school holidays at St Mirren FC, St James Primary School and Linwood High with with over 800 recorded attendances over the two-week period averaging over 130 per day. Activities during these sessions included football, dance and youth bus and included the provision of a healthy meal. Street Stuff also delivered activities at a number of events which are detailed in 6.5 of this report.
- 7.2 The table below shows Street Stuff evening activity and attendance in the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC area from April to June 2018:

Venue	Attendance
OLP	1727
Bargarran	44
Linwood	209
Inchinnan	109
Parkmains HS	114
Total	2203

- 7.3 Four young coaches from the Street Stuff programme have been working on the development of a Mini Chefs project to build on the Tackling Poverty initiative already being delivered during school holidays. The new programme aims to have a more sustainable outcome teaching young people how to cook a healthy meal on an affordable budget. Street Stuff was a winner in the Council Lens programme following the presentation of their ideas to the judging panel and is in the process of developing an implementation plan using the funding and support secured.

(Details of Street Stuff activities and the up to date timetable are available on the council's website using the following link  
<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2381/Street-Stuff.>)

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### **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** - None
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community Planning** –

**Our Renfrewshire is fair** - The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership treats all enquiries and complaints consistently using relevant legislation and guidance to ensure everyone that lives, works and visits Renfrewshire is treated fairly.

**Our Renfrewshire is safe** - The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership contributes towards Renfrewshire being a safe and secure place for those living, working or visiting the area, using intelligence led joint tasking arrangements.

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. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website
8. **Health & Safety** – None
9. **Procurement** – None
10. **Risk** – None

11. **Privacy Impact** – None

12. **Cosla Policy Position** – None

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