Renfrewshire Council

To: **JOHNSTONE AND VILLAGES LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

On: **31 MAY 2018**

Report by: **DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITIES**

Heading: **COMMUNITY SAFETY & PUBLIC PROTECTION, PROGRESS UPDATE**

1. Summary

1.1 This report provides a progress update on activities the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership has carried out in the Johnstone and Villages area in quarter 4 (1 January – 31 March 2018). The statistical information has been provided by the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership, including relevant Council Services, Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue. The report includes information on:

- Johnstone and Villages community safety statistics;
- Environmental enforcement and improvement activities;
- Protecting vulnerable residents;
- Building safer communities;
- Diversionary activities;

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of this progress update report.

3. Focus on Johnstone and Villages

3.1 The table below details the number of incidents reported in the Johnstone & Villages Local Area during Quarter 4, 2017/18 (01 January to 31 March 2018). The Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership continues to target resources into identified hotspot areas.

Incidents Reported	Q4 2016/17		Q4 2017/18	
	Ward 8	Ward 9	Ward 8	Ward 9
Serious Violent Crime (all Gp 1 Crime)	5	4	3	1
Minor Assault	23	20	20	18
Drug Crime	12	47	14	15
Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) (number of calls)	205	166	167	160
Vandalism	37	23	39	25

3.2 **Ward 8**: Serious Violent Crime reduced by two crimes to remain at a very low level (three crimes in total), whilst crimes of minor assault, and calls for anti-social behaviour and disorder, both also reduced slightly. Drug crimes and vandalism both increased very slightly, with drug crimes remaining at a low level with 14 crimes recorded. Crimes of vandalism increased from 37 to 39 crimes, with the most common issue being the smashing of windows (mostly motor vehicles but also residential property), however no significant repeat victims or complainers were identified. Peak days/times were noted as Fridays and Sundays between 7pm and midnight and resources have been deployed to these areas during this time.

3.3 **Ward 9**: Reductions were noted across four out of the five crime/incident types, with only crimes of vandalism displaying a very slight increase (by two crimes from 23 to 25). Serious violent crime reduced by 3 crimes with only one crime recorded during the quarter, whilst a significant reduction of two-thirds was noted within drug crimes. There were no significant repeat victims or locations identified within the crimes of vandalism, however peak days and times were identified as Wednesdays between 2000hrs and midnight.

Renfrewshire Wardens' Antisocial Behaviour Calls

3.4 62 antisocial behaviour calls were received by the Renfrewshire Wardens' service for the Johnstone and Villages LAC area during January to March 2018 which is a significant decrease compared to the 96 calls in the corresponding period in 2017. 831 patrols took place within the Johnstone and Villages 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 reduced significantly in both Wards 8 & 9 by more than 35%. Warning Notices issued also decreased which corresponds to the reduction in calls.

4 **Environmental Enforcement and Improvements**

Environment and Place - Team Up to Clean Up

4.1 Renfrewshire's Big Spring Clean event took place over the weekend of 20-22 April. Over 31 community clean ups were arranged across Renfrewshire. The event was promoted in participating local communities, on social media and in local newspapers. The Environmental Training Team and Aspire Renfrewshire also assisted volunteers across Renfrewshire.

4.2 The Team Up to Clean Up campaign has increased participation and continues to flourish and engagement with communities and schools has been encouraging. The Council has a growing community group contact list and engagement is developing well. The webpage is live, offering branded downloadable materials and community clean up packs, posters and leaflets to support activity. Community groups can publish their contact details, enabling those who would like to join events, or arrange their own, to obtain support and more information. 64 community clean-ups have taken place from October 2017 to April 2018. Despite the winter months, clean-ups were still arranged and well attended.

4.3 A Team Up to Clean Up Facebook page has been launched capturing a significant level of interest with over 300 members joining to date. The page is designed to be a resource for community groups to share good practice, promote events to likeminded individuals and facilitate discussion. The page has so far has prompted joined up working between two groups.

4.4 As part of the Team Up to Clean Up campaign, targeted enforcement is being used for environmental crime including fly tipping, dog fouling and littering. Whilst still early in the programme, enforcement has increased with the following numbers of fixed penalties issued across Renfrewshire:

- Littering – 23
- Flytipping – 4
- Dog Fouling - 5

Responsible Dog Ownership Strategy

4.5 An innovative approach to tackling dog fouling has been delivered in 12 hot-spot streets in Renfrewshire. Community Safety Officers are reporting on the impact of the new approach which currently varies by location. When a street is confirmed as "severely" affected, StreetScene visit and clean the area. Pavements are then sprayed with a message "Someone in this street isn't picking up after their dog…. is it you?!", and signs are attached to lampposts. This approach is complimented by an increased Warden presence patrolling the area, delivering a zero-tolerance approach, with a number of Fixed Penalty Notices being issued for dog fouling.

4.6 As part of the Responsible Dog Ownership strategy, dog owners are being asked to sign the pledge that they are responsible dog owners. 102 people signed up to being a responsible dog owner in quarter 4 of 2017/18.

Vehicle Emissions Testing

4.7 This bi-annual event took place on 28 March 2018 in Renfrew town centre. Community Safety wardens, working in partnership with Licensing Officers and Police Scotland, carried out emissions testing on light vehicles entering the Air Quality Management Area. 317 vehicles were tested including taxis and private-hire cars, all 317 vehicles passed with no fails. All drivers were given a Renfrewshire Council Greener Renfrewshire Vehicle 'Don`t be an Idler' Information leaflet and an explanatory letter.

5 Protecting Vulnerable Residents

Safe Kids

5.1 Safe Kids is an annual interactive educational programme involving Renfrewshire's Community Safety Partners, delivering messages relating to a range of safety issues to every Primary 6 pupil in Renfrewshire (1,923 pupils in total). The aim of Safe Kids is to reduce the number of accidents involving young people, promoting positive behaviour and reducing risk taking behaviour.

5.2 Safe Kids was delivered at St Mirren Stadium during March 2018 with workshops designed to be interactive and short in length (10-12 minutes) to enable partners to communicate a range of vital messages in subject areas that can be difficult to discuss in the classroom.

5.3 Workshop topics included: antisocial behaviour; alcohol and drug awareness; internet safety; fire safety; litter & dog fouling; Railway Safety; Emergency situations; Who Cares Scotland and Street Stuff. Most of the workshops have previously been run successfully within the Safe Kids programme. New workshops this year included:

- **Railway Safety** - Learning about keeping safe at train stations and on trains and the dangers surrounding railway lines
- **Who Cares Scotland** - To build empathy amongst young people, to understand a bit about what it means to be a child in care, how it feels, and how to help.

The Street

5.4 'The Street' is an award-winning project based in Hamilton. The 20-minute hard hitting drama is delivered by young people aged 14-24 focusing on the potential impact and risks associated with knife crime; teenage pregnancy; domestic violence; bullying, sexual and mental health and drug and alcohol misuse.

5.5 Small groups of young people who came to the attention of the Community Safety Youth Team through their involvement in youth disorder visited the project on several occasions during January - February 2018. After watching the drama, the young people attend a workshop to assess and discuss the potential impact of their own behaviour on themselves and their community.

5.6 **Choices for Life**

Choices for Life is an innovative diversionary and educational initiative 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.

5.7 The 2018 Choices for Life event took place on 28 March 2018 at Johnstone Town Hall. It was attended by nearly 100 second year pupils from Renfrewshire's High Schools. This event focused on the dangers of alcohol and drugs with inputs from Police Scotland, RADAR, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Clubbercise with Active Communities and Renfrewshire Community Safety Services.

#ReadyWhenYouAre

5.8 The domestic abuse campaign #ReadyWhenYouAre was implemented during February and March 2018 aimed at victims to make them aware there is no timescales for reporting domestic abuse. Police Scotland and their partners are here when victims are ready to report and available to be supported.

5.9 This multi-agency campaign was run in both Renfrewshire & Inverclyde by local partners who specifically work with victims of domestic abuse. These included Renfrewshire's Council Public Protection, Woman's Aid, Woman & Children's First, Barnardo's, Assist, Mind Mosaic and Police Scotland.

5.10 The campaign took the form of an innovative 60 second video where all partners relayed a simple message of what domestic abuse is. Thereafter each individual partner records their own video emphasising the work their organisation does and how their organisation can support a victim of domestic abuse before, during and after the reporting process. The key message from all partners is "We are ready when you are".

5.11 Each week of the campaign a video was released which was circulate on social media under the above "hashtag" in the hope to get the message trending on all social media platforms and to generate shares to help spread the message further.

I Am Me/Keep Safe

5.12 By March 2018, the Primary School programme had been delivered to 36 schools and 7,159 children have participated. 2,461 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;
- 94% would tell an adult if they, or someone else was being bullied.

In total 10,528 pupils are booked to attend, with two schools to confirm pupil numbers.

5.13 Keep Safe is extending across Scotland, with 14 local authorities actively rolling out the initiative. There are now 366 Keep Safe places across Scotland, including 131 in Renfrewshire. The Keep Safe Ambassador programme is also going from strength to strength and now has 128 High School Ambassadors, 70 Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Ambassadors, 35 Ambassadors with a learning disability and 50 Keep Safe Ambassador trainers across Scotland.

6. Building Safer Communities

Best Bar None

6.1 Best Bar None is an accreditation scheme which rewards high standards and good practice in the licensed trade sector. The Scottish Business Resilience Centre (SBRC), who run the Best Bar None scheme in Scotland, are providing the administration and assessment for the Renfrewshire scheme this year. 7 Renfrewshire venues applied to the scheme this year, and all have achieved Gold standard. 4 of these venues applied for consideration to the National Awards and 2 venues, Bar Varia (Independent Bar) and Kilty Kilty (Innovation in Social Responsibility) were the short-listed as national finalists in the Best Bar None Scotland Awards in March 2018.

7. Diversionary Activities

Street Stuff

7.1 Street Stuff continues to deliver a variety of activities throughout Renfrewshire. There were 31,218 recorded attendances in 2017/18. In addition to the normal scheduled timetable during this quarter, extra afternoon sessions were arranged during the school holidays in February at the Paisley 2021 Stadium with attendances averaging 65 per day. Activities during these sessions included football, dance and bus activities. Each participant at the sessions was provided with a healthy meal.

7.2 The table below shows Street Stuff activity and attendance in the Johnstone and Villages LAC area from January to March 2018:

Venue	Attendance
McMaster Centre	385
Wallace PS	44
Auchenlodment PS	61
Total	490

7.3 Funding from this LAC in 2017/18 has allowed Street Stuff to deliver extra sessions in local areas. In total Street Stuff has provided 6 sessions over 6 days per week in the winter months in the Johnstone and Villages LAC area. The Street Stuff buses are also out during the 6 evenings and are moved depending on need and the requirements of the young people.

(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.)

StreetDoctors

7.4 Violence is the third leading cause of death in young people in the UK. Many of the deaths occur because people that are witness to violence panic and do not know how to help. Others do not know the consequences of violence, for example many young people believe that a person will only die if they are stabbed in the chest.

7.5 StreetDoctors is a charity that works to end youth violence by giving young people at risk of violence the skills and confidence to be able to help in a medical emergency, whilst also teaching them the true medical consequences of violence. In 2017, 84% of young people attending StreetDoctors sessions said that they would be willing to act if someone needed first aid, and 95% said that they understood the consequences of violence. StreetDoctors training is taught by a group of over 350 volunteers who are either medical students or junior doctors.

7.6 Street Stuff staff received StreetDoctors training on 21 February 2018. The training session covered 'What to do when someone is bleeding' and 'What to do when someone is unconscious'. It showed the medical consequences of carrying a knife, and offered a safe space to discuss willingness to help a victim. This lifesavers training will now be rolled out to young people in Renfrewshire at various Street Stuff venues throughout 2018.

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**

(a) 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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