



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Argyll & Bute

Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017

Quarterly Report / Q3 – 2015/16



Local Police Commander, Chief Superintendent Grant Manders

As Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire division I am pleased to present the third quarterly report for Argyll and Bute for 2015/16 performance year. This report details crime issues identified over the previous 3 months and sets out our priorities for the forthcoming period.

As outlined in the Local Policing Plan for Argyll and Bute our focus - **Keeping People Safe** – and the policing principals which it encapsulates continue to be at the centre of all police activity carried out across Argyll and Bute. Public consultation, partnership working and our own detailed crime analysis has determined that the priorities for local police during the last quarter of 2015/16 will continue to be as follows:-

- ❖ **Road Safety & Road Crime**
- ❖ **Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour**
- ❖ **Public Protection**
- ❖ **Major Crime and Counter Terrorism**
- ❖ **Acquisitive Crime**

These priorities are aligned to Argyll & Bute's Single Outcome Agreement 2013 – 2023. National performance frameworks have been developed in order to measure progress, monitor activity, identify key areas where resources need to be focused and demonstrate how successful we are in meeting our key priorities and objectives. Policing plans that were put in place for each of the Multi Member Wards within the Argyll & Bute boundary are in the process of being reviewed to ensure new and emerging issues within local towns and communities within Argyll & Bute continue to be addressed.

Integrity, Fairness and Respect are our policing values and the touchstones for all our interactions, forming the basis of everything we do and every decision we reach. By applying our values, we continue to receive public consent through improved relevancy, trust and support.

Introduction

During the current performance year (30th March – 30th December 2015) crime levels across Argyll and Bute have continued to reduce. Compared to the same period last year the total number of crimes recorded has reduced by around 15.4%. When considering Group 1 – 4 crimes categories, there has been an overall reduction of 3.8% despite increases previously reported in terms of violent crime and crimes of indecency.

Local Area Commanders Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie and Chief Inspector Paul Robertson continue to have responsibility for addressing crime issues and concerns as they arise on a day to day basis. Chief Inspector Baillie has the responsibility for Oban and Lorn and Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands supported by dedicated Area Inspectors Julie McLeish (Campbeltown & Lochgilphead) and Mark Stephen (Oban). Similarly Chief Inspector Robertson is currently supported by Inspector Ewan Wilson (Dunoon & Rothesay) and Inspector Coleen Wylie (Helensburgh).

As well as ensuring our efforts and attention remain focused on the needs and expectations of the local community, local officers are required to respond to developing events and seasonal demands where there is clearly potential for increased levels of antisocial and violent behaviour. In Quarter 3, there were two significant events in terms of operational planning; the Mull Rally and the National MOD at Oban. The Mull Rally is one of only two 'closed roads' Motor Rallies in the UK. Sadly this year, there was a fatal accident involving a 47 year old male co-driver which also resulted in the 26 year old male driver being seriously injured. Police Scotland launched a full investigation into the incident. The National MOD at Oban attracted thousands of competitors and spectators to this celebration of Gaelic Music and Culture. There were no adverse incidents at the event and a number of Gaelic speaking officers were drafted into assist with the policing operation. Additional officers were also deployed to address increased demand in the lead up to firework/bonfire night, Halloween and the festive period. Resources are strengthened utilising the services of Special Constables, with there being 25 currently operational across the area.

Benchmarking

Benchmarking is a process used by organisations to compare their processes and performance metrics against like organisations that are recognised as being the leader in their respective field. This offers organisations the opportunity to learn from the information and experience developed by those considered to be 'best in class'. Benchmarking ensures that organisations maintain both an internal and external perspective on their relative performance and challenges potential organisational complacency over results achieved.

Local authorities in Scotland have been engaged in benchmarking over the past four years as part as of the Scottish Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF). They have been working with the Improvement Service (IS) over the last four years on developing a common approach to benchmarking.

Further research into this topic is required in order that the most accurate comparisons can be drawn particularly given that the geographic and demographic profile of an area is a significant factor in determining the nature and volume of crimes reported therein. Similar to the previous report, comparative data has been included in relation to the Highlands Local Authority however this information **MUST** only be used for guidance purpose.

Road Safety & Road Crime

Road Safety and Road Crime continues to be the top policing priority identified by local communities across Argyll and Bute, specifically speeding and dangerous driving. The Divisional Road Policing Unit, based locally throughout Argyll and Bute, continues to facilitate routine patrolling the main crash routes and locations in order to influence driver behaviour and prevent road crashes. As well as continued support from the Force with the Trunk Road Policing Unit, local officers also contribute to road safety through dedicated patrols to detect and deter offenders.

Work continues through the Argyll and Bute Multi Agency Road Safety Group in relation to planning, maintenance and ensuring a joined up approach is taken to road safety. Through proactive reporting of engineering defects and the assessment of engineering solutions to identified problems through our dedicated Traffic Management Team, many areas have been identified for improvement to surfaces, signage and sight lines, all delivered by our partners at BEAR Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council. Current examples are the surface management of stretches of the A83 from the Loch Fyne Oyster Bar to Dunderave Castle.

In anticipation of poor weather conditions over the winter months, the 'Get Ready for Winter' Campaign was launched in October and led to a week of dedicated road checks at various sites across Argyll and Bute. The focus of this campaign was to encourage drivers to understand the importance of good vehicle maintenance throughout the winter months. This campaign underpins the over arching strategy of safer vehicles used on the roads during the often challenging periods of the Argyll winter. This year's campaign saw a significant rise in the detection of vehicle defects compared to same period last year. The vast majority of defects were dealt with by use of the Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme. This allows drivers the opportunity of having their defects rectified with no penalty, which would only come into play if the defects were not rectified within 21 days.

The Festive Road Safety Campaign also took place during the current reporting period (4th December 2015 and 1st January 2016) which focused on drink/drug driving and vehicle safety in order to detect and deter offenders. Whilst the number of drivers tested increased compared to last year, the number of persons detected remained on par with the figure in 2014.

The last year saw expansion of the Pass Plus system to assist young drivers with road safety taking place in Campbeltown and Oban High Schools. Road safety talks are also planned by the Local Authority and Scottish Fire and Rescue aimed at 5th and 6th year secondary school pupils in relation to "Young Drivers" and "Cut it out" campaigns.

During March, there will be a multi agency event at Inverary aimed at motorcycle safety. This traditionally is at the start of the motorcycle season and is designed to have a positive influence on motorcycle riders in relation to manner of riding and make them aware of others who may cause them danger.

In terms of performance, the total number of persons killed and seriously injured within Argyll and Bute has increased by one compared to the same period year. As shown in the table below the number of casualties seriously injured has reduced considerably (34.1%) and those slightly injured has reduced 2.4%. Figures recorded in relation to children killed or seriously injured remain static.

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The table below shows noticeable reductions in road traffic offences being detected across the area with the exception of dangerous driving which has increased by 9.1% year on year. Speeding offences, although reduced from last year, continue to account for the bulk of offenders detected.

Road Traffic Casualty Statistics	Apr 2015 – Dec 2015	Apr 2014 – Dec 2014	Victims	% Change
People Killed	5	4	1 more	25.0%
People Seriously injured	27	41	14 fewer	-34.1%
People Slightly Injured	163	167	4 fewer	-2.4%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	None	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	1	1	same number	0.0%
Road Safety & Road Crime	Apr 2015 – Dec 2015	Apr 2014 – Dec 2014	Victims	% Change
Dangerous driving	72	66		9.1%
Speeding	1,496	1,646		-9.1%
Disqualified driving	5	5		0.0%
Driving Licence	44	93		-52.7%
Insurance	84	142		-40.8%
Seat Belts	91	290		-68.6%
Mobile Phone	87	171		-49.1%

Local Authority Comparison

As at the end of Quarter 2, the total number of road casualties within Argyll and Bute remained significantly lower than Highland Local Authority at 140 versus 238. In terms of Road Traffic offences, the total number recorded per 10,000 head of population in Highland remains higher at 321.4 compared to 226.6 within Argyll & Bute however the road network in Highland also covers around 6754 kilometres compared to just 2600 kilometres in Argyll and Bute. Despite these geographical differences it is pertinent to note that Dangerous Driving and Drink/Drug Driving offences are higher at 6.5 and 8.9 respectively, per 10,000 head of population whereas speeding offences are lower at 124 compared to 141.4 in the Highlands.

Priorities determined by the Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017 continue to be at the forefront of operational activity:-

- ❖ ***To work with partners to develop a strategy to reduce the numbers of those killed and seriously injured on the Argyll and Bute road network.***
- ❖ ***To increase enforcement activity to improve driver behaviour.***
- ❖ ***To improve road safety through enhanced partnership working and preventative initiatives within the community.***

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Details of operational police activity targeted toward achieving these outcomes are detailed below.

FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY

Crimebreaker Road Checks

The DRPU, in partnership with L Division Response Policing and CID sections, have carried out several high profile road checks to detect and deter those who use motor vehicles as part of their criminal activity. These checks have detected stolen property, vehicles and controlled drugs destined for supply within the local area.

Operation Mermaid

This operation took place between 5th and 11th October 2015 and focussed on those in the haulage industry who endanger others through the use of defective vehicles or whose drivers fail to observe driver hours governed by tachograph legislation. These drivers and operators make financial gain through dangerous practices.

Dangerous Goods

Regular checks are made on those operators whose business is in the transportation by road of dangerous goods such as petrochemicals, gas and other dangerous substances. These vehicles are very common within Argyll and Bute and to prevent dangerous situations from developing or operators engaging in dangerous practices, this is an area of regular activity.

All these area of enforcement are continually underpinned by regular patrols and checks across the Argyll and Bute area with particular focus on those areas which have a higher threat through history of injury collisions. Policing of events such as the recent MOD held in Oban and other local events ensures that when people are present on roads they are kept safe.

Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Year to date the total number of Group 1 crimes of violence remains significantly higher than the figure recorded for the comparative period last year. Increased crime levels are predominately due to an increase in the number of serious assault and robbery crimes noted in Quarter 1. The detection rate for Serious Assault remains high at 86.4% and whilst the figure for Robbery is currently 50% this reflects the low number of crimes recorded.

In the current 3 month period (Quarter 3), crimes involving 'serious' violence remained low. Serious Assaults and crimes pertaining to the Children & Young Persons (S) Act 1937 s. 12 accounted for 7 and 5 crimes respectively. One possible emerging issue involves victims being coerced into sending sexually explicit videos via social media and then attempts by the perpetrators being made to extort money from them in relation to publishing the material. Four such crimes were recorded across Argyll and Bute in December 2015.

Lower level violence and incidents of antisocial behaviour (ASB) continue in a downward trend. Common Assaults have reduced by 6.5% which equates to 33 fewer victims and complaints relating to disorder have reduced by 21.9%, which is slightly lower than the figure recorded at the end of Quarter 2. In line with the geographical profile of the area, ASB incidents remain concentrated within the town centre areas with a slightly higher volume noted in Helensburgh, Dunoon and Oban.

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Violence and ASB	Apr 2015 – Dec 2015	Apr 2014 – Dec 2014	Victims	% Change
Total No Group1: Crimes of Violence	62	40	22 more	55.0%
Murder	0	1	1 fewer	-100.0%
Attempted Murder	4	1	3 more	300.0%
Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	1	1 fewer	-100.0%
Culpable Homicide (other)	1	2	1 fewer	-50.0%
Serious Assault detection rate	89.7%	95.0%		-5.3%
Serious Assault	29	20	9 more	45.0%
Robbery detection rate	50.0%	100.0%		-50.0%
Robbery	4	1	3 more	300.0%
Common assault detection rate	84.5%	86.4%		-1.9%
Common assault	476	509	33 fewer	-6.5%
Number of complaints regarding disorder	1,949	2,494	545 fewer	-21.9%

Local Authority Comparison

As a result of the unusual increase in Group 1 crime levels within Argyll and Bute noted in the Quarter 1, figures remain slightly higher than those recorded in the Highlands Local Authority area. At the end of Quarter 2, the number of crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population is 4.9 compared to 4.5 in the Highlands. Rates recorded in relation to crimes of Serious Assault and Robbery in both Local Authority areas are the same at 2.5 and 0.5 respectively.

In terms of low level violence and ASB, trends remain unchanged. Argyll and Bute recorded a lower rate per 10,000 head of population in relation to Common Assault at 37.3 compared to 51.2 in the Highlands, whereas for public reported incidents of ASB the Highlands recorded a lower figure of 154.4 compared to 170.3 in Argyll and Bute.

Police Scotland continues to work towards achieving the objectives set out in the Argyll and Bute Local Policing Plan to reduce violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour :-

- ❖ ***To reduce the number of victims of violent crime.***
- ❖ ***To reduce the number of reported incidents of antisocial behaviour.***
- ❖ ***To impact on alcohol related violence, antisocial behaviour and disorder with particular emphasis in and around licensed premises.***

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- ❖ ***To increase the number of people detected for violent and domestic crime.***

Effective use of the Divisional Violence Prevention Strategy and Directed Policing Plans, which are informed by analytical products produced at a local level, continues to ensure local officers manage the threat and risk posed by specific individuals and at identified problematic locations.

FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY

Operation Saar

Over recent months there has been a significant level of youth related disorder, anti social behaviour and vandalisms occurring within Helensburgh Town Centre area. A number of young persons from the Helensburgh area (aged between 15 – 18 years) have been arrested in relation to this and enquiries are ongoing to identify and take enforcement action against all those involved. In addition, there has been recent intelligence regarding possible gang fighting between Helensburgh and Dumbarton youths within Hermitage Park, Helensburgh, and proactive work has already undertaken over the past few weeks to issue warnings to all persons involved.

Those arrested recently have been released on Police Undertaking not to enter the area of Helensburgh Town Centre and although early days, this has so far shown a decrease in complaints/reported vandalisms. There have been Multi Agency Meetings involving Social Work Department, British Transport Police and community groups to collectively tackle the situation. A media appeal has also been issued requesting local residents report any antisocial behaviour and urging parents to be aware of where their teenage children are at weekends.

Increased uniformed and plain clothes patrols, alongside focussed interventions with the main offenders will continue to deter further disorder.

Kirkmichael Development Group

Residents from the Kirkmichael area of Helensburgh recently highlighted some quality of life issues such as antisocial behaviour, youth disorder and lack of activities for young people within the area. Following some negative media reporting and increases in agencies referrals for this area, a multi agency group was established to collectively engage with Kirkmichael residents to identify and address these issues. Using tried and tested partnership working deployed within the West Dunbartonshire area, the group are now adopting the 'Public Reassurance' model which enhances community engagement and builds effective relationship with community and partners to achieve long terms solutions. Key partners meet with the residents group on monthly basis to listen to concerns and provide updates on ongoing work. The Multi Agency Group also meets monthly to review any current issues and agree ownership. Whilst the group are still in the very early stages, all partners are committed to working together towards improving the area.

Dunoon Pubwatch Scheme

The Divisional Licensing Department attended at Dunoon in November 2015 and despite initial scepticism from some local landlords, have set up a successful Pubwatch scheme. Initial concerns were raised by them that previous similar schemes had failed, however, with reassurance and guidance from officers from the Licensing Department, the Licensees recognised that the Pubwatch would be run solely by them allowing them to make their own decisions in relation to the issues

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arising. Assistance has been provided on an ongoing basis by the Police and Council Licensing Departments.

The Pubwatch is now into its third month and attendance is consistent and the feedback from the licensees is that the patrons from the town are openly talking about and asking them about the Pubwatch scheme and how it works. The Area Inspector, Ewan Wilson, has engaged with the local media to raise awareness within the local community.

Protecting Vulnerable People

Across the YTD period the total number of Group 2 crimes of indecency remains significantly higher than the figure recorded for the same period last year. In line with previously reported trends, increased crime levels are due to an increase in the number of Rape and Sexual Assault crimes. A significant proportion of crimes recorded are historical reports which accounted for 35% of all crimes reported in Quarter 3. In comparison with the previous YTD period and indeed Quarter 2, detection rates for sexual crime overall and crimes of Rape continue to show significant improvement at 83.7% and 80% respectively.

Group 2 Sexual Crime	Apr 2015 – Dec 2015	Apr 2014 – Dec 2014	Victims	% Change
Number of Sexual Crimes	98	67	31 more	46.3%
Sexual Crime detection rate	83.7%	73.1%		10.6%
Rape detection rate	80.0%	41.2%		38.8%
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported to the Police	501	468		7.1%
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	397	351		13.1%

Whilst geographical analysis indicates that no specific area within Argyll and Bute has experienced a higher concentration of crime, Oban North and Lorne, Cowal and Helensburgh Central Multi Member Wards (MMW) recorded a higher volume of crime than other areas.

Local Authority Comparison

Despite increased crime levels shown in the previous table, comparisons with figures recorded in the Highlands Local Authority area indicates Group 2 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population within Argyll and Bute remain lower at 6.7 compared to 10.6 in the Highlands. Rates relating to crimes of Rape compare favorably at 2.4 in Argyll and Bute versus 2.0 in the Highlands.

As set out in the Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017, our priorities for the forthcoming period remain unchanged:-

- ❖ ***To work with our partners to identify those children, young people and vulnerable adults who are most at risk and through joint action reduce that risk.***

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- ❖ *To continue to develop proactive strategies to deal with managed offenders, particularly those that present the greatest threat, risk and harm.*
- ❖ *To increase the number of persons detected for sexual crimes.*
- ❖ *Together with partner agencies, strive to provide a better quality of service to the victims of sexual crime.*

Details of operational police activity targeted toward achieving these outcomes are detailed below:

FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY

Risk and Concern Hub

The advocacy service ASSIST (Advocacy, Support and Safety Information Services Together) and the Social Work Department have both now moved into the Hub. This was a long anticipated move and extremely welcome. The co-location of these partners greatly assists in the functionality of the Hub and the service to the public.

Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland

As of 1st October 2015, Police Scotland has rolled out the Disclosure Scheme which had previously been piloted in two other divisions. The scheme operates two entry pathways that may lead to disclosure being made:

- ⇒ **Right to Ask** – This is when a person makes a direct application to Police Scotland for information about an individual who they suspect may have a history of violent or abusive behaviour towards a previous partner or
- ⇒ **Right to Tell** – This is triggered when Police Scotland receive indirect information or intelligence about a person thought to be at risk and where the Police judge that a disclosure should be made.

To date, Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division has received 13 requests. This breaks down to 9 “Right to Ask” and 4 “Power to Tell” applications. Of these, 8 have already been referred to the Decision Making Forum. Of those discussed, 4 disclosures have been made.

Staff from the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit has undertaken a series of inputs to partners in Health, Education and Social Work around the Disclosure Scheme. These inputs have been well received and the feedback is that they have been extremely worthwhile in highlighting awareness.

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Work continues with Police, Local Authority and ASSIST in relation to establishing a MARAC in Argyll and Bute. The focus now is on identifying a suitable Coordinator in order to allow the process to be fully implemented.

Major Crime and Counter Terrorism

Keeping people safe by reducing the threat posed from organised crime groups and terrorism across Argyll and Bute remains a high priority for all local police officers. In respect of terrorism, recent events in other countries highlight the necessity for vigilance at all times and the division continues to be involved in the implementation

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of the UK Governments CONTEST strategy with local and national partners. Police Scotland continues to target and disrupt the activities of those involved in organised crime at a local level through focused and robust interventions based on the objectives set out in the local policing plan:-

- ❖ ***To disrupt organised crime groups by targeting individuals, the businesses they operate and their access to public contracts.***
- ❖ ***To target those individuals who are intent on supplying drugs.***
- ❖ ***Through education and partnership, reduce the impact that serious and organised crime and terrorism has on our communities.***
- ❖ ***Through the Multi-Agency Serious and Organised Crime and Contest Group, raise awareness and improve information sharing between agencies.***

The most recent intelligence assessment undertaken at the beginning of December relating to Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) indicates that the threat/risk posed to the communities within Argyll and Bute remains Low. There continues to be 2 identified SOC Groups in operation within the area and pro-active and reactive intelligence and evidence gathering opportunities continue to be fully exploited in an attempt to reduce the threat and harm posed by individuals linked to these groups and to identify new and emerging groups. Police activity will continue to focus on arresting individuals linked to these groups, depriving them of cash and assets through full use of POCA legislation, and as well as depriving them of legitimate enterprise to ensure the maximum impact.

In line with trends identified across Scotland, the primary function of these groups continues to be assessed as drug supply and distribution within the local area. As shown in the table below, detections relating to drug supply crimes have improved significantly compared to last year.

	Serious & Organised Crime	Apr 2015 - Dec 2015	Apr 2014 - Dec 2014		% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation		59	35		68.6%

Local Authority Comparison

Within the Argyll and Bute area the total number of drug crimes recorded per 10,000 population was 39.2 at the end of Quarter 2 compared to 27.8 within the Highlands Local Authority area, whereas in the previous period these figures were comparable.

FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY

SOC Interventions

Recent work carried out to deprive persons linked to SOC from legitimate enterprise resulted in one of the SOC crime groups being deprived of contracts linked to the security industry worth around £13,000.

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Enforcement Activity

Intelligence development and executive police action has led to the arrests of several individuals linked to one of SOC groups known to be operating within Argyll and Bute.

Launch of 'Stay Safe' Public Information Film

December 2015 saw the launch of a police made public safety film which highlights steps the public can take in the event of a firearms and weapons attack. This short film 'Stay Safe: Firearms and Weapons Attack' was developed in 2014 by the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO). It has already been delivered and widely used as part of police-led counter terrorism security advice sessions and industry-led briefings, where it has been well received. The online film which has now been adapted for a wider public audience will be supported by additional public information material. This will provide practical steps to take in the rare event of a firearms or weapons attack, and is focused around three key messages - Run, Hide, Tell.

Rural Watch

The Rural Watch initiative continues to expand with mid Argyll area in the process of setting up 5 groups in their area, inputs to community councils and local groups arranged to gain "buy in".

Acquisitive Crime

Levels of acquisitive crime being recorded across Argyll and Bute have continued in a downward trend during Quarter 3 with reductions noted across most crime types and in particular housebreaking and vehicle crime. Furthermore detection rates continue to improve at 37.4% and 34.5% respectively. Geographically, no significant concentrations of crime have occurred albeit a slightly higher number have occurred within the Helensburgh area.

	Apr 2015 - Dec 2015	Apr 2014 - Dec 2014	Victims	% Change
Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	37.4%	31.5%		5.9%
Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	99	127	28 fewer	-22.0%
Doorstep / Bogus Crimes	8	8	0 fewer	0%

Police Scotland remains committed to achieving the objectives set out in the Local Policing Plan in relation to acquisitive crime. These are as follows:

- **To reduce the number of housebreakings and improve detection rates.**
- **To target individuals involved in doorstep crime and support the victims through partnership working.**

Local Authority Comparison

In terms of Group 3 crime overall, the number of crimes recorded in Quarter 2 per 10,000 head of population was 56.5 compared to 64.1 in the Highlands. Similarly the rate for vehicle crime in the Argyll and Bute is lower at 3.9 compared to 6.5 in the Highlands. Occurrences of housebreaking appear slightly higher however at 8.2

crimes per 10,000 head of population compared to 7.3 in the Highlands Local Authority area.

Details of operational police activity targeted toward achieving these outcomes are detailed below:-

FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY

Acquisitive Crime

The Acquisitive Crime Board continues to meet on a regular basis with a view to identifying any national crime trends that could have an impact on local divisions. Locally, analytical work continues to be carried out in relation to acquisitive crime in the division. Any particular trend/issue identified will be acted upon locally by officers. Preventative messages continue to be sent out via social media.

Rural Crime Governance Group

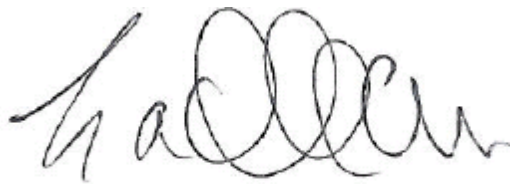
The Rural Crime Governance group continues to be well attended by partners who are working together in relation to various training courses that will be beneficial to the farming communities in relation to prevention around plant/quad theft. The Group continue to look at the year ahead at events within the division that can be attended in order to relay preventative messages. They are also linking in with local media to ensure the prevention message is a priority. Consideration is being given to holding a national Rural Crime Seminar but this has still to be confirmed.

Conclusion

As Local Police Commander, I am delighted to present this update on our Local Policing Plan for Argyll and Bute 2014-17. We are continuing to meet the challenges we face and while our policing performance continues to be strong we will always strive to improve across all areas.

I am happy with our achievements so far and thank our partners from across Argyll and Bute for their support and contribution.

Keeping People Safe is and will remain what we are all about as we continue to deliver the highest possible level of service to the communities of Argyll and Bute.



Grant Manders
Chief Superintendent
Local Police Commander