



# **Argyll & Bute**Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017

Quarterly Report / Q4 - 2015/16



# **Local Police Commander, Chief Superintendent Grant Manders**

As Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division I am pleased to present the final quarterly report for the Argyll and Bute Local Policing Plan for 2015/16. In addition to providing some context around crime trends year on year, the report will highlight crime issues identified in the previous 3 month period which will be used to set out 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 going forward in 2016/17 will remain unchanged:-

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

These priorities are also 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

At the end of the 2015/16 performance year Argyll and Bute recorded a further 14% reduction in all Group 1 – 7 crime, furthermore crime figures remained considerably lower than the five year average. Although Group 1 crimes of violence and Group 2 crimes of indecency increased, most other crimes categories recorded a decrease. In particular, low level violence and antisocial behaviour (ASB) have seen noticeable reductions - complaints of disorder reduced by 15.8%, ASB incidents reported by members of the public reduced by 4.7% and common assault crimes were down by a further 2.3%. Levels of acquisitive crime also reduced - housebreakings by 17.1% and vehicle related crime by 26.8%.

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 has responsibility for Helensburgh, Cowal and Bute and 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 spontaneous incidents and seasonal demands where there is clearly potential for increased levels of antisocial behaviour and violence. The fourth quarter is traditionally quiet in terms of planned events. Thankfully, weather related incidents were not as bad as they had been in previous years and protest activity around HMNB Clyde was limited to a small demonstration at the North Gate on Saturday 27th February to coincide with a much larger demonstration and rally in London on the same day. Operational resources are strengthened utilising the services of Special Constables, with there being 17 currently active 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.

Research continues into this topic to ensure the most accurate comparisons are being 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 previous reports, 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**

The Divisional Road Policing Unit (DRPU), based locally within Argyll and Bute, continue to patrol the main crash routes and location on a daily basis in order to influence driver behaviour and prevent road crashes. In conjunction with the Force Trunk Road Policing Unit, local officers also strive to improve road safety through dedicated patrols to deter and detect offenders.

Previous consultations with the local communities across Argyll and Bute indicates that Road Safety and Road Crime should continue to be the top policing priority across the area. Furthermore, in the majority of Multi Member Ward (MMW) areas within Argyll and Bute, road traffic matters and road collisions are within the top 3 most commonly reported types of incidents.

Despite high levels of police pro-activity the number of persons killed on the roads network in Argyll and Bute increased by two year on year when compared to the 2014/15 figure. Of the 6 persons killed half were motorcyclists. In contrast, the number of persons seriously and slightly injured reduced considerably by 45.3% and 19.7% respectively. Collectively this equates to 78 fewer casualties.

Road Traffic Casualty Statistics	Apr 2015 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	Victims	% Change
People Killed	6	4	2 more	50.0%
People Seriously injured	35	64	29 fewer	-45.3%
People Slightly Injured	200	249	49 fewer	-19.7%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	None	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	2	1	1 more	100.0%

As shown in the table on the following page, the number of Road Traffic Offences being detected across the area has also reduced considerably year on year, with the exception of those relating dangerous driving. Speeding remains the most commonly reported offence type.

	Road Traffic Casualty Statistics	Apr 2015 Mar 2016	- 2014 - Mar	Victims	% Change
		Apr 2015 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	Victims	% Change
36	Dangerous driving	81	78		3.8%
37	Speeding	1,841	2,082		-11.6%
38	Disqualified driving	5	5		0.0%
39	Driving Licence	63	130		-51.5%

Ro	oad Traffic Casualty Statistics (cont'd)	Apr 2015 Mar 2016	- 2014 - Mar	Victims	% Change
40	Insurance	124	188		-34.0%
41	Seat Belts	107	332		-67.8%
42	Mobile Phone	111	202		-45.0%

## **Local Authority Comparison**

Data produced at the end of Quarter 3 indicates that the total number of road casualties is considerably lower within Argyll and Bute than in the Highlands Local Authority area. When considering this information however, it is pertinent to note that the road network within Highland covers around 6754 kilometres compared to just 2600 kilometres in Argyll and Bute.

As at the end of December 2015, 371 casualties had been recorded within the Highlands compared to 195 in Argyll and Bute. Furthermore, fatalities were also lower in Argyll and Bute at 12 and 5 respectively. While road casualty figures are lower, overall the number of transport related incidents reported in Argyll and Bure remains significantly higher per 10,000 head of population at 424.5 compared to 367.5 in Highland. The detection of dangerous driving offences also remains higher 8.6 per 10,000 head of population compared to 6.4 in Highlands whereas speeding and drink/drug driving offences are both slightly lower.

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 Arayll 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.

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

## **FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY**

## Crimebreaker Road Checks (January – March)

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 (15th – 21st February 2016)

This operation took place between 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup> February 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.

# Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016)

Checks were 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 several operators and drivers were the subject of defect notices.

# Speed campaign (7th - 13th March 2016)

Speed related activity took place across Argyll and Bute, in particular at or near prominent crash locations to detect and deter speeding offences. Several cases of high speeding detected including a male driving at 127mph in a 60 limit. Exceptionally high speed offenders are reported for Dangerous Driving.

## Launch of Scottish Biker Magazine

The Scottish Biker Magazine, aimed at improved road safety for motorcyclists, was launched at an event at Inverary on 20<sup>th</sup> March. This was a high profile media event and officers from the L Division DRPU and specialist motorcycle officers attended at the event and also patrolled the routes to and from the event.

## Operation Zenith (March to September)

This is a national operation on motorcycle safety. Although specific national 'weekends of action' are planned in relation to this operation, the L Division DRPU Action Plan regularly conduct local Action Plans due to the high volume of motorcyclists that are attracted to Argyll and Bute's roads.

# Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

At the end of the 2015/16 performance year, the total number of Group 1 Crimes of Violence recorded across Argyll and Bute remained considerably higher than the figure recorded for 2014/15. As previously reported increased crime levels are predominately due to an increase in the number of serious assault and robbery crimes noted in Quarter 1. Year on year, the detection rate for Serious Assault remained high at 88.9% and whilst the figure for Robbery was lower at 50%, however, this reflects the low number of crimes recorded.

In the current 3 month period (Quarter 4), Group 1 crimes saw a notable increase however this was predominately due to a rise the number of crimes reported relating to the Children and Young Persons (S) Act 1937 Sec.12. These accounted for half of the 28 crimes recorded and all except one related to an ongoing historical child abuse investigation. Serious Assault crimes remained low with 6 crimes recorded and there were no crimes involving robbery.

Crimes involving extortion continue to be an emerging issue whereby victims are being coerced into sending sexually explicit videos/photographs via social media and then attempts made by the perpetrator(s) to extort money from them by threatening to publish the material. A further five crimes of this nature were recorded in the current period, three of which were in Dunoon.

Year on year, crimes involving lower level violence and incidents of antisocial behaviour continue in a downward trend. Common Assaults reduced by 2.3% and complaints relating to disorder have reduced by 15.8%, which equates to 465 fewer complaints. In keeping 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, Rothesay and Oban.

Violence and ASB	Apr 2015 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	Victims	% Change
Total No Group1: Crimes of Violence	91	60	31 more	51.7%
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)	3	3	same number	0.0%
Serious Assault detection rate	88.9%	100.0%		-11.1%
Serious Assault	37	24	13 more	54.2%
Robbery detection rate	50.0%	100.0%		-50.0%
Robbery	4	1	3 more	300.0%
Common assault detection rate	86.1%	86.6%		-0.5%
Common assault	640	655	15 fewer	-2.3%
Number of complaints regarding disorder	2,479	2,944	465 fewer	-15.8%

## **Local Authority Comparison**

At the end of Quarter 3, the number of Group 1 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population in Argyll and Bute fell slightly below the figure recorded for the Highlands Local Authority area at 7.1 and 7.6 respectively. Similarly, rates recorded in relation to crimes of Serious Assault and Robbery were 3.3 and 0.5, respectively, compared to 4.2 and 0.9 in the Highlands.

In terms of low level violence and ASB, Argyll and Bute recorded a slightly higher rate per 10,000 head of population in relation to Common Assault at 84.5 compared to 81.7 in the Highlands. Public reported incidents of ASB were also higher at 244.2 compared to 219.2.

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.
- ❖ 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**

## Local Antisocial Behaviour Groups

The Local Antisocial Behaviour Groups continue to operate across all areas of Argyll and Bute and local police meetings have taken place with the Council's new Antisocial Behaviour Coordinator to ensure that the information sharing processes remain robust and antisocial behaviour is tackled in a coordinated multi agency way. An example of this partnership working resulting from these groups include numerous cases involving partnership activity/intervention including noise monitoring, warnings issued by housing providers and reports to the PF for minor disorder offences. These local groups are overseen by the newly formed Argyll and Bute Strategic Community Safety Tasking and Co-ordinating Partnership who monitor ongoing activity and identify good practice across the area.

## **Directed Policing Plans**

Directed Policing Plans (DPP) remain a key feature in our continued campaign against violence and antisocial behaviour. Each area effectively utilises its own DPP and it is used to tackle high tariff offenders of violence and disorder offences with a number of individuals being subject to intrusive police scrutiny with regards to their activities in an effort to prevent any re offending.

## Police Scotland Youth Volunteering Scheme

Finally there are plans to introduce the Police Scotland Youth Volunteering Scheme into the Kintyre area. Discussions are ongoing between the National Coordinators for the scheme, the Area Commander and youth services in an effort to devise the most effective model for the area. It is hoped that this will deliver a number of benefits which include having a positive impact on young people's attitude towards violence disorder and anti-social behaviour.

## **Operation Safe Guard**

This operation involved local officers supporting SIA approved door staff outside the busiest licensed premises in Oban Town Centre on the Friday and Saturday nights (25th and 26th March) of the Easter weekend in an attempt to reduce violence, ASB and disorder linked to alcohol sold on an on-licence basis.

#### **Pub Watch**

The introduction of Pub Watch in Dunoon has been extremely successful with all licensed premises in the town centre becoming involved. There has been significant

proactivity and positive engagement between police and licensed premises resulting in a reduction in alcohol related violence, particularly at week-ends.

## **Operation Saar**

Operation Saar continues to run in the Helensburgh area in response to increased reports of youth disorder, vandalism and antisocial behaviour in the town centre. High visibility patrols continue to be undertaken by local officers, supported by officers from the Divisional Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit and Force Campaign Against Violence officers. In addition to these focussed patrols, local officers have robustly investigated incidents leading to a number of repeat offenders being arrested and released on special bail conditions not to enter to Helensburgh Town Centre and to remain within their homes between 7am and 7pm. These measures along with multi-agency diversionary activities and local media reporting have encouraged the public to continue reporting any issues of concern and provided community reassurance.

## Kirkmichael Multi-Agency Group

In response to the previous concerns raised, the Kirkmichael Multi-Agency Group continues to meet to tackle issues such as youth disorder, lack of activities for young people and the visual appearance of the area. This Multi-Agency Group involves Police, Argyll & Bute Council, ACHA, Dunbritton Housing, Health & Social Care Partnership, Third Sector Interface, Addictions Services and Criminal Justice Services. The group has agreed to utilise the Public Reassurance Model currently used in the West Dunbartonshire area. This Group will also provide support the newly formed Kirkmichael Residents Development Group.

# **Protecting Vulnerable People**

Year on year comparison of Group 2 Sexual Crimes shows a significant increase during 2015/16 with figures also rising above the 5 year average. As previously reported this is largely due to an increase in the number of Sexual Assault and Rape crimes. Over 70% of all indecency crimes recorded occurred within a private space, predominately residential dwelling houses. Further, around 34.9% of crimes recorded were historical reports, an increase from 31.8% in the previous year. It is also pertinent to note that three historical investigations resulted in 18% (27 crimes) of all crimes reported. Detection rates for Group 2 crimes were improved at 82.9% compared to 74.8% the previous year.

Group 2 Sexual Crime	Apr 2015 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	Victims	% Change
Number of Sexual Crimes	146	103	43 more	41.7%
Sexual Crime detection rate	82.9%	74.8%		8.1%
Rape detection rate	80.0%	44.0%		36.0%
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported to the Police	651	644		1.1%
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	500	507		-1.4%

Whilst geographical analysis indicates no specific area within Argyll and Bute has experienced a higher concentration of sexual crime, a higher number of crimes was

recorded in Oban North and Lorn, South Kintyre and Lomond North. This is partially due to the historical investigations mentioned previously.

# **Local Authority Comparison**

Despite increased crime levels noted above, comparisons with figures recorded in the Highlands Local Authority area indicate that the number of Group 2 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population within Argyll and Bute remains lower at 11.2 compared to 16.0 in the Highlands. The number of crimes of Rape and Sexual Assault also compare favorably at 2.9 and 3.7 respectively, in Argyll and Bute versus 3.7 and 6.7 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.
- ❖ 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

Police Scotland are currently operating a Proof of Concept (Pilot Project) regarding Risk and Concern, in E, G and N Divisions which will lead to a Corporate Approach across Scotland.

## Named Person

The division is currently preparing for the introduction of the Named Person Service in August. The Hub, who will be the primary point of contact for this have been in discussions with our partners in Health, Education and Social Work. It is anticipated there will be a smooth transition when this goes live.

## Multi Agency Risk and Concern

In preparation for the introduction of Multi Agency Risk and Concern (MARAC) for victims of domestic abuse, an advert has been circulated within Argyll and Bute CHCP for applications for a Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse Coordinator (MADAC). When this individual is appointed they will have a key role in the provision of this service and the wider aspects and development of Domestic Abuse services and initiatives in the local area.

## Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS)

Since the launch of this scheme the Division has received 25 applications (17 - Right to Ask and 8 - Power to Tell) and has made 10 Disclosures. Whilst these figures

## NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

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Produced by Police Scotland Analysis & Performance Unit on 29/04/2016. All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data are sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

represent the numbers across the whole Division, it is worth noting there has been a good spread of applications across both Local Authority areas. It is anticipated, that when appointed, the MADAC will be part of the Decision Making Forum for DSDAS. An information document on the scheme has been prepared for elected members.

## Violence Against Women partnership

As a result of discussion at this form it is proposed that a multi-agency training and development event be held for Domestic Abuse. A sub group involving Women's Aid, Criminal Justice Social Work and Police has been established to arrange this.

# **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 of the UK Government 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 year end intelligence assessment relating to Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) indicates that the overall 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 both of which are assessed to Low Risk. Proactive 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 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	% Change
1	ber of detections for drugs supply, drugs uctions, drugs cultivation	85	42	102.4%

## **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**

## **Procurement**

Utilising the Information Sharing Protocol in place between Police Scotland and Argyll & Bute Council, several procurement checks have been submitted to police. During this reporting period, there have been two instances where links to Serious and Organised Crime which resulted £350K being diverted from SOC.

## Joint day of action with DVLA

On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016, a day of action took place in conjunction with DVLA which involved 13 garage premises within Helensburgh and the surrounding area being checked for compliance with regulations of the Vehicle Crime (Registration of Registration Plate Suppliers) Regulations 2008 and Section 25(3) of the Vehicle Crime Act 2001. This resulted in one premises being reported to the Procurator Fiscal and several other companies registering with DVLA due to increased awareness.

## Anti-fracking Demonstration – Loch Lomond Sunday 31st January 2016

An anti-fracking demonstration took place on 31st January at Drumkinnon Bay, Loch Lomond. Fourteen peaceful protestors attended and there were no issues.

# National-Anti Trident protests - Saturday 27th February

A national protest against Trident took place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February with a rally also taking place in London. A handful of peaceful protestors attended at the North Gate of HMNB Clyde, Faslane where there were no issues.

## Convoy Arrest – Balloch – Thursday 10th March 2016

A 77 year old man was arrested for a breach of the peace at Balloch roundabout when he lay on the roadway in front of the convoy.

# **Acquisitive Crime**

Year on year levels of acquisitive crime have reduced considerably and remain around 18% lower than the five year average. Housebreaking crimes reduced by 17.1% compared to the previous year with a slightly higher concentration noted within the Dunoon area. Vehicle related crime also reduced by 26.8% however these have been distributed across the area and no specific area has experienced a higher concentration of crime.

At the year end, detection rates for both housebreaking and vehicle crimes show an improvement from the previous year at 38.1% and 39.7% respectively.

	Apr 2015 - Mar 2016	Apr 2014 - Mar 2015	Victims	% Change
Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	38.1%	30.3%		7.8%
Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	126	152	26 fewer	-17.1%
Doorstep / Bogus Crimes	13	11	2 fewer	-15.3%

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 at the end of Quarter 3 per 10,000 head of population remained lower in Argyll and Bute at 79.4 compared to 92.5 in the Highlands. Similarly the rate for vehicle crime remained lower at 6.2 compared to 10.3 in the Highlands. Occurrences of housebreaking crimes per 10,000 head of population also fell slightly below that recorded in Highlands Local Authority area at 11.3 and 11.9 respectively.

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

## **FOCUSED POLICE ACTIVITY**

## **Acquisitive Crime Governance Group**

A Divisional Acquisitive Crime Governance Group has been established which will ensure the delivery of a consistent preventative message to highlight and reduce acquisitive crime. We will continue to work in partnership to tackle causal factors of acquisitive crime.

## Rural Crime Governance Group

Through partnership working, a Rural Crime Day has been arranged for Friday 17 June 2016 at Duchlage Farm, Arden on Loch Lomond. The target audience will be farmers, land owners and managers and forestry owners and managers. The objectives are to raise awareness of rural crime, look at preventative measures and to highlight the work that Police Scotland and partners are already doing in relation to rural crime issues.

# 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