POLICE SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe

Argyll & Bute
Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017

Quarterly Report / Q1 – 2017/18

Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

Local Police Commander, Chief Superintendent Hazel Hendren

As Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division, I am pleased to present the first quarterly update in relation to the Argyll and Bute Local Policing Plan for 2017/18. The purpose of this report is to highlight current crime trends and issues identified in the previous 3 month period and provide some context around crime trends over the longer term.

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 2017/18 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 continue to be utilised 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. The Local Policing Plan for Argyll and Bute is currently being reviewed to ensure that new and emerging issues continue to be addressed at a local level.

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.

Local Area Commander Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie continues to have responsibility for addressing crime issues and concerns as they arise on a day to day basis within Oban and Lorn and Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands, supported by dedicated Area Inspectors Julie McLeish (Campbeltown & Lochgilphead) and Mark Stephen (Oban). Similarly Area Commander Chief Inspector Paul Robertson has responsibility for Helensburgh, Cowal and Bute and is currently supported by Inspector Mark Wilson (Dunoon & Rothesay) and recently appointed Inspector Matthew Webb (Helensburgh).

In addition to meeting everyday needs and demands of our communities, recent terrorist incidents south of the border significantly increased policing focus on the safety and wellbeing of those hosting, participating and attending events in the Argyll and Bute area. The Local Government Election in May, Mull Music Festival in April and the General Election and Oban Live Music Festival in June were subject to detailed Counter Terrorism review and risk assessment processes. Thankfully all events passed without incident reaffirming Argyll and Bute as a safe place to live, work and visit.

Produced by Police Scotland, Analyst Unit, Dumbarton on 24/07/2017.
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 July 2017.

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. In previous reports comparisons have been drawn with the Highlands local authority area however, at the request of the Argyll & Bute Scrutiny Committee, recent reports (Qtr3 – 2016/17 forward) provide comparisons with crime and incident data relating to the Scottish Borders Local Authority area. This information **MUST** only be used for guidance purpose.

Hazel Hendren
Chief Superintendent
Local Police Commander

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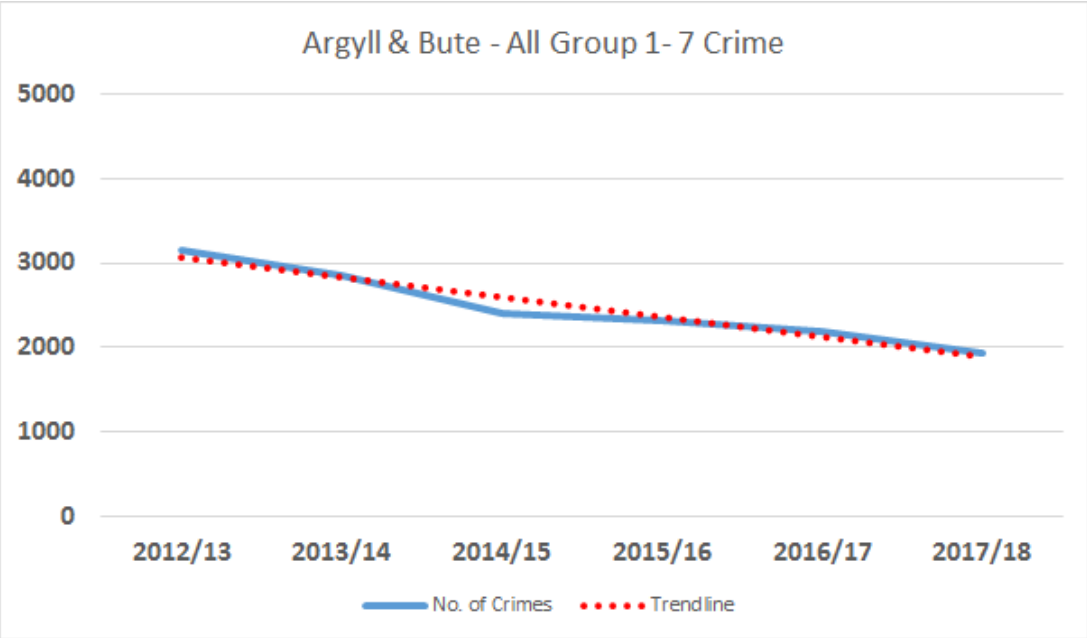
Crime Overview

Group 1 -7 Crime

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 1 show a further 12% reduction in the total number Group 1 – 7 crimes recorded within Argyll and Bute, while crime levels remain 25.5% lower when set against the 5 year average. Compared against the same year to date (YTD) period last year most crime categories show a reduction; Group 1 Violent Crime has reduced 23.8% (n=5), antisocial behaviour (ASB) related crimes are down by 15.6% and Group 2 Sexual Crimes are 12.2% lower. The main exception to this is Group 3 Acquisitive Crime which has increased by around 20.7%, primarily due to a rise in crimes involving common theft and shoplifting. Group 5 crimes also seen a marginal increase.



Local Authority Comparison

Year-end data for 2016/17 shows that the total number of Group 1 – 5 crimes recorded per 10,000 population within Argyll and Bute was slightly lower than in the Scottish Borders local authority area at 249.6 and 267.7 respectively.

This information is not available in relation to all Group 1 – 7 crime.

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Road Safety & Road Crime

Priorities outlined in the Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017 remain at the forefront of operational activity carried out in respect of road safety and road crime. These are as follows:-

- *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.*

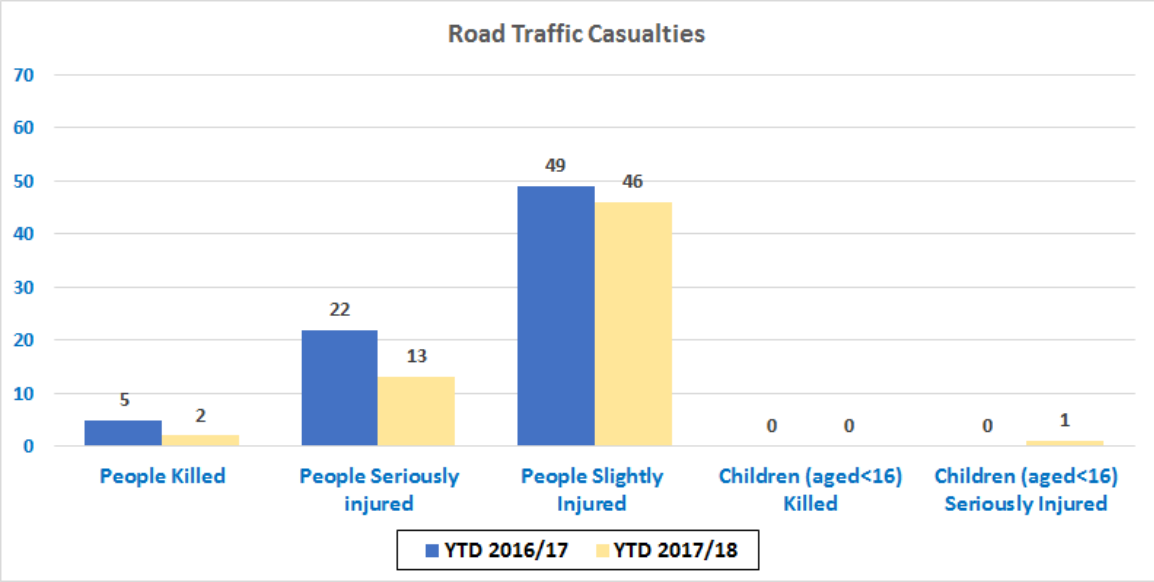
Road Traffic Casualties

During Quarter 1 there has been a noticeable reduction in road collisions resulting in persons being killed and seriously injured compared to the same period last year. Two fatalities have been recorded compared to 5 last year while serious injuries reduced from 22 to 13. Slight injuries have also seen a marginal reduction.

Transport related incidents continue to be the most commonly recorded incident type in Argyll and Bute. Recent analysis of road collisions over the last 3 years resulting in persons being killed and seriously injured shows the most prominent crash locations are as follows:

- A83 between Furnace and the Rest and be Thankful
- A82 between Inveruglas & Luss
- A85 between Taynuilt and Oban

These locations continue remain top priority in terms of Divisional Road Policing Unit (DRPU) activity.



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Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of 2016/17 show that the total number of road casualties recorded YTD within Argyll and Bute remained considerably lower than in the Scottish Borders at 230 and 309, respectively. While fatal and serious injuries were slightly higher in the Scottish Borders at 77 versus 66 in Argyll & Bute, the main difference was in the number of slight injuries recorded with 232 recorded in the Borders compared to 164 in Argyll and Bute.

When considering this information it is also pertinent to note that the road network within Argyll and Bute covers around 2600 square miles compared to approx. 1800 square miles in the Scottish Borders.

YTD the number of road traffic offences detected across the Argyll and Bute area is considerably lower than the figure recorded in the same period last year. This is largely due to a reduction in speeding offences which have decreased by 22.8% and account for a high proportion of offences overall. Detections for Dangerous Driving have also seen a noticeable reduction.

	Apr – Jun 2017	Apr – Jun 2016	% Change
Dangerous driving	23	36	-36.1%
Speeding	392	508	-22.8%
Disqualified driving	3	2	50.0%
Driving Licence	9	20	-55.0%
Insurance	36	35	2.9%
Seat Belts	19	15	26.7%
Mobile Phone	14	34	-58.8%

Focussed Police Activity

National Drink Driving Campaign

The National Drink Driving Campaign between 5 – 11 May 2017 saw significant activity across the division, in particular focussing on 'morning after' drivers, with notable detections in and around Cowal and Helensburgh Over 200 drivers were breathalysed across the division, most notable were 5 detections and warnings which occurred during the early morning hours on the A815 near Dunoon and A814, near Helensburgh.

Reducing Motorcycle Casualties

Work around motorcyclists this year including launch of Biker Safety Magazine and the Biker Down Initiative in conjunction with members of the Argyll and Bute Multi Agency Road Safety Group (ABMARSG) has seen a considerable drop in collisions involving motorcyclists and serious injuries. Fewer motorcyclists are engaging in dangerous/careless driving and speeding in Argyll and Bute. The Scottish Biker Magazine Ride-in Day on 30th April is an annual multi-agency event at Inverary which was attended by over 1500 motorcyclists who were given safety advice, first aid training, the opportunity to join safe driving providers such as Institute of Advanced Motorists and to see first-hand detection equipment used for enforcement by Police Scotland. In the reporting period, enforcement activity led to 6 motorcyclists being detected for speeding on the A82. A further two motorcyclists were detected on A85 travelling at 112 and 90 MPH respectively.

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Focussed Police Activity (Cont'd)

Operation Trivium

Between 15 - 19 May 2017, local officers participated in Operation Trivium which was a national multi-agency operation aimed at tackling Foreign National Offenders (FNOs) who utilise the road networks in furtherance of their criminality. The operation was led by Road Policing and focused on road crime and road safety enforcement, with a particular emphasis on the use of mobile ANPR and engaging with foreign registered vehicles, including commercial vehicles. Road check operations were undertaken across Argyll & Bute in conjunction with partners, including Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), UK Border Agency (Immigration), Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP). No significant offenders were identified during this operation.

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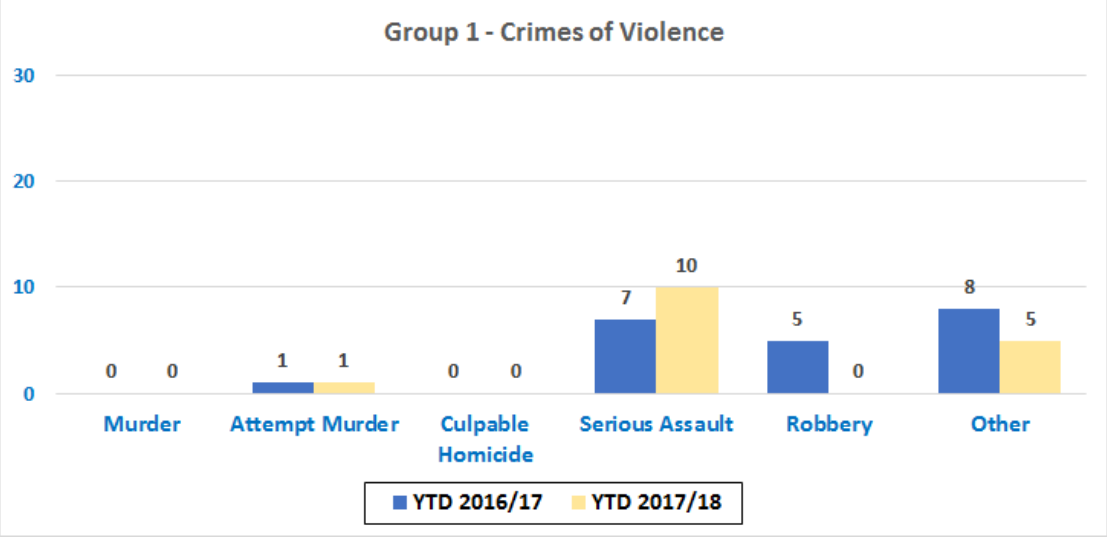
Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

Police Scotland remain dedicated to reducing violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour within the local communities of Argyll and Bute in order to '*Keep People Safe*'. Operational police activity carried out on a daily basis continues to be driven by the objectives outlined in the local policing plan:-

- ***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.***

Group 1 – Crimes of Violence

Levels of 'serious' violence within Argyll and Bute continued in a downward trend during Quarter 1 reducing by 23.8% when compared to last year. Crime figures also remain significantly lower than the five year average. As shown in the chart below, reduced crime levels are primarily due to a reduction in the number of robberies and crimes relating to the cruel & unnatural treatment of children. Detection rates remained high at 78.6%.



While crimes involving lower level violence such as Common Assault are also slightly lower than last year (-3.4%), the number of complaints regarding disorder have increased by 25.8%, which equates to 181 more complaints being reported. This is set against a 9.4% increase recorded at Force level.

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Local Authority Comparison

Year-end data for 2016/17 shows that the number of Group 1 crimes of violence recorded across Argyll & Bute per 10,000 head of population remained lower in Argyll and Bute than in the Scottish Borders Local Authority area at 5.9 and 8.6 respectively.

In terms of low level violence and antisocial behaviour, Argyll and Bute continued to record a higher rate per 10,000 head of population in relation to Common Assault at 73.7 compared to 68.8 in the Scottish Borders. However, public reported incidents of antisocial behaviour remained considerably lower in Argyll and Bute at 345 compared to 456.7, primarily due to differences in the rate of disturbance and communication incidents.

The Divisional Violence Prevention Strategy and Directed Policing Plans, which are informed by analytical products produced at a local level, continue to be fully exploited to ensure local officers manage the threat and risk posed by specific individuals and at identified problematic locations. In addition, various pro-active policing tactics have been utilised in order to impact on crime and incident levels.

Focussed Police Activity

Licensing

Concerns were raised by members of Helensburgh and Vale of Leven (VOL) Pubwatch regarding incidents involving personnel from HMNB Clyde within their premises. A joint meeting was organised inviting Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) and Royal Navy Police (RNP) to discuss concerns raised by publicans and identify what actions/tasks could be agreed on to support them.

This liaison has resulted in Police Scotland and MDP visiting licensed premises where staff had voiced concerns or had experienced recent incidents. This was in an effort to offer support and provide advice to call 101 or 999 depending on the nature of incident. RNP carried out numerous licensed premise visits, introducing themselves and providing contact details.

VOL Pubwatch provided posters to be placed around the base and Helensburgh Pubwatch are currently publishing their own so they can be displayed also. RNP & MDP are now regular visitors at Pubwatch meetings and give updates on what actions they can take with personnel that offend within their premises. MDP already attend briefings within Helensburgh Police Office and arrangements were made for RNP to also attend briefings for late and night shifts on weekends in Dumbarton.

This has resulted in a much improved partnership approach to deal with incidents in Helensburgh and Vale of Leven and provides further support to the Licensed Premises who are committed to meeting licensing objectives.

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Focussed Police Activity

Monitored Licensed Premises

A licensed premise in Argyll Street, Dunoon recently became a monitored licensed premises due to a number of incidents of disorder occurring within. To address this situation a meeting was held between the Designated Premises Manager (DPM), Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) and Divisional Police Licensing Department with Police Scotland suggesting actions that could be implemented to reduce incidents. Following this meeting, staff took on board all suggestions and incidents have reduced and they are no longer being considered a 'monitored premises' as of July 2017.

Operation Code

Operation Code was implemented to address increased levels of disorder within Helensburgh Town Centre, particularly in and around Helensburgh Central Train Station. Increased activity had also been noted at other train stations within the division, namely Dalmuir, Clydebank and Dumbarton East. Furthermore liaison with colleagues at British Transport Police (BTP) established that they too had experienced increases in offences on trains and within train stations.

Scrutiny of crimes and incidents quickly established that a small number of young persons aged between 13 and 16 were responsible for a significant proportion of these incidents. The majority of these young persons were resident within Local Authority Children's Units and under social work supervision. Crimes and incident committed by them were wide ranging in nature and included reckless conduct, assault, police assault, shoplifting, vandalism and other disorder-related crimes.

A Multi-Agency Group has been established in order to tackle this issue and to ensure co-ordinated partnership activity. In addition, high visibility patrols have also been carried out in and around the town centre to positively engage with the community and staff at train station and local licensed off sales. Daily liaison with BTP and other partners regarding any current and relevant intelligence continues.

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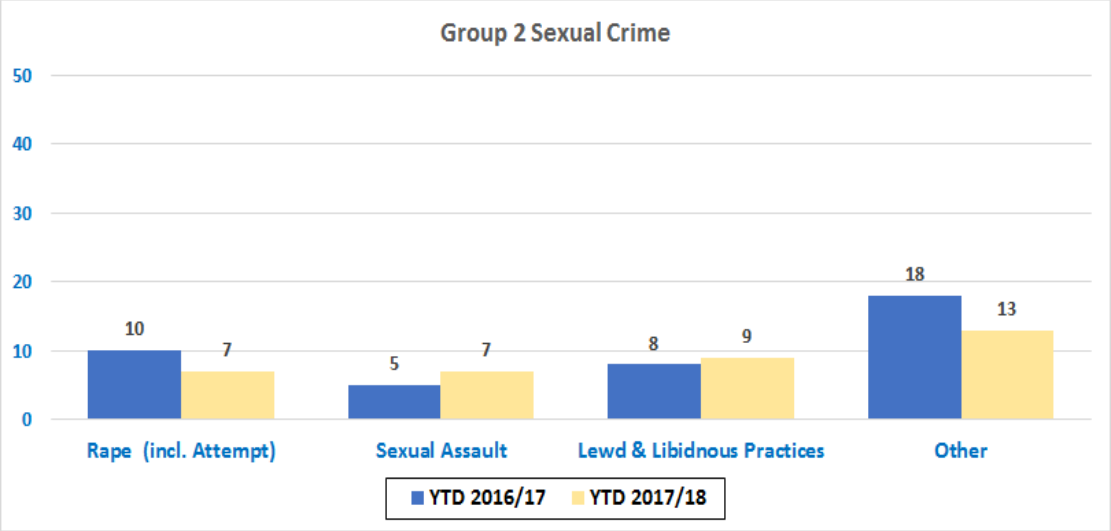
Protecting Vulnerable People

As set out in the Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017, our priorities in respect of protecting vulnerable people 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.***

Group 2 – Sexual Crime

At the end of Quarter 1, the total number of sexual crimes recorded across Argyll & Bute remained 12.2% lower than the figure recorded for the same period last year. As shown in the graph below, this is due to a slight reduction in crimes involving Rape and those classed as 'Other' which are primarily offences relating to indecent images and indecent communication. Around one third of all crimes recorded were historical reports. Detection rates for Group 2 Sexual Crime have increased from 36.6% last year to 47.2%. The detection rate for Rape crime has also improved from 30% to 100%.



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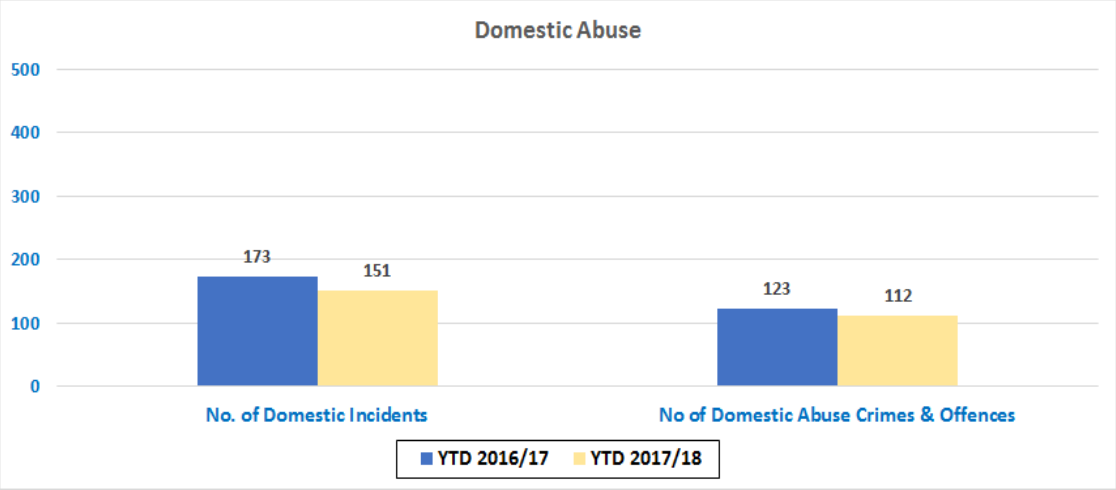
Domestic Abuse

Set against figures recorded at the end of Quarter 1 last year, the number of domestic abuse incidents being reported has reduced by 12.7%. Domestic abuse crimes/offences have also continued in a downward trend reducing by a further 21.4%. Dunoon, South Kintyre and Oban South and the Isles have recorded the highest number of incidents, respectively.



Local Authority Comparison

Year-end data for 2016/17 show only a marginal difference in the number of Group 2 crimes recorded per 10,000 population within Argyll and Bute compared to the Scottish Borders Local Authority area at 15.8 and 13.9, respectively. The number of Rape crimes (per 10,000 population) was also slightly higher at 3.6 compared to 2.3 in the Scottish Borders. Sexual Assault crimes almost the same in both areas at 9.0 and 9.1 per 10,000 population.

Focussed Police Activity

Argyll and Bute Child Protection Committee

As part of the Child Protection Committee (CPC), Police Scotland continues to take an active part in many of the sub committee's sitting under the CPC umbrella in Argyll and Bute. One such group is the Learning and Development Group which has been chaired by the Police for the last 18 months. As we prepare to hand over the chair to the NHS at the August CPC, it is worth reflecting on the police contribution to this group over that period. This group shapes all multiagency training in respect of child protection matters, targeting partners from Social Work, Police, NHS, Education, Fire and Rescue Service and more importantly a variety of partners from the third sector. The aim of the group is to raise awareness of Child Protection issues, what constitutes child protection concerns, how to recognise them and how to respond appropriately once a disclosure is made. In order to achieve this in an area of business with a high turnover of staff, the Learning and Development Group over the last 18 months has re-established a core training calendar which is accessed via the council CPC web site and outlines a three tiered approach to training, targeting workers across all areas of business from preschool class assistants to Social Work and Health Professionals, tailoring the training to meet each target group's needs. Bespoke training packages in relation to internet safety, child sexual exploitation have also been developed and delivered during this period across all locality areas. Finally to enhance this training a number of themed workshops have also been delivered jointly by Police and Social Work Colleagues under the direction of the group. Police Scotland officers will continue to contribute to the sub group under the new chair as the benefits of a well-informed workforce across all disciplines involved with children assist us all in efficiently managing emerging child protection concerns.

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Major Crime & Counter Terrorism

Keeping people safe by reducing the threat posed from organised crime and terrorism across Argyll and Bute remains a high priority for all local police officers. The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC) is the UK's centre for the analysis and assessment of international terrorism. JTAC has responsibility for setting international terrorism threat levels which is currently assessed as SEVERE. Recent events in the UK and other countries highlight the necessity for vigilance at all times. Police across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire Division continue to the implement the UK Government CONTEST strategy with local and national partners. Police Scotland also 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.***

As per the most recent intelligence assessment (June 2017) relating to Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) the overall threat/risk posed to the communities within Argyll and Bute remains Low. There is currently one identified SOC Group in operation within the area which is assessed to be Low Risk. Recent Police activity has resulted in one group being dismantled and the principal members relocating within the Highlands & Islands Local Authority area.

Proactive and reactive intelligence and evidence gathering opportunities continue to be fully exploited in an attempt to reduce the threat and harm posed by all individuals linked to SOC and to identify new and emerging groups. Police activity continues to be focussed on arresting individuals linked to SOC 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.

The primary function of those involved in serious and organised crime continues to be the supply and distribution of controlled drugs. Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 1 show drug supply crimes have reduced slightly compared to last year :-

Serious & Organised Crime	Apr – Jun 2017	Apr – Jun 2016	% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	16	19	-15.8%

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Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of 2016/17 indicates that the number of drug supply crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population remained higher within Argyll and Bute at 8.3 than in the Scottish Borders at 5.3. When considering all drug crime, Argyll & Bute also continued to record a considerably higher number of crimes per 10,000 head of population at 49.1 compared to 29.4 in the Scottish Borders.

Focussed Police Activity

Rural Watch

The reporting period has seen some really beneficial proactive work carried out by Insp Mark Wilson and some of the Divisional CT champions to refresh and renew Rural Watch. Under Inspector Wilson guidance, a pilot has been commenced whereby all rural crime victims are offered Rural Watch information, this is with a view to linking up the more remote communities and providing them with reassurance and increasing their confidence in reporting crime and suspicious activity. In addition, it creates a forum where information can be shared in respect of Counter Terrorism ensuring that the places that they live and work are safer. This also extends to the 'maritime' community and officers are offering advice to all Maritime businesses and making them more aware of the threat they potentially face from terrorism.

Operation Racoon

Protesters from Trident Ploughshare set up a camp in Peaton Glen Wood near to RNAD Coulport between 8 and 16 July 2017 with the intention of disrupting activity across both HMNB Clyde and RNAD Coulport. The majority of protest activity was directed at the Coulport site resulting in a total of 9 arrests. The police response was pre-planned under the banner of Operation Racoon and incorporated Ministry of Defence Police and Police Scotland resources resulting in the event passing without significant disruption.

Operation Acervose - Human Trafficking

On Monday 15 May, Police Scotland carried out a national day of action to raise awareness of human trafficking and to identify and recover potential trafficking victims. Nationally, around 500 officers including 50 from partner agencies visited 80 premises and locations in all 13 geographical divisions of Scotland including fisheries, car washes and nail bars. The activity was part of a National Crime Agency response to the threat of modern slavery and human trafficking across the UK. At a local level, two businesses in Argyll and Bute were visited, one of which was subsequently closed down due to issues with all staff. The owner of the premises was subsequently interviewed by the Home Office in relation to employing illegal workers.

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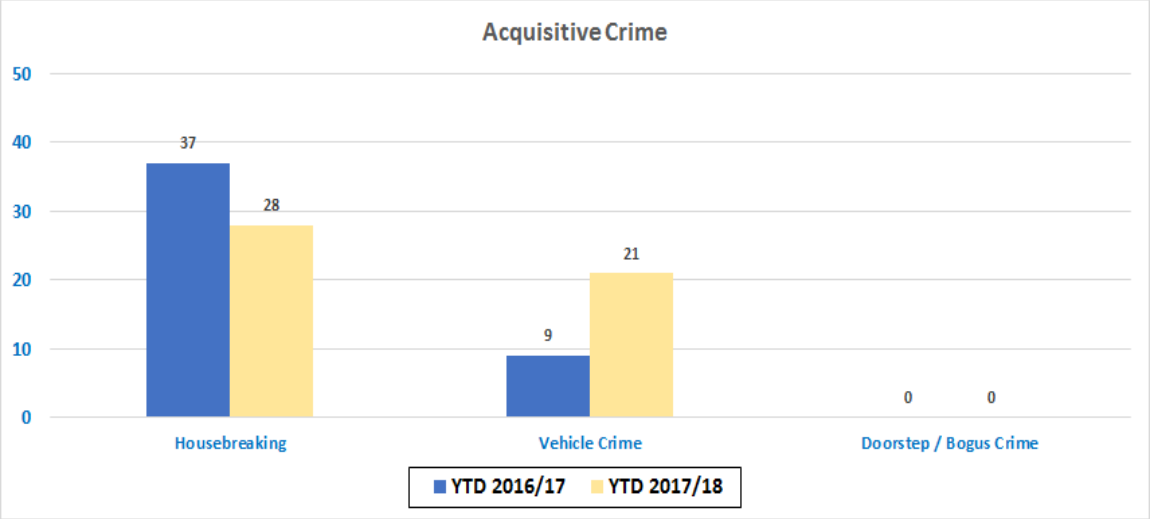
Acquisitive Crime

In the Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017, Police Scotland have identified that the objectives in relation to acquisitive crime will be:

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

Group 3 - Acquisitive Crime

During Quarter 1 the total number of acquisitive crimes recorded across Argyll and Bute increased by 20.7% when compared to the same period last year. Increased crime levels are largely due to a rise in the number of crimes reported relating to common theft. There has also been a slight increase in theft by shoplifting crimes and vehicle related crimes. As shown below housebreaking crimes have reduced by 24.3% and no doorstep/bogus crimes have been recorded so far.



Detection Rate

Approximately 31.2% of acquisitive crimes recorded during Quarter 1 were detected. Detection rates for housebreaking crime were slightly lower than last year's figure at 25%, down from 37.8%. Vehicle crime detection rates also fell slightly 44.4% the previous year to 38.1%

Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of 2016/17 shows that the number of Group 3 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population remained considerably lower within Argyll & Bute at 82.6 compared to 118.7 in the Scottish Borders. Occurrences of housebreaking and vehicle crime were also lower at 11.6 versus 17.1 per 10,000 head of population for housebreaking, and 6.3 versus 18.1 for vehicle crime, respectively.

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Focussed Police Activity

Operation Monarda

To support the ongoing prevention, engagement, intelligence gathering and enforcement activity relevant to doorstep crime, a national multi-agency initiative took place between 22 and 29 May 2017. At a local level there were vehicle stops and enforcement carried out by SEPA and Road Policing. Local officers also carried out leaflet drops within areas with a high population of elderly residents as well as advice and guidance letters delivered to Banks, Building Societies and Post Offices. There was also awareness raising inputs conducted at various locations across Argyll and Bute.

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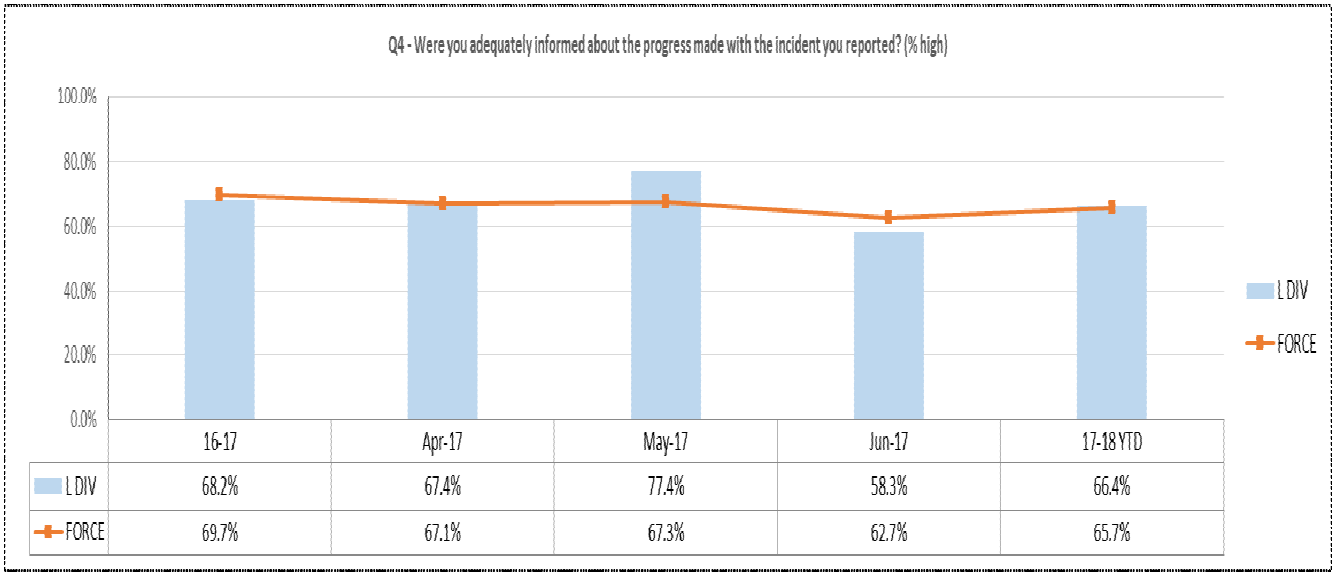
User Satisfaction Survey

Data produced at the end of Quarter 1 for Argyll & West Dunbartonshire Division shows that overall 86.3% of respondents were satisfied with the way in which police dealt with the incident they had reported. This is marginally higher than the figure recorded for the same YTD period last year (84.7%). Levels of confidence in police remained high at 85.9% of respondents.

Satisfaction levels are at almost 90% or over in relation to a further 5 of the 8 areas under scrutiny. The only area where these results are not being achieved relates to the reporter being updated with progress made. Performance in this area increased in May before dipping slightly during June however the YTD figure recorded at the end of June as 66.4%. Work continues across the Division to address this.



	16-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	17-18 YTD
L DIV	68.2%	67.4%	77.4%	58.3%	66.4%
FORCE	69.7%	67.1%	67.3%	62.7%	65.7%

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