



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Argyll & Bute

Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017

Quarterly Report / Q3 – 2017/18



Local Police Commander, Chief Superintendent Hazel Hendren

As Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division, I am pleased to present the third 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 remains under constant review 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 Duncan McLean (Dunoon & Rothesay) and Inspector Allan Kirk (Helensburgh).

Early November saw the usual planned firework displays and despite widespread adverse press coverage aimed at specific areas across the country those held within the Argyll and Bute area passed without incident. Focus then moved to the roads and the annual winter safety campaign that prioritised general vehicle safety checks incorporating an education and enforcement approach, the dangerous carriage of goods by HGVs and of course the national festive drink driving initiative supported by a hard-hitting media campaign.

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A robust festive safety campaign was also put in place aimed at supporting local businesses across both the day and night time economies and keeping people safe in the lead up to and across the Christmas and New Year period. With no significant increase in violence or ASB across the local authority area, the campaign was deemed a success.

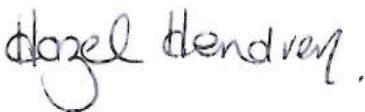
From an events perspective, there was a number of smaller scale events predominantly linked to the festive period with Christmas lights switch-on and various processions and parades, all of which passed without incident.

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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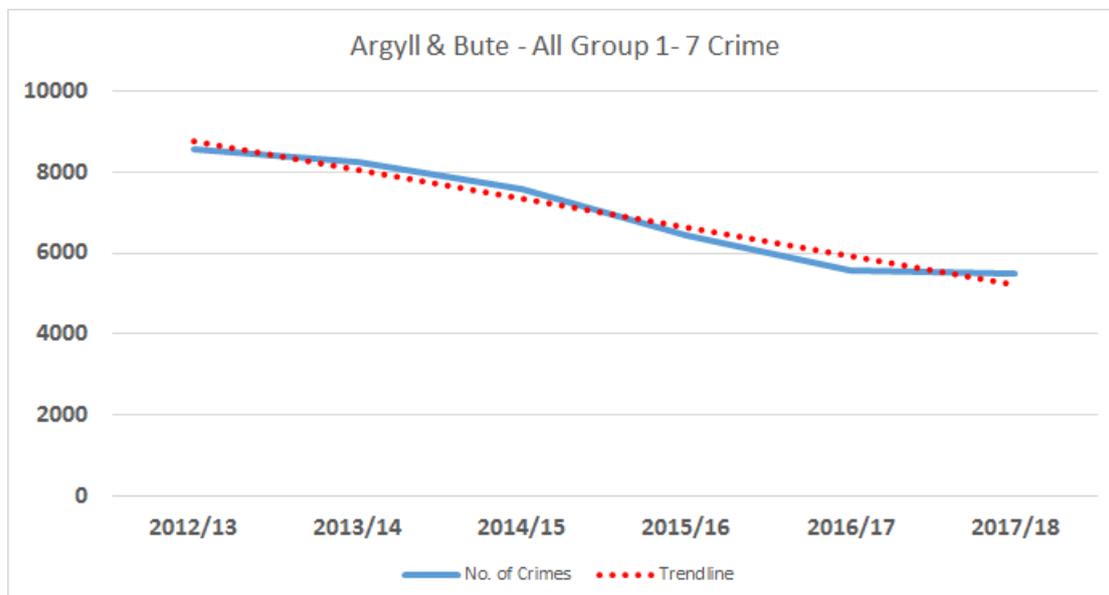
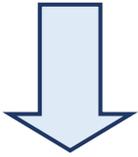
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Crime Overview

Group 1 -7 Crime

The number of Group 1 – 7 crimes being recorded across Argyll and Bute continues in an overall downward trend. Crime figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 indicate a reduction of 24.5% compared to the 5 year average while crimes levels YTD are marginally lower than last year (-1.1%).

Despite the overall reduction in crime, Group 1 crimes of violence have increased by 26.2% (11 crimes) and Group 2 crimes have increased by 20.6% (21 crimes). Levels of acquisitive crime also remain 20.1% higher than in the same YTD period last year. Group 5 crimes, which reflect police pro-activity, have increased by 22.8% while ASB related crimes (Group 6) have reduced by 10.6% and complaints regarding disorder have decreased by 2.8%.



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 2 show that the total number of Group 1 – 5 crimes recorded per 10,000 population within Argyll and Bute remained slightly lower at 149.7 than in the Scottish Border which recorded 160.0. Both local authority areas saw an increase from the previous year.

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

Road Safety & Road Crime

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

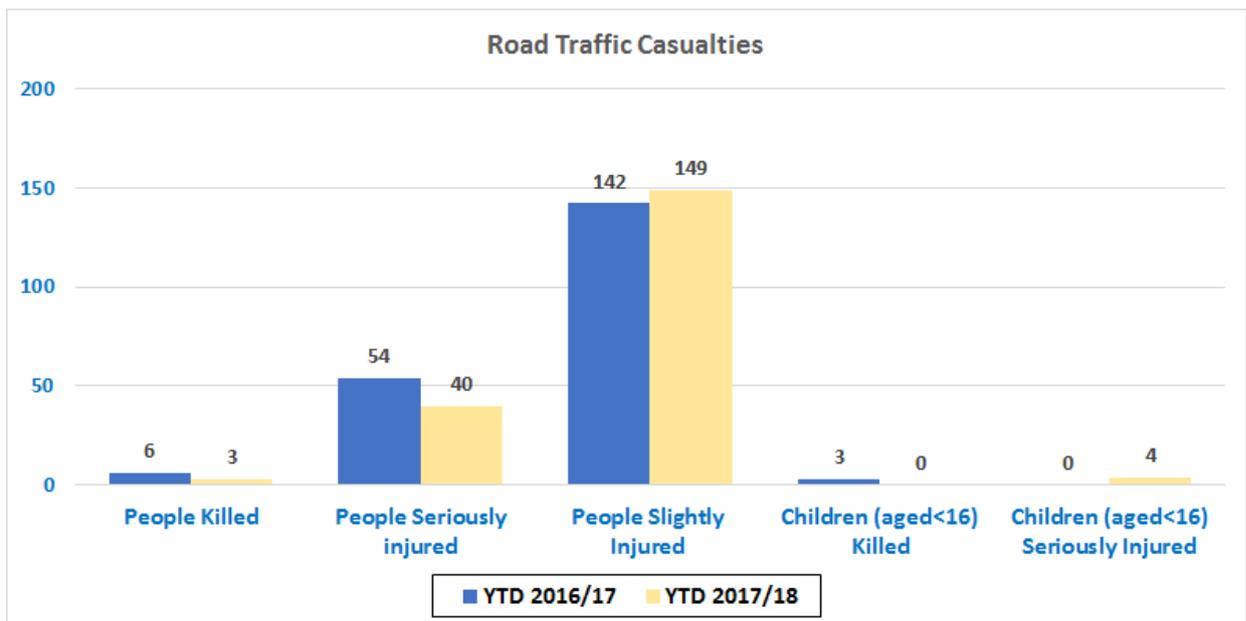
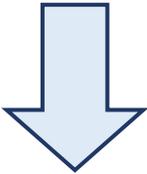
- To work with partners to develop a strategy to reduce the numbers of those killed and seriously injured on the Argyll and Bute road network.
- To increase enforcement activity to improve driver behaviour.
- To improve road safety through enhanced partnership working and preventative initiatives within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

Road Traffic Casualties

Set against figures for the same period last year, the number of persons killed and seriously injured on the roads network within Argyll and Bute has reduced considerably with 6 fewer fatalities and 14 fewer serious injuries recorded YTD. Slight injuries have however seen a marginal increase from 142 to 149.

Transport related incidents continue to be the most commonly recorded incident type in Argyll and Bute. The most prominent crash locations remain unchanged:

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



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 2 show that the total number of road casualties within Argyll and Bute YTD remains marginally higher than in the Scottish Borders at 147 and 144, respectively. While Argyll and Bute recorded one less fatality, serious injuries were slightly higher at 32 compared to 27 in the Borders.

When considering this information it is 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.

The downward trend in offences relating to motor vehicles continued during Quarter 3. As at 31st December 2017 figures show a reduction of 3.4% compared to the same period last year. In keeping with previous trends, much of the reduction overall is due to decreases in offences relating to speeding and the use of mobile phones.

	Apr – Dec 2017	Apr – Dec 2016	% Change
Dangerous driving	67	63	6.3%
Speeding	942	1,049	-10.2%
Disqualified driving	6	2	200.0%
Driving Licence	59	47	25.5%
Insurance	133	107	24.3%
Seat Belts	54	62	-12.9%
Mobile Phone	34	81	-58.0%

Focused Police Activity

Prominent Crash Locations

The key threat within Argyll & Bute still largely remains on the open, national speed limit trunk roads where patrolling and enforcement activities continue to be directed to those areas where the casualty rates are higher. During Quarter 3 additional support was also directed from the DRPU to the Kilcreggan Peninsula in response to a fatal collision to ensure public reassurance within that specific area and also to address complaints of unacceptable driving.

Festive Drink / Drug Driving Campaign

This year's campaign ran from 1 December 2017 to 2 January 2018. Road checks were carried out across the division at varying times and conventional and social media was fully utilised to publicise activities and encourage compliance and public reporting. As a result 19 offenders were reported for drink/drug related driving offences and many more offences were detected in relation to manner of driving, construction and use, as well as document offenders.

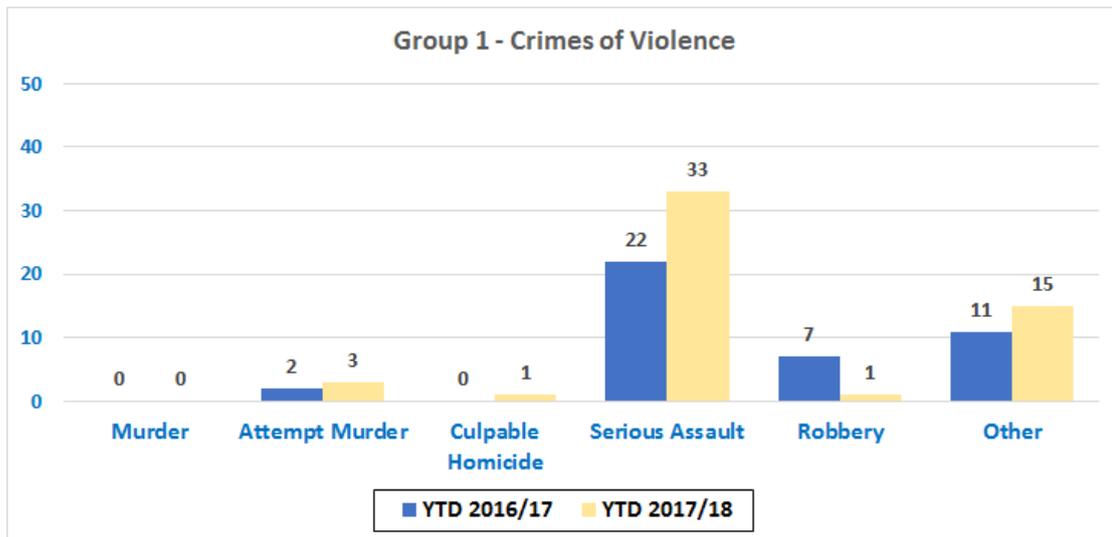
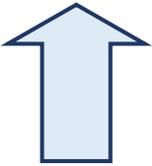
Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

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

The total number of Group 1 crimes of violence recorded YTD within Argyll and Bute increased slightly during Quarter 3. As at 31st December 53 crimes had been reported compared to 42 in the same period last year, which is marginally lower than the 5 year average (54.6). As shown in the chart below, crimes of robbery have reduced however this has been offset by a noticeable increase in serious assaults. Whilst 19 of the 33 serious assaults reported occurred in a public space, in 67% of cases the victim knew the offender and the crime was the result of a friend / family or domestic dispute. The detection rate for Group 1 crime remains high at 77.4%.



Crimes involving lower level violence such as Common Assault remain relatively unchanged year on year (+ 2 crimes) however ASB related crimes have reduced by 10.6% and complaints regarding disorder have decreased by 2.8%.

Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 2 show that the number of Group 1 crimes of violence recorded per 10,000 head of population remained marginally higher in Argyll and Bute than in the Scottish Borders Local Authority area at 3.9 and 3.4 respectively.

Similarly, 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 50.8 compared to 34.8 in the Scottish Borders. ASB related crimes overall were also higher at 85.4 versus 79.9. However, public reported incidents of antisocial behaviour remained considerably lower in Argyll and Bute at 195.3 compared to 271.3.

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

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

On Thursday 26 October 2017 the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer scheme was launched in Oban. The scheme is aimed at young people between the ages of 13 -18 years in the Oban community. At present the group are working towards their passing out ceremony which is scheduled for 22 March 2017 and look forward to showing off their excellent skills in drill on the parade square. We are currently training the youths in radio procedure, the phonetic alphabet and correct use of police notebooks. The group are also progressing well with their team building and using great initiative in all tasks set. The volunteers will shortly be receiving their training to become trainers of the "I am me/keep safe" campaign which will be a vital tool for the community. On completion of their training the successful candidates are looking forward to assisting with the many groups and charities in the Oban area.

Notable Conviction

A conviction was secured against a male which resulted in a three year prison term following a street robbery whereby an elderly male was attacked in Rothesay.

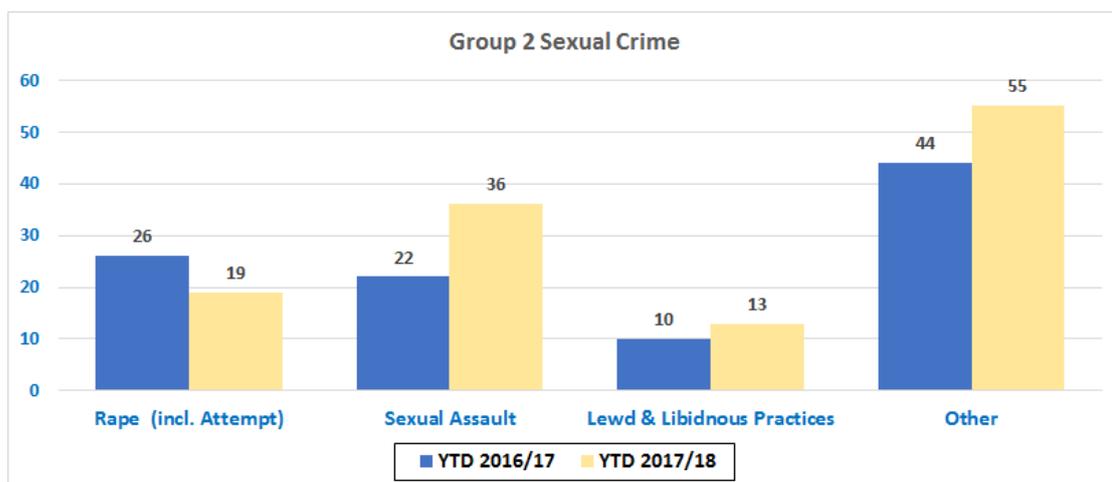
Protecting Vulnerable People

As set out in the Local Policing Plan, 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.*

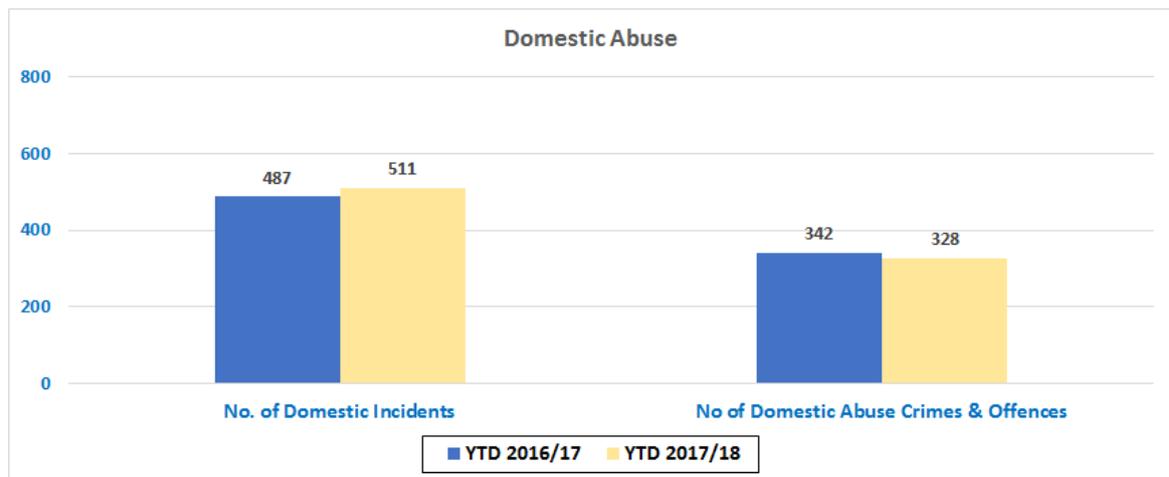
Group 2 – Sexual Crime

At the end of Quarter 3, the total number of Group 2 sexual crimes reported within Argyll and Bute shows an increase of 20.6% compared to the previous year, which equates to 21 more crimes being recorded. Crimes levels are also 28% high than the 5 year average. As shown in the graph below, increased crimes levels are largely due to a rise in sexual assaults and 'other' crimes primarily those relating to indecent images and indecent communication. Around 71% of crimes recorded occurred in a private space, mainly residential dwelling homes, and in approximately 70% the offender was known to the victim. 24% of all crimes recorded were historical reports. The detection rate for Group 2 Sexual Crime has reduced slightly year on year from 61.8% to 51.2% however rape crime detections have improved considerably from 34.6% to 72.2%.



Domestic Abuse

Levels of domestic abuse occurring within Argyll and Bute remain relatively unchanged. Compared to figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 last year, the number of domestic abuse incidents being reported remains 4.9% higher while the number of domestic abuse crimes/offences being recorded remains 4.1% lower. Dunoon multi member ward (MMW) area continues to record the highest number of domestic incidents YTD and shows a slight increase (5 incidents) compared to last year. Oban North and Lorn MMW has also seen a slight increase (7 incidents).



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 2 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 8.4 and 9.3, respectively. The number of Rape crimes (per 10,000 population) was also marginally lower at 1.4 compared to 2.4 in the Scottish Borders as were Sexual Assault crimes at 3.8 versus 4.1.

Focused Police Activity

Community & Mental Health Triage

The Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Inverness Community Triage Service (Out of Hours Telephone Service based in New Craigs Hospital, serving NHS Highland) has been developed to support the measures outlined in the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 and provide Community Psychiatric Nursing (CPN) support to operational police officers to aid their decision making process around managing risk. It is intended that the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Inverness Community Triage Service will lead to more timely intervention by Mental Health professionals when required, providing a better

Focussed Police Activity

Community & Mental Health Triage (cont'd)

service for individuals as well as achieving efficiencies and improvements for the police, health and other services including:

- Improve outcomes for those who are detained and also those who are dealt with in the community.
- Improve partnership working between Police and Health services.
- Improve pathways to effective Mental Services including follow up service following initial contact with the police.
- Lessen the operational impact on both police and health staff and streamline the process of out of hour's mental health assessments.
- Improve efficiency of services provided by police and health professionals when dealing with mental health incidents.

The focus of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Inverness Community Triage Service will be to provide a prompt telephone response to incidents, access to local health service information using existing protocols and access to advice, assessment and other support services. Advice will be provided by the service on the care of the individual and will inform any subsequent decision to take an individual to a mental health or other hospital for further mental health treatment. The pilot was launched on the 26th January 2018 and is operating within the Mid Argyll and Kintyre areas of Argyll and Bute. There is a monitoring and evaluation process that will be subject to weekly and thereafter a 3 monthly review to assess whether there is scope to extend into other areas.

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. Police across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire Division continue to 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 (December 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. 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 3 show drug supply crimes have reduced compared to last year :-



Serious & Organised Crime	Apr – Dec 2017	Apr – Dec 2016	% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	38	55	-30.9%

Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of Quarter 2 continues to show only a marginal difference in the number of drug supply crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population within Argyll and Bute compared to the Scottish Borders at 3.9 and 3.1 crimes respectively. When considering all drug crime however, Argyll & Bute continued to record a higher number of crimes at 27.0 compared to 18.5 in the Scottish Borders.

*Produced by Police Scotland, Analyst Unit, Dumbarton on 22/01/2018.
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 January 2018.*

Focussed Police Activity

Human Trafficking – Day of Action

On 25th November 2017, joint operational activity was undertaken involving Police, Home Office and HMRC aimed at identifying illegal working in premises within the Helensburgh area. No arrests were made on the day, however information obtained has been fed into the central Police Scotland unit, focused on illegal working and human trafficking at a national level.

Increasing awareness of Counter Terrorism

On 5 October 2017 the divisional Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer's (CTLO) attended at Dunoon Community Fire Station and delivered CT Awareness Inputs and WRAP training to Red Cross volunteers from all over Argyll and also to the retainer Firefighters from Dunoon. The event was well attended and deemed to be very worthwhile.

Following on from the success of the three initial inputs to trainee submariners at HMNB Clyde, the divisional CTLO attended again on 6 November 2017 to deliver CT awareness / WRAP inputs to trainee submariners and to key members of management and the training school. Due to the success of the training, staff have asked that this be a regular input during training, the next input will be delivered on 31 January 2018.

A CT Awareness talk was also delivered to all of Argyll and Bute Senior Management during a COSO event held at Victoria Halls. As a result of the input to 75 members of staff, the CTLO has received requests to assist in many areas of Argyll and Bute throughout 2018.

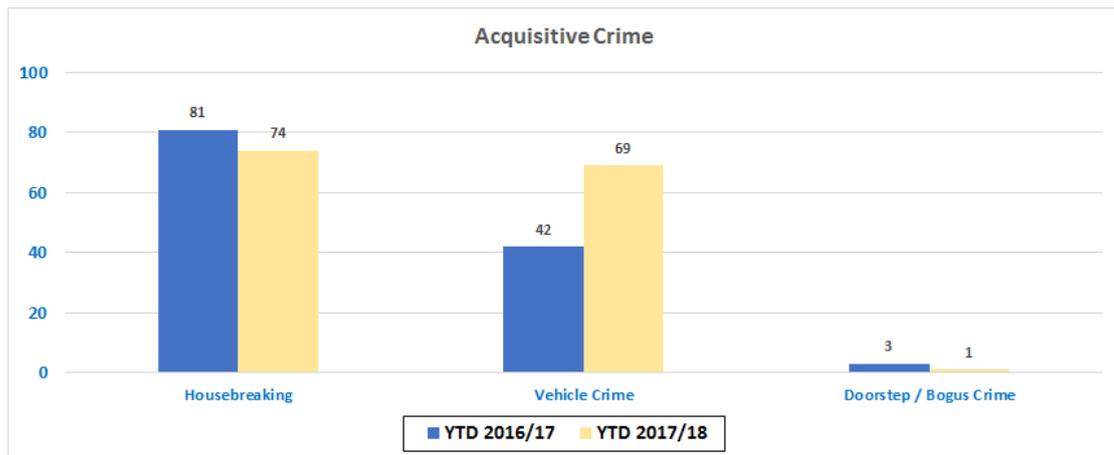
Acquisitive Crime

In the Local Policing Plan, 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

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 show a 13.4% increase in the total number of acquisitive crimes recorded within Argyll & Bute compared to the same YTD period last year. This increase is in part due to the significant rise in vehicle related crime noted during Quarter 1 however crime levels have remained relatively low during the current reporting period. Crimes involving common theft have also seen a noticeable increase YTD. Housebreaking crimes remain 8.6% lower than last year and doorstep/bogus crimes have also reduced.



Detection Rate

Approximately 15.1% of all acquisitive crimes recorded at the end of Quarter 3 were detected. Detection rates for housebreaking crime have reduced slightly from 30.9 to 21.6% however vehicle crime detection rates remain higher at 44.9%.

Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of Quarter 2 shows that the number of Group 3 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population remained considerably lower within Argyll & Bute at 51.4 compared to 72.4 in the Scottish Borders. Occurrences of housebreaking and vehicle crime were also lower at 5.7 and 6.2 respectively versus 12.5 and 10.7 in the Borders.

Focussed Police Activity

Rural Watch

Rural Crime remains a priority for Police Scotland. Each local policing division is working with partners to enhance intelligence, prevention and enforcement activity through their Rural and Wildlife Crime Governance Groups.

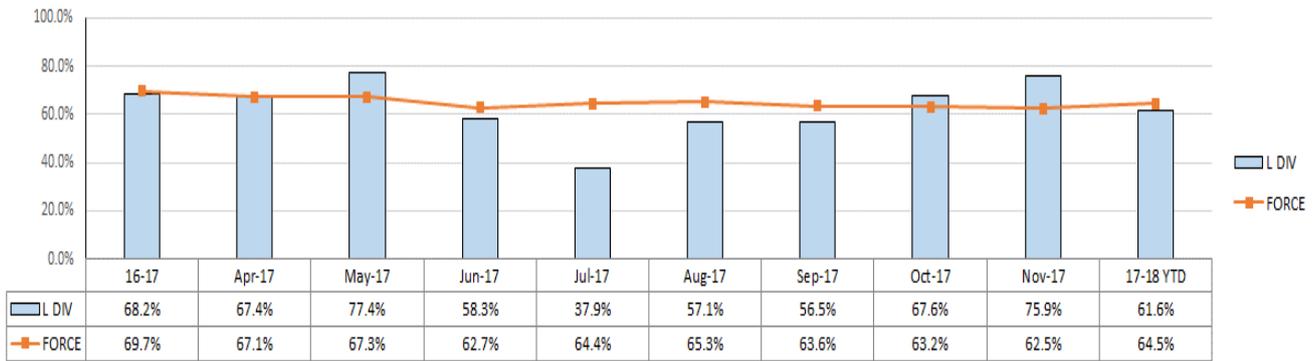
Within L Division the Rural Watch Co-ordinator recently engaged in a promotion campaign to increase the membership across both West Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute. This has proved successful with 19 Rural Watch Schemes currently in operation across the area and membership numbers increasing from 508 to 794. Activity will continue into the forthcoming period with the assistance of local area inspectors in order to further extend the reach of the group. Regular updates are circulated and information passed as required however no crimes trends of significance were identified during Quarter 3.

User Satisfaction Survey

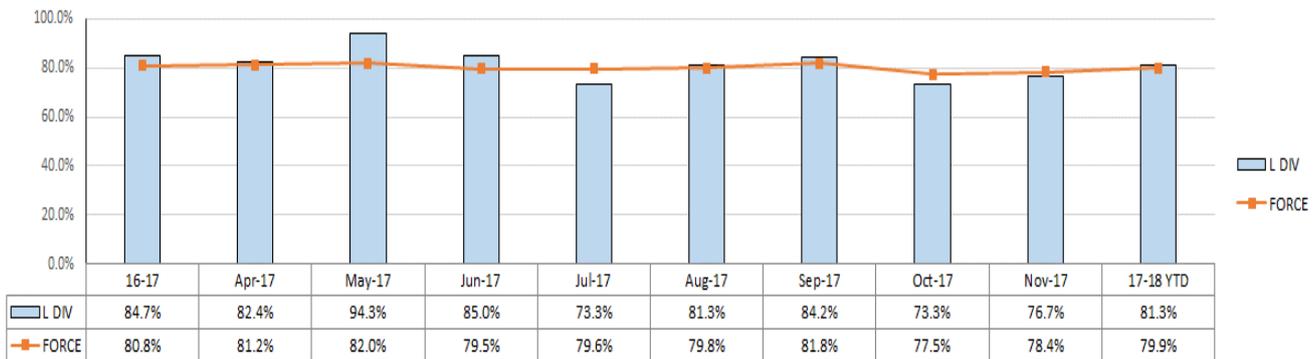
User Satisfaction in L Division shows the following trends in key areas:

- **Were you adequately informed about progress made on the incident you reported:** There continued to be an improvement in confidence levels during November from 67.6% to 75.9% however the YTD figure remains lower than last year at 61.6%. The figure also remains slightly below the national average of 64.5%.
- **What is your overall satisfaction with the service provided –** In November, there was an increase in satisfaction levels to 76.7% compared to 73.3% in October. YTD satisfaction levels show a slight reduction from 84.7% in 2016/17 to 81.3% although still compare favourably to the national picture of 79.9%.
- **Following this incident, what is your overall confidence in Police Scotland?** Confidence levels increased in November to 88.4%. The YTD figures remain higher than in 2016/17 at 82.9% which compares favourably against the national average of 80.3%.

Q4 - Were you adequately informed about the progress made with the incident you reported? (% high)



Q7 - What was your overall level of satisfaction with the way the police dealt with the incident you reported? (% satisfied)



Q8 - Following this incident, what is your level of confidence in Police Scotland? (% high)

