



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Argyll & Bute

Local Policing Plan 2014 – 2017

Quarterly Report / Q4 – 2017/18



Local Police Commander, Chief Superintendent Hazel Hendren

As Divisional Commander for Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division, I am pleased to present the final 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. Due to year end data being embargoed, possibly until the end of May, the current report is based on data up to 28 February 2018.

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).

The winter safety campaign which prioritised vehicle and road safety continued in the early part of the year and officers delivered education and enforcement to address inappropriate use of vehicles and improve driver behaviour. The extreme weather conditions in February presented significant challenges in the Helensburgh and Lomond areas but despite these, local policing services were maintained for the community and assistance was provided to many other emergency workers to get to their place of work, particularly NHS Staff.

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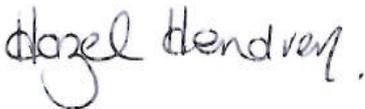
The Old Firm fixture in March was supported by a local policing operation to address violence and antisocial behaviour. The outcome of this operation was no significant football related incidents in the area and it was considered successful. During Easter there were numerous processions throughout Argyll and Bute, particularly on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. These were also supported and policed without any adverse incidents.

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 can be 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 Scottish Borders Local Authority area however this information **MUST** only be used for guidance purpose.



Hazel Hendren
Chief Superintendent
Local Police Commander

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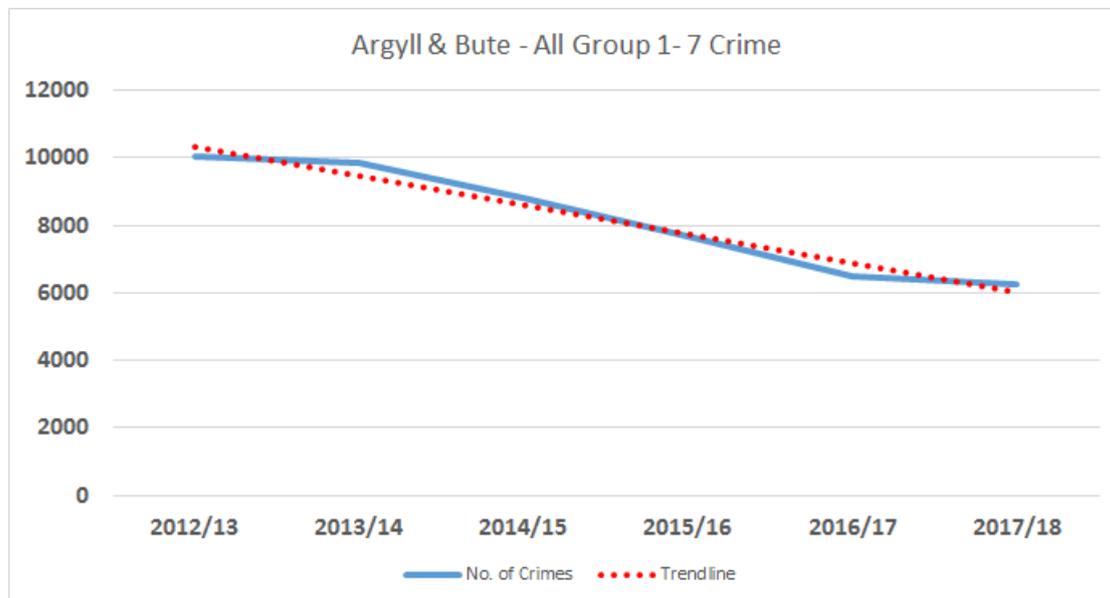
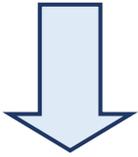
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Crime Overview

Group 1 -7 Crime

As at the end of February 2018, the total number of Group 1 – 7 crimes being recorded across Argyll and Bute continued in an overall downward trend. Crime figures indicate a reduction of 27.1% compared to the 5 year average while crimes levels YTD are 3.75% lower than last year.

Despite the overall reduction in crime, Group 1 crimes of violence show an increase of 20% (10 crimes) and Group 2 crimes have increased by 14.1% (18 crimes). Levels of acquisitive crime also remain 5.6% (36 crimes) higher than in the same YTD period last year. Group 5 crimes, which reflect police pro-activity, have increased by 17.5% while ASB related crimes (Group 6) have reduced by 9.3% and complaints regarding disorder have decreased by 4.3%.



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 show that the total number of Group 1 – 5 crimes recorded per 10,000 population within Argyll and Bute remained lower at 211.6 than in the Scottish Border which recorded 239.7. 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

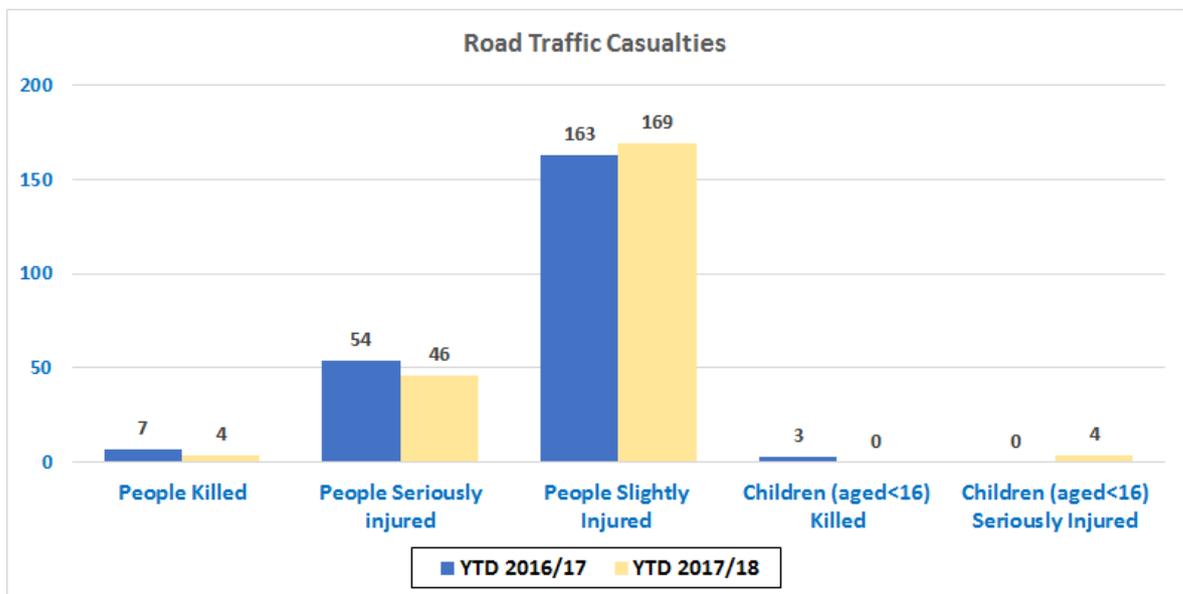
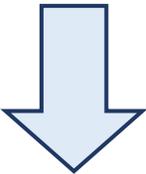
Priorities outlined in the Local Policing Plan remain at the forefront of operational activity carried out in respect of road safety and road crime. These are as follows:-

- 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 4 fewer serious injuries recorded YTD. Slight injuries have however seen a marginal increase from 163 to 169.

Transport related incidents continue to be the most commonly recorded incident type in Argyll and Bute. DRPU activity continues to be focused on priority routes; A82, A83, A85, A815, A816 and A814.



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 show that the total number of road casualties within Argyll and Bute YTD was lower than in the Scottish Borders at 196 and 211, respectively. Argyll and Bute recorded five less fatalities, one less serious and 9 fewer slight injuries.

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 2017 – Feb 2018	Apr 2016 – Dec 2017	% Change
Dangerous driving	75	71	5.6%
Speeding	1,016	1,228	-17.3%
Disqualified driving	7	4	75.0%
Driving Licence	66	54	22.2%
Insurance	161	129	25.8%
Seat Belts	60	73	-17.8%
Mobile Phone	38	93	-59.1%
Careless Driving	251	244	2.9%

Focussed Police Activity

Severe Weather

The last quarter has mostly been effected with severe adverse weather conditions, which had a detrimental effect on traffic in both West Dunbartonshire and the lower half of Argyll and Bute. This led to the closure of the A814 due to heavy snow drifts between Cardross and Helensburgh. A motorist however saw fit to remove the road closed signs and drive into the same placing himself in danger and was subsequently reported for Dangerous Driving. Although the north of Argyll missed the worst of the snow it did have its own issues and although a traditionally quieter part of the year, still produced some drivers who continue to drive too fast or in a careless and dangerous manner. One such driver was reported on the A85 for driving dangerously at 118 mph.

Proactive patrolling throughout the division has also led in the last two weeks to vehicles being stopped while being used for the transportation of controlled drugs and substantial cannabis seizures, worth several thousand pounds, were made in both Clydebank and near to the Rest and Be Thankful. Both driver's were subsequently reported for being concerned is the sale or supply of controlled drugs.

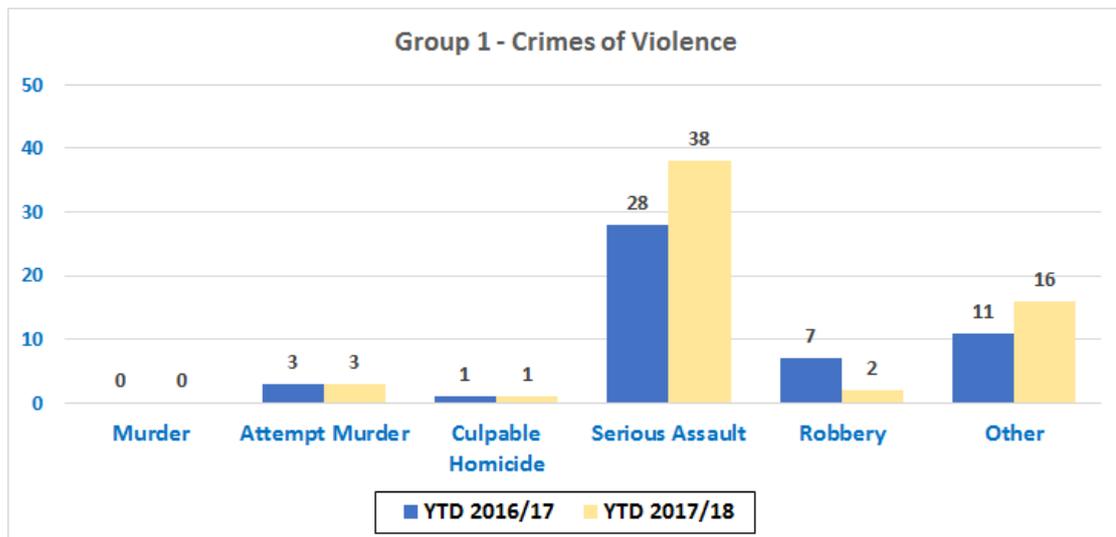
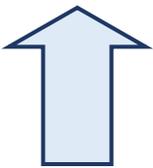
Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

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

As at the end of February 2018, the number of Group 1 crimes of violence occurring within Argyll and Bute show an increase of 20% compared to the previous year. In total 60 crimes have been reported compared to 50 in 2016/17, however crime levels remain below the 5 year average (68.4). As shown in the chart below, crimes of robbery have reduced however this continues to be offset by an increase in serious assaults. Around 60% of serious assaults occurred in a public space however in more than 70% of cases the victim knew the offender. Most of these related to a friend / family or domestic dispute. The detection rate for Group 1 crime remains high at 81.6%.



Crimes involving lower level violence such as Common Assault remain relatively unchanged year on year (+ 3 crimes) however ASB related crimes have reduced by 9.3% and complaints regarding disorder have decreased by 4.3%.

Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 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 6.1 and 5.2 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 57.7 compared to 47.8 in the Scottish Borders. ASB related crimes overall were also higher at 166.4 versus 118.6. However, public reported incidents of antisocial behaviour remained considerably lower in Argyll and Bute at 273.7 compared to 395.1.

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

Pub Watch

Working closely with the Licensing Board, Police Scotland Licensing Dept, Dumbarton and Pub Watch - Dunoon, standards of bar and door stewarding have been discussed in terms of levels of intoxication of some entering and receiving service. With this being highlighted and monitored, the number of incidents involving alcohol in Dunoon town centre has reduced.

Dog Fouling Campaign

In response to Community Council and ASB Group complaints about Dog Fouling in Cowal & Bute, PC Donald MacKay co-ordinated a campaign working with A&B Council and local schools to raise awareness of the problem in Dunoon & Rothesay, tackling same through education, media releases and joint patrols. New banners, designed by school pupils now feature across the area with regular updates on social media and local newspapers.

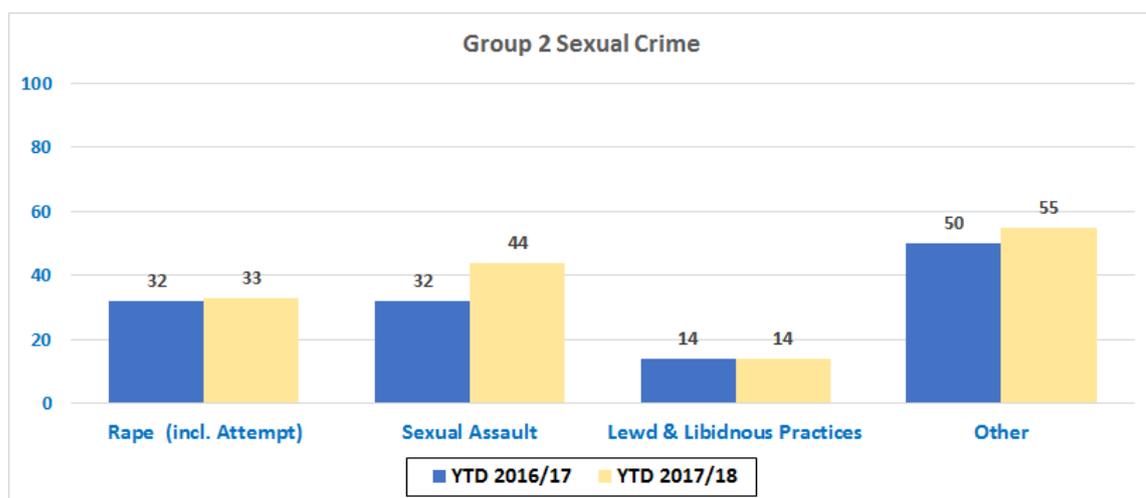
Protecting Vulnerable People

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

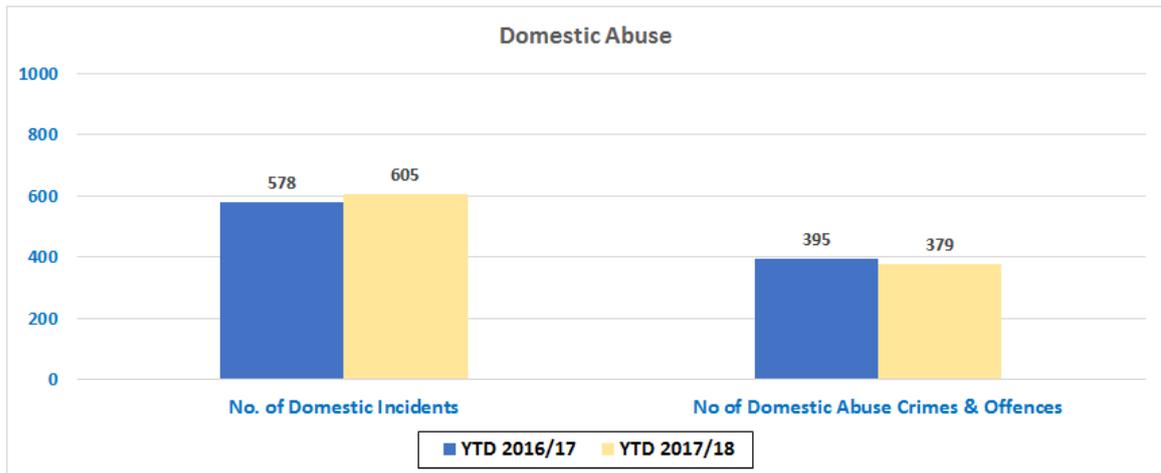
At the end of Quarter 2, the total number of Group 2 sexual crimes reported within Argyll and Bute shows an increase of 14.1% compared to the previous year, which equates to 18 more crimes being recorded. Crimes levels are also 18.7% higher than the 5 year average. In line with previously noted trends, increased crimes levels are largely due to a rise in sexual assaults. 'Other' crimes primarily those relating to indecent images and indecent communication have also increased. Around 67% of sexual assaults occurred in a private space, mainly residential dwelling homes, and in over 80% the offender was known to the victim. Around a third of all crimes recorded were historical reports. The detection rate for Group 2 Sexual Crime has reduced slightly year on year from 63.3% to 47.9%.





Domestic Abuse

Levels of domestic abuse occurring within Argyll and Bute remain relatively unchanged. Compared to figures recorded at the end of February last year, the number of domestic abuse incidents being reported remains 4.7% higher while the number of domestic abuse crimes/offences being recorded remains 4.1% lower.



Local Authority Comparison

Figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 show Argyll and Bute and the Scottish Borders Local Authority area has recorded exactly the same number of Group 2 crimes recorded per 10,000 population (14.1). The number of Rape crimes (per 10,000 population) was however marginally lower at 2.2 compared to 3.6 in the Scottish Borders as were Sexual Assault crimes at 5.6 versus 6.1.

Focussed Police Activity

Cybercrime

DI Andrew Doherty was recently part of a group of officers from around the world who attended an International Leadership Development Programme in the USA, a large part of this was looking at how Cybercrime is tackled as it is a cross border issue. Learning from this programme will be disseminated locally and used to inform how to best target cybercrime following completion of our ongoing review. Two cyber hubs will shortly be delivered to the division and officers have been identified to receive training in their operation.

Cyber Constables

A cadre of 'cyber constables' are now in place across the force as a preventative measure when countering those intent on using internet and digital devices to commit crime. L division have a number of officers in key areas who are able to give advice and guidance in respect of online security, particularly in relation to child sexual exploitation, commercial fraud and domestic internet use. A national product is produced by Police Scotland in conjunction with partners such as the National Crime Agency to ensure consistent and effective measures are made available to all communities within the division.

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 (March 2018) relating to Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) the overall threat/risk posed to the communities within Argyll and Bute remains Low. Proactive and reactive intelligence and evidence gathering opportunities continue to be fully exploited in an attempt to reduce the threat and harm posed by any individuals linked to SOC and to identify new and emerging groups. The previous SOC group known to be in operation within the area has recently been archived and no new groups have been identified to date.



Serious & Organised Crime	April 2017 – Feb 2018	Apr 2016 – Dec 2017	% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	42	62	-32.3%

Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of Quarter 3 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 4.7 and 4.9 crimes respectively. When considering all drug crime however, Argyll & Bute continued to record a higher number of crimes at 39.1 compared to 28.7 in the Scottish Borders.

Focussed Police Activity

Local Resilience Partnership Event

A joint local resilience Partnership (A&B and WDC) event took place at Arrochar 3 Villages Hall. This was a Cyber Security input in the morning and a Project Griffin in the afternoon. This was a very well attended event with representation from multi agency and MOD Police.

Increasing CT Awareness

The counter terrorism liaison officer delivered a CT Awareness input to Council staff on Bute. This was extremely well received and as a result of the input we have had a number of requests for similar events on the Island which will be ran in conjunction with the CT champion based on Bute.

Inputs continue to the Royal Navy's trainee submariners at Faslane and it is currently being planned that members of the Royal Navy Police attend and then over time are able to take the project forward and deliver similar inputs across the base.

Human Trafficking – Day of Action

The Home Office and Police Scotland carried out joint operations on 25/01/2018 and 16/02/2018 and attended various business premises WDC and ABC with a view to raising awareness in relation to illegal working and human trafficking. During the course of these visits 3 persons suspected to be illegal working and a victim of HT were identified. Enquiries are ongoing.

Firearms Recovery

Following a drugs search at a house in the Helensburgh area a quantity of firearms ammunition and small quantity of drugs were recovered. Two males were subsequently charged as a result.

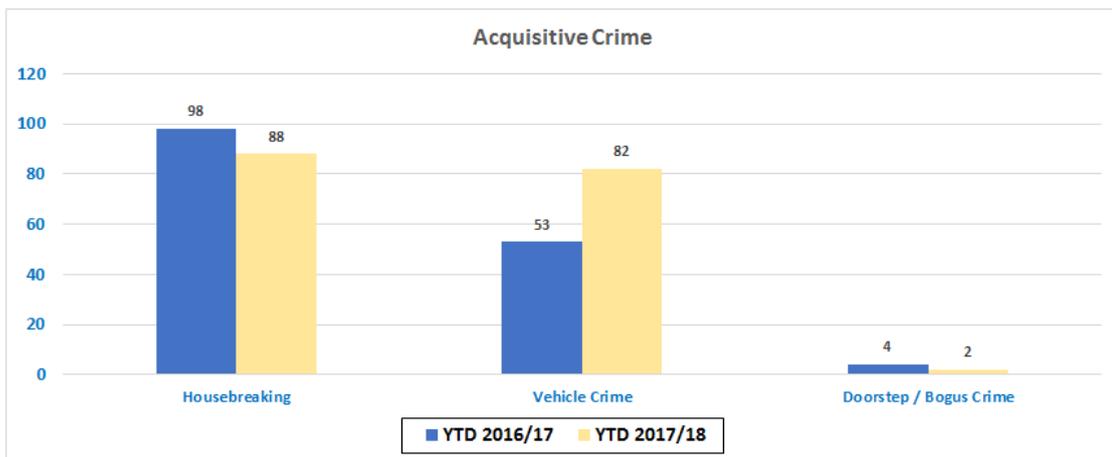
Acquisitive Crime

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 5.6% increase in the total number of acquisitive crimes recorded within Argyll & Bute compared to the same YTD period last year. Increased crime levels are partly due to the previously highlighted increase in vehicle related crime noted during Quarter 1. Crime levels have remained relatively low during the current reporting period. Housebreaking crimes remain 10.2% lower than last year and doorstep/bogus crimes have also reduced.



Detection Rate

At the end of February the detection rate for Group 3 acquisitive crime was at 34.6%. Year on year detection rates for housebreaking crime have reduced slightly from 32.7% to 26.1% however vehicle crime detection rates remain relatively consistent at 40.2%.

Local Authority Comparison

Data recorded at the end of Quarter 3 shows that the number of Group 3 crimes recorded per 10,000 head of population remained considerably lower within Argyll & Bute at 70.7 compared to 105.2 in the Scottish Borders. Occurrences of housebreaking and vehicle crime were also lower at 8.5 and 7.9 respectively versus 17.2 and 14.8 in the Borders.

Focussed Police Activity

Rural Watch

Rural Crime remains a priority for Police Scotland. Local policing divisions continue to work with partners to enhance intelligence, prevention and enforcement activity through their Rural and Wildlife Crime Governance Groups. In the current quarter there have been no major increases in rural crime but as we move into the spring and summer Rural Watch will be of particular importance in targeting any increase in crimes of this type.

Common Theft / Fraud

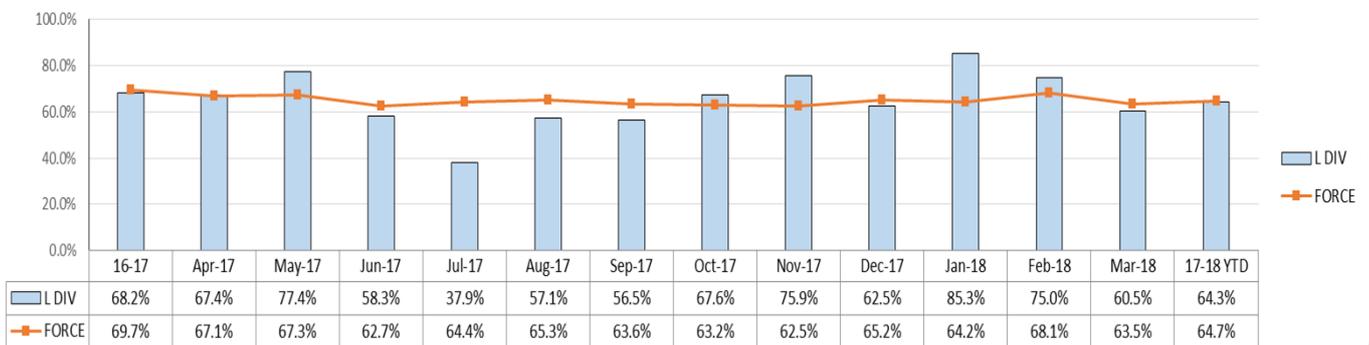
Internet enabled crimes continue to receive local and national focus albeit Argyll and West Dunbartonshire have not experienced any large increase in this crime type.

User Satisfaction Survey

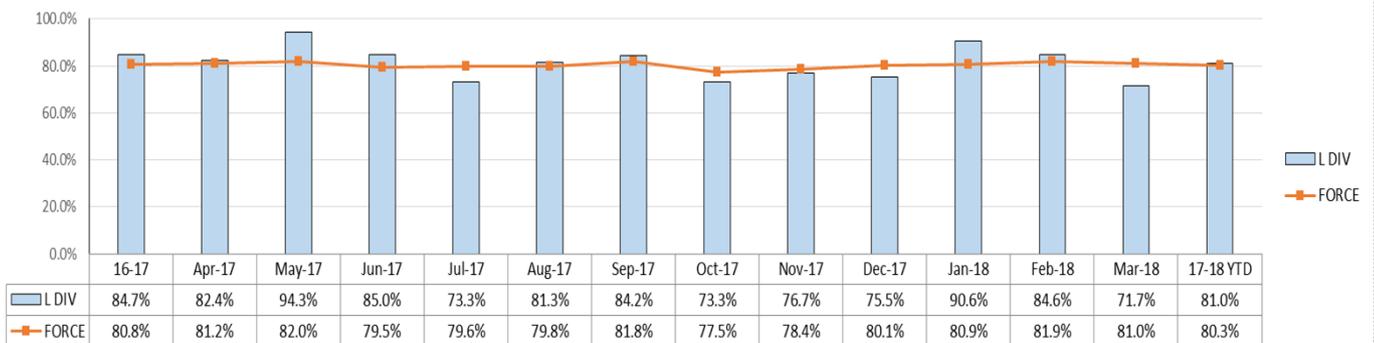
User Satisfaction in L Division shows the following trends in key areas:

- **Were you adequately informed about progress made on the incident you reported:** Confidence levels reduced to 60.5% compared to 75% in February however the YTD figure remained only slightly below last year at 64.3%.
- **What is your overall satisfaction with the service provided –** In March, there was a decrease in satisfaction levels to 71.7% compared to 84.6% in February. YTD figures also show a slight reduction from 84.7% in 2016/17 to 81% however still compare favourably to the national picture of 80.3%.
- **Following this incident, what is your overall confidence in Police Scotland?** Confidence levels marginally decreased slightly in March to 82.7%. The YTD figures remain higher than in 2016/17 at 84.6% and again compare favourably against the national average of 80.6%.

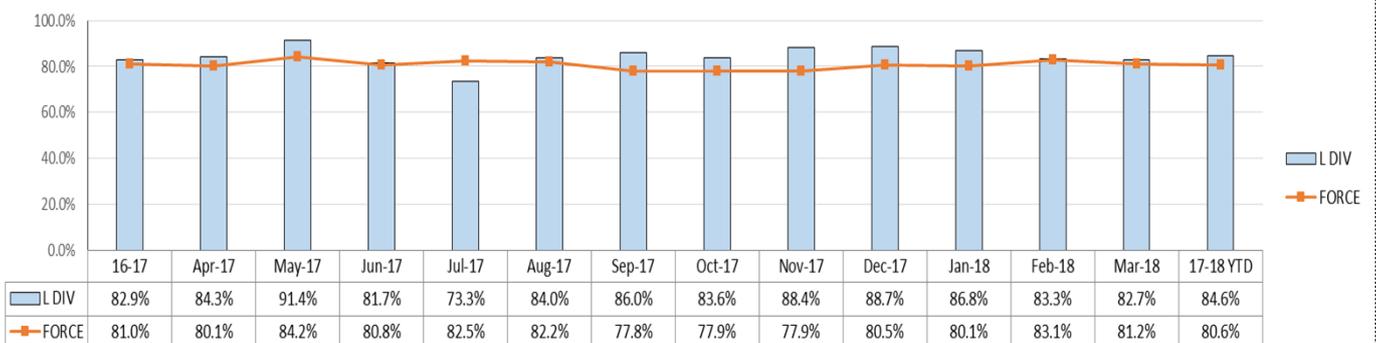
Q4 - Were you adequately informed about the progress made with the incident you reported? (% high)



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)



Produced by Police Scotland, Analyst Unit, Dumbarton on 17/05/2018.

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 March 2018.