



Keeping People Safe in Argyll & Bute

Our Purpose:- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Road Safety & Road Crime

DRPU pro-activity continues to be focussed on priority routes; A82, A83, A85, A815, A816, A814.



Two further fatal road collisions occurred within Argyll & Bute during Quarter 2 which brings the YTD figure to 4, versus 3 last year. However, serious injuries have reduced from 40 to 27 and slight injuries from 120 to 77. Overall this equates to 55 fewer casualties.



The total number of road traffic offences recorded remains 27.2% lower than the figure recorded in the same YTD period last year. Reduced crime levels are largely due to reductions in speeding and careless driving offences.

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour



The total number of Group 1 crimes of violence recorded across Argyll & Bute is unchanged on last year at 33. Crimes involving common assault have seen a marginal increase of 2.7% (9).

In 75% of all violent crimes the victim knew the offender. Almost 50% occurred in a private space

Despite an overall decrease in ASB incidents, disturbance & communication incidents have increased.

Complaints relating to disorder have decreased by 4.4% which equates to 67 fewer incidents. ASB related crimes including breach of the peace, CJS S.38 and drunk and disorderly conduct are relatively unchanged year on year.



The detection rate for violent crime remains high at 87.8% which is a slight improvement on last year's figure of 84.3%.

Public Protection



There has been a 38.4% increase in Group 2 sexual crimes within Argyll & Bute. YTD. In total 101 crimes have been recorded compared to 73 last year. Increased crime levels are due to a rise in rape, sexual assault and crimes relating to indecent images / communication.

Approx. 77% of sexual crimes occur within a private space, predominately residential dwelling homes

54% of sexual crimes were committed by a partner / spouse / family member or friend

Whilst the detection rate for Group 2 sexual crime overall has reduced only slightly from 60.3% to 58.4%, the rape crime detection rate has seen a significant decrease from 91.7% to 47.6%. This is largely due to the fact that 38% of rape crimes recorded were historic reports.



YTD the number of missing person incidents recorded has decreased by 15.7% compared to the same period last year. Looked after children are the most common repeat missing persons and account for 67% of all MP reports.

At the end of Qtr 2 the number of unique incidents where an Adult / Child Concern had been raised reduced by 10.3%, mainly due to a decrease in child concerns and those relating to youth offending.

Domestic abuse crimes and incidents continue to show a slight downward trend. YTD incidents have reduced by 8.7% (n=31) and crimes/offences have reduced by 1.7% (4).

User satisfaction results as at 30th September 2018 show that In Argyll & West Dunbartonshire public confidence levels remain high at 81.8%. Furthermore, 84.1% of persons were satisfied with how police dealt with their incident.

Argyll & Bute

Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020)

Quarterly Report (Qtr 2 – 2018/19)

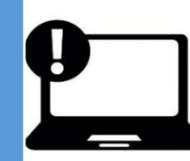
Major Crime & Terrorism



Across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire 55 persons linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested and £140,404.01 seized under POCA.

Detections for drugs supply have reduced by 32.3% from 31 to 21. Drug possession charges remain 7.2% higher with 207 crimes recorded YTD versus 193 last year.

Drug related deaths remain low but have increased from 2 to 4 compared to the same YTD period last year. One has still to be confirmed through toxicology.



In total 20 cybercrimes have been recorded within Argyll & Bute YTD. These related to either abusive or threatening messages or indecent images. To date 8 of these crimes have been detected.

Acquisitive Crime



Vehicle crimes have reduced by 9%



Housebreakings have increased by 68.1%

Levels of acquisitive crime in Argyll & Bute remained marginally higher (1.6%) at the end of Quarter 2. Housebreaking crimes have increased further from Qtr 1, largely due to an increase in commercial housebreakings within the Dunoon area. This has been offset slightly by a 45% reduction in vehicle crime. Detection rates for acquisitive crime have reduced slightly from 38.1% to 34.6% and for domestic housebreaking from 34% to 25.3%.



Bogus crimes have increased from 0 to 9 compared to the same period last year. Most crimes involve social engineering fraud.

Introduction of an electric car in Argyll & Bute

Police Scotland are currently working on further proposals with community planning partners to secure access to a fleet of electric vehicles that will assist in the delivery of non-response policing services. The arrangement of car sharing with Argyll College has proven to be a real success at Lochgilphead and future plans include rolling out the scheme to other areas including Dunoon and Oban.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Training

As part of the Divisional Staff Wellbeing Programme a further 3 officers attended a Mental Health First Aid course at the Scottish Police College. This training allowed us to increase our establishment of Wellbeing Champions that are available to assist officers and police staff across the Division. The three officers are based in Argyll and Bute which means there are now five trained officers across in the local authority area. These officers have proved to be invaluable in helping officers to access support to manage their psychological, physical, financial and social wellbeing. They have been used to provide additional inputs to officers who have dealt with significant and distressing incidents including the recent murder investigations at Oban and Rothesay.

Murder Investigation - Oban

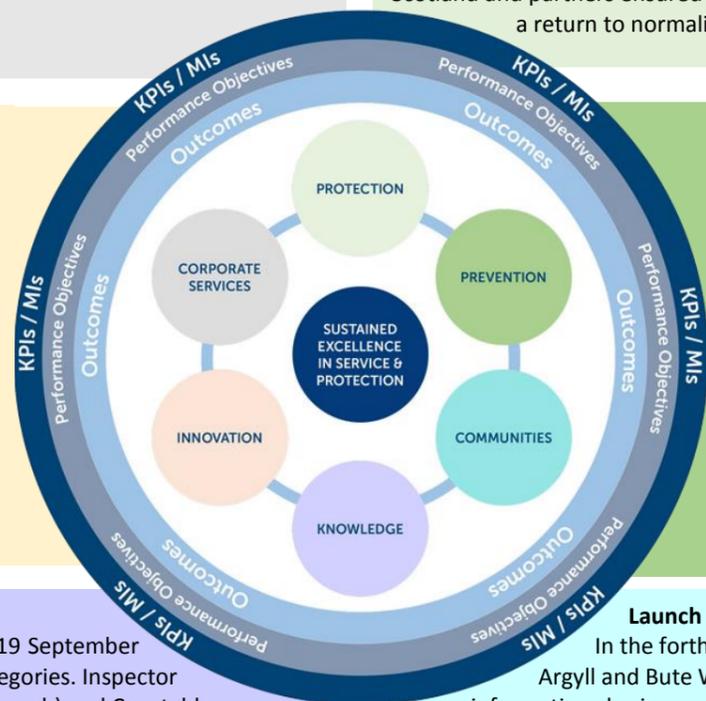
Following the tragic murder of two men in Columba Court, Oban, public reassurance patrols have been in place since the 1st October 2018. Extensive enquiry brought about the quick arrest of a 32yr old male who has been remanded in custody following his appearance in court. Police along with West Highland Housing Association and ACHA staff are carrying out visits to elderly and vulnerable residents in the area to provide additional crime prevention and personal safety advice. Elderly Forums and Groups will also be visited.

Road Closure – A83

On Tuesday 9 October 2018 a large landslide occurred some 330m above the A83 carriageway at the Rest and Be Thankful following a period of prolonged heavy rain. Initially the debris was prevented from reaching the carriageway by specially designed debris-fences above the roadside. The A83 was closed and the standard incident diversion route implemented however further landslides followed with 2,500 tonnes of material falling down the slope some onto the carriageway. This prevented the Old Military Road being utilised. Road operators from Bear Scotland and their geotechnical engineers worked tirelessly in challenging conditions to clear the road, repair the fences and keep diversion routes moving wherever possible. Police Scotland, Transport Scotland and partners ensured that information was updated throughout the media to keep the public informed until a return to normality on 18 October.

Community Planning & Development Day

The local Senior Management Team worked alongside the Community Planning and the Community Development Unit in the planning and delivery of the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Development Day. The event was held in Inverary on the 19th September and was attended by variety of agencies involved in the Community Planning Partnership and its ongoing work to coordinate services to best deliver against the Argyll & Bute Outcome Improvement Plan. Delegates attending the event were led through a structured day with inputs from Dr Ritchie Adams and Barry McLeod from Improvement Service which focused on values, community leadership, strong local governance and delivery of high quality efficient local services. The purpose of the day was to build on the existing work of the Community Planning Partnership and develop key themes to support continuous improvement. By the end of the event a number of areas for development had been identified and prioritised and a Short Term Working Group will be established to take forward implementation in the coming months.



Operation Moonbeam

A force wide anti-disorder plan in respect of firework related disorder will be in place from 2 November 2018 with resources available to Argyll & Bute if required. At a local level, policing plans are in place for events arranged within each of the main towns. These passed without incident last year however will continue to be monitored in conjunction with the local authority.

Mock Road Crash Events

A 'Live Real Time Mock Car Crash Scenario' was held in the grounds of Lochgilphead Joint Campus on the 28th August 2018 and involved Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Ambulance Service and Argyll and Bute Youth Services. The event showed the work of the emergency services at a road crash and highlights the consequences of inappropriate driving behaviour. Following its success further events have been planned in both Rothesay and Oban with senior pupils attending. In Oban, Youth Services and Oban High Drama Group will provide the actors and stage make up which makes the experience even more impactful and reinforces the importance of road safety.

Women's Development Forum

The Scottish Women's Development Forum hosted its annual awards ceremony on the 19 September 2018 at the Scottish Police College. Officers from Argyll and Bute won 3 out of the 8 categories. Inspector Julie McLeish (Community Inspector, Lochgilphead), Sergeant Wendy McGinnis (Helensburgh) and Constable Karen Cairns (Youth Engagement Officer, Campbeltown) were all recognised for their excellent contribution to police services in the categories of Leadership, Excellence in Performance and Community Service.

Force Mobile Wellbeing Unit

Wellbeing is now incorporated into every operational order for all events and Event Commanders are expected to plan this area of work effectively. The division now has access to the Force Mobile Wellbeing Unit and consideration is given to requesting it for all large scale events and incidents. This valuable resource allows officers to be permitted refreshment breaks without being transported back to police stations and ensures their welfare needs are met.

Deployment of Taser Trained Officers

The Specially Trained Officer training programme is now complete and these officers are now deployed across our communities while equipped with Taser devices. This enhanced capability ensures that our officers are properly equipped to deal with those intent on committing crimes of violence and are able to ensure the safety of the public and effectively deal with violent crime.

Launch of Dog Fouling Initiative in Oban

In the forthcoming weeks Sgt Chris Edwards at Oban along with local officers will be working alongside the Argyll and Bute Wardens to tackle dog fouling in the area. This will involve joint patrols, intelligence gathering, information sharing and social media & local media launch and updates.

Raising Awareness of Bogus Scams / Callers

Inputs by local police have taken place at sheltered housing complexes in Tarbert, Inveraray and Ardrishaig to advise residents about keeping themselves safe from bogus callers and scams. The recently produced 'Little Book of Big Scams' was promoted as it highlights a number of ways in which these offences are committed which, as well as causing great concern have a significant financial impact on victims.

Keep Safe Initiative

The Keep Safe initiative has reached into island and rural locations with the commitment from more businesses and organisations that want to be involved. Local officers recently gave an input to CalMac staff highlighting that Keep Safe premises are for anyone feeling lost, scared or vulnerable whilst in the community. It was also highlighted that there is an app available for use which lists these premises so individuals can plan journeys in advance with the reassurance that if they become overwhelmed at any point there will be somewhere they can go.

Children & Young People have the best possible start

Education, skills & training maximise opportunities for all