



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 activity has focused on the priority routes; A82, A83 and A85 and included visible patrols, static road checks and increased driver engagement.



Compared to Qtr 3 last year, fatal road collisions increased from 7 to 8. Whilst serious injuries also increased from 45 to 65, there has been a significant reduction in slight injuries from 124 to 65. Overall the total number of road casualties has reduced from 178 to 139.



The number of road traffic offences recorded has increased by 5.1% compared to Qtr 3 last year. Most types of RT offences have seen an increase including dangerous driving which has increased from 45 to 77 and speeding from 675 to 701 compared to the same period last year. This increase is, in the main, as a result of proactive policing of the road network.

Violence & Antisocial Behaviour

Compared to Qtr 3 last year, figures show a slight increase in Group 1 violent crime within Argyll & Bute from 53 to 66. Whilst the number of serious assaults recorded have reduced from 36 to 23, this has been offset by the implementation of the new Domestic Abuse legislation. To date 16 domestic abuse crimes have been recorded.

Approx. 57.4% of all crimes of violence occurred in a private space and in the majority the victim knew the offender.

648 stop search have been carried out YTD which equates to 72 per month

Complaints relating to disorder have increased by 4.4% YTD which equates to 88 more incidents being recorded. Overall ASB crimes recorded a 5.8% increase (n=83). Common assaults had an increase of 7.3% (n=36) however 43% of these occurred in a private space and just over one third were domestic related. Crimes relating to threatening & abusive behaviour and breach of the peace have also seen a slight increase.

The detection rate for violent crime overall has reduced by 5.8% but is currently high at 77.2%. The detection rate for serious assaults has increased from 88.9% to 91.3% year on year. The detection rate for common assault has also improved slightly from 72.8% to 73.2%.

Public Protection

At the end of Qtr 3 Group 2 sexual crimes show an increase of 15.6% compared to last year which equates to 21 more crimes being recorded. This is largely due to an increase in rape crimes which have increased from 30 crimes to 45. Approx. 58% of these crimes were non-recent reports.

63% of sexual crimes occurred in a private space, mainly residential dwelling homes



73% of all sexual crimes were committed by persons known to the victim

The detection rate for all Group 2 sexual crimes has reduced from 64.4% to 52.6% which equates to 5 fewer crimes being detected. The detection rate for rape crime also remains below last year's figure at 46.7% compared to 50%, which equates to 7 fewer crimes have been detected. Detection rates continue to be impacted by high levels of non-recent reporting and the complexity of these crimes.



At the end of Qtr 3 there 124 missing person reports had been recorded within Argyll & Bute which equates to around 14 per month. Around 57.2% these involved children or looked after children. 39% related to 5 repeat missing persons.

The number of incidents where Adult / Child Concerns have been raised has decreased by 3.6% (n=81). Adult concerns (inc. Domestic Abuse) and concerns relating to youth offending have continued to increase.

Compared to Qtr 3 last year the total number of domestic abuse crimes and incidents recorded across Argyll and Bute have marginally increased. Domestic abuse incidents increased by 0.8% from 486 to 490 and crimes have increased by 15.6% from 327 to 378.

At the end of Qtr 3, user satisfaction results show that in Argyll & West Dunbartonshire public confidence levels remain high at 82.7%. Furthermore, figures also indicate 90.4% of persons were satisfied with how police dealt with their incident.

Argyll & Bute

Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020) Quarterly Report (Qtr 3 – 2019/20)

Major Crime & Terrorism



Across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire 29 persons linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested and £2,749,377.40 seized under POCA.

Detections for drugs supply have increased YTD with 44 recorded at the end of Qtr 3 compared to 27 last year. Drug possession charges have also increased slightly from 289 last year to 339 recorded Qtr 3 this year.

At the end of Qtr 3 there were 7 potential drugs related deaths recorded in A&B compared to 3 the previous year. All were male aged 24 – 53. To date 3 of these deaths have been confirmed, further toxicology results are awaited.



In total 55 cyber-enabled crimes have been recorded within Argyll & Bute YTD. Nineteen related to online fraud, 15 to threatening messages sent via Social Media and 13 to indecent communication / images. In 22 of the 55 crimes the victim knew the offender. To date 17 crimes have been detected.



Acquisitive Crime



One more vehicle crime recorded



Housebreakings decreased by 36.8%

As at 31 December, the total number of acquisitive crimes recorded in A&B was 5.6% higher than last year. Housebreaking crimes have reduced by 36.8% from 106 to 67, largely due to a reduction in crimes to commercial premises and garages / garden sheds. Most other types of acquisitive crime have seen marginal change however crimes relating to fraud have increased from 38 to 83. Vehicle crimes increased marginally from 47 to 48.



The number of bogus crimes in A&B have increased from 9 last year to 18 this year. Eleven crimes related to social engineering fraud, 6 to bogus workmen and 1 to distraction theft

<p>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</p>		<p>THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELLBEING ARE RESOLVED BY A RESPONSIVE POLICE SERVICE</p>	<p>FESTIVE SAFETY CAMPAIGNS The Winter/Festive Safety Plans were effective from November 2019 and ran into early January 2020. A number of policing activities took place across Argyll and Bute including road checks, town centre disorder plans, visits to licensed premises, visits to retail establishments and cybercrime inputs to vulnerable groups. Various safety alerts were generated across social media and local newspapers including personal safety, home safety, vehicle safety, internet safety and road safety.</p> <p>SERIOUS & ORGANISED CRIME INTERVENTIONS In November, two males from the Argyll and Bute area were stopped within a vehicle whereby a quantity of drugs and over £3,000 in cash were recovered. One of these males was on life licence and subsequently recalled to prison.</p> <p>Local officers also recently assisted with a cross jurisdiction operation targeting an organised crime group suspected to be involved in rural / wildlife crimes in Argyll and Bute.</p>
<p>WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES</p>		<p>THE NEEDS OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES ARE ADDRESSED THROUGH EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY</p>	<p>ROAD SAFETY & ROAD CRIME Divisional Road Policing Officers along with local policing teams were pro-active over the period carrying out patrols in prominent crash locations in an effort to influence driver behaviour. Speed monitoring and detection work has also been ongoing and the area saw a number of successful detections for drunk driving and enforcement of the new drug driving legislation. The new Divisional Road Policing Inspector has been reviewing the Argyll and Bute Multi Agency Road Safety Group with a view to establishing regular partnership meetings to improve road safety in the area.</p> <p>HELENSBURGH TOWN CENTRE Helensburgh town centre accommodates numerous bars and restaurants and is popular with locals, visitors & Faslane personnel. The town centre catchment area also includes a number of Local Authority and ACHA social housing blocks which contribute to the call demand. Over recent months a disorder action plan has been ongoing within the area to address increased levels of antisocial behaviour. While crime and incident levels have seen a slight reduction, the action plan will continue into the forthcoming period and involves both uniform and plain clothes patrols, increased intelligence led stop search activity, regular visits to licensed premises coupled with particular attention being afforded to Maitland Court, Helensburgh Railway Station and the adjacent Co-op car park. Local Inspector Roddy MacNeill attended a recent Pub-Watch meeting where police activity was well received.</p>
<p>TACKLING CYBER RELATED CRIME</p>		<p>PUBLIC AND COMMUNITIES ARE ENGAGED, INVOLVED AND HAVE CONFIDENCE IN POLICING</p>	<p>PUBLIC CONSULTATION Public response to the 'Your Police' public consultation survey were particularly encouraging which at 11,656 was one of the biggest public sector response rates for engagement in Scotland. Survey response rates were strong in Argyll & Bute (426), providing robust quantitative samples. The majority of respondents in Argyll & Bute (96%) said that they felt either very safe (46%) or fairly safe (50%) in their local area although 44% of respondents in Argyll & Bute said their concerns about crime in their local area had increased. Respondents were also asked to choose the top five priorities for policing in their area. The following were identified as priorities for local communities :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling or using drugs • Road Safety • Rowdy drunken behaviour in public places • Homes being broken into • Child Protection <p>This will be used to inform the Local Policing Plan for Argyll & Bute over the next three years.</p>
<p>SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONAL POLICING</p>		<p>OUR PEOPLE ARE SUPPORTED THROUGH A POSITIVE WORKING ENVIRONMENT ENABLING THEM TO SERVE THE PUBLIC</p>	<p>IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS INITIATIVE The Force's 'Little Things' annual campaign was this year aimed at remote and rural offices and staff working in such locations. The campaign is a suggestion scheme which is open to all officers and staff working in the Division to identify small one off spends for equipment or services that would improve their working environment or make their job easier. Due to the geographical spread of the Division there was a significant proportion of this year's budget allocated with a total of £7,200 to spend. Argyll and West Dunbartonshire division submitted the highest number of suggestions across the West Command area with 38 submissions in total - 30 of which came from rural and remote locations. The contribution from officers and staff to improve facilities within the Division has been recognised at Force level and various projects and equipment requests have been supported that will improve the working environment for both officers and staff. The equipment should be distributed throughout the Division in the forthcoming few months.</p>
		<p>POLICE SCOTLAND SUSTAINABLE, ADAPTABLE AND PREPARED FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES</p>	<p>CONTACT ASSESSMENT MODEL (CAM) On 21 January 2020 the Contact Assessment Model (CAM) went live across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire allowing for enhanced assessment to determine the most appropriate and proportionate police response. This reflects the changing nature of the demands faced by policing in Scotland and will significantly improve the experience of customers, by providing resolution at first point of contact and will improve our response, in partnership, to vulnerable members of the public. Every caller is different. So is our response. CAM will improve the way we triage and respond to contact from the public by using an enhanced assessment and decision-making model of threat, risk and harm so that we can do more to protect the vulnerable and ensure every individual gets the right response when they contact Police Scotland. Our aim is to significantly improve the experience and outcomes for the public and to empower and enable our workforce to make the right decisions to provide the most appropriate and proportionate policing response.</p> <p>WOMEN IN POLICING DEVELOPMENT EVENTS Divisional Commander Chief Superintendent John Paterson hosted staff Development Events on 21 January in Balloch and 12 February in Dunoon. The events were delivered with support from the Scottish Women's Development Forum and were primarily aimed at women, but open to all officers and staff. Around 50 delegates enjoyed a series of workshops and inputs covering various topics from Presentation Skills and Career Development to Menopause and Managing Stress. The seminars were a great success and future events are already at the planning stage.</p>