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H&L Area Committee Police Update Report

Throughout the Covid19 pandemic our resources have been dealing with an increase in public nuisance type calls. This was down to alleged breaches of the Covid19 health and safety guidance as it changed through the pandemic.

We engaged, encouraged, educated and on occasion enforced the legislation.

Overall compliance was good in the area, as we moved to phase 2 and then 3, numbers of visitors climbed swiftly mainly down to decent weather and staycations. This resulted in very high numbers on the west Loch Lomond areas from Duck Bay all the way to Ardlui.

Parking was, and continues to be, an issue. Arrochar has been very busy and the carparks overflowing regularly. We have worked with council colleagues and a large number of tickets have been issued for parking offences. General parking restrictions are decriminalised in Argyll & Bute and police can only deal with dangerous parking or obstruction.

A parking management system is now in place in Luss and early signs have been positive.

We have been working with the National Park and have reported a number of persons for camping without a permit in all areas. I have had officers out on the loch carrying out joint patrols with The Rangers.

Crime wise we sadly had a murder in Helensburgh for which a male is remanded pending trial.

Crime stats have been average and we continue to deploy officers in plain clothes when resources allow.

Since the easing of the lock-down my officers have already executed 4 drug warrants in Helensburgh, all with a positive outcome, I have 2 further warrants in the pipeline and we continue to target those involved in the supply of controlled drugs.

Speeding is an issue all over the sub division, again we are servicing this problem to the best of our ability, numerous tickets issued and persons also reported to the PF for excessive speeds. My traffic colleagues have also been in this area assisting. This is an ongoing issue.

Resources at Helensburgh are stronger than they have been some considerable time, during the lock-down and it is continuing, I have had my Youth Engagement Officer out walking in and around the town centre providing a visible police presence which has been commented on.

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