

## **OFFICIAL**

### Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group

Business as usual for the Police as you would expect, crime figures remain favourable in the Helensburgh and Lomond area.

Latest figures, which are consistent throughout the pandemic, show a substantial rise in public nuisance type calls. This rise is down to reports of breaches of covid legislation through the year. Range from house gatherings to persons travelling into and through the area in breach of travel restrictions.

We did experience high numbers of visitors, this has lessened as we have moved into higher levels of restrictions. It was resource intensive when A&B sat in tier 2 while other areas were in higher tiers. Numerous persons required to leave having travelled from a higher tier area.

Police Scotland have maintained the 4 x E's policing response:

**Engage**

**Encourage**

**Educate**

**Enforce**

Over recent weeks, since the whole country entered tier 4 restrictions, we have continued to engage with people attending at recognised areas for walking etc. On occasion, people have been at certain locations with a flagrant disregard for the travel restrictions having arrived from out with A&B. These individuals have been charged and issued with fixed penalties and we will continue to police the area in this manner.

People are permitted unlimited exercise and we fully respect that.

I fully appreciate the argument that people, on occasion, are visiting quieter areas to walk etc. but it is unnecessary travel and if everyone was to act in this way these areas would be overrun increasing the risk of transmission of the virus.

My resources remain very good, effect by covid or other seasonal illnesses has been minimal, we are working very hard to keep our staff safe and have had no transmission of the virus within the workplace. PPE is readily available when and if required to all officers.

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