OFFICIAL

Area Committee Report for 17 June 2021

Police Scotland

Inspector Roddy MacNeill

Helensburgh & Lomond

Police resource levels remain good over the area.

We will experience resource demand from the Euros this month but officer numbers from this area attending are minimal.

Current issues and emerging trends:

Speeding as always is on the radar, various 'hot spots' around the sub division that we, assisted by our Traffic Dept. colleagues, are addressing to the best of our ability.

I have arranged for 30MPH speed limit stickers to be put on all the wheelie bins on the main roads through Arrochar, has been trialled in Dumfries with some success. On bin days it gives drivers a line of reminders about the limit and is thought to influence driver behaviour. I am going to do likewise in Garelochhead. I appreciate it does sound a bit odd, but is not costly and is quite visually effective. Will assess these 2 areas once complete and take it from there.

Government funding has been put in place for joint Authority – Police patrols specifically aimed at addressing any issues arising from the increased visitor numbers expected. It will involve a police officer patrolling jointly with a newly appointed authority warden and they will cover the more outlying areas as well as the towns. They will visit the common 'wild camping' areas and educate those present re appropriate behaviour when at these locations. Initial patrols start this weekend 05/06 in Cowal, Helensburgh & Lomond Warden post advertised.

Licensed premises back in business and we will once again be visiting premises to ensure compliance with licensing legislation and also any remaining covid19 requirements. Patrols will be increased during the Euros.

General area is getting busier with visitors, more so over within the general National Park areas, Duck Bay, Luss, West Loch Lomond, Tarbet and Arrochar. Joint NP – Police patrols are under way and officers are joining NP Rangers on patrol on Loch Lomond. Seeing a substantial increase in numbers, jet skis, boats and swimmers. Officers are assisting to enforce by laws and also providing a presence on the islands. Very worthwhile exercise.

Crime numbers remain favourable with the exception of frauds which is seeing an increase Force wide. Numerous frauds circulating, NI number being used, Tax, Investment Scams, Royal Mail, very difficult to police or detect. I have put information in the media and further work to be done to prevent crime and protect the public.

Parking issues at Luss have improved so far with the opening of the Luss Estates carpark

Weekly meetings with all partners ongoing to best manage the NP areas.