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Area Committee Report 02.12.21

Police Scotland - Helensburgh & Lomond

COP26 has passed without issue and without detriment to local policing due to a robust policing plan having been implemented prior to the event.

Resources have returned to pre COP26 levels which are favourable.

Taser training continues to be rolled out and officers carrying Tasers has been well received as a whole by the public and officers.

After a very busy summer on Loch Lomond and the tragic drownings during the year when the Loch Lomond Rescue Boat (LLRB) was of invaluable assistance to Police Scotland, the National Park and the many visitors and regular loch users, we managed to secure £5000 of funding for the LLRB to assist in their running costs which was greatly appreciated by all involved.

Focus now is on the Festive Policing Plan.

Festive Policing Plan is complete and underway. It will involve some media messages and increased police foot and mobile patrols mainly in the town centre area. Officers will be visiting business premises including licensed premises to ensure patrons and enjoying the festivities in a safe and appropriate manner. Officers will also be ensuring any covid19 legislation is being adhered to. Officers on duty on rest days for court will be utilised for festive patrols once clear of any court duties. Friday and Saturday nights, being the most popular evenings for celebrations, will be given the appropriate resources to ensure a safe and enjoyable time for all.

Anti-social behaviour and youth disorder has been an issue in the Helensburgh area over the period of the last quarter. Thankfully it has not been on the scale seen in some nearby areas such as Balloch Park. Local officers have been carrying out targeted patrols to deter such behaviour in these areas mainly focusing on Colquhoun Square, Hermitage Park and Duchess Woods. This has resulted in enforcement action being taken against a number of individuals. The volume of such incidents reported appear to have reduced towards the end of the quarter as was to be expected due to seasonal variations. Vandalism and in particular graffiti continues to be a problem in Helensburgh although the number of recorded vandalisms this quarter (13) are a little under half the four year average for the same quarter.

Inspector Roddy MacNeill

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