

**Highland Council**  
**City of Inverness Committee**  
**3rd March 2016**

Agenda Item	<b>3</b>
Report No	<b>CIA/ 5/16</b>

**Police- Area Performance Summary**  
**Report by the Inverness Area Commander**

**Summary**

To provide a local summary update to Committee Members on progress with reference to the local priorities within the Highland 2014-2017 Policing Plan.

**Introduction**

In 2014 the Highland Local Policing Plan was considered by the Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equalities Committee (now Communities and Partnerships Committee) and the Education, Children and Adult Services Committee before being approved by full council; the plan sets out the policing priorities and objectives which the 3 Highland Area Commands of the Highland and Islands Division for 3 years from 2014-2017.

The priorities and objectives within the plan have been identified by looking at the national and local intelligence picture; reviewing the community safety trends and securing the views and concerns of the public, locally elected officials and community planning partners.

As we approach the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Police Scotland and the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Highland Local Policing Plan we continue to adapt and review local process and plans to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of communities.

The City of Inverness Committee sits within the Inverness Area Command of the Highland and Islands Divisional Policing Structure. The City of Inverness Committee covers 7 Multi-Member Wards:

Council Ward No.13: Aird & Loch Ness  
 Council Ward No.14: Inverness West  
 Council Ward No.15: Inverness Central  
 Council Ward No.16: Inverness Ness-Side  
 Council Ward No.17: Inverness Millburn  
 Council Ward No.18: Culloden & Ardersier  
 Council Ward No.20: Inverness South

which combined have 5 priorities:

Road Safety  
 Drug/Alcohol Misuse  
 Antisocial Behaviour  
 Crimes of Dishonesty  
 Public Protection

## **Planning for the Future**

Localism is key to empowering communities to take responsibility and have a voice on issues affecting them. Police Scotland recognise the diversity of communities and cultures that exist within Scotland, with the Highland area being no exception to that. Moving forward, the future of Policing in the Highland and Islands Division is about engaging with, listening and responding to local people and ultimately adopting an asset based approach in achieving successful outcomes for communities. Over the coming months, along with key partners, we will remain agile in terms of local development through the community planning partnership and involving and communicating with local people in local communities.

The following report provides an overview of performance in terms of the five priorities identified for the Inverness area as detailed above:

### **1. Priority 1- Road Safety**

The impact of death and injury on our roads is significant, not only from the impact on victims and their families but to communities and the wider economy. It consistently features as a concern for the communities in Highland and Road Policing remains a priority for every officer.

We continue to work in partnership to improve road user behaviour through education, enforcement and engineering solutions. This informs our actions, using intelligence and analysis to identify priority routes and road users who may be vulnerable. Evidence has shown that a highly visible presence on our roads has a significant impact on driver behaviour. We continue to ensure our officers are in the 'right place at the right time' to employ both prevention and enforcement tactics and continue working with partners to consider the development of appropriate schemes for diversion from prosecution. We are continuing to support Local Authorities, Community and Road Safety Partnerships in delivering road safety activities. These commitments are reflected in Police Scotland's three year Road Safety and Road Crime Strategy, published in 2015.

Over the past year the Divisional and Trunk Roads Policing Unit has increased its establishment and currently has 45 dedicated officers covering the Division who can be tasked with local issues in each of the wards.

Driving Ambition took place in Charleston Academy, Culloden Academy, Inverness Royal Academy and Millburn Academy in 2015.

Inverness Summary  
(1 April 2015- 31 January 2016)-

- There has been 1 fatal collision in the Inverness area during this reporting period (During the same period last year there was also 1 fatal collision):

- 09-05-2015: Collision occurred on B9039 1 mile west of Ardersier and involved two vehicles. One person, the driver of one of the vehicles, sustained fatal injuries.

The below tables provide an overview of figures for the Inverness Area; these figures relate to the reporting period -1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016:

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>14/15 FYTD</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Drink/Drug Driving (Detections)	104	102	-2  (Figure includes failure to provide a specimen)

\* Please note: Some of the Multi-Member Ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

In this reporting year, in Inverness and wider Highland area, the tactical approach being taken by the Division involves targeting speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving and seatbelts. It is encouraging to see the numbers decreasing as we know that if we can reduce speed and ensure that people use their seatbelts and avoid the use of mobile phones whilst driving then they are less likely to be involved in a collision.

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>14/15 FYTD</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Speeding (Detections)	1082	996	-86
Seatbelt Offences (Detections)	465	294	-171
Mobile Phone Offences (Detections)	287	254	-33

\* Please note that due to system configurations the above figures are not available at multi-member ward level.

### Operations/Campaigns

The following campaigns have been running recently throughout the Division:

- Getting Ready for Winter- This campaign aims to ensure that motorists are beginning to prepare their vehicles for the winter months and are taking the heavy rain, high winds, snow and ice into account. Ensuring that drivers are taking extra care due to these conditions will reduce the risks to them and other road users.
- Brake National Road Safety Week- Road Safety Week 2015 was all about encouraging people to think about their car use and how they might 'drive less, live more'. The focus was on preventing death and serious injury, as well as celebrating the financial, health and

environmental benefits of sustainable travel.

- Festive Drink & Drug Drive Campaign-The Festive Drink/Drug Drive Initiative 2015 ran between Friday 4 December 2015 and Friday 1 January 2016. The campaign coincided with the first anniversary of the introduction of the lower drink drive limit in Scotland. Despite the general perception that drink/drug driving is socially unacceptable, many who persist in doing so consider it to be a low-risk activity in terms of the likelihood of being involved in a collision or being caught. This year's initiative focused on increasing the number of vehicles stopped and thereby increasing the likelihood of offenders being detected.

## **2. Priority 2- Drug /Alcohol Misuse**

By working effectively with our partners in the Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership and supporting campaigns such as 'Meet the Macphersons' we are working hard to reduce alcohol and drug abuse/misuse in the Highland area.

We know that this remains a priority for our communities and we recognise the detrimental impact that drugs and/or alcohol has on the quality of life of individuals, their families and the community in which they live.

In this reporting period there have been 6 drugs related deaths in the Inverness area.

Over the past year Inverness has seen increased use of New Psychoactive Substances. The danger of these so-called 'legal highs' is well documented and local officers have been working closely with partners to address issues and provide education and guidance to young people, parents/carers, teachers and youth leaders. Ensuring a robust response to information received about drugs in the community is key and sends a clear message of intolerance to those considering supplying and/or consuming illegal and non-prescribed recreational drugs.

Our communities have a significant role to play in reporting suspicious activities, we rely heavily on the support of the public in supplying us with information to disrupt the supply of drugs and arrest those responsible for causing harm to our communities.

### **Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2015- 31 January 2016)-**

- Throughout the coming year we will be continuing to carry out a range of initiatives with schools, youth and community groups to help raise awareness and educate young people on the dangers of New Psychoactive Substances.

<b>NORTH</b>	<b>14/15 FYTD</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections)	61	106	+ 45 (This figure includes detections for drugs supply, productions and cultivations)

\* Please note that due to system configurations the above figures are not available at multi-member ward level.

Whilst it is disappointing to see these numbers increasing, this gives a clear indication that officers are targeting the right individuals at the right time; support from the public by supplying us with information and reporting suspicious activities is key to this.

- Operation Respect is an ongoing multi-agency partnership initiative which aims to reduce street violence, disorder and incidents linked to licensed premises. Working with key partners in order to make our streets safer and to reduce the risk to the public.
- Regular licensed premises checks and collaborative working with licensees has been a key factor in reducing crime such as serious assaults and drink/drug driving. Since April 2015 an additional 378 licensed premises checks were carried out in the Inverness Area compared to the same period last year (14/15- 1458 and 15/16- 1836).

### **3. Priority 3- Antisocial Behaviour**

Antisocial behaviour remains a concern within our communities. As a member of the Antisocial Behaviour Group within the safer Highland Community Planning Framework we have contributed to the review and update of the antisocial behaviour strategy. This will continue to be developed over the coming year and updates and progress against the Antisocial Behaviour Action Plan.

Operation Notebook aims to identify and deal with offenders at an early stage and has proved successful in terms of multi-agency work addressing and resolving issues before they escalate. This operation has a clear remit in terms of reducing antisocial behaviour and the number of people who are victims of antisocial behaviour and noise calls.

## Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2015- 31 January 2016)-

INVERNESS	14/15 FYTD	15/16 FYTD	Variation
<b>Breach of the Peace/Threatening &amp; Abusive Behaviour</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>-20</b>
<b>Common Assault</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>+33</b>
<b>Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>+113</b>

\* Please note: Some of the multi-member ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

Inverness Response Team is now well embedded and the model is now being rolled out in other areas of Highland with a pilot currently ongoing in Caithness. The Inverness Team are now looking at ways of expanding their remit/portfolio in terms of dealing with problem individuals and working more closely with other partner agencies including those in the Third Sector.

#### 4. Priority 4- Dishonesty

Although the likelihood of being a victim of crimes such as housebreaking, thefts and bogus caller fraud is small, when they do occur they have a disproportionate effect on individuals, families and communities in respect of their feelings of safety.

The most recent National Doorstep Crime Campaign- Operation Monarda ran between 28<sup>th</sup> September and 4<sup>th</sup> October

As part of the most recent operation and working in conjunction with Police Scotland's local Media and Corporate Communications dept.; a film was produced in the Division featuring an elderly householder that had successfully deterred possible Bogus Workmen. This film was used as springboard for the local media launch and saw extensive coverage. The film is now on the Police Scotland Website and can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=doczPoJvtKE>

The most recent Operation Monarda had the following results:

- 4000 leaflets issued;
- Over 300 posters displayed;
- 49 offences detected;
- Over 50 people given advice;
- Over 170 vehicles stopped and checked;
- 6 Prevention Presentations; and

- 2 Multi-Agency 'Days of Action'

In addition to the above; work is ongoing in relation to a 'signpost' letter which has been given to all custodies / those issued with fixed penalties from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. The letter is in a standard format and is accompanied by an information sheet with contact details for local support organisations. The letter is currently being reviewed with local partners and it is hoped that the accompanying leaflet will be further developed to include additional support in relation to organisations who can assist with issues in relation to debt, addictions and also local support such as food banks etc.

### **Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2015- 31 January 2016)-**

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>14/15 FYTD</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
<b>Number of Thefts by Housebreaking (Dwelling house, Non-dwelling, Other premises)</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>Theft by Shoplifting</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>+41</b>
<b>Number of Thefts from motor vehicles (This figure includes opening lockfast places- motor vehicle, theft of and from a motor vehicle and attempted theft of a motor vehicle).</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>+10</b>

Please note: Some of the Multi-Member Ward data results in small numbers. Where this occurs great care should be taken in the interpretation of emerging trends or percentage changes.

### **Priority 5- Public Protection**

The Public Protection Unit incorporates Child and Adult Protection, Domestic Abuse Investigation, Offender Management, Rape Investigation and Sexual Offences Investigation. The unit works with Highland communities and multi-agency partners to provide a co-ordinated and consistent response to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 became law on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and contains several changes to how children and young people in Scotland will be cared for. The Act has created new systems to support children and young people and to help identify any problems at an early stage, rather than waiting until a child or young person reaches crisis point. Over the coming year we will support the implementation of the Children and Young People Act 2014 across public protection partnerships.

During this reporting period the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland went 'live' across Scotland. The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse provides a formal mechanism for potential victims, their family members, or another concerned member of the public or professional body e.g. Police Scotland, Social Work, Advocacy Services, Woman's Aid etc. to

make enquiries about an individual who they are in a relationship with or is in a relationship with someone they know, and there is a concern that the individual may be abusive towards their partner. It provides Police Scotland with a way of disclosing information about a partners abusive past with their potential victims and gives people at risk of Domestic Abuse the information they require to make an informed decision on whether to continue in a relationship. The scheme operates two entry pathways that may lead to a disclosure being made: 'Right to Ask' and 'Power to Tell'.

We continue to prevent, deter and detect those who pose the greatest risk in our communities by maximising use of legislative powers and effectively working with partners and communities to share information and develop meaningful action plans with clear identification of ownership and accountability.

### Inverness Performance Summary

(1 April 2015- 31 January 2016)-

INVERNESS		14/15 FYTD	15/16 FYTD	Variation
Domestic Incidents	Abuse	816	827	+11 (Figures as at 31/12/15)
Domestic Incidents- Rate	Abuse Detection	85%	83.1%	- 1.9% (Figures as at 02/02/2015)
Hate Incidents <sup>1</sup>	Crime	66	65	-1 (Figures as at 10/02/16)
Sexual Crimes/Incidents		131	162	+31

Please note: Whilst Police Scotland upgrades to a single integrated system, figures below this level i.e. to multi-member ward level are not available due to system configurations.

- (i) **Recommendation:** The committee is invited to scrutinise and discuss the progress report and updates in relation to the 5 Priorities; Road Safety, Drug/Alcohol Misuse, Antisocial Behaviour, Dishonesty and Public Protection.

**Chief Inspector Jennifer Macdonald**  
**Inverness Area Commander**  
**11<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

<sup>1</sup>Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures