

**Highland Council**  
**City of Inverness Committee**  
**01 September 2016**

Agenda Item	8
Report No	CIA/36/16

**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.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 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 for the 3 Highland Area Commands of the Highland and Islands Division for 3 years from 2014-2017.

1.2 We are now in the 4<sup>th</sup> year as Police Scotland and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year of the current 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.

1.3 The service has taken tangible steps over the last year to better capture the views and voices of communities, most notably through the “Your View counts” Campaign and consultation with Community councils. The results of these consultations will be fed back to communities and will also form part of the process of consultation which will shape the 2017 Highland Local Policing Plan

1.4 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:

1.5

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

## **Counter Terrorism (CONTEST)**

2.

CONTEST is the UK Government's Counter terrorism strategy and looks at the four strands of Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent.]

2.1

The Prevent strand has received much attention in recent times and it looks at preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism.

2.2

Under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism Act 2015 a number of agencies have now begun to look at addressing the Prevent duty within each organisation. Within the Highland Council Inverness area all relevant staff identified have now received WRAP (Workshop in Raising Awareness in Prevent) training and all other staff have received an e-learning package to work though in an effort to inform each employee what to do and who to turn to should there be a concern about an individual that they may have engaged with. A number of other staff have also received the in depth Prevent Professional Concerns (PPC) training in order to look at best practice in the event of a concern being raised and a PPC case conference having to be called and chaired by the local authority.

2.3

An integral part to Prevent's success is involving people who already have the skill and support to hand that can recognise when someone may be becoming involved in or supporting terrorism, and can help make a decision not to carry on that path, before any crime is committed.

2.4

The role out of ACT Now (All Communities Together) has been discussed by management and Police at all of the High schools within Inverness with a view to delivery to all senior pupils in an effort to look at extremism, in any form, within the community and the negative effect it can have on that community. These sessions have now been carried out at all Inverness High Schools with the exception of Millburn Academy.

2.5

Within the Protect and Prepare strands there is representation from Inverness at the Protect and Prepare sub-group from the Community Planning Partnership. Positive work within the Protect strands includes work around all sties of interest of critical and national infrastructure as well as sites that may be of a security concern.

2.6

## **Wildlife Crime**

3.

During the reporting period Police Scotland N Division Wildlife Crime Unit have been pro-active in the area regarding poaching and wildlife crime. The unit are also in the process of marketing an educational power point presentation that can be shown at shows, reception areas and can be distributed to members if required. Rural Watch and the CEASER property marking initiative have been promoted, members should consider joining Rural Watch and joining in the promotion of the crime prevention initiative, you can join Rural Watch by calling 101 and asking for PC Dan Sutherland, Wildlife Liaison Officer, Dingwall. There continues to be much support from the public regarding wildlife matters and this is shown by the increase in reports to the Police. The continued support of

3.1

members is greatly appreciated.

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

3.2

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

4.1 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.

4.2 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.

4.3 These commitments are reflected in Police Scotland's three year Road Safety and Road Crime Strategy, published in 2015.

4.4 Driving Ambitions will take place in Inverness in September and November 2016. Safe Highlanders events took place in Inverness during May 2016, 1675 P7 pupils attended and during this they received road safety inputs.

4.5 Road safety Scotland leaflets for tourists have been obtained and circulated to local tourist information centres.

4.6 Inverness Summary  
(1 April 2016- 30 June 2016)-

- There has been 1 fatal collision in the Inverness area during this reporting period
  - 09-04-2016: 3 vehicle collision occurred on A82 at Borlum farm, Lewiston. One person, the rider of a motorcycle, sustained fatal injuries.

4.7 The below tables provide an overview of figures for the Inverness Area; these figures relate to the reporting period -1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 30 June 2016:

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>16/17 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Drink/Drug Driving (Detections)	21	36	+15  (Figure includes failure to provide a specimen)

- 4.8 \* 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.

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>14/15 FYTD</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Speeding (Detections)	380	169	-211
Seatbelt Offences (Detections)	129	36	-93
Mobile Phone Offences (Detections)	118	50	-68

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

- 4.10 It is encouraging to see the numbers decreasing, 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.

- 4.11 During this year the NC500 route has become extremely popular with worldwide promotion of this as a tourist attraction. We have sought to police this as required, dealing with irresponsible driver behaviour, whilst also acknowledging the positive economic impact the NC500 has on the area.

#### Operations/Campaigns

The following campaigns have been running recently throughout the Division:

March 2016 – Speeding Campaign, Motorcycle Weekend of Action.

April 2016 – Carriage of Dangerous Goods Operation

May 2016- 2 Motorcycle Weekends of Action, Speed Campaign, Cycle Scotland – Give me cycle space campaign

- 4.12 June 2016 – Summer Drink Drive Campaign, Motorcycle Weekend of Action

In addition to this local officer and Divisional Road Policing Units carried out a

joint enforcement operation with a number of partner agencies including DVSA in the Inverness area. This resulted in offences being detected and a number of vehicles being immediately prohibited from the roads.

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

5.1 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.

5.2 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.

5.3 In this reporting period there was 4 drugs related deaths in the Inverness area.

5.4 During this reporting period new legislation has come into effect in relation to New psychoactive substances (NPS), also controversially and incorrectly known as 'legal highs'. The production and supply of NPS products is now illegal, mere possession of these substances does not constitute an offence. Police Scotland has policies in place to robustly deal with the dangers posed by NPS. The message from Police Scotland remains there is no 'safe' way to take NPS – there is always a risk. The only way of staying safe is to avoid NPS altogether. There were no business in the Inverness area selling NPS, although it should be noted that the vast majority of NPS is sourced from the internet and delivered to users through the mail system.

5.5 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. Police Scotland continue to encourage any person with information to contact the police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

During the reporting period an input on NPS was given to Inverness High School pupils.

5.6 The Rock challenge event took place at Eden Court from 19-21<sup>st</sup> April and involved pupils from primary and secondary schools throughout the Highlands, including Inverness area schools. Each school created a musical show and

5.7 competed against each other for a place in the National Finals. A Highland School (Alness Academy) came first in the National event held in Dundee.

This is a very successful diversionary initiative to encourage young people to make healthy choices in life and avoid alcohol and drugs misuse.

### **Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2016- 30 June 2016)-**

5.8

- 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.

NORTH	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections)	22	15	-7 (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.

5.9 Over a short time period there can be a number of reasons that cause a significant variation of the figures. The command area continues to actively target those involved in the supply of controlled drugs with a number of enquiries ongoing. Support from the public by supplying us with information and reporting suspicious activities is key to the success of these operations.

- Operation Ram is a division wide operation aimed at tackling drug offences. During the reporting period there was enforcement action in the Inverness area. As part of operation Ram seven addresses were searched under warrant. This resulted in seizures of controlled drugs. A number of individuals have been reported to the PF for drug Supply offences. As part of Operation Ram we continue to work with key partners in order to make our streets safer and to reduce the risk to the public.

Operation Ram is an intelligence led drugs operation and is in addition to routine proactive drugs policing by officers on patrol.

- 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. Between 01 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 we carried out 341 licensed premises checks in the Inverness area.

## 6. Priority 3- Antisocial Behaviour

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

### 6.3 Inverness Performance Summary (1 April 2016- 30 June 2016)-

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
<b>Breach of the Peace/Threatening &amp; Abusive Behaviour</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>-19</b>
<b>Common Assault</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>+35</b>
<b>Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>+1</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.

6.4 Inverness Response Team is now well embedded, the model has successfully been rolled out in other areas of Highland, the Caithness area continue to run the initiative following their pilot period. The Inverness Team are continually 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.

## 7. Priority 4- Dishonesty

7.1 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 26<sup>th</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

7.2 Activity centred on two main themes

1. Multi agency day of action; this involved road side stop/checks of commercial vehicles. Staff from 5 partner agencies worked together to check vehicles and occupants. As a result of this a number of commercial vehicles were removed from the road due to serious mechanical defects. The Multi agency days of action have ran successfully for 3 years and have undoubtedly contributed to the 13% reduction in reported bogus workmen crimes over the last year. As a Division we are working hard to ensure that the area becomes undesirable for bogus workmen due to the high chance of enforcement action.
2. Local Days of Action enable the Division to utilise additional resources to carry out preventative work; all banks, building societies, post offices and building merchants in Inverness area were visited and given advice on how to protect their customers from the activity of bogus workmen.

7.3 During this reporting period N Division launched “Construction Watch” In the Inverness area, This initiative is aimed at preventing and detecting crimes of dishonesties on construction sites. 17 companies have signed up to the scheme. The first 4 months of the scheme has seen a 77% reduction in crimes compared to the same period last year.

7.4 **Inverness Performance Summary  
(1 April 2016 - 30 June 2016)-**

INVERNESS	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
<b>Number of Thefts by Housebreaking (Dwelling house, Non-dwelling, Other premises)</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>Theft by Shoplifting</b>			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>-55</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>26</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>+14</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.

**8. Priority 5- Public Protection**

8.1 N Division Public Protection Unit is led by a Detective Chief Inspector with 6 Detective Inspector-led teams providing specialist support for Local Policing Teams across the Division in Child Protection, Domestic Abuse, Rape Investigation and the management of information from Police Wellbeing Concerns for both children and adult concern information.

8.2 Police Scotland is committed to protecting people at risk of harm and within N Division the strong local public protection partnerships support both the investigation of serious sexual and violent crime against children and adults and continuous partnership work to prevent the prevalence of violent crime in our communities. The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland was introduced across Scotland in October 2015; since that date there have been 46 applications in Highland resulting in 21 disclosures to protect members of community from perpetrator of Domestic Abuse. In June 2016 a successful partnership awareness day on the Scheme was held in Police Headquarters Inverness which was well attended by practitioners involved in the various stages of the Scheme.

8.3 A Thematic Review by HMICS and the Care Inspectorate of MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) was conducted across Scotland between October 2014 and November 2015 with a recently published Report in relation to local structures and practices around the management of sexual offenders within communities across Scotland; the outcome was positive with



the report stating that Multi Agency Public protection Arrangements are well established across the country with robust arrangements in place by the statutory Responsible Authorities to manage registered sex offenders through dedicated offender management teams, joint working and information sharing. The report recognised that the work of the Responsible Authorities cannot entirely eliminate risk but stated '...we are confident that MAPPA is working effectively and as a result, makes a critical contribution to keeping people and communities safe...'. A number of national recommendations were made by the Report as well as Areas for Development; these are currently being considered locally by the Highlands & Islands MAPPA Management Group to inform continuous improvement planning.

8.4 N Division Public Protection is supporting the delivery of the Highland Child Protection Committee Child Sexual Exploitation plan across the Area and is engaging with both statutory and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners within the Committee to deliver against both the Scottish Government and Police Scotland National Action Plans on Child Sexual Exploitation.

8.5 **Inverness Performance Summary  
(1 April 2016- 30 June 2016)-**

<b>INVERNESS</b>	<b>15/16 FYTD</b>	<b>16/17 FYTD</b>	<b>Variation</b>
Domestic Abuse Incidents	238	249	+11
Domestic Abuse Incidents- Detection Rate	80.6%	75.4%	-5.2%
Hate Crime Incidents <sup>1</sup>	17	12	-5
Sexual Crimes/Incidents	49	66	+17

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.

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| (i) <b>Recommendation:</b> 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. |
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**T/Chief Inspector Ian Graham  
Inverness Area Commander  
17 August 2016**

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