

Highland Council

Communities and Partnerships Committee 28 September 2016

Agenda Item	5
Report No	CP 19/16

Performance against the Highland Local Policing Plan 2014-2017

Report by the Highland Local Policing Commander – Chief Superintendent Philip MacRae

Summary

To provide an update to Committee Members on the progress with reference to the objectives outlined in the Highland 2014-2017 Policing Plan.

1. Performance

A summary of the current performance against the 2014-2017 Highland Local Policing Plan objectives is at Enclosure 1. The period covered by the report is between 1 April 2016 and 31 August 2016.

Performance is being maintained within the Highland Area and overall crime continues to fall with a 1.4% reduction in Class 1-4 crimes as at 31 August 2016 (2311 crimes last year to date compared to 2279 crimes this year to date¹). This figure can be broken down as follows:

Class 1- Non Sexual Crimes of Violence: 25% increase from the previous year (87 last year compared to 109 this year to date - however overall crimes of violence have increased by the smaller margin of 3.5%)

Class 2- Sexual Crimes: 5% increase from the previous year (217 last year compared to 230 this year to date).

Class 3- Crimes of Dishonesty: 1.3% reduction from the previous year (1233 last year compared to 1218 this year to date).

Class 4- Fire-raising, Malicious Mischief etc: 6.7% reduction from the previous year (2311 last year compared to 2279 this year to date).

Wildlife Crime

During the reporting period Police Scotland N Division Wildlife Crime Unit has been instigated with one full time officer. He has been pro-active in the division assisting local offices to effectively target those individuals involved in wildlife crimes. 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 and members should consider joining Rural Watch and joining in the promotion of the crime prevention initiative. 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 members is greatly appreciated.

¹Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

New psychoactive substances (NPS)

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.

Whilst the Highland area no longer has retail premises supplying NPS prior to the introduction of legislation, we must remain alert to the fact that the vast majority of NPS is obtained from the internet and delivered direct to users. The use of NPS poses a significant risk of harm to our community and young persons.

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.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that members scrutinise local performance report against Highland Policing Plan Objectives- April 2016- August 2016.

Chief Superintendent Philip MacRae
Highland and Islands Divisional Commander
19/09/2016

Appendix 1: Performance report against Policing Plan Objectives- April 2016- August 2016

**PERFORMANCE AGAINST HIGHLAND COUNCIL LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2014/2017
1 April 2016- 31 August 2016**

PRIORITY 1 – Road Safety

GO SAFE ON SCOTLAND’S ROADS ITS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY- SCOTLAND’S ROAD SAFETY FRAMEWORK TO 2020

Target	2015 Milestone % reduction	2020 target % reduction
People killed	30%	40%
People seriously injured	43%	55%
Children (aged <16) killed	35%	50%
Children (aged <16) seriously injured	50	65%

(In addition to the above there remains a 10% reduction target in the slight casualty rate to 2020)

Note: All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.
All data sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at published date

Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Reduce the number of people killed on the roads in Highland.			7	9	+2	There have been 9 fatal collisions during this reporting period: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Collision occurred on the A9 at Thurso and involved 5 vehicles. The driver of one of the vehicles sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on the A99 at Keiss and involved 1 vehicle. The sole occupant of the vehicle sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on the A9 at Clashmore and involved 1 vehicle which was in collision with a pedestrian. The pedestrian sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred in the A835 near Maryburgh involving 2 vehicles. A passenger in one of the vehicles sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on A82 at Borlum, Drumnadrochit and involved 3 vehicles. The rider of a motorcycle sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on the A87 at Broadford and involved 1 vehicle. The driver of the vehicle sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on the A87 near Sligachan Hotel, Isle of Skye and involved 1 vehicle which was in collision with a pedestrian, the pedestrian sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on A82 at Glencoe Ski centre and involved 1 vehicle. A passenger in the vehicle sustained fatal injuries. Collision occurred on the A82 at North Road, Fort William involving 2 vehicles, a lorry and a pedal cycle. A cyclist sustained fatal injuries.
Reduce the number of people seriously injured on the roads in Highland.	89	81	31	27	-4	

Reduce the number of children (aged <16) killed/seriously injured on the roads in Highland.	3	2	0	0	=	
Increase the number of people detected for drink / drug driving offences.	168.8	157.0	153	171	+18	This figure includes failure to provide a specimen
Increase the number of people detected for speeding.	1869.6	2143.3	2823	2000	-823	In this reporting year, in the Highland area, the tactical approach which has been taken by the Division involves targeting speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving and seatbelts. It is encouraging to see the numbers continuing to decrease 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.
Increase the number of people detected for mobile phone offences.	288.6	308.0	358	217	-141	
Increase the number of people detected for seat belt offences	355.0	403.0	483	243	-240	
Conduct a Driving Ambition Campaign at each of the 22 High Schools within a 12 month period.	<p>Police Scotland continue to support the Highland Council run Driving Ambition Campaign, The Driving Ambition Programme for 2016 is ongoing with inputs carried out at schools as follows (approximately 828 pupils)</p> <p>May – Nairn Academy June – Nairn Academy, Dingwall Academy, Farr High School, Invergordon Academy, Plockton High School and Thurso High School August – Culloden Academy, Lochaber High (including Mallaig High and Kilchuimen Academy)</p> <p>Further inputs are planned as follows, (estimated 1015 pupils)</p> <p>September – Dornoch Academy, Golspie High School , Inverness Royal Academy, Kinlochleven Academy, Wick High School October – Alness Academy, Grantown Grammar November – Fortrose Academy, Inverness High School, Millburn Academy</p> <p>Further information on Highland Council run Driving Ambitions campaign can be found at www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads_and_pavements/87/road_safety/3</p>					
Participate in all Police Scotland Road Safety Campaigns and safety initiatives identified through the safer Highland Road Safety Group, including specific targeted campaigns for young and male drivers.	<p>There have been a number of high profile campaigns/operations over the reporting period and will continue throughout 2016/17, a similar programme will be delivered at a local level in collaboration with our partners; the campaigns will focus on priority road safety issues including drink and drug driving, speeding, motorcyclists and other vulnerable road users.</p>					
Trunk Road/Divisional Policing Units to conduct a targeted motorcycle campaign each Spring.	<p>Motorcycle Campaign- Operation Zenith ran between 25th March and 30th September 2016 with specific weekends of action in relation to Motorcycles taking place on 25-27/03/16, 30/04-02/05/16, 28/05-30/05/16, 25/06/-26/06/16, 30/07-01/08/16, 17/09-19/09/16. The focus of the campaign is on improving rider behaviour particularly aimed at the contributory factors which result in riders being killed or seriously injured.</p>					

PRIORITY 2 – Alcohol and Drugs Abuse/Misuse						
Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Licensed Premises Checks	3110.08	3556.66	3408	2772	636	<p>Without doubt by working collectively and constructively with licensees we are better placed to achieve our primary focus of keeping people safe. The Area Commanders in Highland have been working hard to ensure that visits to licensed premises are meaningful and our relationships with licensees are positive.</p> <p>Within the Highland area we are working to increase the number of visits to licensed premises in line with our key priorities in terms of visibility.</p>
Conduct a test purchasing operation within each of the Inspector led areas each year.	A number of Test Purchasing Operations have been carried out in the Highland area during the past year, with further operations being planned. The scheme consists of a fully briefed teenager (under 18 years of age) entering licensed premises under controlled conditions and in line with agreed guidelines to purchase alcohol. By taking part in these operations young volunteers are helping to protect their peers from potentially being a victim of or involved in crime, and the physical and emotional affects that potentially come with. They are effectively assisting in keeping friends, family and entire communities safe.					
In conjunction with the Safer Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership introduce an advisory 'signpost' letter outlining available assistance for alcohol, drugs and violence issues to all custodies/ those issued with fixed penalties.	The 'signpost' letter was given to all custodies / those issued with fixed penalties from 1 st April 2015. The letter is a standard format and accompanied by an information sheet with contact details for local support organisations. All persons are assessed by the Custody Sgt and asked key questions regarding issues they may suffer, they are asked if they wish to be referred to partner agencies or given information, the custodies wishes determine what action will then be taken. A member of NHS nursing staff is permanently on duty in the custody suite, they assess custodies who may have relevant issues, this allows the custody to be signposted to relevant services in a confidential manner.					
As part of the ADP contribute to the development and conduct of a targeted drug and alcohol awareness campaign for school children (e.g. Safer Highlander).	A range of initiatives are taking place with local community officers visiting schools, youth groups and community events to help raise awareness and educate young people on the dangers of Drugs and New Psychoactive Substances. The Safe Highlander events continue to be run annually throughout the area and contains inputs on drugs and alcohol. At this years Belladrum Music festival Police Scotland safer communities department attended and carried out targeted "Safe Festival" education which centred on drugs and alcohol education. This was well received with a large number of persons attending the police stand.					

<p>Support multi-agency events including Rock Challenge.</p>	<p>Rock Challenge 2016 took place in Eden Court, Inverness from 19th - 21st April.</p> <p>Rock Challenge is a performing arts event that promotes positive life choices and has been held in Eden Court each year since 2011. The key aim is to utilise the performing arts to divert and dissuade young people from involvement in antisocial behaviour including substance misuse. Over the past 5 years, more than 2300 opportunities have been created for young people from schools across Highland to participate and be their best. The event has proved so popular that it has now been extended from 1 to 3 days. This year the event was also supported by the Scottish Government's 'Choices for Life' programme which, locally, we are utilising to raise awareness around the dangers of substance misuse - especially New Psychotic Substances (NPS).</p> <p>The Scottish finals took place in June 2016 with half of the finalists travelling down from the Highland region and included: Alness Academy, Dingwall Academy, Invergordon Academy (first- time entry in the Rock Challenge event), Millburn Academy and Thurso High School.</p> <p>Alness Academy took first place and crowned Scottish champions with Dingwall Academy placing fourth.</p> <p>As a Division we recognise the impact of diversionary activities on young people's behaviour and lifestyle choices. The positive effect that events such as Rock Challenge have on our communities cannot be underestimated, it is also very pleasing to see the high level of success by Highland Schools in this event, particularly Alness Academy taking first place.</p> <p>Rock Challenge 2017 heats will again take place in Eden Court, Inverness from 3rd – 5th April 2017 and we will continue to be actively involved in this event.</p>					
<p>Increase the number of offences reported for the supply or being concerned with the supply of drugs.</p>	<p>100.2</p>	<p>73.7</p>	<p>93</p>	<p>81</p>	<p>-12</p>	<p>These figures relate to detections for drugs supply, productions and cultivations. Over a short period of time a number of factors can cause a fluctuation in figures. There are currently a number of ongoing enquiries in relation to drugs supply offences throughout the area.</p>

PRIORITY 3 – Antisocial Behaviour/Disorder						
Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Number of antisocial behaviour incidents recorded.	4660.2	3339.0	3014	2691	-323	It is reassuring to see incidents of antisocial behaviour fall within the reporting period, resulting in fewer victims of crime
Contribute to the Safer Highland Antisocial Behaviour Group initiatives and campaigns to reduce antisocial behaviour.	In this reporting period continued focus has been given to the Inverness Response Team, daily briefings with partner agencies are carried out to identify problematic addresses and carry out effective coordinated early interventions. The Safer Caithness Group has been instigated and meets twice weekly to discuss problematic address/individuals, this has resulted in a positive impact on antisocial behaviour calls. The effect of the ongoing multi-agency partnership working is proving successful in ensuring a real positive outcome for reducing incidents, plans are being developed to develop response teams throughout the Highlands.					
Reduce the number of Section 38 Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 Offence- Threatening and Abusive Behaviour Crimes	728.8	721.7	685	673	-12	Threatening and Abusive Behaviour.
Reduce the number of Breach of the Peace	368.0	215.3	155	95	-60	
Reduce the occurrences of common assault	1093.4	1037.7	1036	1062	26	During the reporting period there has been a slight rise in incidents of common assault, this figure includes assault on emergency workers.
Reduce the level of serious assaults, petty assaults, breach of the peace, vandalism and antisocial behaviour in the top 3 beats with the highest levels of incidents.	Police Scotland are utilising a ward trending tool. This product is monitored by the Divisional Flexible policing Unit. This enhanced analysis has allowed us to direct resources and focus on emerging issues. In addition to the ward trending tool, Area Inspectors prepare weekly analytical recommendations, these are designed to provide focus and direction to officers around local emerging issues.					
Reduce the number of premises currently escalated to Stage 3 noisy behaviour through Operation Notebook.	At the end of this reporting period there are 5 premises at Stage 3 for noisy behaviour in relation to Operation Notebook. Positive multi-agency working has meant that issues identified have been resolved prior to escalation. Premises reach stage 3 if they have had 3 calls to the address each month for 3 months- At stage 1 and 2 multi-agency responses are carried out to try and divert occupants away from their course of behaviour.					
Number of antisocial behaviour orders in place.	There are currently 3 Antisocial Behaviour Orders in place in the Highland area.					
Reduce the incidents of vandalism	898.6	733.0	711	675	-36	Includes Malicious Mischief

Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
In relation to vehicles; increase the use of antisocial behaviour warnings.			58	40	-18	
In relation to vehicles; Increase the number of vehicle seizures for antisocial behaviour.			7	5	-2	

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour - Stop and Searches

	Jun 2015 – Aug 2016	Jun 2015 - Aug 2016 (Positive)	Victims	% Change
Number of stop and searches conducted (total)	890	272		
Number of statutory stop and searches conducted	847	272		
Number of consensual stop and searches conducted	43	-		
Number of consensual stop and searches refused	-	-		
Number of seizures made	-	-		

An enhanced version of the National Stop & Search Database commenced on 1 June 2015. The enhanced database brought significant changes in the process of data capture and the methodology for recording data items. No previous year to date figures are provided as it has been previously acknowledged this data is not 100% accurate, therefore comparisons will provide misleading results or invalid conclusions.

Management Information and data in respect of stop and search can be found on the Police Scotland website via <http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/police-scotland/stop-and-search-data-publication>.

PRIORITY 4 – Crimes of Dishonesty

Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Reduce the number of crimes of dishonesty (Class 3)	1561.0	1391.0	1233	1218	-15	
Increase the detection rate for dishonesties (Class 3)	46.3%	44.2%	49.6%	38.1%	-11.5%	
<p>In partnership with Trading Standards develop and introduce an annual awareness campaign targeted at vulnerable people in respect to dishonesties.</p>	<p>As a division we continue to work with Trading standards on the issue of vulnerable people being victims of crimes of dishonesty and carry out annual prevention and enforcement campaigns</p> <p>The most recent National Doorstep Crime Campaign- Operation Monarda ran between 26th April and 2nd May 2016. Activity centred on two main themes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. On this occasion no bogus workman were detected in the area. The Multi agency days of action have ran successfully for 3 years and have undoubtedly contributed to the significant 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 enabled the Division to utilise additional resources to carry out preventative work; during this reporting period banks, building societies, post offices and building merchants were visited and given advice on how to protect their customers from the activity of bogus workmen. This has had immediate benefits with banks preventing vulnerable customers completing suspicious transactions until it can be confirmed all is in order. 					
<p>Develop and introduce a 'Construction Watch' campaign in order to increase awareness, intelligence and information around plant and building material theft.</p>	<p>Construction Watch was officially launched to the public on the 28th April. Seventeen businesses are now involved in this initiative. Between 28/04/2015 -16/08/2015, 13 incidents were recorded, within the Inverness area, regarding thefts from construction sites or construction vehicles. Between 28/04/2016 -28/08/2016 we had 3 incidents. All of these incidents involved companies not involved in Construction Watch. Work is continuing to promote this initiative among the Construction industry and those involved in Construction</p> <p>The scheme is being further develop with detection equipment being purchased and issued to officers (UV torches), further, further development to this scheme are currently being considered to ensure it remains an effective deterrent to thefts from the construction industry</p>					
<p>Increase membership of Farm Watch</p>	<p>Membership has remained static with in excess of 600 members of Rural Watch (new name of Farm Watch). The purpose of the scheme is to help combat and prevent criminal activity within the farming and wider rural community, by establishing and developing trust and communication pathways between members of the rural community and Highland Division. Although initially targeting the agricultural sector this initiative has been expanded to include the whole of the rural community. The ability to get information out to a large number of persons and the willingness of the community to assist Police has been directly responsible for the successful conclusion of a number of high risk missing person enquiries in our area, this has ultimately saved lives. Any person wishing to sign up to rural watch can do so by calling 101 and asking for PC Dan Sutherland, Wildlife Liaison Officer, Dingwall.</p>					

Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Reduce the number of thefts by housebreaking (including attempts) - Dwelling house/Non dwelling/ Other premises.	179.8	175.7	142	110	-32	It is encouraging to see a significant reduction in crimes of this nature. The effects of these crimes on victims cannot be underestimated and the reduced number of victims is encouraging.
Increase the detection rate for thefts by housebreaking (including attempts)	35.8%	33.6%	33.1%	26.4%	-6.7%	
Reduce theft by shoplifting	299.4	270.3	302	204	-98	The sizeable reduction of incidents of Theft by shoplifting is encouraging and is a positive result for businesses operating in the area.
Reduce the number of thefts from motor vehicles	134.8	126.0	134	145	+11	Includes opening lockfast places-motor vehicle, theft of and from a motor vehicle and attempted theft of a motor vehicle

PRIORITY 5 – Protecting People						
Target	Baseline 5 Year Average	Baseline 3 Year Average	YTD 2015/16	YTD 2016/17	YTD Variation	Context/Narrative
Increase in reporting of sexual crimes	154.4	182.3	217	230	13	
Meet the Police Scotland detection rate target for sexual crimes.	TARGET FOR 2015/16- 81.2%			79.1%		Police Scotland are moving away from targets in relation to crimes of this nature. Enquiries in relation to sexual crimes and domestic abuse are focused on positive outcomes for victims of crime and led by their wishes.
Meet the Police Scotland detection rate target for domestic abuse.	TARGET FOR 2015/16-82.0%			83.0%		
Increase in reporting of Hate crimes			58	33	-25	Extensive work is ongoing to ensure victims have the opportunity and confidence to report hate crimes to Police either directly or through third party reporting services. over the reporting period there has been a reduction in the number of reports, this is indicative of less victims of hate crimes occurring in the area
Ensure that people who report hate incidents feel satisfied with the response received from public agencies.	<p>A Hate Crime Survey is now being sent to all victims of Hate Crime; this survey has been in place since 1st January 2015.</p> <p>During this reporting period 83 surveys were sent out. There was a 21.5% return, the results of which are currently being collated.</p> <p>Members are welcome to see the survey which is also in an easy read format should they wish. The survey has recently been emailed to a councillor who requested further information on this process, this can be emailed to councillors on request.</p>					
In support of the Safer Highland Child Protection, Adult Support and Protections and Violence against Women groups play an active role in preventative initiatives and campaigns.	<p>The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 became law on 27th 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. Following the Supreme Court judgement, which relates only to the information sharing provisions that were intended to come into force under the 2014 Act, not to current practice under GIRFEC policy, the Scottish Government remains absolutely committed to the named person service. It is their ambition to work towards a commencement date for the legislation of August 2017.</p> <p>An intensive 3 month engagement with police, practitioners, parents, charities, young people, those who support the Named Person policy and those with concerns is ongoing. The Children’s Commissioner and the Information Commissioner will be involved throughout.</p> <p>The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland came into force on 1st October 2015. Since the implementation of the scheme, Highlands and Islands Division have received an average of 5 Disclosure applications per month. The scheme operates two entry pathways that may lead to a disclosure being made: ‘Right to Ask’ and ‘Power to Tell’. The Right to Ask pathway allows members of the public to ask for disclosures of information. The person asking for information can be the person at risk themselves or another person (a friend or relative, for example); however, if a disclosure is deemed necessary to protect an individual, it will be given to the person at risk in most</p>					

circumstances. The only occasion when this is not the case is when the person at risk does not have capacity to fully understand the information provided to them. In this situation, a family member, support worker or other professional, who is deemed as the most appropriate person, will receive the information in order to safeguard the person at risk. The power to Tell pathway is the route used by Police and other professional bodies to enable them to initiate pro-active disclosures when they receive information or intelligence about the safety of a person who may be at risk. Highlands and Islands Division have received a similar number of applications from both pathways to date. This scheme will continue to be highlighted to members of the public through regular media releases, in order to continue to raise further awareness.

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.