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| Agenda Item | <b>3.</b>       |
| Report No   | <b>CC/12/17</b> |

## HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**Committee:** Caithness Committee

**Date:** 29 August 2017

**Report Title:** **Police – Area Performance Summary Report**

**Report By:** Chief Inspector Iain MacLelland

### **1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

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

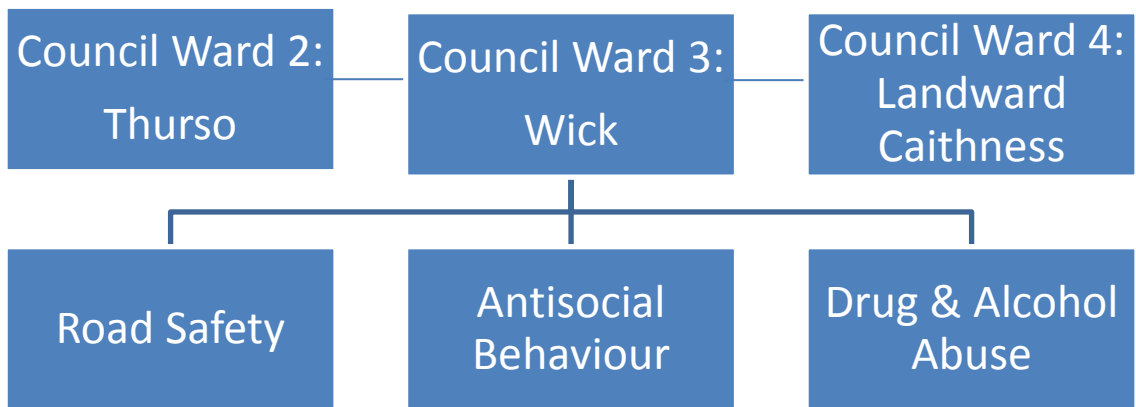
### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Committee is invited to scrutinise and discuss the progress report and updates in relation to the 3 Priorities; Road Safety, Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Misuse and Antisocial Behaviour

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

The Caithness Committee sits within the North Highland Area Command of the Highland and Islands Divisional Policing Structure. The Caithness Committee covers three Multi-Member Wards which each have 3 priorities (in this case each ward has the same priorities):



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

## **Local Policing Plans**

The current Local Policing Plans for 2014-2017 have come to the end of their term.

### **Background**

Police Scotland is committed to developing bespoke Local Policing Plans for each local authority area in Scotland. The Local Policing Plans are a statutory requirement derived from the Police and Fire Reform Act 2012 and demonstrate Police Scotland's legislative responsibility in the delivery of national, corporate and local outcomes.

The content of each Local Policing Plan is based on the following:

- Three year Local Strategic Assessment of the threats that will impact on policing at both Divisional and Local Authority area level. The strategic assessment will provide a true reflection of emerging issues and themes (including harm).

- Results from the Public Consultation 'Your View Counts' survey.
- Divisional contribution within the Community Planning Partnership setting, linking with the corresponding Local Outcome Improvement Plans.
- Local Engagement across communities.

### Future

Without doubt over the last 4 years we have seen significant changes with the creation of a single Scottish Police force; we have now been operating as Police Scotland for over 4 years and you, as an elected member, join us at a pivotal point as we look to the future and shape the way that we deliver services in our communities, with our communities.

The way in which local services are delivered is changing and recognition that organisations; both public and private sector, need to constructively share and problem solve is crucial to the future of how we operate. In moving forward, we are committed to collectively implementing the Community Empowerment Act with our partners, implementing a holistic and preventative agenda increasing our ability to deter and divert those who pose a risk to our communities and ensure that the Caithness area remains one of the safest places to live in the United Kingdom

### C3 Project

As part of the remodelling of control rooms across Scotland, work is ongoing which will see the relocation of control room functions for N Division to Dundee.

Phone calls from the public will be answered in one of the Police Scotland Service Centres and thereafter controlled from Dundee.

At present the ongoing work is focusing on the testing of systems and training and briefing staff. Inverness Control room will see a change in function and will be developed into a data base enquiry unit to carry out checks for operational officers across Scotland.

A Member of the project team will be available to attend this area meeting and answer any questions from Members on the ongoing work of this project.

### 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.

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

During June 2017, Driving Ambition presentation ran at Thurso High School and will run at Wick High School during September 2017.

### **Caithness Summary (1 April 2016- 31 March 2017) -**

There have been four fatal collisions in the Caithness & Sutherland area during this reporting period:

- Collision occurred on A9 at Stainland, Thurso and involved 5 vehicles. The driver of one vehicle sustained fatal injuries, while the driver of another vehicle has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- One vehicle collision which occurred at A99 at Wick. The driver sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene.
- Collision occurred on A836 at John o' Groats. One vehicle collided with a pedestrian who sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The below tables provide an overview of figures for the Caithness Area; these figures relate to the reporting period -1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>th</sup> March 2017:

| <b>CAITHNESS</b>                | <b>15/16<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b>                                    |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Drink/Drug Driving (Detections) | 43                    | 27                    | -16 (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.

### **Caithness Summary (1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017)-**

There have been no fatal road collisions in the Caithness area during this reporting period.

The below table provide an overview of figures for the Caithness Area; these figures relate to the reporting period -1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017:

| <b>CAITHNESS</b>                | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>17/18<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b>                                      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Drink/Drug Driving (Detections) | 14                    | 10                    | -4<br>(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 the Caithness and wider Highland area, the tactical approach being taken by the Division involves targeting speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving and seatbelts.

### 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>th</sup> March 2017

| NORTH HIGHLAND                           | 15/16<br>FYTD | 16/17<br>FYTD | Variation |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Speeding<br>(Detections)                 | 1735          | 1238          | - 497     |
| Seatbelt Offences<br>(Detections)        | 264           | 187           | - 87      |
| Mobile Phone<br>Offences<br>(Detections) | 245           | 138           | - 107     |

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

### 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017

| NORTH HIGHLAND                           | 16/17<br>FYTD | 17/18<br>FYTD | Variation |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Speeding<br>(Detections)                 | 487           | 519           | +32       |
| Seatbelt Offences<br>(Detections)        | 77            | 41            | -36       |
| Mobile Phone<br>Offences<br>(Detections) | 73            | 35            | -38       |

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

The NC500 route continues to be 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. There have been no incidents of note in connection with reports of NC 500 driver behaviour in the Caithness area.

All reports of anti-social driving on the NC 500 are followed up by Police and if traced, the drivers spoken to or charged as appropriate.

### Operations/Campaigns

The following campaigns have been running recently throughout the Division:

The annual Motorcycle Safety Campaign – Operation Zenith - commenced on Friday 24 March 2017 and runs until Sunday 1 October 2017.

Road Policing officers will deliver a 6 month period of focused activity around motorcycle safety, including engagement, education and enforcement. Rider

behaviour and speeding are significant contributory factors in collisions involving motorcycles. The robust enforcement of these offences will be delivered via speed checks and high visibility patrols on key routes

## 2. Priority 2- Alcohol and Drugs Abuse/Misuse

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

Between 01 April 2016 and 31 March 2017 there were two drug related deaths in Caithness.

Between 01 April 2017 and 31 July 2017 there were two drug related deaths in Caithness.

Following these deaths a period of enforcement followed and search warrants were granted and executed in several addresses in Caithness.

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers conducted a leaflet drop in Wick, raising awareness and vigilance in the community, Crimestoppers leaflets were delivered. This was very well received by the local community.

Rock challenge took place in the Highland area with a large rate of participation, 4 schools made it to the national finals – Thurso, Invergordon, Alness and Dingwall. Planning is now commencing for the 2018 Rock challenge. This event is very successful in promoting positive lifestyle choices.

### **Caithness Performance Summary (1 April 2016- 31 March 2017)-**

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 April 2016 and March 2017, 1517 licensed premises checks were carried out in the Caithness area (14.5% of all checks carried out in H&I).

| <b>NORTH HIGHLAND</b>  | <b>15/16<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b>  |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections) | 41                    | 34                    | - 7<br>(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.

### **Caithness Performance Summary (1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017)-**

Between April and July 2017, 340 licensed premises checks were carried out in the Caithness area, this represents 12.5% of all licensed premises checks carried out in Highland and Islands (340 checks out of 2728 checks).

| <b>NORTH HIGHLAND</b>  | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>17/18<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b>   |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections) | 10                    | 12                    | +2<br>(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.

Police Scotland has an established National Stop and Search Unit to provide scrutiny and governance around the use of this policing tactic.

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

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.

Operation Notebook continues to identify and deal with offenders at an early stage. 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.

An appendix outlining the process of Operation Notebook is attached to this report for the reference of new members.

There is currently one residence in the Caithness area meeting criteria for referral to Operation Notebook. Police continue to liaise directly with the local authority and there is ongoing discussion regarding the householder signing up to an anti -social behaviour contract.

The Police Scotland Prevention and Intervention officer has been active in the Caithness area over this current reporting period carrying out security surveys on two premises – Stagecoach Depot and old Wick High School – ongoing targets of vandalism.

**Caithness Performance Summary  
(1 April 2016- 31 March 2017)-**

| <b>NORTH</b>   | <b>15/16<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Breach of the Peace/Threatening &amp; Abusive Behaviour</b> |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 80                    | 55                    | -25              |
| Wick   | 60                    | 46                    | -14              |
| Landward Caithness   | 23                    | 26                    | +3               |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>163</b>            | <b>127</b>            | <b>-36</b>       |
| <b>Common Assault</b>  |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 62                    | 70                    | +8               |
| Wick   | 83                    | 99                    | +16              |
| Landward Caithness   | 30                    | 22                    | -8               |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>175</b>            | <b>191</b>            | <b>+16</b>       |
| <b>Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)</b>                |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 88                    | 92                    | +4               |
| Wick   | 99                    | 92                    | -7               |
| Landward Caithness   | 22                    | 32                    | +10              |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>209</b>            | <b>216</b>            | <b>+7</b>        |

**Caithness Performance Summary  
(1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017)-**

| <b>NORTH</b>   | <b>16/17<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>17/18<br/>FYTD</b> | <b>Variation</b> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Breach of the Peace/Threatening &amp; Abusive Behaviour</b> |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 20                    | 9                     | -11              |
| Wick   | 12                    | 17                    | +5               |
| Landward Caithness   | 11                    | 5                     | -6               |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>43</b>             | <b>31</b>             | <b>-12</b>       |
| <b>Common Assault</b>  |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 35                    | 19                    | -16              |
| Wick   | 28                    | 26                    | -2               |
| Landward Caithness   | 5                     | 9                     | +4               |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>68</b>             | <b>54</b>             | <b>-14</b>       |
| <b>Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)</b>                |                       |                       |                  |
| Thurso   | 31                    | 32                    | +1               |
| Wick   | 30                    | 39                    | +9               |
| Landward Caithness   | 7                     | 7                     | -                |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>68</b>             | <b>78</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. Due to the Scottish Crime Recording standard common assault figures may include historical offence only reported to police during the stated time period.



**Chief Inspector Iain MacLelland  
North Highland Area Commander  
21 August 2017**

Designation: Area Commander

Date: 21 August 2017

Author: Chief Inspector Iain MacLelland

Background Papers: Progress made against the objectives set within the Highland Policing plan 2014-2017 Year 3 (extended) covering 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 and 1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Operation Notebook**

“To make people feel, and be safer by tackling anti-social behaviour in and around residential properties within our communities”

Local Authority/Police Joint Strategy

- Encouraging reporting of antisocial behaviour at the earliest opportunity and then early intervention
- Better reassurance to the public of the ongoing work undertaken by agencies in tackling anti-social behaviour
- Supporting victims of anti-social behaviour
- Continuing to focus on the use of education, prevention & intervention methods with a view to reducing future antisocial offending
- 

What is Operation Notebook?

This operation involves targeting problematic residential addresses with a “3 stage” process and requires close working practices between Local Authority, Housing providers and Police Scotland.

Process - Police regularly analyse and review repeat calls to residential properties. Should an address receive three or more instances of police attendance for anti-social related disorder, liaison is carried out with relevant housing provider. Thereafter follows a three tiered process, although proceedings can start at any level depending on the severity of the anti-social behaviour:

Level 1: A local police officer will attend at the address and speak to the householder regarding the nature of the complaint. This visit is also followed up by an acknowledgement letter.

Level 2: A local police sergeant and representative of housing provider will carry out a visit.

Level 3: The Area Commander will carry out a warning, usually taking place at the Police Station, in the presence of the Housing provider. An anti-social behaviour contact will be signed at this time.

Should Level 3 be breached, Housing will initiate the eviction process.

Outcomes - Reduced number of repeat calls to residential addresses

Jointly saved resourcing and costs of responding to complaints of anti-social behaviour

Residents affected by anti-social behaviour have confidence in services to effectively tackle anti-social behaviour.