

Agenda Item	6.
Report No	SCC/13/17

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Sutherland County Committee

Date: 13 September 2017

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

Report By: Chief Inspector Iain MacLelland

Purpose/Executive Summary

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.

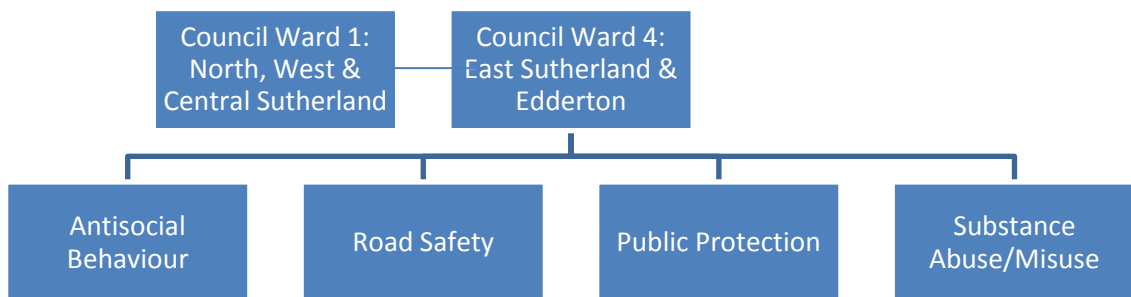
2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are invited to scrutinise and discuss the progress report and updates in relation to the 4 Priorities; Road Safety, Substance Abuse/Misuse, Antisocial Behaviour, Public Protection.

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 Sutherland Committee sits within the North Highland Area Command of the Highland and Islands Divisional Policing Structure. The Sutherland Committee covers 2 Multi-Member Wards, which combined have 4 priorities:



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 Sutherland 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.

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.

Safe Highlanders is an annual event that promotes community safety, health and crime prevention to pupils. During June 2017, in Lairg, Primary 7 pupils got their chance to experience a number of potentially hazardous situations and participate in a range of simulated practical exercises.

Pupils acquire lifesaving skills including first aid, fire and water safety, safety on roads and internet safety. Children are also presented with the dangers of electricity, building sites and substance misuse.

After the event, it is hoped that children become more aware of personal safety. Potentially, it is hoped they avoid becoming victims of crime, understand how to react to emergency situations and their chances of becoming good citizen's increases.

Preventative work has continued with Driving Ambition inputs carried out in Dornoch Academy with further inputs planned for later in 2017.

**Sutherland Summary
(1 April 2016- 31 March 2017) -**

There have been two fatal collisions in the Sutherland area during this reporting period -

- A9, North of Clashmore, Dornoch – This was a one vehicle collision where a pedestrian sustained fatal injuries.
- Unclassified road, A9, North Helmsdale – This incident involved one vehicle where a pedestrian sustained fatal injuries.

(1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017) –

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

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 Sutherland 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.

The below tables provide an overview of figures for the Sutherland Area; these figures relate to the reporting period –

1st April 2016 to 31 March 2017:

Sutherland	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Drink/Drug Driving (Detections)	21	18	- 3 (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.

1st April 2017 – 31 July 2017

Sutherland	16/17 FYTD	17/18 FYTD	Variation
Drink/Drug Driving (Detections)	8	5	- 3 (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 Sutherland and wider Highland area, the tactical approach being taken by the Division involves targeting speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving and seatbelts.

1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017

NORTH	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Speeding (Detections)	1735	1238	-497
Seatbelt Offences (Detections)	264	187	-77
Mobile Phone Offences (Detections)	245	138	-107

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

1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017

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

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

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 or suffer less serious injury if involved in a collision.

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- Substance Abuse/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.

1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 – there were no drug related deaths in Sutherland in the reporting period.

1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017 – there were no drug related deaths in Sutherland in this current reporting period.

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

Sutherland 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.

Since April 2016, 3585 licensed premises checks have been carried out in the North Highland area, this represents 34.1% of all checks carried out in Highland and Islands Division (3585 out of 10501 checks).

NORTH	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections)	41	34	-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.

(1 April 2017 – 31 July 2017)-

Since April 2017, 1112 licensed premises checks have been carried out in the North Highland area, this represents 40.1% of all checks carried out in Highland and Islands Division (1112 out of 2728 checks).

NORTH	16/17 FYTD	17/18 FYTD	Variation
Supply of Drugs or being concerned in the supply of drugs (Detections)	10	12	+2 (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 now established a National Stop and Search Unit to provide scrutiny and governance around the use of this policing tactic.

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.

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

There are no premises in the Sutherland area currently under Operation Notebook.

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

SUTHERLAND	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Breach of the Peace/Threatening & Abusive Behaviour			
North, West and Central Sutherland	7	9	+2
East Sutherland and Edderton	24	33	+9
TOTAL:	31	42	+11
Common Assault			
North, West and Central Sutherland	12	13	+1
East Sutherland and Edderton	30	33	+3
TOTAL:	42	46	+4
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)			
North, West and Central Sutherland	12	13	+2
East Sutherland and Edderton	37	24	-12
TOTAL:	49	37	-12

* 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.

(1 April 2017- 31 July 2017)-

SUTHERLAND	16/17 FYTD	17/18 FYTD	Variation
Breach of the Peace/Threatening & Abusive Behaviour			
North, West and Central Sutherland	5	3	-2
East Sutherland and Edderton	8	12	+4
TOTAL:	13	15	+2
Common Assault			
North, West and Central Sutherland	5	5	-
East Sutherland and Edderton	10	17	+7
TOTAL:	15	22	+7
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)			
North, West and Central Sutherland	4	5	+1
East Sutherland and Edderton	3	18	+15
TOTAL:	7	23	+16

* 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.

4. Priority 4- Public Protection

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.

As part of Police Scotland's programme of continued improvement, the Highland and Islands Risk and Concern Hub developed proposals in conjunction with NHS Highland and SFRS Highland & Islands on how to best improve practices in dealing with the increasing volume of wellbeing concern reports regarding adults with situational vulnerabilities.

Individuals at increased risk of fire are often from hard to reach groups and are likely to be known to statutory and voluntary organisations in Health and Social care. As such, it is evident that a stronger partnership approach is the only effective way to continue to reduce the risk of fire, and fire related fatalities and casualties.

Whilst officers continue to raise specific concerns to SFRS via use of the form FPF-45(a) (Request for Home Fire Safety Visit), it was assessed that sharing of concern forms directly from the Vulnerable Persons Database with SFRS, with explicit informed consent, is the most practical and encompassing means of legally and proportionately ensuring risks are highlighted to SFRS.

This process, in addition to the use of form FPF-45(a) and Adult Support and Protection referrals, provides robust audit and scrutiny.

An Information Sharing Agreement was prepared and agreed with SFRS. This is now being reviewed nationally with a view to rolling out this process across Scotland as best practice.

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

NORTH	15/16 FYTD	16/17 FYTD	Variation
Domestic Abuse Reported Crimes ¹	529	493	-36
Domestic Abuse Crimes - Detection Rate ²	80.7%	76.1%	-4.6%
Hate Crime ³	42	31	-11
Sexual Crimes	195	232	+37

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.

(1 April 2017- 31 July 2017)-

NORTH	16/17 FYTD	17/18 FYTD	Variation
Domestic Abuse Crimes ⁴	200	144	-56
Domestic Abuse Crimes - Detection Rate ⁵	79.5%	66%	-13.5%
Hate Crime ⁶	15	12	-3
Sexual Crimes	88	37	-51

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.

¹Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

²Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

³Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

⁴Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

⁵Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

⁶Police Scotland ScOMIS Performance System Figures

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
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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.