

Introduction



As Local Police Commander I am pleased to present this policing plan update covering the first 9 months of 2019/20. This update relates directly to our East Renfrewshire Policing Plan 2017/20, which is available on the Police Scotland website. The policing plan highlights the issues of most concern in our communities and it emphasises our commitment to addressing these concerns. As you are aware, we recently consulted on our new plan for 2020/23 and am delighted to be able to present Cabinet members with

the first draft of this Local Policing Plan for East Renfrewshire. This documents the community priorities that we will be focusing on in the next three years.

We have well established partnerships within East Renfrewshire and I am confident that through the various partner activities we undertake, we are improving the quality of life for people in East Renfrewshire. We recently worked with a range of partner agencies to deliver our Festive Safety Action Plan. This plan covered a variety of aspects and included a joint licensing initiative, provision of home safety advice and high visibility patrols in the busiest shopping areas. Through the best use of resources, we were able to deliver an appropriate policing plan for the Festive Season which enhanced public safety and delivered a reduction in disorder related calls compared to the same period last year.

Antisocial Behaviour & Disorder

ASB Calls to Police

195

compared to last year



Antisocial behaviour calls made to the Police are down by 195 compared to last year.

Crimes of vandalism recorded are down 39 compared to last year and 78 against the 5 year average.

Vandalism

39

compared to last year

Local Policing Priority – Antisocial behaviour and disorder

National Policing Priority – Violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour

Fairer East Ren Plan—Reducing social isolation, loneliness and increasing safety

Anti-social behaviour remains a community priority and we have ran a number of action plans in the past quarter aimed at preventing disorder. In the first 9 months of this year, there have been 195 fewer calls made to the Police compared to last year regarding incidents of anti-social behaviour. Crimes of vandalism are also down from 341 to 302 in the first 9 months of this year and also against the 5 year average which is 380.

East Renfrewshire Local Policing Plan (2017-2020) Quarterly Report (Q3 — 2019/20)

Violent Crime

Serious Assaults

6

compared to last year



There has been a decrease in serious assaults to 20, compared to 26 for the same period last year.

Crimes of Violence

63

compared to last year

The number of reported robberies has reduced from 8 to 6.

Local Policing Priority – Violent Crime

National Policing Priority – Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

Fairer East Ren Plan—Reducing social isolation, loneliness & increasing safety

Reducing and preventing violent crime remains a key priority and whilst there has been a reduction in serious violent crimes, the number of common assaults recorded continues to be higher than last year with 345 crimes having been reported compared to 275 last year. Due to the higher incidence of these crimes, this has resulted in an overall increase in crimes of violence in the first 9 months of this year compared to last year's figures.

As reported previously, we remain continue to see a rise in incidents of domestic abuse. A number of the assaults referenced above are domestic in nature and compared to the same period last year, the number of domestic abuse crimes has increased from 185 to 257. The number of reported incidents is also up from 259 to 281. As you can see, the number of crimes being recorded as a result of incidents is greater. This is an indication that not only are victims more willing to speak to Police officers when they arrive, but also that officers are utilising their additional training to secure all available information.

Public Protection

Local Policing Priority – Child Abuse Including Child Sexual Exploitation

Sexual Crimes

2

Compared to last year

During the first 9 months of 2019/20, there has been a similar trend in the reporting of sexual crimes with 114 victims having come forward compared to 112 last year. We continue to adopt a 'victim centered' approach to sexual crime so that victims have the confidence to report ongoing and historical incidents.



Acquisitive Crime

Number of Victims

6

compared to last year



Homes Being Broken Into

The number of homes having been broken into is down from 71 to 65 compared to the same period last year.

Our detection rate is currently 31% which has increased from the same period last year.

Detection Rate

31%

Up from 27% last year

Local Policing Priority – Homes Being Broken Into

National Policing Priority – Acquisitive Crime

Over the first nine months of this year, there has been 6 less victims of domestic housebreaking against last year's figures with 65 crimes being reported as opposed to 71 at the same point last year. This is also significantly lower than the 5 year average where there were 98 victims of domestic housebreaking.

Detecting those responsible for housebreaking can at times be difficult and protracted however, with the skills of the attending officers in carrying out door to door, capturing CCTV evidence and support from our specialist teams, we have improved the ability to detect those responsible for these crimes.

In the past quarter, Local Problem Solving Team officers carried out a number of 'pop up events' at various locations including community centres and supermarkets where they have provided crime prevention advice in relation to home security and doorstep crime.

Drug Dealing & Misuse

Local Policing Priority – Drug Dealing & Misuse

National Policing Priority – Protecting People At Risk of Harm



There has been continued proactivity through 2019 with seizures of a variety of controlled drugs with several arrests being made. The number of cases submitted to the Procurator Fiscal for persons involved in the supply, production and cultivation of drugs has decreased from 28 to 19 compared to the same period last year. However, our officers continue to develop intelligence and apply for search warrants where there is a suggestion that drug dealing is taking place. We continue to rely on support from members of the public reporting people that they suspect of being involved in the supply of controlled drugs.

TACKLING VIOLENT CRIME

Local Policing Priority – Violent Crime

In December, our Local Authority Liaison Officer, PC Petrie, arranged for the Young Persons Steering Group to receive a presentation on 'Honour Based Violence'. This was delivered by Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid who are a well-established group providing support to women, children and young people who are fleeing from domestic abuse. Feedback from the group was that this input was very informative and it is hoped that further presentations will be delivered to different groups of people in the future.

TACKLING ACQUISITIVE CRIME

**Local Policing Priority – Homes Being Broken Into
National Policing Priority – Acquisitive Crime**

In November, a report was received of a male breaking into a house in the Newton Mearns area. Officers attended and apprehended the male after he made off, he was detained in custody to appear at court the following day. After carrying out enquiries, officers linked this male to two further housebreakings in the same area earlier in November. He was also identified by forensic evidence for several more crimes from the start of the year.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR & DISORDER

In November, we ran a successful action plan on Fireworks night. The previous year, we had experienced a significant amount of disorder involving youths around Muirend pavilion. By supplementing local officers with Special Constables, we implemented dedicated patrols, confiscated a large amount of fireworks through the evening and noted a significant reduction in disorder compared to last year.

During the festive season, we ran a Licensing Initiative supported by East Renfrewshire Councils Licensing Department. We visited every licensed premise across the local authority giving special attention to venues that were hosting festive 'party nights'. During these visits, we reviewed arrangements and provided materials such as bottle covers to promote safe drinking.

COUNTER TERRORISM AND DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

National Policing Priority – Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

We remain focused on delivering the CONTEST strategy. Our Counter Terrorism Liaison Officers have been continuing to provide advice and training to local businesses, to mitigate the threat of a terrorist attack and build their resilience to respond to one, should it occur. In November, Local Problem Solving Team officers provided CT security advice to local places of worship.

SIGNIFICANT DRUG SEIZURES

Local Policing Priority – Drugs Dealing and Misuse

In December, officers from our Local Problem Solving Team were on patrol in the Giffnock area when they searched a 21 year old male who they had reasonable cause to suspect was in possession of controlled drugs. They subsequently recovered 24 'deals' of cocaine from this individual and a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Later the same month, local officers were on patrol in Thornliebank when they searched another individual who was suspected of being possession of controlled drugs. A variety of drugs, including supply amount of cocaine and ecstasy, were recovered. A 24 year old male has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal in relation to this incident.

ROADS SAFETY

National Policing Priority – Road Safety and Road Crime

This national priority is frequently highlighted when we speak with communities.

In the first 9 months of 2019, there has not been a single fatality in road crashes in East Renfrewshire. The number of people being injured in road crashes also continues to fall which is positive. We continue to listen to community concerns about speeding in their area. Local officers and also Roads Policing have carried out road checks at locations across the Local Authority. In the first 9 months of 2019, we have engaged with drivers to promote road safety with 22 drivers being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for driving dangerously. We have also reported 39 people for driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



EFFECTIVE PREVENTION & PARTNERSHIPS

**Local Policing Priorities - Violent Crime - Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder
National Policing Priority – Protecting People At Risk of Harm**

Festive Initiative

In addition to working closely with ERC's Licensing Department and licensed premises throughout our festive campaign, our officers were keen to speak with as many different groups of people as possible to provide festive safety advice. As a result, they held events in a variety of premises including Eastwood Health Centre and The Foundry in Barrhead to try and meet with people who otherwise would not have come in contact with the Police.

Campus Police Officers

Our Campus Police Officers continue to work in East Renfrewshire schools. Throughout the last quarter, they have delivered a diversionary programme in conjunction with a local animal charity. The charity is accredited by the Scottish Qualifications Authority and the individuals attending the programme work towards gaining a national certificate in either Rural Skills or Personal/Vocational Skills. The schools have reported that they had seen a dramatic increase in the attendance and the behaviour of the youths involved.

**PUBLIC PROTECTION
Local Policing Priorities – Child abuse and child sexual exploitation & Violent Crime
National Policing Priority – Protecting People At Risk of Harm**

I have previously reported on the work of the MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference), now established within East Renfrewshire. In December, officers from the Domestic Abuse Task Force visited Giffnock Police Office to provide an update on the referral process, which ensures that victims most at risk, receive the appropriate level of support.

In October, one of our Problem Solving Sergeants attended a seminar on the 'Risk of Financial Harm' in communities. This has improved his knowledge of the most current scams being used against vulnerable members of the public. As such, he was able to incorporate this into the continuing joint work with ERC Trading Standards to increase awareness and prevent individuals from losing money to criminals that are intent on causing harm.

CONCLUSION

As Local Police Commander responsible for policing services in East Renfrewshire, I am pleased to present this update on our policing activities in the third quarter of the year and share some of the positive outcomes achieved. Thank you sincerely for your continued support and access to vital roles and assets.

Chief Superintendent
Hazel Hendren
Divisional Commander