

POLICE SCOTLAND
GREATER GLASGOW DIVISION
REPORT TO EAST RENFREWSHIRE CABINET
POLICE PERFORMANCE OVER THE 2nd QUARTER
OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/2019

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members of East Renfrewshire Cabinet on police performance over the second quarter of the financial year 2018/2019.

Local Management

Chief Superintendent Brian McNulty continues as Divisional Commander of Greater Glasgow Division.

Chief Inspector John McQuilter is the Area Commander, East Renfrewshire supported by his Deputy Area Commander Inspector Bryan McGeogh and Constable Jacqueline Petrie, Local Authority Liaison Officer.

East Renfrewshire Policing Plan 2017-2020

The priorities within the policing plan were identified through engagement and consultation across East Renfrewshire. The results of our annual community consultation combined with crime analysis and resource demands have led to the following priorities being identified:-

1. Homes Being Broken Into
2. Anti-social Behaviour and Disorder
3. Violent Crime
4. Drug Dealing and Misuse
5. Child Abuse Including Child Sexual Exploitation

Introduction

As Local Police Commander I am pleased to present this policing plan update covering the second quarter of 2018/19. 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. We continue to provide local community information and updates via community meetings, face-to-face interactions, traditional and social media, however, our regular Cabinet updates help us highlight progress across the policing area.

Personally, I remain totally focused on doing everything possible to drive down crime and maintain record high levels of detections. To achieve these outcomes, I am convinced more than ever that we must work together to exploit opportunities to improve people's lives – keeping people safe, protecting the vulnerable, targeting offenders and making environmental improvements to help foster a true sense of community wellbeing. To help emphasise the importance of maintaining a collaborative approach, this update highlights how our activities link to the objectives highlighted in our policing plan and the focus areas laid out in the Fairer East Ren Plan.

East Renfrewshire Police Scotland Youth Volunteers are now well established and continue to grow in confidence and have been actively involved in a number of events in the community. As a group they receive ongoing training and inputs on current issues affecting young people.

East Renfrewshire continue to part fund school campus officers across the authority. The campus officers are an integral part of how we deliver Local Policing Plan objectives as identified by communities. They have delivered presentations on "stranger danger", road safety, bullying, internet safety, drugs and alcohol, to primary schools pupils. In addition, secondary school pupils received, amongst other things, inputs on No Knives Better Lives, drugs awareness, water safety, internet safety, anti-social behaviour, fireworks, cyber bullying and hate crime. They also assisted in the very successful "Safety in the Park" which involved scenarios of the above mentioned topics.

Our Local Authority Liaison Officer along with East Renfrewshire Council continue to highlight and roll out the "I am Me" and the "Keep Safe Premises" initiative throughout communities. The initiative works with local businesses to create safe places for vulnerable individuals who may need support when they are out in their community. Having an awareness that places exist that provide refuge in times of need will build confidence in those individuals who are isolated as a result of their vulnerability and will help encourage them to use the facilities available to them thereby having a positive impact on the Fairer East Ren Plan.

From the discussions at the last Cabinet meeting and where available, I have included additional information of 5 year average figures which gives some more context around our performance within East Renfrewshire. In this report you will see a marked increase in crimes of violence however, this is due to the refreshed reporting process and not due to an increase in actual violence.

Summary of Performance – April to September 2018

Local Policing Priority – Homes being broken into

National Policing Priority – Acquisitive Crime

We are committed to our focus on preventing and detecting crimes of dishonesty including homes being broken into.

Our objectives include a commitment to:

- Raise awareness of crime prevention and encourage crime prevention tactics to protect homes against theft;
- Focus on intelligence in relation to offenders and locations;
- Undertake high visibility patrols in priority areas.

There continues to a reduction in this year's figures from YTD last year and against the 5 year average however, over this quarter the detection rate has slipped slightly. Our uniformed officers continue to provide a visible presence throughout the local community and a team of dedicated officers continues to investigate all such crimes across Greater Glasgow Division, seven days a week. This process can at times be protracted however, I am confident that more perpetrators will be identified through the forensic evidence captured at scenes.

In August, local officers carried out an action plan which involved the deployment of plain clothes and uniformed officers to tackle acquisitive crime resulting in several intelligence reports being submitted relating to known offenders. This intelligence was utilised to deploy officers into the right areas at the right times to arrest known housebreakers within East Renfrewshire.

Our Safer Communities Department continue to offer security advice within the community.

Crime	Period		% Change
Homes broken into (inc attempts)	April 2018 – Sept 2018	44	-10.2%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	49	
	April - Sept (5 year average)	68	
Detection Rates	Period		% Change
Homes broken into (inc attempts)	April 2018 – Sept 2018	13.6%	-8.8%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	22.4%	
	April – Sept (5 year average)	27.4%	

Local Policing Priority – Anti-social behaviour and disorder

National Policing Priority – Violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour

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

Anti-social behaviour remains a community priority and we continue to focus efforts on preventing disorder. Our objectives include:

- Influencing young people, by using our dedicated school campus officers to help them understand the impact ASB has on communities;
- Identify and analyse repeat callers reporting ASB, instigating appropriate measures to address underlying issues;
- Maximise opportunities to reduce ASB and disorder through Greater Results in Partnership (GRIP).

We continue to see a significant decrease of almost 20% compared to last year regarding incidents of anti-social behaviour. This is similar to the reduction in quarter 1 which is partly due to the partnership approach to tackling ASB by working with Community Safety, Housing, Scottish Fire and Rescue and the Campus Officer's inputs at schools. We continue to deploy resources to 'hot spot' areas and have seen the trend reducing however, we still encourage the Community to report this type of behaviour. Our focus remains on preventing disorder and anti-social behaviour and we task our problem solving teams accordingly after discussions at the weekly GRIP meeting.

Disorder			
Issue	Period	No. of Complaints	% Change
Complaints of Disorder	April 2018 – Sept 2018	1250	-19.9%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	1560	
Consuming alcohol	April 2018 – Sept 2018	28	-37.8%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	45	
	April -Sept (5 year average)	99.8	
Vandalism	April 2018 – Sept 2018	216	-33.5%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	325	
	April -Sept (5 year average)	276.2	

Local Policing Priority – Violent crime

National Policing Priority – Violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour

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

Reducing and preventing violent crime remains a key priority and our objectives in this area include:

- Adopt a partnership approach to increase community awareness, particularly in schools, about the gravity of weapon carrying to prevent serious violence;
- Develop ways of increasing intelligence on alcohol related violence to identify the most vulnerable people and areas;
- Encourage third party reporting of domestic abuse;
- Work with specialist departments to identify repeat victims of domestic abuse.

Overall crimes of violence include - Murder, Attempt Murder, Culpable Homicide, Serious Assault, Culpable and Reckless Conduct, Robbery, Assault with Intent to Rob, Common Assault and Common Assault on an Emergency Worker.

There has been a 19.9% reduction in the total number of crimes of violence however, analysis highlights that despite serious assaults increasing, common assaults have decreased and there has been a significant reduction in robberies against last year's figures. Detection rates remain high for all three crime types which is welcome news however, our focus remains on preventing these crimes and visibility within the community is key to prevention. There does not appear to be any pattern or any indication as to why there has been an increase in serious assaults but further detections are likely through the investigations carried out by attending officers, evidence obtained from witnesses and the CID.

In August we encountered a significant issue within Overlee Park which resulted in 3 males being seriously assaulted however, we are pleased to report that 2 males were arrested and reported to the Procurator Fiscal regarding that incident.

We remain focused on dealing quickly and effectively with incidents of domestic abuse and compared to the same period last year, the number of domestic abuse crimes has reduced which is a welcomed trend however, there has also been a slight reduction in detection rates. The number of reported incidents is shown and as you will see, not all reports result in a crime.

The reduction in domestic abuse crimes is good news however, we continue to work with our partners in Education, Social Work, Health and the Third Sector to encourage the reporting of incidents to ensure we provide support and protection to those who need it. In addition to this, Police Scotland are enhancing their training in domestic abuse incidents to provide our officers with more guidance when dealing with victims of this behaviour.

Crimes			
Crime	Period	Number of Crimes	% Change
Crimes of Violence	April 2018 – Sept 2018	218	-19.9%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	272	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	220	
Serious Assault	April 2018 – Sept 2018	21	90.9%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	11	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	11.8	
Robbery	April 2018 – Sept 2018	5	-58.3%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	12	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	6.6	
Common Assault	April 2018 – Sept 2018	192	-22.6%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	248	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	200	

Detection Rates			
Crime	Period	Detection Rate	% Change
Serious Assault	April 2018 – Sept 2018	85.7%	31.1%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	54.6%	
	April –Sept(5 year average)	83.1%	
Robbery	April 2018 – Sept 2018	120%	36.7%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	83.3%	
	April –Sept(5 year average)	75.8%	
Common Assault	April 2018 – Sept 2018	62.5%	2.8%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	59.7%	
	April –Sept(5 year average)	64.3%	

Crime	Period		% Change
Domestic Abuse	April 2018 – Sept 2018	124	-12.7%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	142	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	166.2	
Detection Rates			
Domestic Abuse	April 2018 – June 2018	66.1%	-0.8%
	April 2017 – June 2017	66.9%	
Domestic Incidents			
Reported	April 2018 – Sept 2018	255	0%
	April 2017 – Sept 2018	255	

Local Policing Priority – Drug dealing and misuse

National Policing Priority – Serious Organised Crime

Fairer East Ren Plan – Improve the positive mental health, wellbeing and quality of life of our residents

Drug dealing and misuse at a local level results from Organised Crime Groups supplying those drugs to smaller dealers within local communities. We are committed to

- Gathering information on those who supply controlled drugs and focus activity on disruption, intervention and enforcement;
- Influence young people by using our dedicated school campus officers and key partners to raise awareness of the life hanging effects of drug misuse and abuse;
- Support and work in close partnership with Police colleagues and partners to tackle SOCGs.

Tackling serious and organised crime remains one of our key priorities. A current threat from terrorism and domestic extremism persists and these are things we are working hard to combat.

In the second quarter of 2018, there have been significant seizures of controlled drugs and cannabis cultivations disrupted with several significant arrests being made. This proactivity has resulted in a 47% increase in the number of people being detected for the supply of controlled drugs compared to the same period last year.

Local Problem Solving Team officers executed three search warrants after the suspected drugs deaths of two brothers in the Newton Mearns area. A quantity of controlled drugs was seized and reports have been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. In excess of five kilograms of cannabis was recovered at a further house search in Newton Mearns. A man and a woman were arrested in relation this and an investigation is ongoing to seize substantial assets under Proceeds of Crime legislation. Furthermore, officers have disrupted two cannabis cultivations in the past quarter, enquiries are on-going in respect of these seizures.

Drugs			
Crime	Period	Number of detections	% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs	April 2018 – Sept 2018	25	47.1%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	17	
	April – Sept(5year average)	16.8	

Local Policing Priority – Child abuse and child sexual exploitation

National Policing Priority – Protecting people at risk of harm

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

Protecting people at risk of harm remains a key priority for Police Scotland, we continue to work in partnership to increase awareness of all forms of abuse, exploitation and neglect. Our objectives include

- Utilise information sharing protocols to work with partners to identify vulnerable individuals at risk
- Encourage third party reporting through engagement with local partnerships

Digital technology provides great opportunities for children and young people to interact, learn and have fun, therefore it is vitally important that professionals, parents and carers work together to improve their skills and knowledge in order to help children stay safe online, and children and young people have the support and confidence to report concerns. We are absolutely committed to tackling online child sexual abuse. We continue to work with the National Crime Agency; other law enforcement agencies and industry to identify those who use digital technology to abuse or exploit our children and identify children who may be at risk of such harm.

Local officers continue to attend multi-agency case conferences in relation to some of most vulnerable people in our communities. This ensures that the most up to date information is shared between partners and appropriate support and interventions are put in place for these individuals.

There has been an increase in the reporting of sexual crimes which is partly due to the continued trend of victims having the confidence to come forward and report ongoing and historical incidents. We have a dedicated team of officers within the Division who to investigate these incidents which are invariably complex and often protracted in nature.

Public Protection			
Crime	Period		% Change
Sexual Crimes	April 2018– Sept 2018	77	87.8%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	41	
	April - Sept(5 year average)	40	
Detection Rates			
Sexual Crimes	April 2018 – Sept 2018	44.2%	-9.5%
	April 2017 – Sept 2017	53.7%	
	April – Sept(5year average)	68%	

National Policing Priority – Road Safety and Road Crime

Officers from East Renfrewshire sit on our Greater Glasgow Division Road Safety Governance Group. This is a multi-agency group which includes officers from local authority Roads and Transportation Departments. This group monitors emerging issues and seeks to work in close partnership to minimise road safety risks in our communities through local and national campaigns. In addition to this, together, we have put in place arrangements for regular liaison meetings between the ERC Roads and Transportation Department and Police officers based in East Renfrewshire, to ensure that we can effectively address issues specific to the local authority area. Regular meetings between our Divisional Roads Policing Unit, Traffic Management Constable also take place.

Close partnership working with East Renfrewshire Council Roads Department has resulted the implementation of parking restrictions and double yellow lines around a number of schools for the start of school year in August. This has made these areas safer for the young people attending school and early indications are that compliance levels are high.

We also continue to respond to community concerns about speeding in their local area, our officers have carried out a number of speed checks and reported several drivers to the Procurator Fiscal for offences.

National Policing Priority – Counter terrorism and Domestic Extremism

In relation to counter terrorism and domestic extremism, we remain focused on delivering the CONTEST strategy to Protect locations, Prepare for a potential attack, Pursue individuals suspected of being involved in terrorism and Prevent people from becoming engaged in extremism. 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. Our Safer Communities Department also chair the multi-agency Contest Group which directs and oversees the delivery of the Contest strategy locally.

Conclusion

As Local Police Commander, I am pleased to present this update on our policing activities in the second quarter of the year and to share some of the positive outcomes achieved. I am also delighted to report that the results of our most recent public satisfaction surveys continue to demonstrate that public levels of satisfaction and confidence in the police service remain incredibly high.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support.

Brian McNulty
Chief Superintendent
Divisional Commander
Greater Glasgow Division