

POLICE SCOTLAND
GREATER GLASGOW DIVISION
REPORT TO EAST RENFREWSHIRE CABINET
POLICE PERFORMANCE OVER THE 4th QUARTER
OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/2018

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members of East Renfrewshire Cabinet on police performance over the final quarter of the financial year 2017/2018.

Local Management

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

Chief Inspector Angela Carty continues as Area Commander, East Renfrewshire supported by Deputy Area Commander Inspector John McQuilter 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 final quarter of 2017/18. 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 wellness. 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.

The statistical information referred to in this report does not reflect our official year-end figures, they are our management information statistics for the period 1 April 2017 – 28 February 2018. Our official year-end figures will be published by the Scottish Government after they have been carefully reviewed and ratified in line with nationally approved crime recording rules.

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. In early 2018 the group heard from the No Knives Better Lives campaign and became ambassadors to take the messages to their peers. One of the group asked her school if she could address an assembly and tell them what she had learned about the impact of carrying knives. Having the confidence to do that and being a peer of the assembled group resulted in more open and comfortable interaction and a trust and conviction in what she was telling them.

East Renfrewshire continues to part fund school campus officers across the authority. We have recently interviewed and appointed a new campus officer who will start in the new school term in August 2018. The campus officers are an integral part of how we deliver Local Policing Plan objectives as identified by communities. Between April 2017 and March 2018 they delivered presentations on stranger danger, road safety, bullying, internet safety, drugs and alcohol and respect to 6645 primary schools pupils. In addition 20344 secondary school pupils received inputs on no knives better lives, drugs awareness, water safety, internet safety, anti-social behaviour, fireworks, cyber bullying and hate crime.

Our Local Authority Liaison Officer is currently working in partnership with I AM ME and East Renfrewshire Council to implement the KEEP SAFE PREMISES initiative throughout East Renfrewshire. 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. This has initially been rolled out in Barrhead with further areas planned for the future. Ongoing engagement is taking place with vulnerable groups and partner organisations in the local authority area to raise awareness of the initiative with a launch planned for the 13 June 2018.

In March this year, a joint meeting with various East Renfrewshire Council departments and officers from a number of our own divisional departments took place at London Road Police Office. Highly constructive and progressive discussion took place in relation to the licensing and governance of public events in East Renfrewshire. Our joint aim was to ensure that efficient inter-departmental and inter-agency procedures were in place to facilitate safe events in the area. We have already seen positive outcomes from this meeting in relation to the planning and licensing of a number of events due to take place in East Renfrewshire in the forthcoming months.

Summary of Performance – April to February 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.

In relation to homes being broken into, a team of dedicated officers continues to investigate all such crimes across the city, seven days a week. Officers within the unit are knowledgeable about current investigative techniques and ensure that all available evidential opportunities are exploited. They also investigate crimes patterns and link crimes, to ensure recidivist offenders are brought to justice. A recent operation carried out in February saw a number of key nominals arrested after they checked into a Glasgow hotel with the intention of using it as a base to commit further crimes across the city. As well as focusing on detections, officers in the unit also provide victims with crime prevention advice and arrange for crime prevention surveys to be carried out.

Crime	Period		% Change
Theft by Housebreaking (inc attempts)	April 2017 – Feb 2018	116	-5.7%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	123	
	April – Feb 2018(5 year average)	135.8	
Detection Rates			
Theft by Housebreaking (inc attempts)	April 2017– Feb 2018	17.2%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	22.8%	

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).

During February 2018 local problem solving officers working alongside officers from Cathcart Police Office to tackle youth disorder in and around Linn Park. This resulted in a number of alcohol related reports being submitted.

In terms of disorder and antisocial behaviour figures show a still significant rise compared to last year. We do continue to deploy resources to 'hot spot' areas and have seen the trend reducing from 29% above the previous year to 20% now. We continue to focus on impacting on disorder and anti-social behaviour and task problem solving teams accordingly.

We are currently working with our partners in Scottish Fire and Rescue Service tackling the thefts and subsequent setting on fire of wheelie bins in the Netherlee area of East Renfrewshire. Together campus officers and fire officers are presenting inputs to secondary school pupils around the dangers and impact on communities that anti-social behaviour and the wilful setting of fires has.

Disorder			
Issue	Period	No. of Complaints	% Change
Complaints of Disorder	April 2017 – Feb 2018	2446	20%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	2040	
Consuming alcohol	April 2017 – Feb 2018	62	-14%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	84	
Vandalism	April 2017 – Feb 2018	563	21.9%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	462	

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 and Emergency Worker

In terms of violent crimes, compared to last year, serious assaults have reduced, common assaults remained on a par and robberies have increased. Detection rates remain high for robberies but have seen a dip in serious assaults. Further detections are likely as investigations continue as a priority.

Crimes			
Crime	Period	Number of Crimes	% Change
Crimes of Violence	April 2017 – Feb 2018	41	-10.1%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	46	
	April – Feb(5 year average)	42.8	
Serious Assault	April 2017 – Feb 2018	18	-45.5%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	33	
	April – Feb(5 year average)	20.4	
Robbery	April 2017 – Feb 2018	15	87.5%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	8	
	April – Feb(5 year average)	8.6	
Common Assault	April 2017 – Feb 2018	382	-0.5%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	384	
	April – Feb(5 year average)	321.6	

Detection Rates			
Crime	Period	Detection Rate	
Serious Assault	April 2017 – Feb 2018	66.7%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	87.9%	
Robbery	April 2017 – Feb 2018	86.7%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	75%	
Common Assault	April 2017 – Feb 2018	60.6%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	56%	

Crime	Period		% Change
Domestic Abuse	April 2017 – Feb 2018	200	-7.8%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	217	
Detection Rates			
Domestic Abuse	April 2017 – Feb 2018	69.5%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	67%	

In relation to domestic violence, we have remained focused on dealing quickly and effectively with incidences of domestic abuse and compared to the same period last year, the number of domestic abuse crimes has reduced whilst the proportion of offenders detected remains high at 69.5%. The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse in Scotland continues to ensure that information can be shared about domestic offenders and regular multi-agency monthly meetings ensure any such requests for information are managed efficiently and every opportunity is taken to ensure those at risk are empowered to stay safe. The co-location of our Domestic Abuse Unit with ASSIST partners at Eastgate continues to ensure that victims get access to critical support quickly and responders are able to better coordinate their interventions.

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 terms of serious and organised crime (SAOC), up until the end of February 2018, 257 individuals of note were arrested, 11 of whom were principle nominals. Officers have continued to focus on these individuals and have exploited the Proceeds of Crime Act to deprive them of cash and assets obtained illegally. So far this year we have seized in the region of £1,841,047 in cash and assets. This year, proceeds of crime powers have been bolstered by the Criminal Finances Act 2017 and the introduction of Unexplained Wealth Orders which will enable authorities to seize more assets when offenders are unable to explain how they can legitimately afford them. There are also new powers to forfeit personal property e.g. jewellery, betting slips, casino chips and to freeze bank and building society accounts, where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that money held there is either the proceeds of crime or for use in unlawful conduct.

In the last quarter, Greater Glasgow SAOC & Intelligence commenced a number of intelligence-led operations, impacting on and disrupting organised criminality across Glasgow and further afield. There have been significant seizures of controlled drugs and numerous cannabis cultivations disrupted with several significant arrests being made.

Drugs			
Crime	Period	Number of detections	% Change
Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	April 2017 – Feb 2018	28	3.7%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	27	

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. Two of our campus officers recently attended Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection (CEOP) training and are now able to train teachers and other professionals to deliver CEOP safety to their classes. 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.

The campus officers have already organized advice and guidance inputs to parents on what to look out for on line to keep their children safe. We will continue to offer these opportunities to parents on a regular basis.

Public Protection			
Crime	Period		% Change
Sexual Crimes	April 2017– Feb 2018	95	9.1%
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	87	
	April – Feb(5 year average)	63.8	
Detection Rates			
Sexual Crimes	April 2017 – Feb 2018	51.6%	
	April 2016 – Feb 2017	47.1%	

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

National Policing Priority – Counter terrorism and Domestic Extremism

In relation to counter terrorism and domestic extremism, we remain focused on delivering the CONTEST strategy and particularly the elements of Protect, Prepare, Pursue and Prevent. 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. In this regard, planning is now underway to host an event for local organisations and businesses on how to deal with the aftermath of a terrorist attack.

Conclusion

As Local Police Commander, I am delighted to present this final quarterly update on our policing activities this year and to share some of the positive outcomes that have been 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.

Looking forward to the forthcoming year, our challenge is to build upon these achievements and look to improve things further still. Working together with our partners and communities I look forward to rising to this challenge as we all look to improve outcomes for the people of Glasgow.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the significant contributions that have been made in East Renfrewshire by Chief Inspector Angela Carty. This report is the last that is presented before Angela retires from Police Scotland. She has been an extremely committed officer who has worked tirelessly to keep people safe throughout her service. I would like to thank Angela for all of the support she has provided to me and wish her a very long and happy retirement.

Once Angela's successor has been identified, I will communicate this to all members.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support.

Brian McNulty
Chief Superintendent
Divisional Commander
Greater Glasgow Division

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