

**OFFICIAL**

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Agenda item | <b>5.</b>       |
| Report no   | <b>CC/16/21</b> |

**HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**Committee:** Caithness Committee

**Date:** 12 August 2021

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

**Report By:** Area Inspector (Caithness)

**1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

1.1 To provide an update to Committee Board on the progress with reference to the objectives outlined in the Highland Policing Plan 2020-2023.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members are invited to note:

- i. Progress made against the objectives set within the Highland Local Policing Plan 2020-2023 Year 1, attached as Annex A to this report, for the period covering 01 April 2020 - 31 March 2021.

**3. Report Format – Police Area Performance Summary Report**

3.1 This document will now cover all priorities featured in the local Policing Plan and evidence Prevention and Intervention work corresponding to each of the Policing priorities, provide local narrative in relation to Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism.

**4. Implications**

4.1 Resource – There are no immediate resource applications arising from this noting report.

4.2 Legal – There are no immediate legal implications arising from this noting report.

**OFFICIAL**

**OFFICIAL**

Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) – There are no immediate community implications arising from this noting report.

Climate Change/Carbon Clever – There are no immediate implications arising from this noting report.

Risk – There are no immediate implications arising from this noting report.

Gaelic – There are no immediate implications arising from this noting report.

Designation: Area Inspector

Date: 28 July 2021

Author: Inspector Alasdair Goskirk

**OFFICIAL**

**CAITHNESS - PERFORMANCE AGAINST LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2020/2023**  
**01 April 2020 – 31 March 2021**

**PRIORITY – Road Safety and Road Crime**

**Intention – Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads.**

**Objective – Whilst working with Partners, deliver a Road Safety Strategy which focuses on: Challenging Driver Behaviour; Education at the road side and elsewhere; Detection of offences linked to contributing factors of Fatal and Serious Road Collisions; and collectively reducing potential harm.**

| Target  | Baseline<br>5 Year<br>Average  | Baseline<br>3 Year<br>Average | YTD<br>2019/20 | YTD<br>2020/21 | YTD<br>Variation | Context/Narrative  |
|---|--|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| Reduce the number of people killed on the roads in Caithness.           |  |                               | 0              | 2              | 2                | 06/09/2020 –<br>A99 at Bridge of Freswick,<br>Freswick, Highland. (NJ/1607/20<br>refers).<br><br>14/03/2021 -<br>Main Street, Castletown,<br>Highland. (NJ/387/21 refers). |
| Number of people detected for drink/drug driving offences.              | 41.80  | 44.70                         | 49             | 53             | 4                | Includes failure to provide a<br>specimen of breath.<br><br>See Festive Safety Campaign<br>information below.  |
| Number of people detected for speeding.                                 | 80.00  | 63.30                         | 65             | 75             | 10               | Increased pro-active patrols<br>targeting known areas of<br>concern.   |
| Number of people detected for mobile phone offences.                    | 21.20  | 12.00                         | 15             | 10             | -5               |  |
| Number of people detected for seat belt offences.                       | 35.80  | 27.70                         | 36             | 12             | -24              |  |
| Road Traffic Operations/Campaigns/Prevention and Intervention Activity. | <b>Operation Cedar</b> - (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce) builds on established practices and will continue to focus on various agencies working in partnership to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured in the area. Operation CEDAR involves proactive multi-agency enforcement operations on the roads, which sits alongside education activity and is aimed at improving the behaviour of drivers of all ages behind the |                               |                |                |                  |  |

wheel. Partner agencies continue to work together to gain a greater understanding of the factors which could be used to improve the safety of everyone on the roads and together respond to these issues.

**Driver Engagement North** - A multi-agency initiative makes use of an interactive driving simulator designed to assess and highlight a participant's reactions, hazard awareness and any potential vulnerabilities on the roads. The project, launched in Inverness during October 2019, received funding from Transport Scotland and is led by Police Scotland, with support from a number of partners including the NHS Highland, Local Authority Community Safety Groups, IAM Roadsmart, Age Concern and RoSPA. The simulator has been specially designed to assess and demonstrate a driver's reactions and abilities in a safe environment under the supervision of specialists who will be able to offer support and advice. While this initiative is aimed at older drivers, we will also be able to offer advice to family members or friends who are concerned about whether someone they know is fit to drive. This initiative is not currently running due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Any interested parties looking for more information can contact:-

[highlandandislandsdriverengagement@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:highlandandislandsdriverengagement@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

**Festive Safety Campaign 2020** – The campaign ran between 01 December 2020 and 02 January 2021. Police Scotland is committed to achieving the Scottish Government's 2020 casualty reduction targets. Increasing awareness of the risks associated with drink/drug driving supports the Force's efforts to reduce road casualties. The campaign was conducted through a combination of intelligence-led high visibility patrols and static road checks.

**North Coast 500 (NC500) and Visitor Management** - There are Road Policing plans in place for motorcyclists/vulnerable road users and Visitor Management for the year ahead and analytical work has been carried out to ensure Police Scotland are targeting the right areas and road users at the right time.

Police Scotland are committed to reducing road casualties across the Highland area and patrols will be conducted on priority routes on a daily basis and undertaking specific weekends of action on the NC500 route utilising car and motorcycle patrols with the aim to influence driver and road user behaviour, detect and deter criminality on our roads and reassure communities. We will continue to promote our activity through media channels and encourage anyone with road safety concerns to contact Police Scotland.

**PRIORITY – Serious & Organised Crime**

**Intention – Reduce the harm caused by Serious & Organised Crime including cyber related crime.**

**Objective – With Partners work to safeguard the Highland area by taking all opportunities to prevent crime and make the Highland area a hostile environment for Serious & Organised Crime Groups; to improve outcomes for individuals and communities and reduce offending through prevention, early intervention and diversion; in support of our Partners in the Local Authority and NHS via the Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership Strategy we will direct those who are substance dependant towards recovery through prevention, treatment and support services; with Partners work to reduce the instances of substance misuse in our communities.**

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Serious & Organised Crime.            | <p>Divisional Operation - Intelligence development and investigation into drug supply and use in educational establishments throughout the Division, including Caithness. All intelligence will continue to be monitored daily and passed to the local Area Inspector for a proactive approach.</p> <p>Divisional Operation – Ongoing investigation into recent online/electronic frauds which have targeted local business/charities and have resulted in the loss of substantial amounts of money in the Division and in the Caithness area over the current reporting year.</p> |
| Prevention and Intervention Activity. | <p>There has been 40 Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 search warrants executed so far this reporting period with 30 being positive.</p>  |

**PRIORITY – Acquisitive Crime**

**Intention – Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending.**

**Objective – With Partners, share information, support education, prevention, diversionary and enforcement activity linked to acquisitive crime; develop work with targets – recidivist offenders to reduce reoffending linked to acquisitive crime e.g. Persistent Offenders programme; enhance the use of all media platforms to raise awareness of local and national preventative initiatives.**

| Target                                | Baseline 5 Year Average  | Baseline 3 Year Average | YTD 2019/20 | YTD 2020/21 | YTD Variation | Context/Narrative  |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Number of Theft by Housebreaking.     | 37.60  | 36.60                   | 30          | 23          | -7            | Figures include Theft by Housebreaking and Attempted Housebreaking With Intent to Steal and are broken down further as follows:-<br><br>Dwelling house – 17.<br>Non-dwelling house – 3.<br>Other premises – 3.<br><br>Detection Rate – 52.17%. |
| Number of Theft by Shoplifting.       | 36.80  | 39.70                   | 29          | 25          | -4            | Reduction in number of retail premises trading during the COVID-19 lockdown periods.   |
| Number of Theft of Motor Vehicles.    | 10.60  | 11.70                   | 12          | 11          | -1            | Detection Rate – 72.72%.   |
| Number of Theft from Motor Vehicles.  | 9.60   | 7.00                    | 4           | 2           | -2            | Figure below 5 and 3 year averages.  |
| Prevention and Intervention Activity. | <p>The COVID-19 lockdown in Caithness' communities brought out and continues to bring out the best in the majority of the population. Communities have provided support to vulnerable residents and have all collectively looked out for neighbours. However, it was and remains important to highlight that less scrupulous individuals' may seek to exploit people's vulnerabilities.</p> <p>National and local online messaging encouraged people to think about their personal safety and encouraged individuals to be vigilant about who they engage with and accept assistance from.</p> |                         |             |             |               |  |

## PRIORITY – Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

**Intention – Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime.**

**Objective – Work with partners to share information, support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement Measures linked to harmful alcohol consumption; maintain robust procedures around licensed premises; support victims of violent crime by working with partners to improve service provision and prevent repeat victimisation.**

| Target   | Baseline 5 Year Average | Baseline 3 Year Average | YTD 2019/20 | YTD 2020/21 | YTD Variation | Context/Narrative   |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---|
| Licensed Premises Checks.  |                         |                         | 1266        | 480         | -786          | Majority of licensed premises were not trading during the COVID-19 lockdown periods.  |
| Increase the number of offences reported for the possession, supply or being concerned with the supply of controlled substances. | 13.20                   | 14.00                   | 14          | 21          | 7             | Number of detections for Drugs supply, production and cultivation.  |
| Reduce the number of Breach of the Peace/Threatening & Abusive Behaviour Crimes.   | 141.60                  | 113.70                  | 121         | 99          | -22           | Figure below 5 and 3 year averages.   |
| Reduce the occurrences of common Assault.  | 240.00                  | 223.70                  | 247         | 188         | -59           | Figure below 5 and 3 year averages.   |
| Number of Assaults on Emergency Workers.   | 26.60                   | 28.70                   | 30          | 45          | 15            | Detection rate – 100%.  |
| Reduce the incidents of Vandalism.   | 258.80                  | 253.00                  | 272         | 186         | -86           | Figure below 5 and 3 year averages.<br>Includes Malicious Mischief.   |
| Reduce the number of premises currently escalated to Stage 3 noisy behaviour through Operation Notebook.                         |                         |                         |             | 5           |               | There are no addresses at Stage 3 in the Caithness area. There are two addresses subject to Stage 2 and three addresses subject to Stage 1. |
| Number of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders in place.   |                         |                         |             | 1           |               | There is one Anti-Social Behaviour Order in place in the Caithness area.  |

| <b>Violence, Disorder &amp; Antisocial Behaviour - Stop and Searches</b>   |                         |                                       |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|  | April 2020 – March 2021 | April 2020 –<br>March 2021 (Positive) |
| Number of stop and searches conducted (total)  | 333                     | 93                                    |
| Number of statutory stop and searches conducted  | -                       | -                                     |
| Number of consensual stop and searches conducted   | -                       | -                                     |
| Number of consensual stop and searches refused   | -                       | -                                     |
| Number of seizures made  | -                       | -                                     |
| <p><b>Positive Stop Search</b> - A positive stop and search is when an item is recovered where possession of same implies criminality on the part of the individual being searched or any other; or potentially compromises the safety of that individual or another.</p> <p>A <b>seizure</b> occurs when - alcohol, and/or; tobacco product, and/or; cigarette papers are surrendered, or are removed from an individual by a Police Officer, for the purpose of safeguarding the health and well-being of that individual or any other, in circumstances where the stop and search tactic has NOT been utilised and no physical search of an individual has taken place.</p> |                         |                                       |



**PRIORITY – Protecting Vulnerable People**

**Intention – Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners.**

**Objective – With Partners and as corporate parents we will deliver the Highland CHAMPS (Highland Champion Board) strategy; with Partners we will focus on safeguarding communities; with Partners we will address emerging issues through Prevention and Intervention.**

| Target   | Baseline 5 Year Average  | Baseline 3 Year Average | YTD 2019 | YTD 2020 | YTD Variation | Context/Narrative  |
|--|--|-------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|--|
| Class 2 Crimes - Sexual Crimes.  | 75.20  | 73.70                   | 47       | 49       | 2             | Figure below 5 and 3 year averages.<br>Includes historical offences which have been recorded in this reporting period. |
| Ensure that people who report hate incidents feel satisfied with the response received from public agencies. | <p>Police Scotland underwent a national inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) in relation to Hate Crime with N Division (Highland and Islands) being identified as one of three focussed Divisions. The subsequent report can be found at the following link:-</p> <p><b><a href="https://www.hmics.scot/publications/hmics-thematic-inspection-hate-crime">https://www.hmics.scot/publications/hmics-thematic-inspection-hate-crime</a></b></p>  |                         |          |          |               |  |
| Prevention and Intervention Activity.  | <p>Police investigated 137 reports of missing persons in the North Highland Area Command during this reporting period. (Due to system configurations these figures are not available at multi-member ward level).</p> <p>North Highland Area Command has a Police Liaison Officer who maintains contact and liaison with residential units where 'Looked after Children' are cared for in the area. This role has resulted in positive working relations between Police and residential unit staff. When required, the Police Liaison Officer works in conjunction with the Missing Person Co-ordinator who similarly enjoys a positive working relationship with residential units.</p> <p><b>Highland CHAMPS</b> - The Highland CHAMPS (Children have Amazing Minds, Potential and Stories) are a group based in Clachnaharry, Inverness, Highland. Highland CHAMPS welcome any young person from the Highland area who identifies as care-experienced whether they are a care-leaver, looked after at home, fostered, adopted, in residential care or other. Highland CHAMPS provide a safe space for activities, opportunities, socialising and fun. Further information regarding Highland CHAMPS can be found at:-<br/><a href="https://www.highland.gov.uk/highlandchamps">https://www.highland.gov.uk/highlandchamps</a></p> |                         |          |          |               |  |

**PRIORITY – Terrorism and Public Order**

**Intention – Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness.**

**Objective – Strengthen PREVENT work with Partners and institutions; with Partners, support individuals who are vulnerable to terrorism and violent extremism; strengthen PREVENT work in relation to the internet and Social Media; Effective Multi-agency planning in respect of Counter Terrorism is taking place; Develop our ability to respond effectively to any terrorist attack (with a specific focus on emerging high-risk threats, and specialist capabilities).**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Counter Terrorism &amp; Domestic Extremism.</p> | <p>Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP).</p> <p>WRAP is an interactive facilitated workshop aimed at front line staff such as police, social services, probation, education and health staff. It seeks to support staff to recognise that using their existing expertise and professional judgement, they may be able to recognise potentially vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>Work is ongoing to develop contacts in the North Highland Area Command in order to run workshops for relevant staff.</p> |
|--|---|