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Council Building  
2 High Street  
Perth  
PH1 5PH

22 October 2019

A Meeting of the **Housing and Communities Committee** will be held in **the Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth, PH1 5PH** on **Wednesday, 30 October 2019** at **09:30**.

**Note:** The Convener will ask the Committee to agree to vary the order of business to take Items P1 and P2 (exempt business) following Item 3 on the agenda at the commencement of the meeting.

If you have any queries please contact Committee Services on (01738) 475000 or email [Committee@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:Committee@pkc.gov.uk).

**KAREN REID**  
Chief Executive

***Those attending the meeting are requested to ensure that all electronic equipment is in silent mode.***

***Please note that the meeting will be recorded and will be publicly available on the Council's website following the meeting.***

**Members:**

|                                        |                            |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Councillor Bob Brawn (Convener)        | Councillor Tom McEwan      |
| Councillor Chris Ahern (Vice-Convener) | Councillor Beth Pover      |
| Councillor Alasdair Bailey             | Councillor Caroline Shiers |
| Councillor Peter Barrett               | Councillor Richard Watters |
| Councillor Eric Drysdale               |                            |
| Councillor Tom Gray                    |                            |
| Councillor David Illingworth           |                            |
| Councillor Anne Jarvis                 |                            |
| Councillor Sheila McCole               |                            |



## **Housing and Communities Committee**

**Wednesday, 30 October 2019**

### **AGENDA**

***MEMBERS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR OBLIGATION TO DECLARE ANY FINANCIAL OR NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST WHICH THEY MAY HAVE IN ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCILLORS' CODE OF CONDUCT.***

- 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**
  - 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
  - 3 MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF 21 AUGUST 2019 FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE** **5 - 10**  
(copy herewith)
  - 4 POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT**
  - 4(i) SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - 1 JULY 2019 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019** **11 - 34**  
Report by Area Manager G Pryde, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (copy herewith 19/295)
  - 4(ii) PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL POLICING AREA POLICE REPORT - 1 JULY 2019 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019** **35 - 80**  
Report by Chief Superintendent A Todd, Police Scotland (copy herewith 19/296)
  - 5 COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE** **81 - 92**  
Report by Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (copy herewith 19/297)
  - 6 HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT SIX MONTH PERFORMANCE SUMMARY 2019/20 - EXCEPTION REPORT** **93 - 114**  
Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (copy herewith 19/298)
- Note:** The above report will also be submitted to the meetings of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee on 30 October 2019 and to the Scrutiny Committee on 30 November 2019.
- 7 EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES INTERIM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY 2019** **115 - 136**  
Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)

(copy herewith 19/299)

**Note:** The above report will also be submitted to the meetings of the Lifelong Learning Committee on 6 November 2019 and to the Scrutiny Committee on 30 November 2019.

- |           |                                                                                                                                                     |                  |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>8</b>  | <b>RENT ARREARS UPDATE AND THE IMPACT OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT (UC)</b><br>Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (copy herewith 19/300) | <b>137 - 148</b> |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN</b><br>Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (copy herewith 19/301)                           | <b>149 - 168</b> |
| <b>10</b> | <b>ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT - SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR</b><br>Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (copy herewith 19/302)     | <b>169 - 180</b> |

***IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973***

- |           |                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>P1</b> | <b>SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS</b> |
| <b>P2</b> | <b>POLICE SCOTLAND - OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS</b>                  |

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PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE  
21 AUGUST 2019

## HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee held in the Council Chambers, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 21 August 2019 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors P Barrett, B Brawn, C Ahern, A Bailey (up to and including Art. 386(ii)), K Baird (substituting for C Shiers), H Coates, E Drysdale, T Gray, D Illingworth, S McCole, T McEwan, C Reid and R Watters.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Housing and Environment); C Mailer, D McPhee (from Art. 390(ii)), S Watson, J McColl (from Art. 390(ii)) and M Dow (all Housing and Environment); C Flynn, A Taylor and D Stokoe (from Art. 390(i)) (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: Superintendent E Logue and Chief Inspector I Scott (both Police Scotland) (both up to and including Art. 390(ii)); Area Manager G Pryde and Group Manager B McLintock (both Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) (both up to and including Art. 390(ii)); and L Palmer (Tenants' Representative) (up to and including Art. 393).

Apologies: Councillor C Shiers.

Councillor Barrett, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion for Arts. 385-387, 390(ii) and 392-394 and the Vice-Convener for Art. 390(i).

### **385. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. An apology for absence and a substitute was noted as above.

### **386. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made in terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

### **387. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF 15 MAY 2019 FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE**

The minute of the meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 15 May 2019 (Arts. 242-253) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

**IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 34 THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS TO CONSIDER ITEMS P1 & P2 AT THIS POINT AND TO RECOMMENCE THE PUBLIC SESSION WITH POLICE AND FIRE: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT FOLLOWED BY THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE.**

**IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973.**

**388. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS**

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service had no operational update to report.

**389. POLICE SCOTLAND – OPERATIONAL UPDATE FROM PERTH AND KINROSS**

Police Scotland had no operational update to report.

**THE PUBLIC AND PRESS WERE RE-ADMITTED TO THE MEETING AT THIS POINT**

**390. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT**

**(i) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Quarterly Performance Report – 1 April to 30 June 2019**

There was submitted a report by Area Manager G Pryde, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (19/222) on the performance of the SFRS against the priorities, performance indicators and targets detailed within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth and Kinross 2017-20, for the first quarter, 1 April to 30 June 2019.

Councillor Drysdale made reference to a recent fire at Menzies Court in Fairfield and queried the type of work being undertaken to try and improve fire safety in buildings of this type. In response Area Manager Pryde confirmed that a lot of collaborate work continues to be done with the Council's Housing department and other partners both locally and nationally to help identify how best to manage and address these types of incidents, he also made reference to improving guidance being issued from the Scottish Government around smoke detection requirements. Group Manager McLintock further commented that with an incident on this scale a multi-agency debrief will be undertaken to identify any lessons learned.

Councillor Barrett made reference to the dramatic reduction in unwanted fire alarm signals in school and educational premises and queried the cause for the reduction. In response Group Manager McLintock commented that work continues between Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland and t schools to highlight the dangers of making malicious calls, deliberate fire setting and general anti-social behaviour. He further commented that information leaflets are left with the owner of the property every time Scottish Fire and Rescue Service are called out to a unwanted fire alarm signal incident.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE  
21 AUGUST 2019

**Resolved:**

The performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in Perth and Kinross area for the first quarter, 1 April to 30 June 2019, as detailed in Report 19/222, be noted.

D STOKOE ARRIVED DURING THE ABOVE ITEM.

**(ii) Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area – Quarterly Performance Report – 1 April to 30 June 2019**

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent A Todd, Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) (19/223) on the performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area as set out in the Local Policing Plan for the period 1 April to 30 June 2019.

Councillor Drysdale made reference to the challenges to Police resources caused by the increasing number of honour based abuse reports and queried whether this was an area where collaboration with Perth and Kinross Council is important. In response Chief Inspector Scott commented this was the case and confirmed that although the numbers of incidents are relatively low the investigation required can be significant due to cultural and languages issues.

Councillor McCole made reference to the challenges faced regarding human trafficking issues and queried what can be done to improve the public's awareness of these issues. In response Chief Inspector Scott confirmed this was challenging but the increase in media / social media information released as and when these types of incidents arise is helping to raise public awareness on what to look out for. He asked partners, communities and elected members to raise any concerns they may have.

Councillor Brawn made reference to the number of violent assaults (being over 1600 nationally) carried out on Police Officers over the last year and queried how many of these apply to Perth and Kinross, he further queried what can be done to try and reduce these figures. In response Chief Inspector Scott confirmed the majority of assaults on officers are carried out when a person is being arrested. He further commented that the majority of these tend to be minor in nature.

Councillor Gray made reference to vehicle-activated signs and queried whether these signs actually are capable of holding a record of vehicle speeds over a period of time. In response Chief Inspector Scott confirmed that they are only capable of indicating an advisory speed to motorists, there is no camera provision which can record speeds.

**Resolved:**

The performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area as detailed in Report 19/223 be noted.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE  
21 AUGUST 2019

D McPHEE AND J McCOLL BOTH ARRIVED DURING THE ABOVE ITEM.

COUNCILLOR A BAILEY, SUPERINTENDENT E LOGUE, CHIEF INSPECTOR I SCOTT, AREA MANAGER G PRYDE AND GROUP MANAGER B MCLINTOCK ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

**391. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (19/224) providing an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since the last update on 15 May 2019.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED AT 11.02AM.

**392. ANNUAL UPDATE ON PERTH AND KINROSS TENANT AND RESIDENT PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2018-21**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (19/225) noting the progress in implementing the Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy for Perth and Kinross.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The progress made during 2018/19 towards achieving the outcomes set out within the Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy, attached as Appendix 1 to Report 19/225, be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Environment) be requested to bring forward a further report in 12 months' time.

**393. ANNUAL UPDATE ON PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2016-2021**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (19/226) seeking approval for the revised Responsive Repairs Policy.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 19/226, be noted.
- (ii) The amendments to the responsive repairs policy as detailed in Appendix 1 of Report 19/226 be approved.

L PALMER LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

**394. GYPSY/TRAVELLER STRATEGY 2018-21 – YEAR 1 PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (19/227) providing an update on progress for the first year of the Gypsy/Traveller Strategy 2018/21.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 19/227 be noted.



PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE  
21 AUGUST 2019

- (ii) It be agreed that Report 19/227 be shared with the Community Planning Partnership for their approval.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Housing and Environment) be requested to bring a second annual update on the Strategy's progress to the Committee in August 2020.

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## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

30 OCTOBER 2019

Report by Area Manager Gordon Pryde, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (Report No. 19/295)

### SUBJECT: FIRE AND RESCUE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

#### Abstract

The Reports contain performance information relating to the Second quarter (July – September) of 2019-20 on the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in support of Member scrutiny of local service delivery.

#### 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide information for the Committee regarding the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, against the priorities, performance indicators and targets detailed within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth and Kinross 2017-20, to facilitate local scrutiny.

#### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members:

Note, scrutinise and question the content of this report.

#### 3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

#### 4 PERFORMANCE

- 4.1 A performance management framework has been developed to facilitate the monitoring of performance against the agreed priorities and outcomes ensuring effective targeting of resources and the principles of Best Value are met.

- 4.2 The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross 2017-20 was approved by the Housing and Communities Committee on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2017.
- 4.3 The priorities and outcomes contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan reflect 'place' and the contribution of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to the Perth and Kinross Community Plan (LOIP) 2017-27 and Community Planning Partnership.
- 4.4 In summary the following local priorities and targets are detailed within the plan:
- Priority 1 - Improving Fire Safety in the Home
  - Priority 2 - Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community
  - Priority 3 - Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm
  - Priority 4 - Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
  - Priority 5 - Reducing Deliberate Fires
  - Priority 6 - Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness
- 4.5 Appendix 1 attached to this report provides a detailed breakdown and analysis of all data collected during the reporting period. A performance summary and scorecard is detailed on page 6 of the report. In addition, further sections are included to provide Members with an overview of a range of notable incidents and events undertaken by the local personnel/stations in support of prevention activities and preparation for emergency response.

## **5 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 Not applicable.

## **6 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

- 6.1 There are no environmental issues arising as a consequence of this report.

## **7 SUMMARY**

- 7.1 The attached report updates members regarding significant community safety engagement activities and operational matters; and gives context to the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Perth and Kinross area.

**Area Manager Gordon Pryde**  
**Local Senior Officer**  
**Perth & Kinross, Angus and Dundee**  
Fire and Rescue Headquarters  
Blackness Road,  
Dundee DD1 5PA



## QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

*Covering the activities and performance in support of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross 2017*



**SCOTTISH**  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Quarter Two: 2019/20**

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**



## **ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT**

The activity totals and other statistics quoted in this report are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review.

Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be differences in the period totals quoted in our reports after original publication which result from revisions or additions to the data on our systems.

From 2015-16 onwards responsibility for the publication of end-year statistical data transferred from the Scottish Government to the SFRS. This change of responsibility does not affect the status of the figures quoted in this and other SFRS reports presented to the Committee.

| <b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>                                                           | <b>PAGE</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Introduction</b>                                                                | 5           |
| <b>Quarterly Performance Summary</b>                                               | 6           |
| <b>Quarterly Performance Highlights</b>                                            | 7           |
| <b>Priority 1 - Improving Fire Safety in The Home</b>                              | 8           |
| HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)                                             | 8           |
| HI 2 – ADF Fatal Casualties                                                        | 8           |
| HI 3 – ADF Non-Fatal Casualties                                                    | 8           |
| <b>Priority 2 - Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community</b> | 10          |
| HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires                                                 | 10          |
| HI 5 – Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings                                  | 10          |
| HI 6 – Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings                              | 10          |
| <b>Priority 3 - Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm</b>                    | 12          |
| HI 7 – Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents                                      | 12          |
| HI 8 – Fatal RTC Casualties                                                        | 12          |
| HI 9 – Non-Fatal RTC Casualties                                                    | 12          |
| <b>Priority 4 - Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</b>                           | 14          |
| HI 10 – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)                                         | 14          |
| <b>Priority 5 - Reducing Deliberate Fires</b>                                      | 16          |
| HI 11 – Deliberate Primary Fires                                                   | 16          |
| HI 12 – Deliberate Secondary Fires                                                 | 16          |
| <b>Priority 6 - Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness</b>         | 18          |
| <b>Activity Update</b>                                                             |             |
| APPENDIX 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES                                 | 19          |
| APPENDIX 2: NOTABLE INCIDENTS / EVENTS                                             | 22          |

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the quarter two monitoring report covering the SFRS's performance and activities in support of the six priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross 2017, namely:

- Priority 1 - Improving fire safety in the home
- Priority 2 - Improving fire safety and resilience in the business community
- Priority 3 - Minimising the impact of unintentional harm
- Priority 4 - Reducing unwanted fire alarm signals
- Priority 5 - Reducing deliberate fires
- Priority 6 - Effective risk management and operational preparedness

As well as supporting the six priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross, this monitoring report shows how SFRS activities and performance contribute to the wider priorities of the Perth & Kinross Council Community Planning Partnership (CPP), as set out in the Perth & Kinross Community Plan (LOIP).

The figures in this report are provisional, to provide the Committee with the SFRS's direction of travel in the Perth & Kinross area, in terms of performance against headline indicators and targets. Most figures will not change; however, members should note that there may be some small variations for some indicators when the final confirmed figures are published by the SFRS.

The Perth & Kinross Council Housing and Communities Committee agreed the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross on 1 November 2017, covering the 3 year period from 1 November 2017 to October 2020. In support of delivering the priorities in this plan, 12 headline indicators and targets have been set, and form the basis of this quarterly monitoring report.

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The table below provides a summary of quarter two activity and year to date (YTD) performance against headline indicators and annual targets. It aims to provide, at a glance, our direction of travel during the current reporting year.

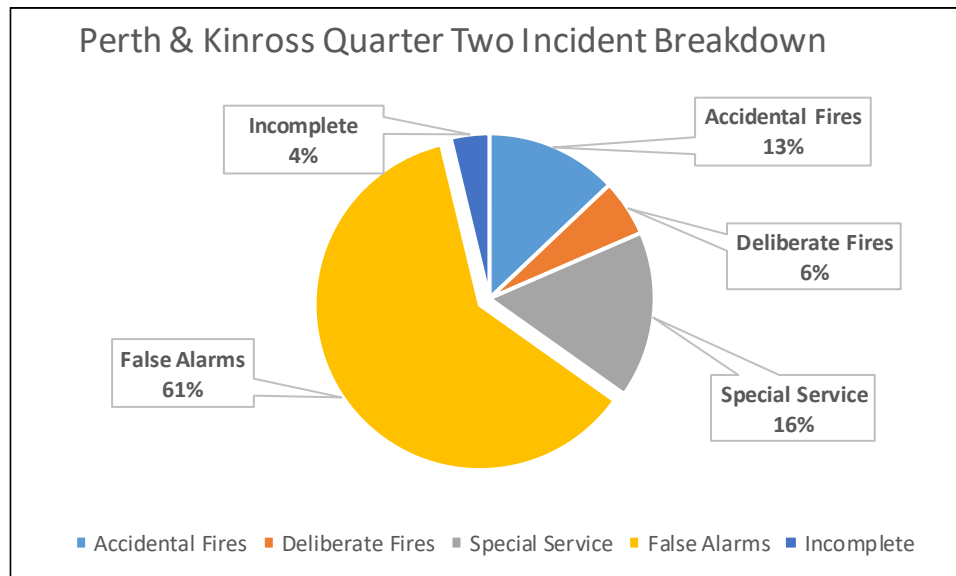
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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>HI 1</b><br/><b>Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 29 Incidents<br/>YTD – 53 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 118 Incidents</p>           | <p><b>HI 2</b><br/><b>ADF Fatal Casualties</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 0<br/>YTD – 0<br/>Annual Target – 0</p>                                         | <p><b>HI 3</b><br/><b>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 6<br/>YTD – 26<br/>Annual Target – 17</p>                                     |
| <p><b>HI 4</b><br/><b>Non-domestic Building fires</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 13 Incidents<br/>YTD – 23 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 52 Incidents</p>              | <p><b>HI 5</b><br/><b>Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 01<br/>YTD – 01<br/>Annual Target – 0</p>            | <p><b>HI 6</b><br/><b>Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 0<br/>YTD – 2<br/>Annual Target – 2</p>            |
| <p><b>HI 7</b><br/><b>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 21 Incidents<br/>YTD – 38 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 85 Incidents</p> | <p><b>HI 8</b><br/><b>Fatal RTC Casualties</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 0<br/>YTD – 1<br/>Annual Target – 4</p>                                       | <p><b>HI 9</b><br/><b>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 12<br/>YTD – 28<br/>Annual Target – 66</p>                                  |
| <p><b>HI 10</b><br/><b>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 186 Incidents<br/>YTD – 294 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 575 Incidents</p>        | <p><b>HI 11</b><br/><b>Deliberate Primary Fires</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 10 Incidents<br/>YTD – 16 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 29 Incidents</p> | <p><b>HI 12</b><br/><b>Deliberate Secondary Fires</b></p>  <p>Q2 – 21 Incidents<br/>YTD – 55 Incidents<br/>Annual Target – 85 Incidents</p> |

### Year-to-Date Legend

|                                                                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | Below headline target               |
|  | Less than 10% above headline target |
|  | More than 10% above headline target |

## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

During Quarter two (July - September) the SRFs attended a total of 557 incidents across Perth & Kinross.

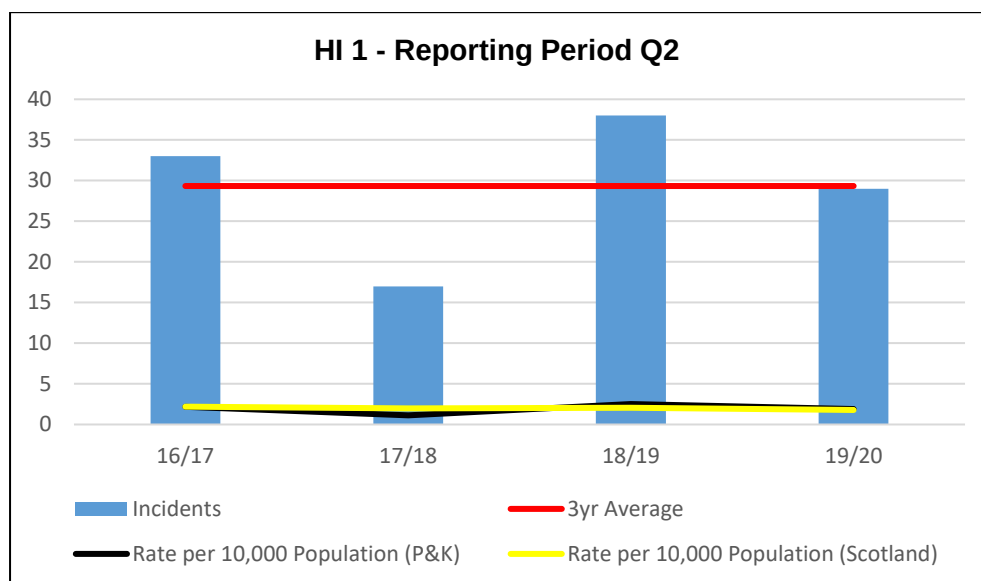


Of the 12 headline indicators and targets, the following performance should be noted for Quarter two 2019/20:

- The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF's)** continues to decrease in the long term, reporting the lowest YTD number of ADFs in the last five years. The performance during quarter two reflects a slight decrease on same quarter last year and on the three-year average.
- There were no **ADF Fatal Casualty** during this reporting period.  
The number of **ADF Non-fatal Casualties** has seen a continual decrease for this quarter and a significant increase on YTD as the result of one fire in a tenement building.
- The number of **Non-Domestic Building fires** is reporting an increase for this quarter, last quarter and three year average, however this is low numbers and we are on target YTD. Tragically there is one fatal casualty and no non-fatal casualties reported for quarter two in non-domestic fires.
- The number of **Road Traffic Collisions** for quarter two is reporting a decrease against the 3-year average for this quarter. There is a slight increase on the same quarter last year and a decrease on the YTD numbers. There were no **Fatal RTC Casualties** for this quarter and one for the YTD, whilst **Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** are reporting twelve for this quarter. The number of RTC casualties is the lowest for the last three years for this quarter and YTD.
- The number of **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings reports a slight increase for on the 3-year average for this quarter whilst also reflecting a slight increase on the same quarter last year. YTD is reporting an increase.
- The number of **Deliberate Primary Fires** is reflecting a slight increase for this quarter and YTD. The number of **Deliberate Secondary Fires** is reporting a slight decrease for this quarter and YTD.

## PRIORITY 1 - IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

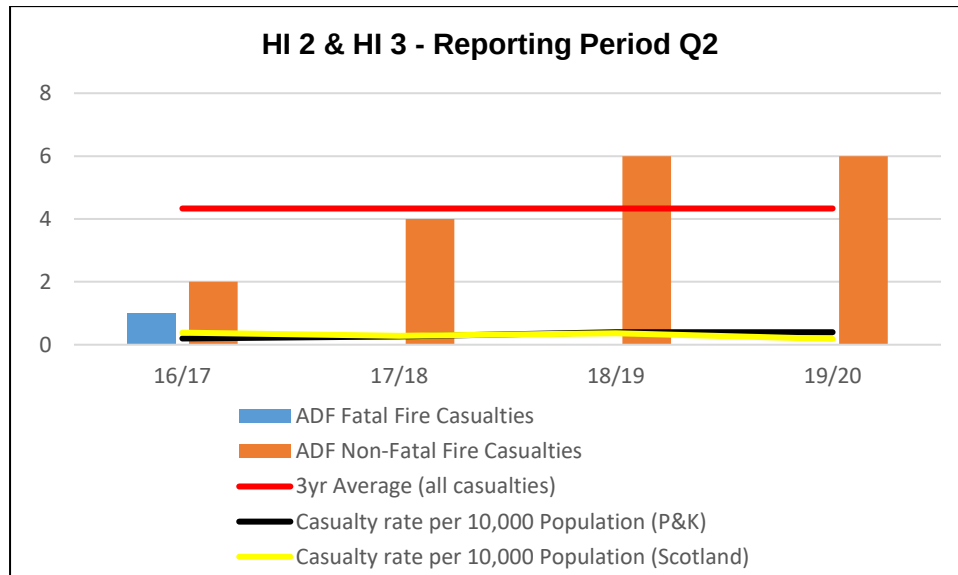
### HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)



**Table 1: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                  | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20     | Annual Target |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>H1: ADF's</b> | 67    | 51    | 61    | <b>53</b> | 118           |

### HI 2 - ADF Fatal Casualties & HI 3 - ADF Non-Fatal Casualties



**Table 2: Year to Date(July to September) Performance**

|                                     | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20     | Annual Target |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>H2: ADF Fatal Casualties</b>     | 1     | 0     | 0     | <b>0</b>  | 0             |
| <b>H3: ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</b> | 12    | 10    | 8     | <b>26</b> | 17            |

### Indicator Description

The largest single type of primary fire in Perth & Kinross is ADF in the home and their prevention is a key focus of the Service's community safety activity.

#### HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of ADF's, in a growing Perth & Kinross population, by keeping these fires **below 118**, each year.

#### HI 2 – ADF Fatal Casualties

This indicator counts those people for whom fire has been clearly identified as the cause of death, even if they die some-time after the actual fire. Those who die at, or after, the fire but where fire is **not** identified as the cause of death are not included in these figures. As a headline target, the aim is to have **Zero ADF Fatal Casualties**, in Perth & Kinross each year.

#### HI 3 – ADF Non-Fatal Casualties

This headline target counts all types of non-fatal fire injury in the home, including precautionary checks. As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of injury from fire in the home, in an increasing Perth & Kinross population, by keeping fire injuries **below 17**, each year.

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority One: *Improving Fire Safety in the Home*, meeting the headline targets will also support a long-term Vision in the Perth & Kinross LOIP.

We also link this headline target to improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP objectives:

- Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### Performance Management

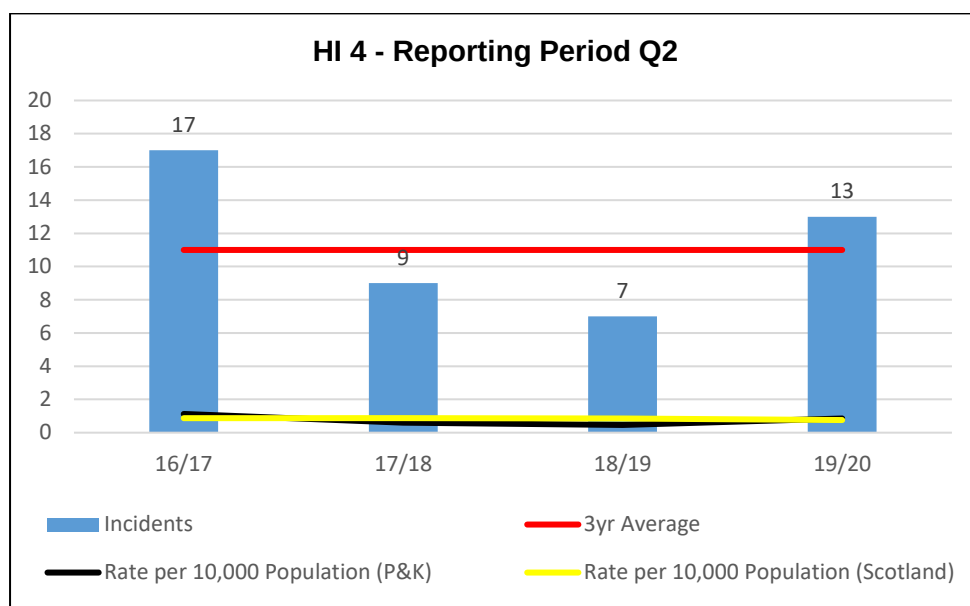
There were 29 ADF's reported during quarter two, which reflects a decreased number of fires for the same quarter last year, which was 38, and is comparable the 3-year average (29). The fire damage in 16 incidents was reported as low level, 6 medium and 5 sustained significant damage. Of the 29 fires 24 had previously been fitted with smoke detection, of which 19 operated and gave early warning to the occupiers. The total number of ADF's continues to decrease in the long term, currently we are reporting the equal lowest number of fires for the last five years, as a result of a number community safety initiatives delivered through partnership working. We are therefore showing **Green** for achieving the HI 1 annual target.

There was no ADF Fatal Casualty during quarter two. We are therefore showing **Green** for achieving the HI 2 annual target. There were 6 ADF Non-Fatal Casualties during quarter two, 2 received first aid on scene and 4 required hospital treatments with minor injuries. The six casualties were as a result of four incidents. We are showing **Red** against the HI 3 annual target.

Within Perth & Kinross we will continue to work with our partners to ensure we positively contribute to reducing the risk to our communities and staff by analysis of our operational activities and targeting those most at risk and vulnerable, particularly around unintentional harm in the home. These targeted initiatives will continue to develop and improve as we move forward together to ensure we provide the most appropriate support for our communities with regard to unintentional harm.

## PRIORITY 2 – IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY AND RESILIENCE IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

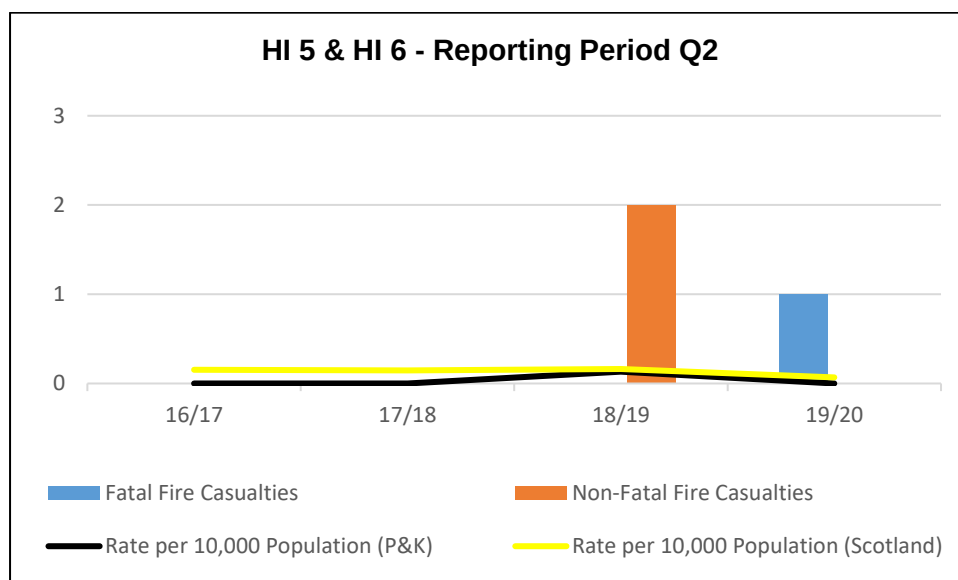
### HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires



**Table 3: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                                        | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|----------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H4: Non-domestic Building Fires</b> | 37    | 22    | 20    | 23    | 52            |

### HI 5 – Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings & HI 6 – Non-Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings



**Table 4: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                                      | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H5: Fatal Fire Casualties</b>     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1     | 0             |
| <b>H6: Non-Fatal Fire Casualties</b> | 0     | 1     | 0     | 2     | 2             |

### Indicator Description

These headline indicators and targets cover the types of non-domestic buildings applicable to Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 ('The Act') (e.g. care homes, hotels and hospitals etc.) and is designed to reflect the effectiveness of fire safety management in respect of these types of buildings.

#### HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of fires in non-domestic buildings (where The Act applies), by keeping these fires **below 52**, in Perth & Kinross each year.

#### HI 5 – Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

This indicator counts those people for whom fire has been clearly identified as the cause of death, even if they die sometime after the actual fire. Those who die at, or after, the fire but where fire is **not** identified as the cause of death are not included in these figures. As a headline target, the aim is to have **Zero Fatal Fire Casualties** in non-domestic buildings applicable to the Act, in Perth & Kinross each year.

#### HI 6 – Non-fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

This headline target counts all types of non-fatal fire injury in non-domestic buildings, including precautionary checks. As a headline target, the aim is to reduce risk of injury from fire in non-domestic buildings, by keeping fire injuries **below 2**, in Perth & Kinross each year.

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Two: *Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community*, we also link this headline target to improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP outcomes:

- Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### Performance Management

There were 13 fires in non-domestic buildings during quarter two which reflects an increase from the same quarter last year with 7 and on the previous quarter this year (10). This reflects an increase for the quarter against the three-year average (11). 9 incidents resulted in minor damage, 1 with medium and 3 with significant damage. This therefore is showing **Green** against the HI 4 annual target to date.

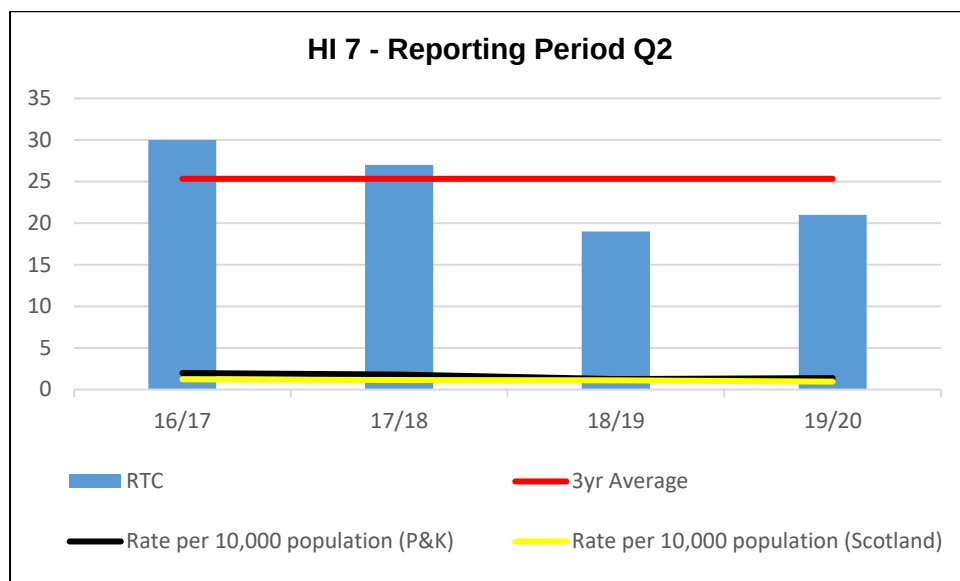
Tragically there is one Non-Domestic Fatal Casualty during quarter two. This was as the result of the significant fire at the B&M store in Perth. The joint Fire investigation between Police Scotland and SFRS remains current, however has concluded at the scene. We are therefore reporting **Red** against the HI 5 annual target to date.

There were no Non-Domestic Non-Fatal Casualties during quarter two which is reflected in this quarter or the last five years. YTD we are showing **Amber** against the HI 6 annual target to date as a result of two reported casualties in quarter one.

In total, 120 fire safety audits were targeted at high life risk non-domestic buildings for quarter two, which included 22 post fire audits, meeting our target as part of the annual audit programme. These fires can often have a serious impact on our local business sector and wider economy, as a fire within companies' premises often results in significant monetary loss and in the worst cases, loss of employment for staff. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO's) will continue to provide the most appropriate level of support to local businesses to enable suitable and timely legislative fire safety guidance and enforcement to be undertaken. We also continue to engage with business forums to ensure the right level of information is given to the business community.

## PRIORITY 3 – MINIMISING THE IMPACT OF UNINTENTIONAL HARM

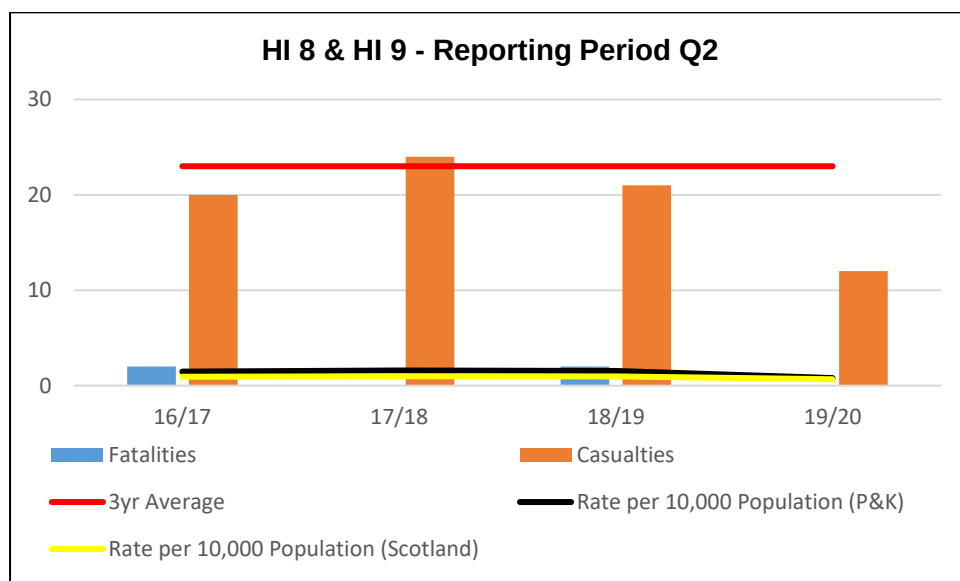
### HI 7 – Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents



**Table 5: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                          | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H7: RTC Incidents</b> | 46    | 59    | 40    | 38    | 85            |

### HI 8 – Fatal RTC Casualties & H9 – Non-Fatal RTC Casualties



**Table 6: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                                     | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H8: Fatal RTC Casualties</b>     | 3     | 3     | 4     | 1     | 4             |
| <b>H9: Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</b> | 36    | 56    | 39    | 28    | 66            |



### Indicator Description

The SFRS has become increasingly involved in more non-fire related prevention work, in support of its role in promoting the wider safety and well-being of its communities, including minimising the impact of unintentional harm. The headline indicators and targets reflect the fact that most of non-fire related incidents attended by the SFRS in Perth & Kinross are RTC Incidents.

#### HI 7 - RTC Incidents

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of RTC incidents, by keeping them **below 85** each year.

#### HI 8 – Fatal RTC Casualties

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of death from RTC's in Perth & Kinross, by keeping them **below 4** each year.

#### HI 9 - Non-fatal RTC Casualties

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of injury from RTC's in Perth & Kinross, by keeping non-fire injuries **below 66** each year.

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Three: *Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm*, we also link these headline targets to improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP outcomes:

- Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### Performance Management

We attended 21 RTC Incidents, to assist with safety of the incident scene and release/extricate occupants trapped in the vehicles as a result of a collision. This is reporting a slight increase on the same quarter last year (19), last quarter (17), whilst reporting a decrease (16%) compared with the three-year average (25). Of the 21 incidents attended 10 required more technical extrication to release casualties. We are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 7 annual target.

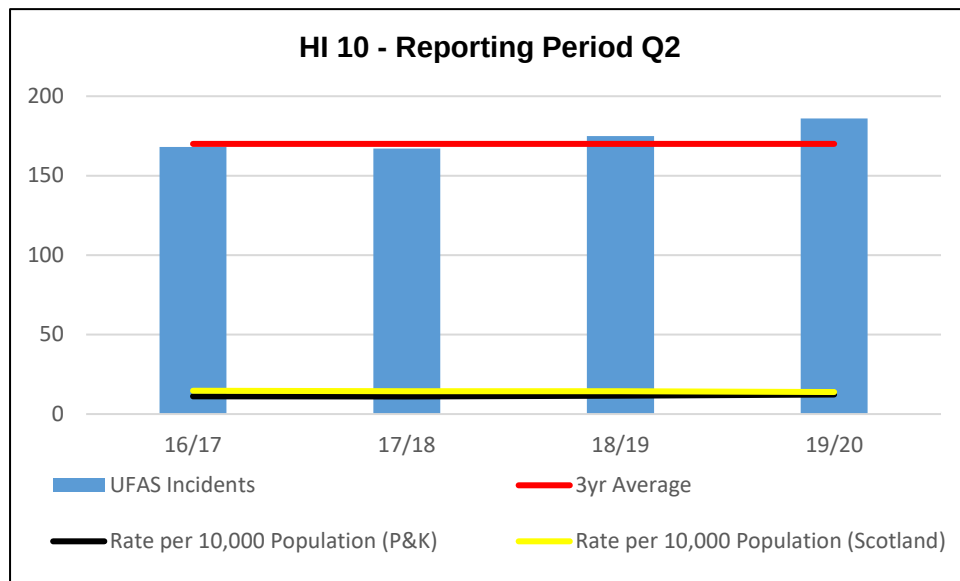
Of the 21 RTC Incidents we attended during quarter two there were no recorded fatalities which is a decrease from previous year for this quarter. YTD there is one fatality, therefore we are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 8 annual target.

Of the 21 RTC Incidents we attended during quarter two there were 12 non-fatal casualties which reflects a significant decrease (43%) on the same quarter last year (21), a significant decrease (45%) in the three-year average (22), and the quarter reflects a decrease on last quarter with 16. YTD we are reporting twenty-eight non-fatal casualties which is the lowest for the last five years, therefore we are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 9 annual target.

This type of incident accounts for around 4% of all incidents and 23% of all special service incidents attended this quarter. However, these types of incidents account for a high number of casualties every year which requires a multi-agency partnership approach to reduce these risks to people on our roads. Road Safety within Perth & Kinross has established a Road Safety Partnership to ensure we review our current position. This multi-agency group is reviewing this area of work locally with a view to establishing priorities for the partnership moving forward which will influence the content of Perth and Kinross Road Safety plan and subsequent actions. The Road Safety Plan is now in place which is supported by an annual action plan. These actions will ensure we work, as a partnership, towards integrating Road Safety initiatives that will reduce the impact of this type of incident locally.

## PRIORITY 4 - REDUCING UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

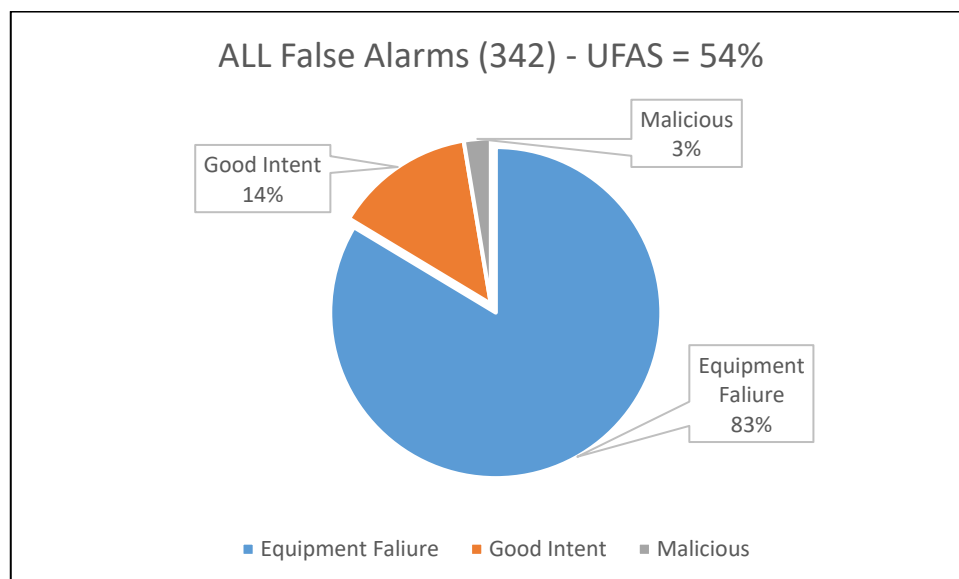
### HI 10 – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



**Table 7: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                       | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 10: UFAS Incidents | 323   | 315   | 332   | 294   | 575           |

### All False Alarms for Quarter two



### Indicator Description

Automatic Fire alarms (AFA) are fundamental to providing early warning from fire, giving people the chance to evacuate safely. However, to be effective, they must be properly installed and maintained, and a good fire safety management regime must be in place by the duty holder, so they do not activate when there is no fire.

Every Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) from an AFA has an impact in terms of unnecessary blue light journeys, redirecting SFRS resources away from other activities such as community safety work and causing considerable disruption to businesses.

#### HI 10 – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)

As a headline target, the aim is to improve fire safety management and awareness, by reducing the number of attendances to unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) from automatic systems in non-domestic buildings to **less than 575** each year.

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Four: *Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals*, we also link this headline target to improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP outcome:

- Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy

### Performance Management

During quarter two 2019/20, SFRS were called out to 186 UFAS incidents from a total of 242 False Alarms. This a slight increase (6%) in comparison to the same quarter in 2018/19 when there were 175 UFAS and an increase (9%) on the 3-year average of 170. In total, UFAS accounted for 33% of our total operational demand and were the cause of 54% of all false alarms in Perth & Kinross during quarter two.

All false alarms are continuing to report a slight downward trend which we will continue to work towards through a number of targeted initiatives driven by SFRS as well as local staff.

The table below lists the 5 property types that had persistent call-outs due to UFAS during quarter two. When analysed further, it is the same property types that are causing UFAS in Perth & Kinross and nationally, the picture is very similar.

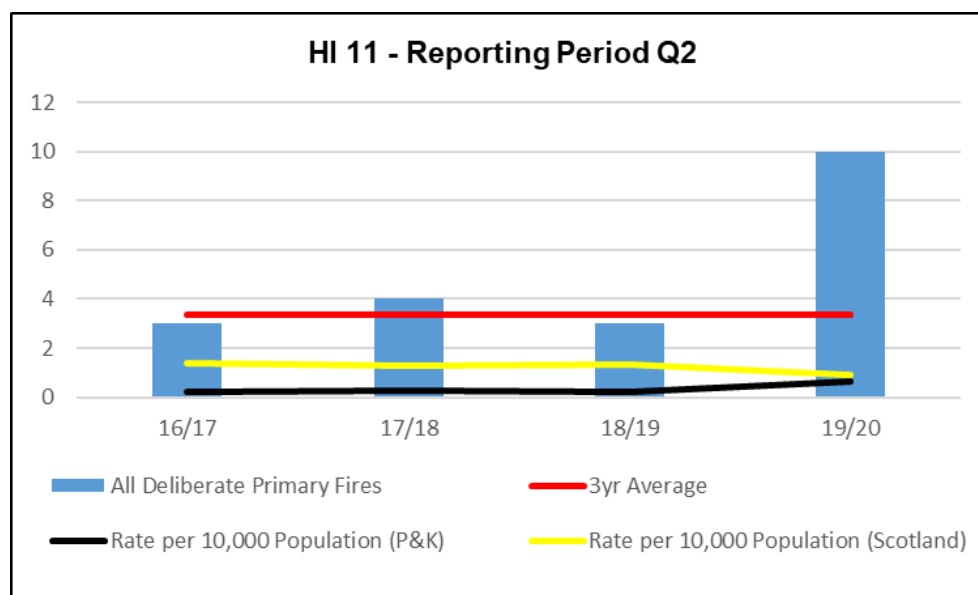
| Property Types - UFAS                               | 19-20<br>Q1 | 18-19<br>Q2 |  | 19-20<br>Q2 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| Retail/Offices                                      | 26          | 26          |  | 47          |
| Residential - Home, Nursing/Care, school, sheltered | 26          | 37          |  | 38          |
| Education, school                                   | 14          | 32          |  | 35          |
| Entertainment and culture                           | 10          | 12          |  | 17          |
| Industrial Processing                               | 8           | 10          |  | 19          |

During quarter two our operational crews continued to investigate the cause of every UFAS event to ensure the appropriate level of engagement with the duty holder when in attendance at these call-outs. Every UFAS incident SFRS attends is used as an opportunity to educate the duty holder about the impact UFAS has on their businesses, the community and the Fire and Rescue Service.

The number of all False Alarms attended by SFRS is on a steady decrease year on year. Based on the annual UFAS Target we have set we are currently showing **Amber** against the HI 10 annual target.

## PRIORITY 5 – REDUCING DELIBERATE FIRES

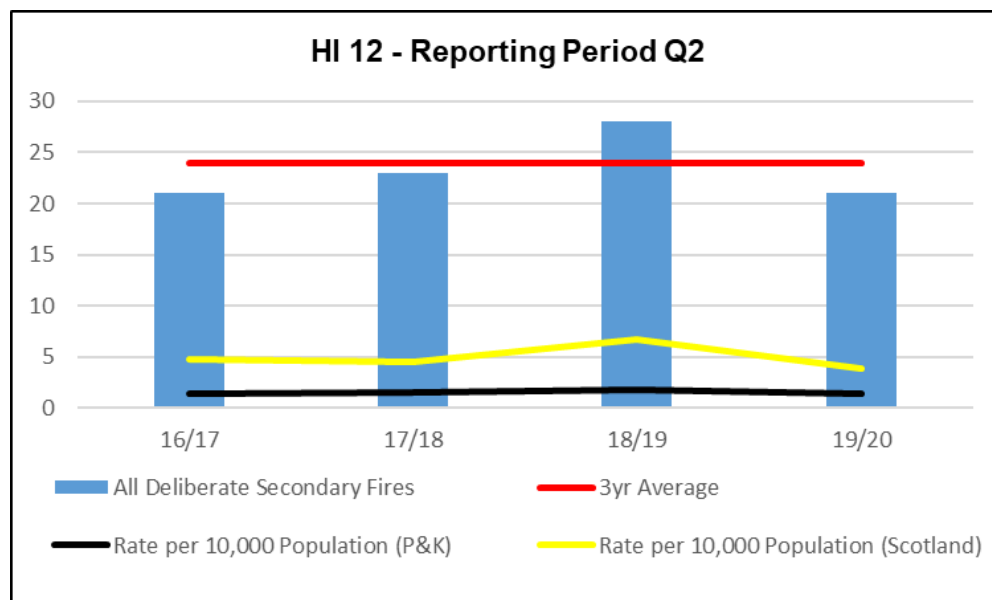
### HI 11 – Deliberate Primary Fires



**Table 8: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                                 | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 11: Deliberate Primary Fires | 18    | 14    | 11    | 16    | 29            |

### HI 12 – Deliberate Secondary Fires



**Table 9: Year to Date (July to September) Performance**

|                                   | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | Annual Target |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 12: Deliberate Secondary Fires | 50    | 63    | 63    | 55    | 85            |

### Indicator Description

These headline and indicators targets account for all types of fire that are believed to have been started intentionally, and are categorised as Deliberate Primary Fires and Deliberate Secondary Fires.

#### HI 11 – Deliberate Primary Fires

These deliberate fires cover the following types:

- Fires in the home
- Fires in non-domestic buildings
- Fires in motor vehicles

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of deliberate primary fires in Perth & Kinross by keeping these fires **below 29** each year.

#### HI 12 – Deliberate Secondary Fires

These deliberate fires cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires and include fires in derelict buildings, but not chimney fires. As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of deliberate secondary fires in Perth & Kinross by keeping these fires **below 85** each year, this exceeds the annual target.

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Five: *Reducing Deliberate Fires*, we also link this headline target to improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP outcomes:

- Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### Performance Management

There were 10 deliberate primary fires reported during quarter two, which is reporting the highest for the last five years, whilst also showing an increase on the three-year average of 3 for this quarter. We are reporting a similar number of fires as the incidents remain relatively low in the long term, Perth and Kinross are in general reporting low numbers for this type of incident year on year. Seven of the incidents reported were outdoor fires, three private sheds, two recycling points and two machinery/equipment. The remaining three were within buildings; a hospital, a retail outlet and a school. This reflects slightly above the year to date target and is therefore showing **Amber** against the HI 11 annual target.

There were 21 deliberate secondary fires reported during quarter two, which is a decrease in comparison to the same quarter in 2018/19 when there were 28 deliberate secondary fires. This also reflects a slight decrease on the three-year average for this quarter with 24. This also reports a decrease on last quarter with 34 incidents. The majority of these incidents were in Perth City area with 10 (48%). Given the target we have set for this reporting year we are showing **Red** against the HI 12 annual target against year to date.

During the last few months we have continued to work with partners to reduce the number of all deliberate fire incidents. This proactive approach particularly around youth engagement to endeavours to reduce the number of deliberate fires, particularly secondary fires, as part of a wider youth awareness education initiative. These included working with local schools to reduce this type of unacceptable, anti-social behaviour. This along with national campaigns coming into the Autumn Season will help to reduce this risk locally. There is continual programme of input each quarter with regard deliberate fire raising, alongside other educational safety programmes, across Perth and Kinross particularly around the Perth City area.

## PRIORITY 6 – EFFECTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

### Description

Risk Management and operational preparedness is a key area of work for the SFRS. In Perth & Kinross, this means:

- Knowing what the risks are in Perth & Kinross and then making plans, so we are resilient to respond to any event.
- Being prepared to respond to national threats or major emergencies.
- Developing flexibility to deploy crews, to take on a broadening role within the community.
- Firefighters being quipped to deal with emergencies safely and effectively and our stations being in a constant state of readiness.
- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An inclusive and sustainable economy
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment
- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being

### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Six: *Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness*, our activities also support improving the following Perth & Kinross LOIP objectives:

- Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### Activity

During quarter two we delivered our quarterly training commitment to operational firefighters, whereby we trained and confirmed their preparedness to deal with:

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Incident Command                   | • Fire Service Ladders |
| • Petrochemicals and Flammable Gases | • Hazardous Materials  |
| • High Rise Buildings                | • Knots and Lines      |

Firefighters continue to visit sites within their station area so that they are familiar with the associated risks and hazards and, if required, can take effective actions in dealing with incidents at these sites. During the second quarter firefighters visited a range of sites to gather Operational Intelligence and review our response plans, these visits included castles, hotels, care homes, high rise, industrial premises and sporting venues.

Helping to build community resilience so that residents are prepared in an emergency is important to us. As a key partner in delivering the Scottish Government's Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Strategy, we equipped members of the public with life-saving CPR skills during quarter two. The introduction of a full time Hydrant Operative will support our stations for water hydrant inspections to check adequate provision and location of water supplies within the area. This also provides the opportunity for crews to familiarise themselves with the locations of hydrants in relation to the risks in their area and link in other activities, such as conducting Home Safety Visits.

On-going recruitment for WT/RDS/VDS firefighters in the Perth & Kinross area continues to be a priority during this quarter. 6 Point of Entry Selection Testing events have taken place at Perth Training Centre to identify and select candidates to undertake training to become whole-time, part time and volunteer firefighters with over 100 candidates attending. Successful RDS / VDS candidates will now attend basic induction, specific RTC and Breathing Apparatus training courses which will ensure stations are staffed appropriately to meet the needs of our communities. Successful WT candidates are now attending a residential training programme at either SFRS National Training Centre, Cambuslang or SFRS Training Centre, Thornton, Fife and will be posted to local WT stations in early 2020.



## APPENDIX 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES

This section provides details of Community Safety Engagement initiatives undertaken within Perth & Kinross during the second quarter of 2019-20, the safer Communities partnership work together to continue to provide various community safety messages, education, training and support which will continue to develop, whilst implementing risk reduction strategies to support our communities, particularly those most vulnerable. This joint work will also support the priorities in the LFRP 2017 and wider Perth & Kinross Council CPP priorities. Some examples this quarter are;

### Antony Nolan Partnership

The SFRS in partnership, along with local schools, support the Anthony Nolan Trust to help secure volunteers for this worthwhile charity work. The most recent event was held at Perth Grammar,



Crieff High and Perth Academy where 130 young adults volunteered to support the stem cell donor register. We will continue to work in partnership with school over the coming months to identify suitable volunteers for this very worthwhile charity.

### Milnathort Event

On 24 September P1 from Milnathort received a visit from Kinross Fire Station. The pupils got some insight about the job of the fire and rescue service as part of their local heroes and their jobs programme. 30 children and 6 adults engaged in a number of home and personal safety messages from their local Firefighters, whilst getting their hands on some of the firefighting equipment. This event was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved.



### Fairfield Event

On the 19 July 2019 SFRS attended sessions at Fairfield housing cooperative as part of a proactive residents' safety programme after a significant fire in the area. The advice and education included several areas around fire and other home safety concerns from residents. Of particular interest was the home safety, fire alarms and emergency plans. The inputs were very well received.



## PKAVS Event

SFRS attended a Positive Integrated session at PKAVs on 10 September along with a range of partners. A very enjoyable day through such enthusiastic participation. This interactive day discussed views on change, opportunities, inclusive services and positive approaches for all and within Perth and Kinross.



## Perth UHI

On 9 September Community Wardens and SFRS attended the freshers information day at Perth UHI a part of a wider partnership to give various inputs to new students. There were a number of safety inputs given around home safety including interactive sessions to improve their skills in CPR whilst also engaging in a number of important home and personal safety advice and education sessions. These were very well received by all involved.



## SFRS National Safety initiatives

The SFRS have continued to deliver, whilst supporting other partners, on a number of national safety, campaigns such as:

Deliberate Fires

Electrical Safety Night Time Routine

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Hair Straighteners

Business Safety

Fire Safety in Rented Property

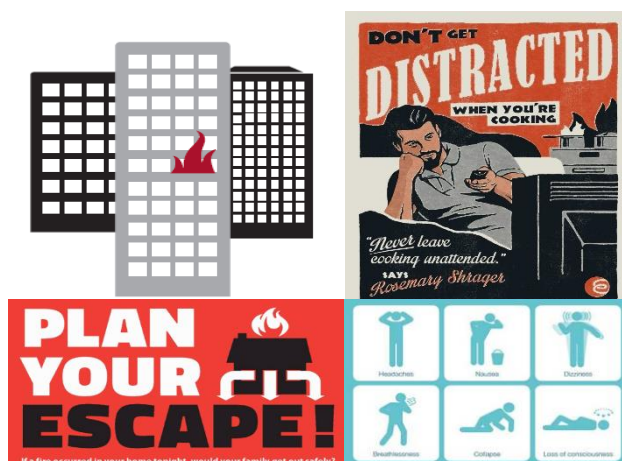
High-Rise Safety

Cooking - Distraction

E-Cigarette

Safety False Alarms In the Workplace

Plan your Escape





SFRS attended 557 incidents of which a number would undoubtedly have had a serious impact on members of our communities and their families, particularly from Road Traffic Collisions, Dwelling Fires and other Special Service Calls. Some of the more notable incidents and events are noted below:

### **Fire at ST. Catherine's Retail Park, Perth**

On Saturday 24 August at 2am Fire appliances from Perth attended a fire alarm activation at Pets at Home. The fire quickly escalated involving the adjacent B&M store. At its height the around 15 Fire appliances were in attendance with support provided from other agencies. The fire was brought under control around 4 hours later as a result of good joint working supported by all agencies in attendance.



Tragically the fire resulted in a fatality. A multi-agency presence remained on scene for a number of days to bring the incident to a safe conclusion. A joint fire investigation was carried out by SFRS and Police Scotland.

### **Road Traffic Collision**

On 13 August around 9am the SFRS, along with other agencies, attended an RTC on the A9 south of Perth towards Auchterarder. This incident involved a horse transporter, single occupant and a horse, along with a number of cars which resulted in the transporter being embedded within a road side trench. There was one casualty trapped in the vehicle which became a complex technical extrication due to position of the vehicle and casualty. The casualty was successfully extricated from the vehicle as a result of good multi-agency teamwork supported by police and medical colleagues.







## **PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**Housing and Communities Committee – 30 October 2019**

### **PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL POLICING AREA QUARTERLY POLICE REPORT 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Report by Chief Superintendent Andrew Todd, Police Scotland 'D'  
Division (Tayside) (Report No. 19/296)**

#### **1. RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 It is recommended that members note and scrutinise this operational report.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report (Appendix A) is to provide information to the Committee regarding the performance of Police Scotland to facilitate local scrutiny.
- 2.2 Appendix A will provide information in relation to some of the work which has taken place within Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area.
- 2.3 The content in this report is for information purposes to allow Board Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

#### **3. PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 Appendix A will provide updates on:
  - Putting Victims at the Heart of What We Do
  - Tackling Crime and Antisocial Behaviour
  - Protecting Vulnerable People
  - Maintaining Public Safety
- 3.2 Although Appendix A provides statistical information, members should note that not all statistical information was available at the time of submission and this information will be provided to members in due course.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

#### **5. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no staffing issues as a result of this report.

#### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

6.1 This report does not have any impact on the environment.

#### **7. SUMMARY**

7.1 The attached report updates members regarding significant operational matters and performance of the local policing area.

#### **8. COMPLIANCE**

Is the proposal;

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) Human Rights Act 1998 compliant? | YES |
| (b) Equality & Diversity compliant?  | YES |



Perth and Kinross Council  
Housing and Communities Committee



Quarter 2 ending 30 September 2019  
Chief Superintendent Todd



# Contents

## Introduction and overview of Divisional Policing Objectives

### Putting victims at the heart of what we do

Outcome 1 – Domestic Abuse

Outcome 2 – Sexual Crime

Outcome 3 – Safeguarding

### Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour

Outcome 1 – Violence

Outcome 2 – Antisocial Behaviour

Outcome 3 – Acquisitive Crime

### Protecting vulnerable people

Outcome 1 – Drug Misuse

Outcome 2 – Exploitation

Outcome 3 – Hate Crime

### Maintaining public safety

Outcome 1 – Road Safety

Outcome 2 – Events

Outcome 3 – CONTEST

### Demand

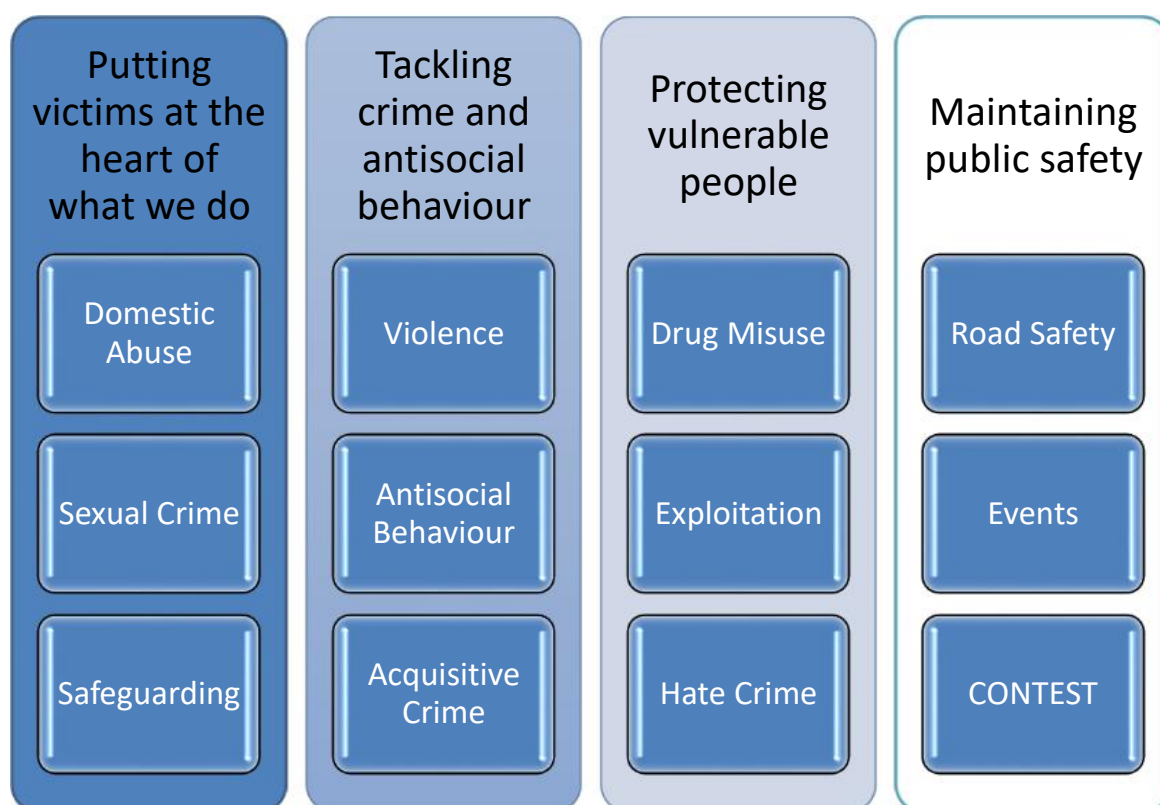
## Introduction and overview of Policing Objectives

As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Divisional Commanders to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The LPP clearly sets out the policing objectives for Perth and Kinross previously reported to the Housing and Communities Committee.

Performance in relation to the identified policing objectives and outcomes is monitored and reviewed at the monthly Tasking and Delivery Meeting. Quarterly reports are produced to allow scrutiny by Perth and Kinross Housing and Communities Committee. This report covers the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019, however will focus on Year to Date (YTD) data from 1 April 2018 to 30 September 2018 and 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Committee Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

This report will make reference to specific crimes mentioned underneath local outcomes, which we refer to as our control strategy.



The information contained within this document compliments Force Priorities and supports reporting through Community Planning Partnership structures.

## Putting victims at the heart of what we do

Having a victim centred approach allows us to consider the needs of victims at all times, working with partners to ensure the response is appropriate allows us to ensure support and preventative work takes place.

We continue to work and utilise specialist resources internally and externally and by ensuring our staff are trained we work hard to ensure our victims feel confident and supported in the service we provide.

### **Outcome 1 - Domestic Abuse**

#### Activity

As of September 2019 Domestic Abuse crimes/offences are 10.8% higher (year to date) than last year (this equates to around 130 crimes). Patterns of Domestic Abuse have fluctuated locally and nationally however the enactment of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 and the offence of a person engaging in an abusive course of conduct results in higher recording rates. This is the result of an additional crime being recorded in certain circumstances where a course of conduct is considered.

#### Results

There are currently 4 individuals within Perth and Kinross subject to proactive enforcement by the local Domestic Abuse Team and the national Domestic Abuse Task Force. These perpetrators are identified by local Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) processes.

In August 2019 a 42 year old male Jason Toms was sentenced to 10 years at the High Court for multiple sexual and physical assaults of 3 adult females over a number of years in Perth. This is representative of the positive outcomes seen from identifying and targeting perpetrators of Domestic Abuse.

#### Challenges

The introduction of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 is a welcome piece of legislation however will challenge the ability of local policing to gather the required level of evidence, particularly in cases of coercive control which has taken place over a number of years. All Police Officers in Scotland are undergoing training to ensure they are properly equipped to understand and deal with this legislative change and the new offences will be the subject of training during the 16 days of activism later in 2019.



## Outcome 2 – Sexual Crime

### Activity

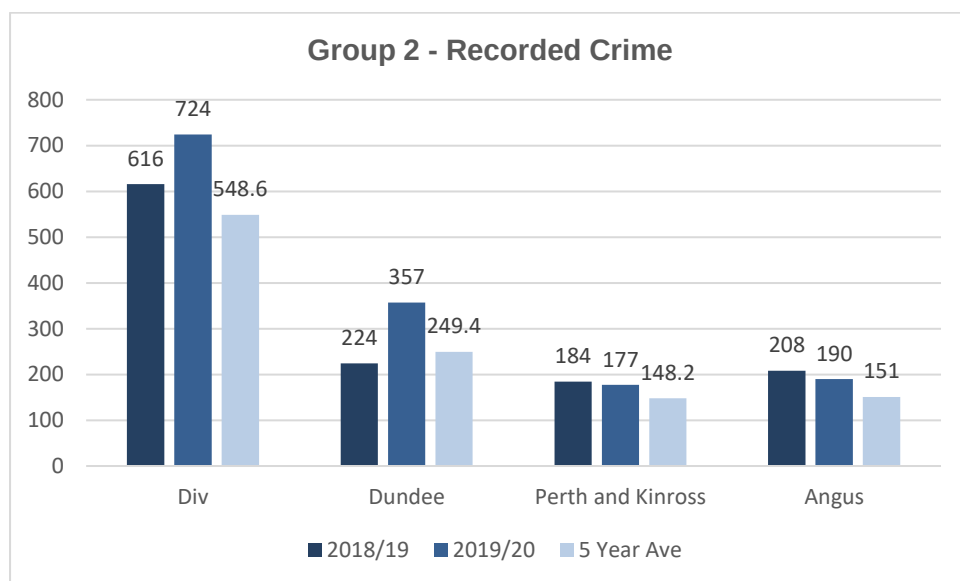
During the reporting period, the volume of recorded Group 2 crimes has decreased by 7 crimes from the corresponding period in 2018/19 - this change is minimal and does not relate to a particular theme. It should be noted that the reported crime continues to be above 5 year averages, a statistic which is seen in other areas of Scotland. Detection rates have increased significantly over the same period, contributing to an overall detection rate of 70.1%, higher than the equivalent figure in the same period of 2018/19 and higher than the five year average.

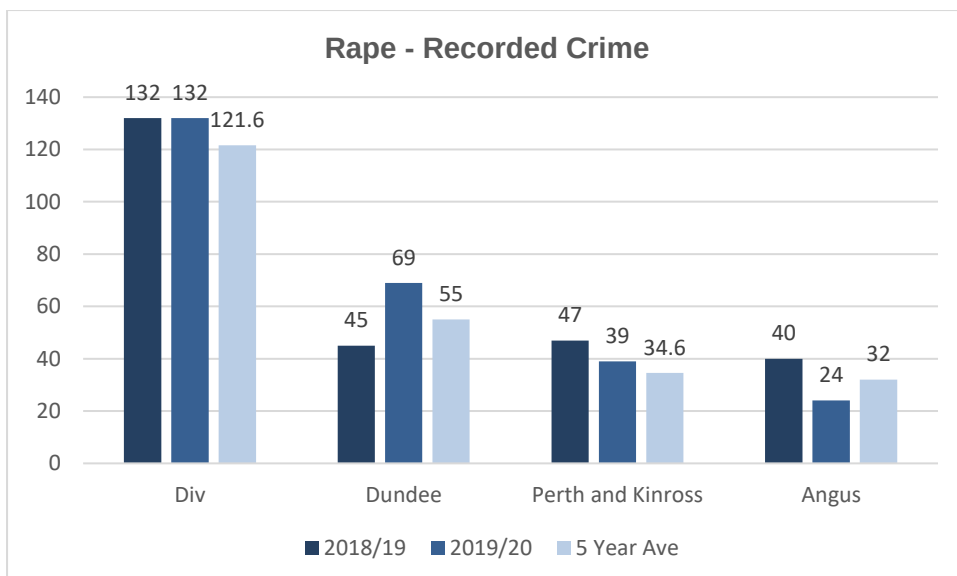
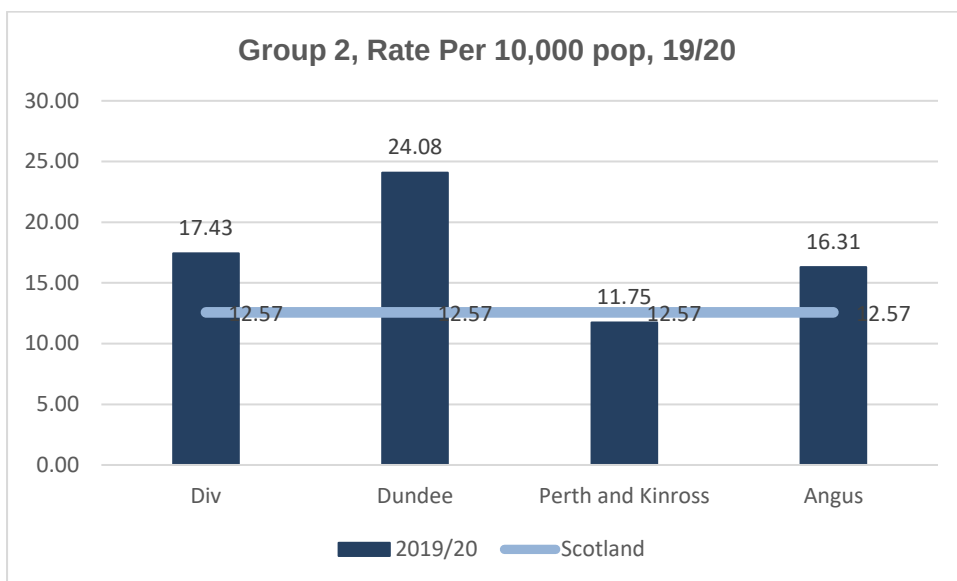
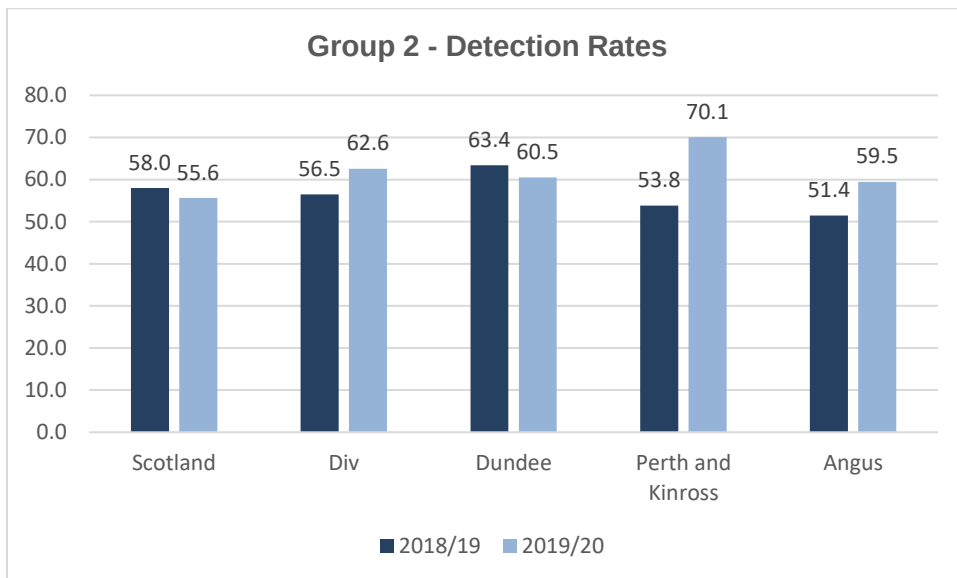
### Results

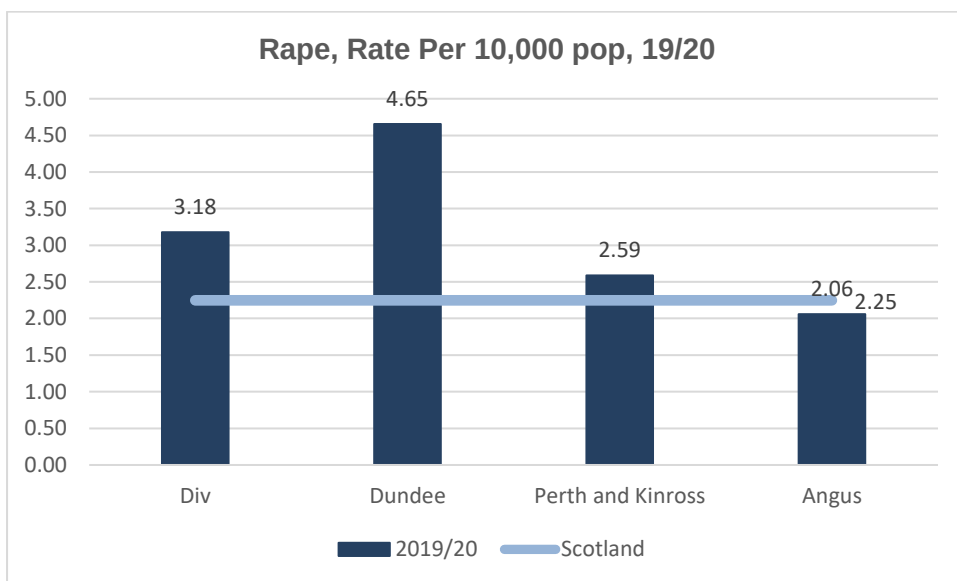
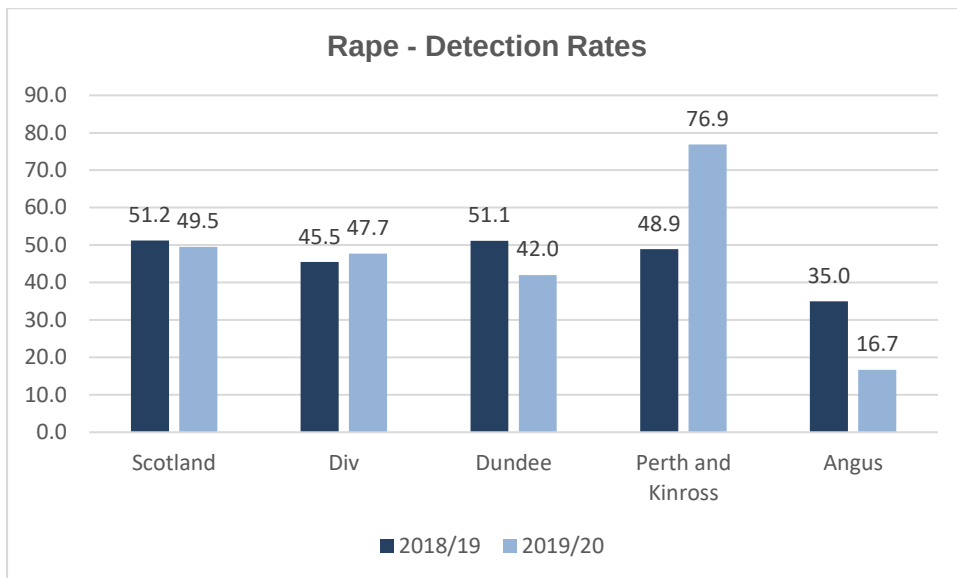
In July 2019, a 52 year old male David Dunn was convicted of multiple sexual offences against children over a number of years in Perth and Kinross. This is representative of the positive work undertaken by Police and Social Work to address current and historic child abuse.

### Challenges

Historical crimes represent 39% of the total crimes reported in Perth and Kinross. In order to respond to the rising demand from historical sexual crimes, a non-recent sexual crime team was launched on 17 July 2019 under the leadership of a Detective Inspector. This will improve standards of investigation in historic cases where evidence gathering can be more difficult.







### **Outcome 3 – Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is a hugely diverse area involving missing persons, concern calls, vulnerability and adult and child protection.

#### **Activity and Results**

In this quarter, Police dealt with 209 missing person incidents in Perth and Kinross. This has increased from 187, for the same period last year. Often these incidents are resolved quickly, however these incidents place a demand on resourcing, especially if an intensive enquiry.

The Missing Person Coordinator for Tayside Division reviews each missing person incident and progresses with internal and external partners to provide expert support.

Within this quarter, officers have provided advice to members of the community, promoting online safety, personal safety and property safety talks within local church groups and primary schools in the Kinross area.

Community Officers have also taken the opportunity to identify local issues from the community by hosting 'Coffee with a Cop' in Alyth, Methven and Perth.

Community Officers have also hosted 'Tea@Two' in Methven and Abernethy to provide support to older people in the community and identify any issues.

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers also spent an evening in August 2019 delivering Operation Shut Out Scammer leaflets to properties in Milnathort. Over 300 homes were visited and the young people engaged with a number of local residents to advise them of the initiative and give crime prevention advice

#### **Challenges**

Mental Health is a resource intensive area in which Police in Perth and Kinross are playing an increasing role, often as first responders. Whilst the implementation of the triage system with NHS Tayside has improved efficiency of dealing with persons in mental health crisis, the volume of incidents has been challenging, and is likely to continue. Solutions are being sought to cope with this increased demand at a national level.

## Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour

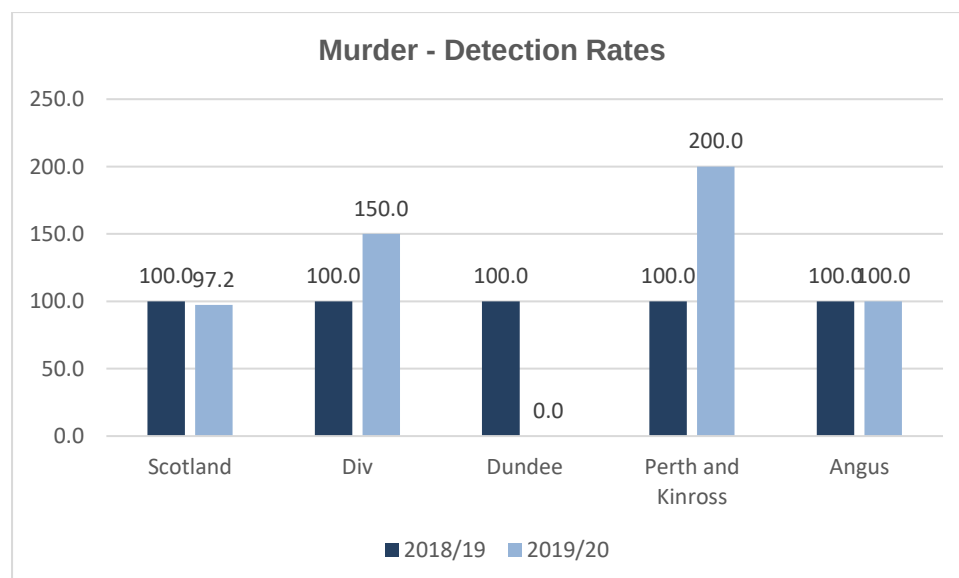
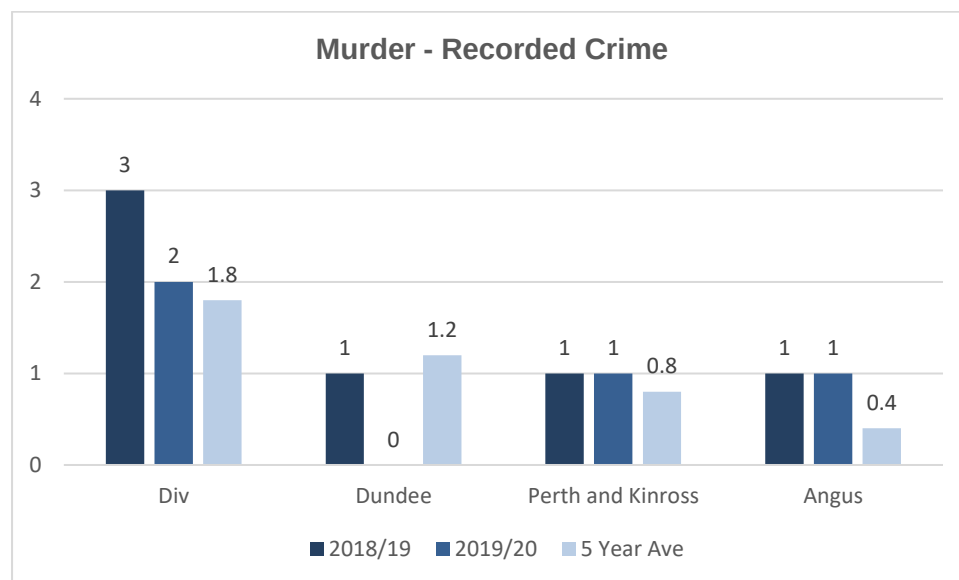
It is recognised that through early intervention and an early response we can prevent escalation and crime occurring and we work hard with partners to achieve this.

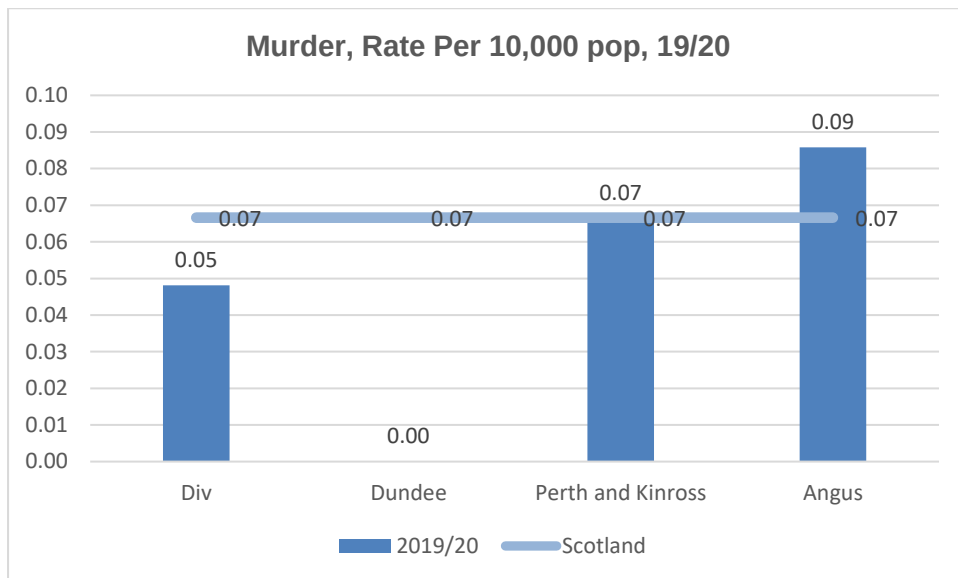
### Outcome 1 – Violence

#### Murder

There have been no murders in the Perth and Kinross area during this reporting period. However, in September 2019, Andrew Morris was sentenced to 16 years imprisonment for the culpable homicide of his son Kane Morris and the attempted murder of a young girl in Coupar Angus in November 2018.

As the figures focus on Year to Date data from 1 April 2018 to 30 September 2018 and 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019, the following figures include the murder that occurred in quarter one.





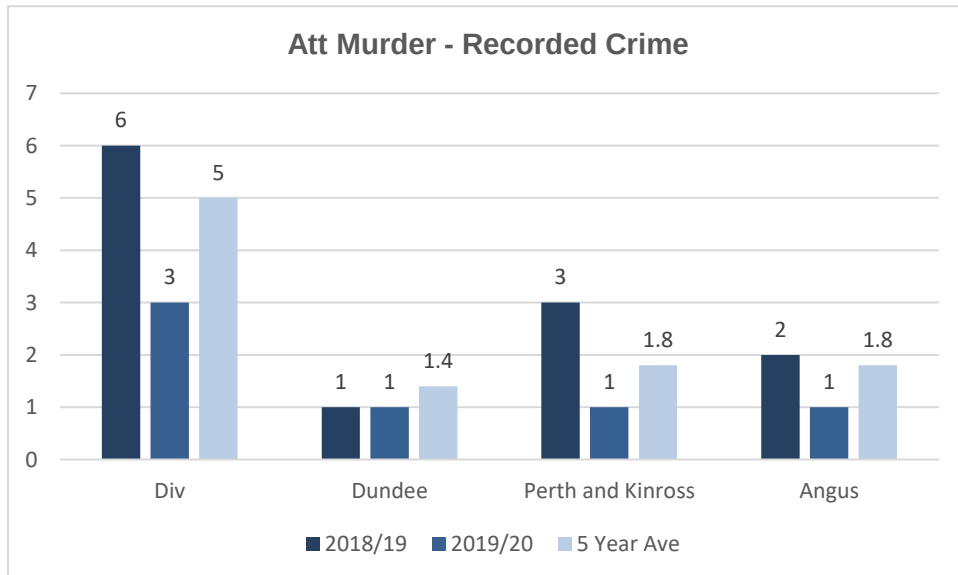
### Attempted Murder

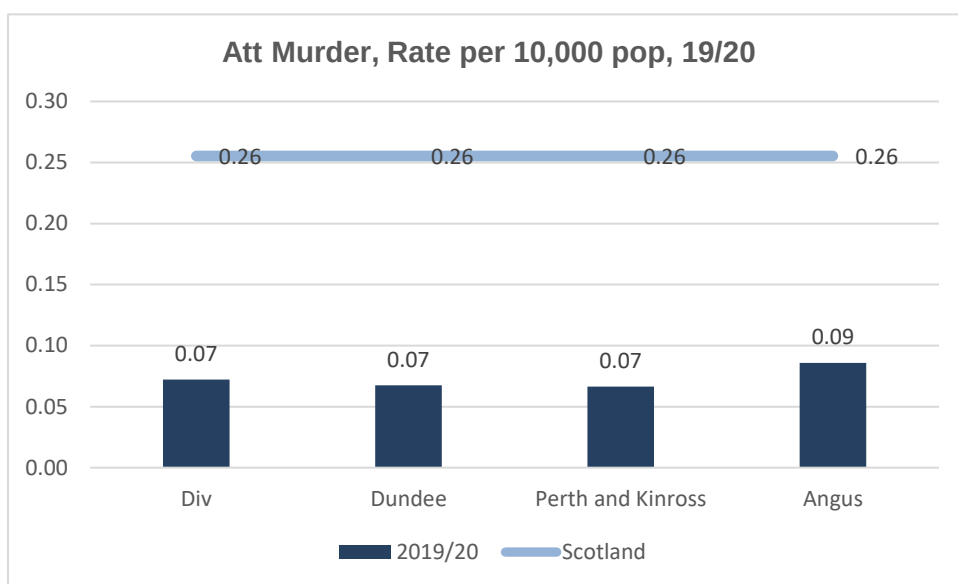
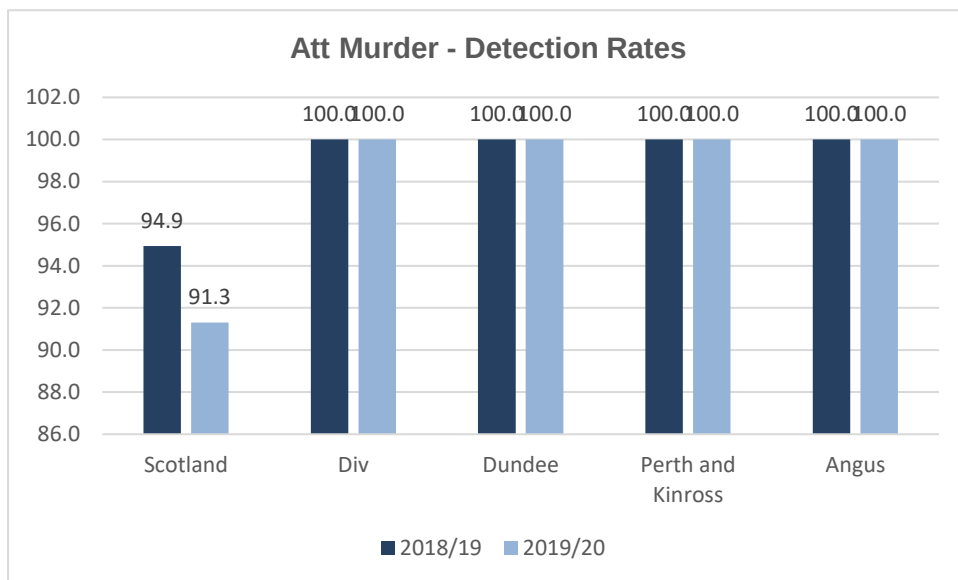
In September 2019, an attempted murder in Perth occurred involving a male approaching a female unknown to him, whereby the male cut the female to the body with a sharp implement.

Extensive CCTV work was carried out and a 20 year old and a local male was identified. The male has been arrested and charged with this offence and has been remanded in custody.

The victim was successfully treated by medical staff and supported by officers.

There was significant social media interest in this incident.





## Serious assaults

### Activity and Results

There has been a significant decrease in serious assaults in Perth and Kinross for this reporting period.

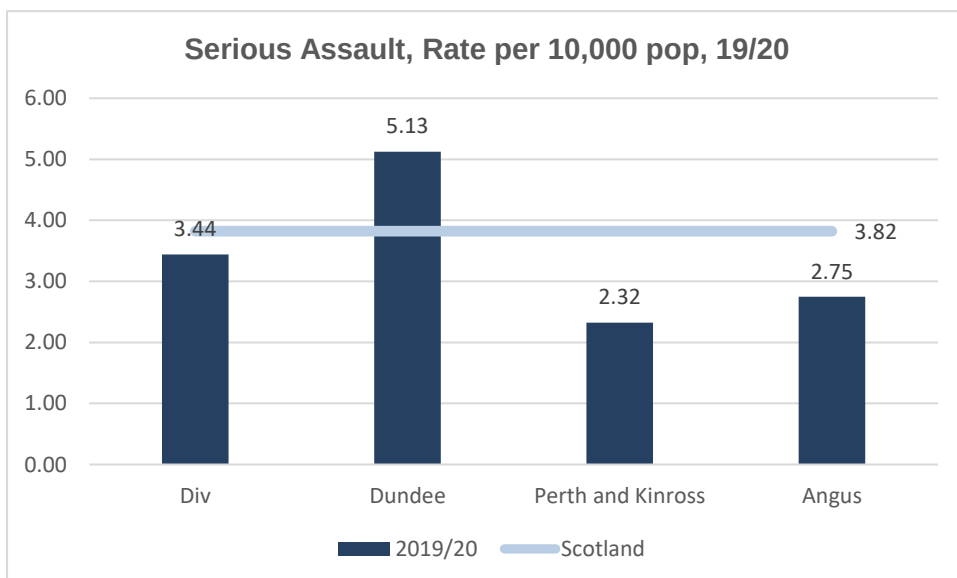
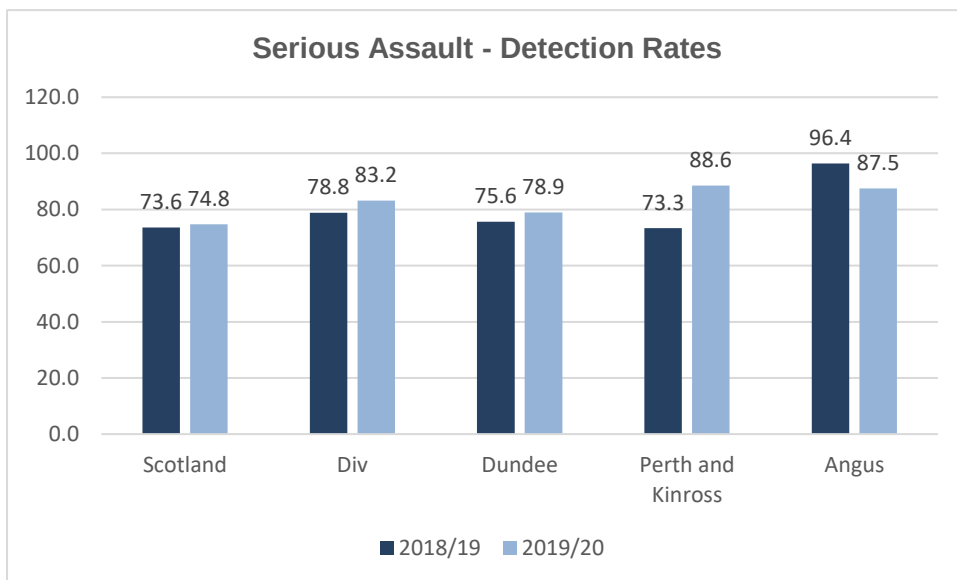
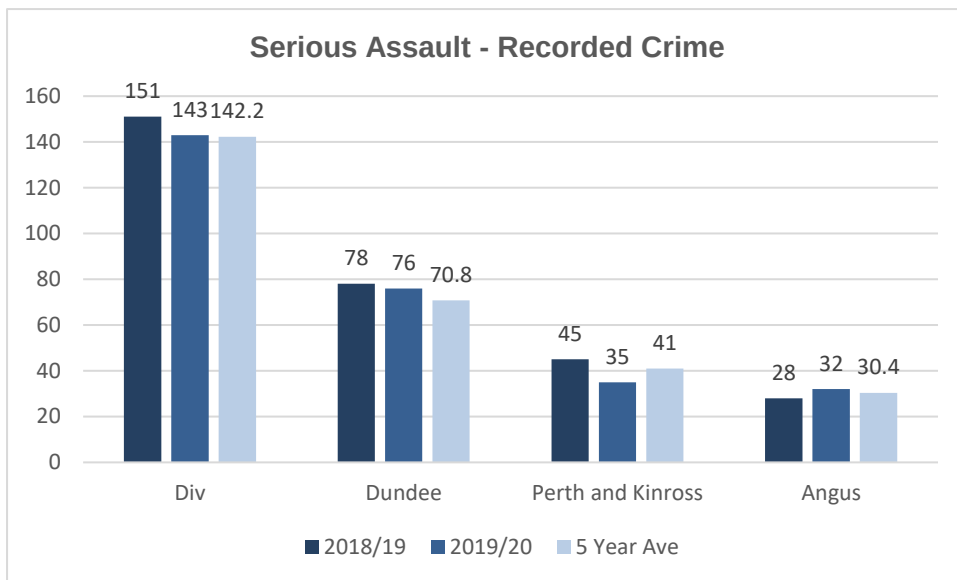
### Challenges

The vast majority of serious assaults have occurred between persons known to each other. Some have taken place indoors in a domestic setting, with one occurring in a prison setting.

Not all have involved the use of weapons, however over the reporting period the weapons used include a hammer and a kitchen knife.

Three victim's sustained injuries from having being bitten by offenders in three separate incidents.

A number of assaults involved the consumption of alcohol by either or both the victim or perpetrator, although none have occurred within a licensed premises.





## Assaults

### Activity

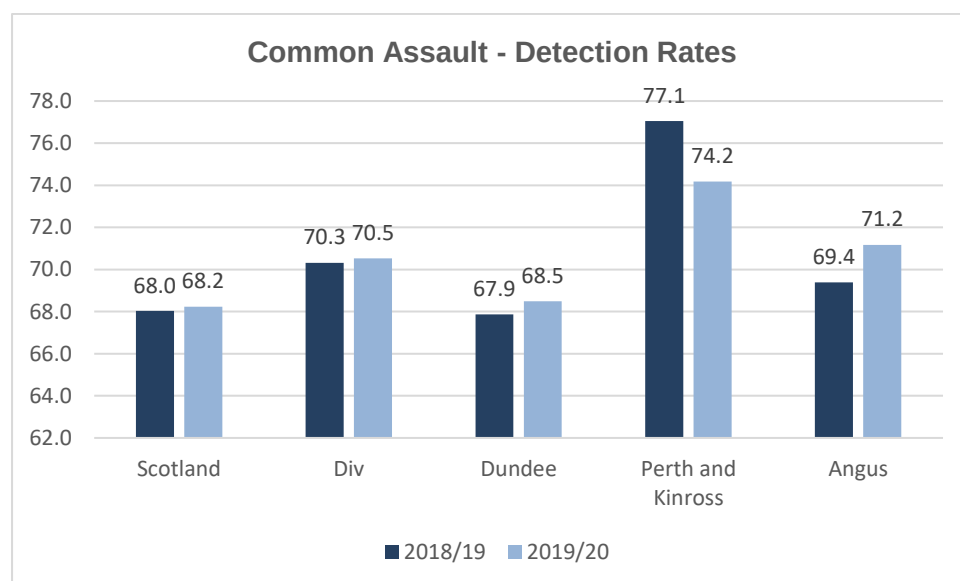
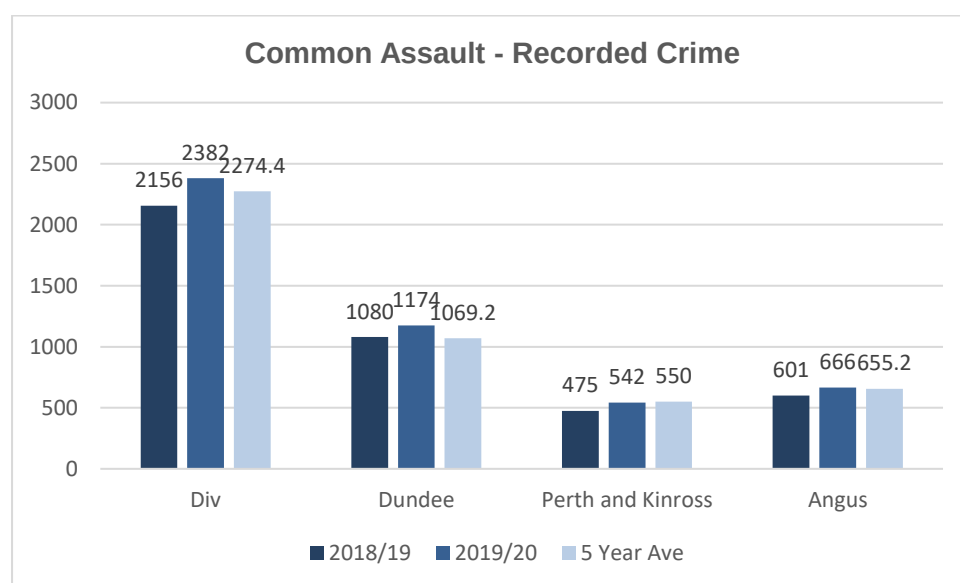
Focused patrols are carried out in Perth and Kinross to prevent violence, including outside licenced premises.

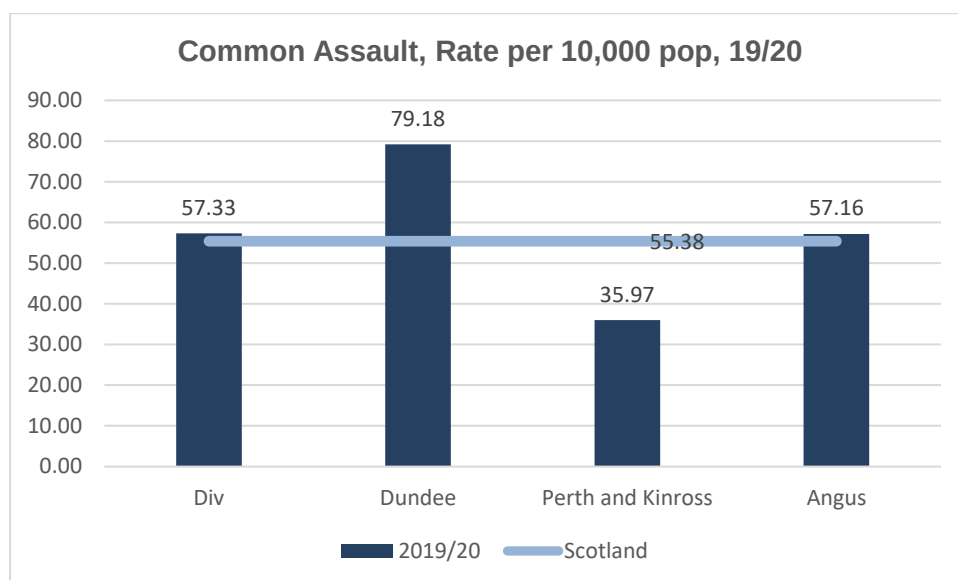
### Results

Common assaults have increased in Perth and Kinross and although they have increased, they still remain under the five year average.

### Challenges

Often persons involved in these type of incidents, which generate multiple crimes are unwilling to engage with Police. This hampers the evidence gathering process, which adversely affects the detection rate.





## **Outcome 2 – Antisocial Behaviour**

### **Activity**

There has been an increase in the number of vandalisms reported during the reporting period, year on year, but the figure still remains below the 5 year average.

Constable Euan Mitchell continues to lead the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) Scheme in Perth and Kinross and during this reporting period PSYV Perth carried out Operation Streetwise evenings. During Streetwise the young people carried out environmental surveys within the local area targeting issues such as graffiti, littering, damaged street furniture, signs of drug abuse, etc. They noted down issues and took photos of areas of concern and graffiti, compiling a report to Perth and Kinross Council Safer Communities team for further action.

Community Officers from Tayside Division have continued working in conjunction with officers from Forth Valley Division to tackle anti-social behaviour and alcohol related violence within Loch Lomond National Park, specifically at Loch Earn (Operation Ironworks).

As previously mentioned, Community Officers have attended 'Coffee with a Cop' in Perth focusing in areas that are currently effected by anti-social behaviour or youth disorder, to understand all issues but also to provide a police presence to defuse this behaviour.

### **Results**

Operation Ironworks has also resulted in the detection of a number of individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol.

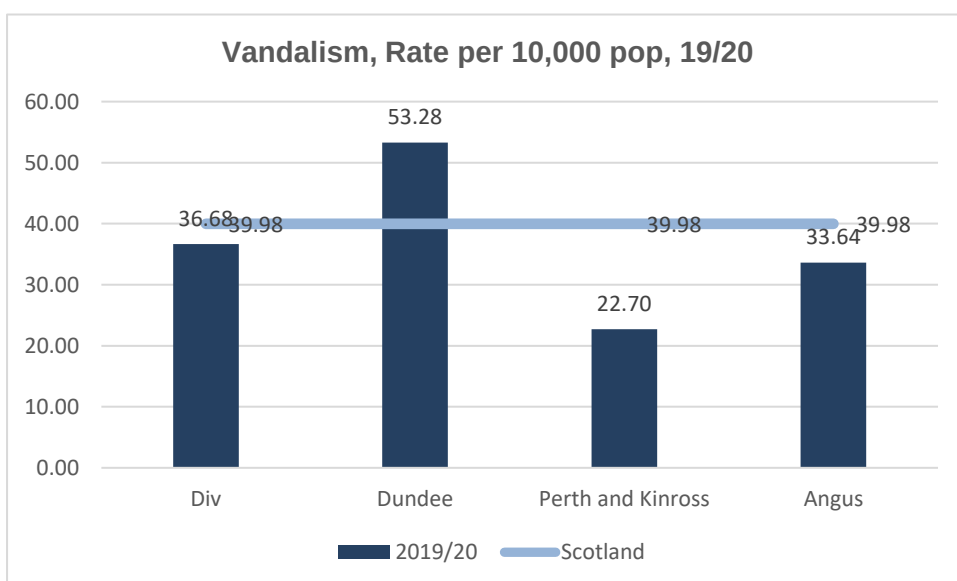
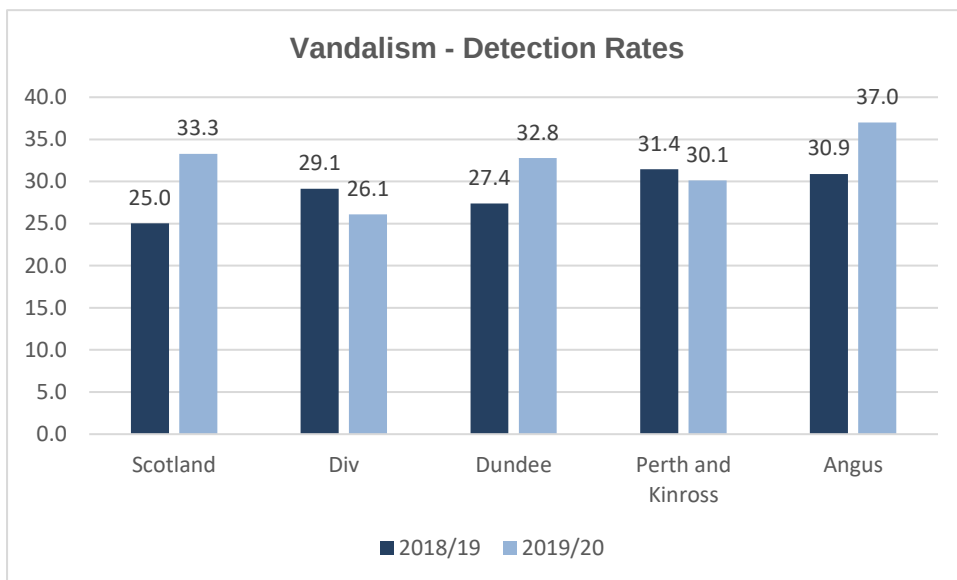
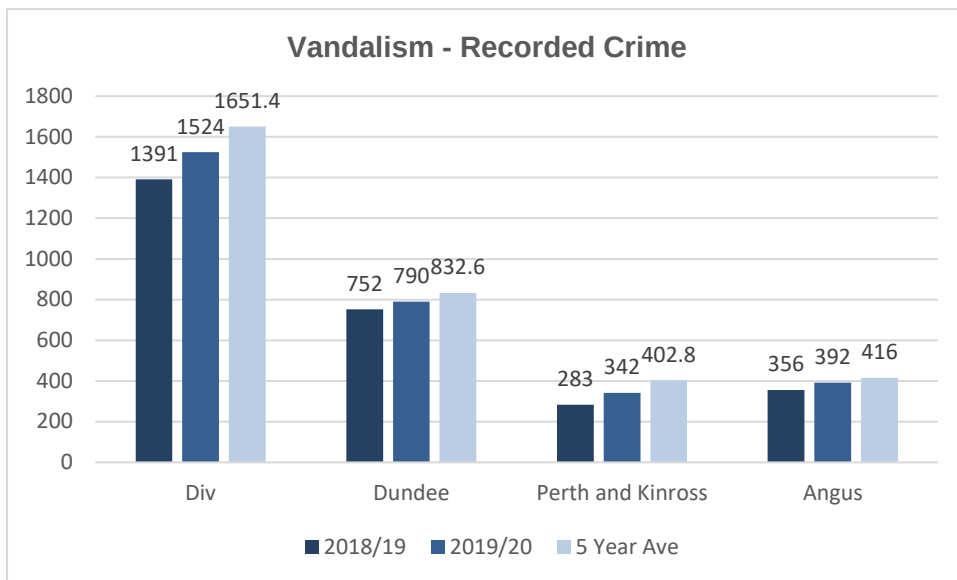
In relation to the fireraising that occurred at Oakbank Primary School in July 2019, extensive enquiries have been conducted by CID and 4 juveniles have been identified from CCTV and have been reported.

In relation to the fireraising that occurred at Viewlands Primary School in July 2019, positive lines of enquiry are being progressed and it is anticipated the individuals responsible will be traced in the next reporting period.

During this reporting period, officers worked closely with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in relation to the fire at St Catherine's Retail Park, Perth.

### **Challenges**

The rural location of Loch Earn when those attending and camping overnight have consumed alcohol often leads to confrontation with police officers and difficulties with requesting for the campers to remove themselves from the area.



## Alcohol and Licencing

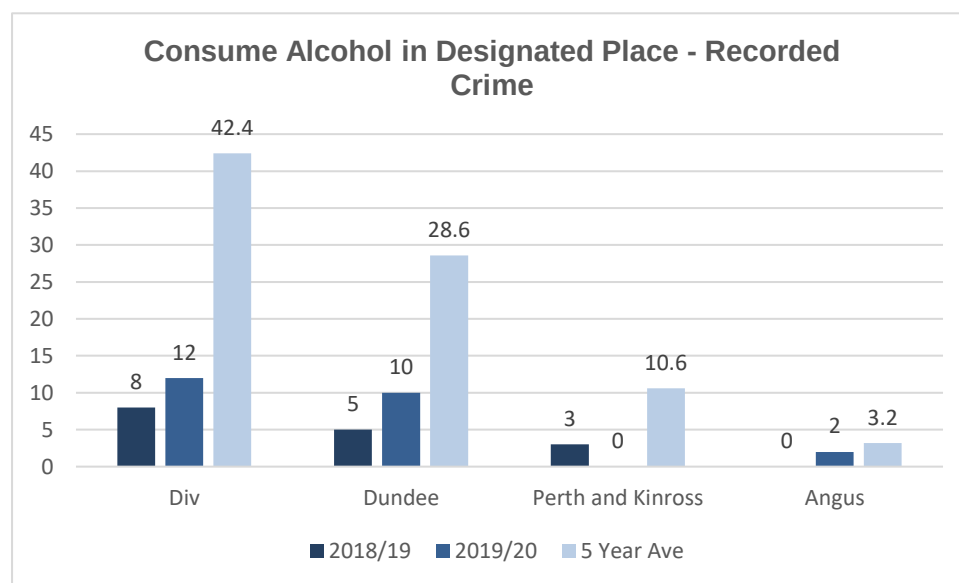
### Activity

There have been no offences detected in relation to consumption of alcohol in designated public places.

Licensed premises are visited on a regular basis by both response and community officers, of which there is regular dialogue in particular with licensees at the nightclubs in Perth City (Loft/Ice Factory and The Bank/Venue) to identify events that may require additional police attention.

Officers work with licensees and staff to ensure premises are being run appropriately and in accordance with the legislation, providing support and guidance where necessary.

Officers have visited and recorded over 600 licensed premises visits during this reporting period.



## Outcome 3 – Acquisitive Crime

### Distraction Thefts

There have been fourteen distraction thefts that have occurred across D Division, including Perth and Kinross, during this reporting period. Officers from Perth Community Investigation Unit carried out a thorough investigation, linking in with officers and intelligence units in England, collating all cases and identified a male from England was responsible, that was unknown in Scotland. The male is currently in custody in England.

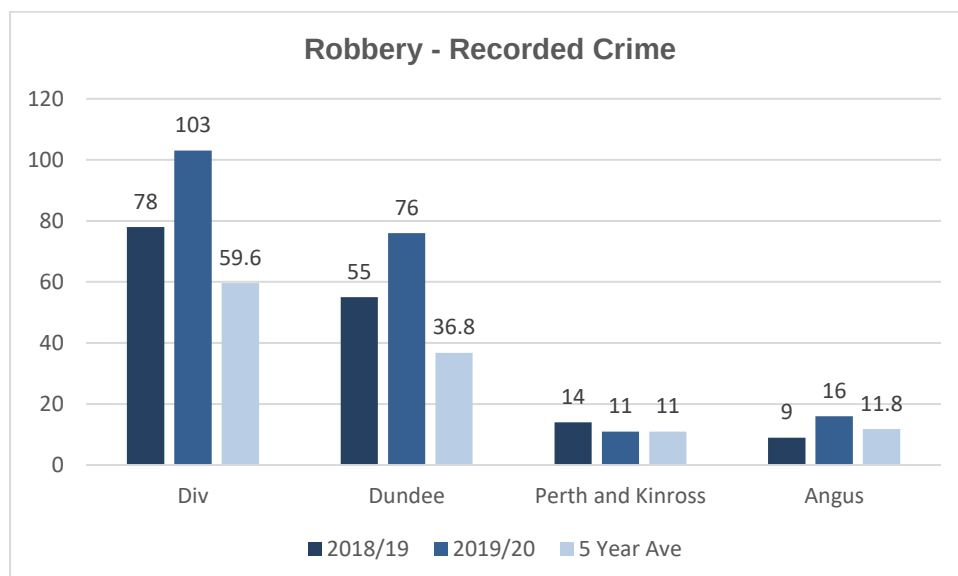
Regular messaging is provided by various media feeds including the weekly bulletin.

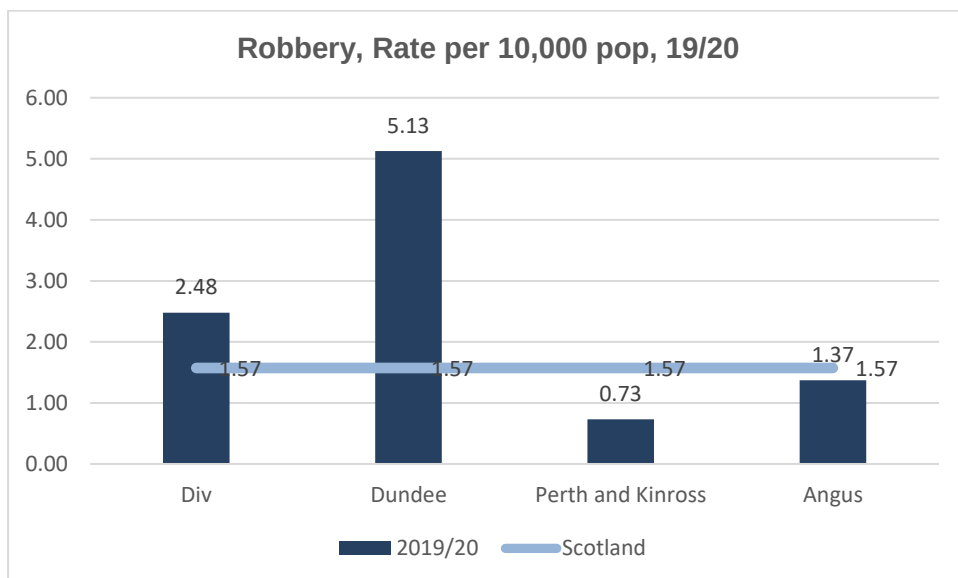
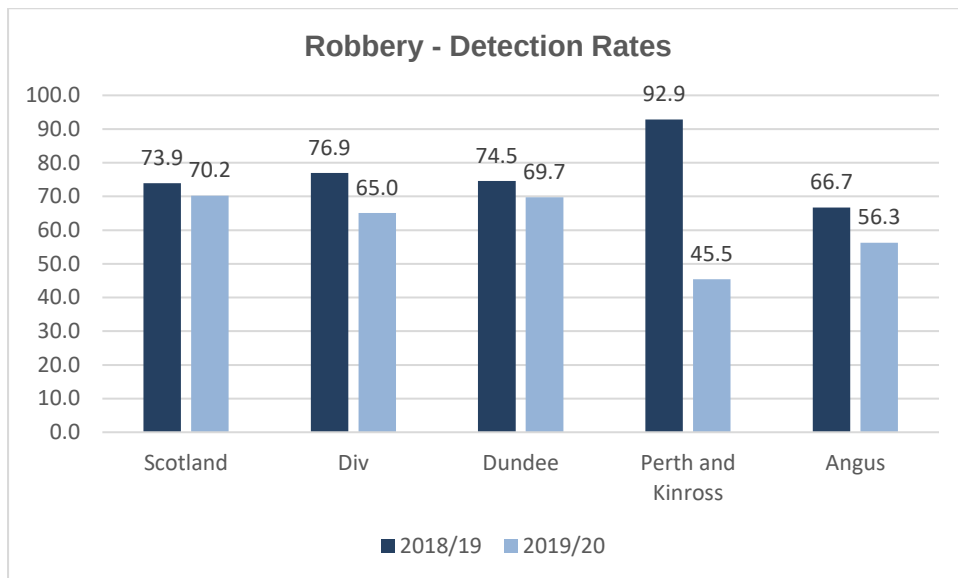
### Robbery

Four robberies have been reported during this reporting period. One occurred when unknown persons have attended and forced their way into a victim's home. This has been assessed to have links to controlled drugs and CID are currently leading this investigation, although is proving challenging due to limited witnesses and CCTV opportunities.

Another has been fully investigated and after extensive investigation and CCTV analysis it has been established the person reporting has provided a false statement, resulting in the individual being reported for wasting police time. This incident will be updated on the police systems as 'no crime'.

Of the remaining two, one occurred in a domestic setting and relates to a theft of a mobile telephone, the suspect has been reported to COPFS for the violence element but there is insufficient evidence to support the appropriation of the telephone. The last one was brought to the attention of police by Scottish Ambulance Service who responded to a male with an injured hand, to date the victim has been unwilling to corporate with police to allow the circumstances to be ascertained. CCTV reviews have been unable to identify the location of this crime or any persons involved. This will likely remain undetected.





## Domestic housebreaking / Sneak in Type Thefts

### Activity

Kinross Community officers have worked with Police Scotland Youth Volunteers by carrying out a leaflet drop in the area regarding recent thefts.

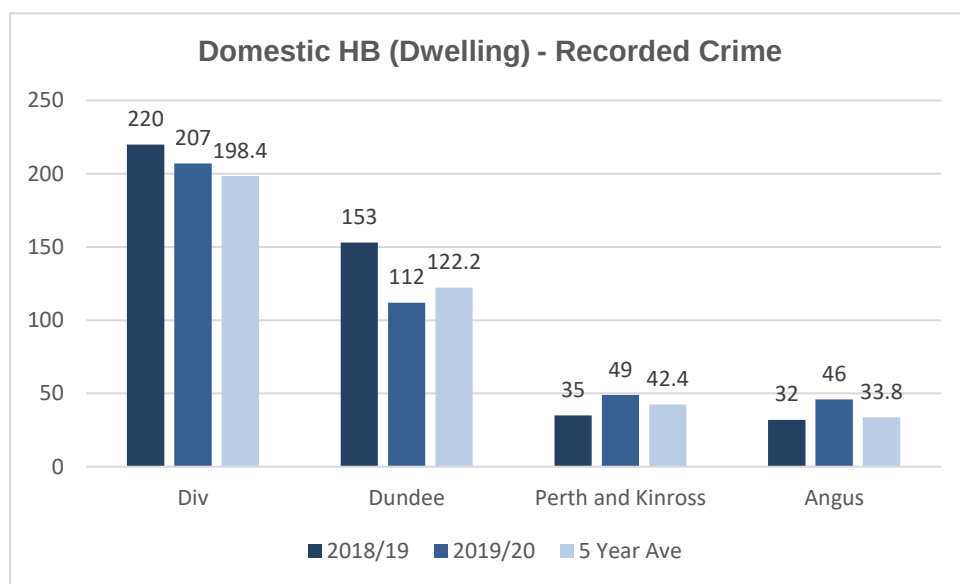
### Results

A number of sneak in type thefts have been committed during the reporting period in Crieff and Perth areas targeting vulnerable elderly people. As a result of investigation by response and community investigation unit officers, a polish male has been arrested and remanded in custody.

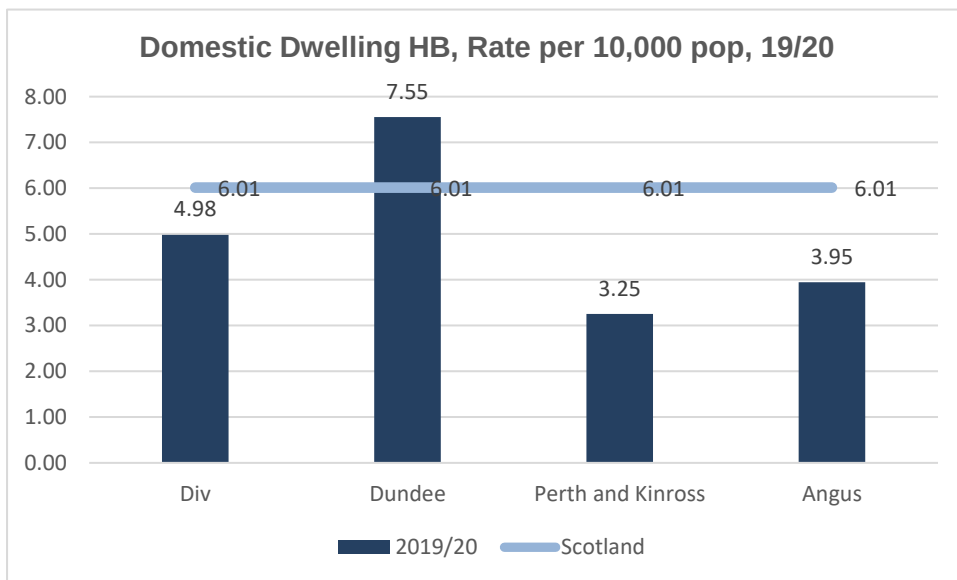
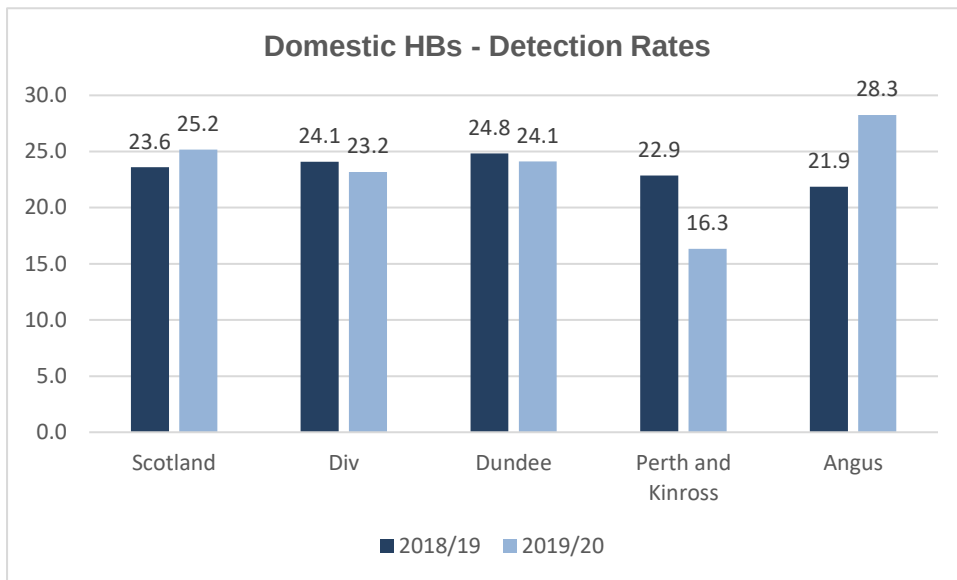
As a result of DNA evidence, the housebreaking that was committed at Perth College in April 2019 has been detected during this reporting period, two juveniles have been identified as being responsible and evidence has been used to provide corroboration for other offences of fire raising at schools in Perth.

### Challenges

As mentioned in previous reports, detecting housebreakings in rural locations can cause challenges to Perth and Kinross as they are often committed by travelling criminals, utilising minor roads or unclassified roads to avoid detection. Due to this regular contact is carried out with neighbouring divisional officers to identify similar crimes and carry out joint patrols between boundaries.







## Motor vehicle crime

### Activity

There has been an increase in the thefts of quad bikes and trailers from Perth and Kinross, of which a number of enquiries are ongoing.

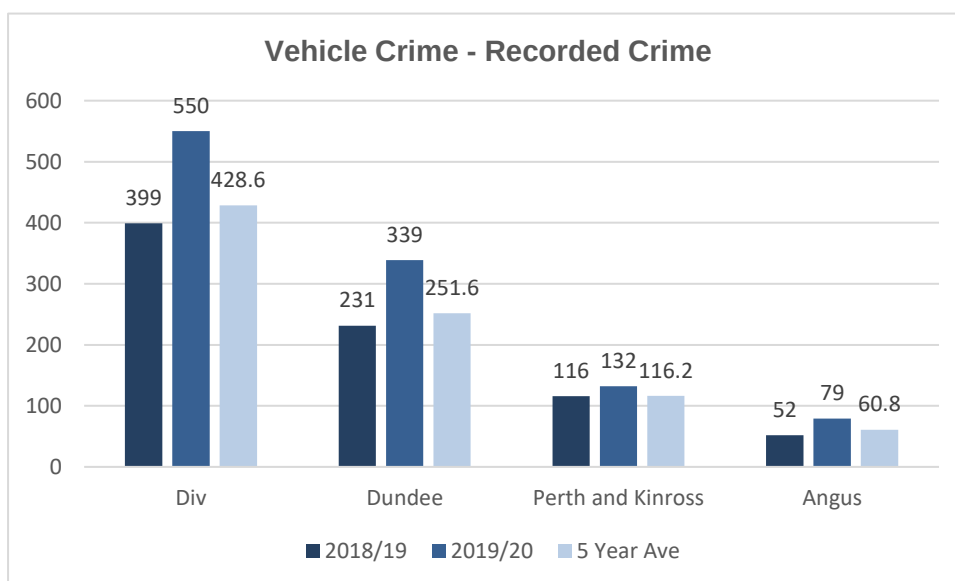
Kinross Community officers have worked with Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to carry out leaflet drops in the area regarding the recent thefts.

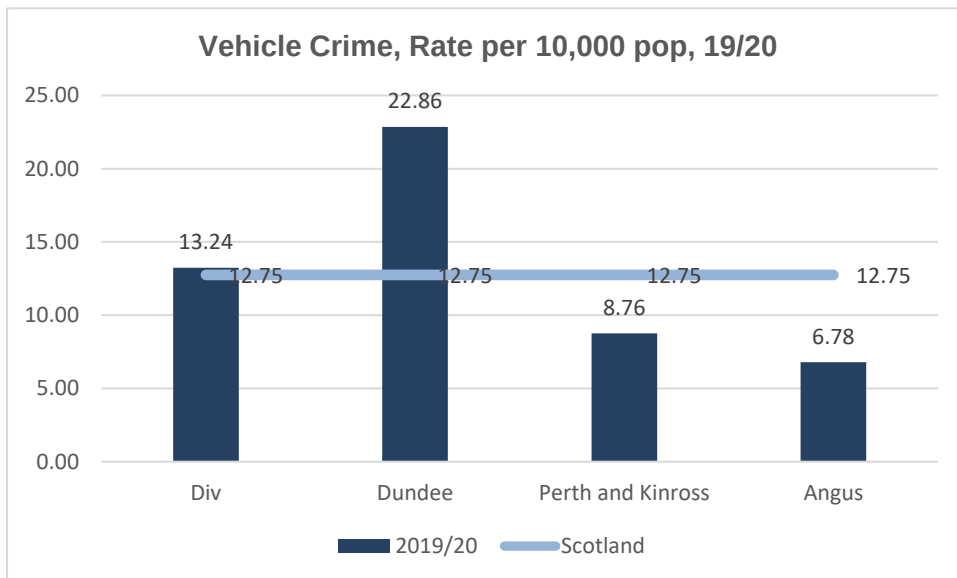
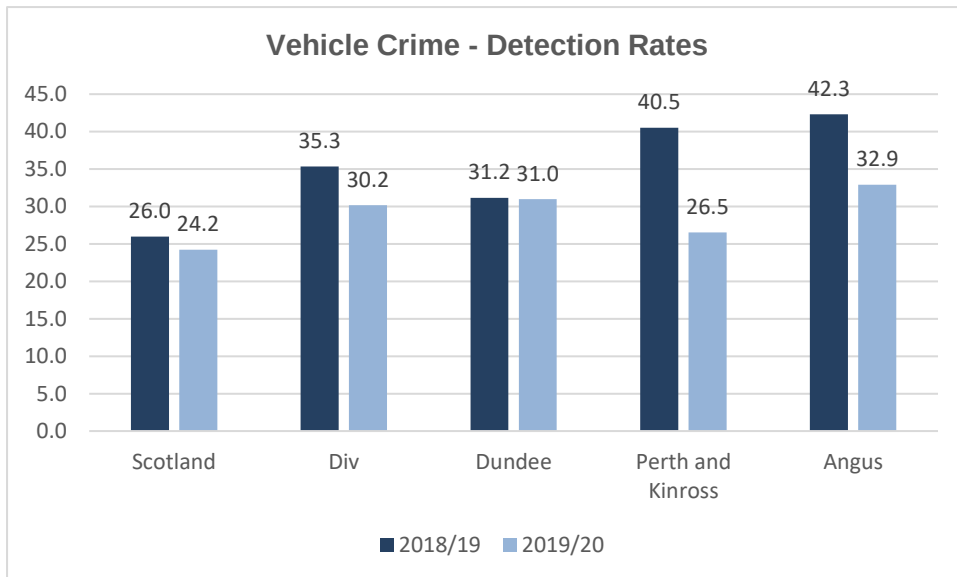
### Results

During this reporting period, a quad bike was stolen from the Milnathort area along with a Ford Ranger from the Tibbermore area and a trailer from Auchterarder. An investigation was carried out and, these vehicles and trailer were recovered in Fife, along with golf clubs and power tools stolen from the Broughty Ferry area. As a result two nominals from Fife have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

### Challenges

Acquisitive crime in rural locations is often committed by travelling criminals, which is suspected to be the case in the undetected thefts as they utilise minor or unclassified roads to avoid detection. Due to this regular contact is carried out with Fife Division and Forth Valley Division officers to identify similar crimes.





## Theft by shoplifting

### Activity

The increasing use of CCTV within shop premises assists greatly with the identification of suspects and detection of those responsible.

Community officers continue to engage with local business owners and shop owners in relation to security and education of staff in regards to preventing shoplifting.

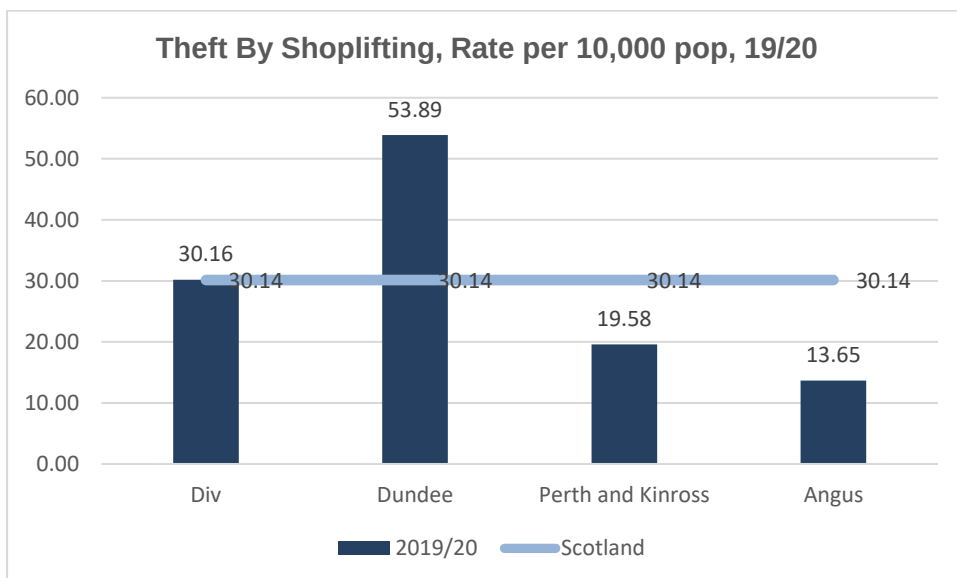
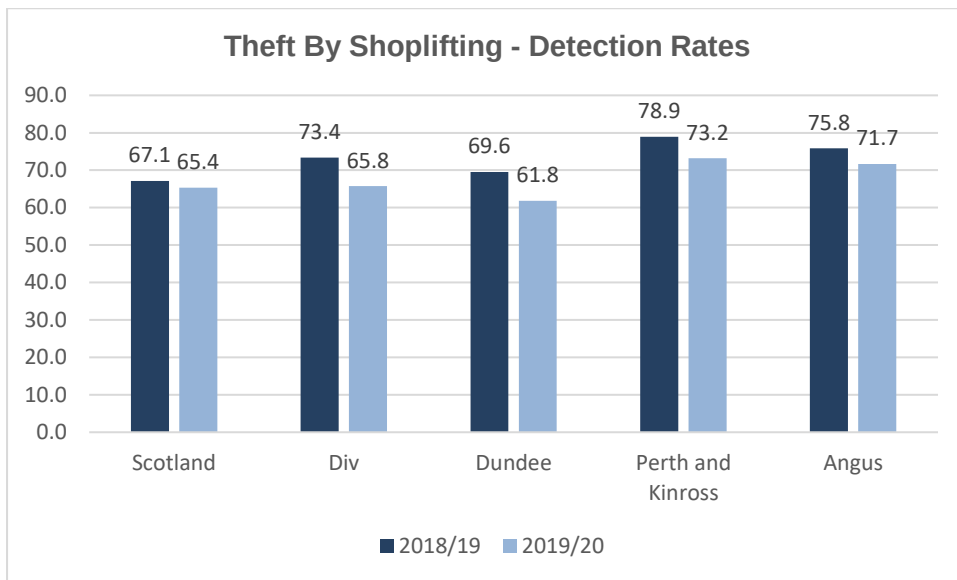
### Results

There has been a decrease in thefts by shoplifting during this reporting period and Perth City have recently detected cases where two different accused were identified and labelled with seven different shoplifting charges.

### Challenges

High visibility patrols have been effected during this reporting period due to abstractions in relation to the numerous events held in Perth and Kinross and the division. As the events are now reducing, focus will be on preventative measures during the next reporting period, especially leading into the festive period.





## Fraud

### Activity

Social media campaigns have been focused around preventative messaging linked to phishing to prevent people responding to generic emails or sharing their personal information.

Work continues with Trading Standards to identify and target those involved in Bogus Caller activity. The types of activity people have reported concern around are household repairs, gardening work and unnecessary repairs.

Police Scotland Safer Communities Crime Prevention Week will take place between 21 and 25 October 2019, which will cover Home Safety, Cyber Crime, Shut Out Scammers, Personal Safe and Vehicular crime. As part of this campaign, an event will be held in Perth High Street between 1000 and 1400 hours, 23 October 2019, involving Tayside Division's Preventions Team, Trading Standards and Community Wardens where information will be provided to members of the community regarding crime prevention and financial harm.

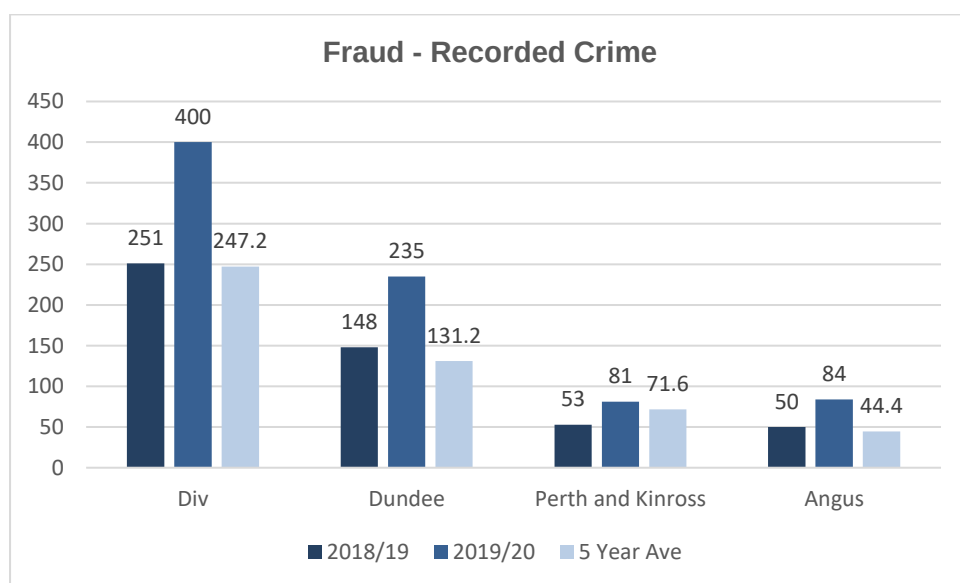
### Results

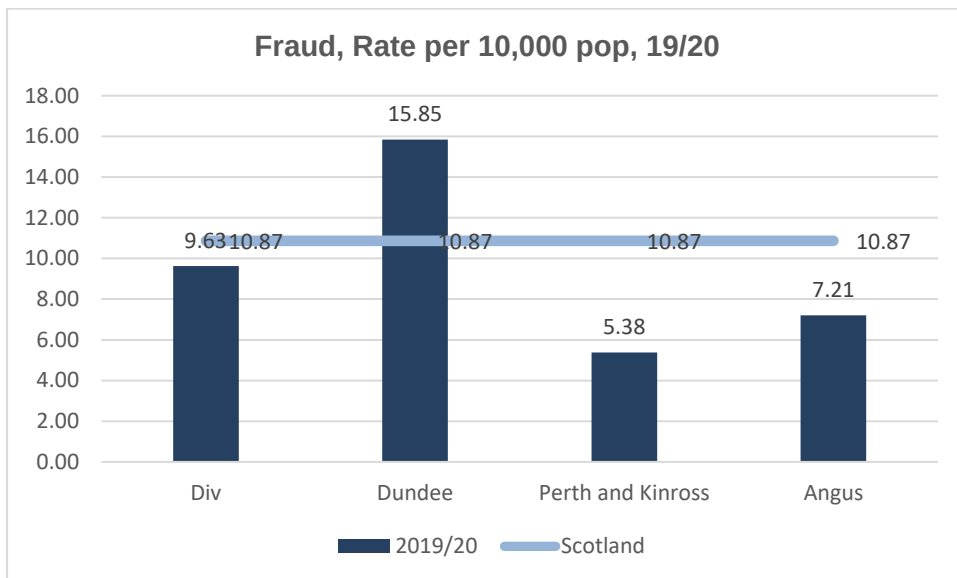
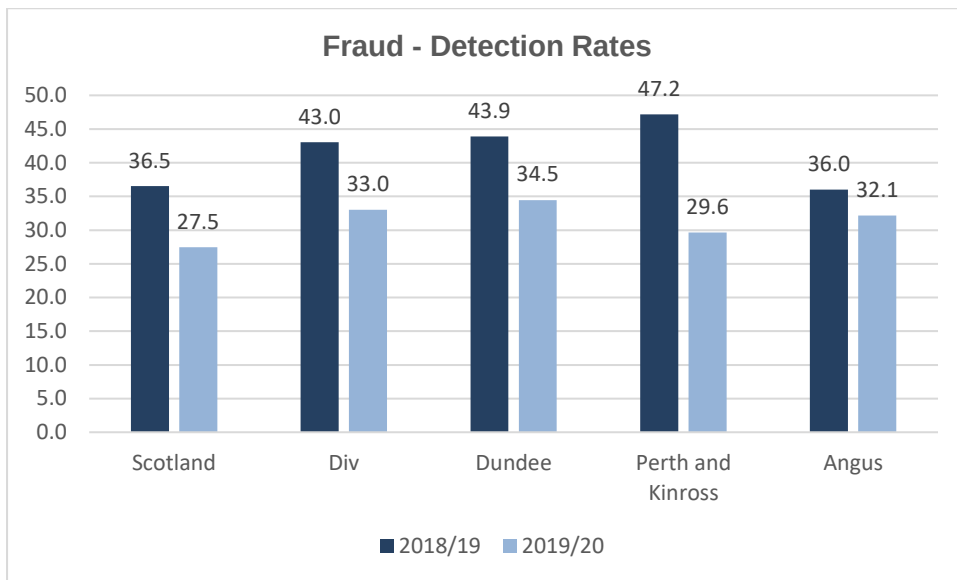
During this reporting period, a number of bank cards were stolen from Crieff Hydro and Gleneagles Hotel. Community Investigation Unit officers, are currently conducting an investigation and have identified males linked to an Organised Crime Group from Coventry known for fraud and theft throughout the UK as being responsible. A report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal in due course.

### Challenges

Fraud continues to be a challenging crime to investigate due to the wide variety of means of perpetration and the fact these crimes are often committed by individuals out with Scotland or on line.

Criminals are becoming more and more sophisticated and information has been received indicating individuals have already used the circumstances around the demise of Thomas Cook to target people across Tayside.





## Protecting vulnerable people

### Outcome 1 – Drug Misuse - Possession of drugs

#### Activity

During this reporting period, a day of action was instigated by Constable McRae, Prison Liaison Officer in conjunction with Scottish Prison Service (SPS) staff to target visitors attending HMP Perth and introducing controlled drugs (and any prohibited articles). The operation also utilised intelligence officers and drugs dogs. Although no arrests were made, this operation highlights the proactive work being carried out by both services to visitors, emphasising this crime will not be tolerated.

Constable McRae is also organising training for SPS staff, to increase their knowledge on the requirements Police need when reporting crimes, to assist with improving the quality of evidence provided in statements and management of productions.

#### Results

Officers regularly deal with individuals who are in possession of controlled substances, the most common being heroin, cannabis, cocaine and diazepam.

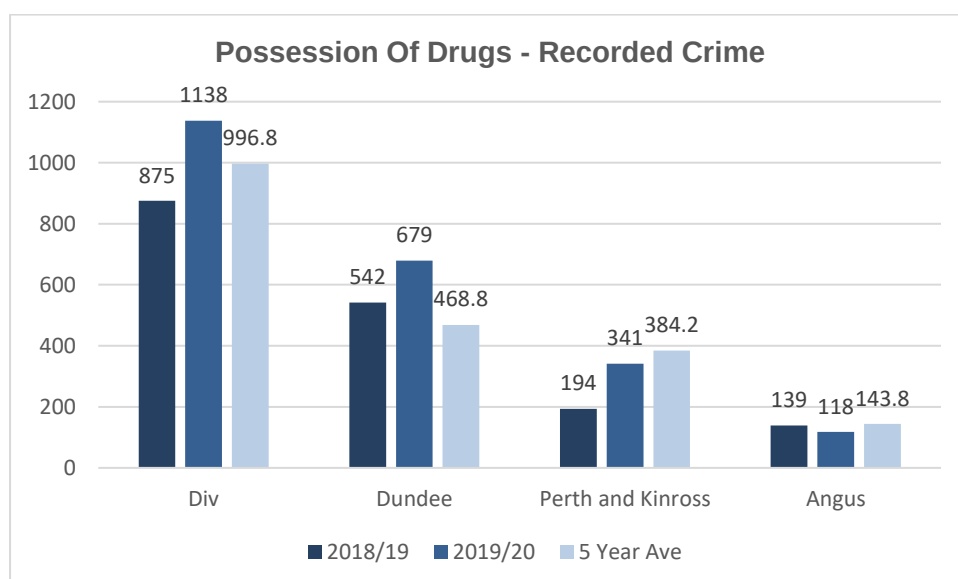
#### Challenges

County Lines and Cuckooing have been identified as emerging trends.

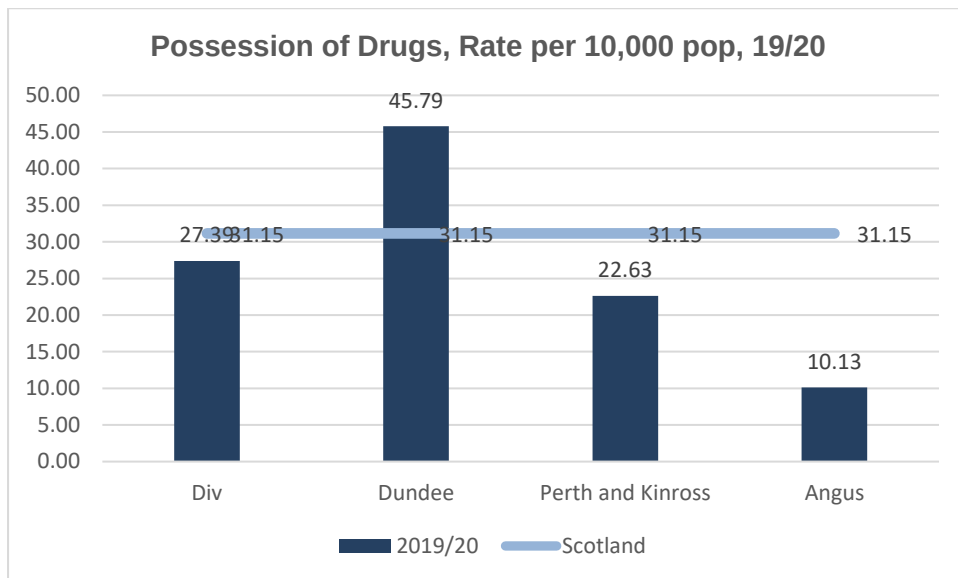
County Lines relates to the telephone line which controls the supply of controlled drugs, this line is normally run from the source of supply out with Scotland. Those involved in this type of activity have a propensity for violence when debts are not paid. These Organised Crime Groups use young people who are trafficked for the purposes of travelling to Scotland to facilitate the supply of drugs.

Cuckooing is when the address of a vulnerable person is taken over by persons involved in the supply of controlled drugs. Individuals can be targeted due to their own addiction or mental ill health or other vulnerability or through threat of violence or intimidation.

A number of presentations to key stakeholders including local authority workers and NHS staff are planned to raise awareness of these concerning activities and to improve awareness and information gathering opportunities to better protect those affected and to disrupt and detect those involved.







## Drug Misuse - Supply of drugs

### Activity

The Community Investigation Unit (CIU) leads in the execution of drug warrants across Perth and Kinross and work in conjunction with response and community officers.

### Results

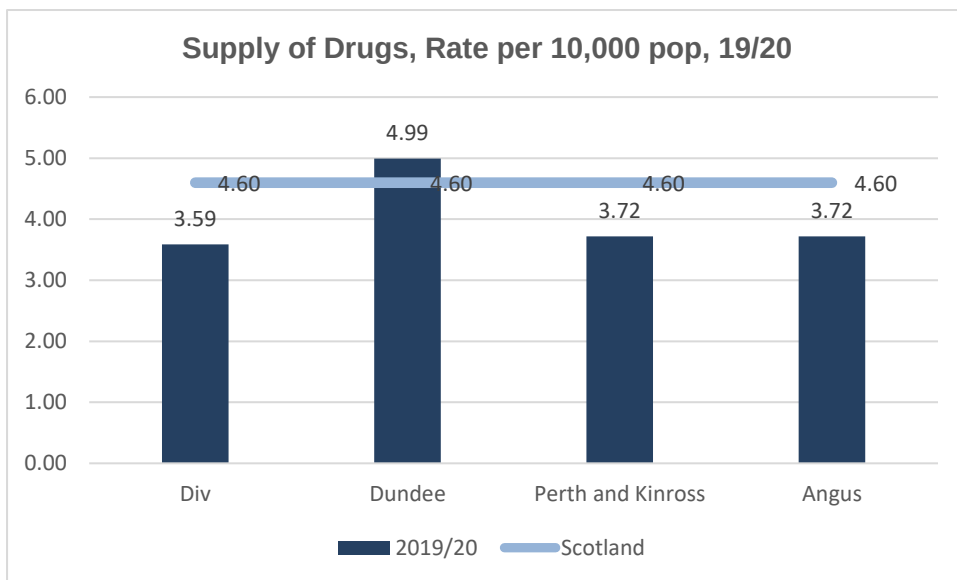
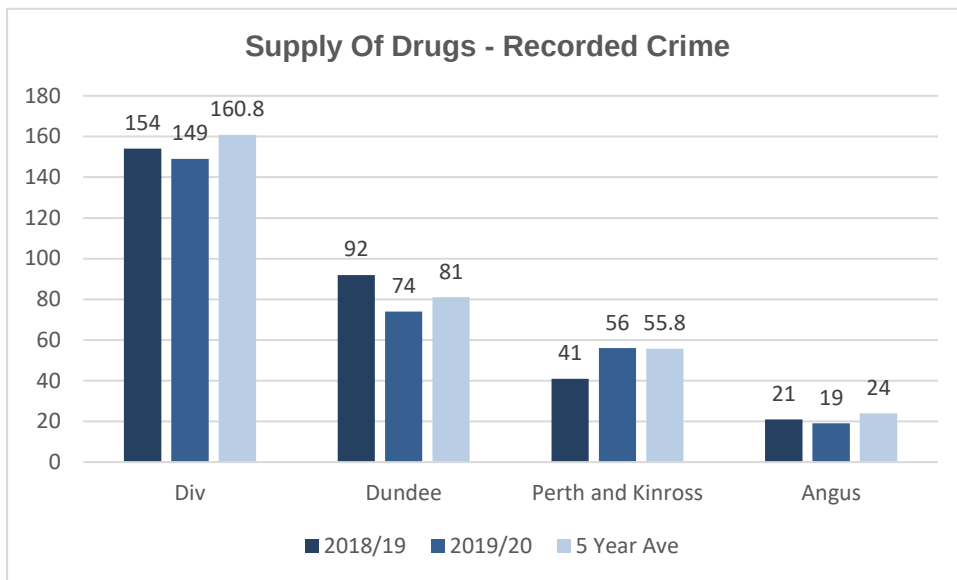
During the reporting period, the CIU executed a drugs warrant in Perth, seizing Cannabis, Amphetamine and 1200 MDMA (Ecstasy) tablets worth a total value of £25,000. As a result of their investigation, two individuals were charged with concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

In August 2019, officers from the CIU have also executed a warrant at an address in Braco, which resulted in the seizure of a Cannabis cultivation (17 plants and 401g of cannabis) worth a total of £14,210.

As previously mentioned, Perth officers work closely with staff from HMP Perth and during the reporting period, 44 cases have been reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal from crimes committed at HMP Perth and Castle Huntly. The offences varied from Introducing Prohibited Articles, Assaults, Concerned in Supply of Drugs and Offensive weapon.

### Challenges

The Police rely on sufficient current reliable intelligence to enable enforcement in Perth and Kinross, which provides challenges if this information is not forthcoming. The development of intelligence coupled with the time and resourcing required to carry out enforcement, especially for a cannabis cultivation also brings challenges.



## **Outcome 2 –Exploitation**

### **Activity**

An evaluation has been published of the RISE project, the partnership between Barnardo's Scotland and D Division of Police Scotland. It highlights the positive impact the project has had in its first two years and will now be launched in Fife and Glasgow areas. The service was recognised at a Parliamentary event in August 2019 by Maree Todd, Minister for Childcare and Early Years.

### **Results**

Officers from Perth and Kinross presented at the national Human Trafficking Conference in Scotland about the successful investigation to protect a foreign national who had been trafficked into Perth and Kinross for the purpose of labour exploitation and had been maltreated resulting in the loss of a limb.

In July 2019 a 43 year old male Stephen Selfridge was convicted at the High Court for blindfolding and sexually abusing more than one child victim within Perth and Kinross.

### **Challenges**

Police Scotland are seeing an increase in County Lines activity, the practice of English based Organised Crime Groups, travelling to Scotland to sell class A drugs, using young or vulnerable people to deliver to customers. Closely related is Cuckooing, a term indicating the act of taking over a person's home by intimidation, exploitation or violence, to use as a safe house or accommodation for a drugs courier. County Lines and Cuckooing activity is being seen in Perth and a programme of awareness raising is underway with partners.

## **Online Sexual Crime**

### **Activity**

Part of the rise in Group 2 crime in Perth and Kinross can be attributed to online sexual abuse, particularly the Disclosure of intimate images. Within Perth and Kinross there has been an increase from 37 to 52 recorded crime between 2018/19 and this year.

### **Results**

Re-offending rates by Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) remain low. During August 2019 a total number of 14 RSOs re-offended, committing a total of 20 offences, 1 of which was of a sexual nature (0.26% of average RSO population in community during the month). This offence was detected through Police proactivity and monitoring of the offender's internet use and devices.

### **Challenges**

In an effort to better react to the impact and trauma caused to victims of online abuse, particularly children, the Tayside Regional Children's Services collaborative has commissioned a training programme from the Marie Collins Foundation for practitioners across Tayside, following successful evaluation of a similar programme in Perth and Kinross.

### **Outcome 3 –Hate Crime**

#### **Activity**

Processes are in place to review hate crimes/incidents to ensure these are being recognised, recorded and investigated appropriately and that relevant opening/closing codes, aggravators are added to incidents and crime records.

A daily review is carried out of hate crimes/incidents in order to identify any emerging issues or repeat victims, repeat perpetrators or repeat locations so that appropriate interventions can be made which may include signposting to other agencies for support, follow-up visits, security advice, and delivery of advisory leaflets or posters for display.

#### **Results**

Local events have been held to increase public hate crime/incident awareness and there is ongoing partnership work with the Terrence Higgins Trust, in relation to the development of a survey available electronically for the members of the LGBT community to complete. This will cover hate crime awareness as well as confidence in reporting incidents.

Findings of this survey will allow for current practices to be reviewed and identify issues to be addressed.

Dundee University is proving support in relation to the evaluation of local third party reporting centres to establish best practice and training needs, by carrying out a student project whereby a class of third year students will survey and interview those associated with divisional centres to gather information and feed back to Police Scotland the best way to address any identified issues.

The National Safer Communities Equality and Diversity Unit are reviewing third party reporting processes. It is acknowledged that current use of third party reporting centres is low and further awareness raising is required.

An evaluation of current Keep Safe places is ongoing to establish any training needs or support required. Letters have been sent out to all Keep Safe places to establish up to date contacts, training needs and support required.

The National Hate Crime Awareness Week was between 12 and 19 October 2019. A hate crime awareness talk, including Keep Safe awareness, was arranged for Wednesday 16 October at the local Safe Place Meeting at St Matthews Church.

To increase partnership working to establish the best working practice with regards to the Gypsy/Traveller community, a Gypsy/Traveller Focus Group has been established.

All three local councils are working with Police Scotland to establish best practice, current challenges and problem solving for issues such as illegal encampments. Perth and Kinross have two council representatives in this group as well as a Perth based community officer who is the local point of contact should any illegal encampments be set up.

## Maintaining public safety

### Outcome 1 – Road Safety

#### Activity and Results

Tragically there has been two fatal road traffic collisions in Perth and Kinross for this reporting period.

On the 2 August 2019, A827, Logierait to Aberfeldy road a solo motorcyclist aged 53 was killed when a vehicle turned across his path.

On the 7 September 2019 a male pedestrian aged 97 was killed in Galvelmore Street, Crieff when he was struck by a vehicle as he crossed the road.

Road Safety enforcement continues to be carried out as part of routine business in Perth and Kinross and focused patrols work will be complemented by the use of available technology and databases, intelligence target packages and specific tasking resulting from local Tasking and Coordinating processes to tackle criminality.

Local Policing and Road Policing Unit Officers have been able to target driving behaviour which we believe will have the greatest impact on casualty reduction and address community concerns.

Enforcement activity has concentrated on a wide range of driving behaviours including dangerous/careless driving, drink/drug driving to name but a few.

Based on strategic assessment 4 priority routes have been identified within in Perth and Kinross, which were subject to focussed operation activity:

1. A9 Perth to Inverness road
2. A85 Perth to St Fillans road
3. A93 Perth to Blairgowrie road
4. M90/A90

During the period under review we have held several joint partnership roadside checks with DVSA within D Division with a number of offences detected, for example a day of action was held on 19 September 2019 on the A90 between Perth and Dundee utilising marked and unmarked patrol cars, DVSA and the Safety Camera Partnership, resulting in a successful high profile operation on a priority route.

These high profile days of action are being carried out across priority routes within D Division to improve driver attitude and behaviour with a view to reducing road accidents and anti-social behaviour.

Also, between 7 and 13 September 2019 a campaign focussing on Insurance Offence, was conducted with a considerable number of offences detected and 6 vehicles seized under Section 165, Road Traffic Act 1988.

Three single day operations were carried out with high visibility/high volume activity dedicated patrols to priority routes on the A92/A93 and the A90. Collectively this activity produced 79 vehicle stops with 33 speeding offenders detected and numerous various licence and construction and use offences.

On 20 September 2019, an elderly driver initiative was carried out at Dobbies Garden centre, Perth whereby 80 members of the public were spoken with, advice given and eyesight tests were carried out. This initiative was also replicated at House of Bruar on the A9.

'Pop Up Bairns' have also been utilised at schools in Perth to help educate people about safe parking and will be shared at schools throughout Perth and Kinross on a rotational basis.

### Challenges

Police resources are being challenged by the driving habits of vulnerable road users. However, we are committed to working effectively with partners locally to address these issues through education, enforcement, engineering, encouragement and evaluation all which are delivered successfully through a number of mediums and campaigns.

### Speeding

During the period under review, speeding offences in Perth and Kinross overall have increased. This is attributable to focused operational activity on not only the priority routes but routes which are deemed to have speeding issues and have been identified through a number of community based engagements.

### Activity

On 19 September 2019, focussed patrols were conducted on the A90 Perth to Dundee road.

On 20 September 2019, focussed patrols were on the A9 between Perth and Inverness road by officers from both Tayside and Northern Division.

On 27 September 2019, focussed patrols were conducted on the A93 Perth and Braemar road targeting motorcyclist's exceeding the speed limit. Officers from both Tayside and North East Division along with the Safety Camera Unit were utilised.

Effective use of the media to raise awareness and to actively encourage changes in driving attitudes and behaviour.

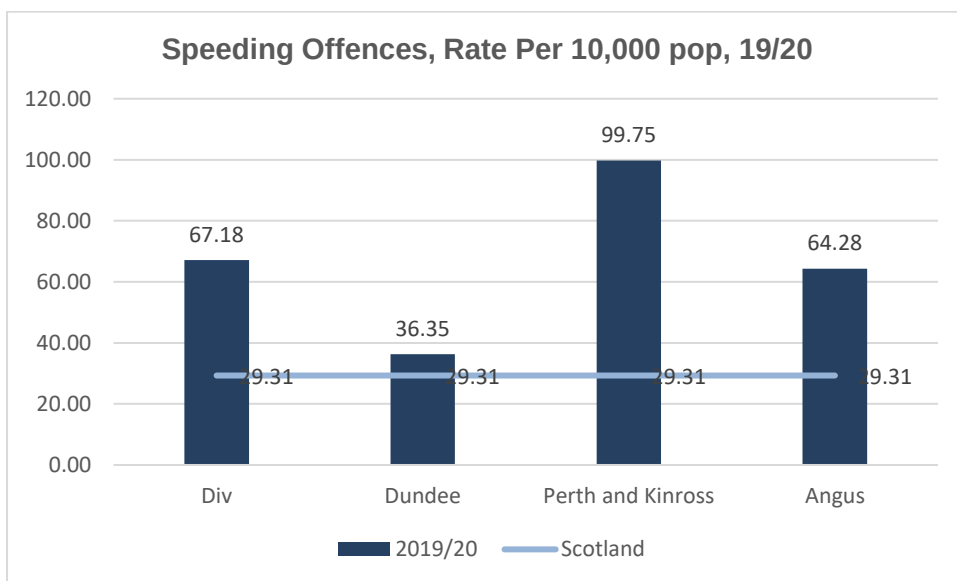
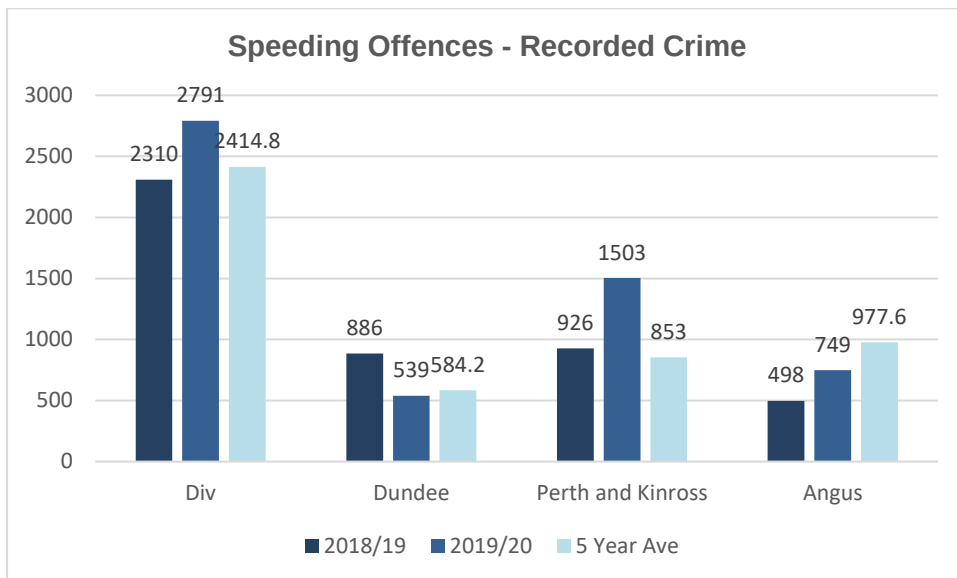
Community Officers have also worked with children at Methven Primary School, by setting up a speeding initiative whereby the children were involved in the use of the handheld radar and designed speeding tickets which were issued to motorists.

### Results

During this focussed activity a number road traffic offences were detected and reported to the Procurator Fiscal for consideration.

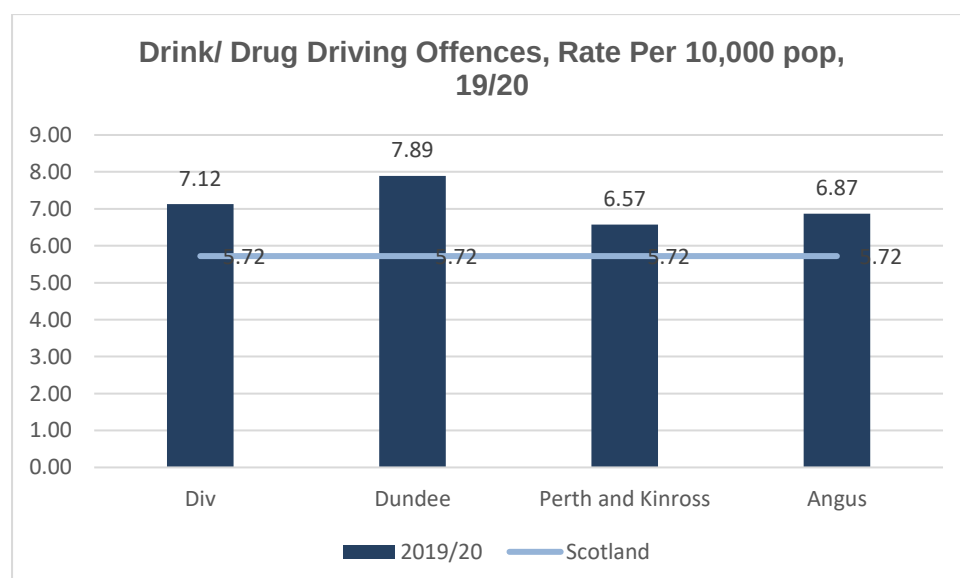
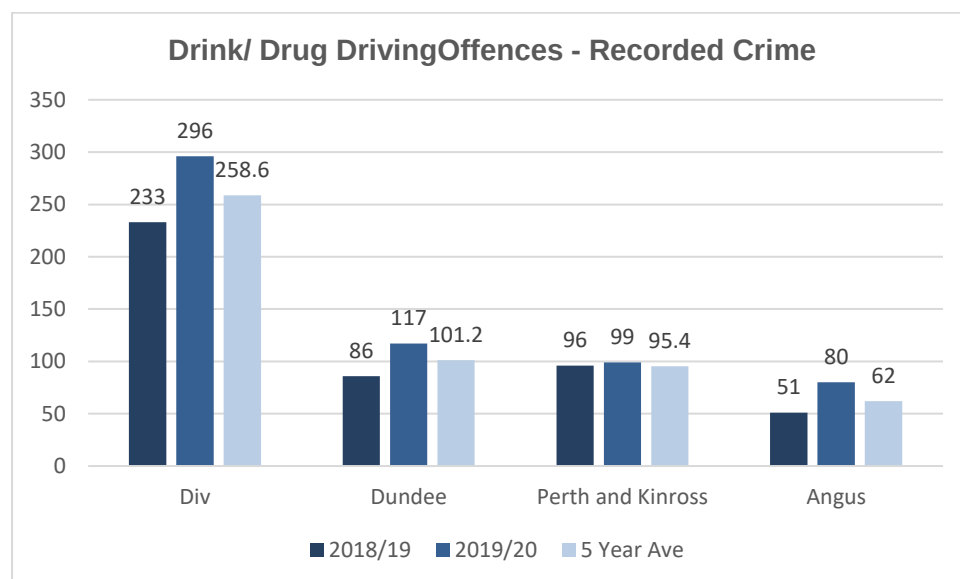
### Challenges

Police resources are being challenged by an increasing number of complaints received in relation to road users exceeding the speed limit. As a result of any complaint Police will carry out a percentile speed check to establish if there is indeed an issue. Unfortunately a vast number of these checks highlight the perception of speed is the issue rather than road users exceeding the speed limit. The perception of speed can also be attributed to modified vehicles which are significantly louder than a standard motor vehicle.



## Drink, Drug offences including failure to provide specimen of breath

During the period under review of 2019/20, Drink and Drug offences in in Perth and Kinross LPA overall have increased from the 2018/19 figures.

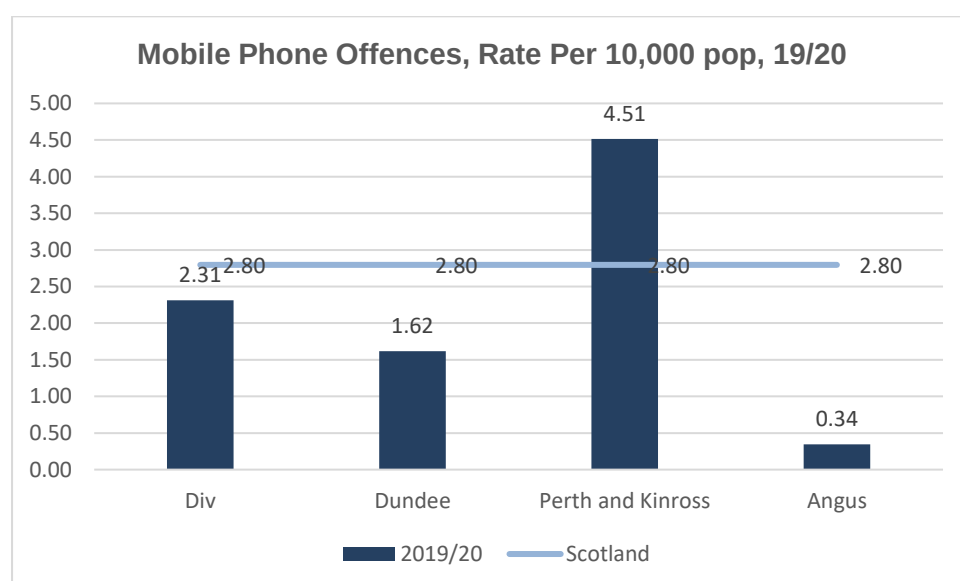
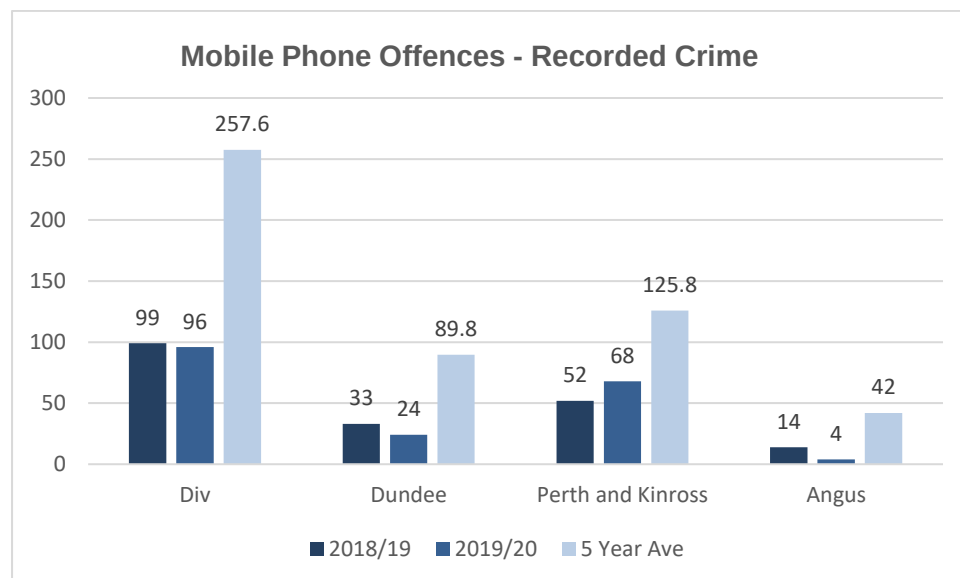




## Mobile phones

During the period under review mobile phone offences in Perth and Kinross LPA have increased.

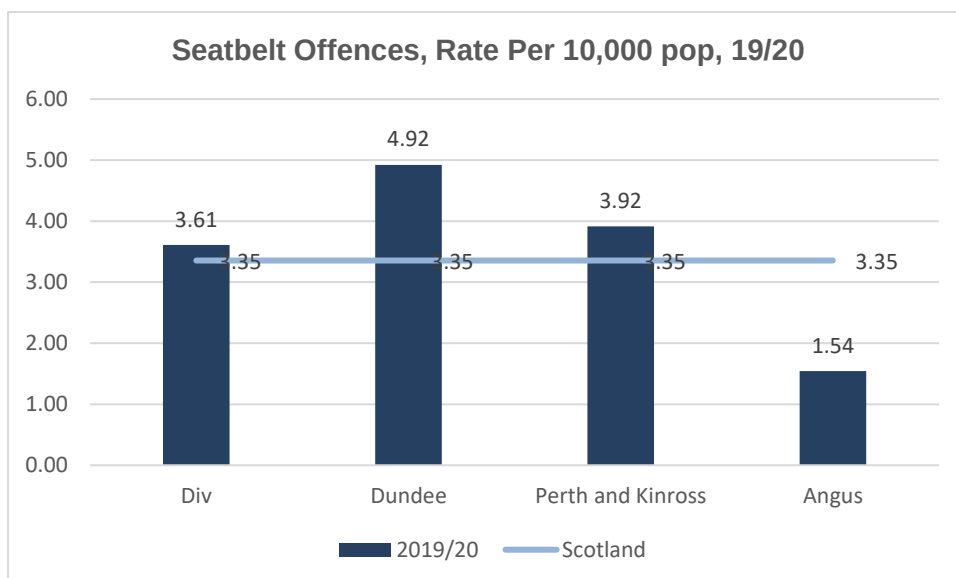
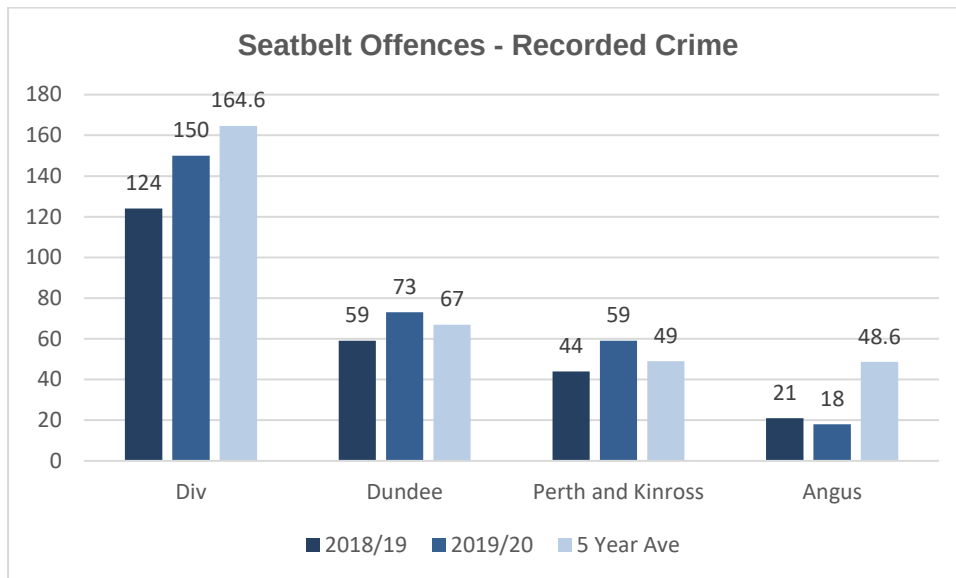
Increased police patrols accompanied by numerous media campaigns have highlighted the dangers of using a mobile device whilst driving a motor vehicle.



## Seatbelts

During the period under review seatbelt offences in in Perth and Kinross LPA have had an increase compared to the same for the period 2018/19.

Increased police patrols accompanied by numerous media campaigns highlight the dangers of failing to buckle up.



## **Outcome 2 – Events**

Police Scotland provide support in relation to a large number of events, including football, across Tayside Division. The overarching aim in relation to these events is to work with and in support of event organisers to ensure they are safe, secure and successful.

This is achieved through meticulous planning by Event Commanders who are supported by a Divisional Planning Team, meetings with event organisers in advance and during the event and through operational deployment on the day of the event.

As well as the foregoing safety aspects, Police are often present at events to ensure, where necessary, the activation of a contingency plans and thereafter the coordination of the resulting emergency services response.

Perth and Kinross host a number of these events. Key events are highlighted for the area below which emphasises the diversity of activity in the area, along with the total number of events where police have been deployed:

In relation to Events there have been significant national and global events held in Perth and Kinross for the period under review. The most significant policing operation was for the Solheim Cup which had a major policing footprint for the event from the 9 to the 15 September. We are pleased to report that the event passed without incident. However this was not the only sporting event held in Perth and Kinross others including the Scottish Women's Cycling Tour and 3 international female football matches held at McDiarmid Park.

On Friday 5 July the Conservative Party held their hustings at Perth Concert Hall engagement with Perth and Kinross Council ensured that this event passed without arrest and also allowed people their right to protest peacefully.

Rewind was held over the weekend of 20 and 21 July whilst this proves to be a popular event with several thousand attending with low criminality to report.

Other events for the period under review include the All Under One Banner procession that took place in Perth on Saturday 7 September with a counter protest also held by Force For Good. Significant planning went into the event with Perth and Kinross Council which led to a peaceful.

### **Perth and Kinross Total deployment for Q2**

Police deployed to **30** events in total in the Perth and Kinross area with

**2** Chief Inspector, **6** Inspector, **36** Sergeants and **323** Constables deployed over this period.

### **As a result of these events**

There were no policing issues at the events.

Licensing Department within Police Scotland has also supported operational policing in Perth and Kinross. Licensing staff and Licensing Standards Officers jointly carried out a day of action around Perthshire focusing on civic licenses, including Window Cleaners and Second Hand Dealers. It is pleasing to note that no issues were identified.

There is one licensed premises currently being monitored in Perth due to a number of proxy sales of alcohol. We shall be working with the licensed premises and the local Community Team to ensure that these sales do not continue.

### Outcome 3 – CONTEST

CONTEST is the UK Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. It was first developed by the Home Office in early 2003. The aim of the strategy is "to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence."

CONTEST is split into four work streams that are known within the counter terrorism community as the 'four P's': *Prevent*, *Pursue*, *Protect*, and *Prepare*.

- **Pursue:** the investigation and disruption of terrorist attacks.
- **Prevent:** work to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism or extremism.
- **Protect:** improving our protective security to stop a terrorist attack.
- **Prepare:** working to minimise the impact of an attack and to recover from it as quickly as possible.

Port engagement visits have been carried out at various ports across Tayside including Perth harbour, where information and security advice has been given to staff along with Project Kraken information

(Project Kraken provides a mechanism for the reporting of unusual activity or behaviour within the maritime environment believed or suspected to be linked to acts of crime or preparatory acts of terrorism).

Document awareness sessions have been held for partners and relevant businesses throughout Tayside, to educate businesses on the security of legal documents and the necessity to ensure adequate checks are carried out when assessing them.

Extinction Rebellion (XR) is a UK-born international movement, which aims for nothing less than global civil disobedience to pressure governments across the world to act on climate breakdown and species extinctions. During this reporting period, Perth and Kinross Local Contest Liaison Officers have received Extinction Rebellion briefings.

Protective security advice and personal security information briefings have previously been delivered to staff of all Tayside Division Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament and throughout this reporting period engagement has continued.

## Demand

### Stop and search

Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area continue to utilise intelligence led stop and search. This is an important policing aspect in dealing with some of the issues presented by drugs, violence and crimes of dishonesty.

Searches conducted are on a statutory basis and a breakdown of negative and searches are as follows:

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Data extracted from STORM Unity showing data from 00:00:00 on the first of each month until 23:59:59 on the last day of each month. Figures include all resourced incidents (except diary calls) including those which have been generated by police, e.g. pre planned events such as firearms operations or spontaneous deployment to deal with ongoing crime.

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Grade 1: IMMEDIATE - An ongoing incident with an immediate or apparent threat to life or a serious crime in progress.

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Grade 2: PRIORITY - Crime/Incident where there is a degree of importance or urgency associated with initial police action. Requires immediate attendance and would only be superseded by a grade 1 call.

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Grade 3: STANDARD - Incident is not ongoing, however police attendance is required and the situation could be prejudiced by significant delay.

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Grade 4: SCHEDULED - Crimes/Incidents which will not be prejudiced by a scheduled response, with police attendance at a mutually agreeable time.

**\*\*\* Please note the statistics are not currently available and will be provided once finalised \*\*\***

Grade 5: NON - ATTENDANCE - Incidents that can be resolved by telephone or by some other which do not require police attendance.

## Appendix

Rate 1 per 10,000 figures are based on the following population data:

|                         | Reporting Period <sup>3</sup>                             |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                         | 2015/16                                                   | 2016/17          | 2017/18          | 2018/19          | 2019/20          |
|                         | Mid-year Population Estimate (Total Persons) <sup>2</sup> |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|                         | 2013                                                      | 2014             | 2015             | 2016             | 2016             |
| <b>FORCE / SCOTLAND</b> | <b>5 327 700</b>                                          | <b>5 347 600</b> | <b>5 373 000</b> | <b>5 404 700</b> | <b>5 404 700</b> |
| Tayside                 | 412 160                                                   | 413 800          | 415 040          | 415 470          | 415 470          |
| Angus                   | 116 290                                                   | 116 740          | 116 900          | 116 520          | 116 520          |
| Dundee City             | 148 100                                                   | 148 130          | 148 210          | 148 270          | 148 270          |
| Perth and Kinross       | 147 770                                                   | 148 930          | 149 930          | 150 680          | 150 680          |

2 - Mid-year population data based on extracts from National Records for Scotland (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>), as at April 2016.

3 - Due to when population data are published it is necessary to use earlier mid-year estimates in some calculations. As soon as more current population data are available, the above table will be updated.





## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

30 October 2019

#### COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Report by Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (Report No. 19/297)

##### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since the last update to the Housing and Communities Committee on 21 August 2019.

#### **1. LOCAL ACTION PARTNERSHIPS**

- 1.1 The Strathearn & Strathallan Local Action Partnership (LAP) provided an update to the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board meeting held in Crieff on September 20. The LAP reported their progress so far in delivering the Local Action Plan and other local community initiatives, highlighting the positive use of Participatory Budgeting and Community Investment Funding to allow them to deliver local projects and initiatives. The Action Partnership priorities have been identified as:

- Poverty,
- Rural isolation,
- Youth activities,
- Connectivity,
- Employment opportunities.

The December meeting of the CPP will take place in Perth, at which the Perth City LAP will provide an update on their activities.

- 1.2 The Community Planning Partnership Executive Officer Group (CPPEOG) approved a Compact between the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and Local Action Partnerships (LAPs). This sets out a series of shared principles and commitments between the CPP and LAPs to better support local community planning in Perth and Kinross. A copy of the Compact is provided in Appendix 1.

#### **2. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT**

- 2.1 In May the Council received a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) request from Dunning Community Association (DCA), for the Newton of Pitcairn Halls. The CAT Team anticipates that a report with recommendations will go to Strategic Policy & Resources Committee on 27 November. The Council has also received a number of expressions of interest on other properties, with three potential applicants currently being supported to consider making a full CAT request.

- 2.2 A review of [community empowerment](#) in Scotland has been undertaken by the Strategic Scrutiny Group, a group comprising of 10 national public scrutiny bodies which monitor the accounts and performance of Scotland's public bodies. The Group reviewed progress in the implementation of the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015 as well as the broader community empowerment agenda. The group has identified best practice for public bodies to empower the communities they service. The report covers 5 themes: community control, public sector leadership, effective relationships, improving outcomes and accountability. A summary of this is available as Appendix 2 to this report. The recommendations in the report will feed into the CPP Governance and Impact Review and other workstreams for the Council and CPP.

### 3. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

- 3.1 The first tranche of the 2019/20 Community Investment Fund (CIF) for community groups seeking funding between £3,000 and £50,000 closed on 21 August. The table below summarises the applications which were received. The second tranche of 2019/20 funding is open and will close on 12 December.

| Ward                         | No. of Applications | Value of Applications (£) | Available Funding (£) |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ward 1 - Carse of Gowrie     | 8                   | 46,648.88                 | 60,756.50             |
| Ward 2 - Strathmore          | 6                   | 28,733.60                 | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 3 - Blairgowrie & Glens | 9                   | 136,616.99                | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 4 - Highland            | 20                  | 149,171.41                | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 5 - Strathtay           | 13                  | 82,047.06                 | 50,004.59             |
| Ward 6 - Strathearn          | 10                  | 73,880.39                 | 50,023.29             |
| Ward 7 - Strathallan         | 5                   | 69,435.00                 | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 8 - Kinross-shire       | 7                   | 71,512.00                 | 50,297.01             |
| Ward 9 - Almond & Earn       | 6                   | 65,019.19                 | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 10 - Perth City South   | 7                   | 43,226.07                 | 50,000.00             |
| Ward 11 - Perth City North   | 6                   | 64,655.82                 | 59,607.00             |
| Ward 12 - Perth City Centre  | 14                  | 140,690.00                | 50,000.00             |
| <b>Perth &amp; Kinross</b>   | <b>111</b>          | <b>971,636.41</b>         | <b>620,688.39</b>     |

- 3.2 The same assessment process used for 2018/19 will be used, with Ward Panels assessing applications, making recommendations to the relevant Local Action Partnership and final decisions being taken by Strategic Policy & Resources Committee on 27 November for the first tranche and in February 2020 for the second tranche.
- 3.3 Successful applicants in the first year of Community Investment Funding (2018/19) will soon be asked to return their first monitoring form as it will be six months since their funding was received. A summary of these returns will be shared with the relevant Local Action Partnership.

#### 4. CPP GOVERNANCE & IMPACT

- 4.1 CPP Board is currently undertaking a review of Governance and Impact. The review aims to strengthen the CPP's ability to work together in delivering the Community Plan 2017-2027. At the CPP Board meeting on 20 September, the Board considered the outcomes of a workshop held in July, the recommendations from the Best Value Audit and the objectives of the Perth and Kinross Offer. It was agreed that the Community Plan 2017-2027 will be reviewed and updated to focus on the key issues identified by communities and CPP Partners through the development of the Perth and Kinross Offer. Furthermore progress in addressing these issues will be measured using the National Performance Framework. It was agreed that the CPP Board will play a key role in providing the leadership and governance required to deliver the Offer. Following the development of the refreshed Community Plan, Board will consider the most appropriate partnership governance arrangements.

#### 5. FAIRER FUTURES

- 5.1 The Community Planning Partnership Executive Officer Group approved a 'Statement of Intent' which sets out how the CPP has and will continue to deliver the Fairness Commission's recommendations. The Child Poverty Action Group will now be leading on some of the recommendations and reporting on the progress through the development of the Local Child Poverty Action Report. The Community Planning Partnership Executive Officer will continue to lead on the other actions.

#### 6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Housing and Communities Committee **notes** the progress since August 2019 on Community Planning objectives.

##### Author

| Name       | Designation                           | Contact Details                                                                                      |
|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lee Haxton | Community Planning Policy Team Leader | <a href="mailto:CommunityPlanningPartnership@pkc.gov.uk">CommunityPlanningPartnership@pkc.gov.uk</a> |

##### Approved

| Name          | Designation                                      | Date            |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Jim Valentine | Depute Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer) | 14 October 2019 |

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You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.



# THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT COMPACT

## Appendix 1

### **1. Purpose**

*The purpose of the Compact is to provide clarity around how the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and Local Action Partnerships (LAPs) will work together. The Compact sets out the shared values and commitments of the CPP and LAPs and the level of support that LAPs can expect to receive. The Compact will support the CPP and LAPs in their drive to improve equalities and support communities to empower themselves in order to create a confident, ambitious and fairer Perth and Kinross, for all who live and work here.*

### **2. Background**

Local Action Partnerships (LAPs) were established in 2016 to provide a link between public services and community groups within the localities across Perth and Kinross. LAPs were developed to reflect the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015, which requires Community Planning Partnerships to carry out locality planning in areas where there are issues of equality. Our LAPs are tasked with developing and delivering a Locality Action Plan, which identifies local priorities and sets out the actions that will be taken to deliver them.

### **3. Shared Values**

The work of the Community Planning Partnership and Local Action Partnerships is based on a series of shared values. The CPP and LAPs will work together to:

- **Improve equalities across Perth and Kinross;**
- Support communities to shape and deliver the outcomes which matter to them;
- Develop staff across all partners to improve how services work with communities;
- Better understand our communities, their aspirations and concerns;
- Effectively use resources to support empowerment and focus on prevention;
- Share leadership and accountability at strategic and locality levels.

### **4. Shared Commitments**

**The Community Planning Partnership will:**

- Respect Local Action Partnerships authority to determine local priorities and use these priorities to inform strategic decision making;
- Collectively provide resources to support LAPs to deliver their Locality Action Plan;
- Collectively provide support for LAP administration and activity;
- Seek to further devolve decision making and resources to LAPs in order to further strengthen local democracy;
- Acknowledge the expertise and community knowledge LAPs bring to Community Planning;
- Support LAPs to determine priorities by providing data and intelligence through Stories of Place;
- Act as a critical friend to scrutinise and support the work of LAPs;
- Be flexible and proactive in supporting the LAP to find solutions and focus on preventative approaches;
- Provide guidance to LAPs to support good and consistent governance across Perth and Kinross;
- Ensure that issues which cannot be resolved at a local level will be escalated to the relevant Outcome Delivery Group through the Lead Officer network;
- Support Outcome Delivery Groups to actively engage with LAPs in order to develop a better understanding of community priorities and offer appropriate support; and
- Support the updating of the Stories of Place website, to ensure services and communities have access to useful data and evidence.

### **Local Action Partnerships will**

- Communicate effectively with the community they serve and promote opportunities for local people to get involved;
- Manage their budget and direct funds to improve equalities and build community capacity;
- Represent communities of place and of interest across their locality;
- Foster effective working relationships with community groups;
- Develop and deliver a Locality Action Plan which reflects local priorities;
- Ensure all members are supported to participate fully in partnership meetings;
- Take decisions collectively and record those decisions appropriately;
- Help organise LAP meetings and other relevant business;
- Provide verbal updates to CPP Board on their activities;
- Provide an Annual Report for the community and for the CPP, summarising the work of the LAP over that year and evidencing how the LAP has improved equalities and built community capacity; and
- Support the updating of the Stories of Place website, to ensure that the lived experience of local people in each LAP area is adequately reflected.

### **5. Support for Local Action Partnerships**

- CPP partners will collectively support LAP administration, with individual partners leading for each Local Action Partnership;
- Local Action Partnerships will receive a budget, which they can use to invest in projects and initiatives which improve equalities and build community capacity in their localities;
- The administration of LAP budgets will be carried out by the Community Planning Team;
- Partners will ensure that they are appropriately represented at LAP meetings and contribute effectively to the work of the LAP;
- Each LAP has a Community Learning and Development Worker contact, who provides support around engagement and capacity building.
- LAPs can request information and briefings on topics related to their Locality Action Plan; and
- LAPs have a Lead Officer who acts as the key link between the LAP and the broader Community Planning Partnership.

## Note- Principles of Community Empowerment- Strategic Scrutiny Group

Appendix 2

The Strategic Scrutiny Group is made up of 10 national public scrutiny bodies which monitor the accounts and performance of Scotland's public bodies. The Group reviewed progress in the implementation of the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015 as well as the broader community empowerment agenda.

### Key messages from report

- Community empowerment has created different expectations of how public bodies should work with communities, but at the same time there are fewer resources available to support these new ways of working.
- Community empowerment needs to include all departments of an organisation and should not be seen only as the business of staff who work directly with the community.
- Empowering staff to make decisions is key to delivering community empowerment.
- Community empowerment is not an 'add on,' it has to be embedded into a new way of working.
- Public bodies need to invest capacity building activity in the poorest communities to make an impact on inequality
- Community empowerment is as a key pillar of public service reform to improve outcomes for communities and advance human rights.
- Community empowerment is a gradual process and building trust and working relationships between public bodies and communities takes time.

### Range of Empowerment

- **Community anchors** (community led organisations) can provide support and opportunities for communities to feel confident and valued to participate and influence local decisions.
- **Community activism** brings people together around a particular issue.
- **Buying property or land** requires the community to put together a plan to improve economic development, regeneration, health, social and environmental wellbeing.
- **Participation Requests** are an opportunity for a community to be involved in a process where they believe they can improve an outcome.
- **Participatory Budgeting** (PB) gives people the chance to deliberate on how small grants or mainstream budgets are spent. The PB Charter sets out best practice for PB.
- **Co-production** involved public bodies and communities working together to define local priorities and designing ways on how to co-deliver services using available local assets and resources.

## Benefits and Challenges in implementing Community Empowerment

| Benefits of Community Empowerment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Challenges/ risks in implementing Community Empowerment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities are able to express their priorities so resources can be targeted to where they are most needed.</li> <li>• Increases confidence and skills among citizens.</li> <li>• Mobilises individuals to make improvements in their local area.</li> <li>• Can lead to better more efficient services.</li> <li>• Greater accountability of public services</li> <li>• Can increase trust between public bodies and the communities they serve.</li> <li>• Can improve the quality of life for people</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bodies fail to recognise communities are varied, diverse and rarely speak with one voice.</li> <li>• Public bodies lack the necessary resources to support community empowerment properly.</li> <li>• Communities that are under resourced might not have the capabilities to take part in community empowerment processes.</li> <li>• There can be a lack of trust between public bodies and communities which limits people's willingness to take part.</li> <li>• Leadership might not demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors to make the cultural change relevant.</li> <li>• Public bodies might fail to identify the underlying causes of poverty and make a limited impact on addressing inequalities.</li> </ul> |



## Principles of Community Empowerment

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Community control</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support communities to take a stepped approach to taking greater control, for example delivering services or taking on management, lease or ownership of public assets.</li> <li>• As greater control is shifted to communities, put in place effective governance structures to support a strong and sustainable approach.</li> <li>• Be clear about the level of influence communities have over decisions and managing expectations where there are genuine constraints.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Public sector leadership</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community empowerment is at the heart of key corporate and service level decisions.</li> <li>• Community empowerment should feature in key corporate strategies.</li> <li>• Community empowerment is a tool to tackle inequalities</li> <li>• Recognise there will be risks in implementing new approaches, but being measured and learning from unsuccessful approaches.</li> <li>• Build community leadership in areas which are usually not heard from</li> </ul>                   |
| <b>Effective relationships</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community empowerment needs to go at the pace of the community. Recognising it can take time and investment in financial, practical and emotional support for members of the community who are engaging, particularly the most vulnerable.</li> <li>• Working effectively with community planning partners, the third sector, social sector and volunteer partners to empower communities with a clear focus on preventative work.</li> </ul>                                          |

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Improving outcomes</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve communities in the evaluation of our community empowerment processes</li> <li>• Evidence how community empowerment has had an impact on improving shared outcomes/ tackled inequalities.</li> <li>• Consider how our approaches to CE have empowered groups that are typically less involved in decision making</li> <li>• Demonstrate how the organisations is adapting Community Empowerment processes from experience.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Accountability</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documents are jargon free and written in plain English.</li> <li>• LOIP and other policies easy to understand.</li> <li>• Open and honest dialogue with communities about what can be achieved.</li> <li>• Report in a transparent way about how the council is promoting community empowerment.</li> <li>• Evidence how community views have been taken into consideration in decision making.</li> </ul>                                   |

### Key Points for Perth and Kinross Council and Community Planning Partnership

- Consider how best to evaluate our approaches to community empowerment in key performance reports
- Consider using the Principles as a checklist as part of our evaluation of services which support community empowerment
- Ensure the Perth & Kinross offer strengthens public agencies working relationships with communities.
- The 'Think Yes' approach to leadership empowers staff to work effectively with communities.
- The LOIP and Local Action Plans should focus on how community empowerment will meaningfully improve equality.
- Use the Consultation Hub as a portal to evidence how community input has informed decisions.

### Example Checklist for Community Empowerment

| Section                         | Checklist                                                                                                                                         | ✓ |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Community control</b>        | Communities are being supported to own/ take on assets.                                                                                           |   |
|                                 | Governance arrangements have been adapted to reflect community empowerment (e.g. budget process includes mainstream PB elements).                 |   |
|                                 | As an organisation we have set clear parameters about what decisions community must be involved in.                                               |   |
|                                 | We are making resources (financial and non-financial) available to support to support citizens/ groups to improve outcomes for their communities. |   |
| <b>Public sector leadership</b> | There is a clear commitment to community empowerment in key strategies, which is reflected in organisational culture                              |   |
|                                 | The CPP has identified how community empowerment improves equality.                                                                               |   |
|                                 | Evaluations of how we support community empowerment are shared across our organisation.                                                           |   |
|                                 | CLD resources are concentrated in those communities with the greatest need                                                                        |   |
|                                 | Staff across partners have a sufficient level of awareness and understanding of community empowerment awareness                                   |   |
| <b>Effective relationships</b>  | Communications about community empowerment are jargon free and in plain English                                                                   |   |
|                                 | Public agencies are supporting communities to drive the pace of community-led initiatives                                                         |   |
|                                 | All partners are contributing and working together to building community capacity                                                                 |   |
| <b>Improving outcomes</b>       | Communities involved in empowerment process are involved in evaluation and learning                                                               |   |
|                                 | Public agencies are assessing the appetite within communities for greater control of decisions and adjusting accordingly                          |   |
|                                 | We are continuing to evaluate and adapt our approach to community empowerment.                                                                    |   |
| <b>Accountability</b>           | Opportunities for communities to get involved in empowerment processes (e.g. asset transfer and participation request) are clearly communicated   |   |
|                                 | We have strong evidence in performance reports on how community empowerment is being supported and delivered                                      |   |
|                                 | Consultation Hub clearly shows how community engagement has influenced decisions                                                                  |   |

### Potential Performance Measures

- Number of community owned properties are increasing.
- Number of community managed buildings are increasing.
- Proportion of budget decided on using PB methods is increasing
- Key indications monitoring deprivation are improving in our most deprived communities.
- Proportion of capacity building activity delivered in most deprived areas
- Number of documents going through 'speaking like humans'.
- More decisions being made by the council are going through a consultation process.
- Increase in social media posts and other campaigns around empowerment process.



## **PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**Housing and Communities Committee 30 October 2019**  
**Environment and Infrastructure Committee 30 October 2019**  
**Scrutiny Committee 30 November 2019**

### **Housing and Environment Six Month Performance Summary 2019/20 – Exception Report**

#### **Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (Report No. 19/298)**

This report reviews the performance of Housing and Environment against its Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) for the period 1 April to 30 September 2019.

#### **1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 The Executive Officer Team, Housing and Environment Senior Management Team and themed Committees consider performance against the Service Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) twice a year through the Service six month and annual performance reports.
- 1.2 The six month performance summary highlights exceptions, either as a result of performance exceeding the BMIP target or being unlikely to meet the target.

#### **2. SIX MONTH PERFORMANCE SUMMARY 2019**

- 2.1 The purpose of the six month performance summary in Appendix 1 is to review the performance of Housing and Environment during the first six months of 2019/20 against the targets contained in the 2019/20 BMIP. This was approved and scrutinised earlier in the year by the appropriate committees.
- 2.2 The exceptions in the report have been included following consideration of all BMIP performance management information. They relate to performance that is deemed to be significant. Where these exceptions are targets that have not been met, explanations and details of improvement actions to be taken are provided, where appropriate.
- 2.3 A full annual report with detailed progress against all targets and actions within Housing and Environment BMIP will be produced at the end of 2019/20.

#### **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The six monthly monitoring of BMIP performance information by Housing and Environment Senior Management Team has identified that progress in line with BMIP targets has been made in most areas, where this information is available.

### 3.2 It is recommended that:

- (i) The Housing and Communities Committee and Environment and Infrastructure Committee consider and approve the Housing and Environment six month performance summary attached at Appendix 1 in the report.
- (ii) The Scrutiny Committee scrutinises and comments, as appropriate, on the Housing and Environment six month performance summary attached at Appendix 1 in the report.

#### Author

| Name          | Designation                   | Contact Details                                                                                  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Carole Hendry | Performance & Support Manager | <a href="mailto:HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk">HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk</a><br>01738 475000 |

#### Approved

| Name           | Designation                                | Date           |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Barbara Renton | Executive Director (Housing & Environment) | 4 October 2019 |

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You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

|                                                     |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       |             |
| Community Plan/ Single Outcome Agreement            | <b>Yes</b>  |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b>  |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |             |
| Financial                                           | <b>Yes</b>  |
| Workforce                                           | <b>None</b> |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>Yes</b>  |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |             |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>Yes</b>  |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>Yes</b>  |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>Yes</b>  |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>None</b> |
| Risk                                                | <b>Yes</b>  |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |             |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b>  |
| External                                            | <b>Yes</b>  |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |             |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>Yes</b>  |

### 1. Strategic Implications

- 1.1 The Community Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan, has five outcomes which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resource allocation.

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives;
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report contributes to all five outcomes.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 None

#### Workforce

- 2.2 There are no workforce implications.

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 None

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) and were assessed as not relevant for the purposes of EqIA.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matter presented in this report.

### Sustainability

- 3.4 None

### Legal and Governance

- 3.5 None

### Risk

- 3.6 The Housing and Environment Senior Management Team regularly review monitoring reports that highlight individual project progress and risk.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 The Housing & Environment Senior Management Team has been consulted in the preparation of this report.



External

## 4.2 Comments from the Tenant Committee Report Panel

*Good to see the progress that has been made in the last 6 months and that more adaptations are being made to properties to allow people to live in their homes for longer. Also great to see the glossary at the back of the document.*

**2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

## 2.1 There are no background papers.

**3. APPENDICES**

## 3.1 Appendix 1 – Housing and Environment Six Month Performance Summary 2019/20 – Exception Report.



**Housing and Environment**

**Interim Performance Summary**

**1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019**

# Contents

|                                                                     |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Introduction by Barbara Renton (Executive Director)</b>          | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Service performance summary</b>                                  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>How do we compare with others?</b>                               | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>What are our customers saying?</b>                               | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Progress against Performance Indicators and Improvement Plan</b> | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Performance Indicators exceptions</b>                            |           |
| Where we are exceeding our target                                   | 12        |
| Where we are not on target                                          | 13        |
| <b>Improvement Plan exceptions</b>                                  | <b>13</b> |

# Introduction

## by Barbara Renton, Executive Director (Housing and Environment)

**Welcome to the Housing and Environment Service six-monthly performance summary from 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019.**

This is an interim performance report to provide assurance that the actions and targets set out in our [Business Management and Improvement Plan \(BMIP\)](#) are being addressed. It also reports on where we anticipate exceeding targets and helps understand why we may not be on track to meet some others.

By setting realistic targets Housing and Environment can continue to improve on the wide range of vital services it provides for the Perth & Kinross community. The report highlights clearly the work we are doing, and what we will continue to do to support the people who rely on these services. It also highlights where we will take remedial action, if appropriate.

We will continue to face challenges, but are committed to making sure that we always make the best possible use of our resources. The Service will seek opportunities to work collaboratively both within the Council and with external partners wherever possible, getting the best value out of everything we do.

Our staff remain dedicated to delivering the best services they can with the resources available to them. I know they will continue to do their utmost to achieve the ambitious outcomes for Housing & Environment which were set out in our BMIP.

## Service Performance Summary

### Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life & Developing Educated, Responsible and Informed Citizens

Teams across Housing and Environment have a key role in giving every child the best start in life and in helping to develop responsible and informed citizens. We continue to work with all partners to achieve positive outcomes and deliver the Fairer Future ambitions. Our contribution to positive outcomes are wide ranging from tackling homelessness, providing good quality energy efficient council houses, high quality play parks and open spaces along with a range of activity programmes and educational events that encourage family activity and sport. We recognise that all aspects of place and community can have a positive impact on our children and young people's developmental milestones, educational attainment, emotional wellbeing and wider outcomes in life.

#### Our contribution to these outcomes include: -

- the Perth & Kinross Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR) 2019/20 was submitted to the Scottish Government in June 2019 following approval by the Children, Young People and Families Partnership, the Community Planning Partnership Board and the Council. The Child Poverty working group, supported by a range of partners, is taking forward the recommendations and actions within the report to tackle child poverty within Perth and Kinross.  
*(Housing and Communities Committee)*
- as a result of a continued focus on homelessness prevention work and the ongoing success of Home First, the number of families presenting as homeless has reduced by 52% with only 57 presentations between April and August this year, compared to 119 for the same period in 2018/19. We have had similar success in preventing homelessness for young single people with a 24% reduction for the year to date compared to 2018/19 (68 to date compared to 90 in 18/19). The impact of this work has been to minimise the impacts, stigmas and duration of homelessness for many households.  
*(Housing and Communities Committee)*
- four play areas (Coupar Angus Hay St, Glenfarg Wallace Crescent, Scone Stormont Way, Longforgan Helen McGregor Park) are on track to be upgraded this year with an estimated investment of £200,000.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)*
- a contribution towards a community led "all abilities" play area upgrade at the North Inch will improve equipment, landscaping and access enabling young people with varying degrees of mobility to access the children's play activities.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)*
- Community Greenspace have facilitated over 1,000 events on public greenspaces throughout Perth and Kinross, a large number of which were free to, or provided for, children. Examples include Crieff & Pitlochry Highland Games, Spartans (National Endurance Course), Perth Show, Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament, community fetes and galas.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)*

- in addition, the following events were either free for children or comprised of elements that were free for children: -Scottish Rugby – Caledonia Cup Youth Rugby Finals (with Solheim Cup outreach activity); Perth Festival of the Arts; Perth Medieval Fair; International Youth Band Festival  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)
- [Bertha Park High School](#) build was successfully completed in July 2019 within the allocated budget of £32.5m. Bertha Park is Scotland's newest secondary school and the first one to be built in 20 years in Scotland. The project has been short listed under one category "Best Project" in the Education Buildings Scotland Awards.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)
- we continue to work on the multi-site school investment programme to support the aims of the Early Years Service.(Housing and Communities Committee)

### Promoting a Prosperous, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy

Through the Tay Cities Regional Economic Strategy, we will deliver inclusive growth by addressing inequality of economic opportunity, improve productivity by supporting the creation of higher value, better paid jobs, and deliver a more prosperous and fairer future for people in our area.

Our Local Development Plan sets out policies and proposals to ensure our area continues to be an attractive place to live and has a good supply of housing and employment land.

We support our tenants and residents to maximise their income through signposting and supporting them to enhance and develop their skills. By doing so, we aim to enhance their employment opportunities and contribute to the Fairer Futures aims under Fairer Working Lives.

Our contribution to these outcomes include: -

- the Tay Cities Deal is working towards Full Deal status by mid-November 2019. It is progressing well, and all the projects located in the Perth & Kinross area are being supported to develop their Outline Business Cases; these include the following three projects being led by PKC.
  - the Perth Bus & Rail Interchange which has just agreed to progress with Network Rail to a master planning exercise.
  - the Low Carbon Transport Hub & Active Project is also progressing well, and it is hoped it will be one of the early projects to reach full approval.
  - the Perth Cultural Transformation including the City Hall; this project is now proceeding to Full Business Case and is hopeful to receive early funding.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the conversion and repair work at St Paul's Church in Perth is ongoing. Related work for the promotion and use of the site for events, markets, art and lighting is progressing to allow the public space to be used for a variety of purposes during the day and evening.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)

- we are engaging with investors to support the investment and delivery of additional hotel capacity within Perth City. Specific sites have been identified, assessments carried out and promoted to investors.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the Creative Exchange was formally handed over from the contractor to the Council. The building is leased to Workshop & Artists Studio Provision Scotland (WASPS) who will operate the Creative Exchange on behalf of the Council. It is anticipated the first tenants will move into the building during October 2019. Within the facility, the Council will operate the Famous Grouse Ideas Centre, a multifunctional space for training and innovation for the culture and creative industries sectors.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- we are continuing active engagement with partners to deliver community benefits such as offering work placements. For example, Haddens have actively engaged with the Council's Youth Services at Scott Street offering work placements, training and opening up career opportunities for young people within Haddens and associated supply chains.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)
- the Community Benefits Working Group has further improved how we work with communities and businesses to achieve social value from the money we spend; it now considers details of the community benefits "[wish list](#)" of requests from communities and organisations. These in turn are passed on to appropriate department leads/champions to take forward any benefits that are being offered by local employers. This ensures that quality is being maintained in the benefits being offered, as well as assistance being provided to employers in integrating the offer of benefits.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)
- Through the Modern Apprentice Programme, the Council has recruited 31 young people across 9 different occupational areas since April 2019. 9 of the Modern Apprentices are based within the Housing and Environment Service. We have also co-ordinated several work placements to support employability skills.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)
- since the beginning of the year the Employment Connections Hub has had approximately 1,500 visitors and the Hub Vacancy Management Service is assisting on average 8 employers per month. The European Social Fund Employability Outreach is delivering employability services to clients throughout Crieff, Kinross, Blairgowrie and Rattray. This programme provides one to one support for clients with multiple barriers seeking employment.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the Employability and Skills Team has been engaging with local employers to support the creation of 35 new positions since April 2019 in small businesses throughout the area. Two active employment incentive schemes are in operation that provide support to young people seeking employment aged between 16 and 26, (the [Rural Employment Incentive](#) and the [No One Left Behind Recruitment Incentive](#)). This work has been supported by the addition of a Digital Marketing Modern Apprentice who has digitally publicised these incentives.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)



- the Market Development Grant Scheme was launched in September 2019. The grant scheme provides financial support to businesses, such as specialist advice or attendance at events. We also help businesses to access funding and support from Scottish Development International or the UK Department for International Trade for accessing overseas market.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- new joint promotion initiatives have been organised with the private sector to attract business and capital investment. For example, at the Waste Management and Resource Exhibition in Birmingham, PKC shared a stand with Binn Group to promote the Binn Eco-Park.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the Council approved a [report](#) at Strategic Planning & Resources (SP and R Committee) which allocated the Town Centre funding to 5 projects across 4 towns (Coupar Angus; Crieff; Pitlochry; and Kinross). We have been working with community groups and partners to develop these projects further.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the new City Centre Action Group is focused on supporting improvement and transformation of the city centre through enhanced use of property, supporting business to adapt and maintain assets, promotion of investment opportunities and working collaboratively to market the city. Members of the Group subsequently attended an event in Stirling to discuss potential collaborative working with adjoining authorities and businesses to develop a business led maintenance scheme.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- at the Perth [Food & Drink Park](#), an initial development of five food and drink manufacturing units has been completed and occupied. The Invest in Perth Team continues to invite notes of interest in serviced plots from existing and start-up businesses in all areas of the food and drink sector, such as production, manufacturing, distilling, supply chain efficiencies, innovation and logistics.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)

### Supporting People to Lead Independent, Healthy and Active Lives

**We play a central role in supporting people to live life well, wherever they stay, and whatever their stage in life. We work closely with our partners, tenants and residents to enable people to remain in their homes, preventing homelessness, and ensuring housing needs are met. We keep Perth and Kinross on the move, so that people stay mobile, connected and able to access services and activities. Our community-based activities help people access the significant social and health benefits by connecting with our outstanding green spaces.**

#### **Our Contribution towards these outcomes include: -**

- we continue to deliver sector-leading outcomes for homeless people in Perth and Kinross and, due to the continued success of Home First and our homelessness prevention activity, have reduced the overall number of homeless presentations by 38% for the year to date.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)

- work is underway to implement the commitments detailed within our [Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan](#). The Scottish Government funding allocation of £203,000 will support the introduction of a property ready fund, additional homelessness prevention and private sector activity. Research into our local homelessness context is underway. This will give us a better understanding of some of the key challenge areas including health and homelessness, meeting the specific needs of young people and eradicating rough sleeping.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- in September, the Council celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the rent bond guarantee scheme, one of a range of sector-leading private sector access initiatives managed by the Council. Over the last decade, this scheme has supported over 1,650 households into suitable accommodation.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- the work of the Independent Living Group is progressing well. The Group are focused on ensuring that people with health and social needs have access to the right type of housing to enable them to live as independently as possible. Progress has been made in understanding demand, mapping out current specialist provision as well as developing simplified pathways and transitional arrangements to ensure that the right type of accommodation and support is available at the right time.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- the Warm Homes Initiative has progressed well this year and the initiative has reduced a number of hard to heat homes. Scope and specification for all gas installs have been agreed, with contracts now in place between Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) and PKC. Private residents have also been engaged and will benefit from the programme.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- progress continues to be made on the installation of adaptations which enable people to remain independently at home and improve their quality of life, with, 57 private home major adaptations were completed to date. In addition, under the Modular Ramp Scheme, 14 ramps have been fully installed. With respect to PKC tenancy properties, 120 adaptations were completed, 33 of which were major adaptations including 7 modular ramps.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- at our Tenant Summer 2019 conference, tenants were provided with the outcomes of our annual Rent Setting priorities survey. This year we increased the number of tenants taking part from 182 to 849 (366% increase). The information gathered will be used to help us to develop rent level options for 2020/21 which tenants will vote on during November and December. The conference also included a presentation and workshop by the Home Energy Advice Team on fuel poverty and energy efficiency, and from the Community Safety Team who discussed concerns on Anti-Social Behaviour.  
(Housing and Communities Committee)
- as we seek to deliver investment in active travel and deliver an ambitious city-wide cycle network over the coming years, our funding application to Sustrans as part of the Places for Everyone Programme was successful, with the announcement of £6.5m funding. Significant stakeholder engagement programme will take place to turn the proposals into a finalised scheme.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)

- through our joint work with Live Active Leisure, we are developing a robust business case for a redeveloped Perth Leisure Pool facility (PH<sub>2</sub>O). The Business case and outline design scheme development has been procured through HubCo East Central with the full findings reported in early 2020.

*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)*

## Creating a Safe and Sustainable Place for Future Generations

**Our outstanding natural landscapes, and the high quality of our urban environment, play an important role in supporting economic growth, improving health and wellbeing, and providing us with a strong sense of identity. We are committed to ensuring that everyone in Perth and Kinross has the right to live in a safe and secure environment, within neighbourhoods that are well maintained and have a positive community spirit.**

### **Our contribution towards these outcomes include: -**

- work is ongoing in relation to climate change including baselining the Council's emissions, undertaking workshops with elected members and staff on existing activities, and defining future priorities.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)*
- initial community engagement has commenced with meetings taking place with the Perthshire Climate Change Cafes providing support to their recent [Big Climate Conversation Event](#) which took place in Birnam. Work continues to identify communities, groups and schools for further engagement and consultation, with a report scheduled for submission to Council in December.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)*

- As an alternative to mains gas, we continue to explore alternative renewable energy measures where feasible, such as solar water heating, air source heat pumps and photovoltaic panels to capture the sun's energy and convert it into electricity. 46 homes are to be installed with these alternative heating measures during 2019/20 and as at August 2019, 48 homes have been upgraded.  
*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee/ Housing and Communities Committee)*
- measures to reduce, reuse and recycle waste rate, which are outlined in the Council's Waste Management Plan, include:

- introducing Performance Officers to Recycling Centres in 2020 to promote for separation of waste and increase the reuse and recycling rates at Recycling Centres;
- promoting kerbside recycling services including promotion of food waste recycling through further communication campaign
- developing the Eating Well, Living Well Project with communities and third sector partners with the aim of introducing a food re-distribution network in Perth & Kinross. This will contribute to food waste prevention as well providing wider social and health benefits.

*(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)*

- in preparation for the Biodegradable Waste Ban to Landfill, the Council signed-up to the Scottish Materials Brokerage Service (SMBS) and Agency Agreement for Residual Waste, managed by Scottish Procurement (Scottish Government). This collaborative contract includes a provision for a treatment solution, commensurate with the requirements of the 2025 ban on biodegradable waste going to landfill.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the [Specimen Design and Environmental Impact Assessment](#) for the Cross Tay Link Road scheme was finalised at the end of September 2019, and the planning application will be lodged in October 2019. The current programme is for construction start in late 2021 with a 2½ year construction period.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the full business case for the Broxden-Low Carbon Transport Hub project will be ready by the end of the year and, assuming the successful development and approval of funding, it is anticipated that the project will start early in 2020. It aims to create an innovative Low Carbon Transport Hub, broadening the range of sustainable travel choices and providing opportunities to improve workforce mobility and social inclusion.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- the outline design of the [Comrie Flood Protection Scheme](#) is being finalised, with comments from the community consultation process being fed into the process. It is anticipated that the Scheme will be published early 2020.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)
- there was very positive judging in Perth for the prestigious Britain in Bloom Champion of Champions. The Beautiful Scotland Awards took place in Dumfries in September and a gold medal was awarded to Blair in Bloom, Kinnesswood and Coupar Angus. Coupar Angus was also category winner for Best Large Village. A silver gilt medal was awarded to Dunkeld and Birnam, Muthill, Glenfarg and Crichton Lang Residents Group. Bridge of Earn have qualified for the UK finals and the results of Britain in Bloom will be announced at the end of October 2019.  
(Environment and Infrastructure Committee)

## How do we compare to others?

The Council's Food Safety Team gained the Customer Service Excellence (CSE) Award for the 20th consecutive year, awarded by the Society of General Surveillance United Kingdom Ltd (United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) accredited). The team remains the only UK food authority to hold the Award. Several instances of good practice were identified in the annual CSE report, including: -

“You continue to assist a range of other services to develop their services in a customer focused way through helping them in their journey to achieving Customer Service Excellence. You are using your learning and customer focus to support the development of other Council Services”

For the second year running, the Building Standards Teams have been appointed with the award of Customer Service Excellence and were finalists in the “Building Standards Community and Building Safety Award” run by the Building Standards Division of the Scottish Government. An extract from the annual CSE report stated:

“The Council, including Building Standards, have been proactive in identifying buildings which are less aesthetically pleasing due to reasons such as abandonment. You are involved in determining the status of the buildings and any risks involved. This process uses insight including representation from local communities to direct resources to improve the environment of Perth and Kinross”

The Roads Infrastructure team has won multiple awards for delivery of the [Perth Transport Futures Project Phase 1 A9 / A 85 Junction and Link Road to Bertha Park](#).

We measure our performance against other Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) through Scotland's Housing Network (SHN) and Housemark. The results of the 2018/19 Scottish Annual Return on the Charter include the following highlights: -

- our compliance with the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) in 2018/19 was **96.7%** which compares favourably with the Scottish average of **94.1%**.
- the average time taken to complete emergency repairs in Perth and Kinross was reported at **3.5** hours in 2018/19, compared to a national average of **3.6** hours
- Perth and Kinross reported an average of **28.4** days to re-let homes in 2018/19 compared to a national average of **31.9** days.
- we kept **96.5%** of appointments in 2018/19 compared to a Scottish average of **95.6%**.

## What are our customers saying?

### Food and Drink Park client feedback.

*“Perth Food & Drink Park works well for us in terms of access to our northern locations, and we have great suppliers and distribution in the area. The building is a very nice place to work, with pleasant surroundings. We like that there is solar power, too, as renewable energy is important for us.”*

*“It was fantastic working with Perth & Kinross Council to set up my new business here; they're helpful and accommodating and they understand the needs of individual businesses. “*

### Employment HUB Client feedback:

A client was made job redundant from a local employer and attended for 8 weeks for employability and emotional support. The client received support in applying for a position in another High Street retailer of their choice and was successful in this appointment. After this success they visited the Hub to let their Advisor know the good news and commented: -

*“I couldn't have done this without your support and help. Living alone without family I see this as a great support as I have not been in a good place. You helped me believe in myself”*

### Tenant Led Scrutiny feedback:

Our approach to tenant led scrutiny continues to be sector leading. For the fifth consecutive year, our SURE Team assessed and graded our performance in relation to our Annual Return on the Charter (ARC) for 2018/19. The team set out their own assessment of annual performance against the 16 Charter Outcomes and present these to members of the Housing Management Team. Their grading outcomes will be included in our Annual Performance Reports to tenants at the end of October 2019.

The Tenant Committee Report Panel noted and supported the contents of the Annual Update of the Perth and Kinross Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy 2018-2021.

“This is an excellent report with many positive outcomes. Really pleased with the number of tenants participating in the rent priorities survey which has increased by 366%. This is a huge increase as a result of the variety of ways to respond which is great to see”.

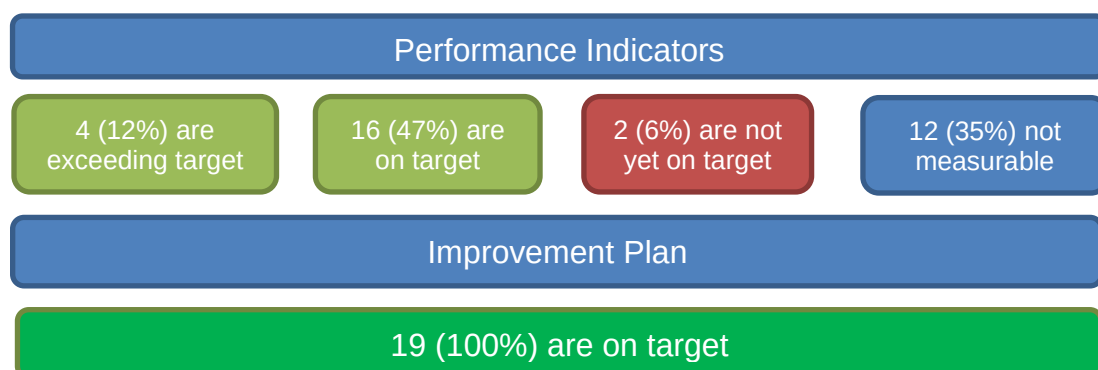
## Progress against Performance Indicators and Improvement Plan

We have made significant progress in delivering the services and actions identified in the Business Management Improvement Plan (BMIP) agreed by the Housing and Communities Committee, and Environment and Infrastructure Committee in May 2019.

Within our BMIP we have 39 indicators, 5 of which relate to homelessness where regulatory guidance advises the setting of targets is inappropriate. Of the 34 remaining indicators which have targets 12% are exceeding target; 47% are on target; 6% are not yet on target; and 35% are not measurable at this point.

Our Improvement Plan consists of 19 key high-level actions for 2019/20 which are on schedule.

The table below provides a progress summary:



**Note:**

The Service performance is determined from the current performance information available and not from projected data.

The

following sections provide an update on Service performance where targets have been exceeded and where the Service is not on track to meet the target in the BMIP. Where performance is currently not on target, improvement actions have been identified to ensure the Service reaches the target by March 2020.

## Performance Indicator Exceptions

### Where we are exceeding our target

| Indicators exceeding targets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Performance |         |                      | Target  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2017/18     | 2018/19 | Sep 19               | 2019/20 |
| <b>Creating a Safe and Sustainable Place for Future Generations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |         |                      |         |
| <b>Emissions from Council properties (tonnes CO2) (Environment and Infrastructure Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 15,051      | 12,308  | 2,969<br>(July 2019) | 13,000  |
| <b>Comments</b><br>Energy management is resulting in reduced emissions. The current forecast is an annual emissions total of 12,865 tonnes coming in under the 13,000 tonnes target.                                                                                                                                                                       |             |         |                      |         |
| <b>Average length of time taken (hours) to complete emergency repairs (Housing and Communities Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 3.57        | 3.54    | 3.41<br>(Aug 2019)   | 4       |
| <b>Comments</b><br>We have maintained strong performance for repairs and continue to respond to emergencies within the 4-hour target.<br><br>The national average for this indicator for 2018/19 was 3.6 days                                                                                                                                              |             |         |                      |         |
| <b>% of tenants satisfied with the repairs service (Housing and Communities Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 90.42       | 90.9    | 99.5<br>(July 19)    | 92      |
| <b>Comment</b><br>The introduction of mobile working has enabled the trades teams to receive instant feedback following a repair from tenants. This has resulted in increased return rates and improved satisfaction levels.<br><br>The national average for this indicator for 2018/19 was 91.7%                                                          |             |         |                      |         |
| <b>% of Anti-Social Behaviour complaints resolved within locally agreed targets (Housing and Communities Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 81.23       | 81      | 96<br>(July 19)      | 90      |
| <b>Comments</b><br>Performance has continued to improve throughout 19/20 as a result of the improved oversight of complaints monitoring. A monitoring report allows staff to identify and prioritise complaints nearing target timescales with oversight from Locality Co-Ordinators.<br><br>The national average for this indicator for 2018/19 was 87.9% |             |         |                      |         |



## Where we are not on target

| Indicators exceeding targets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Performance |         |                     | Target  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2017/18     | 2018/19 | Sep 19              | 2019/20 |
| <b>Promoting a Prosperous, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy / OR Service Objective</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |             |         |                     |         |
| <b>Rent collected as a % of the total rent due in the reporting year (Housing and Communities Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 98.73       | 98.69   | 96.57<br>(Aug 2019) | 98.6    |
| <p><b>Comments.</b><br/> Moving to full service Universal Credit (UC) in June 2018, has had an impact on rent arrears and collection rates. In some cases, the payment received from the Department for Work and Pensions can take up to 8 weeks, resulting in a degree of technical arrears.</p> <p>Close management and monitoring of arrears levels, collection rates and the impact of UC continues. This pro-active approach ensures we are mitigating, where possible, the impacts of UC on our tenants and the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.</p> <p>The national average for this indicator for 2018/19 was 99.1%</p> |             |         |                     |         |
| <b>% of working age population unemployed, based on the Job Seekers Allowance claimant count (Environment and Infrastructure Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1.2         | 1.5     | 1.9<br>(Aug 2019)   | 1.0     |
| <p><b>Comments.</b><br/> The increase in unemployment here mirrors the trend across Scotland. The unemployment rate for Scotland was reported at 4.0% (July 2019).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |             |         |                     |         |

## Improvement Plan Exceptions

No exceptions are reported.



## Glossary

|       |                                              |
|-------|----------------------------------------------|
| BMIP  | Business Management Improvement Plan         |
| BNI   | Business Network International               |
| CECA  | Civil Engineering Contractors Association    |
| CSE   | Customer Service Excellence                  |
| DRS   | Deposit Return Scheme                        |
| EPC   | Energy Performance Certificate               |
| LCPAR | Local Child Poverty Action Report            |
| PH2O  | Redevelopment of Perth Leisure Pool          |
| PKC   | Perth and Kinross Council                    |
| RSL   | Registered Social Landlord                   |
| SAP   | Standard Assessment Procedure                |
| SGN   | Scottish Gas Network                         |
| SMBS  | Scottish Materials Brokerage Service         |
| SP&R  | Strategic Planning and Resources Committee   |
| SSE   | Scottish and Southern Energy                 |
| SHN   | Scotland's Housing Network                   |
| SHQS  | Scottish Housing Quality Standard            |
| SURE  | Service User Review and Evaluation           |
| UKAS  | United Kingdom Accreditation Service         |
| WASPS | Workshop & Artists Studio Provision Scotland |



**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**Lifelong Learning Committee  
6 November 2019**

**Scrutiny Committee  
27 November 2019**

**Housing and Communities Committee  
30 October 2019**

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES INTERIM PERFORMANCE  
SUMMARY 2019**

**Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (Report No. 19/299)**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report reviews the performance of the Education and Children's Services against its Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) for the period since 1 April 2019.

**1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 Lifelong Learning Committee considers performance against the Service BMIPs within the reporting year via the Service interim and annual performance reports.
- 1.2 The interim performance summary highlights those BMIP performance indicators and improvement tasks that are exceptional, either as a result of performance exceeding the target or being unlikely to meet the target.

**2. INTERIM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY 2019**

- 2.1 The purpose of the interim performance summary in Appendix 1 is to review the performance of Education and Children's Services since April 2019 against the target and actions in the 2019/20 BMIP, approved by Lifelong Learning Committee in May 2019 ([Report No. 19/154 refers](#)) and considered by the Scrutiny Committee in June 2019.
- 2.2 The exceptions included in the report have been selected following consideration of all BMIP performance management information and relate to performance that is deemed to be significant. Where these exceptions are targets that have not been met, explanations and details of improvement actions to be taken are provided.
- 2.3 A full annual report with detailed progress against all targets and actions within the Education and Children's Services BMIP will be produced at the end of reporting year 2019/20.

### 3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The monitoring of BMIP performance information by the Education and Children's Services Senior Management Team has identified that achievements have been made in many areas. However, there are some areas in which improvement actions are required or they are already ongoing.
- 3.2 It is recommended that:
- (i) The Lifelong Learning Committee and the Housing and Communities Committee are asked to consider for their areas of specific interests and accept the contents of the Education and Children's Services Interim Performance Summary 2019. (Appendix 1)
  - (ii) The Scrutiny Committee scrutinise and comment as appropriate on the contents of the Education and Children's Services Interim Performance Summary 2019. (Appendix 1)

#### Authors

| Name         | Designation         | Contact Details                                                                        |
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#### Approved

| Name          | Designation                                                  | Date              |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sheena Devlin | Executive Director<br>(Education and<br>Children's Services) | 24 September 2019 |

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

|                                                     |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       | <b>Yes / None</b> |
| Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement           | <b>Yes</b>        |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |                   |
| Financial                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| Workforce                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |                   |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Risk                                                | <b>N/A</b>        |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |                   |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| External                                            | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |                   |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>None</b>       |

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to Objective No (i), (ii) and (v).

#### Corporate Plan

- 1.2 This section sets out how the proposals relate to the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan Objectives.

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to Objective No (i), (ii) and (v).

- 1.3 This report also links to the Education & Children's Services Policy Framework in respect of the following key policy area:

- Change and Improvement

## 2. Resource Implications

### Financial

- 2.1 N/A

### Workforce

- 2.2 N/A

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 N/A

## 3. Assessments

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.2 N/A

### Sustainability

- 3.3 N/A

### Legal and Governance

- 3.4 N/A

- 3.5 N/A

### Risk

- 3.6 N/A

## 4. Consultation

### Internal

- 4.1 The Education and Children's Services Senior Management Team has been consulted in the development of this report.

External

4.2 N/A

**5. Communication**

5.1 N/A

**2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

2.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

**3. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Education and Children's Services Interim Performance Summary 2019.





**Education and Children's Services**

**Interim Performance Summary**

**1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019**

# Contents

|                                                                        |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Introduction by Sheena Devlin (Executive Director)</b>              | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Service performance summary</b>                                     | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>How do we compare with others?</b>                                  | <b>10</b> |
| <b>What are our customers saying?</b>                                  | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Progress against Performance Indicators and Improvement Plan</b>    | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Performance Indicators exceptions</b><br>Where we are not on target | <b>13</b> |
| <b>Improvement Plan exceptions</b><br>Where we are not on target       | <b>15</b> |

# Introduction

by Sheena Devlin, Executive Director and Jacquie Pepper, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services)

**Welcome to Education and Children's Services Interim Performance Summary - 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019.**

The Education and Children's Services Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) 2019/20 sets out the key actions which will be delivered by Education and Children's Services in 2019/20 to ensure better outcomes for children, young people and their families in Perth and Kinross, and contributes to the delivery of the Council's strategic objectives and local outcomes. In this performance summary we are pleased to report good progress in meeting the targets and commitments that we set out.

Improving outcomes for children and young people is the core business of Education and Children's Services. Our focus is to ensure that children and their families receive appropriate experiences and support to best meet their wellbeing and learning needs and achieve positive outcomes.

At the heart of this report are the shared priorities identified in the **Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2017-2020**, a multi-agency, cross-border approach towards improving the lives and the life chances of children and young people across the three Community Planning areas of Perth and Kinross, Angus and Dundee.

A key focus for our work is early intervention and prevention and meeting the responsibilities of the **Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014**. The **Education (Scotland) Act** and the **National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education** bring responsibilities and opportunities, and a focus on raising attainment for all and closing equality gaps. We remain committed to delivering equity and enabling inclusion in all of our services.

We aim to optimise wellbeing and provide children and young people with the best possible start and, together with our partners, intervene at the earliest possible point and provide the appropriate support to address issues or concerns where required. Ensuring parents are supported to respond most effectively to their children's needs is key and the developing **Tayside Parenting Strategy** will inform the provision of universal and targeted support, integrated working with services for adults and information for parents with children at all ages.

We work in partnership to provide holistic and flexible support to families to cope with the challenges they may face in their daily lives. Our **Corporate Parenting Plan** provides the framework for ensuring better outcomes for our looked after children and young people and to ensure that they thrive and succeed.

We recognise the hard work of all colleagues and partners in achieving better outcomes for many children, young people and their families. We also recognise that there remain areas where further improvement is required. Our ambition, compassion and integrity drive us to ensure we continue improving lives together.

## Service Performance Summary

Our children will have the best start in life, they will be cared for and supported to learn in nurturing environments

**Developmental milestones** are assessed in nurseries and partner providers for children who are expected to start primary 1 in the following August. This year, 81% of the P1 roll are estimated to be meeting all expected development milestone figure. This figure was similar in the previous 2 years. Speech and Language, Emotional Development and Attention are the milestones most likely not to be met. Boys and children from more deprived backgrounds are much more likely to not meet milestones.

The expansion of **Early Learning and Childcare** (ELC) is being implemented early in all areas across Perth and Kinross, with full roll out of 1140 hours of ELC on track to be delivered for all eligible children by August 2020.

Since March there has been a 4% increase of 3 to 5 year olds now benefiting from extended hours (now at 14% of the total), earlier than the requirement to do so by August 2020. Early implementation throughout session 2019-2020 will deliver increased access for eligible two year-olds, with all 3 to 5 year olds and eligible 2 year olds being offered 1140 hours of ELC by August 2020.

Suitably qualified staff have been recruited to strengthen the workforce and deliver quality provision. This has been achieved through collaboration with HR colleagues to progress a variety of PKC initiatives including Modern Apprentices.

Our children, young people and their families will be meaningfully engaged with learning and combined with high quality learning experiences, all children and young people will extend their potential

Attainment across literacy and numeracy at P1, P4, P7 and S3 shows steady, long-term progress, based on teacher judgements of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) levels, although P4 and P7 show a slight decrease from last year. Writing and numeracy levels remain generally lower than for reading and listening/talking, especially for P4 and P7, and the poverty-related gaps more persistent, highlighting ongoing priorities for the literacy and numeracy strategies that have been established.

The 2019 SQA National Qualification results show sustained high levels of attainment, particularly in S6. More detailed information is included in the **Raising Attainment Strategy Update** report, with results for 2019 school leavers expected to be available in February 2020.

The PKC **Literacy and Numeracy Strategies** provide clear direction for all to ensure that our learners experience the highest quality of literacy and numeracy learning and teaching at all stages from the early years to the senior phase. Educational Psychology input has supported the gathering of sound research to determine effective universal and targeted approaches to raising attainment. Impact is being measured through the improvement in young children's emergent literacy skills, the number of learners attaining appropriate Curriculum for Excellence Levels in P1, P4, P7 and S3 and the percentage of pupils attaining National Qualifications. To support schools in taking forward the key actions from both strategies each Local Management Group has identified leaders and coordinators to cascade national/local updates, share practice and engage in professional dialogue and learning. This offer to schools is based on analysing school and local authority data to gain an understanding of the strengths and areas for development across PKC. The intention is to create a structure which builds capacity across LMGs and schools, and provides feedback to the local authority about successes and further work to be done to support improvement.

Schools have further developed their approaches to analysing data in order to ensure effective planning for the use of **Pupil Equity Fund**. School leaders continue to be supported to use an action research model and tools from the **Educational Endowment Fund** to analyse school level data to identify attainment gaps, and from there to select and evaluate appropriate interventions.

In the coming session schools plan to continue their focus on areas of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. There will be an increased focus on improving aspects of learning and teaching in early years and primary. Many schools will use some of their PEF money to engage staff to support delivery of interventions or to support staff training for sustainability of projects.

Education Scotland published inspection reports for Cleish Primary School, Burrelton Primary School and Logiealmond Primary School which received evaluations of *Good* or *Very Good* across all Quality Indicators, and Goodlyburn Primary and Nursery Class which received evaluations of *Satisfactory*, *Good* or *Very Good* across all Quality Indicators.

Significant progress has been made in projects within the **Education and Children's Services School Estate Programme**, including planning approval for a new nursery building at Inchture Primary School and an extension to the nursery at Rattray Primary school, as well as the start of work on site for the refurbishment and extension of Longforgan Primary School and a new nursery within St Ninian's Episcopal Primary School. As the new school year began in August, the first pupils (S1 & S2) entered **Bertha Park High School**, Scotland's first new school for over 20 years.

Across Perth and Kinross, Angus and Dundee there is a PanTayside approach to the implementation of the **Scottish Government's 1+2 Languages policy**. Our most recent survey carried out in March 2019, indicates that schools have continued to maintain the pace and progression of L2 implementation in line with national expectations. Further evidence from the survey indicates that plans are in place across LMGs and sectors to support the delivery of L3. Support continues to be delivered to schools and LMGs to ensure readiness for full implementation by August 2021.

In April 2019 The Gannochy Trust and Perth and Kinross Council jointly launched a universal youth work programme across Perth and Kinross. Over a 3 year period, the programme will see more than £900,000 invested in local youth work agencies in 5 localities. The programme provides support to strengthen and secure youth work agencies across Perth & Kinross enabling them to offer young people aged 11 to 19 quality youth work activities after school and in the holiday periods. The youth work agencies involved in local delivery are Perth & District YMCA, Strathmore Centre for Youth Development, Alyth Youth Partnership, Coupar Angus Youth Action Group, KYTHE and LOGOS.

The **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** provides opportunities for young people aged 14 – 25 and adult volunteers within Perth and Kinross to participate in a voluntary, non-competitive and flexible programme of cultural and adventurous activities irrespective of their background or ability. Between April and September 2019, Perth and Kinross Council had 1,190 young people involved in the Award, delivered by eight Secondary Schools, a number of Universal Youth Work providers and Community groups, with 330 volunteers based in 24 units to support the delivery of the award. During this period a total of 92 young people attained an Award (49 Bronze, 20 Silver and 23 Gold). On the 5th of July, 73 young people were presented with their Gold Award by HRH Prince Edward at Holyrood Palace.

## Our children and young people will be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy

The **Health and Wellbeing Strategy** was launched to schools in June 2019. The views of children and young people were pivotal in determining the scope of the strategy, and a Health and Wellbeing Network has been established to support the strategic goals identified. The strategy clearly targets the responsibility of all to scaffold and underpin excellent Health and Wellbeing of young people across PKC.

The **Emotional Wellbeing Collaborative** continues to develop improvement activity including a successful project with Coupar Angus Primary School and Live Active Liesure. This project is using sport to help children develop resilience skills and is being spread to a further eight schools in the 2019/20 academic year. Work has been ongoing with Blairgowrie High School to improve staff wellbeing, with positive improvements seen when staff completed a follow up survey in June 2019. Support will continue to extend the impact this academic year; similar work has also started with the staff group at Fairview School.

The Educational Psychology Service worked collaboratively with the Emotional Wellbeing Collaborative to extend the reach of the **Bounce Back** resilience programme by providing training and implementation support for three secondary schools in addition to the existing primary school provision. Evaluation measures are in place in relation to resilience, connectedness and staff wellbeing, with baseline measures being established in September 2019. The programme will be piloted with young people during session 19-20 and its impact tracked.

**Family Change** is a specialist therapeutic social work service, set up to support children and their families who have experienced significant trauma, currently working with 25 individual children and young people. Family Change also offers a consultation service to a wide range of people who care for and support vulnerable children, including parents and carers, social work colleagues and colleagues from health, education and third sector organisations. 31 consultations were delivered from April to June 2019, which is in line with expectations.

The **Children with Disability Outreach Service** offers a variety of effective interventions to support children and young people affected by disability. The service operates in Woodlea Cottage and also directly with families in their own homes. The two main challenges experienced by families are behaviour and sleep. The team has provided support to 29 children, young people and their families in the first quarter of 2019/20, compared to a total of 57 in 2018/19, indicating that the number of children and young people receiving a service may rise slightly this year.

Collaboration across the **Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative** led to the launch of a toolkit for staff which supports Emotional Health and Wellbeing for children and young people. The toolkit aims to raise awareness of emotional health and wellbeing whilst highlighting the importance of prioritising early intervention. Pathways of support and guidance for all universal staff will help to implement the principles and practice of underpinning policies such as Getting It Right for Every Child, Curriculum for Excellence, Health Promoting Schools, and the Scottish Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027.

Opportunities for families to be involved in **family learning** over the summer holiday period were extended this year and a range of activities, including lunches, engaged families in a variety of venues. This has provided learning that will inform the provision to be offered in the October and December holidays.

A national survey of parents views on ***Parental Involvement and Engagement*** was completed. Although only 9% of the parents of children in Perth and Kinross Council schools responded, the responses received will be valuable in helping plan future activity. The survey highlighted:

- Most respondents strongly agreed/agreed that the school staff are approachable, the school can be contacted within school opening hours, they are confident that if they needed to contact their child's school, it will respond helpfully to questions and comments and the views and suggestions of the Parent Council are taken into account by the school's senior management team.
- The majority of respondents agreed that the school keeps them well informed in a way they can understand, they know what their child is learning at school, there are opportunities for them to help at their child's school and overall, they are satisfied with how the school engages with them.
- Looking at areas for further development, fewer than half of respondents agreed that the school provides them with useful information about how they can help their child learn at home, asks for their views about their child's learning and takes them into account, or gives them information they need to support their child's learning. Just less than a third of respondents said that the school never gets in touch with them to provide information on ways to help their child continue to learn at home.

The family learning project developed in partnership with Scottish Prison Service and Angus, Dundee and Fife Councils has been successful in reaching the final round of the COSLA Excellence Awards for 2019. The project is led by the Parenting and Family Learning Team and was already a silver award winner at the Designing Futures Together Awards 2019.



**Our children and young people who experience particular inequalities and disadvantage will achieve health, wellbeing and educational outcomes comparable with all other children and young people**

The **REACH** (Resilient Engaged Achieving Confident and Healthy) project aims to help young people to stay within their families, schools and communities and prevent the need to move into residential care, to empower them to build, restore and maintain relationships with their families and communities. The number of young people accessing residential placements has reduced significantly, from 27 in August 2017, to 11 in August 2019, due to a concerted effort to return young people to community placements and improved monitoring of decision making for young people. The establishment of REACH has ensured a more intensive approach to avoid the need for young people to become accommodated and has been instrumental in keeping young people out of care.

There are currently 9 care experienced young people engaging in Activity Agreements. 5 Young people are taking part in the Route INTO: Programme where the young people will have an opportunity to gain career-appropriate skills with a number of partners such as Hadden's Construction, All Scotland Gym and the Gleneagles Hotel. To further enhance the young people's skills there are volunteering opportunities at the "Full Of Beans Community Café". Young people are further supported to build confidence and plan their next steps towards a more positive destination.

From April to June, 16 young care experienced people moved on to positive destinations, including full time employment or modern apprenticeships within the hospitality industry and the construction industry, further education at Perth College or a Barnardo's stage 2 employability programme, where they will be further supported towards a positive destination.

Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) are children and young people who are seeking asylum in the UK, but are separated from parents or carers. Since October 2016 we have provided care and accommodation for 10 UASC young people and have committed to supporting a further 10 over the next few years in order to meet the Council's commitment to UASC.

All ten young people have been registered with a dentist, G.P and Live Active, and where appropriate have been referred and accepted through a variety of counselling/psychology support services. All have attended English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes through Perth College and a number of young people have also attended the jointly supported additional learning options via Services for Young People. Young people are accommodated in supported accommodation, with some progressing on to independence. Six UASC young people are attending college, with others in full time or part time employment or volunteering.

The provision of **independent advocacy** in Services for Children, Young People and Families is being strengthened, with Independent Advocacy Perth and Kinross being contracted to provide advocacy support for children and young people looked after at home and those who are working voluntarily with the service. There is also investment into Rights Respecting Schools to help fund registration fees to encourage schools to sign up for and buy into the Rights Respecting Schools Award. In addition, the use of Mind Of My Own (MOMO) is being expanded to include MOMO Express for children under 8 and children with disabilities.

Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service (PKAVS) Young Carers Hub continues to support children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years old to cope with what can

often be an all-encompassing caring role. At present, PKAVS supports 335 young carers with an average 10 new referrals for young carers every month. Over 40% of the 335 young carers PKAVS currently support come from single parent families and so often these children and young people are not only a young carer, but the main carer.

In June 2019, the Annual Young Carers Consultation event took place, providing a chance to talk to young carers first hand and seek their views on what they would like their support to look like over the next 12 months.

**Our children and young people will be safe and protected from harm at home, school and in the community**

Through guidance from the Scottish Government, Perth and Kinross has started Bail Supervision under the **Whole System Approach**, aimed at young people aged 16-21 (26 for care leavers) to offer a direct alternative to remand, and reduce the number of people being held in custody while awaiting an outcome in court. This approach follows national guidelines and bridges Services for Young People and Criminal Justice to give a comprehensive package to these young people. Support and guidance is provided using a holistic approach, allowing young people an opportunity to successively remain in their community and to acquire life skills. Since May 2019, 6 young people have been placed on bail supervision.

The Child Protection Committee (CPC) held its Annual Development Day in May 2019, and this year held a joint event with members from the Adult Protection Committee (APC). The theme was: Working together to prevent harm, recognising the common issues and shared responsibilities of both partnerships. A Joint Feedback and Evaluation Report has been used by both partnerships to inform their respective partnership improvements plans and their capacity for improvement.

## How do we compare to others?

The national benchmarking tool Insight, based on the principles of Curriculum for Excellence, is designed to drive improvements for pupils in the senior phase (S4 to S6) and enables us to compare our performance not only with the national picture, but also matches pupils in Perth and Kinross to pupils with similar needs and backgrounds from across Scotland to create a virtual comparator.

Ongoing analysis of attainment and achievement through Insight demonstrates that Perth and Kinross is performing well nationally and against the virtual comparator, and is used to inform ongoing developments to raise attainment for all and to reduce inequalities. Further details are included in the Raising Attainment Strategy Update 2019.

The annual [Participation Measure](#) reports on the Scottish Government's *Opportunities for All* pledge, which aims to ensure that all young people are supported into learning, training or employment. The latest report, from August 2019, shows that for the fifth year in a row, Perth and Kinross is performing above the national average, and is doing so in every individual age group as well as overall, with around 93% of young people aged 16-19 taking part in employment, education or training.

|                 | <i>Overall</i> | <i>Individual age groups</i> |           |           |           |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                 | <b>16 – 19</b> | <b>16</b>                    | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b> |
| <b>PKC</b>      | 93.4%          | 99.3%                        | 96.3%     | 91.1%     | 87.4%     |
| <b>Scotland</b> | 91.6%          | 99.0%                        | 94.8%     | 89.1%     | 83.9%     |

The **Care Inspectorate** has completed 7 inspections of services for children and young people within Perth and Kinross since April 2019, almost all of which have received gradings of *Good* or better in all quality themes. Services within PKC received ratings of *Good* or better in 88% of all quality theme gradings, compared to approximately 84% for the whole of Scotland.

## What are our customers saying?

Inspections by the **Care Inspectorate** incorporate the collection of feedback from parents and carers, and include very positive comments about the quality of nursery, pre-school services and Housing Support services.

*"Great nursery! Staff are personable and caring. Good focus on learning and education but in a fun and vibrant setting." (Cheeky Monkeys)*

*"The manager and her team create fantastic learning experiences for my child. They are always outside and regularly go to the park and other community areas." (Cragie Park)*

*"Exceptional service. My child always seems to be having good fun when I collect her and has a great rapport with the staff and they with her." (North Muirton Kids Club)*

*"The staff were excellent ensuring my child settled in well when he first started and they give good feedback when he attends. They are very thoughtful and kind." (Village Kids Club)*

*"My daughter has thrived at Milnathort Nursery. I feel very confident in her carers. She loves going to nursery." (Milnathort Primary School Nursery)*

*"My daughter loves after school club and would go every night if she had the chance. I have never had any concerns." (Letham Kids Club)*

*"This is my second child attending the service and both children have made excellent progress. This is down to the excellent provision by very caring and welcoming staff." (Fossway Primary School Nursery)*

Inspections by **Education Scotland** also involve feedback from parents and carers. Questionnaires completed by parents show that overall 91% are happy with the school that their child attends.

REACH has already received positive feedback from a range of stakeholders including young people accessing the service, and this feedback will be incorporated into the Team Improvement Plan and will allow reflection on all aspects of work of the multi-disciplinary team.

*"I can talk to my REACH worker about difficult things because I trust them."*

*"I feel like my worker cares about me and wants the best for me."*

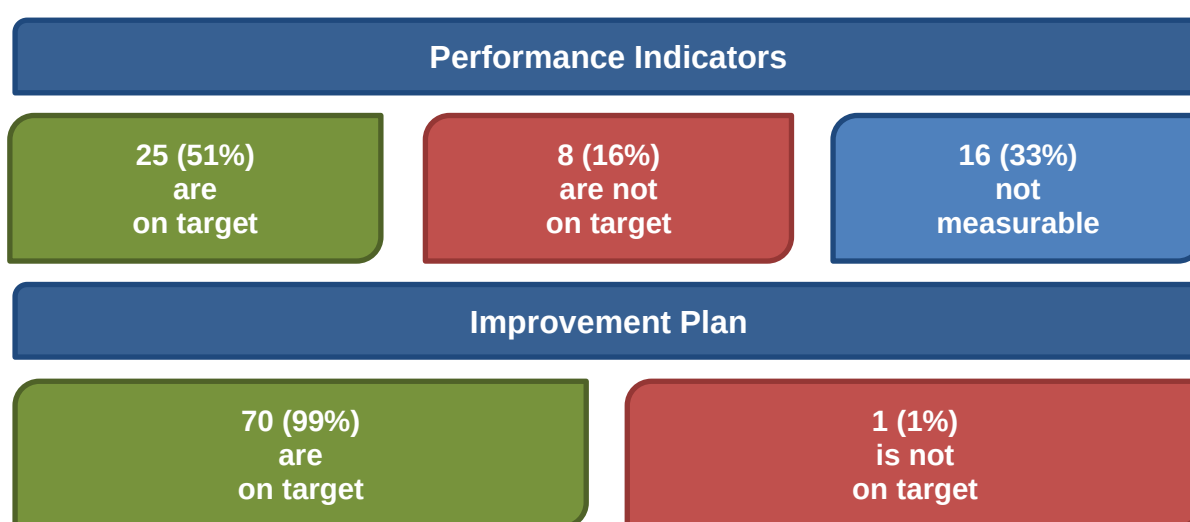
*"REACH is always there to help me and listen to me."*

## Progress against Performance Indicators and Improvement Plan

Over the six months from 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019 Education and Children's Services has made significant progress in delivering the services and actions identified in the Business Management Improvement Plan (BMIP).

The BMIP includes 49 key performance indicators. A summary of progress for these indicators is included in the table below. The majority of performance indicators recorded as *not measurable* are annual indicators that would not be expected to be updated at this point, such as education attainment indicators, and these will be included in the full performance update at the end of the year.

The table also includes a progress summary for the 71 improvement actions contained within the BMIP Improvement Plan.



**Note:**

The Service performance is determined from the current performance information available and not from projected data.

The following sections provide an update on Service performance where targets have been exceeded and where the Service is not on track to meet the target in the BMIP. Where performance is currently not on target, improvement actions have been identified to ensure the Service reaches the target.

## Performance Indicator Exceptions

### Where we are not on target

| Indicators not achieving target                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Performance |         |         | Target     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2016/17     | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2018/19    |
| <b>Learning and Achievement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |         |         |            |
| <b>% Attendance for Primary School pupils</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 95.2%       | 94.8%   | 95.0%   | <b>96%</b> |
| <b>% Attendance for Secondary School pupils</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 91.1%       | 91.1%   | 90.5%   | <b>93%</b> |
| Overall attendance in secondary has fallen slightly over recent years and is related to increases in unauthorised absence. In primary a recent downward trend has been reversed in the last full year measured, but unauthorised parental holidays continue to impact on attendance, as well as other unauthorised absence in secondary. Attendance of those from more deprived categories has declined more than others. Work is underway to review attendance levels and identify actions that can be taken to improve performance; monitoring in schools is supported by Quality Improvement Officers, family engagement, partnership and multi-agency working. |             |         |         |            |
| <b>Exclusion incidents per 1,000 Primary pupils</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 9           | 6       | 8       | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>Exclusion incidents per 1,000 Secondary pupils</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 46          | 45      | 55      | <b>45</b>  |
| The long term trend in exclusions from school continues to reduce in both primary and secondary, although the latest year shows slight increases in both sectors against this trend. Primary has reduced from 14 per 1,000 pupils in 2009/10 to 8 in 2018/19, and Secondary has reduced from 66 per 1,000 pupils in 2009/10 to 55 in 2018/19. We have an ongoing authority-wide commitment to inclusive practice, including development of an 'Excellent Relationships, Excellent Learning and Teaching' policy. To support this there is robust analysis of data to improve performance.                                                                          |             |         |         |            |

| Indicators not achieving target                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Performance |         |                   | Target     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2017/18     | 2018/19 | 2019/20           | 2019/20    |
| <b>Care and Equity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |             |         |                   |            |
| <b>% Looked After Children with more than 1 placement in the last year</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 24%         | 21%     | 36%<br>(Aug 2019) | <b>20%</b> |
| <p>This indicator was reported for the first time in the 2019/20 BMIP, and is drawn from the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF). 281 children were looked after at 31 August 2019. 180 (64%) of these had 1 placement during the year and 101 (36%) had more than 1 placement.</p> <p>There has been a large number of children who were accommodated at one time and temporary arrangements have been necessary until more permanent placements can be made. There is a concerted effort to minimise moves, with an increased use of kinship placements as well as the recruitment of foster carers.</p> |             |         |                   |            |
| <b>% of children with an approved permanence plan within 4 months of the decision to recommend for permanence</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 35%         | 56%     | 25%<br>(Aug 2019) | <b>85%</b> |
| <p>4 young people were considered at Fostering and Permanence Panel within this period, with 1 being considered within 4 months of the LAC Decision. This compares to 88% for the same period last year. In 3 of these cases there were complex legal issues preventing permanence decisions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |             |         |                   |            |
| <b>Safe and Protected</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |         |                   |            |
| <b>% of Unborn Baby Initial Case Conferences held within timescales</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 27%         | 71%     | 50%<br>(Aug 2019) | <b>87%</b> |
| <p>There were 6 Unborn Baby case conferences in this period, with 3 being held within timescales.</p> <p>Of those which fell outwith the timescale; one was a late presentation and two were due to capacity issues. It will be necessary that we review the systems and processes associated with these case conferences to mitigate against similar issues being experienced again.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |         |                   |            |
| <b>Statutory Criminal Justice Social Work case closures signed off with 5 working days of release<br/>(Housing and Communities Committee)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 27%         | 71%     | 65%<br>(Jul 2019) | <b>87%</b> |
| <p>The 5 day closure is reliant on a number of variables from other stakeholders which can impact on the ability to close files off within five working days. The main reason for delays centres around the ability of the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) to promptly advise the Criminal Justice team that prisoners have been released, downgraded or re-located to another establishment.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |         |                   |            |

## Improvement Plan Exceptions

### Where we are not on target

| Focus and Major Change                                                                                                 | Key action<br>(Lead responsibility)                                                                                                                              | Delivery<br>timescales                           | Comments on progress and improvement actions                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Develop and implement the Perth and Kinross Council Raising Attainment Strategy 2019-2022.<br><i>Head of Education</i> | Develop and implement an overarching strategy that focuses on raising attainment for all and closing the poverty related attainment gap.<br><i>QIO (Primary)</i> | Sep 2019<br><br><b>Revised date:</b><br>Mar 2020 | The Raising Attainment Strategy 2020-2023 is currently being drafted to align with the new Learning and Teaching policy which is in draft, along with the Literacy and Numeracy strategies which are being refreshed. |



## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### Housing and Communities Committee

30 October 2019

#### Rent Arrears Update and the Impact of Universal Credit (UC)

#### Report by Executive Director (Housing & Environment) (Report No. 19/300)

This report provides Housing and Communities Committee with an overview of and performance in relation to rent arrears and the impacts of Universal Credit (UC) 12 months on from the introduction of Full Service

### 1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 Managing rent arrears and ensuring tenants are able and supported to pay their rent is a key challenge for all Scottish Local Authorities. Changes to the welfare system, and limited wage and salary increases for workers have challenged many individuals and families' ability to manage their household budgets.
- 1.2 In a recent briefing<sup>1</sup>, Citizens Advice Scotland reported that rent and council tax arrears now exceed levels of credit card debt for families in Scotland. Furthermore, in October 2018, they reported a 40% increase in relation to rent arrears advice provision since 2012.<sup>2</sup>
- 1.3 In Perth and Kinross, we know, from work undertaken to inform the Fairer Futures report that:
  - (i) 1 in 9 working households rely on some form of benefit
  - (ii) 1 in 8 households are classified as being amongst the most socially and financially challenged in the United Kingdom
  - (iii) 37% of households are classed as fuel poor, where more than 10% of income is spent on fuel
  - (iv) 1 in 5 children are estimated to live in poverty
- 1.4 Information around our local economy and workforce tells us that 46% of employees in Perth and Kinross work in small businesses, 10% higher than the Scottish average. This is likely to contribute towards lower pay.

<sup>1</sup> [Universal Credit and debt - briefing from Citizens Advice Scotland \(5 June 2019\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Rent Arrears - Causes and Consequences for CAB clients](#)

- 1.5 The most recent Nomis Official Labour Market statistics<sup>3</sup> for Perth and Kinross show lower gross weekly pay levels compared to the Scottish average.

|                          | <b>Perth and Kinross<br/>(£)</b> | <b>Scotland<br/>(£)</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Full-Time Workers        | 530.4                            | 563.2                   |
| Male Full-Time Workers   | 560.9                            | 598.9                   |
| Female Full-Time Workers | 481.3                            | 516.2                   |

- 1.6 Tenants who do not maintain rent payments are at risk of losing their home, although eviction is and always will be a last resort. Supporting tenants to manage and sustain their tenancies is a key outcome for the service.
- 1.7 The Council must however, balance support and action to prevent homelessness and maintain people within their homes, with the need to recover rent and income to maintain a sustainable Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

## **2. ANALYSIS OF RENT ARREARS**

- 2.1 The section above describes the national and local context and challenges facing the Council and our tenants. The vast majority (66.5%) of the Council's 7,600 tenants do not have rent arrears.
- 2.2 An analysis of performance levels, arrears bandings and arrears by payment method are outlined below.

### **Gross Rent Arrears (Target 8.75%)**

- 2.3 Our gross rent arrears (current and former arrears), stands at 8.19% (£2,207,397), a reduction of 2.91% from reported performance in July 2018. This improvement is, in the main, attributable to the write off, approved at Strategic Policy & Resources Committee (Report No.18/193 refers), in June 2018 being removed from the total debt due in April 2019.

|                         | <b>2015/16</b> | <b>2016/17</b> | <b>2017/18</b> | <b>2018/19</b> | <b>YTD</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Perth and Kinross       | 10.39%         | 10.05%         | 10.38%         | 10.83%         | 8.19%      |
| Local Authority average | 6.2%           | 6.5%           | 6.7%           | 7.3%           | n/a        |

### **Current Rent Arrears**

- 2.4 Arrears level for current tenants have continued to improve over the same period (July 18 to June 19), showing an overall 1.4% reduction to 8.23% (£1,359,385).

|                   | <b>2015/16</b> | <b>2016/17</b> | <b>2017/18</b> | <b>2018/19</b> | <b>YTD</b> |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Perth and Kinross | 12.78%         | 10.46%         | 9.44%          | 8.21%          | 8.23%      |

<sup>3</sup> [Nomis Official Labour Market Profile \(2018\)](#)

- 2.5 There are no benchmark comparisons for current rent arrears available at present.

#### **In Year Collection Rate (Target 98.7%)**

- 2.6 In 2018/19, the total amount of rental income to be collected was £26,023,222, of which we collected 98.69%. In the current financial year, the amount is £26,740,910 with in year performance sitting at 96.52%.

|                         | <b>2015/16</b> | <b>2016/17</b> | <b>2017/18</b> | <b>2018/19</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Perth and Kinross       | 98%            | 99.59%         | 98.73%         | 98.69%         |
| Local Authority average | 99.5%          | 99.4%          | 99.2%          | 98.7%          |

#### **Number of Tenants in Arrears (Target 25%)**

- 2.7 As at the end of June 2019, a total of 2,509 (33.5%) tenants had an arrears balance on their account.
- 2.8 Of these 1,330 (53%) had a balance below £250. The value of the debt in this banding level represented 8.9% of our overall outstanding arrears.
- 2.9 In contrast there are a small number of tenants, 60 (2%), with a balance over £3,000. The total value of this debt represents 18% of our overall outstanding arrears.

#### **Arrears by Payment Method**

- 2.10 The table below shows the % of tenants in arrears by payment method and the average arrears balance. Comparing information against July 2018 shows that the highest increase is for tenants who receive no assistance with their housing costs.

|                               | <b>July 2018</b>    |                        | <b>June 2019</b>    |                        |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Payment Method</b>         | <b>% in arrears</b> | <b>Average arrears</b> | <b>% in arrears</b> | <b>Average arrears</b> |
| Full Housing Benefit          | 11.5%               | £453.82                | 9%                  | £392.11                |
| Partial Housing Benefit       | 27%                 | £369.64                | 26%                 | £225.25                |
| No Assistance                 | 40%                 | £595.20                | 44.5%               | £617.65                |
| Universal Credit <sup>4</sup> | 76%                 | £875.68                | 76%                 | £866.06                |

<sup>4</sup> The average arrears balance for Universal Credit (UC) is lower as outlined in Section 2.26 of this report

### **Sustaining Tenancies Fund**

- 2.11 The Sustaining Tenancies Fund (£150,000) introduced in April 2018 recognises the challenges faced by tenants in meeting their rent responsibilities. The introduction of the fund demonstrates our commitment to supporting tenants facing financial hardship, and our overall strategic objective to sustain tenancies.
- 2.12 During 2018/19, a total of 219 applications were submitted. Of these 142 (65%) were approved, 60 (27%) were refused, with the remaining 17 (8%) deferred. The overall budget spend was £136,796.
- 2.13 An analysis of the rent accounts of tenants who received a payment towards their arrears, has shown that 88% have gone on to maintain a clear rent account.
- 2.14 Payments from the fund resulted in a 0.52% reduction in our overall gross rent arrears. There was also a 0.53% improvement in our rent collected performance.

### **Payment Arrangements**

- 2.15 Often tenants who fall into arrears do not have the means to clear the outstanding balance in a single payment. In such situations, a payment arrangement is offered to clear the debt over a period of time. If the payment arrangement is maintained then no further action is taken.
- 2.16 At the end of June 2019, of the 2,509 tenants in arrears, 1,050 (42%) had a payment arrangement in place. During 2018/19, a total of 321 arrangements were ended as accounts had been cleared.
- 2.17 Frontline housing staff encourage tenants to enter into arrangements which they can afford, rather than seeking large amounts to clear the debt sooner. The ongoing sustainability of the arrangement is more important than the time to clear.

## Benchmarking Comparisons

### High Level Arrears Performance

- 2.18 The table below shows 3 year performance trends for a number of Local Authorities. Only East Lothian has demonstrated improved performance particularly from mid 2017/18 onwards. East Lothian was the first Local Authority in Scotland to move to full service UC in March 2016.

|                     | % rent collected |       |        |              | % gross arrears |       |       |              |
|---------------------|------------------|-------|--------|--------------|-----------------|-------|-------|--------------|
|                     | 16/17            | 17/18 | 18/19  | % shift      | 16/17           | 17/18 | 18/19 | % shift      |
| <b>Angus</b>        | 99.37            | 99.97 | 98.52  | <b>-0.85</b> | 7.74            | 7.66  | 9.23  | <b>+1.49</b> |
| <b>Dundee</b>       | 99.19            | 98.44 | 97.97  | <b>-1.22</b> | 6.19            | 6.98  | 7.94  | <b>+1.75</b> |
| <b>East Lothian</b> | 98.15            | 99.24 | 100.57 | <b>+2.42</b> | 9.36            | 9.28  | 7.49  | <b>-1.87</b> |
| <b>Fife</b>         | 97.67            | 98.11 | 97.94  | <b>+0.27</b> | 7.55            | 8.21  | 9.05  | <b>+1.5</b>  |
| <b>Highland</b>     | 99.31            | 98.11 | 98.98  | <b>-0.33</b> | 4.68            | 5.03  | 4.86  | <b>+0.18</b> |
| <b>PKC</b>          | 99.59            | 98.73 | 98.69  | <b>-0.90</b> | 10.05           | 10.38 | 10.83 | <b>+0.78</b> |
| <b>Stirling</b>     | 99.82            | 98.83 | 98.57  | <b>-1.25</b> | 9.57            | 10.13 | 11.38 | <b>+1.81</b> |

### Universal Credit (UC)

- 2.19 Universal Credit (UC) is a working age social security benefit introduced in the UK in 2013 to replace six means tested benefits and tax credits. One of the means tested benefits included is housing benefit, or housing costs as it is known under UC. This means that anyone entitled to assistance with their costs will have this included within a single UC payment.
- 2.20 Perth and Kinross Council moved to “Full” Service UC on 13 June 2018 as part of the wider planned roll out of Universal Credit by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).
- 2.21 Housing costs are normally paid directly to the tenant who then has the responsibility to meet their rental obligations. There are exceptions, however, as outlined in Section 2.29 of this report.

### The Impact of UC on Rent Arrears Levels

- 2.22 Over the previous 12 months, as part of our ongoing review of rent arrears levels, we have monitored the impact of UC.
- 2.23 As at the end of June 2019 1,135 tenants were meeting their rental obligation through UC. Of these 1,135, a total of 862 had an arrears balance on their account. Some of these arrears could be regarded as technical due to UC being paid monthly in arrears.

### **Arrears Levels for UC Tenants**

- 2.24 Many tenants who move onto UC, do so with an existing arrears balance. To establish the exact impact of UC on the HRA, we have calculated the average increase in arrears, excluding any pre-existing balance. As at 30 June 2019, this amounted to around £287.53 per tenant
- 2.25 The overall impact of UC on the HRA for the first 12 months of full service is £247,851.

### **Alternative Payment Arrangements (APA)**

- 2.26 An APA is where housing costs are paid directly to the landlord rather than the tenant. There are two situations where this can be requested. One is where the tenant makes this request. The second is a request by the landlord on the grounds of 8 weeks or more outstanding rent. An APA means that the payment under UC for housing costs will be made directly to the landlord on a four-weekly basis.
- 2.27 At the end of June 2019, a total of 439 tenants were having their housing costs paid directly to us as landlord.

### **Third Party Deductions (TPD)**

- 2.28 A Third Party Deduction (TPD) is a sum which can be deducted from a tenant's overall UC entitlement and paid directly to us as landlord towards the arrears.
- 2.29 As at 30 June 2019, there were 185 TPD payments in place with an average value of £43.22 per tenant per month. This means the monthly overall value of TPD payments is £7,996.

### **Benchmarking Comparison**

- 2.30 In May 2018, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) produced a report<sup>5</sup> outlining the impact of Full Service UC on rent arrears levels for the first 12 months for early "go-live" Authorities.
- 2.31 East Lothian Council was the first Scottish Local Authority to move to full service in March 2016. In the first 12 months, current tenant arrears levels increased by 29%.
- 2.32 The table below tracks Perth and Kinross Council's experience of UC against that of East Lothian Council over the first 12 months. Arrears levels in Perth and Kinross have increased at a lower rate than that experienced by East Lothian Council. However, the stock profile and tenant base within each Authority is different.

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<sup>5</sup> [COSLA UC Full Service cost impacts report](#)

2.33 However, a number of changes have been introduced to UC since March 2016, including:

- (i) Fortnightly payments through Scottish Flexibilities
- (ii) Payment direct to landlord through Scottish Flexibilities
- (iii) Removal of 7 day waiting period before housing costs paid
- (iv) Change to 2 children or more restriction, remain on Housing Benefit
- (v) Housing Benefit 2 week transition payment now in place

2.34 It is therefore likely that these changes have helped to shape improvements in more recent Local Authorities' performance, when moving to Full Service UC.

| Local Authority   | Full Service Arrears Levels | 9 months              | 12 months            | 18 months            |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| East Lothian      | £1,295,782                  | £1,503,445<br>(+16%)  | £1,676,047<br>(+29%) | £1,721,244<br>(+32%) |
| Perth and Kinross | £1,250,295                  | £1,216,943<br>(- 3 %) | £1,359,385<br>(+ 9%) | Tbc                  |

### 3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 This report highlights the key issues for the Council and tenants in relation to rent arrears and provides an overview of performance in relation to general arrears levels and the impact of Universal Credit. It outlines the positive and pro-active approach taken by the service to manage arrears and to support tenants to sustain their tenancies.

3.2 It is recommended that Housing and Communities Committee:

- (i) Notes the contents of this report, including the analysis of rent arrears and the benchmarking performance.
- (ii) Requests the Executive Director (Housing & Environment) to submit a further update to Committee for performance in 2019/20, in August 2020.

**Author**

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Designation</b> | <b>Contact Details</b>                                                                           |
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**Approved**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Designation</b>                            | <b>Date</b>       |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Barbara Renton | Executive Director<br>(Housing & Environment) | 25 September 2019 |

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       | <b>Yes / None</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Community Plan                                      | <b>None</b>       |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |                   |
| Financial                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| Workforce                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |                   |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>None</b>       |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>None</b>       |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>None</b>       |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>None</b>       |
| Risk                                                | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |                   |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| External                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |                   |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>None</b>       |

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community and Corporate Plan

- 1.1 This report and the work of frontline housing staff contribute to the following Perth and Perth and Kinross Community and Corporate Plan priorities:

- (i) *Giving every child the best start in life*
- (ii) *Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens*
- (iii) *Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy*
- (iv) *Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives*
- (v) *Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations*

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report other than those reported within the report itself.

#### Workforce

- 2.2 There are no workforce implications as a result of this report.

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 There are no asset management implications as a result of this report.

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties. The Equality Impact Assessment undertaken in relation to this report can be viewed clicking [here](#).
- 3.2 The information within this report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.
- 3.4 No further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

### Sustainability

- 3.5 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. Under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 the Council also has a duty relating to climate change and, in exercising its functions must act:
- in the way best calculated to delivery of the Act's emissions reduction targets;
  - in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programmes; and
  - in a way that it considers most sustainable.
- 3.6 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.7 The Head of Legal and Governance was consulted on this report.

### Risk

- 3.8 None arising from this report.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Legal and Governance was consulted on this report.

### External

- 4.2 The Tenant Committee Report Panel commented that benchmarking performance shows that Perth and Kinross Council are doing well with consistent performance. Early intervention is key in supporting this.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 N/A.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 None.

## **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 None.



## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### Housing & Communities Committee

30 October 2019

### Strategic Housing Investment Plan

**Report by Executive Director (Housing & Environment) (Report No. 19/301)**

This report seeks Committee approval of the revised Perth and Kinross Council Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) for the period 2020 to 2024/25.

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) sets out how Scottish Government funding, for the development of affordable housing, will be invested to support the delivery of the Local Housing Strategy outcomes.
- 1.2 The Local Housing Strategy (2016-21), approved by Housing and Health Committee in May 2016 (Report No.16/234 refers), identified a number of key priorities, including:-
  - more affordable homes and well managed stock, to ensure homes are the right size, type and location, with access to suitable services and facilities
  - safe and secure communities for residents of Perth and Kinross with access to good quality, affordable accommodation with the necessary support in place to sustain them in their homes and prevent them from becoming homeless
  - people living independently at home for as long as possible with help from the community and local support networks
  - warm, energy efficient and low carbon homes for Perth and Kinross residents which they can afford to heat.
- 1.3 An up-date on the strategy was reported to Housing and Communities Committee on 15 May 2019 (Report No 19/143 refers).
- 1.4 Demand for housing in Perth and Kinross is high, this is set to continue given the projected increase in population over the next 15-20 years, including a significant increase in the older population. It is, therefore, essential that more new homes are built to meet these needs.
- 1.5 The target for social housing completions in the Local Housing Strategy is 150 houses per year. During 2018/19, a total of 191 additional social rented homes were completed between the Council and Registered Social Landlords (RSL) partners. This figure excludes 26 buybacks (ex Council stock) purchased by Perth and Kinross Council.

## 2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 The Scottish Government requires Strategic Housing Investment Plans to be submitted annually.
- 2.2 The SHIP sets out how Perth and Kinross Council will use the funding available to invest in the programme of council build, as well as direct investment into housing developments to be progressed by Housing Associations and other partner agencies. Investing in housing developments which meet the needs of the most vulnerable people within our community is a central aim of the SHIP. The SHIP, therefore, reinforces the position of the Council as the strategic housing authority, along with the importance of the outcomes and targets set in its Local Housing Strategy.
- 2.3 The Council and partners identify and prioritise new build and development projects in the SHIP, using the following criteria:-
- contribution to meeting housing need
  - inclusion, equality and meeting particular needs
  - impact on communities and regeneration
  - contribution to meeting wider strategic priorities
  - project deliverability
- 2.4 Due to a number of factors and influences, such as land acquisition and planning processes, it is necessary to review and re-prioritise the SHIP on an ongoing basis. As part of the SHIP approval process, the Scottish Government advises that local authority officials should, where possible, seek delegated authority to assign other projects into the programme, replacing those which fail to progress within the anticipated timescale. Any potential replacement projects are prioritised under the system set out in the SHIP and agreed through the New Build Project Board.
- 2.5 The Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21 - 2024/25 is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.6 The Scottish Government wrote to all Local Authorities on 30 April 2019 advising of the full Resource Planning Assumptions (RPAs) for the next two years (councils had previously been given provisional information for planning purposes). Funding available for investment in Perth and Kinross is detailed in the table below:

| Financial Year | Resource Planning Assumption |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| 2019/20        | £17.423M                     |
| 2020/21        | £18.483M                     |

- 2.7 At this stage, the Scottish Government has recommended that we continue to plan in terms of the level of funding to be available in 2020/21, although there is likely to be a change in the level of funding available to local authority areas for affordable housing after 2021. This means that projects in the programme are prioritised to enable the scale of the programme to be adjusted when the level of funding available is known.
- 2.8 While some projects in earlier years will undoubtedly experience slippage, work is ongoing to identify additional developments to be included into later years in the programme.
- 2.9 A list of projects to be brought into the programme in the event that slippage occurs has been prepared. In situations where projects encounter issues leading to uncertainty about their delivery, they are placed on a separate 'suspended projects' list. For a range of reasons, specific to the sites on this list, it is currently not possible to anticipate the timescale for the development of these projects. When project deliverability becomes more certain projects will be slotted into the programme. Any projects brought into the programme will be prioritised using the methodology outlined above in paragraph 2.3.
- 2.10 As set out in the Local Housing Strategy, the Council aims to build 400 houses in total over the five year period from April 2017 until March 2021. Sites for many of these houses have been identified. However, the search for additional sites will continue to ensure that the target is met.
- 2.11 In addition, the Council intends to continue its programme of buying back former Council properties to increase its stock. It is anticipated that grant assistance from the Scottish Government will support at least 24 properties to be bought back each year.

### **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 This report outlines the Perth and Kinross Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21-2024/25 (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Committee:-
- (i) approves the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25
  - (ii) gives delegated authority to the Executive Director (Housing & Environment) to ensure that where projects fall out of the plan, alternative projects, prioritised in the same way, are substituted for them.

**Author**

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Designation</b> | <b>Contact details</b>                                                                           |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clare Mailer | Head of Housing    | <a href="mailto:HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk">HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk</a><br>01738 475000 |

**Approved**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Designation</b>                               | <b>Date</b>       |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Barbara Renton | Executive Director<br>(Housing &<br>Environment) | 30 September 2019 |

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       | <b>Yes / None</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement           | <b>Yes</b>        |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |                   |
| Financial                                           | <b>Yes</b>        |
| Workforce                                           | <b>None</b>       |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |                   |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>None</b>       |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>None</b>       |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>None</b>       |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>None</b>       |
| Risk                                                | <b>None</b>       |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |                   |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| External                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |                   |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>None</b>       |

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan

- 1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Plan and Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan have five concurrent outcomes which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. The following are relevant to this report:
- (i) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
  - (ii) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
  - (iii) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 Resource implications arising directly from this report emanate from the proposed local authority new build housing programme (as detailed in the SHIP appended). In addition to the Scottish Government Grant, the second home Council Tax fund and developer's contributions for affordable housing will be used to support the delivery of the programme. Detailed resource assumptions on the use of these funds will be reported to respective Council Committees when final details are known.

- 2.2 The Head of Finance was consulted on these proposals as part of the Capital Budget and HRA Capital Plan budget setting process.

#### Workforce

- 2.3 There are no direct workforce implications regarding this report.

#### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.4 There are no asset management implications arising from this report.

### **3. Assessments**

#### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals. However, no action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

#### Sustainability

- 3.4 These proposals meet the following sustainability criteria:-
- (i) Where possible, using materials from sustainable sources
- (ii) Energy conservation through improved insulation measures
- (iii) More efficient heating systems
- (iv) More efficient lighting systems

#### Legal and Governance

- 3.5 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted and there are no direct legal implications of this report.

### Risk

- 3.5 The Housing and Community Care Senior Management Team regularly review capital monitoring reports that highlight individual project progress and risks.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Finance and the Head of Legal and Governance were consulted on this report.

### External

- 4.3 The SHIP has been developed through joint work with individual Registered Social Landlords and the Scottish Government. They have been consulted on this report.
- 4.4 The Tenant Committee Report Panel are pleased to support this paper, stating that it is encouraging to see future sites being developed.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 There are no direct communication issues with regard to this report.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 None.

## **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 The appendix to this report is the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) which sets out affordable housing investment priorities to achieve the outcomes set out in the Local Housing Strategy.



**APPENDIX 1**

**Perth and Kinross Council**

**Strategic Housing  
Investment Plan**

**2020/21 – 2024/25**

**October 2019**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Good quality homes and place-making can make a significant contribution to the Council's wider aims of creating safe and sustainable communities where people aspire to live.
- 1.2 The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2020/21 – 2024/25 sets out investment priorities for affordable housing, consistent with aims & objectives set out in the Perth and Kinross Local Housing Strategy (LHS).
- 1.3 Demand for housing across all tenures in Perth and Kinross is high. The supply of affordable housing proposed in the SHIP, is required to help to address housing need generated through projected population increases in Perth and Kinross. It also takes account of predicted demographic changes in relation to significant increases in the proportion of older people.
- 1.4 The SHIP details proposals to deliver over 1000 additional affordable homes over the five year period and includes an additional 25% above the targets set. This approach is in accordance with Scottish Government guidance which recommends that over-programming will allow for unforeseen slippage in projects progressing. This overprovision within the programme should help ensure that the target of building 750 new affordable houses in Perth and Kinross over five years (as set out in the Local Housing Strategy) is achieved. This supply of new affordable houses will be for social rent and shared ownership through the Council and partner Housing Associations.

## **2. Local Housing Strategy (LHS) Vision**

- 2.1 The LHS provides the strategic framework and sets out Perth and Kinross Council's vision:

*'We want to make Perth and Kinross a place where everyone will have access to good quality, energy efficient housing which they can afford, that is in a safe and pleasant environment. People will have access to services that will enable them to live independently and participate in their communities'*

- 2.2 The SHIP is aligned with key aims & objectives outlined in the LHS that reflect national and local policy objectives, the four principle themes being:

- 1 Supply of housing and sustainable communities**
- 2 Housing and homelessness**
- 3 Independent living**
- 4 House condition, fuel poverty and climate change**

### **3. SHIP Prioritisation Framework**

- 3.1 Perth and Kinross Council's SHIP prioritisation framework is a tool for prioritising investment that assesses potential development projects across the Council's strategic aims & objectives; deliverability and community benefits. Potential projects are assessed against the framework and recommendations are made to the Council's New Build Programme Board for inclusion in the SHIP.
- 3.2 The Council balances its investment decisions to be delivered by Perth and Kinross Council (as developer), Registered Social Landlords (RSL's) and Private Developers via a range of affordable housing tenures across all Housing Market Areas (HMA's).

### **4. Review Mechanism – Response & Resolution of Constraints**

- 4.1 The Council regularly reviews the SHIP development projects, both internally and with RSL partners, to ascertain progress on a programme and project basis.
- 4.2 A frequent, usually quarterly, formal review process assists identification of constraints and potential slippage in the programme. Early contact and liaison with internal stakeholders such as Planning and external stakeholders such as Scottish Water, has assisted the Council in resolving constraints and achieving effective programme management outcomes.

### **5 Affordable Housing Supply Programme – Progress towards Completions target**

- 5.1 In the Local Housing Strategy 2016-2021 (approved by Housing and Health Committee on 25 May 2016 (Report 16/234) the target of providing at least 150 new affordable houses (including social rented and shared equity) was set.
- 5.2 The supply of affordable housing against the target over the first three years of the Local Housing Strategy is:-

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Number of social rent or shared equity houses delivered</b> | <b>LHS Target</b>                      |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 2016/17     | 97                                                             | 150                                    |
| 2017/18     | 190                                                            | 150                                    |
| 2018/19     | 221                                                            | 150                                    |
|             | 508                                                            | <b>Target for 3 year period</b><br>450 |

### **6. Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan Priorities (RRTP)**

- 6.1 Addressing the key Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG) recommendations, Perth and Kinross Council aims to align strategic housing priorities with the ambitions of its Rapid Rehousing

Transition Plan, and ensure new supply assists the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Home First model.

The successful delivery of Home First has been supported by our new build programme and the delivery of the SHIP. Many homeless households have been housed directly into new properties or into vacancies freed up by existing tenants moving into new build properties. This has contributed to a substantial reduction in the number of homeless households waiting for an offer of accommodation and the length of time they have to wait.

## **7. Child Poverty Action Report**

- 7.1 The provision and delivery of affordable housing options is key in addressing child poverty in the area and ensuring that low income households can access good quality affordable homes. Through the delivery of the LHS and our new build programme we are supporting the priorities outlined in the Local Child Poverty Action report by increasing the supply of new affordable homes built to Silver Standard (Aspects 1 and 2). These new homes help to address fuel poverty, reduce the impact of homelessness on families and provide affordable rent levels.

## **8. Independent Living**

- 8.1 The SHIP plays a significant role in promoting and enabling households with particular housing and support needs to live independently in their own home in the community.
- 8.2 The aim is for all housing to be built to 'housing for varying needs' standard – this ensures that our mainstream housing is barrier free with the flexibility to meet the existing and changing needs of most households. Ground floor accommodation is built with wet floor showers and other specifications to meet the specific needs of households. Working with partners, we ensure residents and tenants have access to services to adapt their housing to suit their needs whenever possible.
- 8.3 At present there are 68 clients with physical disabilities with a housing need. A target of 15 houses for ambulant disabled in 2019/20 has been set in the LHS, and fully wheelchair standard housing will be incorporated into the programme where possible. Due to the dispersed nature of housing throughout Perth and Kinross, it is very difficult to match the supply of specialist wheelchair housing to the timing and location it is required. For this reason, it is likely that there will be a heavy reliance on building to flexible housing design. This approach enables adaptations to be made to meet specific needs of households as and when required, to ensure that housing is suitable for an individual's needs.
- 8.4 The details of many of the developments in the programme have not yet been finalised and the potential of many developments to meet specialist provision still needs to be fully assessed. It is anticipated that the proportion of housing for people with specialist needs including housing suitable for wheelchair users will increase once specific development details are finalised.



- **Local Plans to Support Wheelchair Accessible Housing**

- 8.5 Perth and Kinross Council is committed to increasing the supply of wheelchair accessible homes, in accordance with requirements set out in recent guidance issued by the Scottish Government which requires targets to be in place by the end of 2019. The Council is currently consulting with Health and Social Care and RSL partners, with a view to agreeing a robust and flexible approach to delivering more wheelchair accessible homes across urban and rural Perth & Kinross.

**9. Affordable Homes Projects for Gypsy/Travellers**

- 9.1 Consultation with the Gypsy Traveller community is ongoing and a survey of Council accommodation for Gypsy Travellers will take place as part of the Local House Condition Survey. Information from this survey will be used to plan future investment and maintenance of the existing sites.
- 9.2 A pilot scheme that enables Gypsy/Traveller communities to stop for short periods at negotiated sites in Perth and Kinross was put in place in May 2019. Negotiated stopping sites offers potential benefits to both the travelling and settled communities by reducing the number of 'unauthorised' encampments at unsuitable locations, while still supporting the preservation of the Gypsy/Traveller culture. The approach involves dialogue and negotiation between the Council and Gypsy/Travellers who pass through the area.

**10. Funding**

- **Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP)**

- 10.1 The focus of the SHIP is the use of the Affordable Housing Supply Programme funding (AHSP), which is made available by the Scottish Government for investment in Perth and Kinross. While this funding is held by the Scottish Government the Strategic Housing Investment Plan developed by the Council directs where this funding will be invested to meet the priorities identified in the Local Housing Strategy. The projects detailed in the appendices will invest Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) funding in Perth and Kinross over the next five years.
- 10.2 In April 2019 the Scottish Government advised all local authorities of the Resource Planning Assumptions for the next two years over the lifetime of the current parliament:-

| Financial Year | Resource Planning Assumption |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| 2019/20        | £17.423M                     |
| 2020/21        | £18.483M                     |

- 10.2 At this stage the Scottish Government has recommended that we continue to plan in terms of the level of funding available in 2020/21, although there is likely to be a change in the level of funding available to local authorities after 2021.

## Other Resources to support delivery of housing projects in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan

- **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**

- 10.3 Using its own resources to fund additional borrowing, the Council has plans to develop 400 houses for rent over the five year SHIP period. This will be funded through council tax funding, prudential borrowing and grant assistance from the Scottish Government.

- **Developer Contributions**

- 10.4 Applications that meet published criteria can be made to Perth and Kinross Council to support delivery of affordable homes from Developer Contributions collected from Commuted Sums. Information on applications received over the past year in respect of SHIP projects and amounts awarded to support development of affordable homes are detailed below:

| Applicant              | Project                 | Units | Year    | Amount             |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|---------|--------------------|
| Caledonia HA           | Crieff Road, Perth      | 6     | 2019/20 | £70,000.00         |
| Caledonia HA           | Atholl Road, Pitlochry  | 12    | 2019/20 | £63,916.00         |
| Hillcrest HA (pending) | N William Street, Perth | 12    | 2019/20 | £180,000.00 (est.) |

- 11.3 At present there is £2.2M available from contributions received from developers where affordable housing was not provided on the sites they were developing. The policy requires funds to be invested in the same market area from where they were collected to assist in bringing forward affordable housing developments. At present close to 50% of the funding collected is for the Perth area.

- **Council Tax Reserve Income from the Reduction of Discount for Empty and Second Homes**

- 11.4 In 2012, the Council Tax (Variation for Unoccupied Dwellings) (Scotland) Act gave Councils new powers aimed at reducing the number of empty dwellings. In June 2013, Perth and Kinross Council agreed to adopt a new policy with effect from April 2014 which awarded the minimum discount of 10% for dwellings empty for between 6-12 months. The Council Tax Charge for unoccupied dwellings is now 200% of the rate of charge for an occupied property.
- 11.5 Perth and Kinross Council uses £20K/unit of this funding to support delivery of new affordable homes for the Council. Over the past seven years this has assisted the Council in building a total of 268 houses.
- 11.6 In addition to this, Housing Associations have received grant assistance from this fund in situations where exceptionally high development costs. This has assisted with exceptional costs for 55 houses since 2013. Without

the assistance of this additional funding these projects it would have been unlikely that these houses could have been developed.

- 11.7 Since 2014 these funds have been used to support posts including the Empty Homes officer. As at March 2019 the balance of funds was £5.2 M.

## **12. Empty Homes**

- 12.1 The Vacant Property Development Team assist owners in instructing property professionals to undertake feasibility studies into repairing or re-purposing their empty properties through Vacant Property Feasibility Grants. In addition Empty Homes Initiative grants enable owners to upgrade or repair their properties in return for the properties being let through our Rent Bond Guarantee Scheme for a period of 5 years at Local Housing Allowance Rental Levels. During 2018/19 this work and grant funding resulted in a total of 25 houses being brought back into use as affordable housing.

## **13 Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Projects**

- 13.1 The Scottish Government have established a flexible grant and loan fund to help tackle infrastructure blockages and to accelerate the delivery of primarily affordable housing across Scotland. Support consists of three main elements:

- infrastructure grant available to local authorities and RSLs (to cover costs which are not currently funded from the AHSP)
- infrastructure loans to non-public organisations
- resources to accelerate site development.

Local Authorities are requested to identify priority sites which could be unlocked or taken forward earlier through this fund. Consideration has been given to how HIF can support SHIP projects and a few projects have been identified as potentially meeting the criteria.

- 13.2 However, while there was been initial interest from developers, it has not been possible to obtain the information required to form more detailed project proposals. In part this has been due to the terms of the HIF not being markedly different to finance available in the market or developers not being able to commit to the scale of development favoured for this funding within the timescale required.
- 13.3 Perth and Kinross Council will continue to consider where the Infrastructure Fund could be useful in assisting with delivery of affordable housing

## **14 Consultation and Collaboration**

- **Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)**

14.1 Meetings are held regularly with RSLs to review progress with the Strategic Housing Investment plan and RSLs are invited to submit potential development proposals which are prioritised according to the agreed prioritisation framework. On larger projects such as Blackthorn Place at Blairgowrie, the Council and RSL's have taken a collaborative approach with the RSL acting as the project manager for both the Council and RSL elements of the project. This approach has proved successful in developing a range of affordable housing options on single sites.

- **Developers**

14.2 Regular meetings take place with developers to discuss development of their sites and the affordable housing requirement, through the implementation of the Affordable Housing Policy. On many sites this results in inclusion of the affordable housing in their developments being included in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan for either the Council or Housing Associations.

- **All Stakeholders and Partner Agencies and Communities**

14.3 There is a strong history of a partnership working between Perth and Kinross Council and RSLs to deliver the housing programme. This ranges from identification and sale of sites, securing planning permission, a joint housing waiting list and liaison on nominations when the houses are ready for let. The Council will continue to work closely with the Scottish Government to support them in reviewing procurement arrangements to deliver increased efficiency in the delivery of the AHSP in Perth and Kinross.

14.4 In taking forward the Local Housing Strategy and the Strategic Housing Investment Plan workshop events are organised, to consult on the objectives of the strategy, and consider how objectives can best be met. These workshops are attended by a range of partners and community representatives.

14.5 The Draft SHIP document is widely circulated and comments are invited ahead of finalisation of the final Strategic Housing Investment Plan.

## **15. Equalities**

15.1 Perth and Kinross Council is fully committed to equalities and diversity. The General Equality Duty has three main aspects:-

- eliminate discrimination
- advance equality of opportunity
- foster good relations between communities

- 15.2 The Council will respond to the different needs and service requirements of people regardless of sex, race, colour, disability, age, nationality, marital status, ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation or gender re-assignment. The planning and delivery of good quality housing and appropriate information, advice and support services in Perth and Kinross embraces the principle of equal opportunities and the equality outcomes.

## **16. Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 16.1 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies, are screened to assess the potential environmental impact of the plan. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) ensures that environmental issues are considered by decision makers alongside social and economic issues.
- 16.2 The SHIP, as part of the LHS, was considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and pre-screening identified that the plan will have no, or minimal, environmental effects. It is, therefore, exempt and the SEA Gateway has been notified.

## **17 Monitoring**

- 17.1 The SHIP is closely monitored and funding is claimed as promptly as possible to promote and maximize the funding invested in Perth and Kinross. Annual reviews of progress in increasing the supply of housing is reported to the Council's Housing and Communities Committee, as part of the review of progress in implementing the Local Housing Strategy.

## **18. Conclusion**

- 18.1 There continues to be strong need and demand for additional housing across all tenures in Perth and Kinross. It is anticipated that through continued successful joint working with partner agencies the investment of funds in the projects identified for inclusion in this programme we will make an invaluable contribution to meeting the need for affordable housing throughout the area.

Appendix 1 - Pre 2020/21 site start with completion in 2020/21 or 21/22

| Project Address      | Area                          | Developer | General Needs | Specialist | Wheelchair | Total Units | Site Start Pre 2020/21 | Completions 2020/21 | Completions 2021/22 | Subsidy Spend 2020/21 | Subsidy Spend 2021/22 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Newhouse Road        | Perth                         | CHA       | 12            | 0          | 0          | 12          | 12                     | 12                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Milne Street,        | Perth                         | PKC       | 8             | 0          | 0          | 8           | 8                      | 8                   | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Huntingtower,        | Perth                         | PKC       | 70            | 0          | 0          | 70          | 70                     | 39                  | 31                  | £ 1,490,000.00        | £ -                   |
| Bertha Park, (Ph2)   | Perth                         | KHA       | 58            | 0          | 0          | 58          | 58                     | 58                  | 0                   | £ 250,000.00          | £ -                   |
| Glebe,               | Scone                         | PKC       | 61            | 0          | 4          | 65          | 65                     | 65                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Ardler Road          | Meigle                        | PKC       | 8             | 0          | 0          | 8           | 8                      | 8                   | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Elm Drive            | Blairgowrie                   | PKC       | 13            | 0          | 0          | 13          | 13                     | 13                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Glenalmond Road Ph3  | Ratray                        | KHA       | 0             | 8          | 0          | 8           | 8                      | 8                   | 0                   | £ 624,000.00          | £ -                   |
| Airlie Green, Alyth  | Alyth                         | HH        | 4             | 0          | 0          | 4           | 4                      | 4                   | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Guildtown SE         | Guildtown                     | CHA       | 20            | 0          | 0          | 20          | 20                     | 20                  | 0                   | £ 800,000.00          | £ -                   |
| Castlemains (Ph2)    | Auchterarder                  | KHA       | 14            | 0          | 0          | 14          | 14                     | 14                  | 0                   | £ 1,008,000.00        | £ -                   |
| Pigeon Row,          | Crieff                        | HH        | 27            | 0          | 0          | 27          | 27                     | 27                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Lathro Farm, Phase 2 | Kinross                       | HH        | 12            | 0          | 0          | 12          | 12                     | 12                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
| Atholl Road,         | Pitlochry                     | CHA       | 12            | 0          | 0          | 12          | 12                     | 12                  | 0                   | £ -                   | £ -                   |
|                      |                               |           | 319           | 8          | 4          | 331         | 331                    | 300                 | 31                  | £ 4,172,000.00        | £ -                   |
| PKC                  | Perth & Kinross Council       |           |               |            |            |             |                        |                     |                     |                       |                       |
| KHA                  | Kingdom Housing Association   |           |               |            |            |             |                        |                     |                     |                       |                       |
| HH                   | Hillcrest Homes               |           |               |            |            |             |                        |                     |                     |                       |                       |
| CHA                  | Caledonia Housing Association |           |               |            |            |             |                        |                     |                     |                       |                       |

| Appendix 1 - 2020-21 Site Starts   |            |           |               |            |            |             |                    |                     |                     |                     |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Project Address                    | Area       | Developer | General Needs | Specialist | Wheelchair | Total Units | Site Start 2020/21 | Completions 2020/21 | Completions 2021/22 | Completions 2022/23 |
| Buybacks                           | Various    | PKC       | 24            | 0          | 0          | 24          | 24                 | 24                  | 0                   | 0                   |
| Craigie Road,                      | Perth      | PKC       | 8             | 0          | 0          | 8           | 8                  | 0                   | 8                   | 0                   |
| Former Fairfield Community Centre, | Perth      | PKC       | 12            | 0          | 4          | 16          | 16                 | 0                   | 16                  | 0                   |
| North William Street,              | Perth      | HH        | 12            | 0          | 0          | 12          | 12                 | 0                   | 12                  | 0                   |
| Bertha Park (Ph3)                  | Perth      | PKC       | 64            | 0          | 0          | 64          | 64                 | 0                   | 0                   | 64                  |
| Moncur Road                        | Inchture   | PKC       | 18            | 0          | 0          | 18          | 18                 | 0                   | 18                  | 0                   |
| Newburgh Road                      | Abernethy  | PKC       | 10            | 0          | 0          | 10          | 10                 | 0                   | 10                  | 0                   |
| Guildtown SR                       | Guildtown  | CHA       | 20            | 0          | 0          | 20          | 20                 | 0                   | 20                  | 0                   |
| Stanley (H30)                      | Stanley    | PKC       | 22            | 0          | 0          | 22          | 22                 | 0                   | 0                   | 22                  |
| Stanley (H30)                      | Stanley    | KHA       | 15            | 10         | 0          | 25          | 25                 | 0                   | 0                   | 25                  |
| Pace Hill,                         | Milnathort | CHA       | 10            | 0          | 0          | 10          | 10                 | 0                   | 10                  | 0                   |
| Milnathort                         | Milnathort | KHA       | 16            | 0          | 0          | 16          | 16                 | 0                   | 16                  | 0                   |
| Central Crieff                     | Crieff     | HH        | 24            | 0          | 2          | 26          | 26                 | 0                   | 26                  | 0                   |
| Broich Road Ph1                    | Crieff     | KHA       | 30            | 0          | 0          | 30          | 30                 | 0                   | 30                  | 0                   |
| Goodlyburn                         | Perth      | HH        | 39            | 0          | 0          | 39          | 39                 | 0                   | 39                  | 0                   |
|                                    |            |           | 324           | 10         | 6          | 340         | 340                | 24                  | 205                 | 111                 |

| Appendix 1 – 2021/22 - 2024/25 Site Starts |                |           |               |            |            |             |                  |                  |                  |                  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Project Address                            | Area           | Developer | General Needs | Specialist | Wheelchair | Total Units | Site Start 21/22 | Site Start 22/23 | Site Start 23/24 | Site Start 24/25 | Completion 2021/22 | Completion 2022/23 | Completion 2023/24 | Completion 2024/25 | Completion 2025/26 |
| Buybacks                                   | Various        | PKC       | 96            | 0          | TBC        | 96          | 24               | 24               | 24               | 24               | 24                 | 24                 | 24                 | 24                 | 0                  |
| Luncarty                                   | Luncarty       | CHA       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 20               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Rossie Place, (Ph1)                        | Auchterarder   | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 20               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Bolrick, (Ph1)                             | Aberfeldy      | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 20               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Beechgrove                                 | Perth          | PKC       | 32            | TBC        | TBC        | 32          | 32               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 32                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Charles Street,                            | Perth          | PKC       | 16            | TBC        | TBC        | 16          | 16               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 16                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Former Crieff PS                           | Crieff         | PKC       | 30            | TBC        | TBC        | 30          | 30               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 30                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Thimble Row                                | Perth          | HH        | 8             | TBC        | TBC        | 8           | 8                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 8                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Gilsay Place                               | Perth          | PKC       | 40            | TBC        | TBC        | 40          | 40               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 40                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Iona Court (RSL to be identified)          | Perth          | PKC       | 22            | TBC        | TBC        | 22          | 22               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 22                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Bertha Park,(Ph4)                          | Perth          | KHA       | 60            | TBC        | TBC        | 60          | 0                | 60               | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 60                 | 0                  | 0                  |
| Rossie Place, (Ph2)                        | Auchterarder   | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 0                | 20               | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Borlick, (Ph3)                             | Aberfeldy      | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 0                | 20               | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  |
| Oudenarde                                  | Bridge of Earn | HH        | 30            | TBC        | TBC        | 30          | 0                | 30               | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 30                 | 0                  |
| Balhousie                                  | Perth          | PKC       | 35            | TC         | TBC        | 35          | 0                | 35               | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 35                 | 0                  |
| Bowerswell,                                | Perth          | CHA       | 3             | TBC        | TBC        | 3           | 0                | 3                | 0                | 0                | 0                  | 3                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  |
| Glenisla Golf Club                         | Alyth          | CHA       | 12            | TBC        | TBC        | 12          | 0                | 0                | 12               | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 12                 | 0                  |
| Borlick Ph3                                | Aberfeldy      | PKC       | 23            | TBC        | TBC        | 23          | 0                | 0                | 23               | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 23                 | 0                  |
| Rossie Place, (Ph3)                        | Auchterarder   | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 0                | 0                | 20               | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  | 0                  |
| Bertha Park, (Ph5)                         | Perth          | KHA       | 60            | TBC        | TBC        | 60          | 0                | 0                | 60               | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 60                 | 0                  |
| Scone North (SE)                           | Scone          | CHA       | 10            | 0          | TBC        | 10          | 0                | 0                | 10               | 0                | 0                  | 0                  | 10                 | 0                  | 0                  |
| Rossie Place Ph 4                          | Auchterarder   | PKC       | 20            | TBC        | TBC        | 20          | 0                | 0                | 0                | 20               | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 20                 | 0                  |
| Bertha Park, Ph6                           | Perth          | KHA       | 60            | TBC        | TBC        | 60          | 0                | 0                | 0                | 60               | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 0                  | 60                 |
|                                            |                |           |               |            |            |             |                  |                  |                  |                  |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|                                            |                |           | 677           | TBC        | TBC        | 677         | 232              | 192              | 149              | 104              | 44                 | 227                | 142                | 204                | 60                 |



**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

**Housing and Communities Committee**

**30 October 2019**

**Annual Assurance Statement – Scottish Housing Regulator**

**Report by Executive Director (Housing & Environment) (Report No. 19/302)**

This report provides Housing and Communities Committee with an overview of the new requirement for Perth and Kinross to submit an Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR).

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Following consultation, the Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) published its new Regulatory Framework<sup>1</sup> in February 2019. The Framework details the SHR's statement on performance of functions. It also sets out how they regulate Registered Social Landlords, as well as housing and homelessness services delivered by Local Authorities.
- 1.2 Within the Framework the SHR advise that they will carry out their work in the following four broad ways:
  - gathering and publishing data in ways that tenants and others can use
  - getting assurance from landlords
  - taking action where they need to
  - thematic activity, to look in depth at specific areas of work
- 1.3 Central to their revised approach is, however, landlords assuring themselves, their tenants and the SHR through landlord self-assurance.
- 1.4 Each and every Registered Social Landlord and Local Authority is responsible for delivering good outcomes and services for its tenants and service users. The SHR are clear that landlords must be self-aware, analytical, open and honest about their performance, and identify and drive improvement.
- 1.5 When considering whether or not to engage with landlords, the SHR will initially consider what they have done to assure themselves that they are meeting regulatory requirements. In line with this new requirement, all landlords must now prepare an Annual Assurance Statement, to confirm to their tenants and the SHR that they are meeting regulatory requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> [SHR - Regulation of Social Housing in Scotland \(Our Framework\)](#)

- 1.6 Our Annual Assurance Statement has been submitted to Audit committee (paragraph 2.4 refers). However, as the main Committee with responsibility for overseeing activity related to the delivery of housing services, Committee is asked to confirm it has seen and considered appropriate evidence to support the level of assurance.

## **2. ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENTS**

- 2.1 From April 2019, there is a requirement for all local authorities and Registered Social Landlords to submit an Annual Assurance Statement to the Scottish Housing Regulator by 31 October. This must be agreed by the relevant local authority committee.
- 2.2 Statements should confirm the landlord's level of compliance with the requirements detailed within the Framework, including:
- all relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter
  - all relevant legislative duties
  - details of any areas of material non-compliance, briefly describing plans to improve and a timeframe for improvement
  - confirmation that the relevant local authority committee have seen and considered, appropriate evidence to support the level of assurance
- 2.3 A signed and unsigned version of the Annual Assurance Statement should be provided to the SHR, who will then make the unsigned version publically available. There is also a requirement for landlords to ensure the Statement is easily and readily available for tenants.

### **Evidence to Support Assurance 2018/19**

- 2.4 To meet the SHR's requirement for an Annual Assurance Statement, a statement was included within the draft audited annual accounts 2018/19 and draft annual audit report, submitted to Audit Committee on 18 September 2019 (Report No. 19/251 refers).
- 2.5 Our management and democratic structures and processes are designed to facilitate effective decision making, as well as the proper scrutiny of decisions and their impact, in terms of performance and the achievement of outcomes.
- 2.6 This is supported by a range of planning processes, ensuring we meet the needs of customers, and that targets for quality improvements are set and monitored. Business Management & Improvement Plans set out detailed actions and outcomes for each Service and include performance indicators. This is underpinned by the statutory requirement on local authorities to produce a Local Housing Strategy and provide regular progress updates. This sets out our priorities and plans for the delivery of Scottish Housing Regulator outcomes.

- 2.7 Service performance is reported regularly to the Housing and Environment Senior Management Team, Executive Officer Team and publicly through the Council's themed committees and the Scrutiny Committee. Financial performance is publicly reported through the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee and relevant service committees.
- 2.8 The evidence required by the Scottish Housing Regulator forms part of the self-assessment process, which informs the Council's Annual Governance Statement. This is scrutinised and reviewed through the officer Policy and Governance Group, with a final Annual Governance Statement being submitted annually to Scrutiny Committee. Appendix 1 details an overview of information that supports the Annual Assurance Statement.
- 2.9 On 1 April 2019, the SHR published its plans for engagement for every social landlord across Scotland. Of the 32 Scottish Local Authorities, Perth and Kinross was one of only three Authorities where the SHR indicated there was no requirement for any engagement. This reflects the SHR's confidence in our approach and the services we deliver.

### **Tenant Assurance**

- 2.10 The SHR have indicated that it is the responsibility of Committee to prepare the Annual Assurance Statement. There is no requirement for this to be approved by tenants. However the SHR indicate that their feedback should be considered.
- 2.11 The Annual Performance Report, and the gradings within this by the Service User Review and Evaluation (SURE) Team are key documents that support our Assurance Statement. This, together with our sector leading tenant satisfaction results, should provide Committee with the required level of assurance from the tenants who receive and experience the services we deliver.

## **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Council's housing team continue to deliver high levels of service delivery, with strong performance across all areas, high levels of tenant satisfaction with continued low rent levels. Throughout the year, Committee has received a number of key reports providing assurance that we are delivering and exceeding the standards required by the SHR.
- 3.2 It is recommended that Housing and Communities Committee:
  - (i) notes the new Regulatory Framework and the requirement to submit an Annual Assurance Statement
  - (ii) approves the Annual Assurance Statement (Appendix 2)

**Author**

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Designation</b> | <b>Contact Details</b>                                                                          |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clare Mailer | Head of Housing    | <a href="mailto:HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk">HECommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk</a><br>01738475000 |

**Approved**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Designation</b>                              | <b>Date</b>    |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Barbara Renton | Executive Director –<br>(Housing & Environment) | 4 October 2019 |

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       | <b>Yes / None</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Community Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b>        |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |                   |
| Financial                                           | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Workforce                                           | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>N/A</b>        |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |                   |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>N/A</b>        |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>Yes</b>        |
| Risk                                                | <b>N/A</b>        |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |                   |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| External                                            | <b>Yes</b>        |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |                   |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>Yes</b>        |

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan

1.1 This report and proposals support the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

#### Corporate Plan

1.2 This report and proposals support the achievement of the Council's Corporate Plan Priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

## **2. Resource Implications**

### Financial

- 2.1 The Head of Finance has been consulted on this report. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### Workforce

- 2.2 There are no workforce implications arising from this report.

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 There are no land or property implications arising from this report

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.4 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted and is supportive of the approach taken in respect of the Annual Assurance Statement.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 Heads of Service and senior managers from Housing and Environment have been consulted on the content of this report.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 The Annual Assurance Statement will be made publicly available.

### **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 Appendix 1 details an overview of information that supports the Annual Assurance Statement
- 3.2 Appendix 2 is the Annual Assurance Statement.





## Appendix 1

Detailed below is an overview of information to support the Annual Assurance Statement for 2018/19.

- **Housing and Environment Business Management Improvement Plan** – six monthly and annual update reports presented to Housing and Communities Committee (reports 18/253 and 18/346 refer)
- **Annual Performance Report** – the Council is required to publicise to tenants, its performance against the 16 national Scottish Social Housing Charter outcomes. For the last five years our Service User Review and Evaluation (SURE) Team have scrutinised and graded our performance, the overall outcome of which is included within the Annual Performance Report.
- **Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan** – all Scottish Local Authorities were required to submit Plans to the Scottish Government by 31 December 2018. Our RRTP was submitted to Housing and Communities Committee in January 2019 (reports 18/347 and 19/13 refer).
- **Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy** - our annual update on progress in implementing our Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy was noted by Committee in August 2019 (report 19/225 refers).
- **Housing Revenue Account Rent Setting** – presented to Committee in January 2019 (report 19/12 refers) the report outlines the proposed budget for Housing Revenue (HRA) and the Capital Investment Programme. Importantly, it details how our tenant's priorities are shaping the way in which we invest and deliver services for them.
- **Common Allocations Policy** – our Policy was approved on 27 January 2019 (Report 16/27 refers) and Committee approved a light touch review (Report 19/79 refers).
- **Local Housing Strategy** - the 2018/19 annual progress report and revised action plan were noted by Committee on 15 May 2019 (Report 19/143 refers)



## Appendix 2



## Our Annual Assurance Statement

We achieve all of the following standards and outcomes for tenants, people who are homeless and others who use our services:

- all relevant regulatory requirements set out in Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework;
- All relevant standards and outcomes in the Scottish Social Housing Charter
- All relevant legislative duties

We confirm that we have seen and considered sufficient evidence to give us this assurance.

We approved our Annual Assurance Statement at the meeting of our Housing and Communities Committee on Wednesday, 30 October 2019

I sign this statement on behalf of the Committee

**Convener's Signature:**

**Date:**

