



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

POILEAS ALBA



Perth and Kinross Council
Housing and Communities Committee



Quarter 2 ending 30th September 2020
Chief Superintendent Todd

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Introduction and Overview of Local Policing Priorities

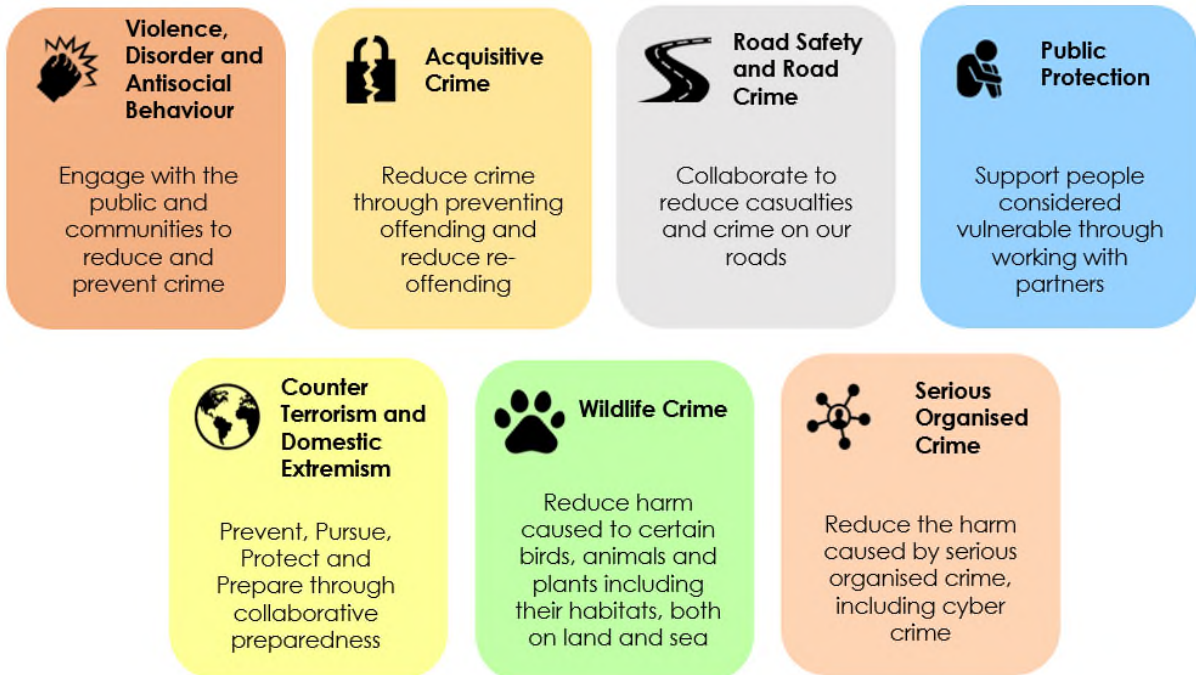
As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Divisional Commanders to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The LPP clearly sets out the policing objectives for Perth & Kinross Council and will report to the Housing and Communities 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 Council Housing and Communities Committee. This report covers the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020, however will focus on Year to Date (YTD) data from 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019 and 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020.

Data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Committee Members to conduct their responsibilities under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

This report will make reference to specific crimes mentioned in the local policing plan, 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.



Plan on a Page – Perth & Kinross Local Policing Plan 2020-2023

Our vision		Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Perth & Kinross
Our purpose		Improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Perth & Kinross
Our Values		Fairness Integrity Respect Human Rights

Local Priorities



Violence Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour




Acquisitive Crime



Road Safety And Road Crime



Public Protection



Serious Organised Crime



Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism



Wildlife Crime

Objectives

Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime

Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending

Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads

Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners

Reduce the harm caused by serious organised crime including cyber related crime

Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness

Reduce harm caused to certain birds, animals and plants including their habitats, both on land and at sea

Outcomes

Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service

The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery

The public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing

Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public

Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges



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Summary Report Perth & Kinross LPA

1st April 2020 to 30th September 2020

The table below provides a summary of this year to date Vs last year to date figures for this quarter in relation to crimes reported and crimes detected. This is an indication of the current position and further detail and indicators are provided in the full scrutiny report.

Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour	Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour	Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Serious Assault	Robbery Inc Intent	Common Assault
Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %
19/20 32 94	19/20 10 50	19/20 536 75
20/21 43 88	20/21 20 85	20/21 542 76
% +/- ↑34% ↓6%	% +/- ↑100% ↑35%	% +/- ↑1% ↑1%
Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour	Acquisitive Crime	Acquisitive Crime
Emergency Services Assault	Housebreakings - Dwellings	Motor Vehicle Crime
Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %
19/20 64 100	19/20 48 17	19/20 125 26
20/21 62 100	20/21 27 19	20/21 127 21
% +/- 0% 0%	% +/- ↓44% ↑2%	% +/- ↑2% ↓5%
Acquisitive Crime	Road Safety and Road Crime	Road Safety and Road Crime
Fraud	Speeding	Drink/ Drug Driving
Crimes Detect %	Off. Detect %	Off. Detect %
19/20 58 38	19/20 1538 100	19/20 95 99
20/21 141 16	20/21 911 100	20/21 138 83
% +/- ↑143% ↓21%	% +/- ↓41% 0%	% +/- ↑45% ↓16%
Road Safety and Road Crime	Road Safety and Road Crime	Public Protection
Road Deaths - All	Serious Injury - All	Rape Inc Assault With Intent
Deaths Detect %	Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %
19/20 3 N/A	19/20 41 N/A	19/20 39 77
20/21 0 N/A	20/21 31 N/A	20/21 29 45
% +/- ↓100% /	% +/- ↓24% 0%	% +/- ↓26% ↓32%
Public Protection	Serious Organised Crime	Serious Organised Crime
Indecent/ Sexual Assault	Drug Supply	Drug Possession
Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %	Crimes Detect %
19/20 174 71	19/20 57 72	19/20 325 91
20/21 169 44	20/21 48 75	20/21 247 88
% +/- ↓3% ↓27%	% +/- ↓16% ↑3%	% +/- ↓24% ↓3%

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**Violence,
Disorder and
Antisocial
Behaviour**

Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priorities:

- Giving every child the best start in life
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service

Operating Context

This quarter has seen the continuing challenges of COVID-19 and a changing legislative landscape, along with the increased demand encountered in enforcing new legislation. Local officers have remained focused on engaging, explaining and encouraging the public however enforcement has resulted in a number of cases for flagrant breaches of COVID-19 legislation.

During mid-August, Police joined partners in responding to the COVID-19 outbreak at the Two Sisters plant in Coupar Angus. Local partners worked relentlessly to identify those affected and at risk and did so in an environment where English was not the first language of many. This joint working between the public and third sectors was, whilst not without challenge, a demonstration of how we will continue to strive to work in the future.

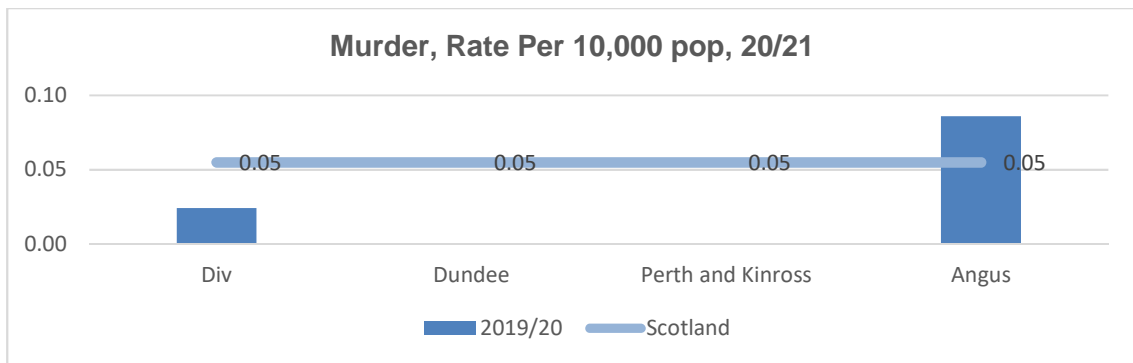
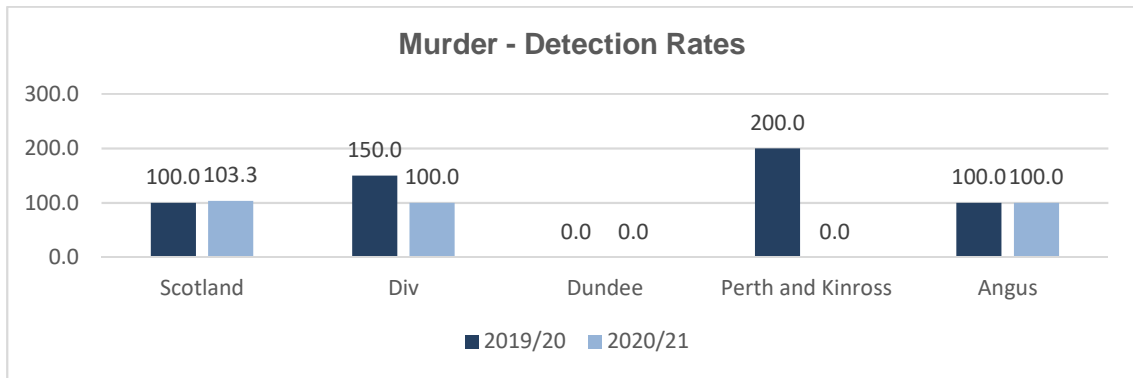
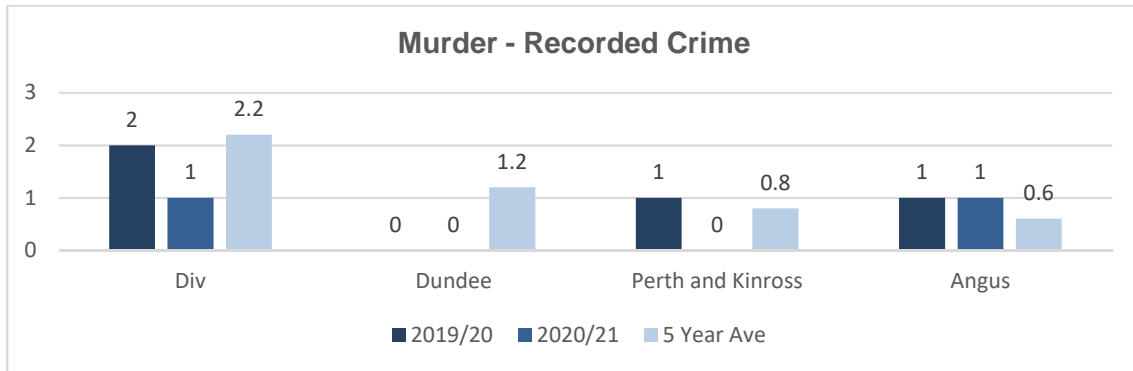
During the same period in mid-August, we encountered a weekend of severe weather which challenged Police and partners and resulted in the loss of a number of critical ICT services. Officers worked hard in difficult circumstances to activate business continuity plans whilst assisting the public.

Safe use of the countryside, particularly our upland and mountainous areas, has become more of a focus over the summer period due to the increasing numbers of people accessing our countryside. Whilst moving away from summer will naturally reduce the number of persons visiting the Perth and Kinross countryside the demand upon the volunteer and police mountain rescue has increased during 2020 due, in part, to the increased numbers, some of whom will be inevitably inexperienced walkers and climbers requiring support. We will work with partners through the autumn and winter to promote refreshed mountain safety messaging, particularly as we move towards the winter period within the Scottish mountains.

Community Officers and their regular partners are trying to identify ways in which we can successfully engage with the public given the challenges of COVID-19. Whilst a greater reliance on social media is a natural consequence of the events of 2020, we continue to look for ways to reach out to those in the public who have limited access or involvement within the digital world.

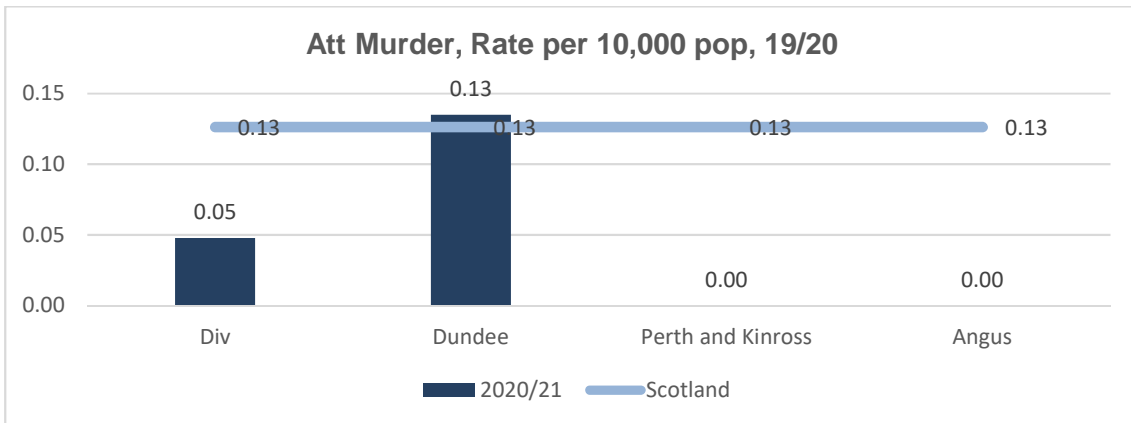
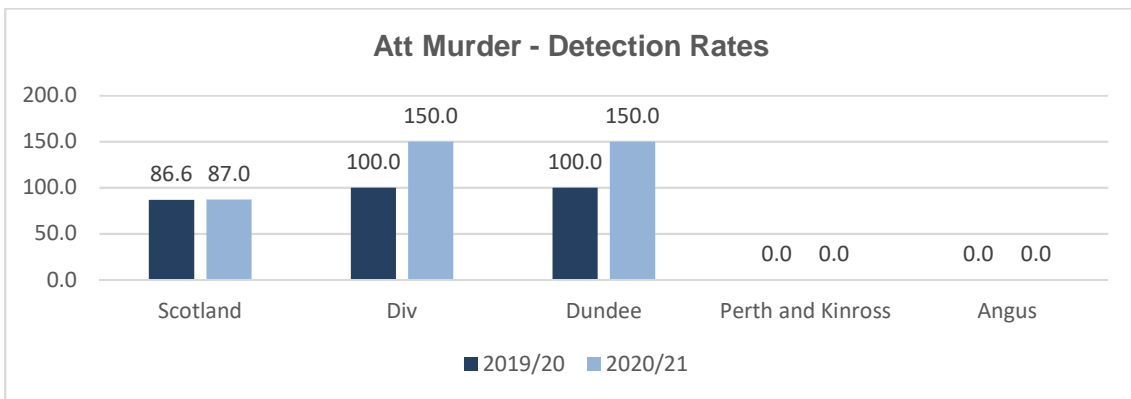
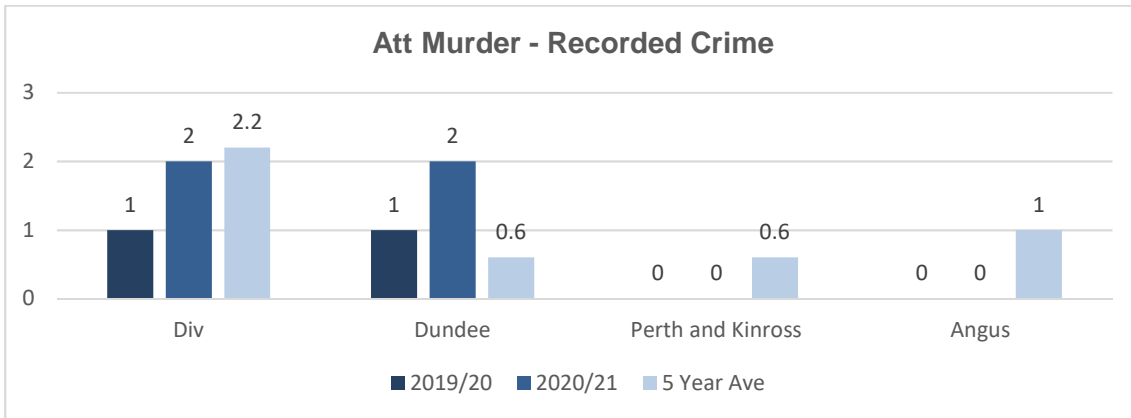
Measure – Murder

There have been no murders during this reporting period.



Measure – Attempted Murder

There have been no attempted murders during this reporting period.



Measure – Serious Assault

Activity

There have been 21 serious assaults reported in this period, with a peak seen during August. This figure is comparable with the first quarter of 2020/21 however the year to date figures remain 11 crimes over 2019/20. Overall assaults remain consistent with previous years recorded figures and as per quarter 1 serious assault figures are largely dependent on the extent of an injury caused during an assault. Detection rates remain high and occurrence rates remain below 5 year averages.

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Just over 75% of the recorded crimes occurred in Perth with the remainder split between North and South Perthshire. Around half the incidents occurred in private with two crimes being an incident of Domestic Violence. Despite the percentage in private several other incidents occurred immediately outside houses that the victims and perpetrators had been within. Alcohol was again a significant factor and two of the incidents involved violence committed against children by other young people. There are no significant trends, no repeat locations, repeat victims or repeat perpetrators and in 80% of the incidents, the victim was known to the perpetrator.

In only 5 cases was a weapon, either designed or improvised, used and only one incident occurred within the confines of a licensed premises.

Results

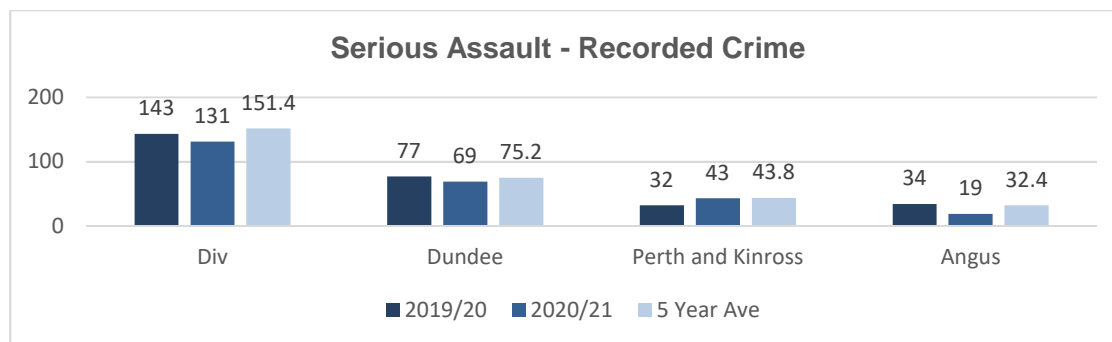
In July Police arrested a 45 year old man after an assault on two of his children. Prompt intervention ensured the safety of these children.

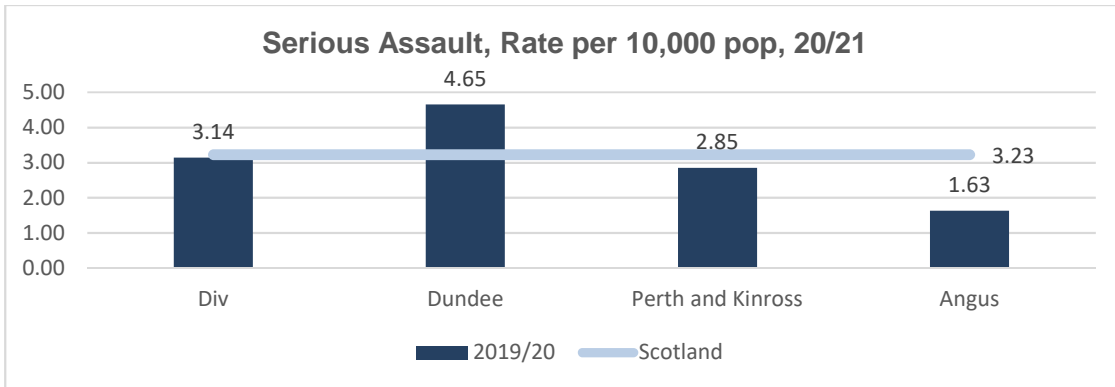
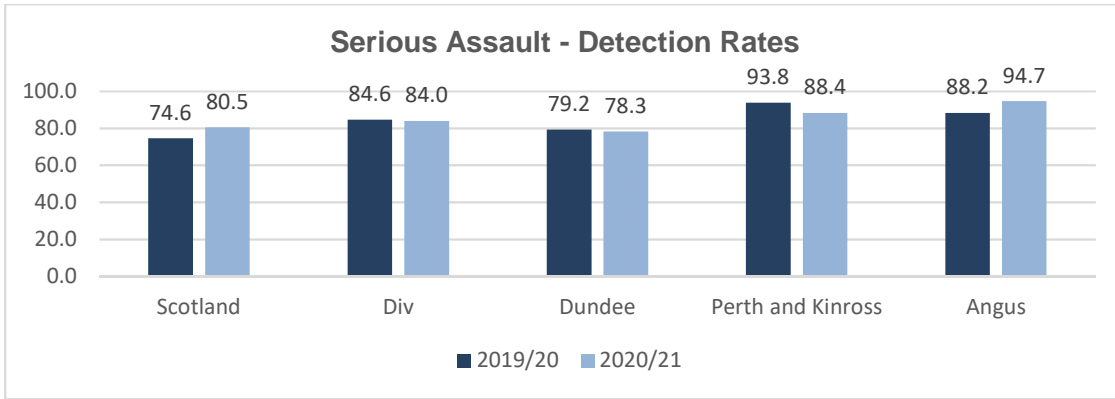
On 4th September a 19 year old male was conveyed to hospital with a serious injury following an incident in James Square, Crieff. The victim had no recollection of the events. Following extended enquiries by local officers and CID, a 17 year old male was charged with serious assault.

Challenges

Three serious assaults from this reporting period remain undetected. One is being considered for recording as no crime and the remaining crimes have proven difficult to detect due to the victim and witnesses consumption of alcohol and hostility when reporting to the Police.

Given the profile of violence traditional patrolling of public spaces remains of limited value in reducing reported crimes. Police continue to work with partners to identify innovative ways of working in future to target potential victims and perpetrators in order to deliver methods of prevention and disruption.





Measure – Common Assault

Activity

The year to date position for common assault is almost identical to the same period of 2019/20, albeit the trend has been slightly upwards since quarter 1. Reported crimes peaked during July and August as per the serious assault figures however has levelled towards the end of the quarter. Reported volumes of common assault has traditionally been lower in the autumn before rising again in winter.

Detection rates remain higher than the equivalent period of 2019/20 and occurrence rates remain very similar to 5 year averages. The rate of assault per head of population still indicates Perth and Kinross is a safe place to live.

Just over 30% of common assaults were domestic incidents and a higher percentage, around 45%, of the assaults occurred in public. As per the figures for serious assault the perpetrator is often known to the victim.

Very few assaults featured weapons and there are no significant geographical trends, with HMP Perth continuing to represent the only known hot spot. There are few repeat offenders and those known are domestic perpetrators.

The number of assaults on emergency workers has decreased slightly in this reporting period however across the Division reported crimes are up. The decrease in Perth and Kinross can be misleading given a number of local officers have been assaulted by persons in custody at Police Headquarters in Dundee. Police monitor all these incidents and the Chief Constable has recently launched a pledge to support officers who are victims of crime and understand rises in this crime type.

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Results

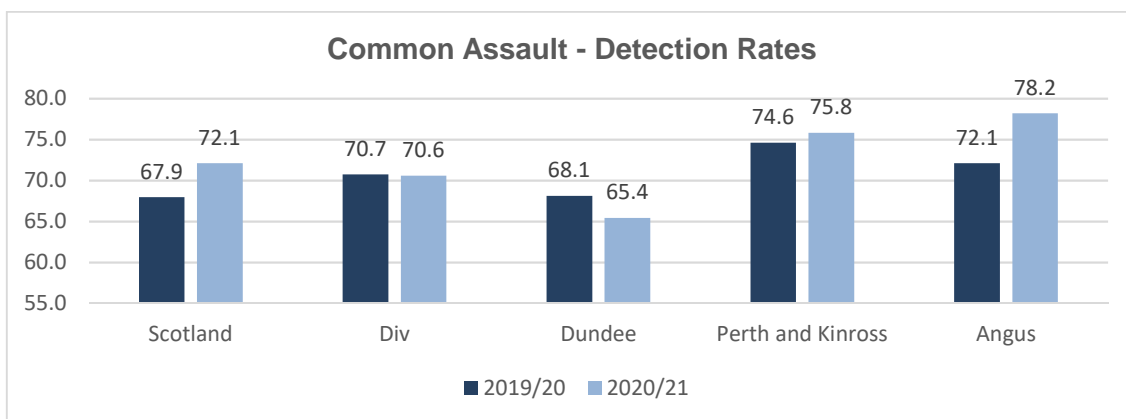
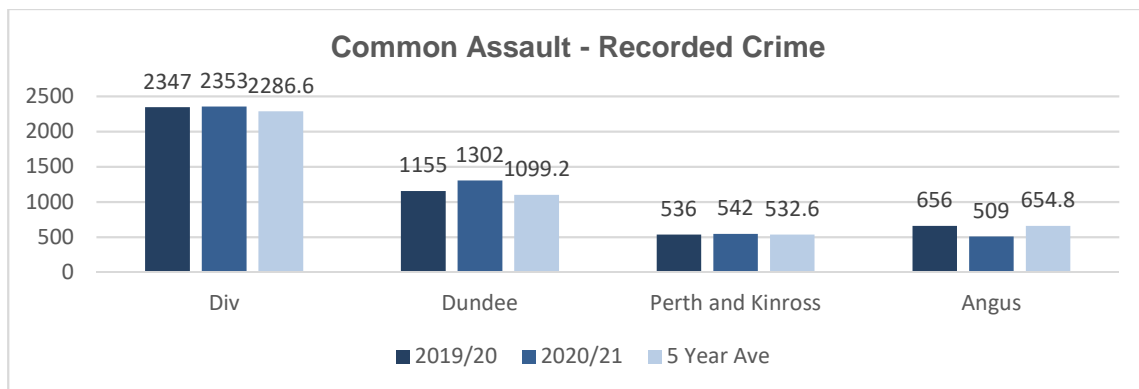
On 27th and 30th July two incidents occurred in Perth where the same family were subject of assaults from four occupants of a neighbouring house. One of the incidents involved a weapon, however no-one was seriously hurt. Four persons were subsequently arrested and bail conditions obtained minimising further criminality. Community officers subsequently visited the victims in partnership with colleagues from the Housing Team to discuss alternative housing options and additional security measures.

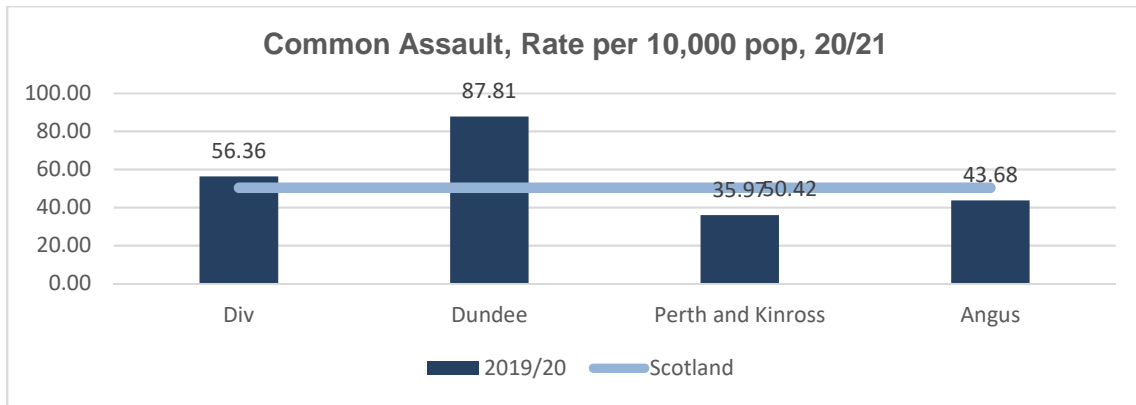
On 31st August a 22 year old male was arrested for assaulting a Police Officer in Perth city centre. The officer concerned suffered a fractured collarbone. The male concerned has been subject to ongoing enquiries linking him to a number of offences relating to controlled drugs, violence and acquisitive crime.

On 6th September Police were called to a rural area on the outskirts of Perth where a female had been assaulted by her 21 year old ex-partner. The male had recently been released from prison and on learning of the call to the Police, had run off. With the assistance of Roads Policing and the dog unit the male was traced hiding nearby and subsequent enquiries led to him being charged with multiple assaults on the victim in the preceding 3 days.

Challenges

November 2020 sees the enactment of the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 and joint working is ongoing with partners to understand the impact of the new legislation and provide assurances that our responses will be commensurate with associated guidance.





Measure – Robbery

Activity

There have been 10 recorded robberies in this reporting period, which represents a significant increase over 2019/20 figures. It is important however to provide some more detail about the nature of these crimes.

Three of the crimes reported during this period are historical in nature and form part of non-recent investigations being undertaken by specialist teams. The end of quarter 1 saw a peak in reported robberies which continued until the beginning of August with three crimes reported during the last two weeks of July. All but one of these crimes has been detected and the remaining crime is being actively investigated by CID. In two of the cases a phone and cash were taken by perpetrators potentially motivated by poverty and addiction. In the other two crimes, property was removed from the victims by associates during altercations motivated by alcohol.

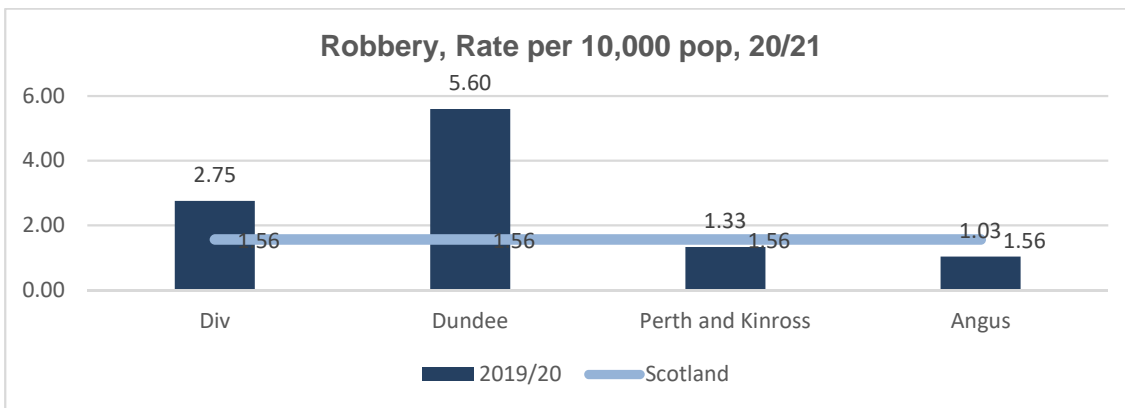
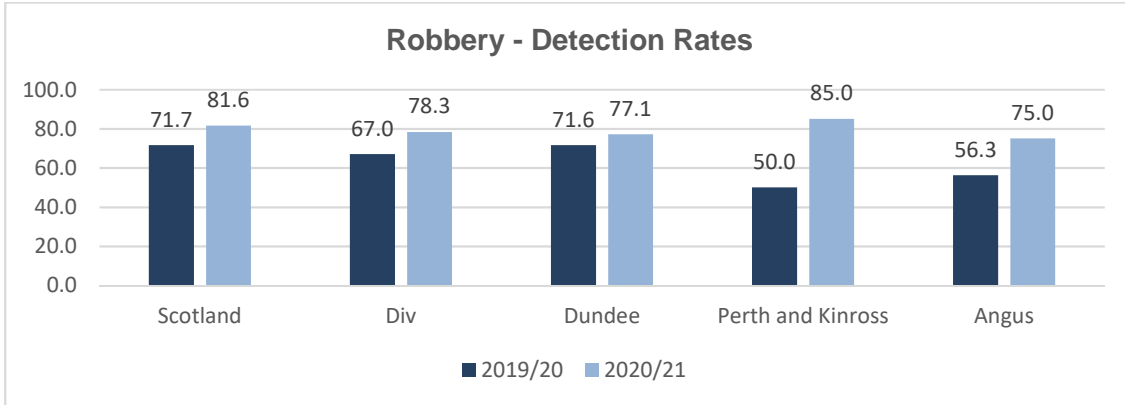
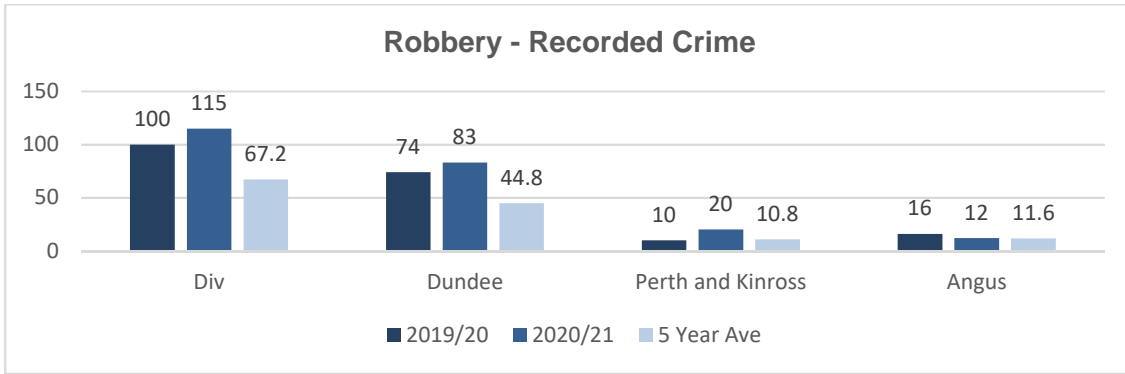
Since the beginning of August an additional three crimes have been classified as robberies. One relates to the removal of property by force by a 13 year old child from a 12 year old child. One of the crimes relate to the violent removal of mobile phone by a 17 year old person within a residential care establishment from a carer. The remaining crime has been considered for as a non-crime given the hostility of the victim and dubiety over the circumstances but remains under active investigation.

All but one of the crimes occurred in Perth and there are no repeat victims, perpetrators or locations.

Detection rates remain well in excess of 2019/20 levels and above national and Divisional comparisons. Crime rates per head of population continue to be below the national average.

Results

On 19th July a 20 year old male was arrested having entered a restaurant in Perth, threatening the staff and removing a quantity of cash from the tip jar.



Measure – Vandalism

Activity

During this reporting period, 232 vandalisms were recorded in Perth and Kinross. Detection rates are now above 2019/20 figures and above the national average.

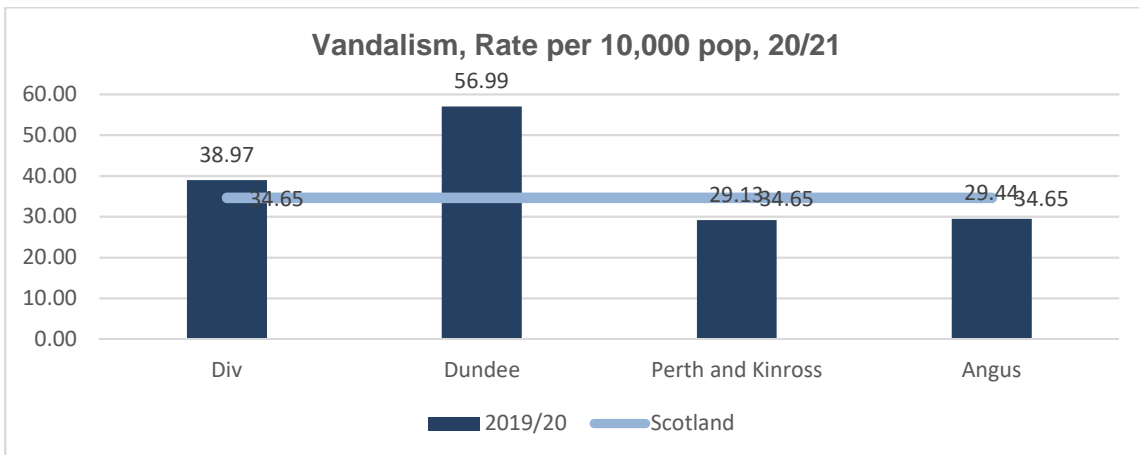
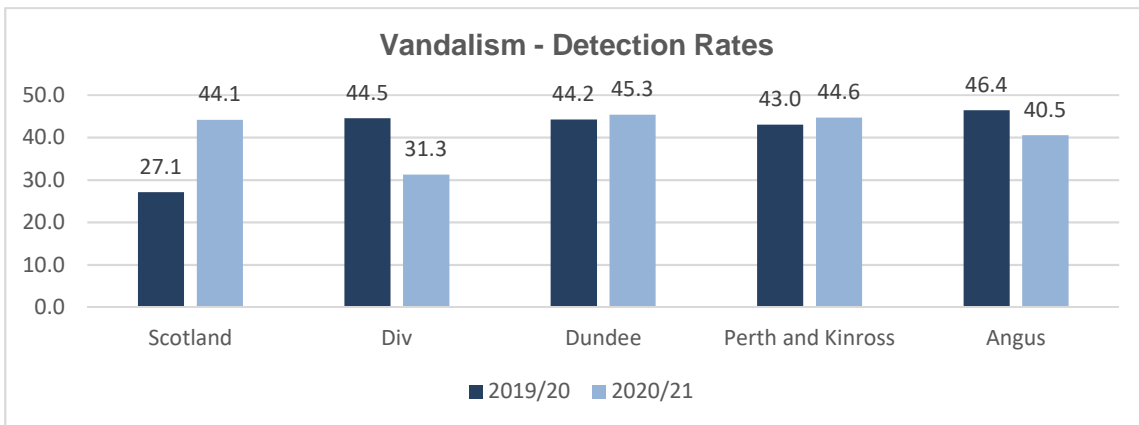
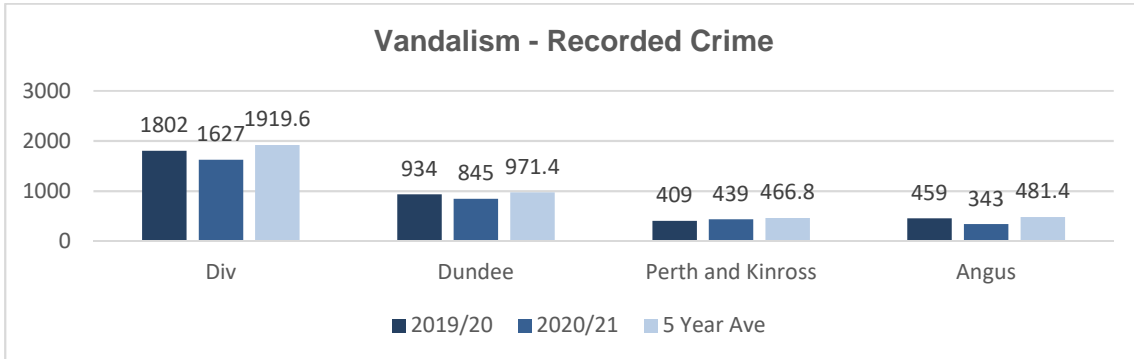
Over half of recorded vandalisms occurred in Perth with the rest roughly split between North and South Perthshire. Whilst slightly less than the first quarter, a third of crimes recorded involved the discovery of damage to vehicles whilst the vehicles are unattended. Difficulty is often encountered when attempting to confirm the cause of these crimes and the identities of the offenders.

As expected in the summer reporting period, 6 crimes were recorded at schools during the holidays, with schools in the North, South and Perth being targeted.

Other repeats locations were Murray Royal Hospital, HMP Perth and Perth Royal Infirmary.

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In North Perthshire, three crimes were recorded involving the damage to legal traps and officers in the North continue to investigate several cases of vandalism to a business premises in Blairgowrie. Whilst recorded cases of graffiti remain low, partners in Perth and Kinross council actively remove graffiti as soon as possible and share trends and common tags with the local community teams.



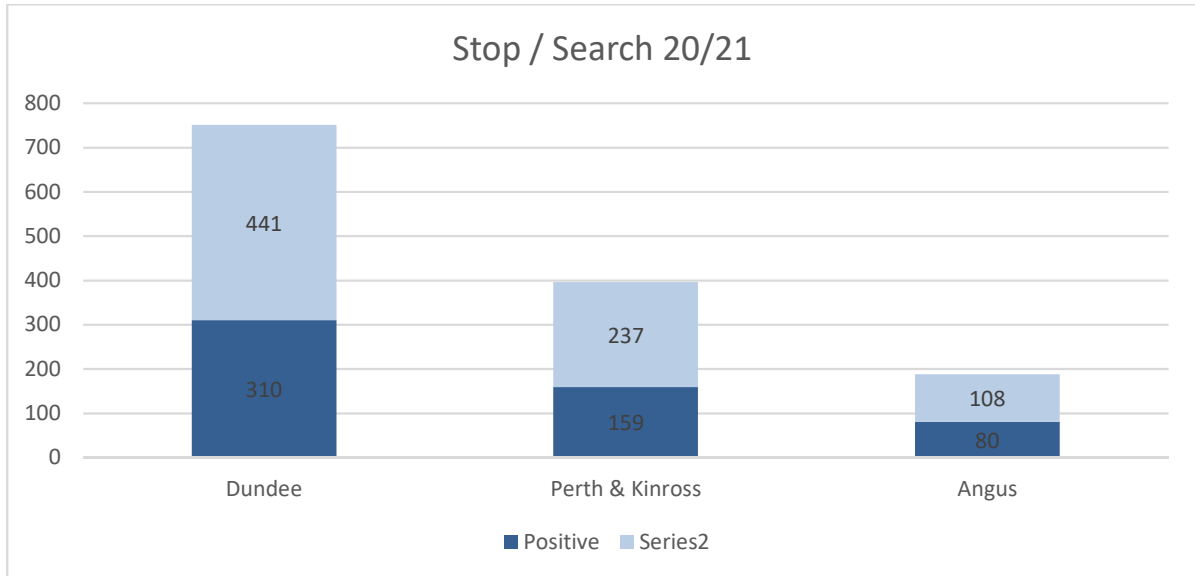
Measure – Stop Search

Stop and Search as an operational policing tactic in the prevention, investigation and detection of crime, with the intention of keeping people safe and improving community wellbeing. Stopping and searching members of the public is a significant intrusion into their personal liberty and privacy. We are obliged and committed to ensuring that stop and search of a person it is carried out in a manner that is lawful, proportionate and accountable.

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Officers will explain why they have stopped an individual before any search, explain what they are looking for. After the search officers will provide the individual with a receipt for the search, which contains information about their rights and how they can access a copy of their stop and search record.

In the reporting period 396 stop searches were conducted with items including weapons and drugs recovered on 159 occasions, which equates to a positive rate of 40.1%.



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Acquisitive Crime

Reduce crime through preventing offending and reduce re-offending

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priorities:

- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service*

Operating Context

Across the Division and nationally, reported frauds continue to rise including those that are cyber enabled. Whilst other crime rates are generally lower than 2019/20 Perth and Kinross has seen an increase in crimes of OLP to motor vehicles and Housebreakings to non-dwellings. These two areas have been disproportionately influenced by individual crime series accounting for increases in recorded crime.

During September 2020 the Community Investigation Unit launched Operation Bag, responding to intelligence and evidence around individuals responsible for acquisitive crime series. This operation contains dedicated patrol plans, external communications about prevention and focused enquiry into a number of acquisitive crimes. The operation will continue into October however several positive lines of enquiry are currently being followed and detection rates are on an upward curve.

Measure – Domestic Housebreaking

Activity

During this period 7 Housebreakings to Domestic Dwellings have been reported. This represents a significant reduction in reported crime compared to 2019/20 figures and remains well below the 5 year average. Per head of population the rate of occurrence in Perth and Kinross is significantly lower than the national average.

The detection rate remains lower than we would like however the figures now sit above the comparable detection rate in 2019/20. Recorded crimes are split equally between Perth city and North and South Perthshire and times and days of the week when crimes are committed are variable. Property stolen continues to be that which can be easily carried by the perpetrator such as cash, phones, bank cards and in some cases prescribed medication.

During this reporting period an increasing trend has been seen in the theft of pedal cycles. This trend has been seen across the Division and in other areas of Scotland. This trend increased during the lockdown period however has recently levelled out. Whilst the vast majority of bicycles stolen have been unattended, some have been targeted in Housebreakings. Our Community Investigation Unit are currently investigation positive lines of enquiry in connection with a significant series of pedal cycle thefts committed by persons from Perth and Edinburgh.

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Results

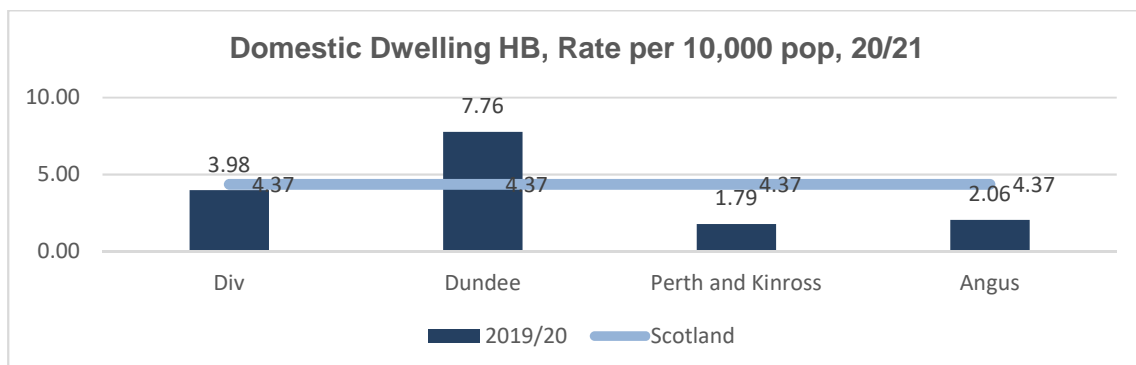
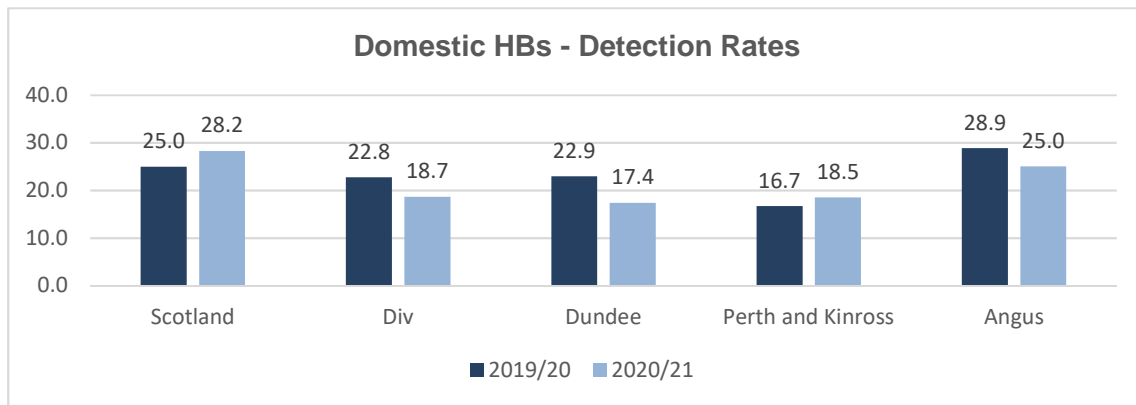
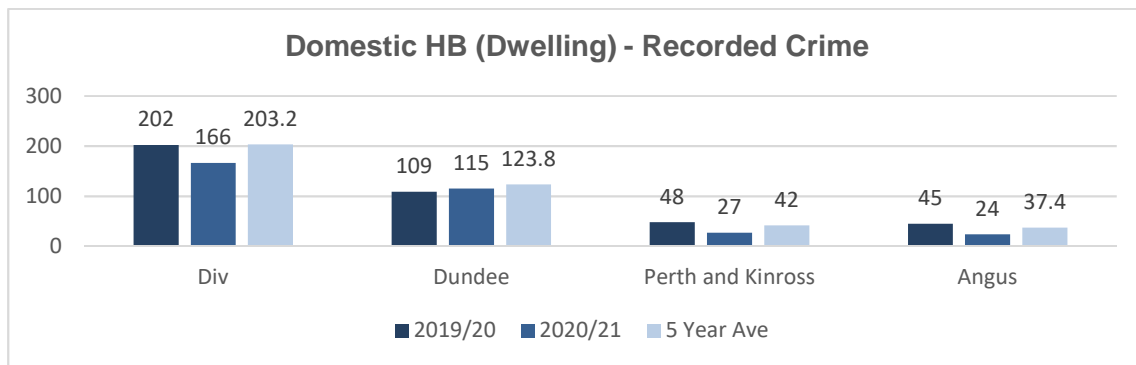
In August a 27 year old man was arrested and charged with a Theft by Housebreaking from a house in Aberfeldy from which a large number of household appliances were stolen.

In September two males aged 13 and 14 were charged with the theft of pedal cycles following housebreakings to sheds in Perth.

In September a 35 year man was reported for a series of Housebreakings to domestic and commercial premises in Kinross.

Challenges

Work is ongoing to take advantage of the increased levels of availability to crime scene examiners and forensic scientists. Maximising the use of these specialist resources will form part of Operation Bag, the Divisional operation to tackle Domestic Housebreakings, ensuring all tactical options are at our disposal in order to tackle acquisitive crime.



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Measure – Fraud

Activity

Reported fraud is again on the increase with half year figures showing the number of reported crimes 83 above comparable numbers in 2019/20. Detection rates continue to be lower than 2019/20 however these trends are not unique to Perth and Kinross and are seen across D Division and nationally.

Whilst changes to crime recording standards which came into force in April 2020 have been a factor changes to the population's online habits during the Coronavirus epidemic have led to an increase in cyber enabled fraud. Cyber enabled crime has increased from 2019/20 and include a range of methods such as sending fraudulent emails and agreeing the purchase of goods via the internet.

There are no obvious patterns in the victim profile, with males and females in their 20s being the most prevalent victims of cyber enabled fraud, however all ages can be targeted. There is again no evidence of persons being targeted due to advancing years or other vulnerabilities, however it is recognised these crimes may be under-reported.

Crimes involved the fraudulent use of bank cards remain prevalent, with a number relating to the ability to use bank cards via the internet or via contactless payments.

Results

In September 2020 two elderly residents, one with dementia, were visited by apparent bogus workmen in Kinross. These callers were deterred by a video/CCTV doorbell which had been provided by the Police and partners and installed by the family to prevent such callers. Whilst evidence of prevention is often hard to identify this was evidence of success for Police and public protection partners.

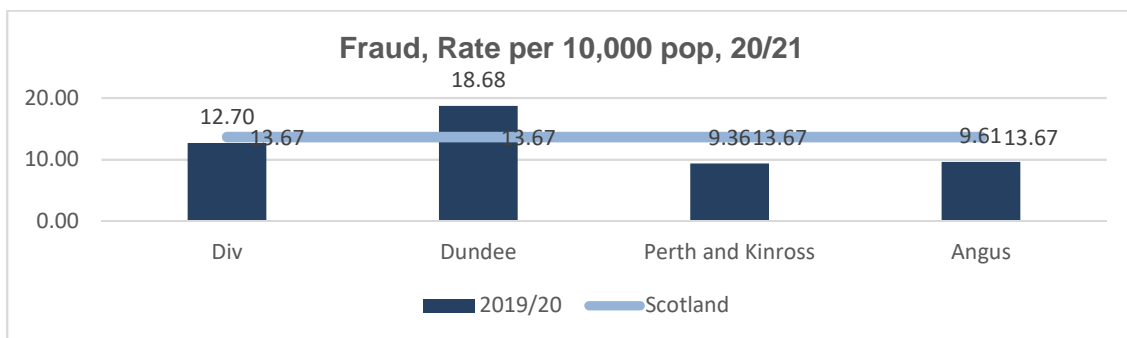
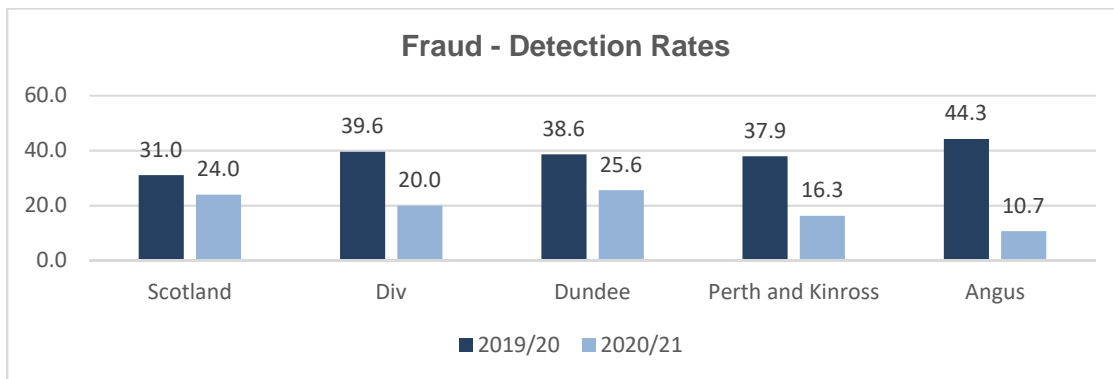
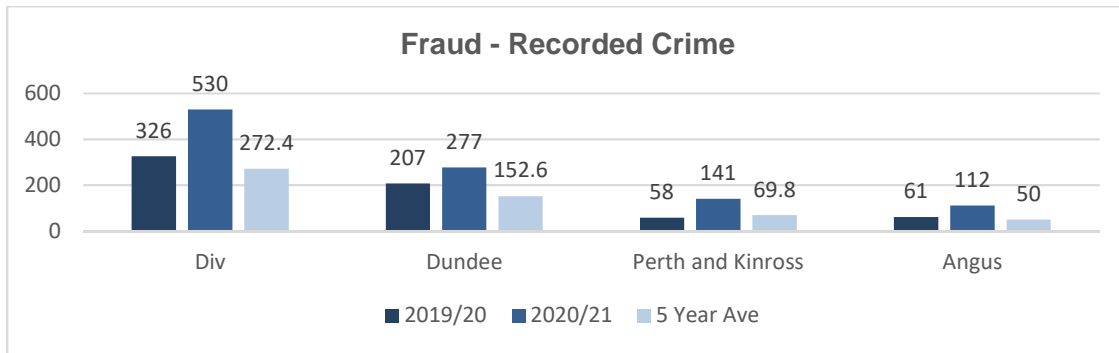
In September the Community Investigation Unit arrested a 34 year old man from the Forth Valley area for a bogus caller fraud committed in Blackford in March and April where the householder suffered a £38,000 financial loss.

Challenges

Around 10% of frauds reported appear to have been committed out with Perth and Kinross or from overseas. As reported previously, engagement with Internet Service Providers and the availability of cyber evidence often results in significant delays in investigating these crimes.

With fraud awareness week being planned for October 2020, our Preventions Team within the Division has had to examine different ways of engagement, given current COVID risks. Whilst social media platforms can be utilised it is felt that the lack of traditional engagement events may be disadvantageous to harder to reach communities. As such, discussions will be ongoing with Public Protection partners to share suitable and appropriate engagement platforms.

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Measure – Theft by Shoplifting

Activity

The occurrence rate of Shoplifting continues to be an outlier in Perth and Kinross and rates have returned to pre COVID-19 lockdown levels. Whilst Divisional rates are slightly below 2019/20 figures, Perth and Kinross occurrence rates are now 9% higher than 2019/20 figures. Occurrence rates have steadily increased since mid-July. Detection rates continue to be strong, being above 2019/20 rates, and above Divisional and national detection rates.

The majority of the recorded crime has occurred in Perth and larger retailers continue to be the hotspots. Local community officers continue to engage with local retailers however with increasing financial pressure on the retail industry it is known that monies previously available for additional security measures within retail premises may not be available.

Alcohol remains by far the most frequently stolen item followed by toiletries and grocery items, particularly meat and coffee.

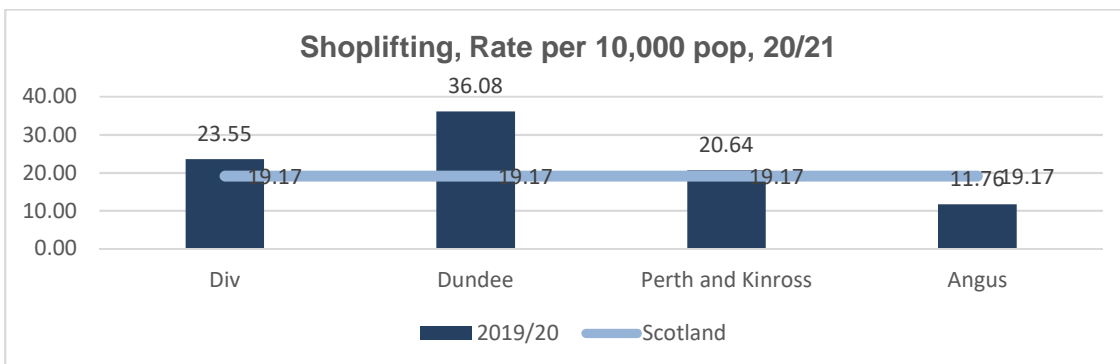
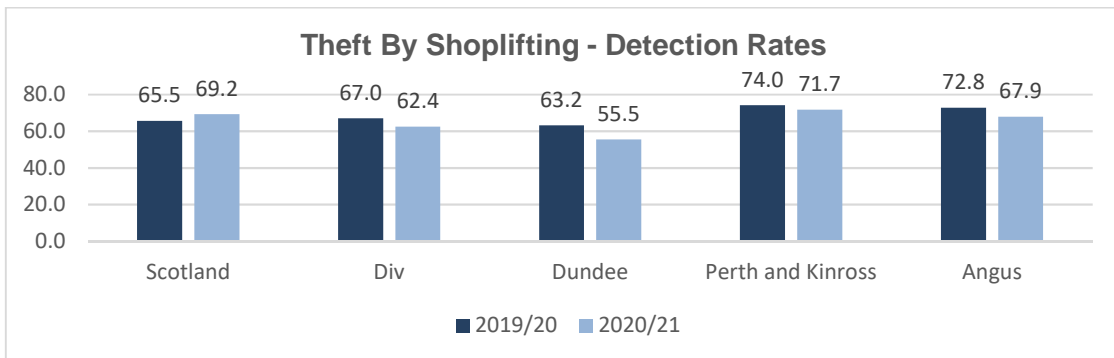
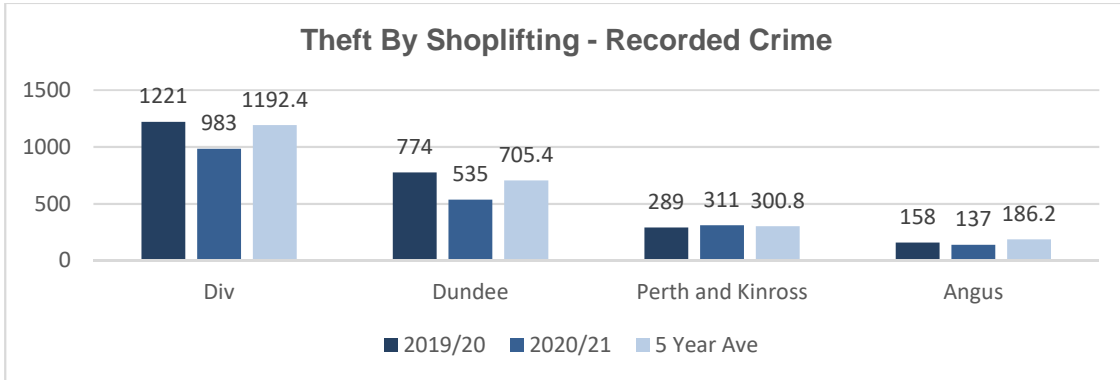
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Several offenders are responsible for multiple crimes and local community officers will focus on these individuals and seek the support of partners and the wider criminal justice system to identify interventions to stop this repeated criminal behaviour.

Results

During this quarter a 26 year old male has been repeatedly arrested and charged with 15 offences of Theft by Shoplifting within Perth City Centre.

During this quarter a 23 year old female has been repeatedly arrested and charged with 8 offences of Theft by Shoplifting within Perth City Centre.



Measure – Motor Vehicle Crime

Activity

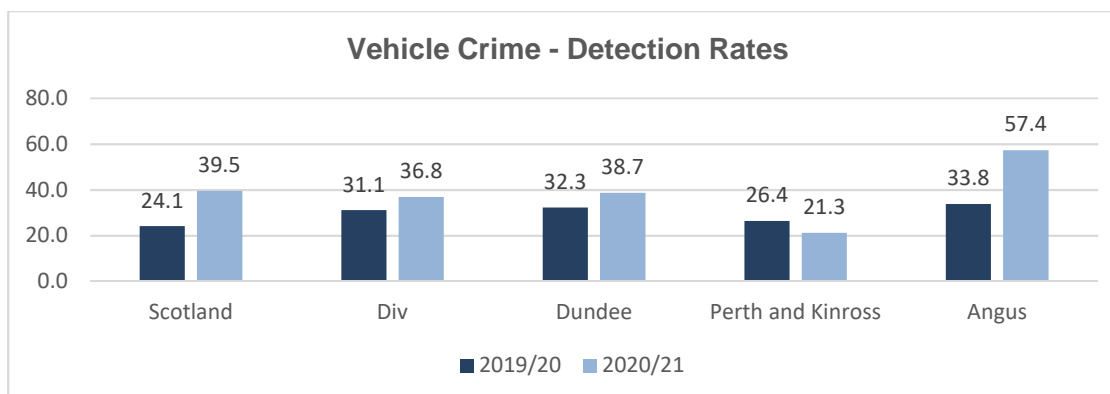
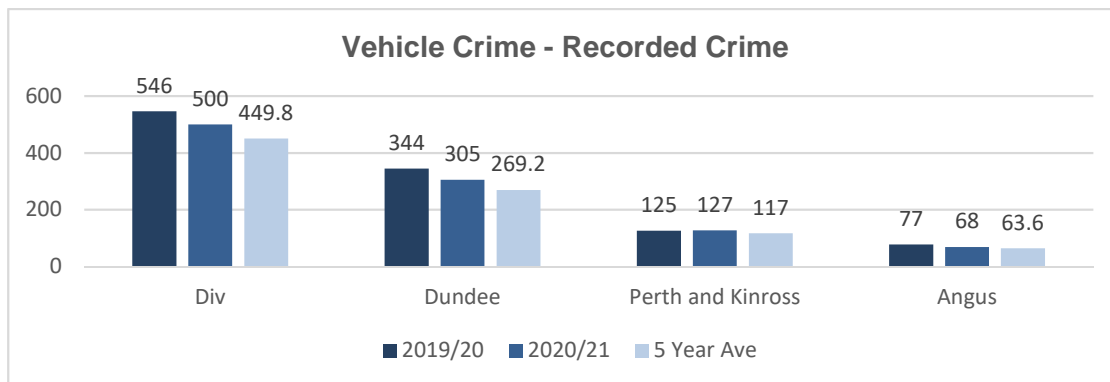
Occurrence rates for motor vehicle crime have now trended slightly above the levels of 2019/20 by 2 crimes and slightly above the 5 year average. Occurrence rates remain low per head of population and detection rates are slightly down on 2019/20. These detection rates are affected by crime series such as a series of 12 Theft by OLP which is currently under investigation by local officers in Perth. The identity of the perpetrator is known and conclusion of this enquiry will lift detection rates above 2019/20 levels.

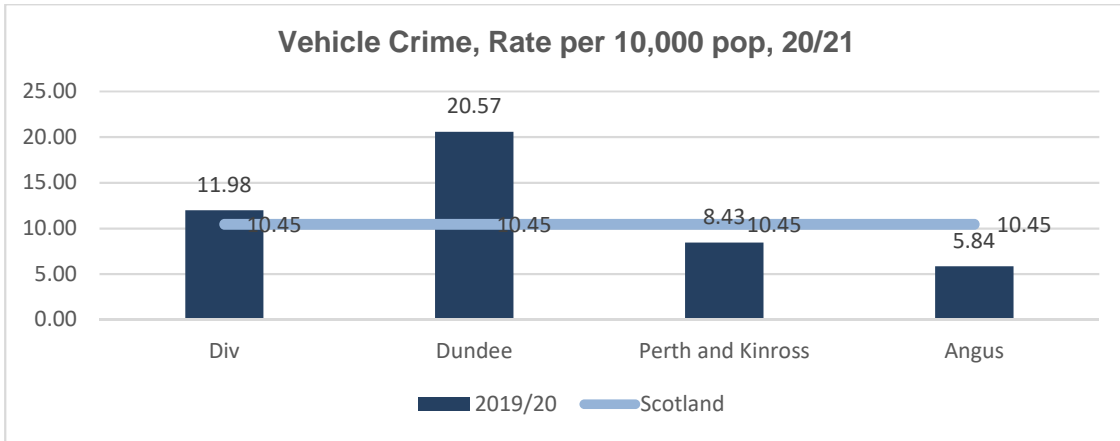
Whilst small numbers of vehicles are believed to be stolen as part of organised crime activity across Scotland the most common method remains appropriation of the true keys from associates, family or at house parties.

An overwhelming number of thefts from motor vehicles target phones, tools and smaller electronic devices which are left in full view in unattended vehicles. External messaging has been repeated encouraging local residents to lock and secure motor vehicles.

Results

In August a 33 year old male was arrested in Perth City Centre having been disturbed breaking into a motor vehicle. This male was recently released from prison and enquiries are still underway in connection with his links to a number of other motor vehicle crimes.





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Road Safety and Road Crime

Collaborate to
reduce casualties
and crime on our
roads

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priorities:

- Giving every child the best start in life
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery*

Operating Context

D Division have recently implemented a fresh approach in response to Road Safety. Our efforts will be coordinated under the principles of Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce), a road safety scheme which has been successfully delivered in both the North East of Scotland and the Highlands and Islands. CEDAR will build on established road safety practices and provide a focus for agencies across Tayside to work together to make our roads safer for all.

Operation CEDAR

The principles of Operation CEDAR will be applied in the following ways across Tayside, linked to priority areas of focus:

Challenge	Build effective partnership working and methods to develop new and innovative ways to improve road safety. Improve information sharing and analysis to support an evidence-led approach
Educate	Deliver and evaluate educational initiatives to driver and road user behaviour, making effective use of media opportunities to highlight CEDAR and the work of the forum
Detect	Provide an intelligence-led and multi-agency approach to enforcement, supported by analytical products, to make the best use of available resources
Reduce	Ensure all road safety education, engineering and enforcement activity is focused on having the maximum positive impact on reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured

The implementation of Operation CEDAR across Tayside and delivery of our Action Plan provides an opportunity to contribute to a consistent approach across the north of Scotland. It will refocus our efforts to further improve safety on Tayside's roads and promote active travel.

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Measure – All Persons Killed, Seriously Injured and Children Killed, Seriously Injured

Activity

Tragically Tayside Division had one adult fatality for the period under review which occurred in Angus LPA.

On the 22 August 2020 on the A92 near to Montrose, a 53 year old male car driver lost his life when an insecure load fell from a lorry and landed on the vehicle.

Tayside Division had 78 persons seriously injured as a result of road traffic collisions, which is a 9% decrease for the same period last year where we experienced 86.

Tayside Division had 160 persons slightly injured as a result of road traffic collisions, this unfortunately is a 20% increase for the same period last year where we experienced 133.

Tayside Division have had 4 child casualties who were seriously injured as a result of road traffic collisions, this is a 56% decrease on the same period last year which saw 9 children injured.

Perth & Kinross LPA specifically saw 31 persons seriously injured in road traffic collisions, this is a 24.4% decrease on the same period last year where we experienced 41.

Similarly, Perth & Kinross LPA saw 1 child seriously injured, this is a 75% decrease on the year previous where we experienced 4 child casualties which is an extremely positive statistic.

Whilst slight injury road traffic collisions decreased by 2.1% with 46 compared to the previous year in Perth & Kinross LPA where we experienced 47.

During the period under review Tayside Division Road Policing unit took part in a number of National Campaigns;

July 2020 - Summer drink/Drug Drive campaign

July 2020 – Motorcycle campaign

August 2020 – Seatbelt/speed/mobile phone days of action

August 2020 - Project EDWARD (European Day Without A Road Death)

August 2020 – Vulnerable Road Users Campaign

All of the aforementioned campaigns were successful in respect of public engagement, awareness, education and enforcement. Effective use of media campaigns were also utilised for the aforementioned campaigns which were well received.

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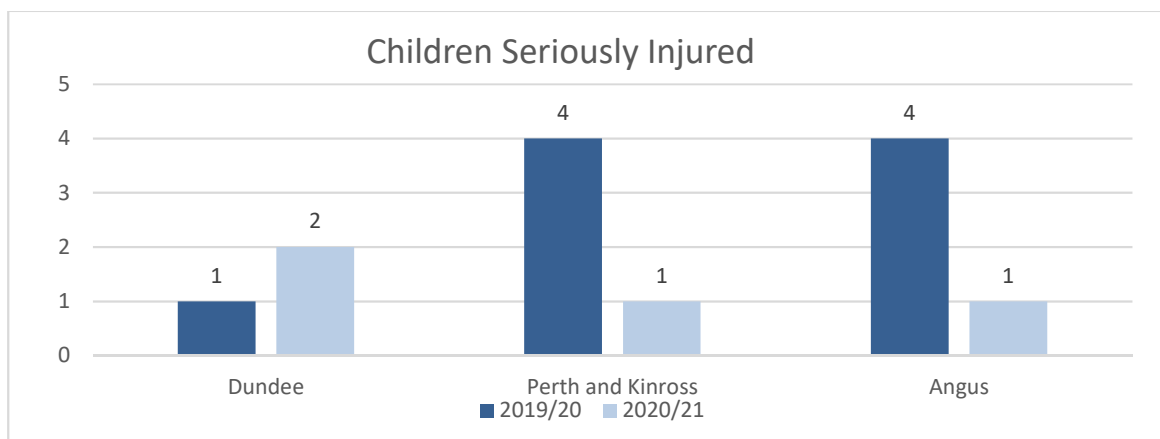
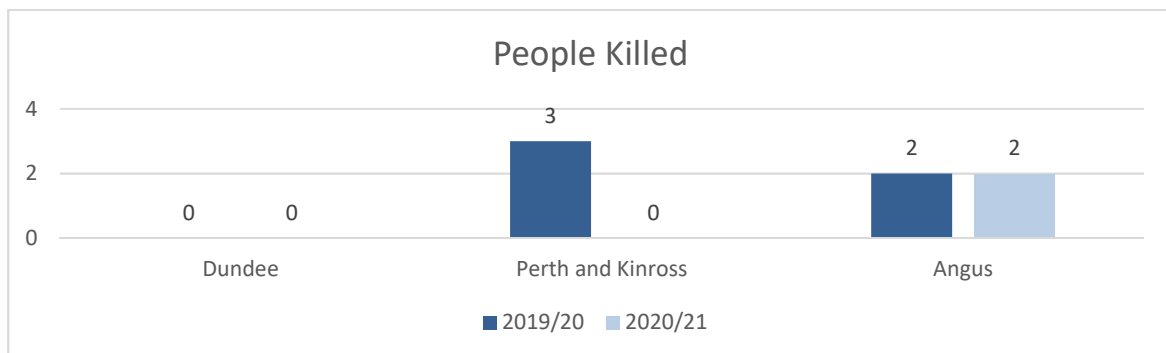
Road Safety enforcement continues to be carried out as part of routine business by the Road Policing Unit in Perth & Kinross LPA. Focused patrol work will be complemented by the use of available technology and databases, intelligence target packages and specific tasking resulting from local Tasking &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

Local Policing and RPU 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 a number of priority locations have been identified within in Perth & Kinross LPA which were subject to focussed operation activity:

For the period under review a total of 6816 vehicles were stopped in the Tayside division with a number of offences being detected and reported whilst a number of offenders were warned in respect of other road traffic contraventions.

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 of which are delivered successfully through a number of mediums and campaigns.



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Measure – Speeding

Year to date, speeding offences in Perth & Kinross LPA overall have decreased by a significant 40.8%. This is attributable to the focused operational activity on not only the priority routes but also focused patrols on routes which are deemed to have speeding issues and have been identified through a number of community based engagements.

Activity

Although speed detection falls in to the remit of daily business for Road Policing, in the months of August and September 2020 Police Scotland held numerous specific "Speed days of action" which focussed not only on the Priority routes but also on roads which have been brought to the attention through varying mediums.

During activity officers from both the Road Policing Unit, Safety Camera Unit and divisional officers who specifically targeted road users who contravene legislation.

Working closely with P&K Council, we also saw traffic monitoring equipment fitted to a number of locations to establish traffic flow/volume and average speed of motorists.

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

Results

911 speeding offences were detected in Perth & Kinross LPA compared to the 1538 the year previous.

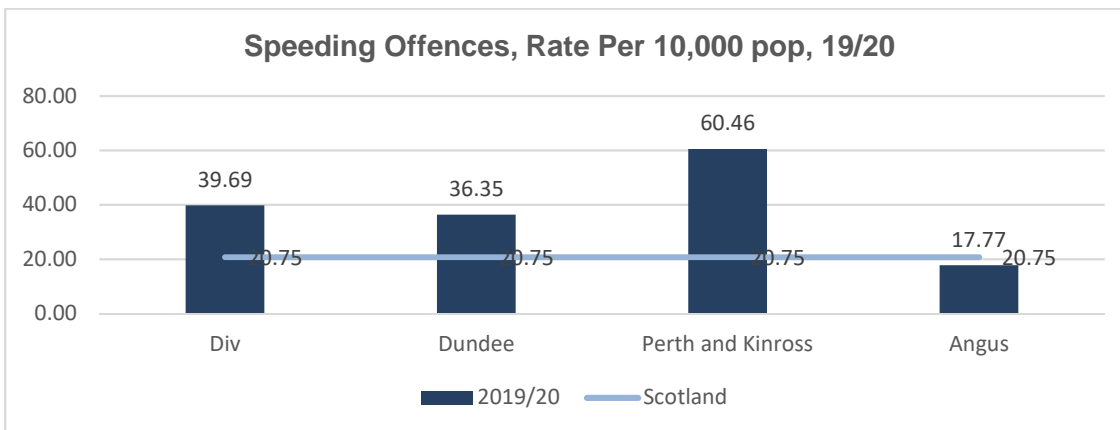
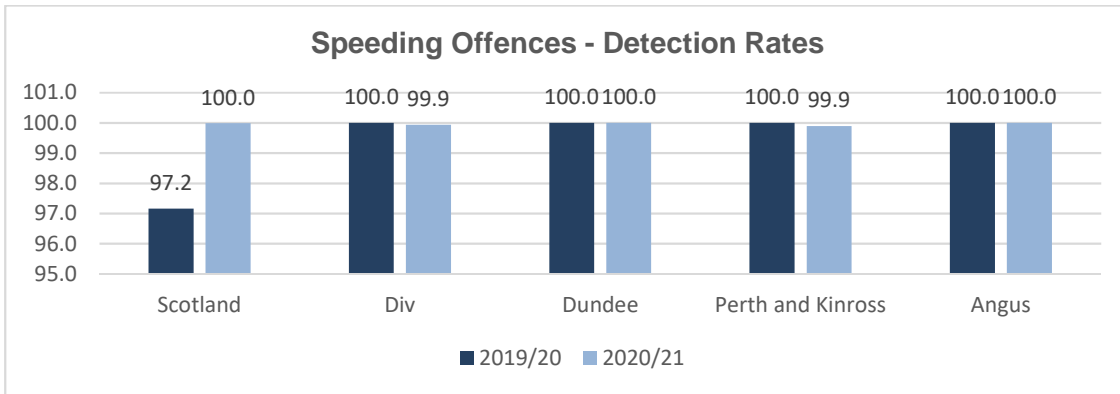
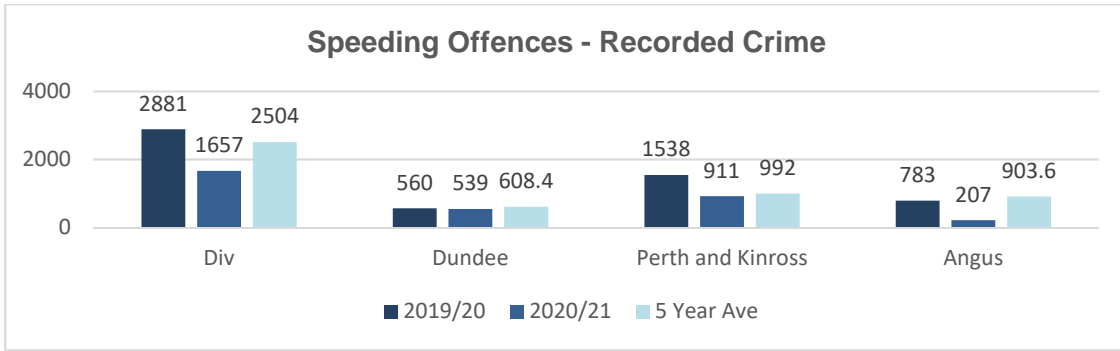
In September a day of action, linked to the annual motorcycle campaign, took place on the A93 in relation to concerns from the community about speeding. During the day 110 vehicles were stopped, 95 warnings were issued and 14 drivers were reported for speeding. A number of motorcycles were stopped however no offences related to exhausts were found.

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.

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Measure – Drink/Drug Driving

Year to date, Drink, Drug offences in Perth & Kinross LPA have increased by 45% compared to the same period of last year.

Activity

In the month of July 2020, Police Scotland held The Summer Drink & Drug Drive Campaign which saw dedicated officers from both the Road Policing Unit and divisional officers specifically target road users who drive whilst under the influence.

A media campaign was also launched in support of the activity sending out a clear message that this behaviour will not be tolerated whilst reinforcing the ramifications should offenders be caught.

Focus was not only targeting offenders driving immediately after consuming alcohol or drugs, but also focusing on offender's drive the morning after being under the influence.

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Throughout the period under review and the challenges raised by COVID-19, effective use of the media to raise awareness and to actively the encourage changes in driving attitudes and behaviour.

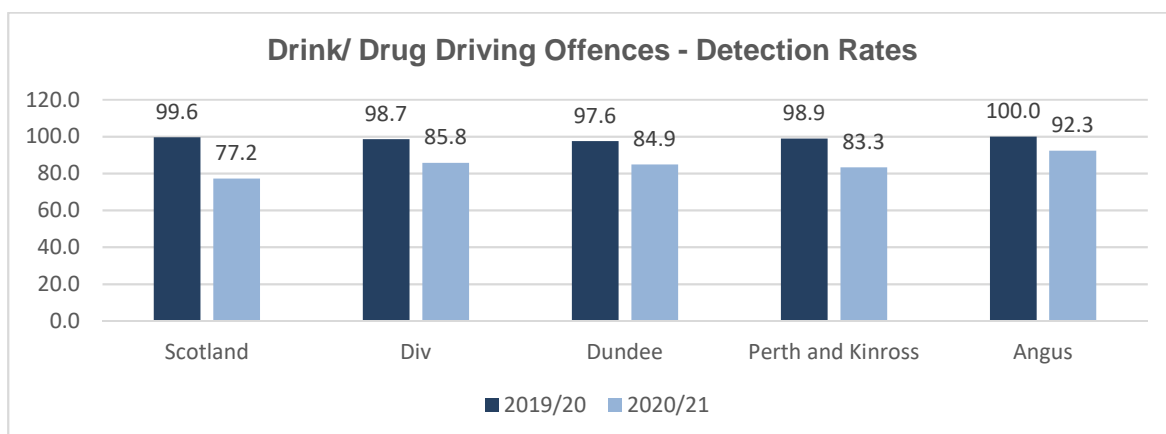
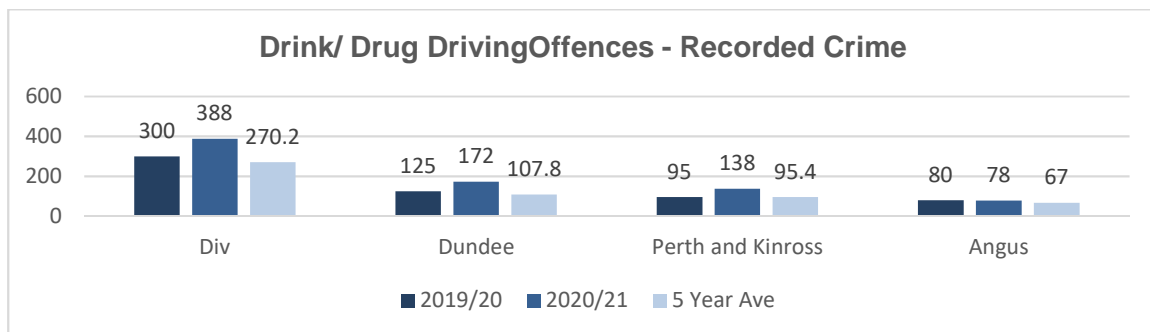
The new drug wipe testing kit featured heavily in the media and was prevalent throughout the duration of this campaign, it will continue to be an exceptionally effective tool in the continual fight against impaired driving with a considerable number of positive wipes throughout Tayside Division.

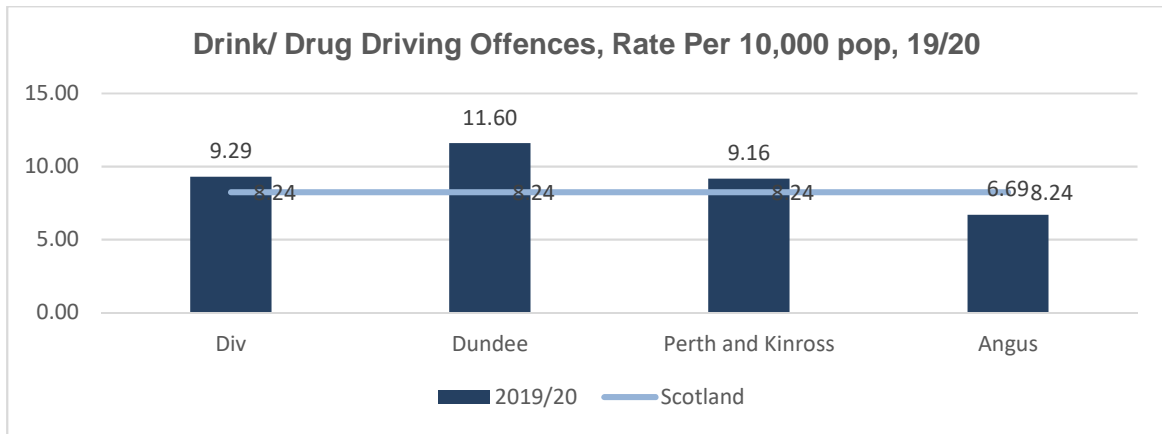
Results

Tayside Division have excelled this year, with a total 1895 breath specimens recorded throughout the Division. A total of 138 drink/drug drive offences detected within Perth & Kinross LPA, all of which were reported to the Procurator fiscal for the consideration of prosecution. It should be noted these figure include drivers who failed to provide a specimen for analysis.

Challenges

Considering the analytical data highlights a 45% increase for the period under review compared to 2019/20 is extremely concerning. Irrespective of Police campaigns and reinforcement through varying mediums, evidence suggests the message does not appear to be hitting home and road users are continuing to drive whilst under the influence which is completely unacceptable.





Measure – Careless Driving

Careless driving across Tayside Division has decreased 8.2% with the total number of offenders being detected at 313 compared with 341 the previous year.

Perth & Kinross LPA specifically has significantly decreased by 9.7% with a total of 130 offenders being detected compared to 144 the previous year.

Part of the key to reducing Careless driving figures focus on Influence driver and road user behaviour.

By focusing on the 'Fatal 5' and working with partners, Tayside Division road Policing Unit make appropriate use of existing and new legislation to carry out enforcement, education activates and influence the provision of engineering solutions (3 E's). This will be enhanced with specific initiatives prioritising vulnerable road users and those at greatest risk.

Activity

Tayside Division Road Policing teams will continue to focus on the key KSI (Killed / Seriously Injured) routes as part of the high visibility daily patrols.

These are; D Division – A9, A93, A923, A85, A92 and M90/A90

Many of the aforementioned priority routes running through Perth & Kinross LPA.

This is reinforced with Route Strategy Days based on the previous collision data for the month and involve multiple units carrying out high visibility patrolling of the same route. Where these routes traverse multiple Divisions we utilise cross border joint operations.

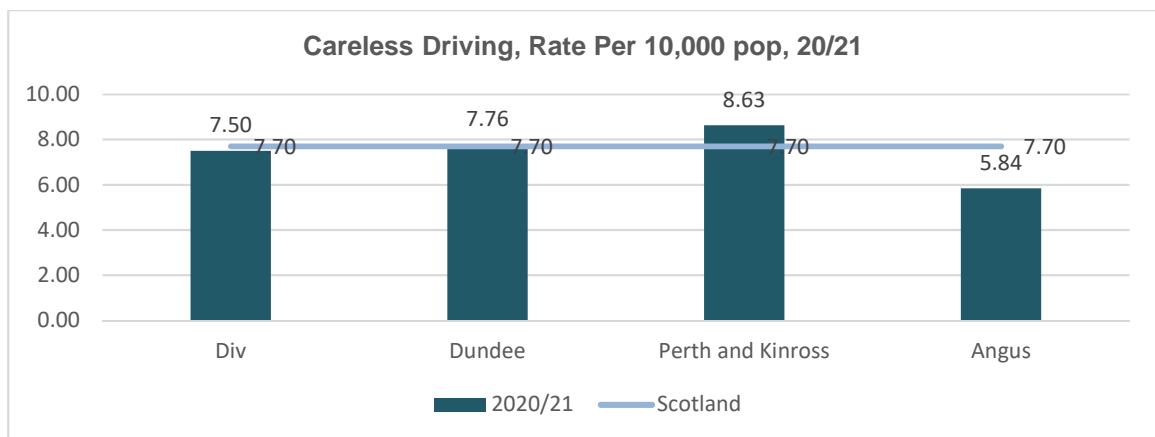
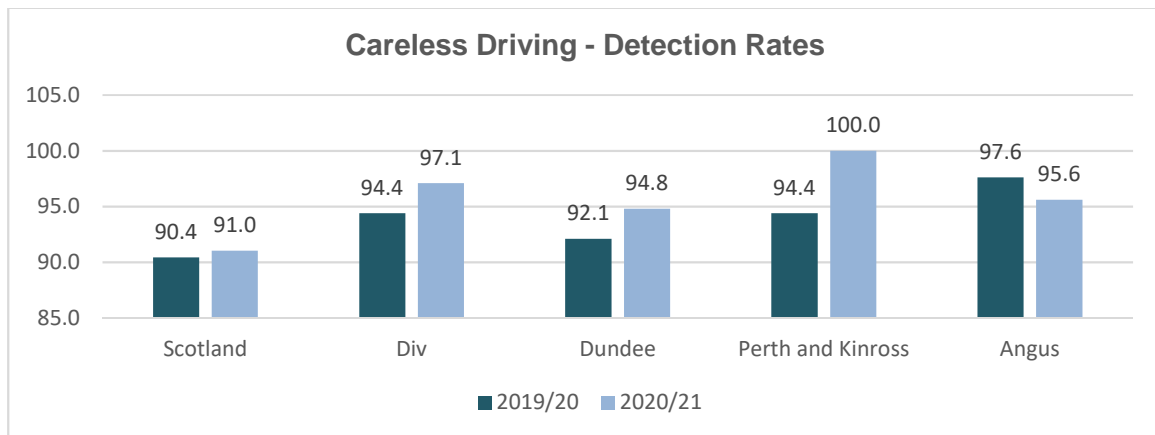
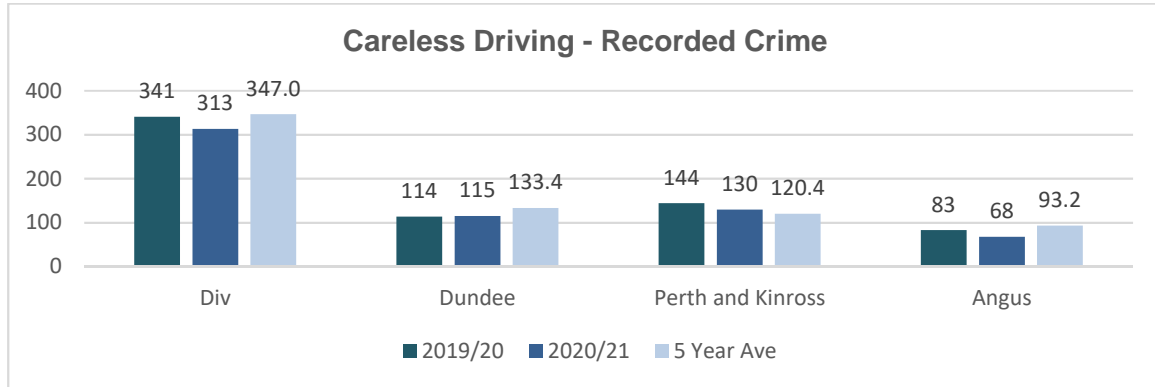
As is with all our operations, they are supported by partner agencies and road operating companies which maximises potential.

Challenges

Younger drivers are especially a challenge given their inexperience behind the wheel accompanied by peer pressure from their passengers. This has been compounded significantly due to Covid19 restrictions which have forced annual education programmes such as Safe drive stay alive to be postponed. This in essence is a lost opportunity to influence younger driver behaviour which will never be regained.

Results

Reacting to information from the public, Road Policing officers have been deployed during lockdown in marked and unmarked vehicles to areas such as the A93. Whilst KSI data has shown a significant decrease in fatal/serious collisions, attention is given to driving habits. Officers have stopped and engaged with a large number of motorcyclists using this section of road and continue to address any defects in accordance with available legislation.



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Public Protection

Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priorities:

- Giving every child the best start in life
- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service*

Operating Context

Occurrence rates for reported sexual crimes remains below those of 2019/20 and whilst there has been an increase in demand around Public Protection investigations since the relaxation of lockdown, Perth and Kinross has not seen the increased demand in Domestic Abuse and Child Abuse that many predicted would emerge in 2020.

That said, we are returning to pre COVID-19 levels of activity in this area and it remains a key focus of improvement work to identify potential victims and perpetrators with partners in order to prevent and detect criminality. We also continue work with public and sector partners to deliver a 24/7 crisis centre in Perth.

Missing person rates in Perth and Kinross remain low, however this quarter has seen a number of tragic incidents which have impacted local communities and placed significant demands on our officers.

In July, officers and emergency services partners attended at The Hermitage, Dunkeld where they dealt with the tragic death of a 7 year old child who had encountered difficulty in the water.

In July, local officers along with colleagues at Glasgow Airport intercepted a female who was intent on removing her two young children from the UK following concerns from social services about the care and welfare of the children.

August saw two significant missing person investigations. A 54 year old man from Perth was reported missing and despite an ongoing enquiries involving local and specialist resources, he remains untraced. This overlapped with another significant enquiry to trace an adult male from elsewhere in Scotland who was believed to be in Perth. Tragically, his body was subsequently recovered on the outskirts of Perth.

Measure – Domestic Abuse

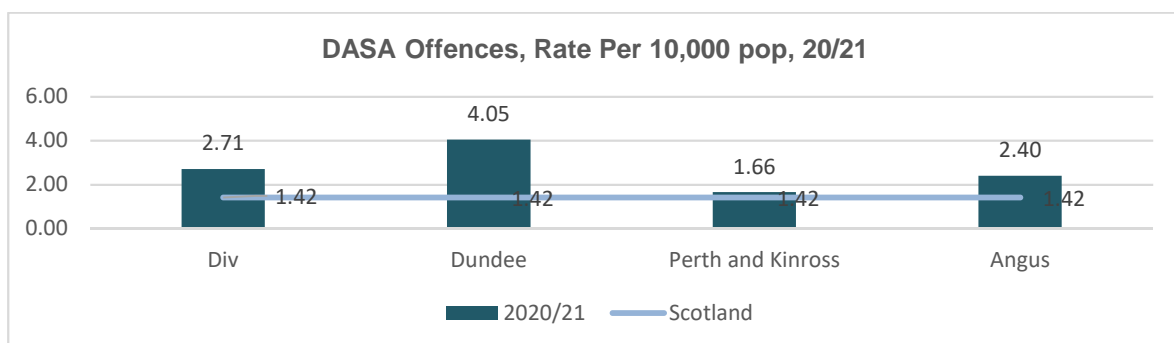
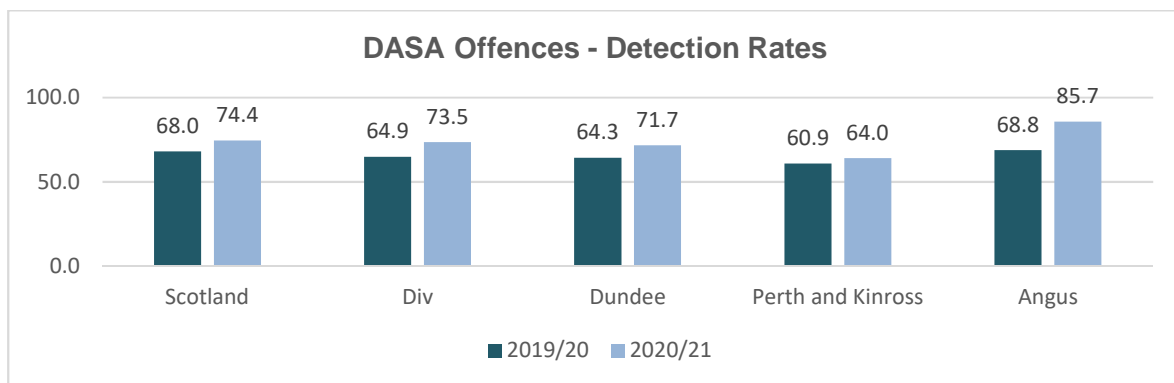
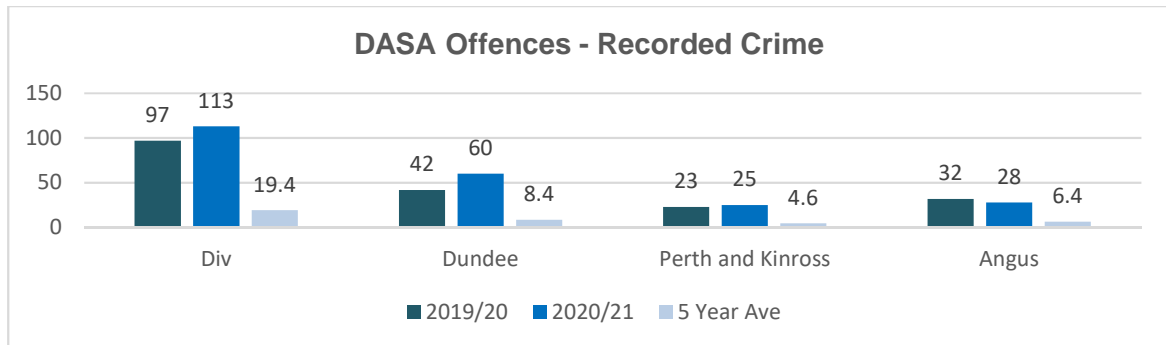
Activity

The crime rates represented in the table below represents crimes recorded under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, which remain almost identical to the figures from 2019/20. The five year average is of less relevance given the recent enactment of this legislation.

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Overall Domestic Abuse figures remain slightly below 2019/20 figures however the difference is small (15 crimes). Whilst recorded crimes are lower, non-crime domestic incidents have risen from 2019/20. Detection rates remain slightly below 2019/20 figures however the difference is minimal and can fluctuate given a number of investigations remain active, particularly those by specialist Public Protection teams which involved non-recent crimes.

All Domestic incidents in Perth and Kinross are subject to daily management scrutiny and priority is given to the arrest of any outstanding perpetrators, who are routinely traced and arrested within the first 24/48 of a reported crime to allow appropriate safety measures for victims to be activated.



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Measure – Hate Crime

Activity

Processes are still in place locally to monitor and review all hate crimes/incidents to ensure these are being recognised and recorded properly.

A daily review is carried out of hate crimes/incidents to assist with identifying emerging trends. This allows appropriate interventions to take place. Relevant partnership working allows for victims and communities to be signposted to support agencies and for reassurance messages and hate material to be shared.

1. Increase hate awareness amongst groups and communities.
2. Re-training of local third party reporting centres.
3. Evaluate current Keep Safe premises within Tayside.

Challenges

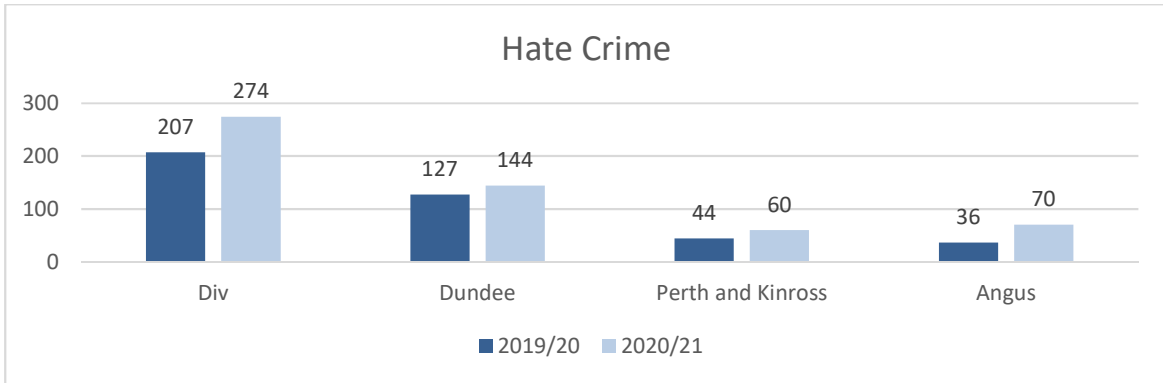
1. Due to no face to face meetings this was a problematic process. Groups who met regularly prior to COVID-19 were not meeting as often, if at all. This was a challenge for sharing online material which was a substitute for the face to face meetings.
2. This type of training is aimed for interactive groups and required face to face interaction. Given the current pandemic this cannot happen so another method needed to be found.
3. Premises could not be visited to establish if they were still able to provide this service.

Results

1. The national hate crime awareness campaign has been driven locally using electronic material with no face to face promotion. Material has been shared with different communities and local Third Party Reporting Centres. Hate awareness was included in information packs distributed to new students at both of Dundee's Universities as well as Dundee and Angus College.
2. All centres completed a survey and the results showed a need to retrain organisations. An online training video was developed locally to address these training needs. This video was distributed to the centres with their feedback and questions encouraged. Once this short video has been viewed by the work force everyone should feel competent in their participation as a valued centre.
3. All Keep Safe premises in Tayside have been contacted to see which are still able to be utilised by vulnerable people in crisis. Support has been offered by way of new materials and online training videos.

In addition a review is being undertaken to identify the possibility of Tayside wide HIMAP or indeed a more focused approach at a Locality level. Engagement will be undertaken with all three Local Authorities with regards to this.

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Measure – Sexual Crime

Occurrence rates of reported sexual crime remain below those of 2019/20 but above the five year average. Slight increases towards the end of the quarter are evident following lockdown and this may indicate an upward trend during the third quarter. Detection rates remain lower than 2019/20 however with regard to rape, the occurrence level has been low and detection rates are capable of changing significantly as investigations continue.

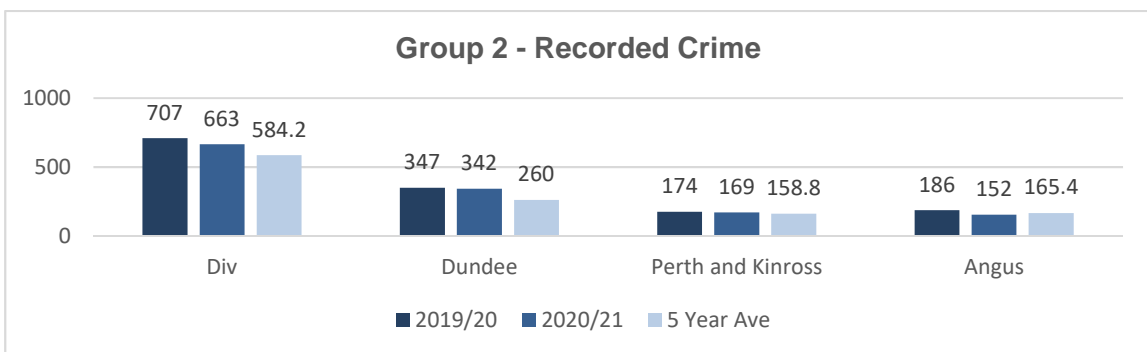
The greatest increase has been seen in reported crimes featuring indecent communication and the sending of indecent photographs of children. With regard to the latter, this is most prevalent between peer groups.

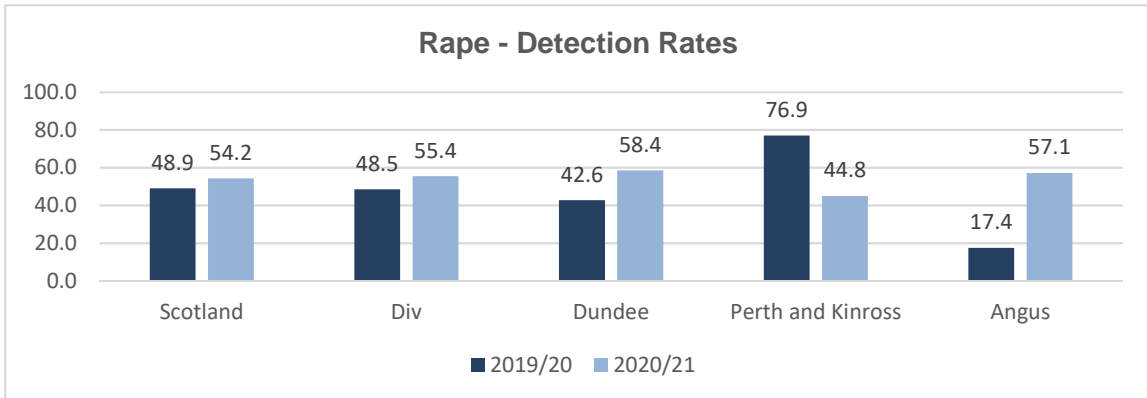
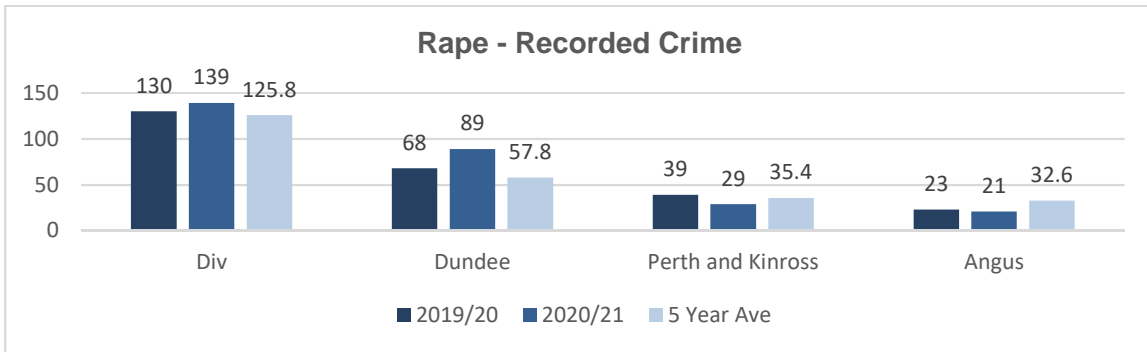
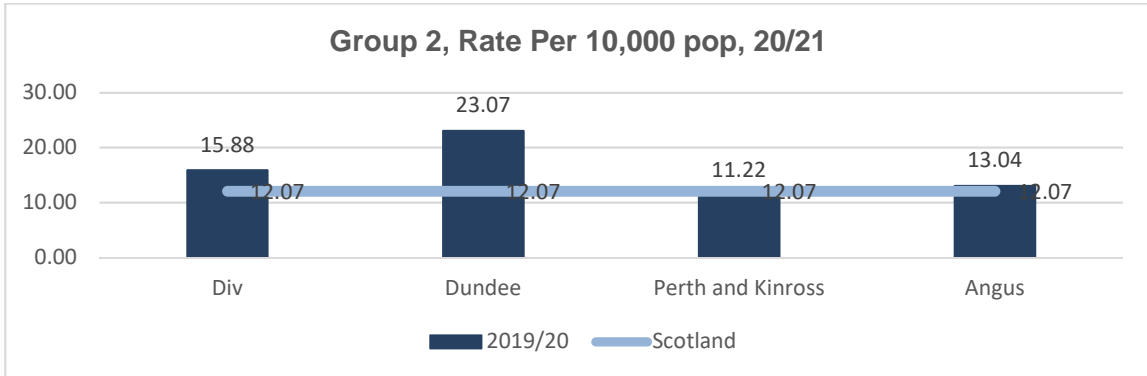
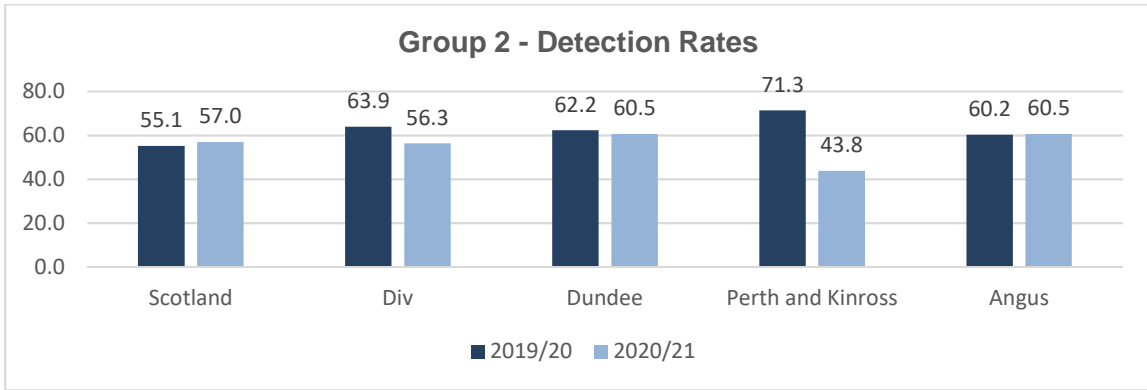
Around 30% of recorded crimes are non-recent, that is occurring over a year before report. These investigations can take some time, can involve multiple victims across Scotland and the UK and are always out with the window for securing forensic evidence.

Child victims are notably in around half of reported crime and in the vast majority of cases reported crime involve a victim and perpetrator who are known to each other, making stranger incidents extremely rare.

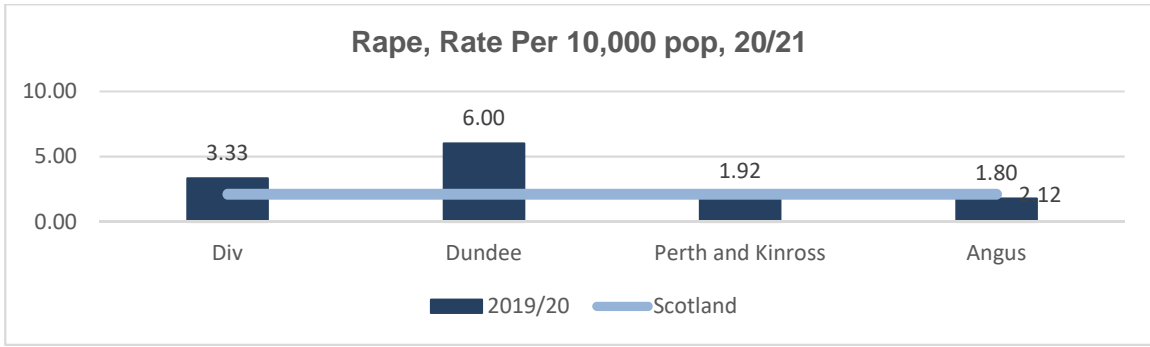
Results

In September an Online Child Abuse Activist Group, commonly known as Paedophile Hunters, arrived in Perth and due to the involvement of Police a confrontation was avoided and there was minimal public impact. Engagement with the group identified an adult male who has subsequently been charged with a number of offences against children, all of them cyber enabled.





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Serious Organised Crime

Reduce the harm caused by serious organised crime, including cyber crime

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priorities:

- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations
- Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police*

Operating Context

During quarter two the Community Investigation Unit carried out a focused period of enforcement designed to target persons from other parts of the UK who have sought to establish themselves in Perth and Kinross in order to deal drugs.

We continue to target those who are involved in the illegal sex industry and in one such case two such addresses have been visited where intelligence provided they were being used as brothels. The same females were found at both premises and whilst our efforts focused on those who may have been exploited or trafficked the facilitator of the activity has been charged and work is underway with the local authority to identify any landlords who are willingly using their properties for this purpose.

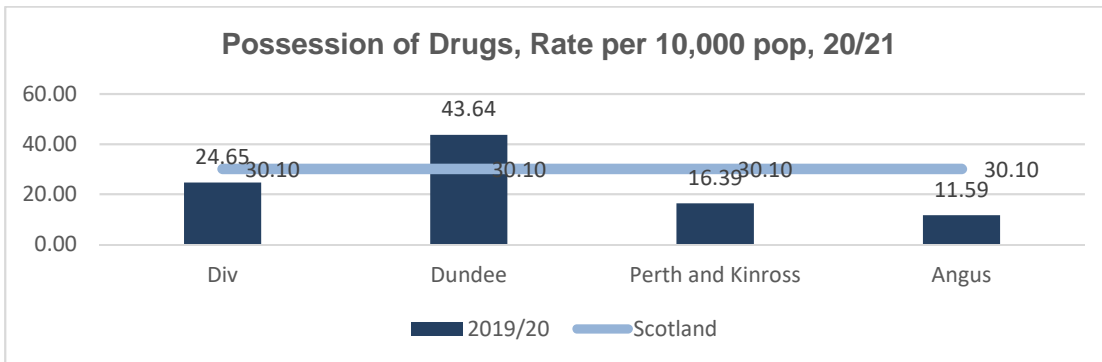
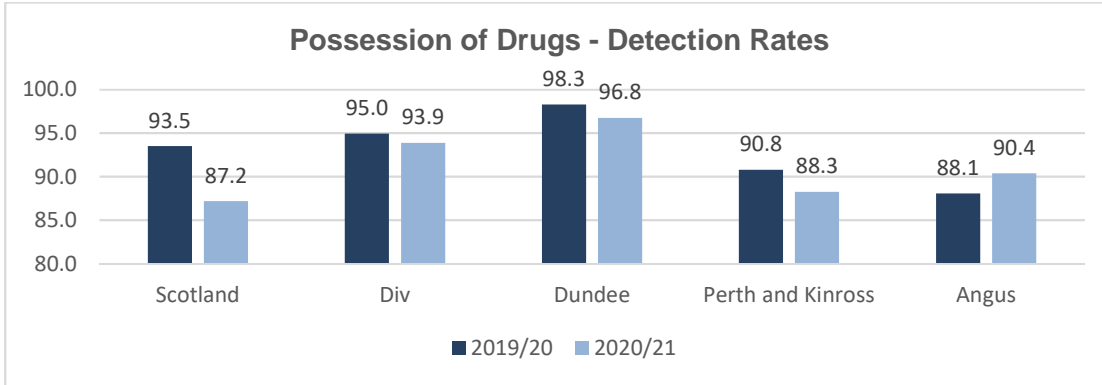
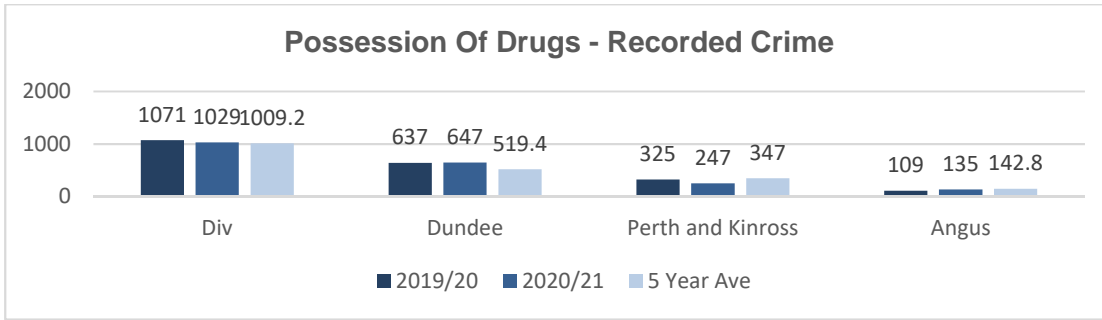
During this quarter the COVID-19 outbreak in Coupar Angus was the catalyst for more detailed engagement with the community and increased visits to local premises. A more complete picture has been obtained of local individuals who may be fraudulently taking wages from non-UK nationals in return for accommodation and this will be a focus in quarter 3. During this period a male living in Perth was Kinross was reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a breach of his current Trafficking Exploitation Prevention Order.

Measure – Possession of Drugs

Activity

Occurrence rates for possession of drugs as well as being intelligence led can also be self-generated, however this was affected during the lockdown period, with a reduced number of people being out in public. Whilst recorded crimes are down from 2019/20 social use of controlled drugs remains a significant issue and moving further into the post COVID-19 period may see a rise in recorded crime.

As before, detection rates are often short of 100% given forensic tests require to be carried out on a number of controlled substances and the results of such tests may take some time.



Measure – Supply of Drugs

Activity around the supply of drugs should be judged alongside possession, given the result is often dependent upon the amount of controlled substances found in conjunction with the circumstances.

Our Community Investigation Unit regularly lead on the enforcement around controlled drugs however additional focus has been given during this quarter to Acquisitive Crime, leading to a slight reduction in the number of search warrants executed.

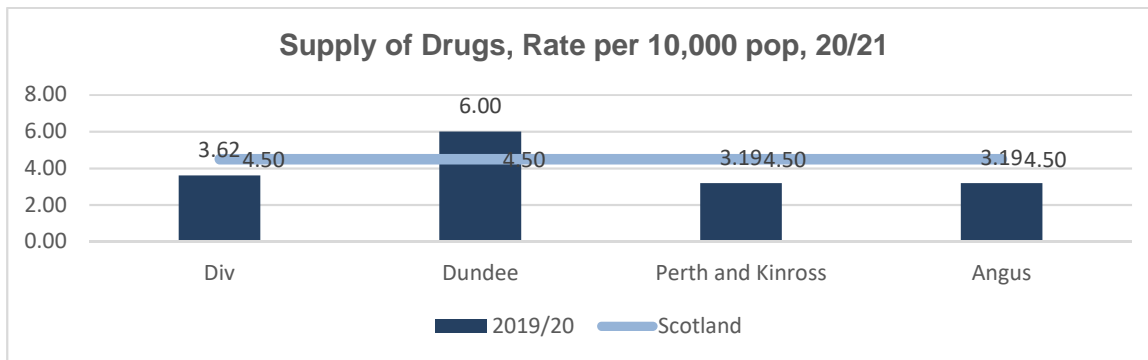
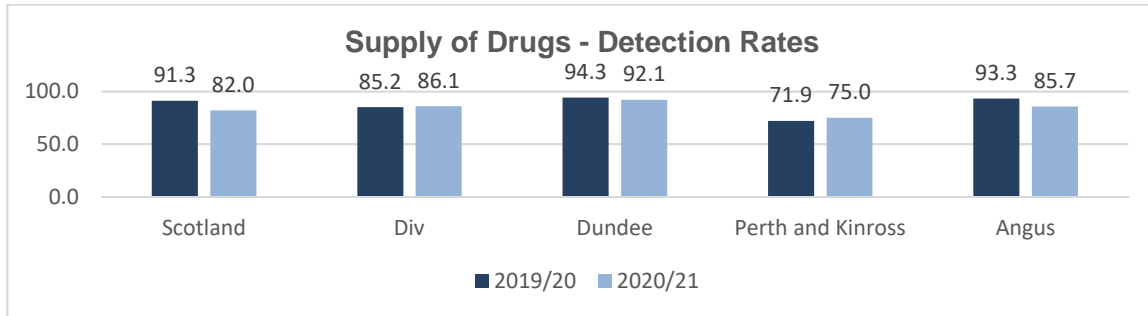
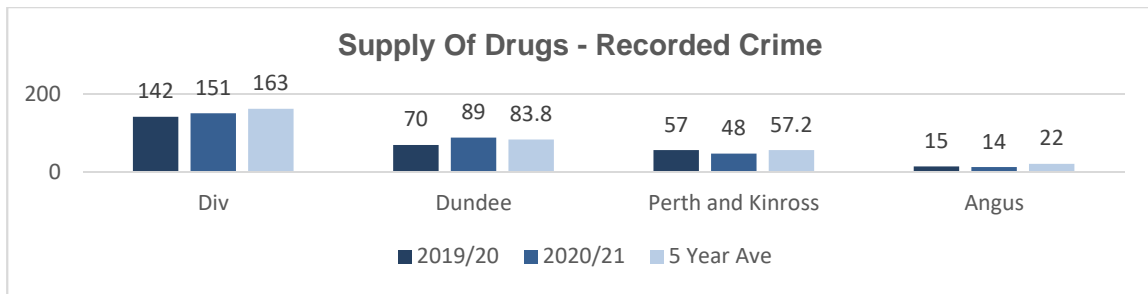
Our goal is always to target those supply lines of controlled drugs which may lead to the death or serious injury of substance users and we will specifically target those who introduce controlled substances to young people or schools.

Results

As described above in August local officers executed five search warrants across Perth and Kinross targeted an organised crime group from elsewhere in the UK. Over £35,000 of Cannabis was recovered along with a five figure sum of cash and a 20 year male was arrested in connection with the supply.

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In September specialist officers operating in Perth recovered over £60,000 worth of heroin from two males from England as part of an ongoing operation.



Measure – Proceeds of Crime

Activity

All opportunities continue to be taken by our Divisional Intelligence Unit to seek proceeds of crime recoveries.

Results

The following values were recovered in Perth and Kinross in quarter 2:

- Civil Cash Seizures £2,357.67
- Expedited Civil Recovery – No cases
- Assets for Restraint £5970.00

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Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

Prevent, Pursue,
Protect and
Prepare through
collaborative
preparedness

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priority:

- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service*

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.

Operating Context

At present the national threat level is currently at SUBSTANTIAL.

A number of community officers are trained to be Local CONTEST Liaison Officers (LCLOs), providing a capability to promote CONTEST.

This allows delivery of the strategy throughout the Perth and Kinross community as part of daily business.

Due to lockdown procedures over the previous quarter, contact has been maintained with businesses and partners by electronic briefings and telephone contact.

Now that restrictions are easing and premises and businesses are opening and gaining crowds, work will continue to ensure that safety continues to be a priority within the community.



Wildlife Crime

Reduce harm caused to certain birds, animals and plants including their habitats, both on land and sea

This activity will link in with and support the Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2017-2027 strategic priority:

- Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

This also supports the delivery of Police Scotland's strategic outcome:

- *The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery*

Wildlife Crime is any act that is made illegal in Scotland under legislation with regard to certain birds, animals and plants including their habitats, both on land and at sea.

It includes the illegal disturbance, destruction, theft and sale of animals and plants both in the countryside and urban areas, and includes the destruction of and damage to protected habitats.

Operating Context

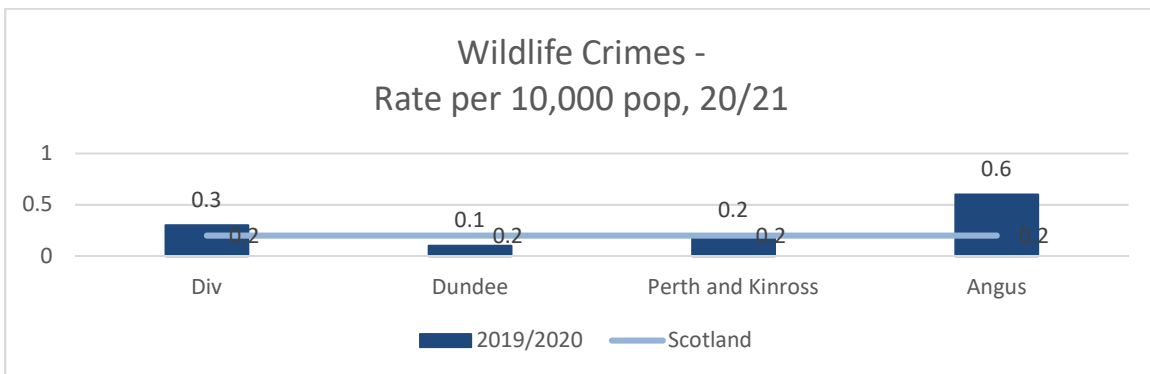
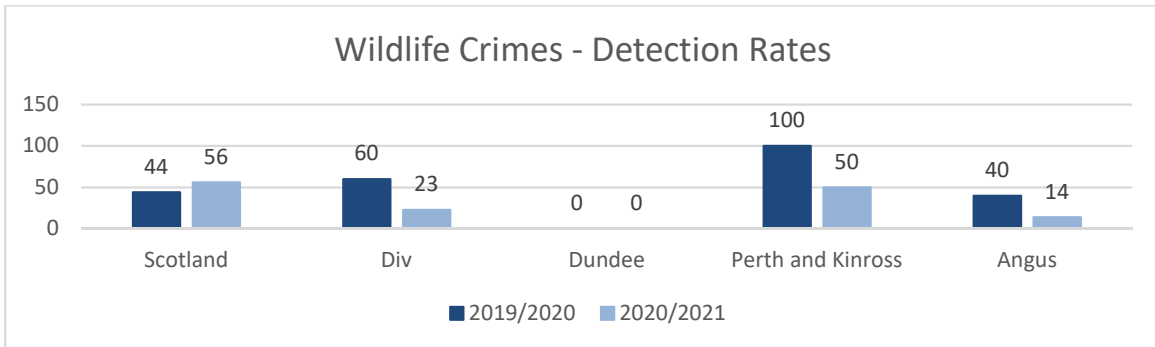
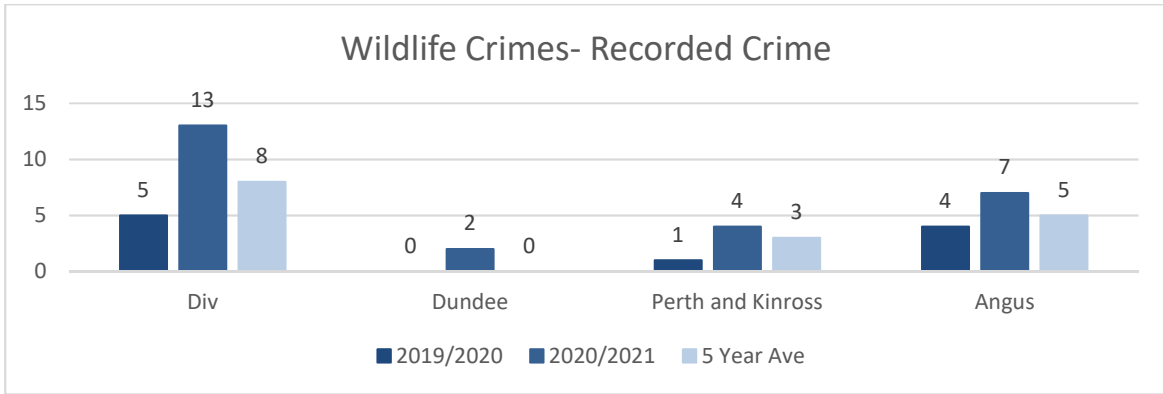
Operation Wingspan is a phased campaign that will start in October. The aim of this campaign is to raise awareness of the action Police Scotland is taking to tackle wildlife crime, our commitment to working in partnership to reduce crime and increase reporting.

Over the coming year, each of the 6 wildlife crime priorities will be targeted for action - , CITES, Badger Persecution, Bats, Freshwater pearl Mussels, Poaching and Raptor Persecution.

Phase one of the campaign focuses on CITES regarding the illegal trade in endangered species occurring in Scotland. Items are being sold online, in antique/second hand stores, pet shops and maybe in traditional medicines/remedies.

Throughout these months, officers in D Division will be attending at these types of shop and trading outlets, to check on items for sale, such as fur coats, furniture containing ivory, live reptiles and handbags made of crocodile skin etc.

Various antique shops have already been visited in the North Perthshire area.



Other Key Activity

Events

Given the COVID-19 pandemic there have been no notable events held in this quarter.

Other Key Activity

Activity

The global Coronavirus pandemic continues to impact on both police and public on a day to day basis. As the quarter progressed we have had to adapt to an ever changing landscape as restrictions and guidance have been amended in line with the prevalence of the virus.

Whilst this has presented challenges, public compliance with the guidance remains high and officers continue to utilise the 4E's (engage, explain, encourage and

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enforce) with enforcement an option of last resort or where a failure to enforce would impact on public confidence.

Officers continue to face challenges balancing these powers against restrictions in freedom of elements of the population.

Whilst public support has been high, some tensions have inevitably developed, with some expressing the desire for more enforcement and some believing powers have been taken too far. Recent changes in guidance and legislation have seen Police receive an increased volume of calls regarding social gatherings.

Across Tayside during September there were 317 incidents relating to COVID-19 Regulation compliance. Of this 165 were found to have been no breach of regulations. 79 incidents resulted in a warning and only 4 resulted in formal enforcement such as fixed penalty notice or charge.

There has been an increased number of occasional licence applications across the division in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Between 1st July and 30th September 2020, the Divisional Licensing team have processed 183 occasional licence applications for licensed premises within the Perth and Kinross area.

In general, licensed premises across P&K have positively observed the restrictions placed on them and have worked closely with the Local Authority and Police. During this quarter there were 35 recorded incidents at or within the immediate area of licensed premises. Out of these incidents, there has been one personal licence review submitted to the Licensing Board for breaching the licensing objectives.

The Divisional Licensing Team along with the local Policing teams across the area have carried out 365 inspections at licensed premises.

Challenges

Demand upon the Police did not decrease during the lockdown and it is apparent that people who are in violent or abusive relationships or whose lives are impacted by poverty and vulnerability may have been adversely impacted.

Throughout the summer months there was a large increase in day tripping and wild camping in the rural beauty spots of both North and South Perthshire. This led to increasing concerns around anti-social behaviour, littering, human waste and dangers caused by inconsiderate / dangerous parking. In response to this Police worked closely with Perth and Kinross Council and other partner agencies to provide additional patrols and education to the people visiting these areas. The partners involved in this are committed to reviewing the events of this year and taking learning forward in anticipation of continued higher visitor numbers in 2021.

Demand

Police Scotland has introduced a new way of assessing calls to its 101 and 999 service that will enable specially trained police officers and staff to make an enhanced assessment of threat, risk, harm and vulnerability.

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They will take into account the needs and circumstances of every caller to ensure the most appropriate response is provided every time we are contacted.

If a call is non urgent, advice and guidance may be provided over the phone or through a personal appointment or through referral to a partner agency.

There is no change to the way the public contact us, they will still call 101 or 999 and the first thing we do is make sure they are safe. That won't change

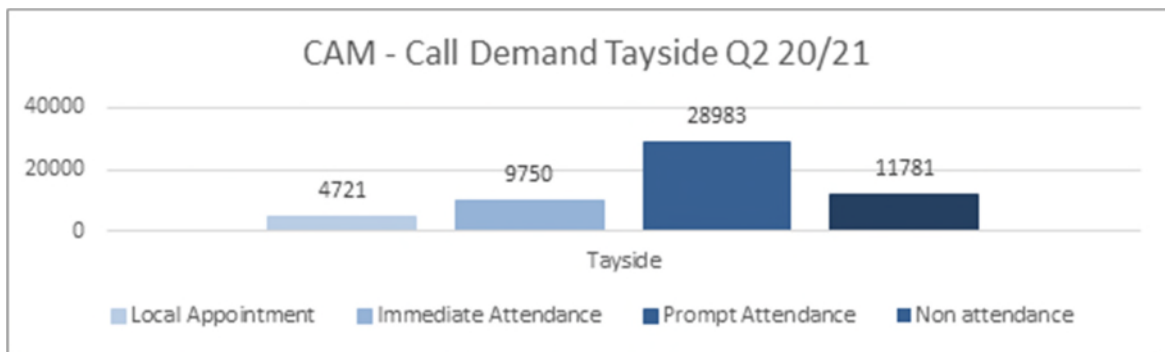
This went live within Tayside on the 21st April 2020 and calls are now graded as follows;

Immediate: where the circumstances dictate there is a threat to life, property or an ongoing incident that requires a dynamic police response.

Prompt: where a response within 4 hours is required.

Scheduled: where a planned attendance is appropriate through a Local Policing Appointment.

Non-attendance: which includes direct crime recording, police officer advice or referral to another agency.



Appendix

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

	Reporting Period ³				
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	Mid-year Population Estimate (Total Persons) ²				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016
FORCE / SCOTLAND	5 327 700	5 347 600	5 373 000	5 404 700	5 404 700
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 & 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.