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Council Building
2 High Street
Perth
PH1 5PH

24/05/2021

A meeting of the **Housing and Communities Committee** will be held virtually on **Monday, 31 May 2021 at 09:30**.

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

BARBARA RENTON
Interim Chief Executive

Those attending the meeting are requested to ensure that all notifications are silent on their device and other devices are in silent mode.

Please note that the meeting will be broadcast online and recorded. The recording will be publicly available on the Council's website following the meeting.

Members:

Councillor Bob Brawn (Convener)
Councillor Chris Ahern (Vice-Convener)
Councillor Alasdair Bailey
Councillor Liz Barrett
Councillor Peter Barrett
Councillor David Illingworth
Councillor Anne Jarvis
Councillor Ian Massie
Councillor Sheila McCole
Councillor Tom McEwan
Councillor Caroline Shiers
Councillor Colin Stewart
Councillor Richard Watters

Housing and Communities Committee

Monday, 31 May 2021

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.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH THE PRE-AGENDA MEETING IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973 IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONTENTS OF REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS AT THE MEETING CONSTITUTE INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THAT ACT, AND THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD NOT DISCLOSE TO OR DISCUSS WITH ANY MEMBER OF THE PRESS OR PUBLIC ANYTHING CONTAINED IN REPORTS OR DISCLOSED DURING DISCUSSIONS.

- 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3 MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE OF 3 FEBRUARY 2021 FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNATURE** **5 - 10**
(copy herewith)
- 4 POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT**
 - (i) FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2021** **11 - 34**
Report by Area Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (copy herewith 21/65)
 - (ii) PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL POLICING AREA POLICE REPORT - 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2021** **35 - 78**
Report by Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland (copy herewith 21/66)
 - (iii) POLICE SCOTLAND'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE REMODELLING PROGRAMME**
Verbal Update by Police Scotland

| | | |
|----------|---|------------------|
| 5 | COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDERS ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20 Report by Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) and Chief Social Work Officer (copy herewith 21/67) | 79 - 104 |
| 6 | COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE Report by Executive Director (Communities) (copy herewith 21/68) | 105 - 108 |
| 7 | HOUSING CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT Report by Executive Director (Communities) (copy herewith 21/69) | 109 - 144 |
| 8 | MISSING SHARES SCHEME Report by Executive Director (Communities) (copy herewith 21/70) | 145 - 152 |

NOTE:

The above report will also be submitted to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 2 June 2021.

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HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 3 February 2021 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors B Brawn, C Ahern, A Bailey, K Baird (substituting for Councillor C Shiers), L Barrett, P Barrett, D Illingworth, A Jarvis, I Massie, S McCole, T McEwen and R Watters.

In Attendance: B Renton, Executive Director (Communities); C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities), S Coyle (up to and including Item 9), J McColl, N Robson (up to and including Item 9), E Ritchie, C France, M Dow (up to and including Item 9) and N Lennon (all Communities); N Rogerson, C Cranmer and D Mortimer (from Item 9 onwards) (all Education and Children's Services); C Flynn, A Taylor, D Stokoe (for Item 6 only) and L Haxton (up to Item 7) (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: Chief Inspector G Binnie (Police Scotland) (up to Item 4); Area Manager G Pryde and Group Commander E Baird (both up to Item 4) (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Apologies: Councillor C Shiers.

Councillor Brawn, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led the discussion on Items 1-3 and 5-10, and the Vice-Convener on Item 4.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors C Ahern and S McCole both declared a Non-Financial interest in Item 10.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 2 September 2020 for Approval and Signature

The minute of the meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 2 September 2020 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Minute of Special Meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 2 December for Approval and Signature

The minute of the special meeting of the Housing and Communities Committee of 2 December 2020 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

4. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT

(i) Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area – Interim Activity Report

The Committee received a verbal report from Chief Inspector G Binnie, Police Scotland 'D' Division (Tayside) providing an interim update on local policing activity in the Perth and Kinross area for the period December 2020 to January 2021.

Chief Inspector Binnie answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following [link](#).

Resolved:

The interim update on performance of Police Scotland against the local policing priorities for the Perth and Kinross area be noted.

(ii) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Interim Activity Report

The Committee received a joint verbal report from Area Manager G Pryde and Group Commander E Baird of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) providing an update on the activity within the Perth and Kinross area covering the interim period December 2020 to January 2021.

Area Manager Pryde and Group Commander Baird answered members' questions thereon. The question and answer session can be viewed via the following [link](#).

Resolved:

The interim update on operational and community safety engagement activities of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Perth and Kinross area be noted.

CHIEF INSPECTOR G BINNIE, AREA MANAGER G PRYDE AND GROUP COMMANDER E BAIRD ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

5. UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN UNDER COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS SINCE 11 NOVEMBER 2020

C Mailer, Depute Director (Communities) provided a [slide-based presentation](#) on the various activities undertaken throughout the Covid-19 pandemic since the last meeting by the Housing Teams.

C Mailer answered members' questions thereon.

D STOKOE JOINED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

There was submitted and noted a report by the Depute Chief Operating Officer (21/14) providing an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since the last update on 11 November 2020.

L HAXTON AND D STOKOE BOTH LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

7. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) STRATEGIC FINANCIAL PLAN INCORPORATING THE 5-YEAR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME AND RENT STRATEGY TO 2025/26, RESERVES STRATEGY AND OTHER HOUSING CHARGES 2021/22

There was submitted a Joint Report by the Executive Director (Communities) and Head of Finance (21/15) (1) setting out the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for five years from 2021/22 to 2025/26; (2) recommending increases to rents for houses and other HRA property service charges, and an appropriate level of reserves; and (3) detailing the proposed budget for the next five years of the Capital Investment Programme totalling £66.3 million from 2021/22 to 2025/26.

Resolved:

- (i) The Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2021/22 and provisional budgets for financial years 2022/23 to 2025/26, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 21/15, be approved.
- (ii) The proposed Housing Revenue Account Capital Investment Programme for 2021/22 to 2025/26, as set out in Appendix 3 to Report 21/15, be approved.
- (iii) The Rent Strategy for 2020/21 and a provisional Rent Strategy for the following 4 years to 2025/26, as detailed in Section 6 of Report 21/15, be approved.
- (iv) The 1.0% rent increase for the year commencing 5 April 2021 for all Council houses be approved, meaning the average weekly rent would be £71.47 per week based on 52 weeks.
- (v) The rent increase of 1.0% for the year commencing 5 April 2021 be approved for:
 - All lock-ups
 - All garage sites
 - Chalets and stances for gypsy travellers at Double Dykes and Bobbin Mill
 - Dispersed tenancies owned by the HRA
 - Greyfriars Hostel
- (vi) The Housing Revenue Account Reserves Strategy, as proposed in Section 7 of Report 21/15, be approved.
- (vii) The proposal to set Housing service charges from 5 April 2021, as stated in Section 10 of Report 21/15, be approved.
- (viii) Endorse and approve, where necessary, the revised level of all housing related charges, as detailed in Appendix 5 to Report 21/15.
- (ix) The progress made to date in delivering and maintaining the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) for improving and managing the housing stock, as

set out in Section 4 of Report 21/15, and the related business cases, be endorsed.

- (x) Convener to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to request the continuance of the £20.00 weekly top-up to Universal Credit.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED AT 11.40AM.

8. RAPID REHOUSING TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Communities) (21/16) providing an update on progress with the implementation of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan and the further development of Home First in tackling homelessness here in Perth and Kinross.

Resolved:

- (i) The significant progress that has been made to further enhance Home First and deliver a sector-leading service to people experiencing homelessness in Perth and Kinross be noted.
- (ii) The updated RRTP and its submission to the Scottish Government be approved.

N ROGERSON, C CRANMER AND D MORTIMER JOINED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

9. STRATEGIC HOUSING INVESTMENT PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Communities) (21/17) seeking approval of the Perth and Kinross Council Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) for the period 2021/22 to 2025/26.

Resolved:

- (i) The Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2021/22 – 2025/26 as detailed in Report 21/17, be approved.
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Executive Director (Communities) to ensure that where projects fall out of the plan, alternative projects, prioritised in the same way, are substituted for them.

S COYLE, M DOW AND N ROBSON ALL LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

10. JUSTICE UPDATE REPORT 2019-20

There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer (21/18) providing updates on the work of Council services and partners to meet local and national outcomes for Community Justice and on the effectiveness of arrangements for the supervision of serious offenders and approaches to help people make positive changes in their lives and tackle the underlying causes of their offending.

Resolved:

- (i) The approach being undertaken by Perth and Kinross Council in respect of the Perth and Kinross Community Justice Partnership and the content of the 2019-20 Annual Report be approved.
- (ii) The annual report for 2019-2020 prepared by the Tayside Strategic Oversight Group for Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) be approved.

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DRAFT





**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

**31 MAY 2021**

**Report by Area Manager Stephen Wood, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire  
and Rescue Service  
(Report No. 21/65)**

**SUBJECT: FIRE AND RESCUE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2021**

**Abstract**

The Reports contain performance information relating to the Fourth quarter (January – March) of 2020-21 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 2020-23 was approved by the Housing and Communities Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2020.
- 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 Stephen Wood**  
**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.*



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

**Quarter Four: 2020/21**

**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.

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## INTRODUCTION

This quarter four monitoring report covers the SFRS's performance and activities in support of the six priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Perth & Kinross, 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 2 December 2020, covering a three-year period. 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 four 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.

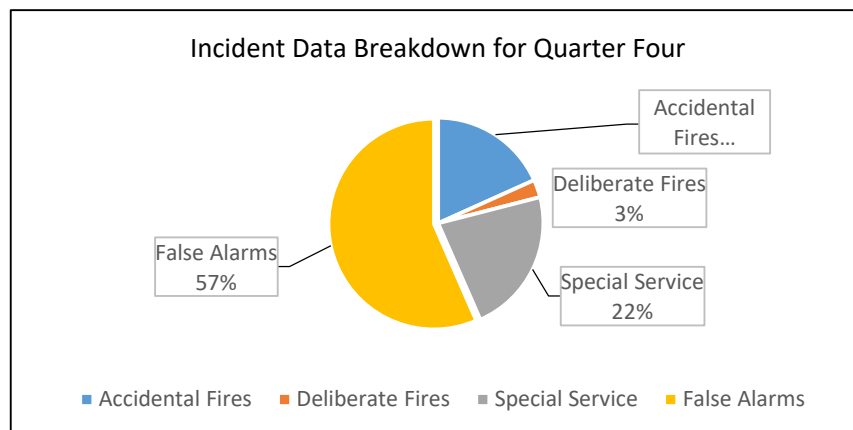
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>HI 1</b><br/><b>Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 19 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 98 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 120 Incidents</b></p>           | <p><b>HI 2</b><br/><b>ADF Fatal Casualties</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 0</b><br/><b>YTD – 0</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 0</b></p>                                        | <p><b>HI 3</b><br/><b>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 3</b><br/><b>YTD – 18</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 19</b></p>                                     |
| <p><b>HI 4</b><br/><b>Non-domestic Building fires</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 9 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 43 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 55 Incidents</b></p>               | <p><b>HI 5</b><br/><b>Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 0</b><br/><b>YTD – 0</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 0</b></p>             | <p><b>HI 6</b><br/><b>Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 0</b><br/><b>YTD – 0</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 2</b></p>            |
| <p><b>HI 7</b><br/><b>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 13 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 59 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 83 Incidents</b></p> | <p><b>HI 8</b><br/><b>Fatal RTC Casualties</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 1</b><br/><b>YTD – 1</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 4</b></p>                                      | <p><b>HI 9</b><br/><b>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 10</b><br/><b>YTD – 26</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 70</b></p>                                  |
| <p><b>HI 10</b><br/><b>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 140 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 593 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 528 Incidents</b></p>        | <p><b>HI 11</b><br/><b>Deliberate Primary Fires</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 1 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 25 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 29 Incidents</b></p> | <p><b>HI 12</b><br/><b>Deliberate Secondary Fires</b></p>  <p><b>Q4 – 11 Incidents</b><br/><b>YTD – 63 Incidents</b><br/><b>Annual Target – 74 Incidents</b></p> |

### Year-to-Date Legend

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

## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

During Quarter four (January - March) the SFRS attended a total of 446 incidents across Perth & Kinross.

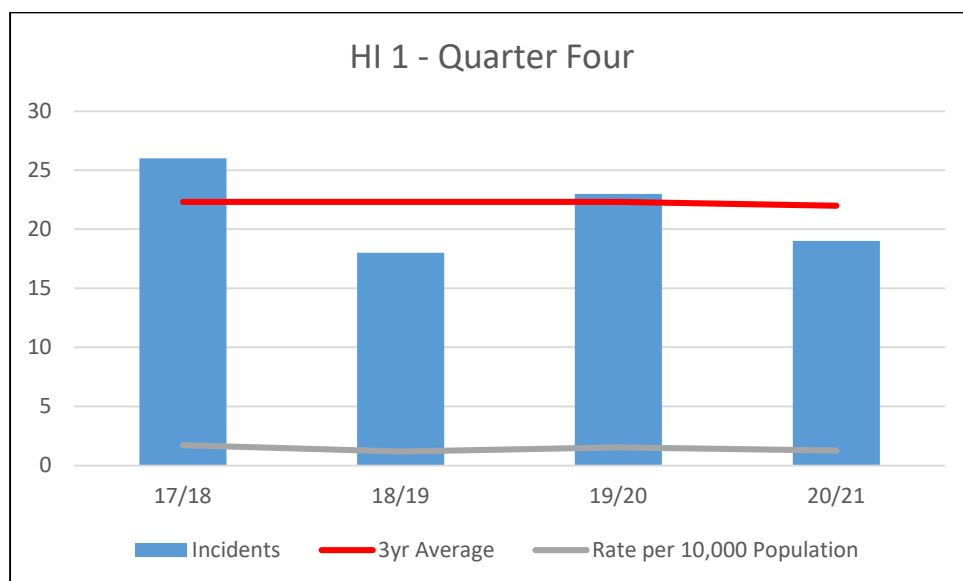


Of the 12 headline indicators and targets, the following performance should be noted for Quarter Four 20/21:

- The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF's)** continues to decrease in the long term, reporting one of the lowest YTD numbers of ADFs in the last three years (98 incidents against an average of 110). The numbers during quarter four (19) reflects a decrease on same quarter last year (23) and on the three-year average (22)
- There were no **ADF Fatal Casualties**
- The number of **ADF Non-fatal Casualties** (4) this, is equal to the three year average.
- The number of **Non-Domestic Building fires** is reflecting a decrease for this quarter (9) against a three-year average (15). There were no fatal casualties and no non-fatal casualties reported for quarter four in non-domestic building fires.
- The number of **Road Traffic Collisions** for quarter four is reporting a decrease against the three year average for this quarter (13 against 17). There is also a decrease on the same quarter last year and the YTD numbers. There was one **Fatal RTC Casualty** reported for this quarter and **Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** is reporting 10. 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 in non-domestic buildings reports an increase, 140 against a three-year average of 136. YTD figures for 20/21 is however slightly below average 593 against 597.
- The number of **Deliberate Primary Fires** is reflecting a decrease against the average, one incident against an average of eight. YTD figures have decreased also against the average slightly, 25 against 29. The number of **Deliberate Secondary Fires** is reporting a decrease for this quarter, 11 against an average of 14 and a larger decrease YTD 63 against an average of 95.

## PRIORITY 1 - IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

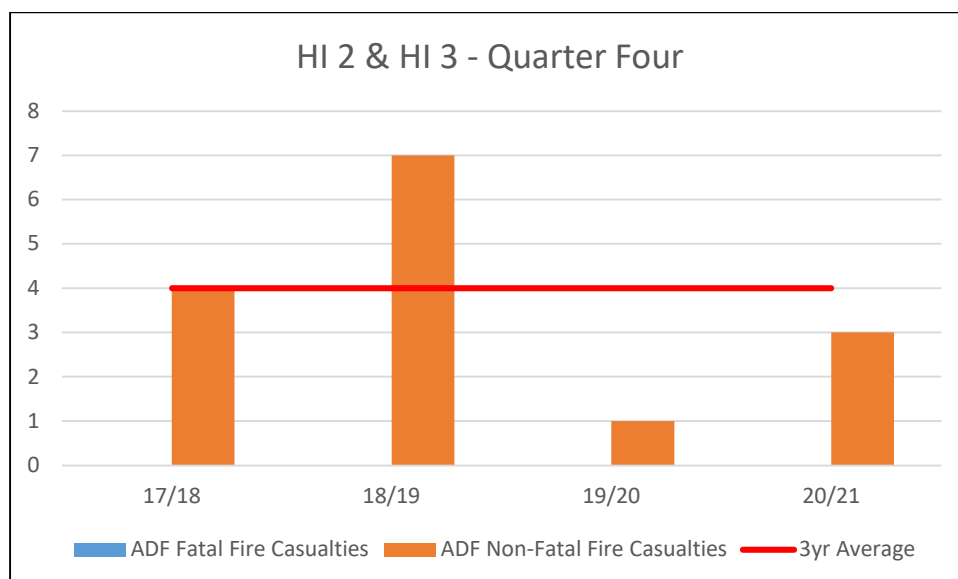
### HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)



**Table 1: Year to Date (January - March) Performance**

|           | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| H1: ADF's | 113   | 111   | 106   | 98    | 120           |

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



**Table 2: Year to Date(January- March) Performance**

|                              | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| H2: ADF Fatal Casualties     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0             |
| H3: ADF Non-Fatal Casualties | 20    | 18    | 29    | 18    | 19            |

### 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 120**, 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 19**, 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

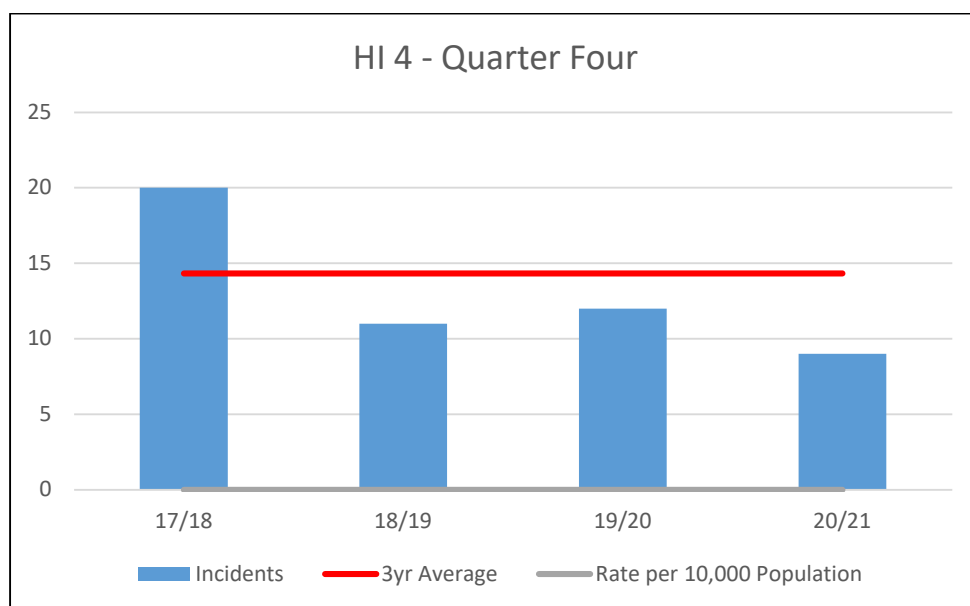
There were 19 ADF's reported during quarter four, which reflects fewer fires for the same quarter last year which was 23. The three-year average is (22). The fire damage in eight incidents was reported as low level and nine medium and only two which sustained significant damage. Of the 19 fires, 15 had previously been fitted with smoke detection, of which 14 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 lowest number of fires within this category 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 Casualties during quarter four. We are therefore showing **Green** for achieving the HI 2 annual target.

There were three ADF Non-Fatal Casualties during quarter four, two received first aid on scene and another received a preliminary check-up from ambulance staff. We are showing **Green** 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 regarding unintentional harm.

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

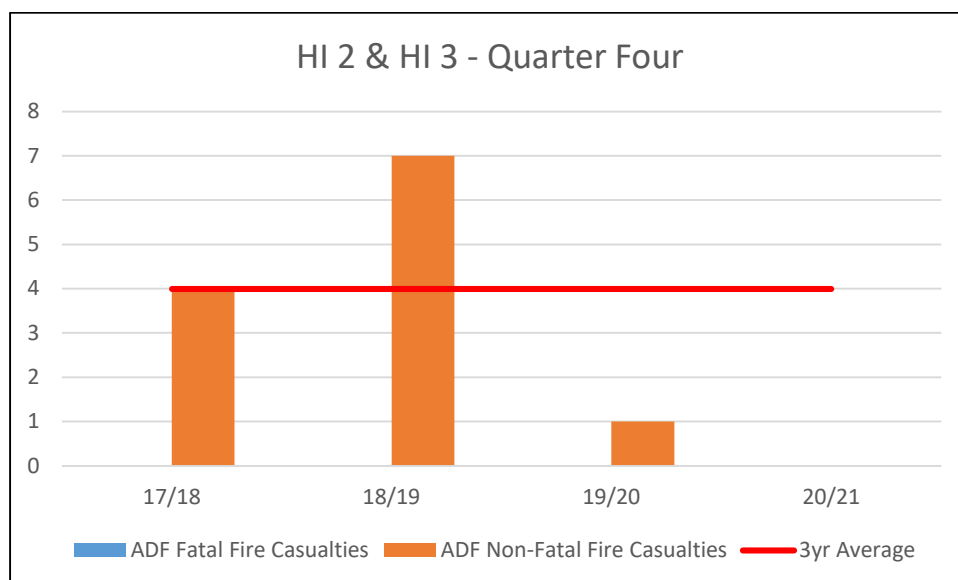
### HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires



**Table 3: Year to Date (January - March) Performance**

|                                        | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|----------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H4: Non-domestic Building Fires</b> | 57    | 53    | 63    | 43    | 55            |

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



**Table 4: Year to Date (January-March) Performance**

|                                      | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>H5: Fatal Fire Casualties</b>     | 0     | 0     | 1     | 0     | 0             |
| <b>H6: Non-Fatal Fire Casualties</b> | 2     | 1     | 2     | 0     | 9             |

### 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 55**, 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 9**, 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 nine fires in non-domestic buildings during quarter four which reflects a decrease from the same quarter last year with (13). This also reflects a decrease for the quarter against the three-year average (15). Five incidents resulted in minor damage and the remaining four suffered medium heat/fire and smoke damage. This therefore is showing **Green** against the HI 4 annual target to date.

There were no Non-Domestic Fatal Fire Casualties and no Non-Domestic Casualties during quarter three. YTD, we are showing **Green** against the HI 6 annual target.

The COVID pandemic restrictions have impacted our ability to undertake fire safety audits within commercial buildings. In total, 92 fire safety audits were completed, due to the restrictions almost all the audits completed were undertaken remotely, this was particularly evident within care homes and hospitals. A great deal of fire safety enforcement activity involved the engagement with local businesses to ensure they were maintaining safety critical procedures during these uncertain times. There were no enforcement/formal notices issued during this period and we have completed all our 20/21 framework audits in quarter four.

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 appropriate information is given to the business community.

## PRIORITY 3 – MINIMISING THE IMPACT OF UNINTENTIONAL HARM

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

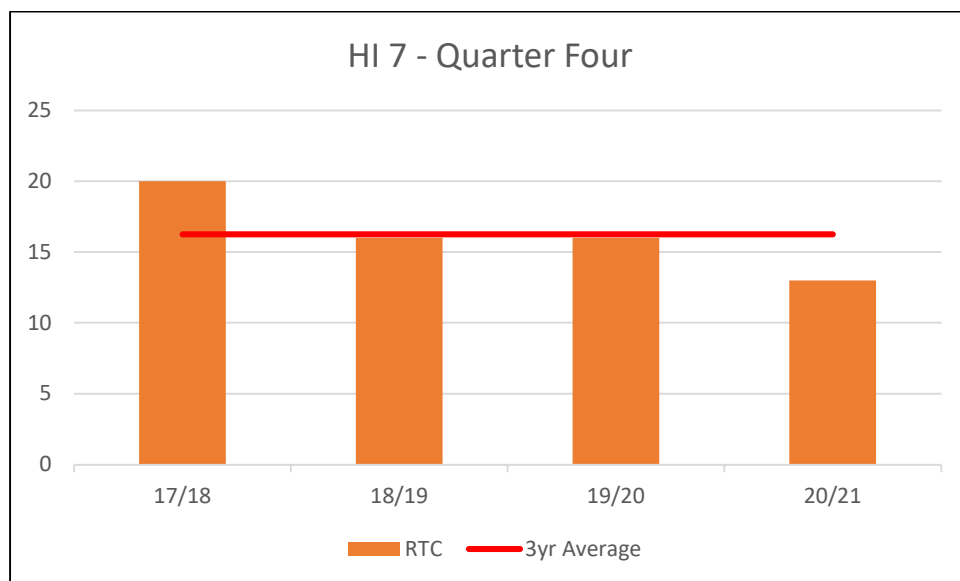


Table 5: Year to Date (January - March) Performance

|                   | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| H7: RTC Incidents | 118   | 83    | 88    | 59    | 83            |

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

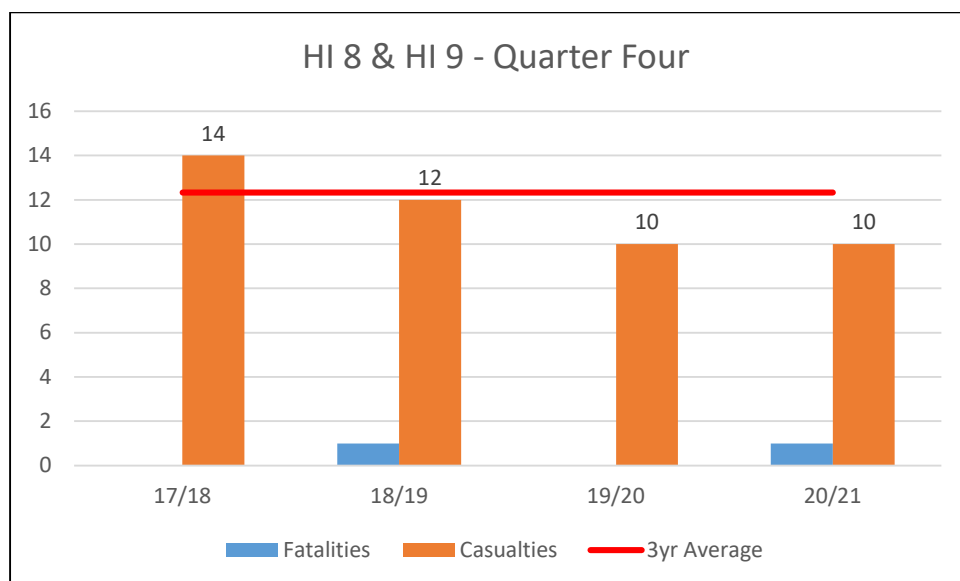


Table 6: Year to Date (January - March) Performance

|                              | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| H8: Fatal RTC Casualties     | 4     | 7     | 1     | 1     | 4             |
| H9: Non-Fatal RTC Casualties | 99    | 73    | 69    | 26    | 70            |



### 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 83** 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 70** 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 13 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 equal to the same quarter last year and a reduction on the three year average of 17. Of the 13 incidents attended six required more technical extrication to release casualties. We are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 7 annual target.

Of all the RTC Incidents we attended during quarter four there was unfortunately one recorded fatality, therefore we are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 8 annual target.

Of the 13 RTC Incidents we attended during quarter four there were 10 non-fatal casualties which reflects a decrease on the same quarter last year (17), a decrease in the three-year average (17). YTD, we are reporting 26 non-fatal casualties which is the lowest for the last five years. The three-year YTD average is 80, therefore we are showing **Green** for achieving the HI 9 annual target.

This type of incident accounts for around 3% of all incidents and 16% 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

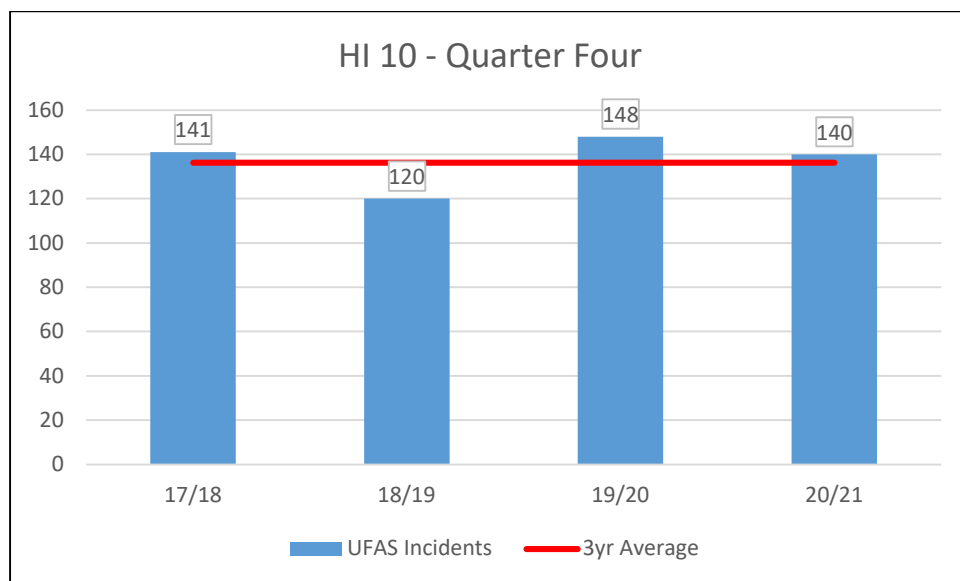
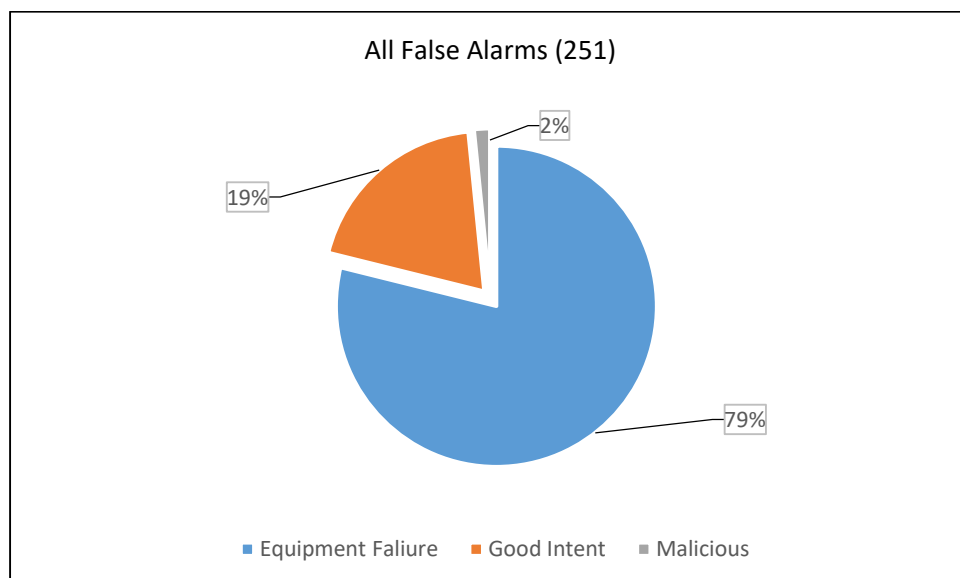


Table 7: Year to Date (October - December) Performance

|                       | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 10: UFAS Incidents | 599   | 606   | 587   | 593   | 528           |

### All False Alarms for Year to Date



### 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 528** 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 four 2020/21, SFRS were called out to 140 UFAS incidents from a total of 251 False Alarms. This is a slight decrease in comparison to the same quarter in 2019/20 when there were 148 UFAS and an increase on the 3-year average of 136. In total, UFAS accounted for 31% of our total operational demand and were the cause of 56% of all false alarms in Perth & Kinross during quarter four.

The table below lists the 5 property types that had persistent call-outs due to UFAS during quarter four. 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                         | 20-21 Q4 |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Home, Nursing/Care, school, sheltered Offices | 63       |
| Education – Secondary                         | 44       |
| Education – Primary                           | 40       |
| Hotels/other accommodation                    | 31       |
| Hospitals                                     | 30       |

During quarter four 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.

Due to the continued increase in these alarm actuations, the SFRS last year launched a national project to analyse the type of false alarms was attend and our response to these incidents. We are looking overall at our response options with which will continue with a full stakeholder consultation mid summer.

Based on the annual UFAS Target we have set we are currently showing **Red** against the HI 10 annual target.

## PRIORITY 5 – REDUCING DELIBERATE FIRES

### HI 11 – Deliberate Primary Fires

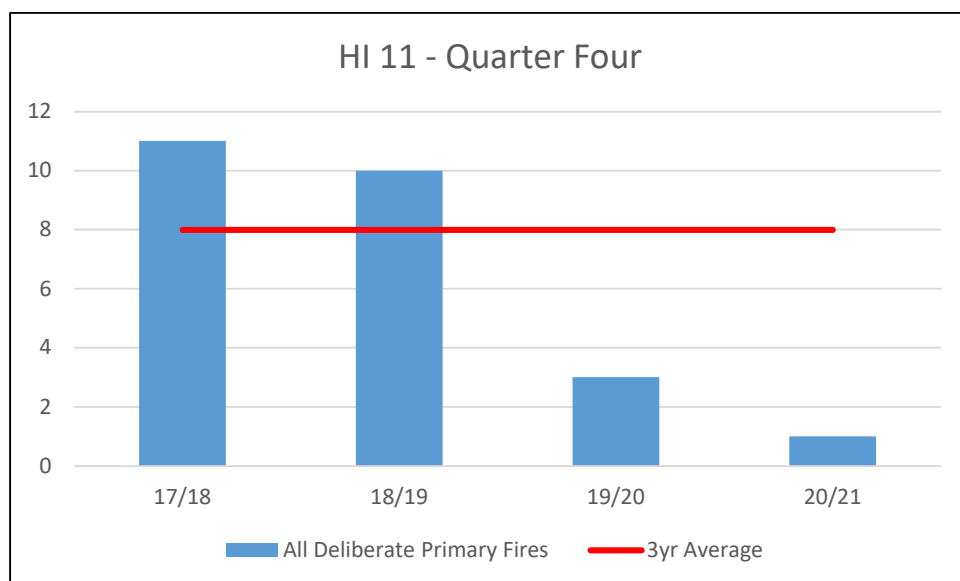


Table 8: Year to Date (January- March) Performance

|                                 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 11: Deliberate Primary Fires | 28    | 31    | 29    | 25    | 29            |

### HI 12 – Deliberate Secondary Fires

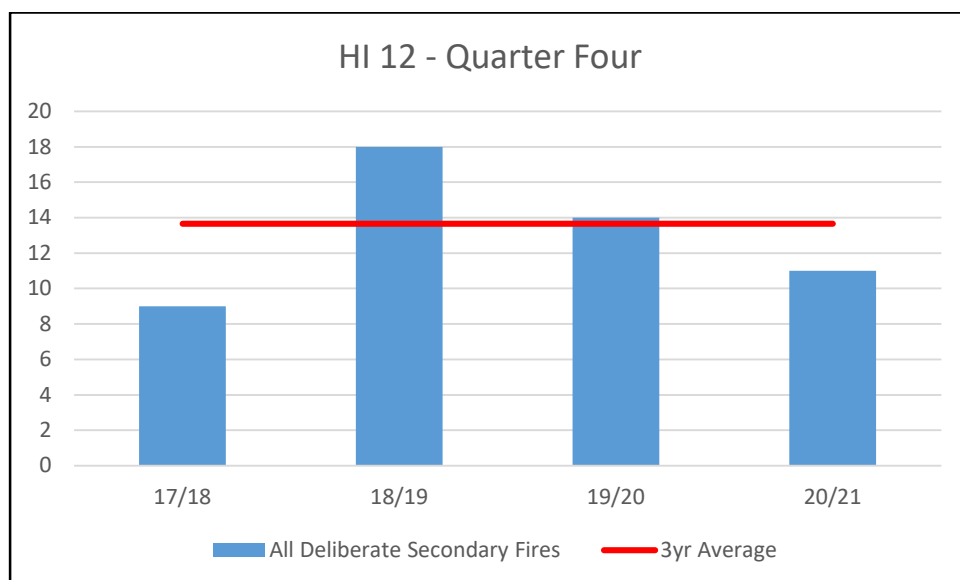


Table 9: Year to Date (January - December) Performance

|                                   | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 | 20/21 | Annual Target |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| HI 12: Deliberate Secondary Fires | 90    | 108   | 86    | 64    | 74            |

### 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 74** 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 was one deliberate primary fire reported during quarter four, which is below average of eight and the lowest number throughout this year per quarter. In general, we are reporting a similar number of fires as the incidents remain low within Perth and Kinross in the long term. The incident reported was a car fire within a carport attached to a domestic property. The YTD numbers are below the average and therefore showing **Green** against HI 11 annual target.

There were 11 deliberate secondary fires reported during quarter four which is lower in comparison to the same quarter last year (14). This also reflects a slight decrease on the three-year average for this quarter which is also 14 incidents. These incident numbers reflect a decrease on last quarter (3) with 14 incidents. Most of these incidents were in Perth City area however, on a whole within Perth and Kinross these numbers are low. Given the target we have set for this reporting year we are showing **Green** 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 albeit the current COVID pandemic has limited these activities. 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 through remote learning and education to reduce this type of unacceptable, anti-social behaviour. This along with national campaigns within the winter season, this has helped to reduce this risk locally. There is a 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 four we delivered our quarterly training commitment to operational firefighter's, whereby we trained and tested their preparedness to deal with:

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fires in Domestic Premises | Rural/Wildfires            |
| Safe Working at Heights    | Hazardous Materials        |
| Incident Command           | Compartment Fire Behaviour |

With COVID19 much of our face to face training has been moved to remote and socially distanced. This has also limited our off-station training opportunities and joint exercises with partner agencies.

Firefighters have continued to carry out Operational Intelligence visits to familiarise themselves with any inherent risks and hazards within their area and record details of specific premises of interest. This work greatly enhances our pre planning and preparedness when, and if we have to deal with incidents at these sites. All this information is continually updated on our electronic information tablets carried on frontline appliances thus giving our staff information at point of need.

Throughout the pandemic we have managed to maintain a full frontline emergency response with areas across Perth and Kinross showing healthy availability of our RDS staff. This is possibly due to more of them having the ability to working from home. We continually review our retained and volunteer station establishments and undertake recruitment programmes where and when necessary



## APPENDIX 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES

This section provides details of Community Safety Engagement initiatives undertaken within Perth & Kinross during the fourth quarter of 2020-21. The Safer Communities Partnership work together to continually provide various community safety messages, education, training and support. This implements risk reduction strategies to support our communities, particularly those most vulnerable. Working collaboratively also supports the priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan and the wider Perth & Kinross Council Community Planning Partnerships priorities. Some examples this quarter are:

### Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2030

Together, making Scotland's roads safer



P&K Road Safety Partnership has been revived. Chaired by SFRS Highland Perthshire Station Commander Alan Robertson. The new Road Safety Framework 2030 now live. The group continue to work through their agreed plan and also meet local needs.



Launching the Spring Thematic Action Plan within P&K we were preplanning and creating awareness with regard to Wildfires. Nationally we engage with land and estate owners highlighting the dangers of muirburn and fires in general at this time of year. In addition to this Community Wardens continue to highlight areas of concern with regards to secondary fires in and around P&K.



Promoting the launch of the National Media "Make the Call" campaign. Aired on Television and Radio to highlight those most at risk in the community. This valuable information is also being displayed within a prominent area within the Vaccination centre in Perth (Dewars centre)

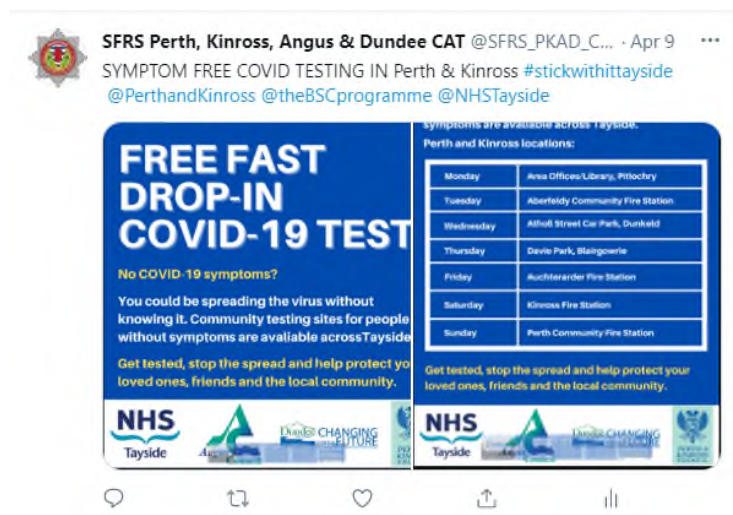


P&K Community Action Team continue to support National Partnership information and Safety messaging.

Awareness raised regarding ice and frozen waterways during these extreme winter conditions. Shared with PKC, Safer communities and social media followers.



P&K Community Action Team fully recognise the excellent and valuable work our local partners undertake within the area. We will share their information within our communication channels to enhance the safety of our local communities.



Pre- planning was undertaken with our NHS and P&K council colleagues to enhance the COVID testing throughout P&K. Plans were created for the introduction of walk in testing facilities at:

- Perth Fire Station
- Kinross Fire Station
- Aberfeldy Fire Station
- Auchterarder fire Station.

A programme is being developed to run these facilities on different days throughout the week. We were delighted to be asked to support this essential and worthwhile programme.



## APPENDIX 2: NOTABLE INCIDENTS / EVENTS

SFRS attended 446 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:

### Road Traffic Collision



30/01/21, Fire crews from Perth were mobilised with their Heavy Rescue Unit to and RTC involving two HGVs. A gritting truck and a Warburtons bread lorry. The incident occurred at 07.30 on the A91, both drivers were successfully extricated from their vehicles using access platforms and hydraulic cutting and spreading equipment. Police Scotland closed the road enabling all three emergency services to work safely in collaboration.

### Bramble Bank Mill – Rattray, Blairgowrie



05/02/21 Fire crews from Blairgowrie, Alyth and Coupar Angus were mobilised to multiple reports of a fire within a derelict mill at around 21.30 hrs. First crews on scene were faced with an intense fire which they fought till the early hours of the next day. Initial reports suspect this fire was started deliberately. Police Scotland currently investigating.



**OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS****PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL****Housing and Communities Committee****PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL POLICING AREA  
QUARTERLY POLICE REPORT****1 January 2021 – 31 March 2021****Report by Chief Superintendent Andrew Todd  
Police Scotland D Division (Tayside)  
(Report No. 21/66)****1. RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 It is recommended that members note and scrutinise the statistical information contained in this report in conjunction with Appendix A.

**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 Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

**4. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

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

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

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

**6. SUMMARY**

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

**7. COMPLIANCE**

7.1 Is the proposal;

(a) Human Rights Act 1998 compliant? YES

(b) Equality & Diversity compliant? YES



Perth and Kinross Council  
Housing and Communities Committee



Quarter 4 ending 31st March 2021  
Chief Superintendent Todd

**OFFICIAL**



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Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Acquisitive Crime

Road Safety and Road Crime

Public Protection

Serious Organised Crime

Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

Wildlife Crime

Other Key Activity

Complaints about the Police

Appendix

## Introduction and Overview of Local Policing Priorities

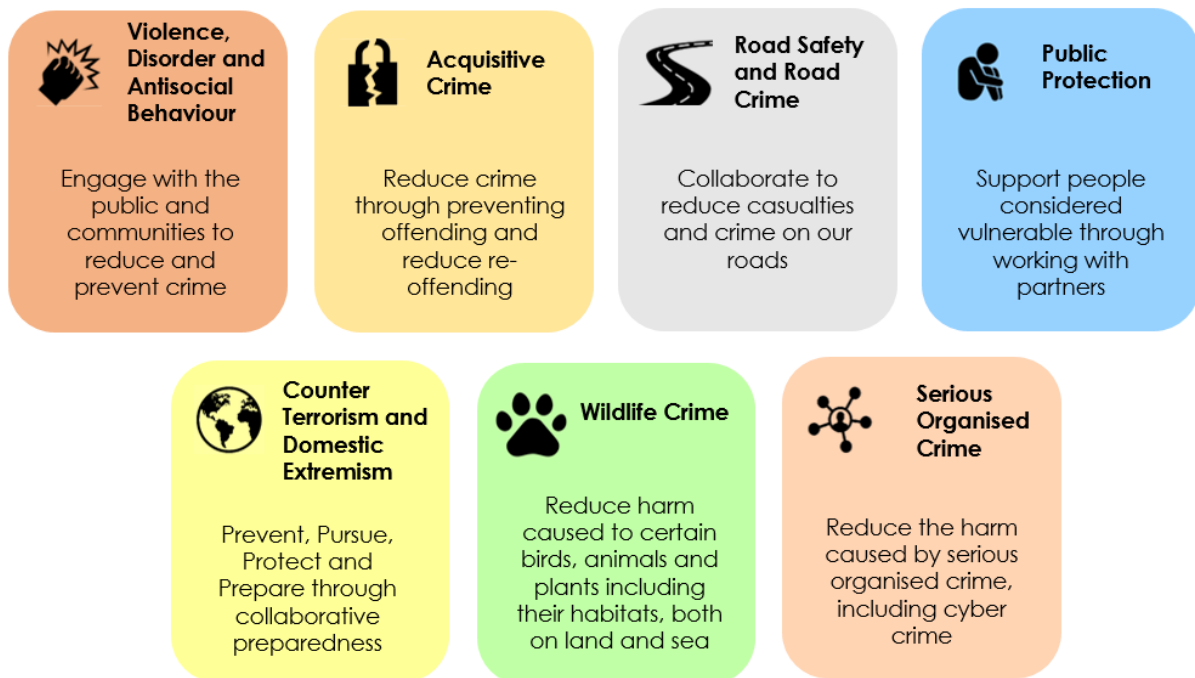
As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Divisional Commanders to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The LPP clearly sets out the policing objectives for Perth & Kinross Council and will report to the Housing and Communities 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 January 2021 to 31 March 2021, however will focus on Year to Date (YTD) data from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

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.

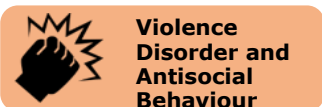




# Plan on a Page – Perth & Kinross Local Policing Plan 2020-2023

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

## Local Priorities



## Objectives

Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime



## Outcomes

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



Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending



The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery



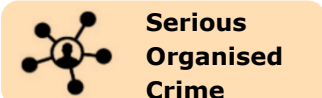
Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads



Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners



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



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



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



Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness



Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges



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






















**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

## Summary Report Perth & Kinross LPA

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

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                                                                                                                          | 67     | 92       | 19/20                                                                                                                         | 24     | 79       | 19/20                                                                                                                           | 915    | 69       |
| 20/21                                                                                                                          | 77     | 84       | 20/21                                                                                                                         | 34     | 85       | 20/21                                                                                                                           | 900    | 69       |
| % +/-                                                                                                                          | ↑15%   | ↓8%      | % +/-                                                                                                                         | ↑42%   | ↑6%      | % +/-                                                                                                                           | ↓2%    | 0%       |
|  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                                                                                                                          | 113    | 100      | 19/20                                                                                                                         | 100    | 16       | 19/20                                                                                                                           | 243    | 31       |
| 20/21                                                                                                                          | 134    | 99       | 20/21                                                                                                                         | 67     | 18       | 20/21                                                                                                                           | 273    | 40       |
| % +/-                                                                                                                          | ↑19%   | ↓1%      | % +/-                                                                                                                         | ↓33%   | ↑2%      | % +/-                                                                                                                           | ↑12%   | ↑9%      |
|  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                                                                                                                          | 125    | 38       | 19/20                                                                                                                         | 3785   | 100      | 19/20                                                                                                                           | 193    | 93       |
| 20/21                                                                                                                          | 345    | 17       | 20/21                                                                                                                         | 2087   | 100      | 20/21                                                                                                                           | 239    | 86       |
| % +/-                                                                                                                          | ↑176%  | ↓22%     | % +/-                                                                                                                         | ↓45%   | 0%       | % +/-                                                                                                                           | ↑23%   | ↓7%      |
|  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                                                                                                                          | 7      | N/A      | 19/20                                                                                                                         | 90     | N/A      | 19/20                                                                                                                           | 72     | 65       |
| 20/21                                                                                                                          | 1      | N/A      | 20/21                                                                                                                         | 60     | N/A      | 20/21                                                                                                                           | 64     | 48       |
| % +/-                                                                                                                          | /      | /        | % +/-                                                                                                                         | ↓33 %  | 0%       | % +/-                                                                                                                           | ↓11%   | ↓17%     |
|  Public Protection                          |        |          |  Serious Organised Crime                   |        |          |  Serious Organised Crime                   |        |          |
| Indecent/ Sexual Assault                                                                                                       |        |          | Drug Supply                                                                                                                   |        |          | Drug Possession                                                                                                                 |        |          |
|                                                                                                                                | Crimes | Detect % |                                                                                                                               | Crimes | Detect % |                                                                                                                                 | Crimes | Detect % |
| 19/20                                                                                                                          | 123    | 60       | 19/20                                                                                                                         | 101    | 86       | 19/20                                                                                                                           | 583    | 88       |
| 20/21                                                                                                                          | 115    | 50       | 20/21                                                                                                                         | 120    | 68       | 20/21                                                                                                                           | 473    | 98       |
| % +/-                                                                                                                          | ↓6%    | ↓11%     | % +/-                                                                                                                         | ↑19%   | ↓19%     | % +/-                                                                                                                           | ↓19%   | ↑9%      |

**OFFICIAL**



## 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

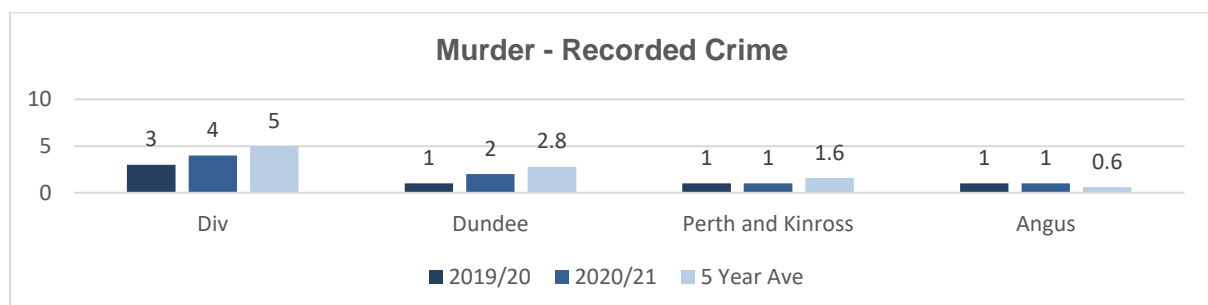
This quarter has seen patterns of recorded violence similar to those seen in quarter 3. Serious assaults have risen by 10 crimes at year end whilst overall assaults are almost identical to 2019/20, balanced by a slight reduction in common assault. Robberies have risen by 10 crimes however 6 of these were attributable to one perpetrator during one weekend in quarter 3.

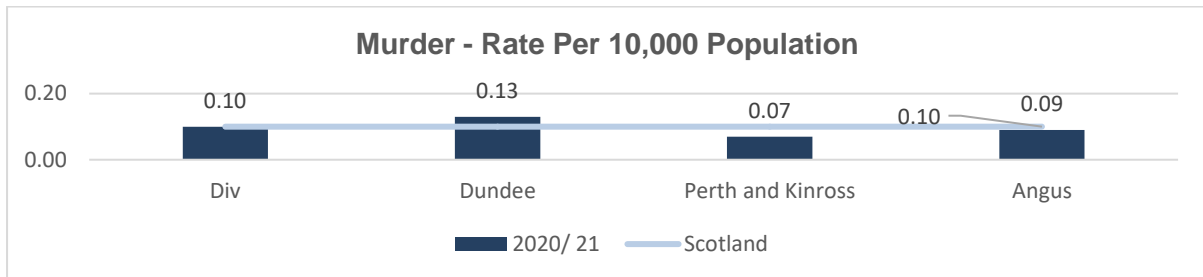
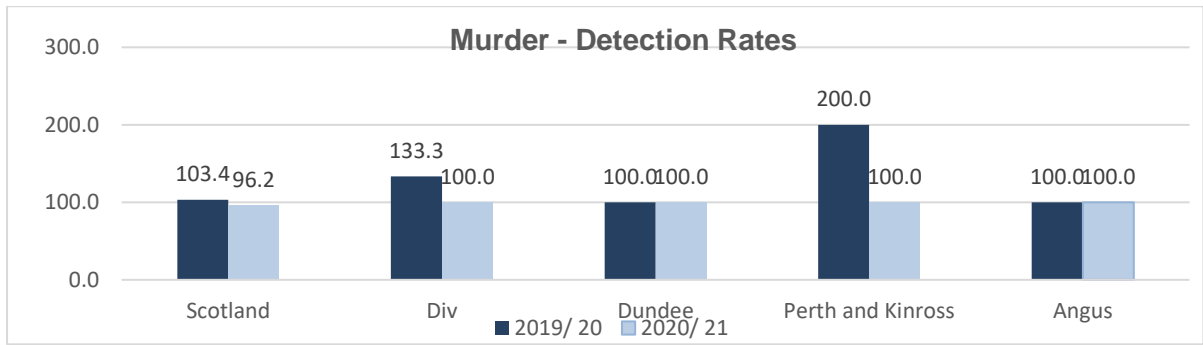
The most common hotspot for violence is HMP Perth where 15% of the recorded serious assaults took place. COVID-19 restrictions have limited our ability to engage fully with the management at HMP Perth however as restrictions relax we aim to identify opportunities for prevention and interventions and have changed our engagement model to allow closer liaison with HMP Perth and Castle Huntly.

Following the activity in quarter 3, Operation Stung continues. The Operation is designed to reduce violence and anti-social behaviour linked to young people in public spaces. Whilst the first phase of the operation, to target repeat offenders, was successful we have seen a slight increase in large groups congregating towards the end of quarter 4. The focus towards the end of quarter 4 and going forward has been maximising the resources available to the established multi-agency group to divert young people away from anti-social behaviour and to re-engage with schools and other youth groups to improve relationships with the Police.

### Measure – Murder

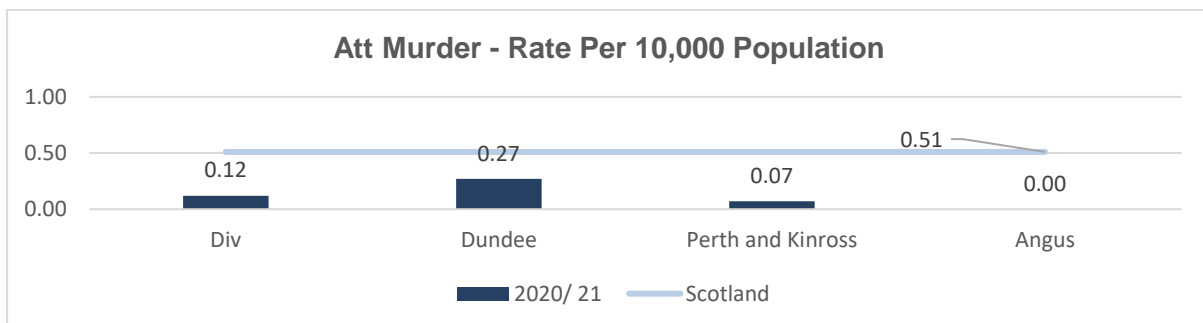
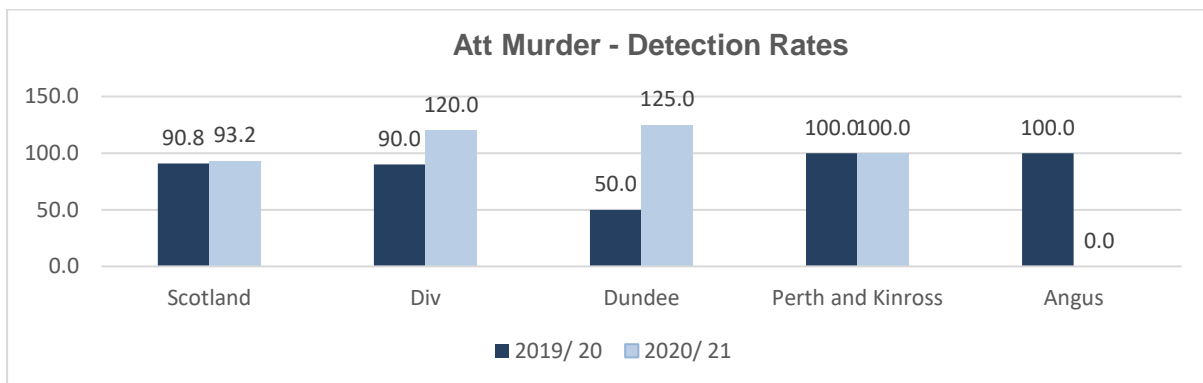
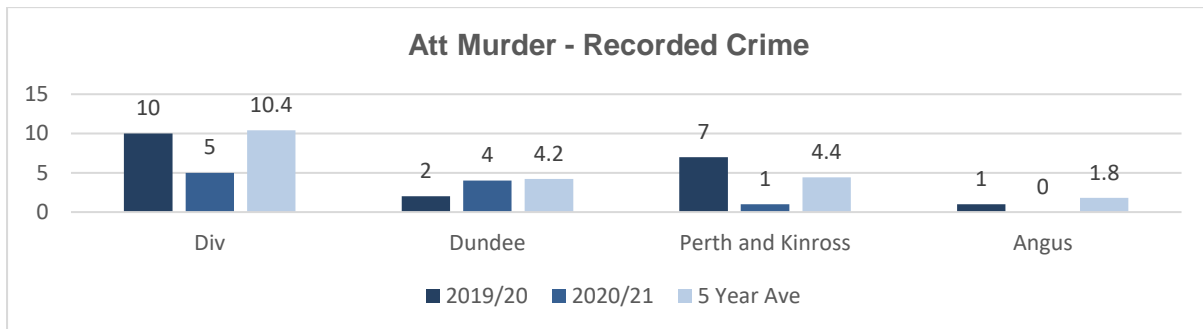
During this period there has been one recorded murder. On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021 a 44 year old female was found dead within a house in Inchtute. The enquiry was conducted by our Major Investigation Team and a 46 year old male was subsequently arrested. Criminal justice proceedings are ongoing.





### Measure – Attempted Murder

There have been no attempted murders recorded during this reporting period.



## Measure – Serious Assault

### Activity

There have been 17 serious assaults recorded within this reporting period. This level of recorded crime is identical to quarter 3 and whilst there has been an increase of 10 assaults since 2019/20, overall assaults have remained level and classification of the crime type depends solely on the impact of injuries.

Detection rates are slightly down on last year however this represents 3 crimes. Of these, in one instance the perpetrator has been identified however there is insufficient evidence to charge and in two cases the enquiries are longer term child abuse investigations.

Similar to quarter 3, around 60% of the crimes were committed in Perth City with the others committed elsewhere in the region.

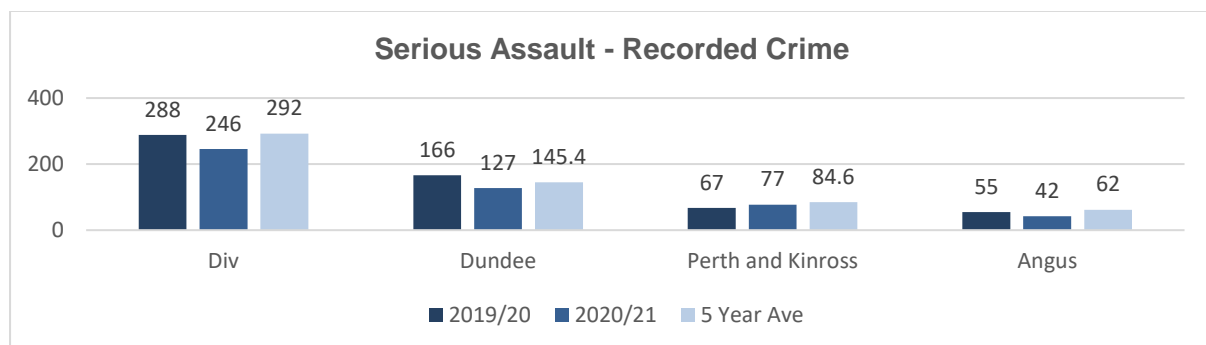
All but 3 of the crimes occurred in private and in every case the perpetrator was known to the victim. Alcohol was a common feature in the crimes committed and 3 of the recorded crimes refer to physical abuse of children, one of which was committed in the 1970s.

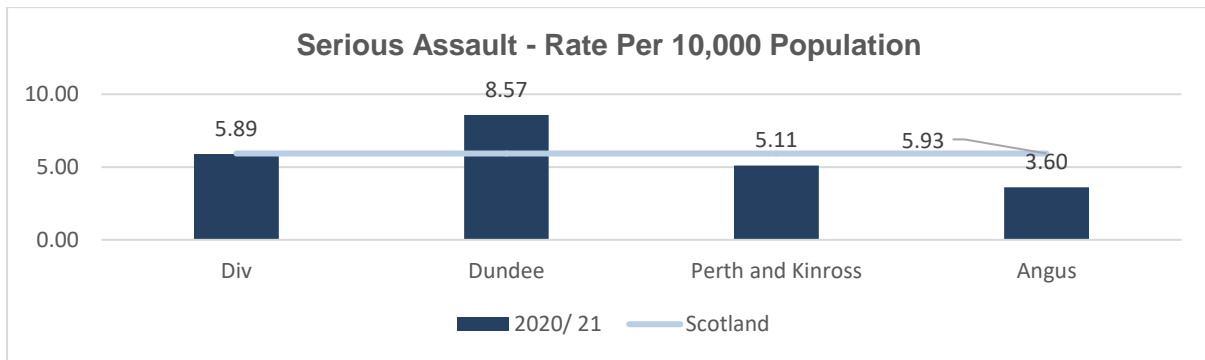
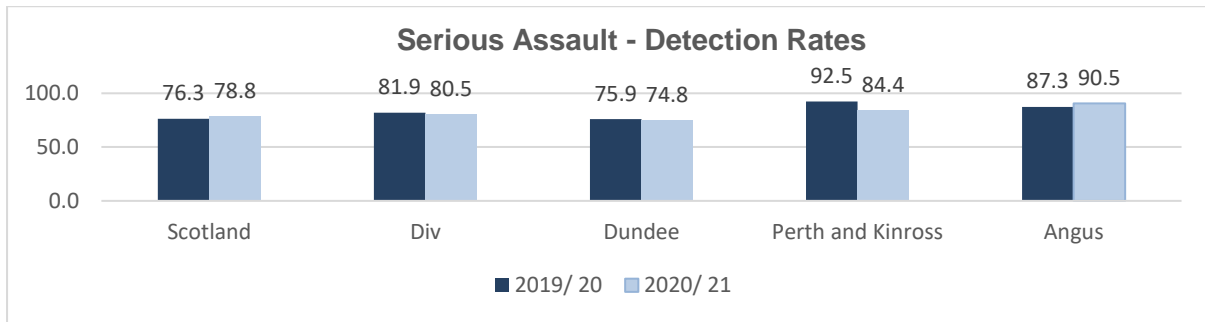
Six of the recorded serious assaults in this period were committed by prisoners within HMP Perth and HMP Castle Huntly against other prisoners.

### Results

In January community officers in Perth visited an address in relation to concerns about drug dealing. On arrival they found a 22 year old male with serious injuries and a criminal investigation was commenced. Following a joint investigation with Fife officers 2 males from northern England were arrested and interventions were made to safeguard a local male whose address had been taken over by the perpetrators.

In March a 22 year old female was charged with serious assault committed during a house party in Perth where the female victim had fled the scene by jumping from a first floor window.





#### Measure – Common Assault

As reported in quarter 3, the position for common assault remains very similar to the same period in 2019/20, with 6 crimes less being reported this period compared to last year.

Detection rates remain higher than the equivalent period in 2019/20 and rates of recorded crime per head of population remain lower than national rates and those around Tayside.

Around 23% of the recorded assaults within this reporting period occurred prior to the reporting period, continuing the evidence that investigative responses remain available to victims of Domestic Abuse and Child Abuse who were unable to report at the time.

Perth City remains the hot spot for assault with 53% of crimes occurring there and alcohol and drugs continue to be a common factor.

Around 33% of crimes took place within a domestic relationship and in the majority of all cases the perpetrator is known to the victim.

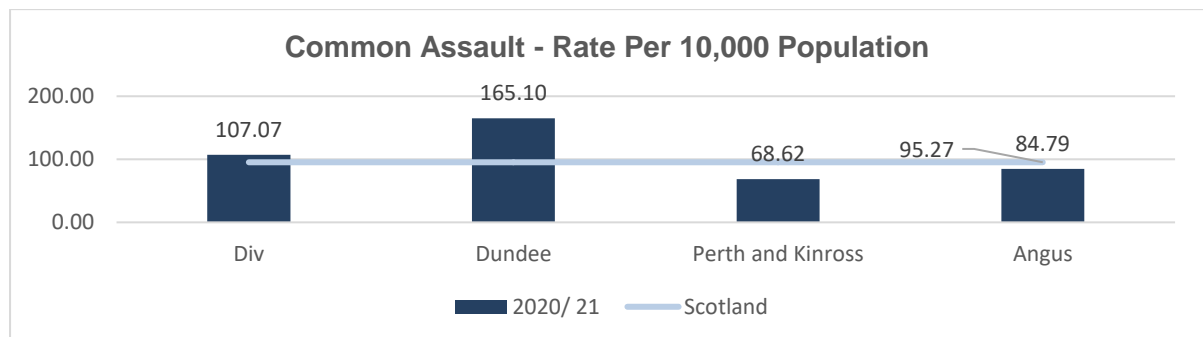
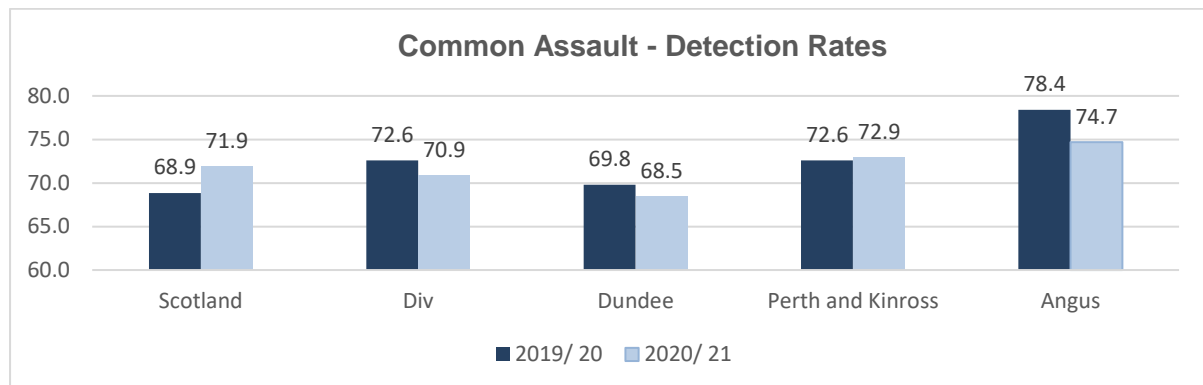
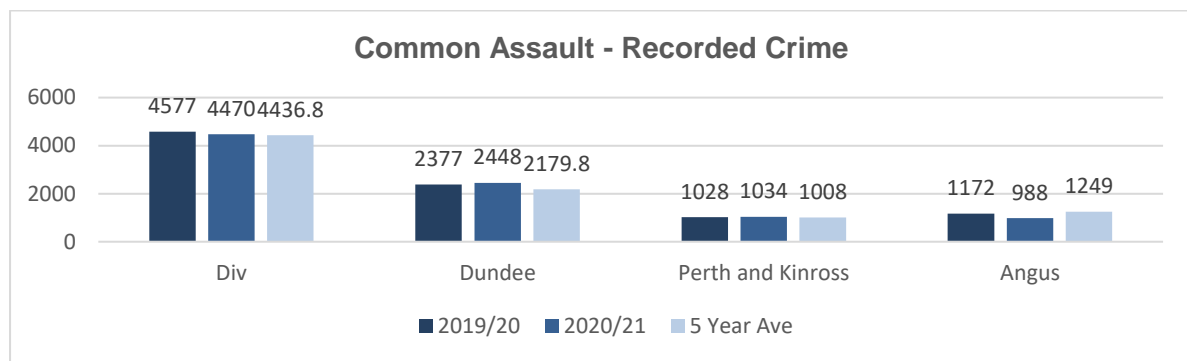
More crime continues to occur within a private space (59%) compared to public spaces (41%).

Assaults on emergency workers are included in the table below, these have risen 19% since 2019/20 including 10 assaults committed by 3 perpetrators against officers on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February. Many assaults against officers occur whilst they are assisting people in crisis, particularly mental health crisis and one of the assaults was committed whilst officers were dispersing supporters gathering to celebrate St Johnstone's cup final success in February.

## Results

In February local officers responded to reports of a disturbance at a house in Perth. A 34 year old male was subsequently arrested for being in possession of a weapon and during the incident 4 Police Officers were assaulted trying to restrain the male.

In February following their triumph in a cup final a number of supporters congregated at McDiarmid Park in contravention of COVID-19 legislation and the wishes and requests of the club. Local officers attended to support stewards and unfortunately the behaviours of a small number of supporters escalated leading to a Police officer and a steward suffering injuries. The crowd was quickly dispersed and an investigation launched. A number of people have subsequently been charged with public order offences and we are working with the club to review the events.



## Measure – Robbery

### Activity

There have been 5 recorded robberies during this reporting period, the same number recorded during the corresponding period in 2019/20. Whilst the year end figure is 10 crimes above 2019/20 crime levels remain low and are affected by a spike in quarter 3 where 6 crimes were attributable to the same perpetrator.

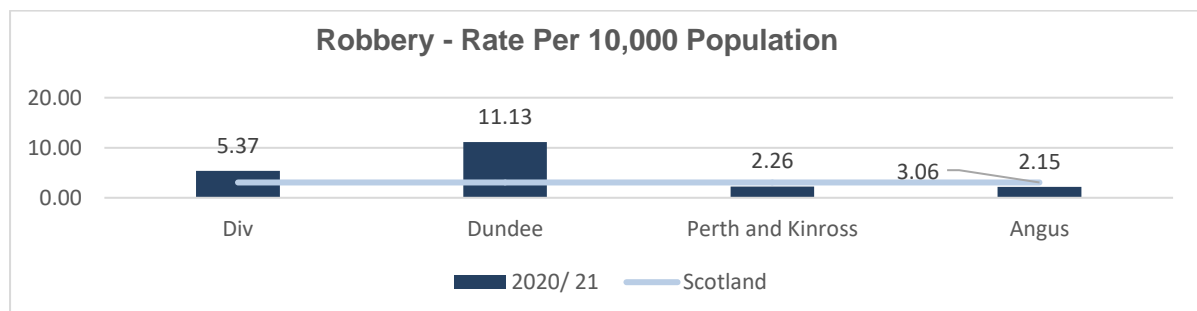
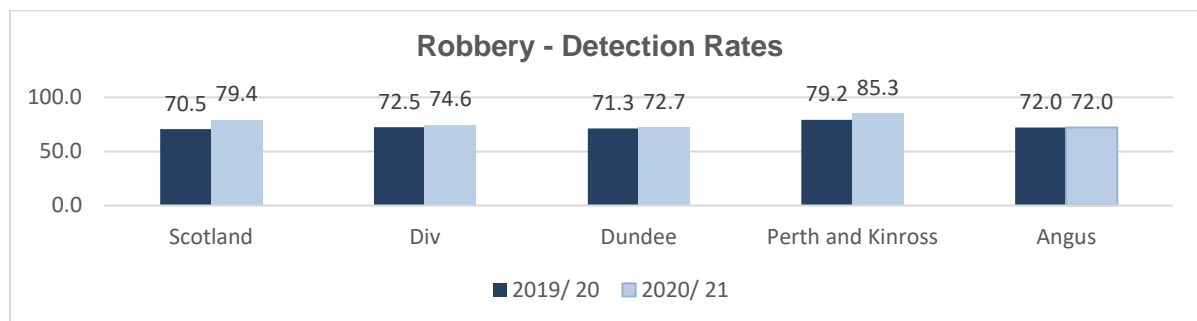
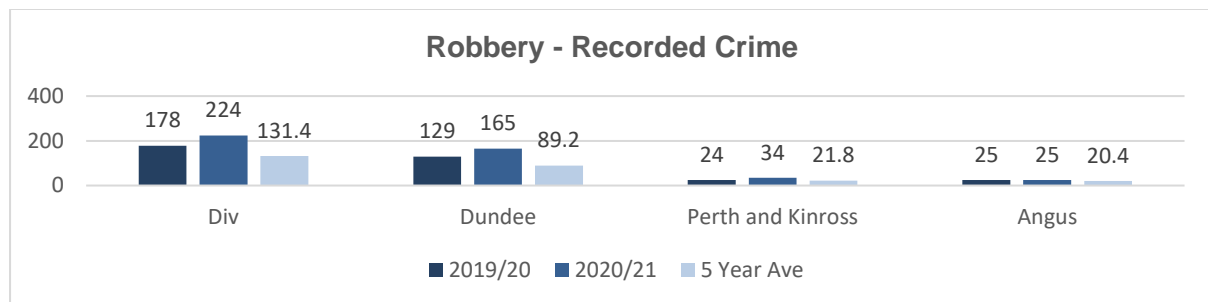
Of the 5 recorded crimes, two occurred before the recording period and were added at the conclusion of ongoing enquiries. Of the remaining 3, one was the theft of cash using force within a domestic setting and one was an attempted theft of a phone from a group of young people by a male who thought he was being recorded by the group.

The remaining crime was the attempted theft of cash from a retail premises by a male in possession of a weapon. This was the only crime where a weapon was used.

All the crimes in this reporting period were detected.

### Results

In February a 35 year old man was arrested after entering a retail premises in Perth, threatening the staff and attempting to remove a quantity of cash from a cash register.



## Measure – Vandalism

### Activity

During this period 158 vandalisms were recorded. This represents a 31% reduction in recorded crime in comparison to quarter 4, 2019/20 and a reduction in crime from quarter 3. Detection rates remain slightly down on 2019/20 however occurrence rates per head of population remain low.

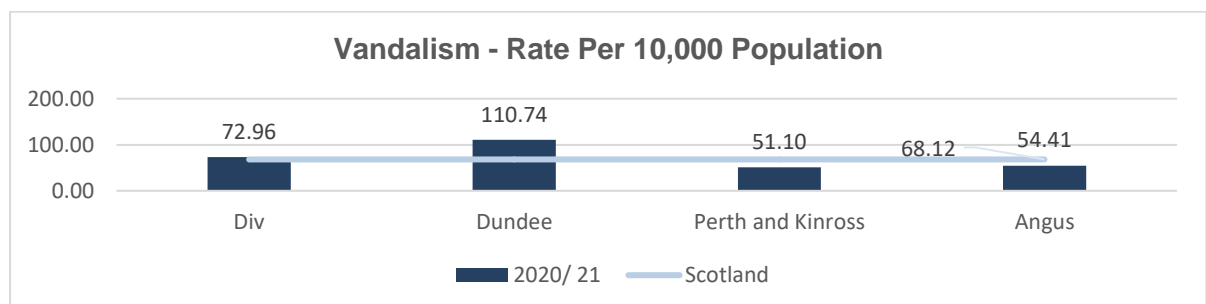
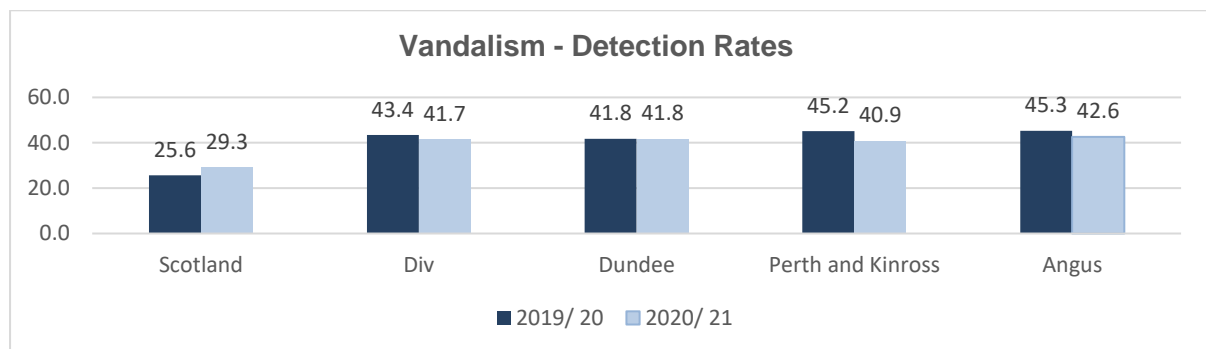
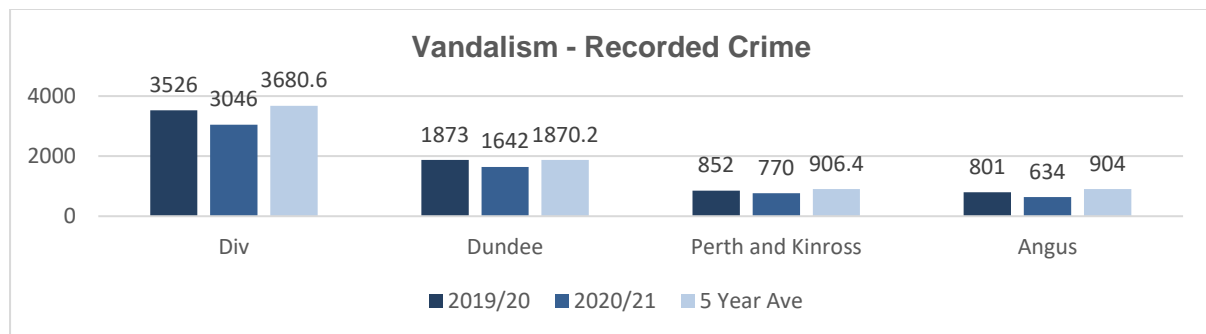
The geographical split is not dissimilar to quarter 3, with around 37% of crimes being committed in Perth and the remainder split between North and South Perthshire.

Continuing the trend seen in previous quarters, damage to vehicles whilst parked remains the most common crime, in around 48% of cases.

This quarter saw a 66% reduction in vandalisms to schools and a reduction in crimes linked to young people congregating in public places. Only a small number of crimes involved graffiti.

### Results

In February a bird hide at Loch Leven nature reserve was completely destroyed by fire. A criminal investigation was subsequently launched and two males aged 14 and 16 were charged with the offence.





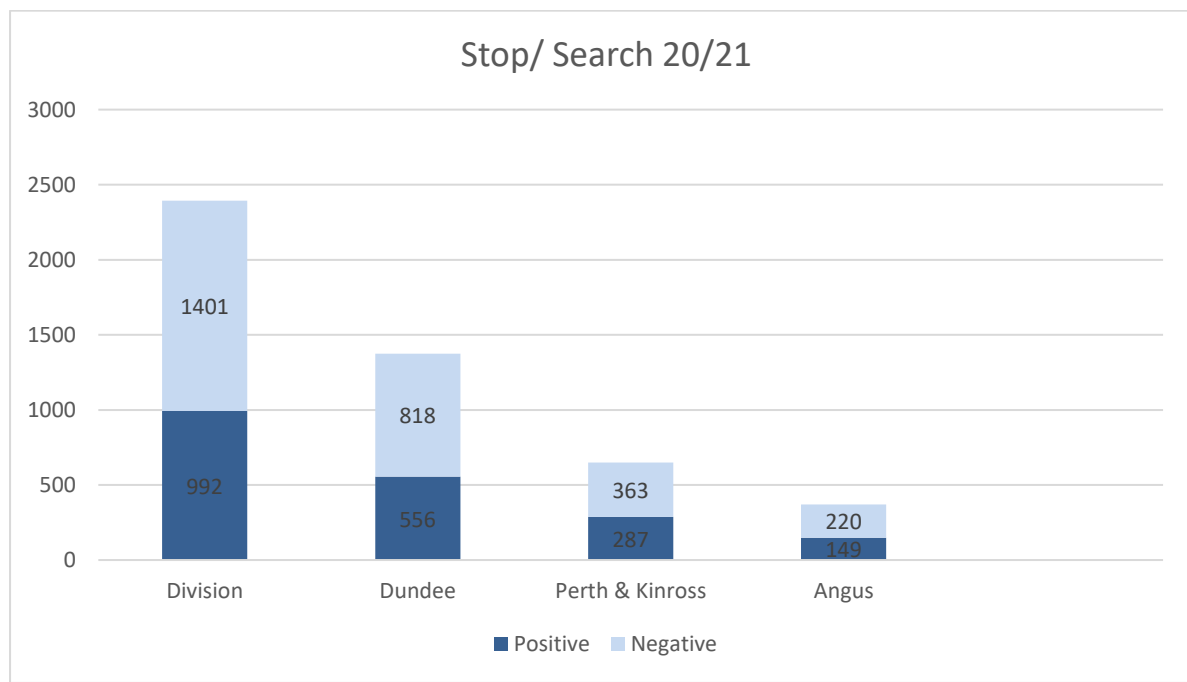
### Measure – Stop Search

Stop and Search is 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 is carried out in a manner that is lawful, proportionate and accountable.

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 650 stop searches were conducted with items including weapons and drugs recovered on 287 occasions, which equates to a positive rate of 44%.

Assurance reports are provided monthly which show no disproportionate searching was carried out of persons under 18, nor did any disproportionate searching take place around ethnicity.





### 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

Housebreakings to Dwellings and Commercial premises have fallen from 2019/20 whilst break-ins to non-dwellings such as sheds have increased. Given the presence of householders working from home this is assessed to have diverted acquisitive criminals towards less well protected targets.

Following the same pattern, break ins to motor vehicles have increased and when investigating series of crimes, officers have recovered property from perpetrators which has been the proceeds of break-ins to sheds, cars and theft by shoplifting. These crimes have not followed specific patterns in terms of times and hot spots.

Shoplifting has fallen compared to 2019/20, however this has been influenced by the closure of smaller retail premises. Theft of alcohol has been the stand out trend.

Fraud continues to challenge local policing with online buying habits during lockdown presenting more opportunities for perpetrators.

We have seen success this quarter in identifying and targeting criminal groups from Edinburgh and the Lothians who have been responsible for acquisitive crimes in Perth and South Perthshire.

### Measure – Domestic Housebreaking

During this period 16 housebreakings to domestic dwellings have been recorded. This represents a reduction from quarter 3 and a 20% reduction compared to quarter 4, 2019/20.

Detection rates have fallen slightly from quarter 3, however remain ahead of 2019/20 rates.

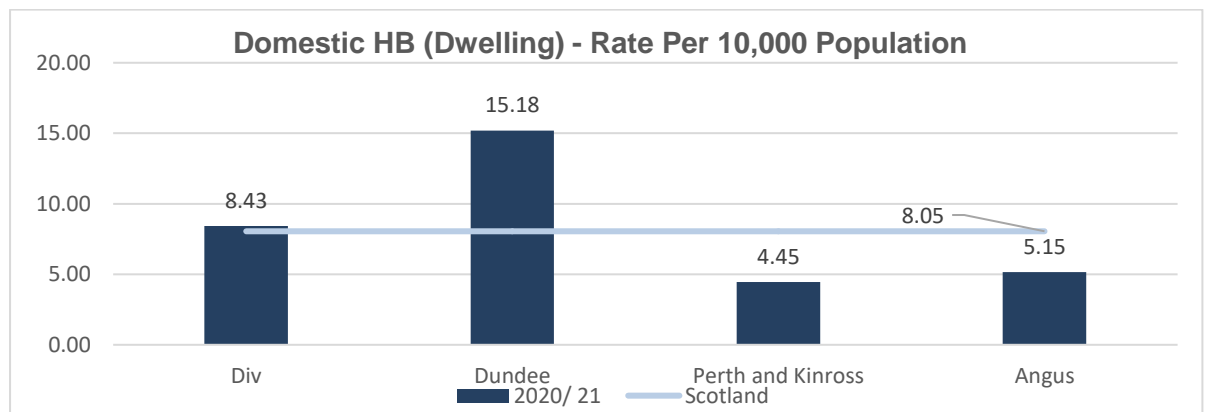
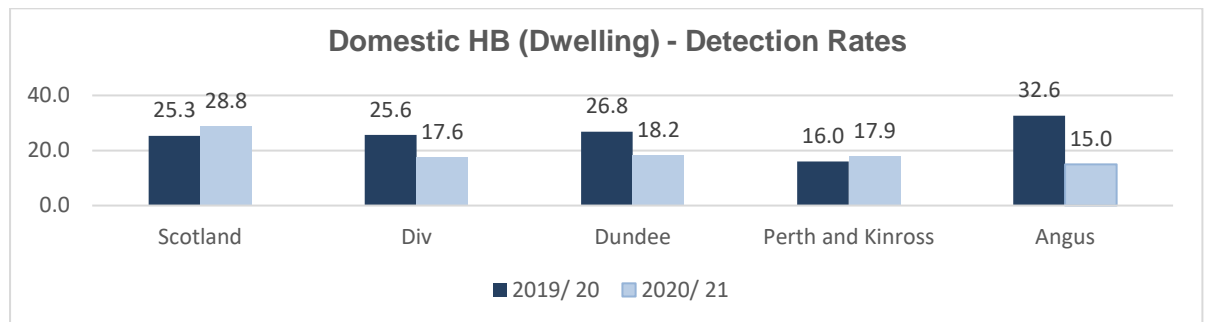
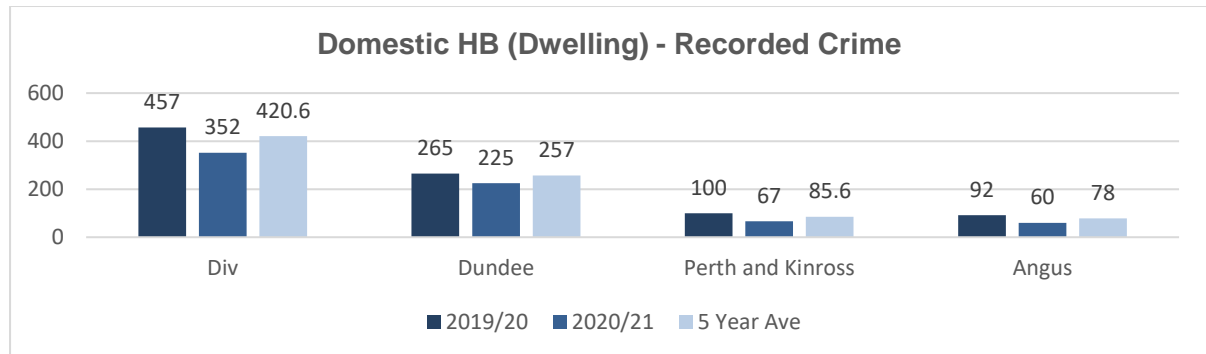
The geographical split between crimes in this quarter has changed somewhat with around 65% of crimes being committed in Perth City, the remainder being spread equally between North and South Perthshire.

As reported in quarter 3, a number of the crimes in Perth relate to thefts or attempts from empty flats or crimes committed or suspected to be committed by associates of the householder, on occasions when the householder is incarcerated. In all of these crimes, the perpetrator has removed small items of personal property.

## Results

In March 5 males from the Midlands in England were arrested for a break in and theft of cables at a commercial premises in Perth. This linked to a UK wide investigation to similar crimes and led to a number of similar crimes in Scotland being detected.

In March following an investigation led by our Community Investigation Unit, evidence was gathered which allowed four males from Edinburgh to be identified and reported for a number of thefts by Housebreaking and theft of vehicles from Crieff, Methven and Perth.



## Measure – Fraud

### Activity

Reported fraud continues to rise in Perth and Kinross as well as nationally and detection rates continue to be low, although this is also represented across Tayside and Scotland.

The trend of cyber enabled crime continues to grow with around 75% of recorded crime in this period being enabled by the internet. These frauds are committed in a number of ways, although buying habits online may have contributed to the rise in crimes reported following the false advertising of or failure to deliver advertised goods.

A large number of frauds involve the victim parting with money having contact with a perpetrator claiming to represent a legitimate company, such as banks and on one occasion purporting to be a Police Officer.

On a small number of occasions, frauds have involved the false advertising or apparent sale of dogs, reacting to the growing demand for pets during lockdown.

Of those crimes not cyber enabled, by far the most common involve the felonious use of bank cards either stolen or found.

As reported in quarter 3, bogus workmen activity does not feature regularly in this quarter and there continues to be no evidence persons are disproportionately targeted solely due to age.

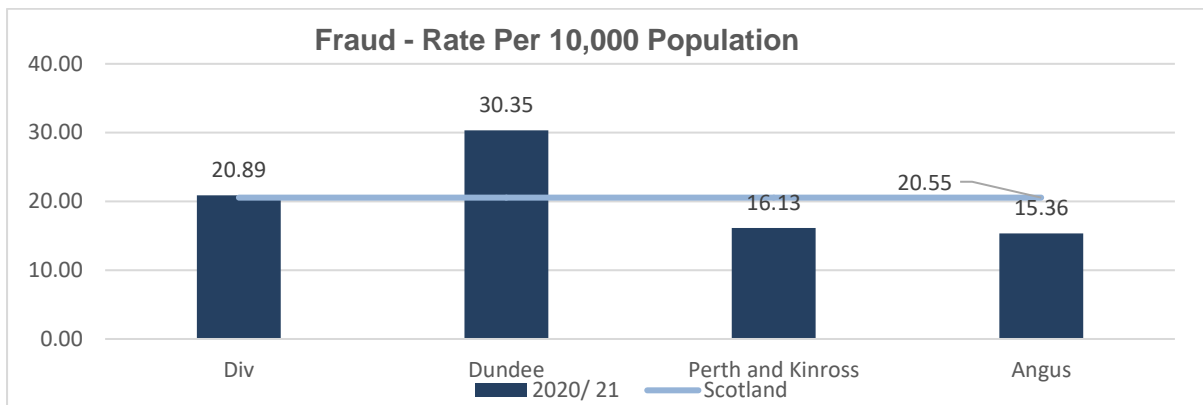
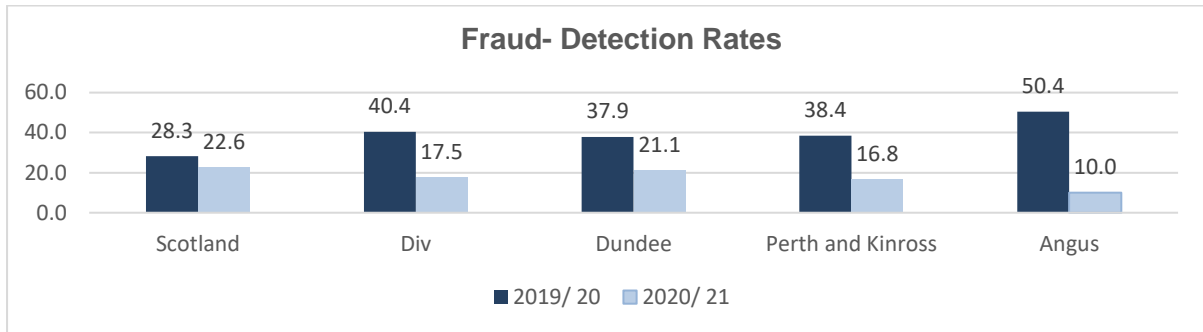
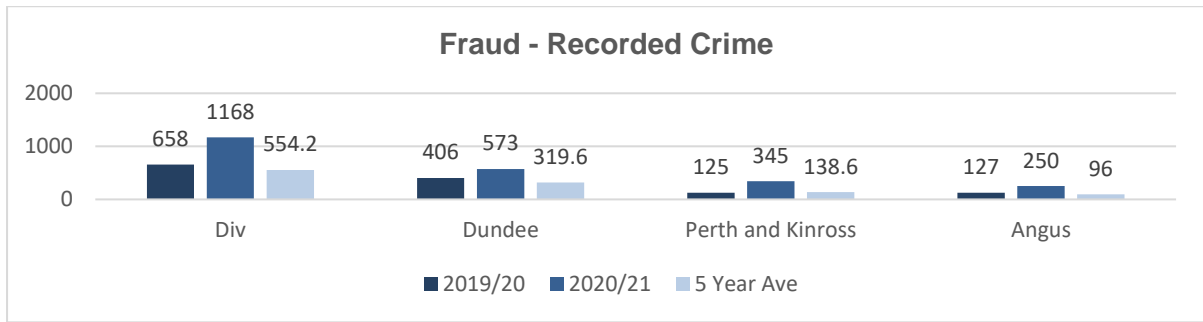
Detection rates continue to be affected by many offenders being from out with the area and out with the UK.

Given the challenges in investigating cyber based fraud the Division is continually looking at opportunities to offer greater protection for victims and potential victims. One example of this is the Banking Protocol which empowers financial institutions to alert the Police following discovery of suspicious activity at branches which may indicate fraud. Our Divisional Preventions Team monitor all incidents, including activations of the Banking Protocol to ensure support is made available to victims from a range of statutory and third sector services.

An agreement has now been reached with Neighbourhood Watch (Scotland) to use their national platform to promote fraud prevention advice. All victims of fraud/bogus callers will be encouraged to sign up to the scheme and it is intended to promote the launch of this scheme via the media to encourage participation. The scheme offers great scope for targeted crime prevention messaging.

### Results

The banking protocol continues to be utilised in Perth and Kinross and in March a bank alerted Police to an elderly male who had tried to deposit a six figure sum in cash which he was carrying in a shopping trolley. Whilst no crime had occurred the contact allowed contact to be made with Health and Social Care partners and for protection measures to be activated in order to secure the male's finances.



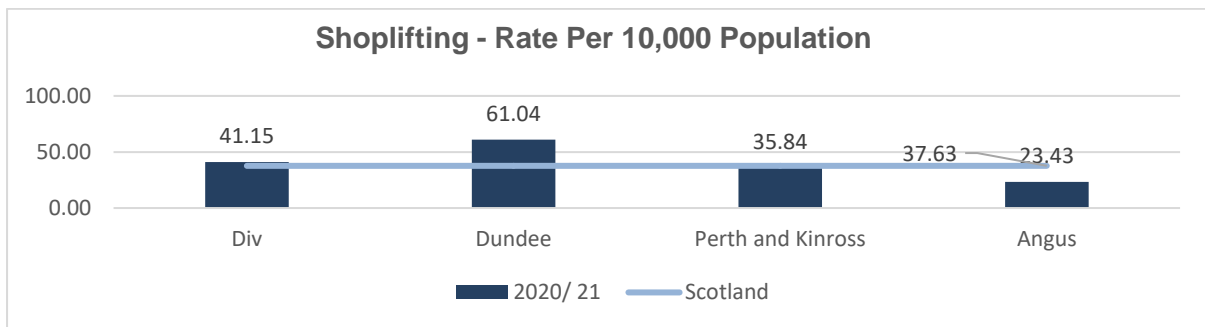
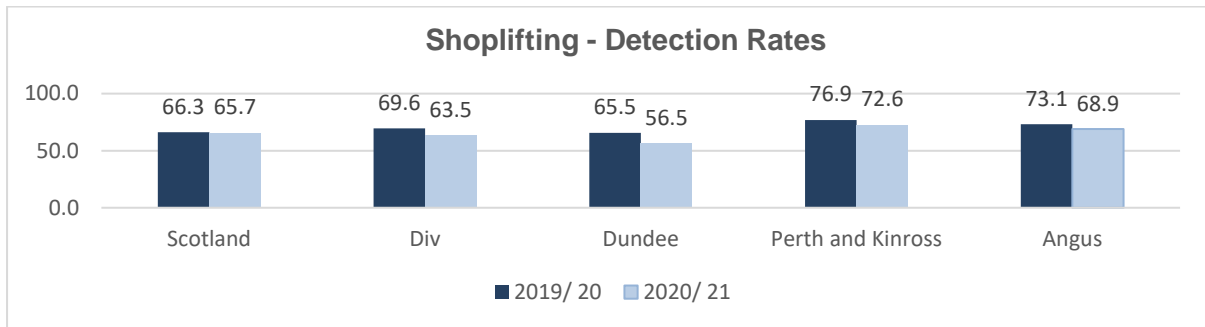
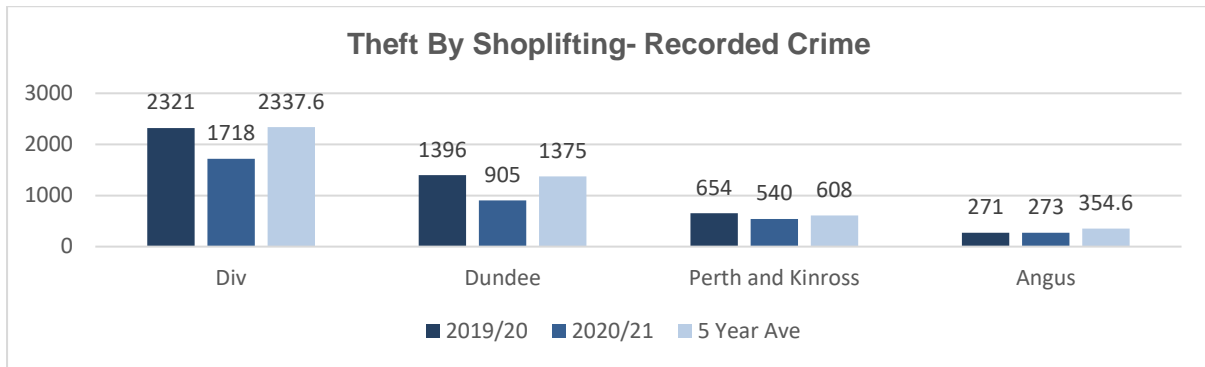
## Measure – Theft by Shoplifting

### Activity

Occurrence rates for Shoplifting have fallen in quarter 4, showing a 48% reduction in crimes from quarter 4 2019/20. The year-end figures show reduced occurrence rates from 2019/20, albeit this will have been affected by the closure of several retail premises during the second lockdown. Detection rates have fallen slightly from 2019/20 however remain above national figures and Tayside detection rates.

The majority of crime in this quarter, about 80%, has understandably been committed at the larger retail premises in Perth City and whilst the most popular items stolen in quarter 3 was toiletries, this has been replaced in quarter 4 by alcohol stolen in around 60% of the reported crime. Toiletries remain the second most popular item.

Large numbers of thefts by shoplifting are committed by a smaller number of perpetrators, both male and female, and most have a growing number of outstanding cases within the criminal justice system.



## Measure – Motor Vehicle Crime

### Activity

Occurrence rates for motor vehicle crime continue to be above equivalent rates from 2019/20 and is one of the areas of acquisitive crime which fall out with Divisional trends. Detection rates continue to rise and are 10% above equivalent detection rates from 2019/20.

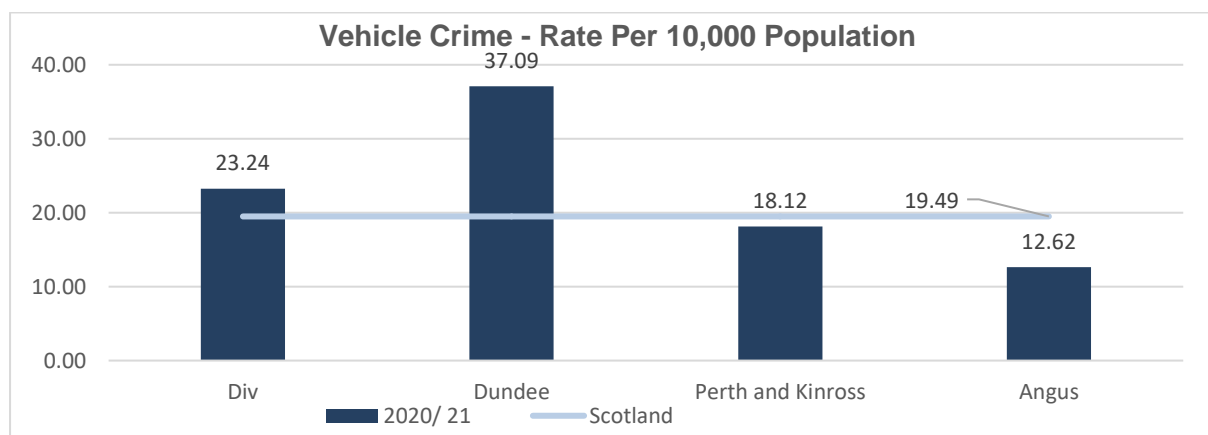
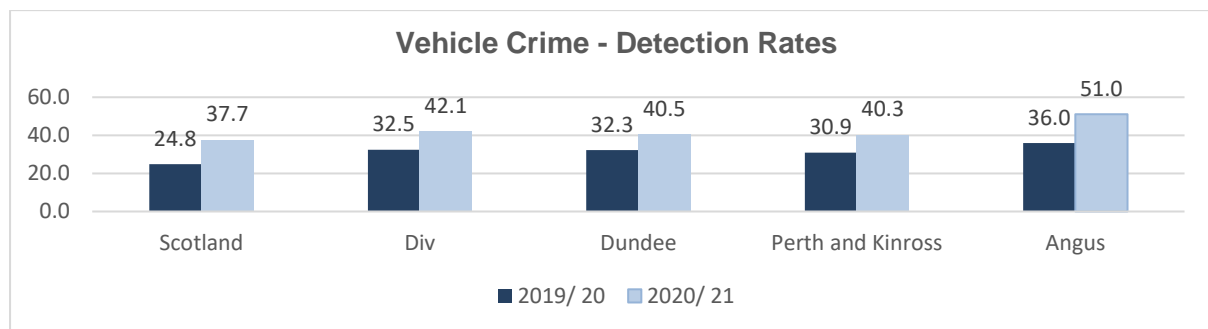
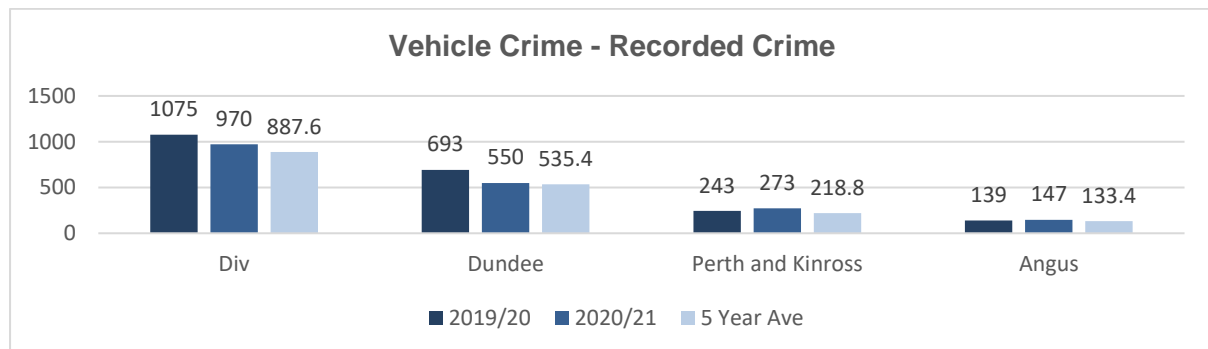
As reported in quarter 3, the reported crime continues to fall into three areas. Still the most prevalent is the theft of small items of personal property from insecure motor vehicles, such as phones and satnavs. Almost as prevalent are break-ins to secure vehicles targeting similar property to that stolen from insecure vehicles. Whilst specific items have been targeted such as number plates and catalytic converters this remains the exception.

The remainder of crimes relates to theft of vehicles. Whilst we have seen isolated thefts of items such as quad bikes from rural areas by far the most common crimes relate to the appropriation of true keys enabling the theft of vehicles without the permission of the owners. These crimes are overwhelmingly committed by persons known to the vehicle's owner and often occur in the aftermath of house parties.

## Results

In January local officers observed a vehicle being driven dangerously and upon the vehicle making off the pursuit was abandoned to avoid danger to other road users and pedestrians. After making enquiries it was established from the owner that the vehicle had been stolen using the true key by an associate. The vehicle was traced the following day being driven by the same 31 year old male who was arrested for theft of the vehicle and driving whilst unfit through alcohol.

In February a 36 year old man was arrested for the thefts of parts, including catalytic converters, from 5 cars in the Kinross area throughout January and February.





**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

### Operation CEDAR

The principles of Operation Cedar were consistently applied in quarter 4 to inform our Road Policing operations and will continue to do so moving into 2021/22.

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 and to refocus our efforts to further improve safety on Tayside's roads.

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

### Activity

Perth & Kinross saw 1 road traffic fatality during this quarter. This occurred in January where a 23 year old male front seat passenger lost his life when the vehicle he was travelling in lost control on the A93. This incident also resulted in injury to child passengers who were travelling in the vehicle.



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In addition, Roads Policing and local policing officers also responded to a significant incidents on the A90 between Perth and Dundee which resulted in serious injury.

In quarter 4, 15 people were seriously injured in road traffic collisions. This is a slight rise of 3 from quarter 4, 2019/20. However there has been a 33% reduction from end of year figures 2019/20.

Whilst this quarter saw a slight rise in people who sustained a slight injury as a result of road traffic collisions, this was a rise of only 1%.

During this quarter, Divisional Road Policing unit took part in a number of National Campaigns as follows;

January 2021 - Festive drink/drug driving campaign

January 2021 -Mobile phone campaign

February 2021- Seatbelt campaign

March 2021– Speeding campaign

March 2021- Operation Close Pass

Operation Lite commenced on the 26 December 2020 continuing into quarter 4, conducted by Roads policing officers in response to COVID-19 lockdown measures and travel restrictions. The purpose of this operation was to provide a highly visible and reassuring policing presence across Scotland's Roads infrastructure assisting with public health measures.

It was an opportunity to provide clear advice and guidance to the public on the travel restrictions imposed for Scotland through an effective communications plan with a clear indication of policing intentions.

All 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.

However, it should be noted that COVID-19 precluded the usual preferred method of engagement on many of the aforementioned campaigns.

Road Safety enforcement continues to be carried out as part of routine business by the Road Policing Unit in Perth and Kinross. 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 and Kinross which were subject to focussed operation activity.

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Relevant priority routes within Perth and Kinross are as follows;

M90/A90

A9

A923

A93

A85

From year to date a total of 22,376 vehicles were stopped in 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.

Concerningly, Tayside Division have had 67 recorded pursuit situations, this is a 71% increase on the same period last year where we experienced 19. Such pursuits were more prevalent in Dundee.

Operation Close Pass which was launched within Tayside Division in summer 2020 and continues to be utilised in Perth and Kinross. The introduction was in response to a shift in travel methods during the COVID-19 lockdown particularly an increase in the number of people using Tayside's roads and paths for cycling.

Plain clothes police officers cycle in traffic and are equipped with cameras which record video evidence of motorists passing too closely to the cyclist. The evidence can then be used to either educate drivers at the side of the road or, where appropriate, prosecute offenders or those deemed to be dangerous drivers.

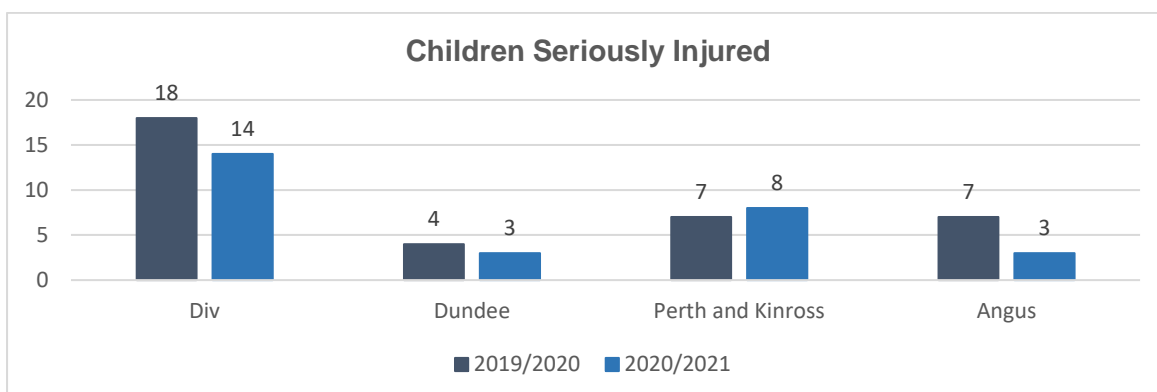
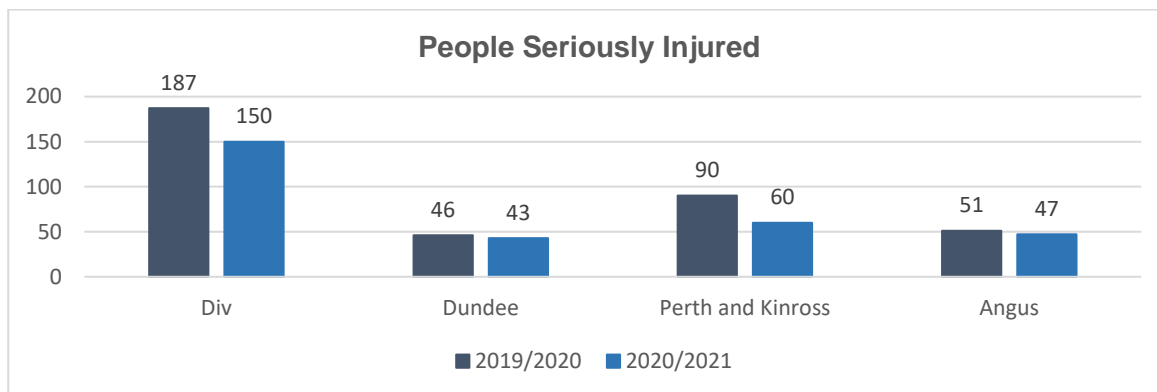
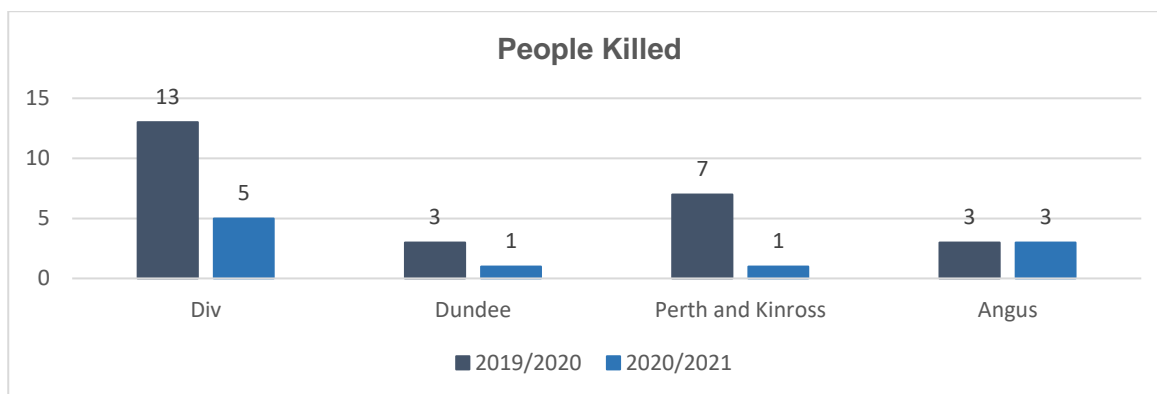
The key objective of Close Pass is that the police are proactively dealing with dangerous driving before an accident occurs, rather than waiting for someone to be seriously injured or killed. This preventative approach allows for positive engagement and an opportunity to educate and increase driver awareness about the need to give cyclists plenty of space.

The introduction of Operation Close Pass in Tayside has generated mixed reviews, however has been a very successful engagement tool.

Operation Close Pass will continue to run in Perth and Kinross throughout 2021 when it is appropriate and proportionate to do so.

We continue to work closely with Cycling Scotland and Road Safety Scotland who have assisted with funding to purchase the required equipment.

OFFICIAL



### Measure – Speeding

#### Activity

During this quarter, speeding offences in Perth and Kinross decreased by 45% when compared to quarter 4 2019/20. This may be influenced by the reduction in road users during lockdown, however there continues to be 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.

This figure remains significantly lower than the 5 year average.

Speed detection falls in to the remit of daily business for Road Policing, however for the period under review a number of route strategy days have focussed on not only the priority routes but also on roads which have been identified as problematic.

## OFFICIAL

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 the local Authority, 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 encourage the changes in driving attitudes and behaviour.

March 2021 also saw a Speeding campaign which involved Road policing officers in partnership with the Safety Camera unit carry out enforcement throughout the Division.

### Results

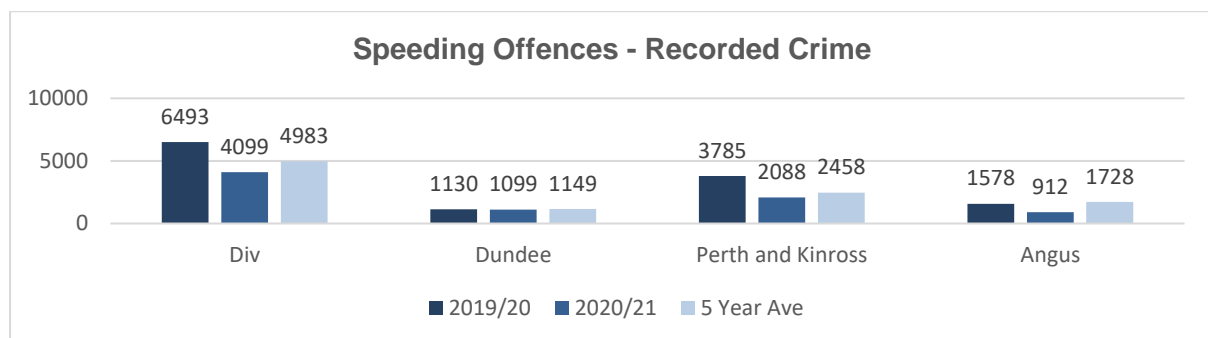
Some of the most notable speed detections in this quarter were as follows:

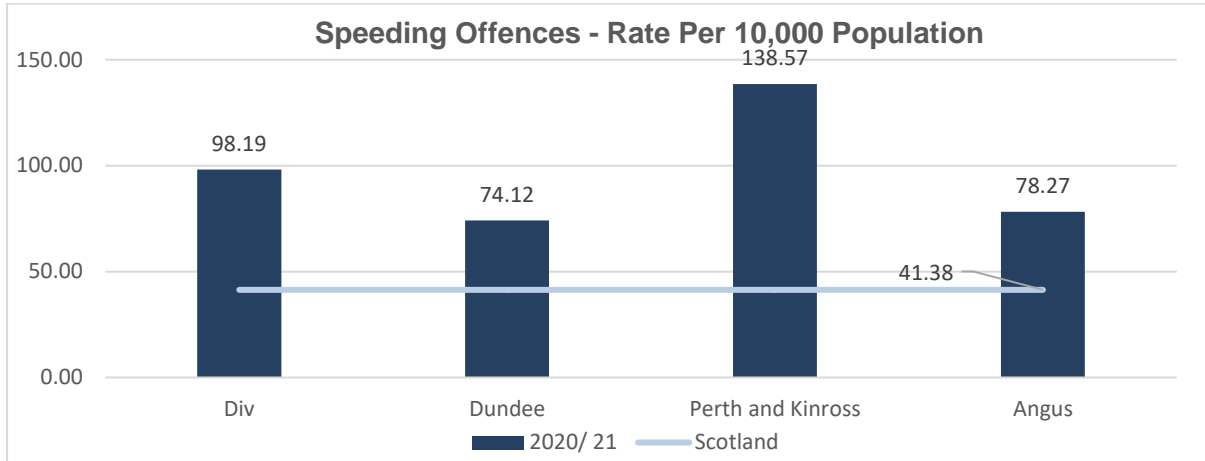
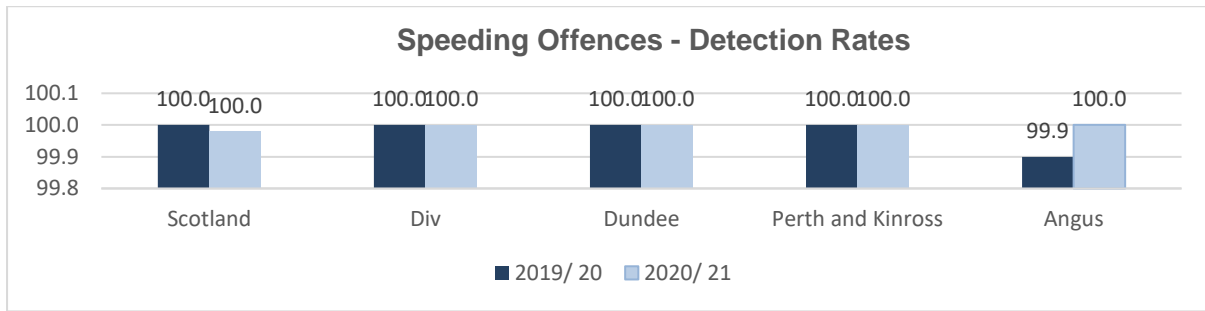
132 mph exceed 70 mph limit  
124 mph exceed 70 mph limit  
113 mph exceed 70 mph limit  
107 mph exceed 70 mph limit

### 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 along with local Authorities will conduct percentile speed check to establish if there is indeed an issue.

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.





### Measure – Drink/Drug Driving

#### Activity

During this quarter, Drink/Drug offences in Perth and Kinross have increased by 23% compared to the same period of last year.

Whilst the exact breakdown of drink and drug offences in Perth and Kinross, evidence from the activity of our Divisional Roads Policing Unit indicate that the split is approximately 40% alcohol and 60% drugs.

The detection of drivers who are impaired through either Alcohol or Drugs falls in to the daily business for Road Policing.

The current pandemic has seen a decrease in the number of vehicles on the roads, however our campaign to improve road safety has been as important as ever.

In the month of January Police Scotland continued The Festive Drink/Drug Drive Campaign, this involved 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 driving the morning after being under the influence.

## OFFICIAL

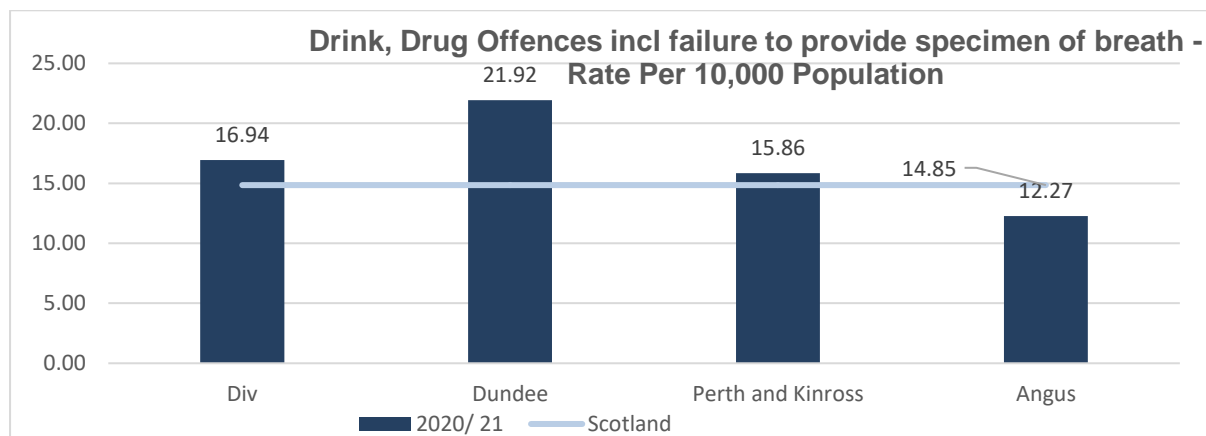
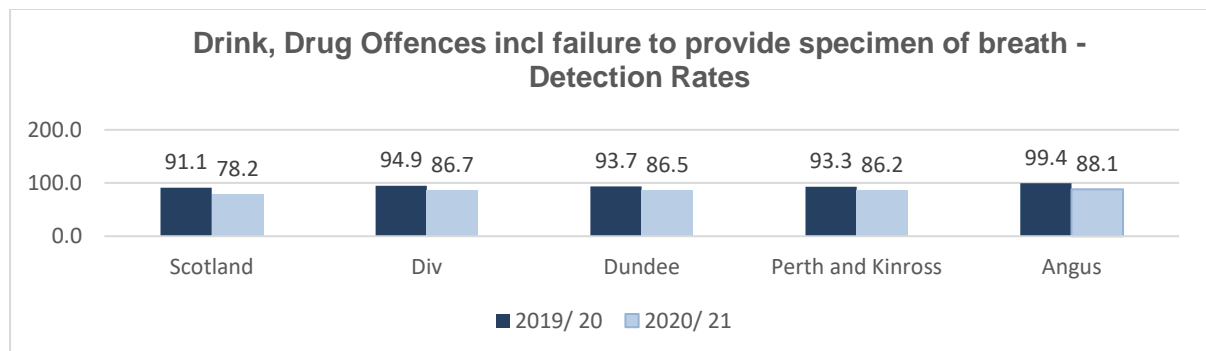
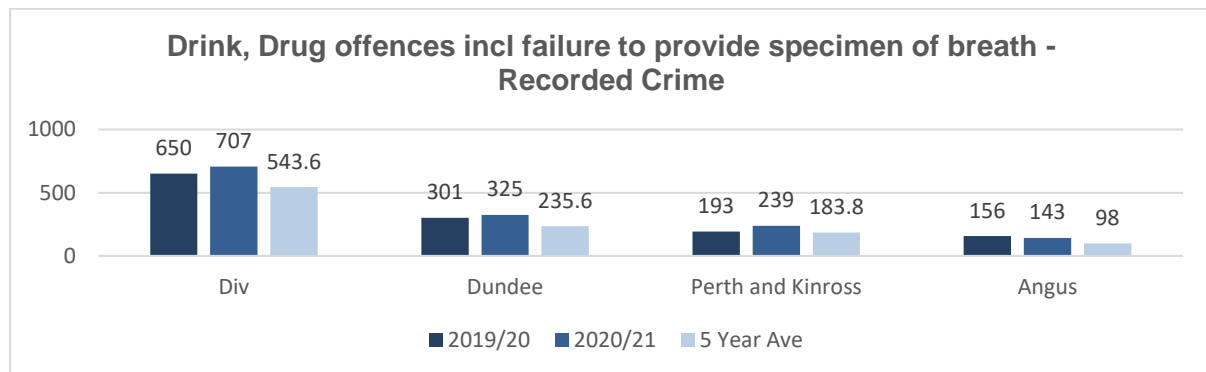
Throughout the period under review and the challenges raised by COVID-19, effective use of the media to raise awareness and to actively encourage changes in driving attitudes and behaviour.

As we can see from the breakdown above, the drug wipe testing kit continues to feature heavily in the media and was prevalent throughout the Festive Drink/Drug driving campaign. The kit 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.

### Challenges

Considering the analytical data highlights an increase within Perth and Kinross, it is disappointing to see that people are still willing to take the risk and drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

We will continue to take action against those who selfishly put others at risk by driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



## OFFICIAL

## Measure – Careless Driving

### Activity

Within Perth and Kinross quarter 4 saw a 15% increase in careless driving offences compared to quarter 4 2019/20, however at year end careless driving has decreased by 2% compared to last 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.

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.

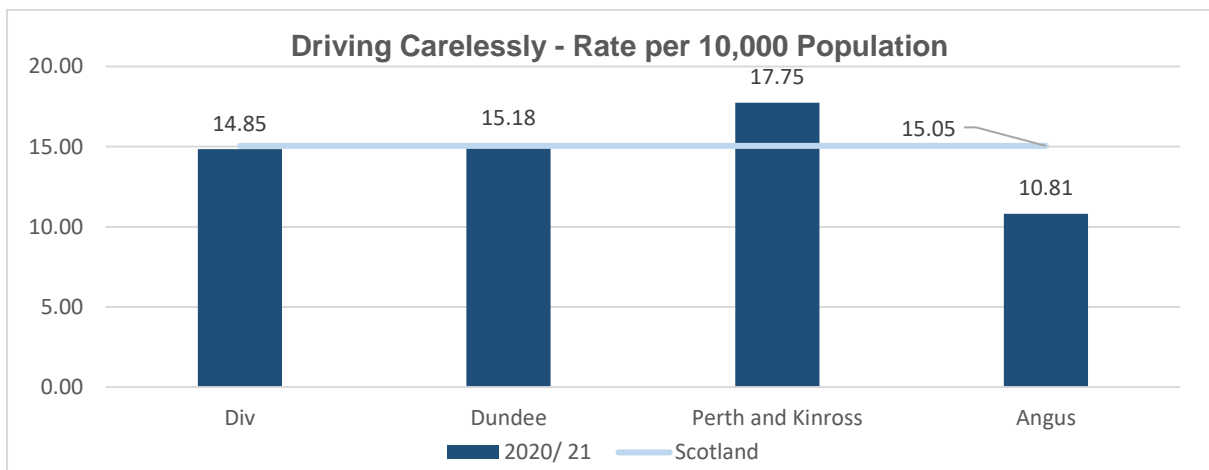
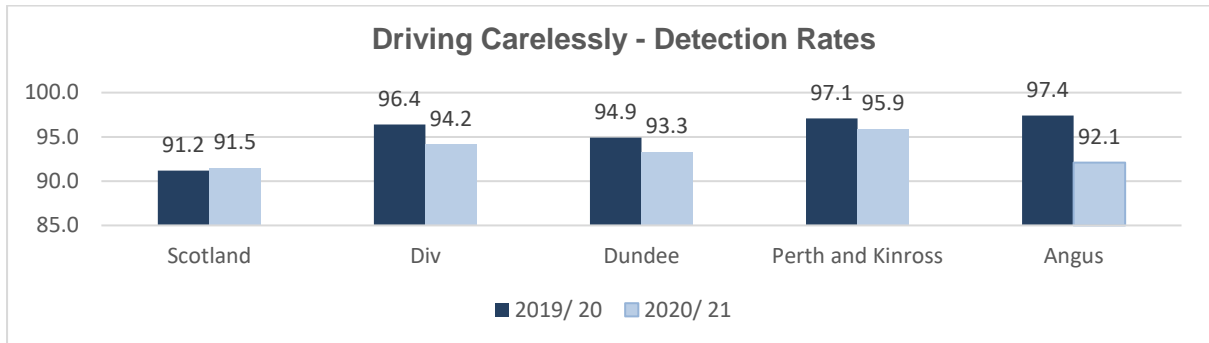
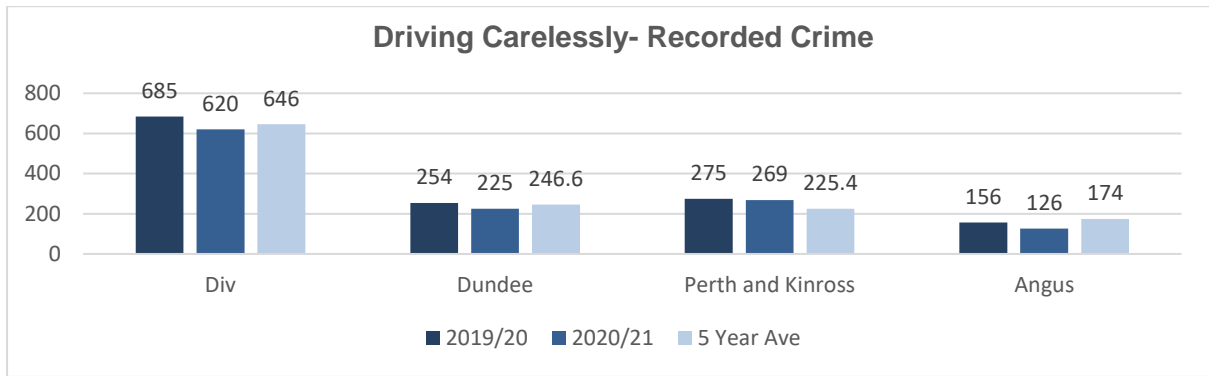
This is reinforced with Route Strategy Days based on the previous collision data for the month and involve multiple units carrying out high visibility patrolling of the same route. Where these routes traverse multiple Divisions we utilise cross border joint operations.

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 COVID-19 restrictions which have forced annual education programmes such as Safe drive stay alive to be postponed. This may be a lost opportunity to influence younger driver behaviour which will never be regained.

Additionally with lockdown measures slowly being reduced we will have a number of drivers who have not been behind the wheel in a significant period of time. As such Road Policing have created and released a number of educational videos which highlight vehicle/motorcycle issues which can arise from lack of use, additionally driving hazards to be aware of when you have not driven/ridden for a significant period of time.







## 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

Whilst recorded incidents of rape and sexual assault have reduced at year end there has been a slight rise in all sexual crimes. This is largely down to an increase in newer crime types such as incident communications and disclosure of intimate images.

Of significance are the number of recorded crimes which follow investigation into non-recent domestic abuse or child abuse. Perpetrators will be pursued regardless of the date of occurrence.

Throughout lockdown we have seen reports from the third sector of increases in domestic abuse linked to COVID-19 lockdown. Whilst this has not resulted in more recorded crime, we remain committed to examining ways in which we can improve our response to domestic victims.

Following external events which highlighted wider violence against women and peer-to-peer abuse in schools, we have tailored our engagement model to talk about these issues with youth groups in an effort to make them, especially young women, feel safer.

Whilst missing person reports have levelled in this period we continue to face increasing demand around vulnerability and mental health.

Tragically during this period Divisional and local officers reacted to two child deaths in Perth and Kinross along with two significant enquiries into Non Accidental Injuries to infant children.

### Measure – Domestic Abuse

#### Activity

The crime rates represented in the table below are crimes recorded under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018. 9 crimes have been reported in this period, 4 less than the equivalent period in 2019/20 and detection rates have risen, however 5 year averages are less relevant due to the newness of the legislation.

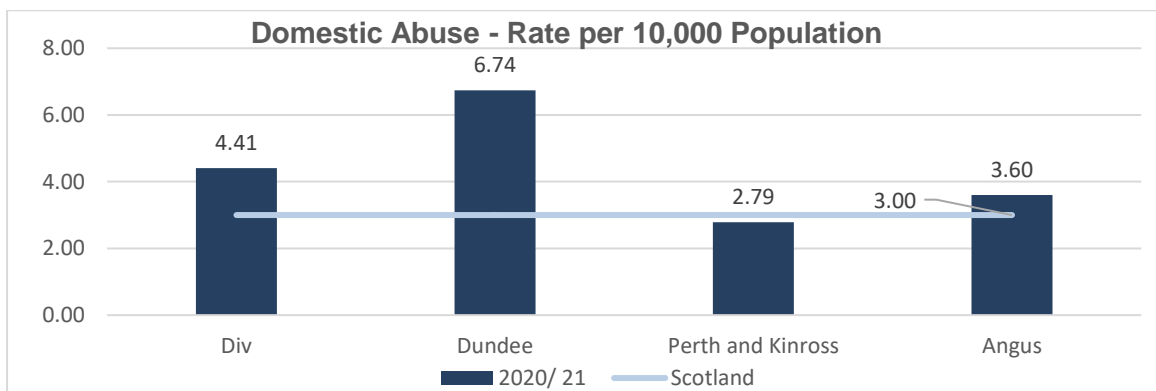
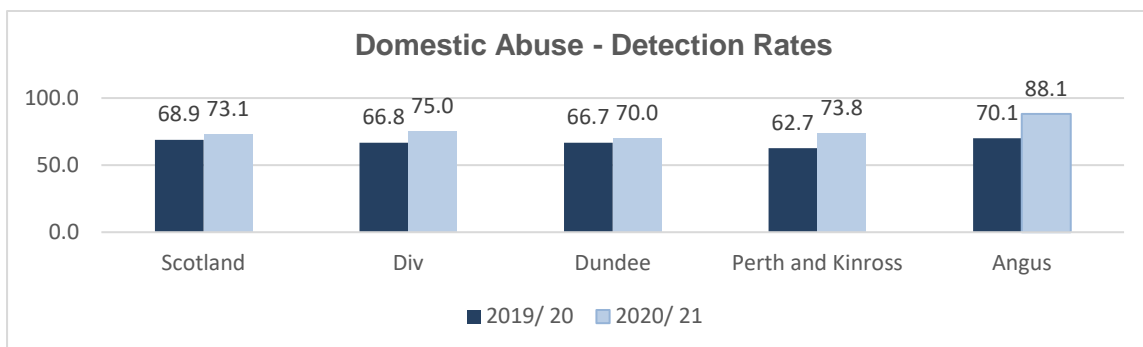
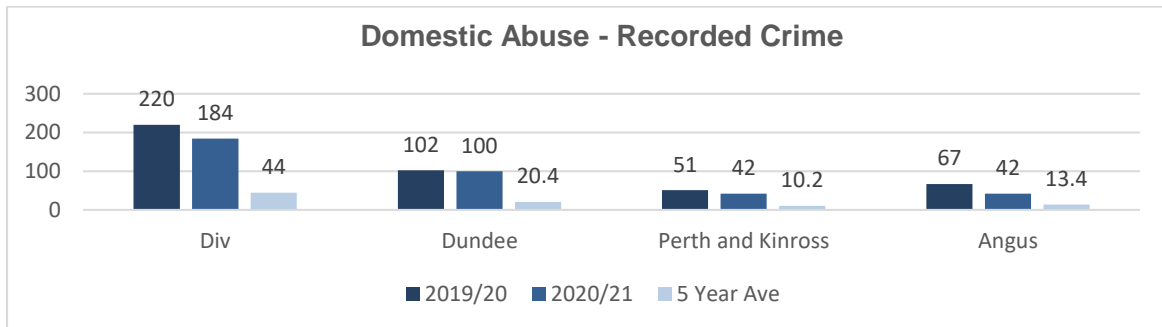
Of all domestic abuse incidents reported, about 40% result in a recorded crime. Crimes recorded in 2020/21 are almost identical to 2019/20 (one crime less), however there has been a small 9% rise in all incidents reported to Police.

#### Results

## OFFICIAL

In January local officers responded to an anonymous call believed to be from a victim of domestic abuse. The victim was traced to an address in Crieff and after efforts were made to make her safe, her 22 year old partner was arrested for assault. Further enquiries have led to the male being remanded in custody for domestic assault against a number of other victims.

In February a 79 year old male was arrested in Kinross for threatening his partner with a knife. Following safeguarding measures, his partner was able to disclose years of abuse at the hands of the perpetrator and this investigation continues.



### Measure – Hate Crime

#### Activity

During this period there have been 6 recorded offences which is slightly below the rates from quarter 3 and from quarter 4, 2019/20. Detection rates have fallen slightly however this represents a small number of crimes and rates are similar to Divisional detection rates.

## OFFICIAL

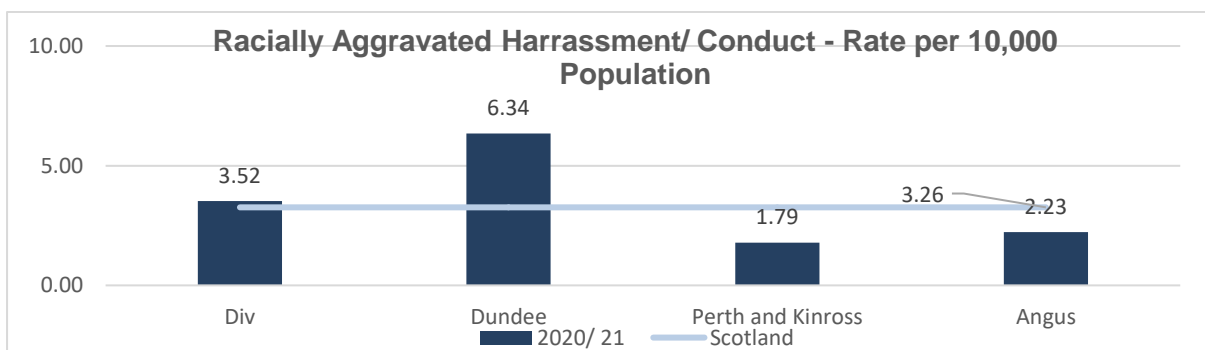
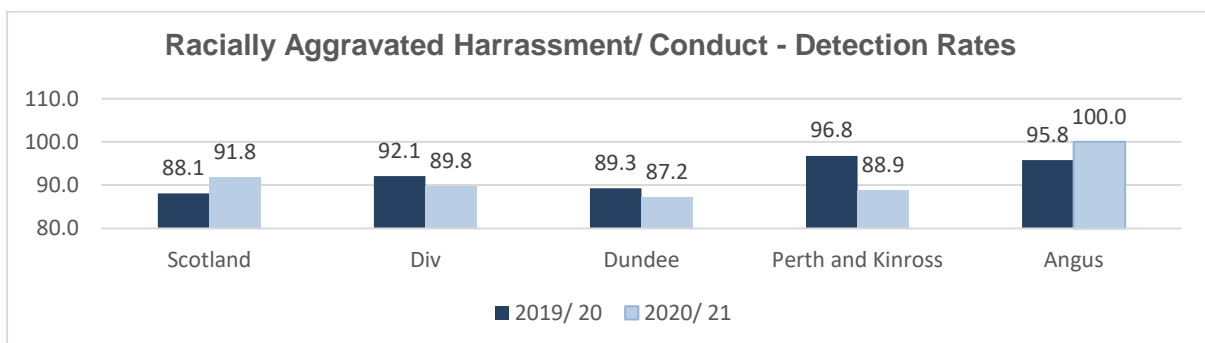
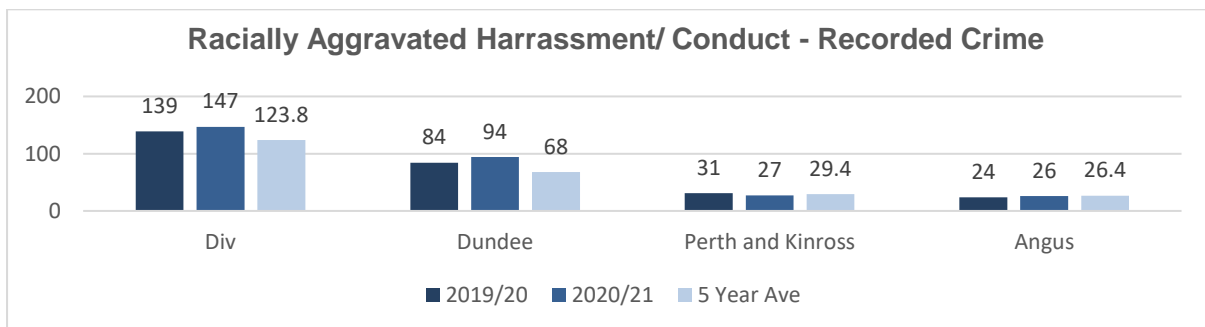
## OFFICIAL

The main theme continues to be related to behaviour directed at non-UK nationals or persons who due to their physical appearance are deemed by the perpetrator incorrectly to be a non-UK national. An increasing number of hate related offences have been seen throughout 2020/21 towards Police Officers, and almost always when the perpetrator is under the influence of substances and involved in other criminality.

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. Work continues to take place in these key areas:

- Increase hate awareness amongst groups and communities.
- Re-training of local third party reporting centres.
- Maintain current Keep Safe premises within Tayside.
- Reintroduce HIMAP locally on a pan Tayside basis.



## OFFICIAL

## Measure – Sexual Crime

### Activity

As reported in quarter 3, rates for recorded sexual crimes have risen slightly above those from 2019/20. This is a trend seen in other Tayside areas and nationally, and the rise of around 10% is primarily down to the rise in crimes such as indecent communications and disclosure of intimate images.

The other significant trend in recorded sexual crime is the reporting of non-recent incidents. Of all recorded sexual crimes in quarter 4, around 60% relate to crimes which occurred more than a year before the reporting period. These are often self-generated by Police when carrying out investigations into identified high risk perpetrators and indicate the efforts of all partners to encourage victims to report, particularly in child abuse cases.

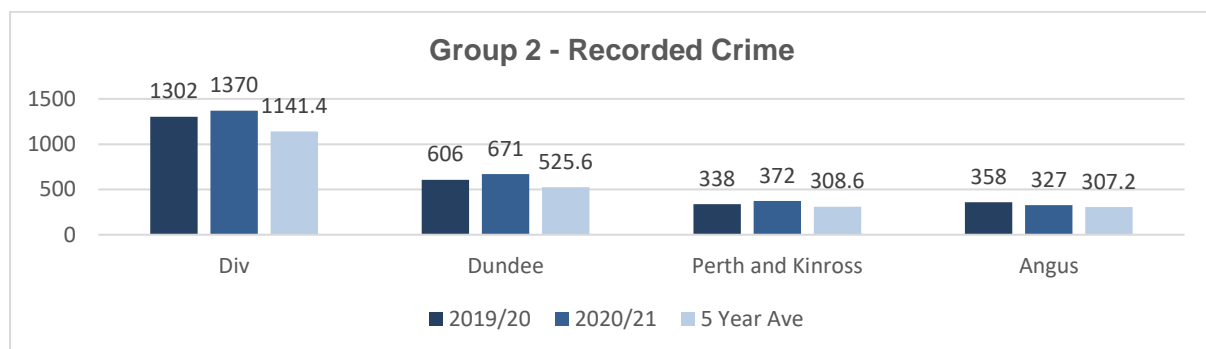
The next most common crime is cyber enabled crime which accounts for around 16% of all recorded in this quarter. Whilst children have increasingly become victims of these crimes, around 60% of victims in this quarter were adults, receiving indecent images from unknown sources.

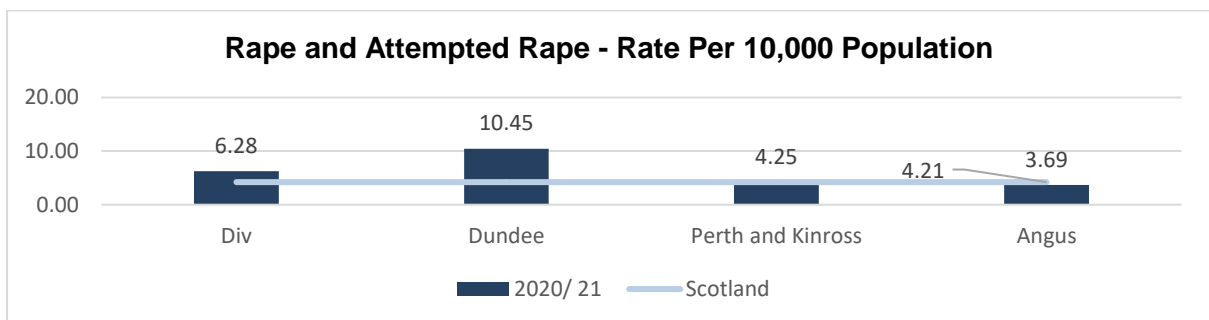
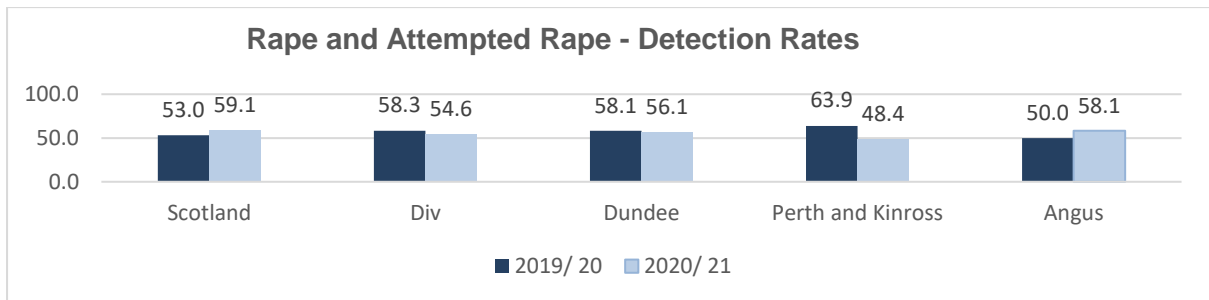
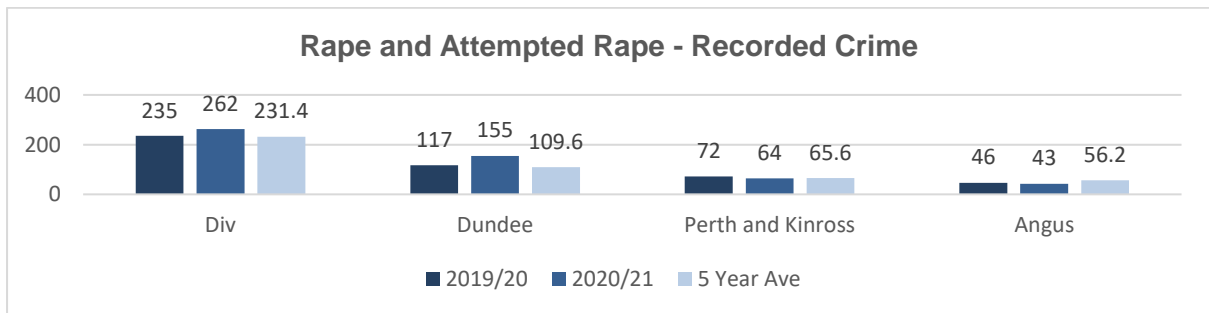
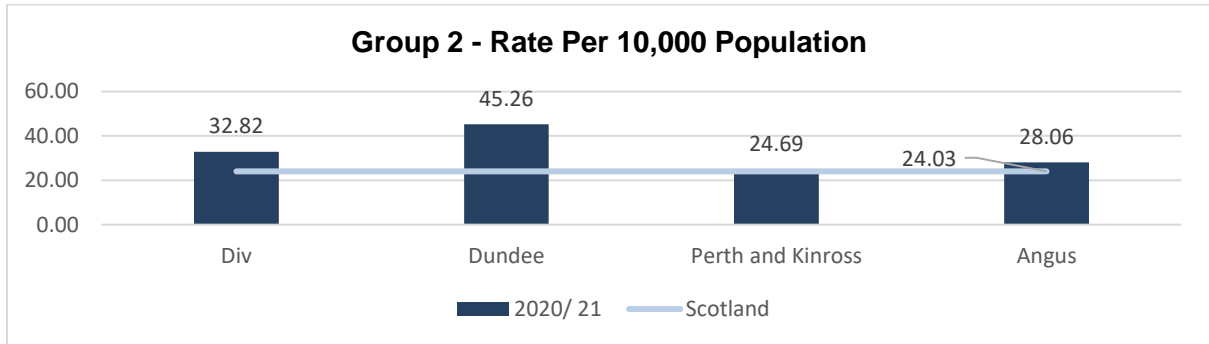
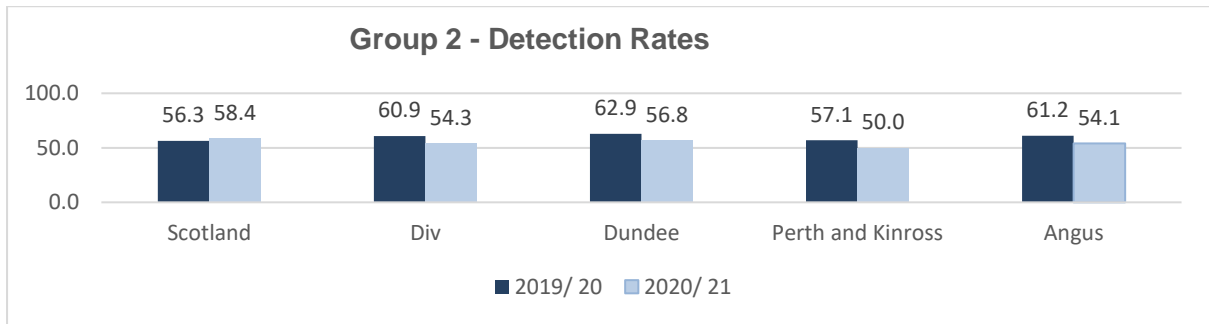
With regard to recorded rapes, 80% of crimes recorded in quarter 3 were non-recent in nature and in all cases, the perpetrator was known to the victim and the crimes occurred in private.

Detection rates continue to be lower than we would like however it is partly attributable to the number of non-recent investigations and cyber enabled investigations which can be more protracted in nature.

### Results

In February a 31 year old man was arrested in Perth having sexually exposed himself to a neighbour. He thereafter threatened and threw missiles at the attending officers. Following a short period of negotiation he surrendered to the officers and was arrested.







### 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

Local officers in partnership with specialist teams continue to target organised criminality and this quarter has seen activity in three areas.

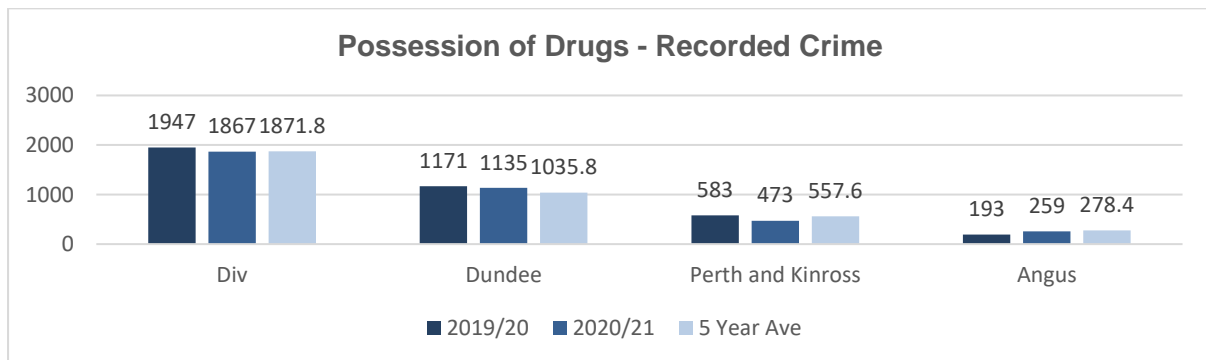
We continue to focus on preventing a group from northern England establish themselves in Perth and Kinross for the purpose of dealing drugs and we are engaged in two current operations targeting labour exploitation of non-UK nationals in North Perthshire as well as the exploitation of non-UK nationals brought into Perth for the purpose of prostitution and commission of acquisitive crime.

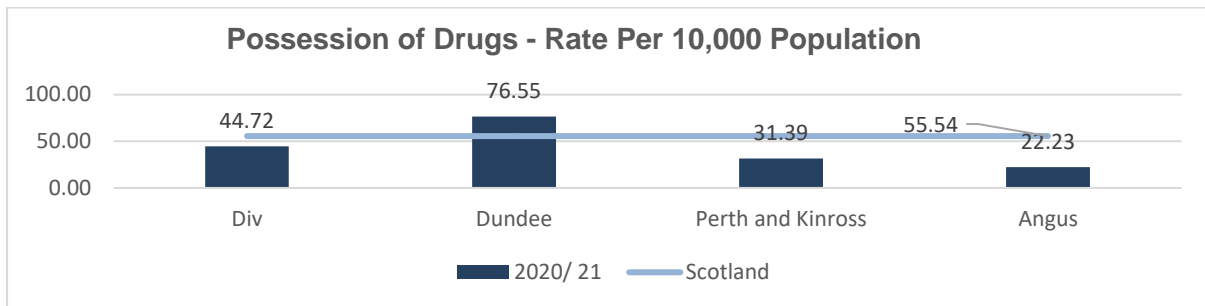
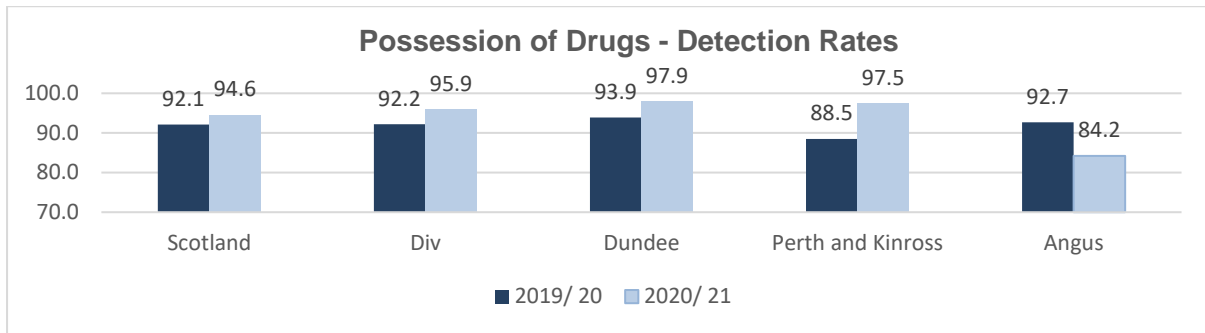
#### Measure – Possession of Drugs

##### Activity

Activity in this quarter has dropped below the equivalent period in 2019/20 and work is underway to determine whether this has been influenced by COVID-19 demands or is simply down to the conversion rate from intelligence led searches.

Detection rates continue to be strong with early identification of controlled drugs from intelligence led searches.





### Measure – Supply of Drugs

#### Activity

Contrary to results seen in identification of possession cases, recorded supply cases have again increased during quarter 4 and crimes have doubled in comparison to quarter 4, 2019/20.

Detection rates have dropped slightly however this may be influenced by the demand upon forensic services. Detection rates are similar to quarter 3 however during quarter 4, 2019/20 we experienced an increase in availability of forensic services which lifted year end detection rates.

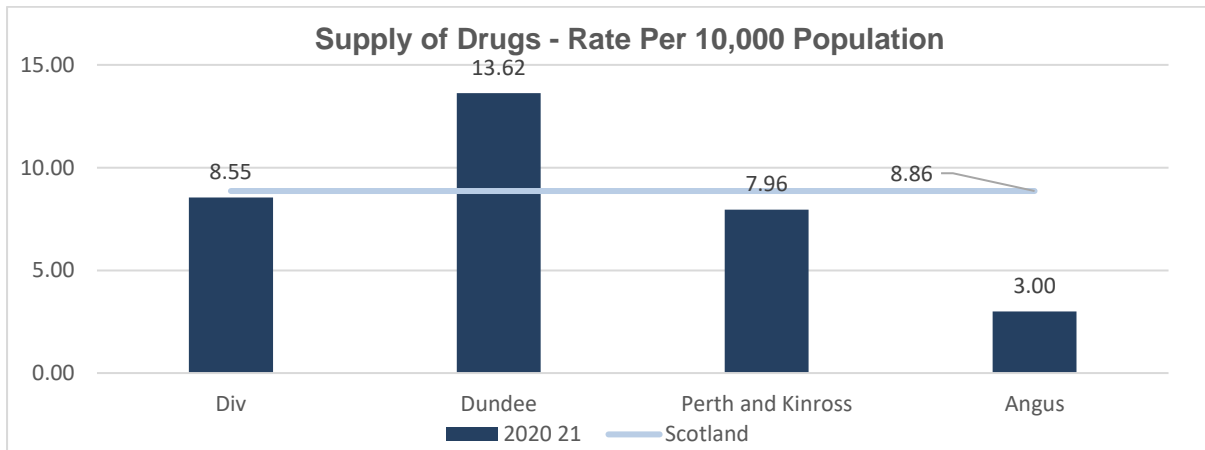
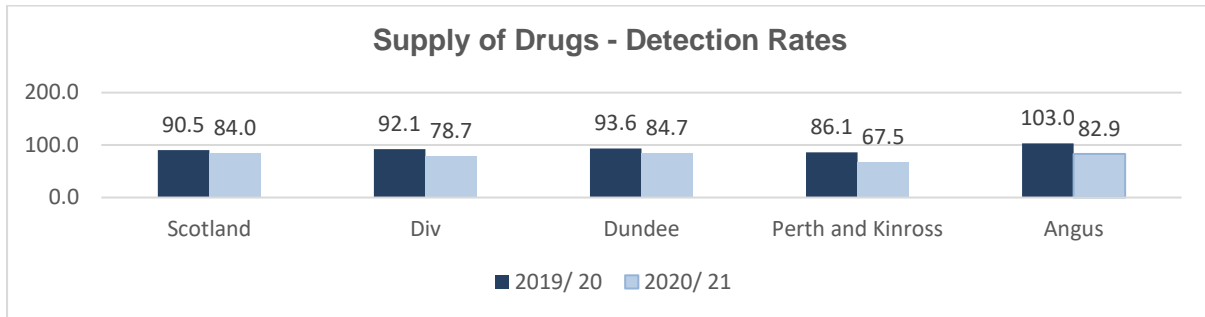
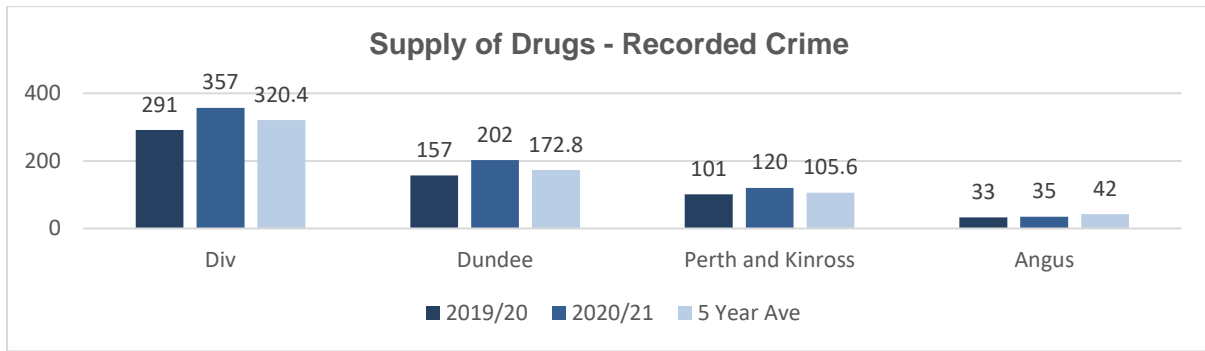
Our priorities remain unaltered, to target individuals who wish to supply drugs to young people and who supply substance which may endanger lives and contribute to drug deaths.

#### Results

In January a 19 year old male was seen to be using controlled drugs in Perth and on being searched was found in possession of dealer quantities of Cocaine. Based on intelligence gathered local officers craved a warrant to search his home address and recovered over £24,000 worth of Cocaine.

In February Roads Policing officers stopped a vehicle on the A90 following the receipt of intelligence the driver was transporting controlled drugs. Following the stop a 26 year old male from northern England was arrested and over £72,000 of Cannabis was recovered from the vehicle.

During this period, local officers dealt with the discovery of a very large Cannabis cultivation in Aberfeldy which brought significant logistical and health and safety challenges.



### Measure – Proceeds of Crime

The following values were recovered in Perth and Kinross in Quarter 3:

- Civil Cash Seizures £6088.11
- Expedited Civil Recovery – no cases
- Assets for Restraint £11,539.38





**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**

### Activity

At present the national threat level is currently at SUBSTANTIAL.

On 4th February 2021, the joint terrorism analysis centre (JTAC) lowered the UK national terrorism threat level from severe to substantial. This means that a terrorist attack is likely.

D Division officers continue to support partners and organisations in various CONTEST related matters including advice on security and protection of premises and the mitigation of both physical and cyber-attacks.

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 community as part of daily business.

Awareness raising literature has been distributed to LCLO's and CONTEST partners with regard to the change PROTECT Duty consultation and also security awareness due to lockdown restrictions lifting.

Awareness raising session continue with partners about spotting signs of radicalisation.



## 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.

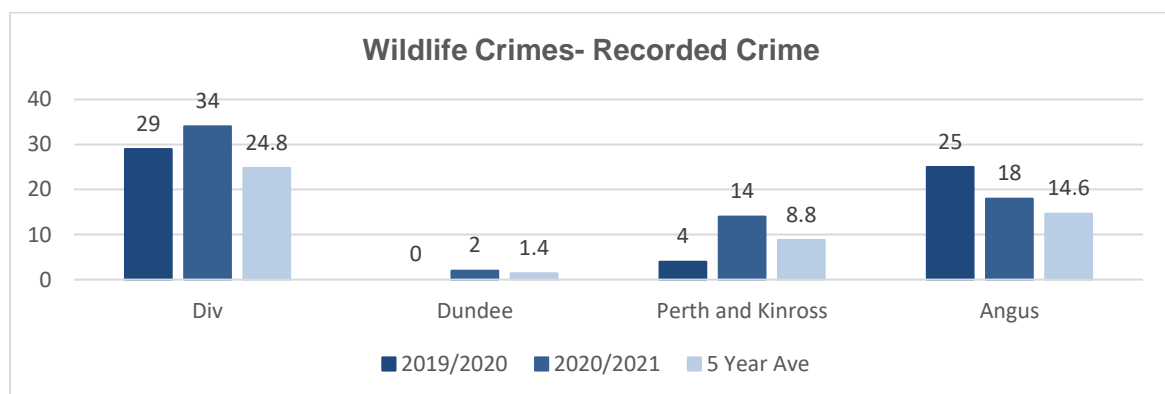
### Operating Context

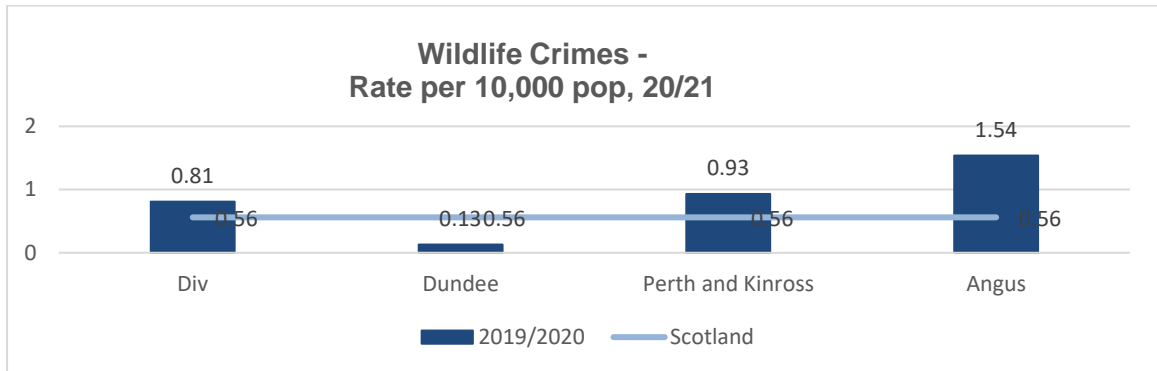
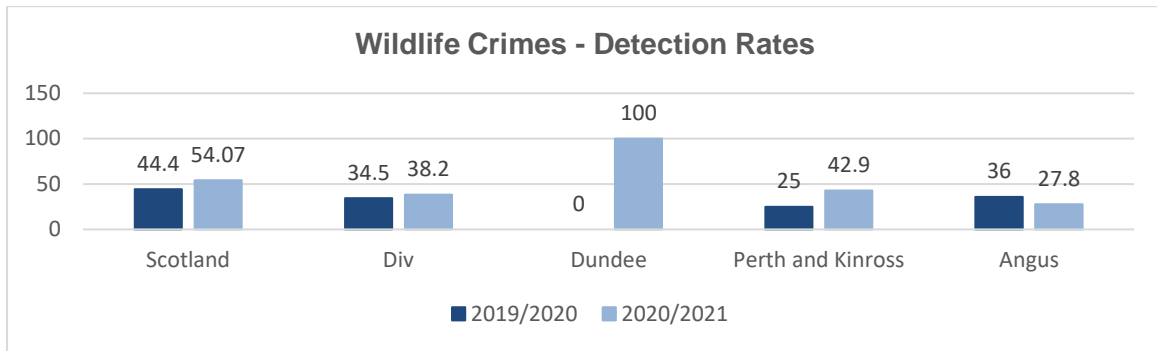
#### Activity

Wildlife trained officers continue to be engaged in Operation Wingspan, an operation running for a year addressing priorities within the NPCC Wildlife Strategy.

During quarter 3 the priority was CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). Proactive work in this area generated recorded crime which partially increased crime compared to 2019/20 figures.

Moving into quarter 4, the priorities have shifted towards preventing badger and raptor persecution.





## Other Key Activity

### Events

Given the COVID-19 pandemic we have yet to see events return to expected levels this quarter.

### Other Key Activity

Activities throughout this quarter have continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and we continue to adapt to legislative changes and required changes to our operating model, as well as trying to understand the impact of these changes on the public.

Local officers continued to engage with large numbers of the public and whilst the vast majority of people have complied with regulations in place, we continued to respond to reports of illegal house parties and towards the end of the quarter, to public space gatherings. During February we engaged in joint work with our colleagues in North East Division to engage with people attempting to travel to Glenshee ski centre against travel restrictions.

Impacts on our staffing levels have become less significant as the impact of the national vaccination programme develops.

In preparation for the spring and summer months we are fully engaged in the Visitor Management Group for Perth and Kinross working with partners to ensure visitors behave responsibly and we can minimise impact on the local infrastructure.

We are planning for and anticipating the re-opening of licensed premises and whilst this health crisis is likely to continue influencing communities for some time yet, we are anticipating a period of ever increasing demand in coming months.

A three week period towards the end of February and beginning of March presented a particularly difficult period for local policing with the demands of a homicide enquiry in Inchtute closely followed by the resourcing demand across the Division responding to a tragic homicide enquiry in Dundee.

We are able to respond in this manner to significant incidents such as these due to the professionalism of our officers and the support of the public. Simple acts of kindness to support local officers with refreshments and shelter in the Carse of Gowrie and Aberfeldy in particular deserve acknowledgement.

## Complaints about the Police

Members of the public need to have confidence that should they wish to raise a concern or make a complaint about the quality of policing service provided or the actions of an individual, their concerns will be listened to and appropriate action taken.

Frontline Resolution (FLR) will be attempted for allegations which are non-serious, non-criminal and non-complex in nature. This involves resolution by explanation, apology or assurance. Where this cannot be achieved, a full enquiry in accordance with statutory guidance will be undertaken.

Should complainers remain dissatisfied with the handling of a complaint upon its completion, they may contact the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC) to request an independent Complaint Handling Review.

### Complaints Received

Table: Complaints received for Tayside Division (Apr-Mar) <sup>1</sup>

| Category                       | LYTD | YTD | % change from LYTD |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|--------------------|
| Complaints Received - TOTAL    | 531  | 517 | -2.6%              |
| Allegations Received - TOTAL   | 843  | 797 | -5.5%              |
| Off Duty Allegations           | 3    | 1   | 200.0%             |
| On Duty Allegations            | 740  | 683 | -7.7%              |
| Quality of Service Allegations | 102  | 111 | 8.8%               |

<sup>1</sup> Data is correct as at 01/04/2021.

Complaints in Tayside have decreased by 2.6% YTD compared to the LYTD. This is driven by decreases in Angus (-16.2%) and Perth & Kinross (-10.6%). However, an 8.7% increase was identified within Dundee City.

Allegations in Tayside have also decreased correspondingly by 7.7%.

Please note that the data above covers all complaints and allegations against Tayside Division. Therefore, this does not include resources from Specialist Divisions which provide services within the area (e.g. Contact, Command and Control).

## 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 & 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**

**31 May 2021**

### **COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDERS ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

**Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) and Chief Social Work Officer**  
(Report No. 21/67)

#### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report provides an update for the period 2019-20 on the operation of Community Payback Orders in Perth and Kinross. The Orders are managed and delivered by Criminal Justice Social Work, specifically the Public Protection Team and the Unpaid Work Team and in accordance with the requirements of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010.

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

1.1 The Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 introduced the Community Payback Order (CPO) as the new statutory community disposal. The CPO is therefore a generic term which covers a range of disposal options which includes the following:

- An offender supervision requirement.
- A compensation requirement.
- An unpaid work or other activity requirement.
- A programme requirement.
- A residence requirement.
- A mental health requirement.
- A drug treatment requirement.
- An alcohol treatment requirement.
- A conduct requirement.

1.2 When these requirements are imposed by the Court, it is mandatory that they are overseen by a suitably qualified social worker with the exception of low-level unpaid work or other activity. The level is determined by the number of hours imposed.

#### **2. COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDER ANNUAL REPORT**

2.1 The Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 places a duty on local authorities to submit an annual report on the operation of Community Payback Orders to Scottish Ministers by the end of October each year.

- 2.2 Following the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, responsibility to produce the Community Payback Order (CPO) annual report was transferred to Community Justice Scotland (CJS). This places a Duty on CJS to collate all local authority reports and lay a summary report before Parliament. However, the power to issue directions to local authorities on the content of the reports remains with Scottish Ministers.
- 2.3 In the production of the CPO annual report, local authorities are expected to fulfil their requirement in two ways:
- (i) By continuing to submit statistics for each financial year to the Scottish Government on the operation of community sentences in their areas (Unit Return); and
  - (ii) By providing a narrative account of the implementation and operation of the CPO in the financial year to which the Unit Return refers.
- 2.4 Attached to this report is the Community Payback Annual Report for Perth and Kinross for the period 2019/20 (Appendix 1) which was submitted to Community Justice Scotland in December 2020 and records pertinent CPO activity. Normally the report would be submitted by the end of October, but due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on essential services, the submission date was extended.
- 2.5 As illustrated in Table 1 below, in 2019-20, there were 353 new Community Payback Orders imposed on 311 individuals by the Court in Perth and Kinross. This represents a slight increase in both Orders and the number of people subject to them since 2018-19, although figures are still below the totals for that reporting year.
- 2.6 Over the same period, the number of non-Court disposals, such as Fiscal Fines, Fiscal Compensation and Fiscal Fixed Penalties has decreased. For example, between 2017-18 and 2018-19, the number of these disposals decreased by 154.

Table 1. Number of new Community Payback Orders and individuals for the preceding three years.

|                                                               | <b>1 April 17<br/>to<br/>31 March 18</b> | <b>1 April 18<br/>to<br/>31 March 19</b> | <b>1 April 19<br/>to<br/>31 March 20</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Total number of new Community Payback Orders                  | 391                                      | 346                                      | 353                                      |
| Total number of individuals with new Community Payback Orders | 336                                      | 301                                      | 311                                      |



- 2.7 As shown in Table 2 below, there were 219 Supervision requirements issued in 2019-20. This is an increase of 21 when compared with the previous year. During the same period of time, the average length of requirements has remained the same at an average of 14 months.

Table 2. New Supervision requirements and average length (months) for the preceding three years.

|                                                     | <b>1 April 17<br/>to<br/>31 March 18</b> | <b>1 April 18<br/>to<br/>31 March 19</b> | <b>1 April 19<br/>to<br/>31 March 20</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| All Orders with Supervision requirements            | 235                                      | 198                                      | 219                                      |
| Average length (months) of Supervision requirements | 13.2                                     | 14.0                                     | 14.4                                     |

- 2.8 Table 3 below, highlights that there were 271 Unpaid Work (UPW) requirements issued in 2019-20. This is a decrease of 19 when compared with the previous year. The number of UPW requirements has decreased consistently since 2017-18, falling from 309 in 2017-18 to 271 in 2019-20. In contrast, the average number of hours for UPW requirements has continued to increase over the same period, rising from 129.1 hours in 2017-18 to 142.2 hours in 2019-20.

Table 3. New UPW requirements and average length (hours) for the preceding three years.

|                                            | <b>1 April 17<br/>to<br/>31 March 18</b> | <b>1 April 18<br/>to<br/>31 March 19</b> | <b>1 April 19<br/>to<br/>31 March 20</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Total number of new UPW requirements       | 309                                      | 290                                      | 271                                      |
| Average length of UPW requirements (hours) | 129.1                                    | 138.3                                    | 142.2                                    |

- 2.9 Table 4 below, highlights the number of other CPO requirements (excluding Supervision and UPW) made as part of new CPOs from 2017-18 through to 2019-20. The overall number of requirements made (excluding Supervision and UPW) mirrors the trend witnessed with CPOs overall in showing a decrease between 2017-18 and 2018-19 followed by an increase in 2019-20.

When considering individual requirements, the biggest change has been an increase of 14 in Alcohol Treatment Requirements in 2019-20 when compared with 2018-19. There have also been increases in the number of Drug Treatment Requirements, Conduct Requirements and Mental Health Treatment Requirements during the same period. In contrast, there has been a slight drop in the number of Compensation Requirements, falling by 3 when compared with 2018-19. Of the remaining requirements, both the number of Programme Requirements and Residence Requirements are similar to the previous year.

Table 4. New CPO requirements for the preceding three years.

|                                | <b>1 April 17<br/>to<br/>31 March 18</b> | <b>1 April 18<br/>to<br/>31 March 19</b> | <b>1 April 19<br/>to<br/>31 March 20</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Other Requirements</b>      |                                          |                                          |                                          |
| <b>Compensation</b>            | 31                                       | 21                                       | 18                                       |
| <b>Programme</b>               | 31                                       | 25                                       | 24                                       |
| <b>Residence</b>               | 0                                        | 0                                        | 0                                        |
| <b>Mental health treatment</b> | 4                                        | 2                                        | 4                                        |
| <b>Drug Treatment</b>          | 19                                       | 14                                       | 20                                       |
| <b>Alcohol treatment</b>       | 15                                       | 13                                       | 27                                       |
| <b>Conduct</b>                 | 15                                       | 16                                       | 20                                       |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>115</b>                               | <b>91</b>                                | <b>113</b>                               |

- 2.10 Table 5 below, highlights that in 2019-20, 74% of CPOs were successfully completed at termination. In contrast, 25% of CPOs were revoked either due to review of the Order or breach. Figures for 2019-20 highlight that there has been an increase in the percentage of CPOs successfully completed when compared with the previous year, rising from 68% to 74%.

Table 5. Reasons for CPO terminations for the preceding years.

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Order<br/>successfully<br/>completed</b> | <b>Revoked<br/>due to<br/>review</b> | <b>Revoked<br/>due to<br/>breach</b> | <b>Other <sup>1</sup></b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 2017/18     | 257 (69.5%)                                 | 32(8.7%)                             | 68(18.4%)                            | 13(3.5%)                  | 370          |
| 2018/19     | 273(67.9%)                                  | 23 (5.7%)                            | 80 (19.9%)                           | 26(6.5%)                  | 402          |
| 2019/20     | 228(73.8%)                                  | 22(7.1%)                             | 56(18.1%)                            | 3(1.0%)                   | 309          |

<sup>1</sup> Includes Orders where the client did not (or was unable to) comply and orders which were transferred in from another local authority or a country outwith Scotland.

When a CPO is not successfully completed, the Order is returned to Court and an alternative sentence is imposed. This will typically be another CPO or a custodial sentence.

- 2.11 Table 6 below, highlights the outcomes of CPOs following their revocation either for breach or following a review. In most cases, clients whose CPO is revoked received either a custodial sentence or an alternative CPO. Typically, the new CPO will include a longer Supervision requirement and/or additional UPW hours.

Table 6. Outcomes of CPOs revoked due to review or breach for the preceding year.

| Year    | Reason for Termination        | Outcome of Termination |                            |                |                           |                      |               |                   |       |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------|
|         |                               | Unknown                | Custodial sentence imposed | New CPO issued | Monetary sentence imposed | Other penalty issued | Other outcome | Outcome not known | Total |
| 2017-18 | Revoked due to Breach/ Review | 0                      | 32                         | 32             | 5                         | 13                   | 16            | 2                 | 100   |
| 2018-19 | Revoked due to Breach/ Review | 0                      | 42                         | 40             | 2                         | 3                    | 15            | 1                 | 103   |
| 2019-20 | Revoked due to Breach/ Review | 0                      | 26                         | 32             | 2                         | 13                   | 4             | 1                 | 78    |

- 2.12 The Criminal Justice Social Work Service remains focussed on improving outcomes for individuals in the justice system. Robust performance information is key to understanding how well interventions are managed and to support continuous improvement. The recent extension of the presumption against short term prison sentences from 3 months to 12 months is expected to result in an increased use of community sentences across Scotland. It is therefore anticipated that the recent trend of falling numbers of CPOs is likely to be reversed. A range of workforce planning scenarios have been developed by the Public Protection and Unpaid Work teams to ensure that they have sufficient capacity to manage any increase in CPO numbers. However recent analysis suggests that any rise will not have a significant impact on the overall numbers of CPOs managed in Perth and Kinross.

### 3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) Notes the work undertaken by the Public Protection and Unpaid Work Teams in respect of Community Payback Orders in Perth and Kinross for the year 2019-2020; and
- (ii) Requests the Chief Social Work Officer to bring forward a report regarding the activity and performance of Community Payback Orders for 2020-2021 which also sets out the impact of COVID-19 restrictions.

**Author**

| <b>Name</b>     | <b>Designation</b>                                   | <b>Contact Details</b>                                                             |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nicola Rogerson | Service Manager –<br>Criminal Justice Social<br>Work | <a href="mailto:Committee@pkc.gov.uk">Committee@pkc.gov.uk</a><br><br>01738 475000 |

**Approved**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Designation</b>                                  | <b>Date</b>   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Jacquie Pepper | Depute Director and<br>Chief Social Work<br>Officer | 26 April 2021 |

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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>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>None</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. (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. (v).

- 1.3 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Vision, Values and Priorities in respect of the following key Priority area:

- Safe and Protected

## **2. Resource Implications**

### Financial

- 2.1 This report contains no proposals which would have a financial impact on the Council.

### Workforce

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

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

- 2.3 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.

This section should reflect that 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

- 3.2 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 matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are requested to note the contents of the report only and the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

### Sustainability

- 3.3 There are no issues in respect of sustainability from the proposals in this report.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.4 This report contains no proposals which would have a legal or governance impact on the Council.
- 3.5 N/A

### Risk

- 3.6 There are no issues in respect of risk from the proposals in this report.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 None.

### External

- 4.2 None.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 There are no communication issues in respect of the proposals in this report.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 None.

## **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 Appendix 1 – Community Payback Order Annual Report 2019/20





# COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDER ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR: **2019/20**

LOCAL AUTHORITY: **Perth and Kinross**



**Types of unpaid work projects and activities which have been carried out; the total number of unpaid work hours completed during the year; and information and examples that help to demonstrate how communities benefit from unpaid work.**

The Unpaid Work Team (UPW) is located at Westbank House which is an extensive site and is shared with the Council plant nurseries in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council Community Greenspace. The UPW team use a partially converted Roads Department shed as a workshop in which they store their outdoor tools and build and repair furniture. This also includes constructing other wooden structures depending on the requirements of the job request. This co-location provides many opportunities for collaborative and partnership working as well as promoting employability opportunities for the people undertaking UPW. The team works closely with the Environment Service and Community Greenspace to ensure towns and villages across Perth and Kinross have their plants and hanging flower baskets delivered timeously and make a significant contribution to this process.

The site at Westbank House has helped promote a culture of inclusion for people in Perth and Kinross to learn new skills and build their social and emotional confidence. It operates on the ethos of a social enterprise and has led to the development of the Westbank Project with the strap-line 'The Growing Place'. This not only refers to horticultural activities but the personal, social and emotional development of those using the site. The purpose for the UPW Team is about delivering high quality work which is of social benefit to the citizens and communities of Perth and Kinross while:

- ensuring we continue to discharge our statutory responsibilities;
- providing a productive environment for clients through purposeful activity;
- supporting and investing in staff to deliver and sustain a quality service;
- working to support and deliver the Westbank vision.

The work delivered by the UPW team spans across the geography of Perth and Kinross and is a highly visible demonstration of the reparation work provided to both urban and rural communities. The activity promotes social inclusion for those who are often marginalised because of their criminal behaviour.

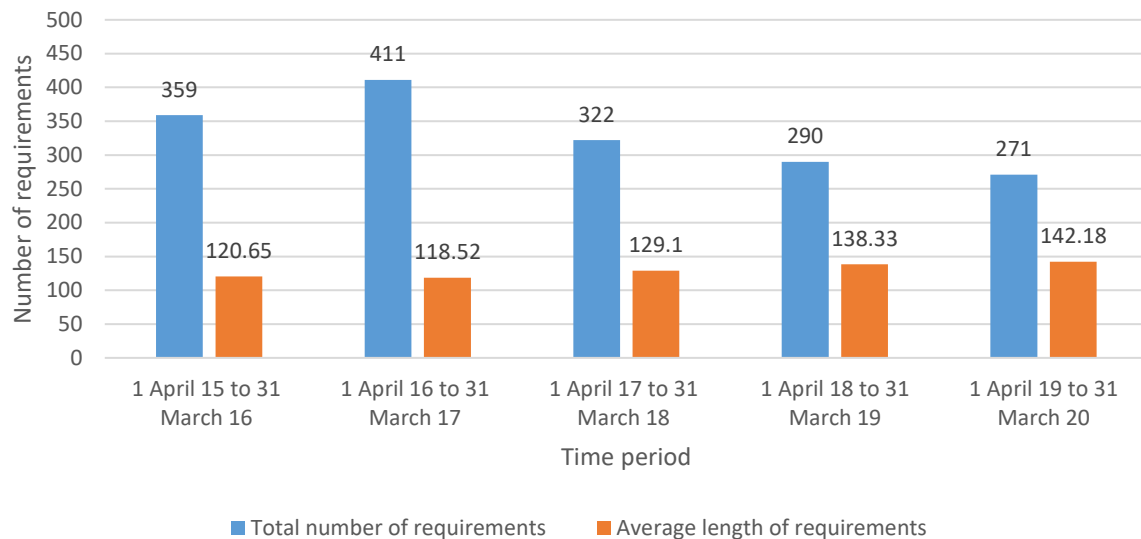


Figure 1. New Unpaid Work Requirements – Number and average length (hours)

Figure 1 highlights that there were 271 Unpaid Work Requirements imposed in 2019/20 with an average of 142 hours per Requirement. This is the fourth year in succession where the number of new UPW Requirements has decreased. However, in tandem with the decrease in Requirements, there has been successive increases in the average length of Requirements. Therefore, the trend is for fewer but longer UPW Requirements.

In 2019/20, 75% of all UPW Requirements were successfully completed. This compares with 75% in 2018/19. Of the CPOs that were not completed successfully in 2019/20, the majority were breached and returned to Court for non-compliance. In these cases, the offender typically received either a further CPO or a custodial sentence.

Perth and Kinross Council's UPW Team received 355 requests for work to be carried out during 2019-20. The requests were received from communities across Perth and Kinross and required a wide range of activities to be carried out. These included:

- Ground-clearing and maintenance;
- Garden renovation and landscaping;
- Planting and digging;
- Garden Furniture and raised bed construction;
- Painting and decorating;
- Building and brick work;
- Fencing and dry-stone walling;
- Pointing and cementing;
- Chewing gum and graffiti removal;
- Set and prop building for events;
- Litter picking;
- Growing and cultivation;
- Courses and training;
- Cleaning and power-washing;
- Path building and slab-laying.

Specific activities and publicity for this including community feedback have included the following:

## 1. Decorating the Scout Hut in Bridge of Earn

Community Payback Team clients spent approximately 320 hours over 2 weeks painting the inside and outside of the Scout Hut in Bridge of Earn.

The clients gained experience of decorating skills and techniques including using decorating poles, rollers and ladders (*pictured right*).



The clients received this positive feedback after the work was completed (*pictured, right*):

"The Cubs think the hut is AWESOME!! Looks fab. Can you pass on our sincere thanks to the team. We are really very grateful. Really exceeded our expectations."



## 2. Renovation work at Perth Congregational Church

Worshipping on the site of Perth Congregational Church, located on Kinnoull Street in Perth (opposite Pullar House), can be traced back to 1794.

However, the current church on the site (*pictured, right*) was designed by architects Steele and Balfour, who were based in Glasgow. It is built in the period of Scots Gothic, using sandstone, with a slate roof and it opened to the public in 1899.





It is a listed building and still contains the original decorative wooden pulpit, wooden organ case (*pictured, left*) and wooden pews. It has cast iron columns and carvings of foliage at the gallery level.

The pews (*pictured, below*) needed essential renovating so the Church asked for help from the Community Payback Team clients to clean and varnish this Church's pews and other woodwork.

They spent around 500 hours in total over 3 weeks to renovate the woodwork.



The job had to be undertaken in stages so that there was no disruption to the Congregation's service schedule.

All the woodwork, including the pews, are now clean and looking beautifully shiny: renovated to last so that many more generations of the Congregation can enjoy this listed place of worship.



### 3.      **Reparation work to a wall at Kirk Wynd in Dunning**

The Community Payback Team were asked by the local Community Council to repair the block and brick wall (*pictured, right*) at the bottom of Kirk Wynd.



The wall was sagging outwards and was unsafe for passers-by, especially local children en-route to school.

The wall had to be completely stripped back (*pictured, left*) and re-built.

The work was completed (*pictured, right*) over a weekend and took about 35 hours in total to complete.



### 4.      **Flood prevention work in Forgandenny**



*Overgrown vegetation hiding the Burn*

In early September, Community Payback Team clients cleared a severely overgrown section of Forgandenny Burn (*pictured, above*).

They spent almost 50 hours over two days, clearing the river-banks and the grating to help make the area safer from flooding. The photos (*below*) show the area now.



## 5. Visit from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice

In February 2020, the Westbank Project was visited by Humza Yousaf (Cabinet Secretary for Justice) who was interested in finding out about the activity and developments at the Westbank site.

He was able to chat with two students who attend Perth High School and were referred through UPW about their views on the Forklift training they were undertaking (*one of whom is pictured, right*). Also, their experience of the opportunities available to them at the Westbank site.







The Cabinet Secretary met the Chair of the Perth and Kinross Community Justice Partnership Councillor Chris Ahern, an UPW Project Officer, and the Westbank Manager (all pictured, left). He heard about the plans and projects being undertaken at Westbank and the geographical scope of work across both the urban and rural communities in Perth and Kinross.

## 6. Painting over graffiti in Tulloch



In March 2019 the UPW Team spent a weekend painting over graffiti in the Tulloch Underpass in Perth which links Nimmo Avenue to Tulloch Primary School.

Almost a year on – in mid-February 2020 – the Community Payback Team clients were asked to return and again paint over more graffiti in the Underpass (pictured, above and right). The work took a full weekend and its refurbishment has again not only improved the environment but made the use of underpass a less intimidating experience.





**Quotes from people on CPOs and beneficiaries about the impact of the unpaid work on them and/or the community.**

**Quotes from people who have undertaken UPW**

“Being out of work because of my mental health, being here gave me joy to be doing stuff for the local community.”

“Upgrading people’s houses who were unable to do it themselves”

“Very lonely person, it has got me back into what it is like to be in a place of work”

“Learning new skill sets from the work and staff”.

**Quotes from beneficiaries of the services of the UPW Team**

- UPW clients helped a group in Perth prepare for a community event for which the Team received an email thanking them for their work:

*“I just wanted to say thank you to Ian and the team for all their help on Friday and Saturday. Ian and the team performed above and beyond on both days and I was extremely impressed to have them come back and take the tables and chairs to Letham St Marks after the event. I hope that we can work with you all in the future.”*

- UPW clients re-decorated the main room in Ardoch Parish Church Hall over three days. The paint was peeling off the walls and a refreshed colour scheme was needed. Following completion of the work, the Team received the following feedback:

*“On behalf of Ardoch Church congregation I wish to express our grateful thanks to the Community Payback Team for the excellent painting work they have done at the Church premises. We are delighted with the new look and it has brightened the whole place.*

*(UPW Supervisor) and his team have been exceptionally tidy and at the end of each day have always cleared up so that the hall can be used with no problem. Thank you so much for your assistance.”*

- Family worker (Children, Families and and Young Person’s Services, PKC) provided this feedback:

*“I just wanted to say a BIG thank you to you and your team who decorated the sitting room of one of the families we work with in [Perth City]. The guys involved went out of their way to help and support the family and this has had a positive impact. The referral was acted upon really promptly, the standard of work was very high, and the family are in a more motivated and positive place.”*

- The Secretary (Comrie Community Council) provided the following feedback:

*“Just a quick note to thank you for the excellent service you provided last Friday with the group of Community Payback men and women that came through to Comrie to assist with the tree planting project. They were all very personable and helpful and we got the job done within our allotted time frame.”*

- Committee member from Beautiful Perth provided the following feedback:

*“Can I thank yourself and (UPW Supervisor) for the huge help you gave us at the WebWalk last Tuesday and at Oakbank corner the following Monday. Your clients performed magnificently, worked hard and in a courteous and polite manner. On behalf of Beautiful Perth and all the volunteers can I say a big thank you to your clients. Their help is much appreciated.”*

- Family worker (Children, Families and and Young Person’s Services, PKC) stated the following:

*“I would just like to let you know that I was extremely happy with the painting works completed at the above address. The works that was carried out by (UPW supervisor) and his team was very professional and outstanding. The elderly tenant is very happy to be back home, and his property looks amazing!”*

### **Types of "other activity" carried out as part of the unpaid work or other activity requirement.**

The Westbank Hub continues to provide opportunities for a range of community groups which include:

- Young people who have disengaged at school. They will be able to utilise the opportunities at the Westbank Project and gain an insight into work. learn new skills and work towards qualifications in partnership with their designated school and improve the likelihood of reaching positive destinations.
- Offenders who have been involved in UPW will have opportunities to learn new skills, attain basic certificates of competence and learn how to ready themselves for the job market.
- People who are isolated through illness, bereavement or for other reasons will have the opportunity to socially engage with others, learn new skills, build their confidence and learn how to ready themselves for either a job or volunteering.
- Women who have physical, mental-health, offending and addiction issues will have opportunities to engage with individuals and groups through the One Stop Women’s Learning Service (OWLS) to learn new job skills, build their self-confidence and self-esteem making them better able to consider future employment prospects and/or volunteering.

They do this through working with others at the Westbank project through:

- Horticulture;
- Plant maintenance and distribution;
- Joinery and manufacturing;
- Furniture renovation;
- Bee-keeping;
- Allotment cultivation;
- Grounds maintenance;
- Painting and decorating.

In addition, this is achieved through working with other agencies who deliver on course in:

- First Aid;

- Cardio Vascular preparation;
- Confidence and team building;
- Health and Safety;
- Ground maintenance;
- Plant care and maintenance.

Westbank has now been fully accredited by the Road Traffic Industry Training Board (RTITB) and is delivering certificated internationally recognised Forklift and Telehandler training. This is available to those furthest from the workplace via partnerships with the Employability Network, the Westbank Hub (Outreach), Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), HMP Castle Huntly, education services, mental health and learning disability support groups.

In February 2020, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf visited the Westbank Project and met with one of the first clients to successfully complete their Forklift training. The person has since gone on to secure employment as a result of gaining the qualification.

A Skills Academy for European Social Fund (ESF) candidates is planned which will provide 50 courses between 1 September 2020 and 31 December 2020. Other future developments include the installation of a fully fitted vehicle workshop where candidates can be trained in vehicle maintenance, servicing, inspection, tyre fitting, valeting, welding and metal fabrication. To facilitate this development, structural changes are being carried out to the area and it is expected that the workshop will be operational early in 2021.

**Activities carried out to consult prescribed persons and organisations, pursuant to section 227ZL of the 1995 Act, and wider communities on the nature of unpaid work and other activities and how the consultation results helped determine which projects were undertaken.**

The Criminal Justice Service has developed several media channels to publicise the work of the UPW Team and encourage local communities to engage with them. These include:

- News from Westbank. This monthly e-newsletter provides updates on all four projects that form part of the Westbank Hub: UPW, Westbank Project, Perth Community Farm and Community Greenspace. The newsletter contains short news stories and pictures that highlight the work of the teams that operate from Westbank and offers readers the opportunity to volunteer with the projects.
- The Westbank Project Facebook page. The page contains short news stories and photographs of pieces of work undertaken by the teams based at the Hub.
- Unpaid Work Website page. As part of the Perth and Kinross website, the UPW Team's page includes a function that allows members of the community to submit requests for pieces of work for their communities. This has proved popular and increased the accessibility of the team.

The success of these media channels in highlighting the work of the UPW Team is evidenced by the fact that they received 355 requests for work to be undertaken during 2019/20. While very welcome, this has also been challenging as the Team received such a volume of requests that these had to be prioritised particularly when considering new work requests and, in an effort, to clear the subsequent back-log.

**Use by the courts of CPO requirements other than unpaid work, for example what, and in what way, different requirements are being used for those whose offending is driven by drug, alcohol and mental health issues; or how requirements such as programme or conduct are being used to address offending behaviour.**

The number of new Community Payback Orders (CPOs) issued by the Courts for people in Perth and Kinross in 2019/20 was similar in number of new CPOs which were issued in the previous year. In 2019/20 there were 353 new CPOs compared to 346 in 2018/19.

Although the number of CPOs remains steady, there have been some differences in the number and types of Requirements issued in 2019/20 when compared to 2018/19.

The number of Supervision Requirements increased from 198 in 2018/19 to 219 in 2019/20. There was also an increase in the number of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Requirements. This is an area where the Criminal Justice Service are taking a closer look at and is an important part of the review and development of the changes in our service delivery for men in the justice system. This will reflect the partnership and integrated working practices with health colleagues, and third sector which already exists with our OWLS service for women.

The only notable decrease in CPO Requirements was Unpaid Work where the number fell from 290 in 2018/19 to 271 in 2019/20. It is not clear why this is the case however; the service will keep this under review and monitor this to ascertain if a trend is developing.

**Caledonian System (Delivered by the Public Protection Team)**

The Caledonian System is an integrated way of working to address men's domestic abuse and improve the lives of women and children. It is delivered by Perth and Kinross in partnership with Dundee City Council and has been operational in both areas since April 2019. As such it is now a CPO Programme Requirement disposal available to Sheriffs at the point of sentencing.

Since implementation CJS social workers in Perth and Kinross have prepared 101 Criminal Justice social Work Reports (CJSWRs) where domestic aggravators have been attached to the index offence. In each case the man has been screened for their suitability for inclusion in the Caledonian programme in conjunction with the Caledonian Groupwork Delivery Team. Pre-sentence assessments are jointly prepared along with a Spousal assault Risk Assessment Version 3 (SARAv3). In addition, there is joint delivery of 2:1 work with male perpetrators enabling a productive exchange of vital information, assessment of risk and decision making. This is particularly beneficial given the women's worker who is employed by Perthshire Women's Aid (PWA) is integrated and based in the criminal justice social work office.

The Caledonian System offers a direct service to the women who are cited as victims of domestic offences and are offered not only support but the opportunity to give their views at the pre-sentence stage of the perpetrator. This service is a new development for Perth and Kinross as it the first time social workers have had the opportunity to work directly with victims of crime. Up until 31 March 2020, over 70 women have engaged with the Caledonian women's service whether their partner's charges have led to a conviction or they have not been accepted on the programme. This has been an important source of support for women and a recognition they have been heard and are not isolated.

Relevant information sharing protocols are also in place and have allowed Police Scotland to share perpetrator information when a man has been convicted of a domestic offence.

This is crucial when social workers are assessing levels of risk of re-offending and harm as well as ascertaining suitability for inclusion in the Caledonian Programme. This is one example of the programme being a multiagency approach which also includes sharing of information with children's services and child protection, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), MARAC and MATAC.

Although the basis of the current Caledonian System is groupwork based for male perpetrators, there is current work ongoing to allow the programme to be delivered on a 1:1 basis as not all individuals are suitable for groupwork.

Where domestic abuse has been a concern, CJS has been able to offer some non-court mandated input to Children and Families social work teams. CJS are keen to expand this area and are aware that there are currently pilot projects in 3 local authority areas which are looking to deliver non-court mandated work jointly between CJS and Children and Families services. This would be a valuable and much needed development however, there are resource implications which need to be considered before this is progressed further.

**Any issues affecting access to services which are provided by other partners (e.g. drug and alcohol services) and, where such issues have been identified, what work is underway to resolve them.**

A key issue for the Criminal Justice Service has been in relation to work with social work colleagues in adult social work and social care. There is a need to clarify responsibilities in undertaking assessment for a person's health and social care needs while they are subject to a CPO or are working voluntarily with workers in CJS. This is currently an area which is being addressed between services to ensure there is no detriment to the person receiving or requiring a service and workers understand their role and responsibilities.

**Any other relevant information, which may include:**

- **Examples of any work carried out with people on CPOs to address their offending behaviour but which does not fall into the category of a specific requirement**
- **Examples of work carried out in partnership with the third sector**
- **Areas identified where improvements can be made, i.e. CPO commencement/completion rates**
- **Any other areas identified for improvement and planned next steps**
- **Any other information**

**One-Stop Women's Learning Service (OWLS)**

OWLS has actively participated in a range of community activities during 2019/20 which have included the following:

- **MacMillan Coffee Morning.** Women from OWLS hosted their first MacMillan Coffee Morning and raised approximately £200. The event was planned and run by women who use the service and it well attended by members of the local community.
- **Perth and Kinross Home Safety Partnership Scheme.** Staff and women from OWLS participated in a scheme which provides emergency service staff with vital details of any illness and medications when they are called to attend someone in their own home. In addition, it provides details of the person's emergency contact should this

be required and is stored in a plastic container in the person's fridge. The women filled 3000 containers which they then delivered to the local Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) who distributed them to relevant people in the community.

- The local Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) received funding up to December 2021 to participate and work in partnership with six services in the Perth and Kinross in terms of the Community Advice Project (CAP). The purpose was to provide advice and support to people experiencing poverty, financial hardship or poor mental and physical health. The support provided is tailored to the individual, an example of which includes individuals who have had their benefits stopped following a short-term prison sentence or require support to access medical services.

### **Criminal Justice Men's Service**

The Perth and Kinross Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) identified men who offend as a key priority and an area which required further focus. A review into the criminal justice social work service delivery for men was conducted and a report produced in January 2019. Central to this were the views of men who experience the justice system and what services were being delivered in other local authority areas. Also, what evidence and research told us about the most effective ways of working with men to achieve the best outcomes for them, their families and communities.

Funding was subsequently provided over a two year period and agreed at Full Council in 2019. This has allowed the service to scope out opportunities to work in a more integrated way with the third sector and health colleagues to address some of the fundamental issues for men and impinge on their offending behaviour.

The Men's Service will provide a blend of both structured and unstructured interventions. The structured interventions will relate to men who are subject to CPOs as often their level of risk and their criminogenic needs will be better managed in terms of an intense and targeted approach. Less structured interventions, for example if a person is in crisis and even if they are not on a CPO then there will be the flexibility to respond in a more agile and fluid nature to stem the crisis and reduce the potential for further harm.

To achieve the environment and service which reflects the findings of the research, the following principles have been developed:

- Facilitate a safe environment which is non-threatening, trauma informed and enhances men's engagement
- Provide a structured modular programme of work that will be delivered in groups where possible but adapted for individual delivery if required depending on specific needs
- A person's mental and physical wellbeing will be at the forefront of any work undertaken with men in the service
- A person-centred assessment process will be adopted in addition to the usual risk assessment tools and case management processes. This will help the individual to chart their own progress and move away from offending as well as having a better understanding of themselves and their own abilities.
- Provide a one-stop approach where services, either statutory or third sector can deliver direct interventions, co-ordinate and share information where appropriate and support men in their progress out of their offending patterns.
- Ensure trauma informed and adverse childhood experiences are more widely considered when working with men and ensure they receive the necessary support to address these issues.

As of March 2020, the final proposal for the project was almost complete regarding a partnership agreement with third sector. The plan was to begin moving forward in July 2020 however due to the advent of COVID-19, it has delayed plans and it is now anticipated to be late 2020 / early 2021.

### **Structured Deferred Sentence (Right Track – aged 16 to 26))**

There were 42 referrals during the period 2019/20 of which 35 were male and 7 were female. During the period 2019/20, only 1 person was unsuccessful in reaching their completion date and received a custodial sentence for further offending during their participation on the programme.

Of the clients who successfully completed Right Track: two clients were Admonished and Dismissed due to their work project hours being completed, 7 clients were made subject to a Community Payback Order and the remainder offered a Fine or given a Deferred Sentence for good behaviour.

A number of the Right Track participants have continued to attend the work project – which is a version of UPW – at the Westbank site where Right Track now has its own shed and allotment. The young people complete gardening work, litter picking and general maintenance of the site and surrounding area. They have also accrued additional hours in one of the local charity shops or by removing chewing gum from pavements in Perth City centre.

During April 2019 to March 2020, 2,667 hours of voluntary work were completed by the Right Track clients.

### **Bail Supervision**

The criminal justice social work service along with youth services have collaboratively designed a Bail Supervision service for young people aged 16-21 (up to age 26 for care leavers) to develop the existing capacity in the area. This partnership was developed following additional monies given to re-invigorate the Whole System Approach to youth offending.

The Service aims to give young people the opportunity to engage in intensive support provided by a Bail Officer prior to attending court for sentencing. The contact with the Bail Officer is up to three times per week or more if required and includes home visits where appropriate. The work carried out with the young person is specifically targeted to their needs and can involve a range of other service providers including:

- Drug and Alcohol Team;
- WEB Project and Streets Ahead;
- Hillcrest Futures;
- Skills Development Scotland;
- 16+ Team;
- RASAC (Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre);
- PKAVS (Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Service);
- Police Scotland;
- Venture Trust;
- Welfare Rights.

In 2019/20, the service received 44 requests for Bail Supervision and of these, 15 cases commenced. Of the 15 cases, 14 successfully completed with the remaining young person being remanded and later imprisoned. A number of positive outcomes have been recorded during this reporting period including successful participation by one young person in a construction course run in partnership with youth services and another individual completing a baby first aid course.

### **Diversion from Prosecution**

Considering rising prisoner numbers and building on the expansion of Bail Supervision in partnership with youth services, criminal justice social work has increased its focus on Diversion from prosecution. The support provided to people subject to Diversion is always delivered on a one to one basis by an allocated Criminal Justice Assistant (CJA) and on occasion when the needs of the individual are more complex then, a social worker may also work alongside them to offer additional advice and support. The nature of the support is to look at behaviour that may put the person at risk of committing further offences and to offer practical support and advice, usually by signposting people to appropriate services. Also, where existing services are in place, liaison will take place to ensure that the person is engaging with them. Any client referred by the Procurator Fiscal (PF), with the exemption of anyone accused of domestic offences, may be eligible to participate in the Diversion scheme.

In 2019/20 56 potential diversion cases were assessed, of which 35 were deemed suitable for Diversion. Of the 35, 21 of these individuals successfully completed with 9 currently still subject to Diversion so have not completed this process yet. The remaining 5 were reported back to the PF due to their lack of engagement.

COMPLETED BY: Nicola Rogerson

DATE: 30 November 2020

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## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

### HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

31 May 2021

### COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

**Report by Depute Director – Communities**  
(Report No. 21/68)

To provide an update on progress with Community Planning priorities since the last update to the Housing and Communities Committee on 3 February 2021.

#### 1. LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND CONFERENCE

- 1.1 As initial lockdown restrictions eased in July 2020, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) established a Short Life Working Group to consider and reflect on the impact of COVID on services and communities. The Working Group reviewed Community Impact Assessments, as well as emerging statistical data and evidence from individual services and agencies. This information was used to develop a series of emerging priorities which CPP Board agreed would form the basis of a new Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP).
- 1.2 In December 2020, the CPP Board agreed five strategic priorities for the revised LOIP. There is clear synergy between Community Planning and the Perth and Kinross Offer, as Community Planning brings services and communities together to design and deliver better services that make a real difference to people's lives. The LOIP will be the CPP's unique contribution to the Offer, with a specific focus on tackling socio-economic inequality. The revised strategic priorities are:

#### **Equalities**

1. **Poverty** (inc. Child, Food and Fuel Poverty) are significant issues of inequality and ones which have been increasingly highlighted during lockdown, with levels of poverty increasing.
2. **Physical and Mental Wellbeing** have been negatively impacted as a result of COVID and lockdown. Evidence from services shows a significant increase in demand for support of this nature during lockdown.

#### **Education**

3. **Skills, Learning and Development** is of concern as a result of lost learning and the need for individuals to build their skills, confidence and resilience.

## **Economy**

4. **Employability** is a key part of recovery and a focus on upskilling for those seeking employment and supporting young people in an increasingly competitive job market is important.

## **Empowerment and Fairness**

5. **Digital Participation** is increasingly important as services and wider society moves online. Lockdown has highlighted issues with connectivity, technology and capacity.

- 1.3 An online CPP Conference was held on 28 and 29 April to begin to gather the information needed to develop the new LOIP, with contributions from all partners. The conference focused on root causes, preventative approaches and learning from positive stories from our communities to inform a series of workshop sessions. Across the two days, almost 100 colleagues and partners contributed to the conference. Key points included:

- COVID and lockdown has shone a light on some of the hidden socio-economic inequalities that people face in Perth and Kinross. These are encapsulated in the five strategic priorities and should be our collective focus;
- The strategic priorities are closely interlinked and cannot be considered in isolation – poverty lies at the heart of these inequalities;
- Broad commitment and support for designing and delivering locally-based services which focus on preventing individuals and families from falling into crisis situations; and
- There is a strong foundation of partnership working in Perth and Kinross, but more needs to be done to break down silos and maximise collaboration.

- 1.4 A key element of the conference were five workshop sessions, where delegates were able to focus on each of the strategic priorities. Each workshop had a specific discussion on: the issues that underpin these inequalities; the improvement in outcomes we wish to see; the work that partners and communities are already delivering in response to these issues; and new actions or interventions that are now necessary as a result of COVID and lockdown, to help realise our collective ambitions.

- 1.5 The outcomes of the conference are being used to develop the updated LOIP, an initial draft of which was presented to CPP Board on 21 May. A final draft of the LOIP will be brought to CPP Board and Council by September.

## **2. COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-2024**

- 2.1 The Council is working with partners, communities and individual service users to develop our latest Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan. CLD supports people and communities to engage in learning, personal development, and active citizenship. The plan will set out the Council's and our partner's commitments to deliver capacity building and literacy services which improve people's lives and tackle inequality. The plan will align with the

Perth and Kinross Offer, especially around education, empowerment and fairness and will also reflect the new LOIP, with specific commitments around CLD's role in delivering against the five strategic priorities. The plan will be brought to Committee before August 2021, prior to submission in September.

### 3. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2021/22

- 3.1 The Community Investment Fund (CIF) was established in February 2018 to provide funding for community-led projects across Perth and Kinross. Across 2018/19 and 2019/20, over 200 projects were collectively awarded £1.2m to tackle local inequalities and improve quality of life in their communities.
- 3.2 In March 2020, Council agreed to an additional £300,000 for CIF in 2020/21. CIF projects rely on collaboration between community volunteers, suppliers and services and often involve specific community events. Lockdown restrictions meant that this was not possible in 2020/21 and in January 2021, Council agreed to carry the money over into the following financial year. In March 2021 a further £300,000 was committed for CIF in 2021/22, meaning that the 2021/22 CIF will have £600,000 of funding for community-led projects. A report, with recommendations on achieving greater equity in budget allocations, assessment criteria reflecting the new LOIP and changes to governance to speed up the decision making process is being taken to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 2 June 2021.

### 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Housing and Communities Committee **notes** the progress since February on Community Planning objectives.

#### Author

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#### Approved

| Name         | Designation                   | Date        |
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| Clare Mailer | Depute Director (Communities) | 13 May 2021 |

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# PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

## Housing & Communities Committee

31 May 2021

### Housing Contribution Statement

#### Report by Executive Director (Communities)

(Report No. 21/69)

The report updates Housing & Communities Committee on the contribution housing is making to delivering the Health & Social Care priorities within the Strategic Commissioning Plan. The statement provides an update on the achievements delivered, their impact on people's outcomes and an overview of some of the challenges and next steps.

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Perth and Kinross Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020-2025 sets out how we can work together to meet the needs of people in Perth and Kinross, both now and into the future. One of the main aims of the plan is to support people to lead as independent, healthy and active lives as possible in their own homes.
- 1.2 Housing plays a vital role in providing services and support to intervene early and prevent later, longer term issues arising, and in enabling people to be empowered to live independent lives at home or in a homely setting.
- 1.3 Appropriate housing solutions can support people to live independently in the community, avoiding the need for more costly health and social care resources. We continue to work with partners to make sure that there is a good supply of affordable mainstream and supported housing with the necessary services to meet households needs.
- 1.4 Specifically the actions around housing in the Strategic Commissioning Plan are to:
  - work with housing developers to build sustainable housing which can be easily adapted to meet changing household needs;
  - respond to increasing demands for adaptations to existing homes;
  - work with key partners to respond effectively to the increasing range and complexity for specialist housing and support to enable people to live independently in the community;
  - work in partnership to respond appropriately to the specific housing and support needs of vulnerable groups such as homeless people, older people, people with mental health issues, people with learning disabilities and people with drug and alcohol issues;

- identify solutions to the challenges that the rural nature of the area presents in relation to the provision of support and suitable accommodation;
- continue to identify households in fuel poverty or at risk of fuel poverty to ensure appropriate support and assistance is provided;
- respond effectively to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the longer-term impact that this may have on households.

## 2. PROGRESS

2.1 The positive contribution housing has made is detailed in the attached report (Appendix 1). However, some of the key activities in relation to the specific actions within Strategic Commissioning Plan mentioned in section 1.4 above are:

- **New Build Provision** - we exceeded our annual new build target of 550 units by delivering a total of 861 homes during 2019/20. 215 households requiring social rented housing moved into new housing which was built to **“housing for varying needs” standard**. This standard aims to ensure a home is flexible enough to meet the existing and changing needs of households, including those with temporary or permanent physical disabilities.
- **Independent Living Pathway and Panel** - during 2019/20, work to promote independent living and increase the availability of housing and support options has progressed in partnership with colleagues from Housing, Planning and the Health and Social Care Partnership. We introduced a new pathway to independent living and a single assessment process. A multi-agency Independent Living Panel was established to review, analyse and authorise the allocation of housing for people with independent living needs. During 2019/20 the Panel met 13 times and considered 86 referrals with a range of housing and support needs and outcomes as follows:
  - 9 were allocated either a supported accommodation placement or mainstream housing with a support package.
  - 11 were assessed as having an urgent and current need for accommodation/support.
  - 66 have been assessed as having a future need for some form of specialist accommodation or support.
- **Independent Living Needs Design Guide** – a checklist of Independent Living Needs was developed as an appendix to the newly commissioned PKC Design Guide, outlining the accommodation standards and features required for people with bespoke build and support requirements. The checklist has informed project design specifications ensuring accommodation will be built to meet the needs of clients, including housing with varying needs standards. The design guide checklist has also enabled us to develop a range of accommodation models through our new build programme and through the regeneration of some surplus buildings for people with support requirements. 10 projects have been identified which will provide 44 units of accommodation and 9 units of staff accommodation throughout Perth and Kinross. 3 of the 10 projects will be ready before the end of 2021.

- **Accommodation Guide to Independent Living** – an Accommodation Guide to Independent Living was developed to support individuals, families and staff to understand the types of supported accommodation available and how to begin the process of accessing independent living. Feedback from staff and families has been positive with staff having more information to share to start the process and families feeling they are able to make more informed choices and decisions about housing and support.
- **Medical Adaptations and Care and Repair** - working with a range of partners we ensured residents and tenants have access to services to enable their homes to be adapted to meet their medical needs. During 2019/20: -
  - ❑ 159 major adaptations were undertaken to private homes.
  - ❑ 95 major adaptations and 257 minor adaptations were undertaken to council tenants' homes.
  - ❑ a scheme for people requiring small ramps of less than 5m long, regardless of tenure, to enable safe and suitable access to their home saw 28 ramps installed.

## 2.2 Other key areas of contribution include:

- **Home First** has transformed the way we support people facing homelessness. During 2019/20, a range of measures including the integrated schools programme, family mediation, our hospital and prison discharge protocols, and personalised budgets led to a reduction of more than 19% in the overall number of households presenting as homeless (in the context of a 4% increase in the number of people assessed as homeless nationally). In 2019/20, 758 households presented as homeless, a reduction from 943 in 2018/19.
- We invested in and developed our **Sheltered Housing** services, responding to cross-cutting issues affecting older people such as dementia, social isolation and loneliness. A focus on inclusive living ensures accommodation and support can be accessed and used by as many residents as possible. During the pandemic, support officers continued to provide assistance to our 350 sheltered tenants. Housing staff from other teams were re-tasked to ensure that enhanced support was provided. We have also developed a 'Housing Health Check' guide for older adults and a 'new tenant guide' to support new residents to join in with social activities and meet their aspirations for future housing. A range of improvement works including Wi-Fi in communal lounges, tenants gardening groups and dementia friendly art therapy working with Tayside Healthcare Arts Trust provide residents with an enhanced quality of life.
- **Good quality housing** has a direct impact on the general health and wellbeing of households. In 2019/20, we invested £8.7m to improve our Council homes. Overall, 95.77% of our stock now meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard against a national average of 94.09% (2018/19). Evidence from recent research undertaken by the Scottish Government on health and homelessness in Scotland suggests that people who were living in homes which met the national quality standard resulted in 39% fewer emergency admissions compared with those living in homes that were not upgraded.

- **Fuel Poverty** awareness raising has continued throughout 2019/20 with a range of initiatives and services supporting households to minimise bills and reduce their carbon footprint. We trialled a new delivery model for the Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) delivered in partnership with SCARF with a total of 315 home visits carried out, a 154% increase compared with 2018/19. Additionally, funding obtained during 2019/20 meant 309 properties benefited from initiatives including 276 properties (248 council and 28 private) having gas central heating installed, and 33 properties (30 council and 3 private) benefitting from Air Sourced Heat Pumps through the Warm Homes Fund. A total of 90 properties also received wall insulation as a result of the HEEPS-ABS funding and a further 1,448 properties were able to receive energy efficiency measures through ECO funding during the year.

2.3 The ongoing assessment of housing need and demand continues to highlight some key challenges that need to be collectively addressed:

- changing demographics in Perth and Kinross, particularly in relation to an ageing population profile.
- increasing demands for complex adaptations to existing homes.
- increasing demands for specialist housing and support for people with particular needs.
- responding appropriately to the specific housing and support needs of vulnerable groups such as homeless people, older people, people with mental health issues, people with learning disabilities and people with drug and alcohol issues.
- responding to our rural challenges in relation to the provision of support and suitable accommodation.
- continuing to identify households in fuel poverty or at risk so that appropriate support and assistance is provided.
- responding effectively to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the longer-term impact that this may have on households.

2.4 To address these challenges we are:

- collating robust housing, support and care needs information on current and future demand for housing and support which recognises the importance that location and amenities, including broadband connectivity, has in sustaining independent living.
- developing new and existing models of accommodation supported by our design guide and good practice to provide housing and support solutions that meet the needs of individuals with a range of care and support requirements.
- continuing to provide a range of affordable housing options and encouraging partners to include, mid-market rent and shared equity options as part of their new build programmes to ensure a range of tenures are available to help build sustainable and mixed communities.
- further exploring the use of Technology Enabled Care solutions within Housing Services.



### **3. PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 Our vision for Perth and Kinross is to make it an area where everyone will have access to good quality, energy efficient housing which they can afford to live in and which is in a safe and pleasant environment. We want to ensure that people have access to services that can enable them to live independently and that they have the opportunities within their communities to participate and make social connections which they can then rely on for support in times of need.
- 3.2 This report provides an update on our achievements in delivering the housing contribution and an overview of the next steps. It also outlines the impact that suitable housing can have on people's health, wellbeing and for some the ability to live independently at home.
- 3.3 By working collaboratively, we will continue to further develop solutions to the challenges highlighted in paragraph 2.3.

### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 This report demonstrates the impact of Housing's contribution to the achievement of local, and national, priorities and objectives. Good progress has been made over the year and the strengthened partnership between Housing and the Health and Social Care Partnership is having a positive impact. The provision of more specialist housing is meeting the more specific and complex needs of many of our residents, enabling them to live independently within their own homes. From the availability of new housing supply and improving the quality of our homes has created a positive impact on the general health and wellbeing of individuals. Work to ensure communities remain safe and secure, and feel supported, as well as involving residents in shaping decisions has established places where people want to live.
- 4.2 Further areas for improvement have been identified and along with ensuring support for people with a physical disability and/or sensory impairment are prioritised across the three localities in Perth and Kinross, this will be the focus of the Commissioning Plan as it evolves over next twelve months.

### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Housing & Communities Committee:
  - i) notes the contribution the Housing Service has made to the implementation of the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020 – 2025.
  - ii) agrees to the proposal to integrate the contribution housing makes toward the delivery of the strategic aims within the revised Health & Social Care Partnership Strategic Commissioning Plan.

**Author**

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| Barbara Renton | Executive Director<br>(Communities) | 13 May 2021 |

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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

#### Strategic Commissioning Plan

- 1.1 This report supports the following outcomes of the Perth and Kinross Strategic Commissioning Plan:

- (i) prevention and early intervention,
- (ii) person-centred health, care and support
- (iii) work together with communities
- (iv) inequality, inequity and healthy living.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

- 2.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### Workforce

- 2.2 There are no direct workforce issues arising from this report.

### **3. Assessments**

#### **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, PKC and NHS Tayside 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 HSCP to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The Equality Impact Assessment undertaken in relation to this report can be Viewed. This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) and assessed as **relevant** and the following positive outcomes are expected following implementation:
- Increased independent living and support for those people living with particular needs.

#### **Risk**

- 3.3 There are no issues of risk arising from the proposals in this report.
- 3.4 There are no directions from the IJB to NHS Tayside or Perth & Kinross Council identified or required at this stage.

### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 Tenant Reports Panel noted that this is such a positive and thought-provoking report, and it is encouraging to know that Perth and Kinross is moving in a good direction. The enthusiasm and dedications of the whole department shines through the whole report. It is reassuring to see good partnership working and that the Tenancy Sustainment Fund has increased during this current climate.

### **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCES**

- 5.1 No background papers were relied upon during the preparation of this report.

### **6. Appendices**

- 6.1 Appendix 1 in this report is the Housing Contribution Statement.

## APPENDIX 1



### HOUSING'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PERTH & KINROSS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

**JANUARY 2021**

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## Introduction

The Housing Contribution Statement (HCS) is a statutory requirement, set out in the Statutory Guidance and Advice note to support the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

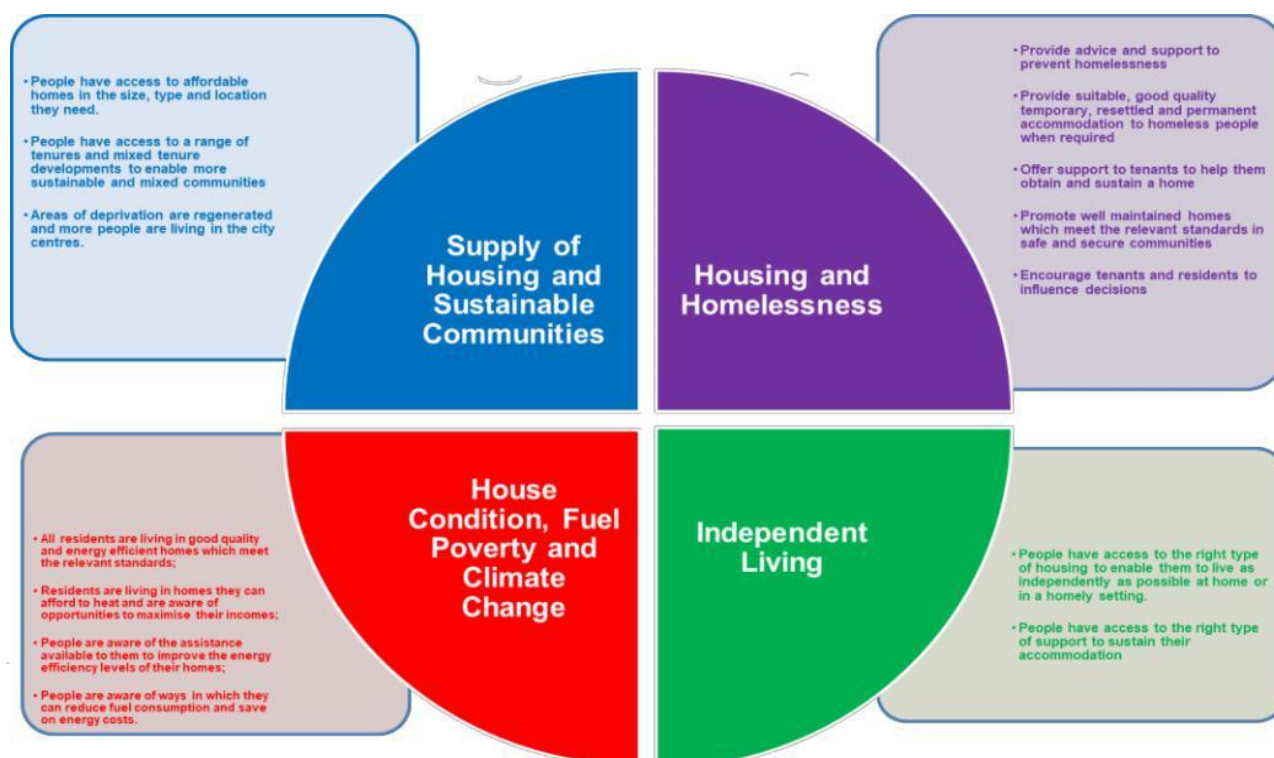
Perth & Kinross Council's Housing Contribution Statement (HCS) has been developed in partnership with Housing and Health and Social Care strategic planners and operational practitioners. The statement acknowledges people's right to live at home or within a homely setting; that suitable, quality housing contributes to reducing health inequalities; and recognises Housing's key role within health and social care integration.' It also meets the aim of the Perth and Kinross Offer as it provides partners with a meaningful platform for people and communities to be involved in the decisions that affect them and provide them with the best opportunities available, where they feel supported and are encouraged to flourish and live life well.

This is the second Housing Contribution Statement produced by the Housing Service and its partners. Housing has an important influence on health inequalities in Scotland through affordability, housing quality, fuel poverty, and the role of housing in community life. The Statement clearly articulates the links between Housing, Health and Social Care and highlights the shared outcomes and service priorities identified in both the Strategic Plan and the Local Housing Strategy (LHS).

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 places a statutory requirement on local authorities to produce a Local Housing Strategy (LHS) which sets out its strategy, priorities and plans for the delivery of housing and related services.

The LHS defines the local housing priorities within the context of the National Performance Framework (NPF), the Perth and Kinross Community Plan, the Perth and Kinross Corporate Plan and the **Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan**. It highlights the regulatory standards and outcomes we are required to meet (by Scottish Government and the Scottish Housing Regulator) as well as other key outcomes jointly agreed with stakeholders during the LHS strategy development process.

### LHS Key Priorities and Outcomes



The Scottish Public Health Network sets out the contribution housing can make to health and wellbeing in their report '**Foundations for well-being: reconnecting public health and housing**'<sup>1</sup>.

The report states:

*'Good housing is an essential pre-requisite for human wellbeing and is central to some of the most pressing health challenges in Scotland, including poverty and inequality; climate change; and population ageing. Long-standing interests and new developments – for instance, legislation on health and social care integration, community planning, and community empowerment – have combined to create an ideal window of opportunity for a reconnection between public health and housing.'*

The report then goes on to explain:

*'Physical characteristics of the dwelling itself, household experience, and aspects of place and community can all impact directly on health, as well as indirectly on health determinants, such as financial circumstances, education and employment, relationships and social life. Housing also has the potential to create, sustain, or exacerbate inequalities in health between different social groups.'*

The Perth and Kinross Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020-2025 sets out how we can work together to meet the needs of people in Perth and Kinross both now and into the future and help to achieve Perth and Kinross' vision **to make it an area where everyone will have access to good quality, energy efficient housing which they can afford that is in a safe and pleasant environment**.

Working collaboratively with all our stakeholders has been key to the delivery of our success. This will be further enhanced as the Service plays its part in the development of the Perth and Kinross Offer. Through this we aim to work together to meet the needs of people in Perth and Kinross and achieve our vision of making it an area where everyone will have access to good quality, energy efficient housing which they can afford that is in a safe and pleasant environment.

The '**Housing Contribution Statement**' (within the Strategic Commissioning Plan) sets out how the Local Housing Strategy can support the delivery of the Health and Social Care Partnership aims, ensuring people have access to suitable housing and support to enable them to live as independently as possible. This includes:

- Working with housing developers to build sustainable housing which can be easily adapted to meet changing household needs.
- Continuing to work in partnership with a range of services to meet the housing requirements of people with particular needs.
- Providing a range of housing options for older people, including sheltered housing with on-site housing support.
- Intervening early to prevent and respond to homelessness effectively.

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<sup>1</sup> Scottish Public Health Network – 'Foundations for well-being: reconnecting public health and housing. A Practical Guide to Improving Health and Reducing Inequalities'. Emily Tweed, lead author on behalf of the SctPHN Health and Housing Advisory Group with contributions from Alison McCann and Julie Arnot – January 2017 - [https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017\\_02\\_22-HH-Main-Report-Final-2.pdf](https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017_02_22-HH-Main-Report-Final-2.pdf)



- Ensuring suitable housing and housing support is available to prevent admissions and prolonged stays in hospital and engage early with partners to deliver a seamless service for people discharged from hospital.
- Ensuring residents and tenants have access to services which allow their current home to be adapted to meet their medical and support needs.
- Supporting residents to live in warm, dry, energy efficient and low carbon homes which they can afford to heat.

Throughout this paper links are made to the contribution towards the achievement of our Community Planning and Corporate Objectives; the outcomes of the LHS; and the Health and Social Care National Outcomes. The main links to the National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes<sup>2</sup> are:

- **National Outcome 1** – People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live-in good health for longer.
- **National Outcome 2** – People, including those with disabilities or long-term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live, as far as reasonably practicable, independently at home or in a homely setting in their community.

**This report provides an update on our achievements in delivering the housing contribution, the challenges and the next steps.**

## How we work together

The Housing Service is a key contributor to the development and implementation of the priorities set out within the Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan and a range of governance and operational arrangements ensure the achievement of these priorities.

The Health and Social Care Partnership is responsible for providing the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership (CPP) with updates on the relevant actions within the Community Plan and for reporting on the outcomes achieved through the delivery of the Strategic Commissioning Plan.

Housing's contribution to this strategy is regularly discussed within Health and Social Care Management Teams, specifically the Executive Management Team and the Integrated Management Team. In addition to this, meetings take place regularly between Senior Managers of Housing; Adult Social Work and Social Care; and, between Service Managers from the Health and Social Care Partnership and Housing and Environment Service.

The Depute Director, Communities is a member of the Adult Protection Committee and Chair of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. Officers with strategic housing, health and social care responsibilities are in regular liaison around strategic needs assessments and planning activities. At an operational level, locality housing teams work closely with health and social care locality teams to support the delivery of housing, health and social care outcomes within our communities.

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<sup>2</sup> National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes Framework. February 2015.  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-health-wellbeing-outcomes-framework/>

More recently, to strengthen joint working and the delivery of shared outcomes, it has been agreed that Senior Managers within Housing will co-chair the Independent Living Group and Housing is also represented on the Planning and Commissioning Board.

The Public Sector budget setting and monitoring process also allows a shared understanding of financial pressures together with the ability to effectively provide housing solutions to prevent costly health and social care responses.

## Challenges

To meet our joint aims and outcomes in relation to prevention and the ability to provide person-centred support we must make best use of available resources. There are many effective housing solutions that can prevent costly health and social care responses. The assessment of housing need and demand highlights many challenges that need to be collectively addressed by the Health and Social Care Partnership and Housing Partners to support people to live at home or in a homely setting for as long as possible.

Key challenges include:

- Changing demographics in Perth and Kinross, particularly in relation to an ageing population profile.
- Increasing demands for complex adaptations to existing homes.
- Increasing demands for specialist housing and support for people with particular needs.
- Responding appropriately to the specific housing and support needs of vulnerable groups such as homeless people, older people, people with mental health issues, people with learning disabilities and people with drug and alcohol issues.
- Responding to the challenges that the rural nature of the Local Authority area can bring in relation to the provision of support and suitable accommodation.
- Continuing to identify households in fuel poverty or at risk so that appropriate support and assistance is provided.
- Responding effectively to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the longer-term impact that this may have on households.

### COVID-19 Pandemic

The ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic continues to present an unprecedented challenge to all aspects of society, including the Housing Service. This level of challenge continues to necessitate that we adapt our ways of working to ensure that we continue providing critical front-line services, and workers continue to show great flexibility in adapting to new ways of working.

This level of flexibility allows us to continue to deliver services to a high standard despite the ongoing circumstances. Our teams have continued to provide a full range of services around homelessness, tenant support in sheltered housing and emergency repairs to ensure that residents and communities continue to receive the services that they need.

### The Perth and Kinross Offer

We also want to build on the goodwill, generosity and positivity that communities have shown to our staff for their hard work during the pandemic. The Perth and Kinross Offer is a new direction for the Council, designed to transform the way we work with our communities, partners and, employees, to ensure that public services can be delivered sustainably and achieve better outcomes for the people of Perth & Kinross.

The Offer provides a platform to allow us to agree how we can align budgets, use our resources for maximum impact and for ensuring communities have services where and when they need them.

It also sets out how together we can create the future we want and need, and how we can keep improving our services and communities. An important part of the Offer is that everyone in Perth and Kinross gets involved and understands the part they can play.

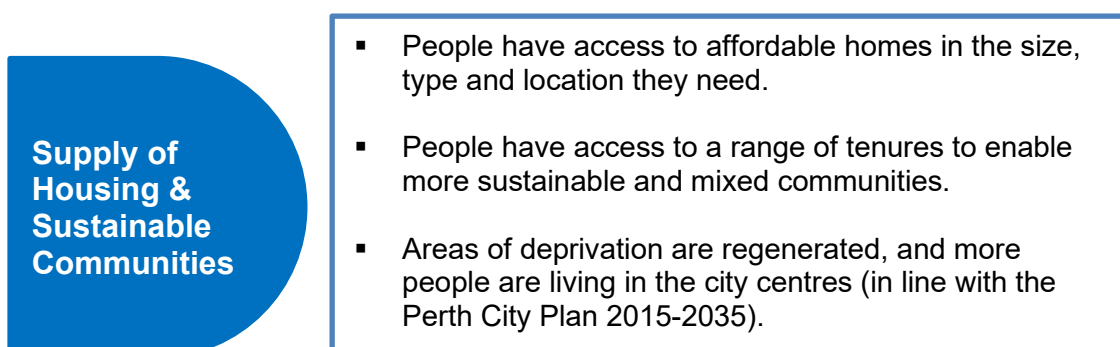
The Offer is key to enabling the council to continue to respond effectively to an increase in demand for services, financial and budget constraints, respond to new legislation and the challenging fiscal climate.

Examples of the Offer in action can be highlighted in how we involved the Making Where We Live Better Group to help us identify housing solutions and options to improve the lives of people with a disability. We also developed various ways to engage with people with particular support requirements, including their families and carers, to ensure they could shape the way we delivered our service and change things for the better. These changes can be seen in the new pathway for housing, the assessment process and the models of accommodation that we are currently progressing.

The Offer is also evident in how we ensured that the needs of our older tenants continued to be met by enabling them to play a key role in the refurbishment work to our sheltered housing units. Their involvement ensured that they influenced the key decisions on design, layout and colour.

Our Estate Based Initiatives (EBIs) is another example of the PK Offer in action. Through EBIs, positive outcomes are achieved from involving tenants and residents in agreeing joint priorities and spending money on projects identified by them. It has also empowered many tenants and residents, and the appearance of local communities have been transformed.

## Achievements and Next Steps



**Our aim** – Create more affordable homes and manage existing stock to create homes in the size, type and location people want to live with access to suitable services and facilities which encourage community integration.

## Strategic Links



## What have we achieved?

### Housing Supply

Good quality homes can have a positive impact on quality of life. During 2019/20, we continued to work with our Partners to support delivery of the outcomes set out within our Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP), investing just under £21 million on affordable housing across the Perth and Kinross area. We managed to exceed our annual new build target of 550 units by delivering a total of 861 homes during the year. This was the highest level of completions since 2008, meaning we have now already surpassed our 5-year target of 2,750 new homes with a total of **2,761 homes** built over the first four years of the local housing strategy.

The 861 new homes completed during 2019/20 comprises:

- 646 private housing properties.
- 215 social rented houses (of which 41 of these homes were suitable for people with limited mobility being all on one level with facilities such as wet floor showers).

All of these new build homes complied with the 'housing for varying needs' standard which sets out design standards for mainstream housing to achieve 'barrier free' design. This standard aims to ensure a home is flexible enough to meet the existing and changing needs of most households, including those with temporary or permanent physical disabilities who may use a wheelchair for some of the time.

Housing for people with mobility issues embraces a wide group of people – from people with limited agility and strength, to those whose physical disability permits them to walk with or without the use of walking aids and for some who may occasionally use a wheelchair. Where possible, our new build developments have been designed to facilitate independent living to meet the needs of households with limited mobility through being on one level with level access and having wet floor showers fitted. During 2019/20, 41 homes were built to this standard.

Properties for wheelchair users provide a completely step-free environment, space for a wheelchair to circulate and access all rooms, a kitchen and bathroom that suits the occupant's particular needs and fittings and services that are within reach and easy to use. We are committed to increasing the supply of wheelchair accessible homes in accordance with requirements set out in the Guidance note (MHDGN 2019/02) issued by the Scottish Government and we are currently consulting internally and with our RSL partners, with a view to agreeing a robust and flexible approach to delivering wheelchair accessible homes across urban and rural Perth & Kinross. For the 2021/22 financial year a target of 6 wheelchair accessible homes has been set for Perth and Kinross. This target will be reviewed as part of the full redraft of the LHS to be submitted April 2022.

In addition to new build housing, we also purchased 35 ex-Council properties in high demand areas through our Buyback Scheme and supported social tenants to move to homes which better met their housing and medical needs and aspirations through our Common Allocations Policy. 243 social tenants were able to move to another property through housing transfers and 32 households successfully swapped homes through our Mutual Exchange Scheme.

### Regeneration

Empty properties can sometimes attract anti-social or criminal activity and can have a negative impact on environments, impact on a person's mental health, and potentially

devalue neighbouring properties. Good neighbourhood management, environmental improvements, local lettings initiatives, community involvement, and partnership working are a range of measures progressed by landlords to support sustainable communities.

Our vacant property team work hard to promote and encourage the occupation of vacant properties in Perth and Kinross which includes providing advice on related grants or loans to help bring properties back into use. During 2019/20, our vacant properties team helped bring a total of 139 properties back into use, helping to increase the overall supply of housing in Perth and Kinross and keep communities safe and secure for residents.

## Impact of Achievements

The impact of these achievements has been that many people in the area have accessed housing of a type and in an area that is suitable for their current and future household needs, enabling them to live independently at home for longer. New housing supply and the management of existing housing stock helps reduce housing waiting lists, tackles overcrowding and has a positive impact on the general health and wellbeing of individuals helping to improve community spirit.

## What are we doing next?

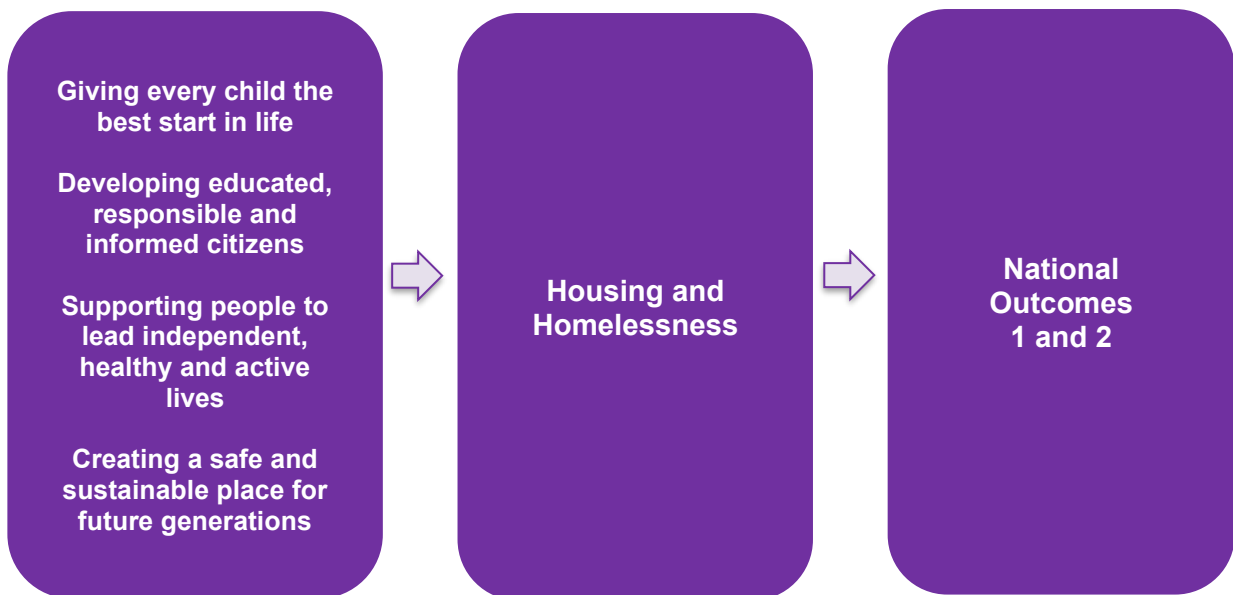
- **Continuing to provide a range of affordable housing options including, and encouraging Partners to include, mid-market rent and shared equity options as part of their new build programmes to ensure a range of tenures are available to help build sustainable and mixed communities;**
- **Continuing to identify and help bring empty properties back into use for housing, helping to increase housing supply and reduce the risk of anti-social behaviour within communities;**
- **Working with Private Landlords to raise awareness in relation to new Regulations within the Private Rented Sector, ensuring high standards for people choosing to live within this sector;**
- **The continued implementation of the 'Design Guide' for new build developments will further address the needs for specific client groups.**

### Housing and Homelessness

- Provide advice and support to prevent homelessness.
- Provide suitable, good quality temporary, resettled and permanent accommodation to homeless people when required.
- Offer support to tenants to help them obtain and sustain a home.
- Promote well maintained homes which meet the relevant standards in safe and secure communities.
- Encourage tenants and resident to influence decisions.

**Our aim** – To promote 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.

### Strategic Links



### What have we achieved?

#### Housing Options

We continue to work with our Partners to provide people seeking information about their housing situation with advice and assistance about the range of housing options available to them. During 2019/20 the membership of our Common Housing Register (CHR) expanded to include Fairfield Housing and Kingdom Housing Association. This means the CHR now operates with 5 Landlords who collectively manage a housing stock of over 11,700 affordable homes for rent.

We continue to operate a 'no appointment' system, ensuring people have immediate access to advice and support at the first point of contact when it is needed. On average, we saw 615 people per month during 2019/20. During the year, 227 enhanced housing options interviews were carried out on average per month (2,733 in total for 2019/20). The enhanced housing option interview is where detailed support, advice and assistance is provided by housing options staff to resolve the household's acute housing needs. Around 70% of these interviews were completed in Pullar House by the Housing Options Team with the remainder carried out in other localities or through surgeries, ensuring that people can access advice in a location that suits them best.

#### Home First - Homelessness

Home First is our aspiration for people facing homelessness in Perth and Kinross, providing people with a settled Home as our First response when homelessness occurs. Everyone needs a safe, warm place they can call home, and we recognise that home is more than a



flat, a hostel or a property. Home is where we feel safe and secure, have roots and a sense of belonging. Home supports our physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

The Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan sets out the Home First approach which seeks to ensure that wherever possible, homeless households move directly into settled accommodation avoiding the stigma, cost and uncertainty of temporary accommodation and homelessness. Where temporary accommodation cannot be avoided, the accommodation provided should be good quality, should meet the needs of the household and the length of time in the accommodation should be minimised.

During 2019/20, a range of measures including the integrated schools programme, family mediation, our hospital and prison discharge protocols, and personalised budgets led to a reduction of more than 19% in the overall number of households presenting as homeless on last year's figure (in the context of a 4% increase in the number of people assessed as homeless nationally). In 2019/20, 758 households presented as homeless, a reduction from 943 in 2018/19.

The number of families presenting as homeless over the 12-month period reduced by a further 38% from 270 to 167, demonstrating our continued commitment to minimising the impact of homelessness on children.

The number of young, single people presenting as homeless in the 12-month period also reduced significantly from 222 to 159 – a reduction of 28%. This, in the context of an overall reduction in homeless presentations, is due to successful early intervention and prevention work. To further enhance this area, we have commissioned a new specialist support service from the Rock Trust, which was introduced from April 2020, as part of our agreed actions within our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP). The Rock Trust service focusses on homelessness prevention, supporting the transition into settled accommodation and tenancy sustainment.

Our Home First approach continues to achieve positive outcomes with an increased proportion of households moving directly into settled accommodation avoiding the stigma, cost, experience and duration of homelessness. Our homeless case duration remains low with an average of 89 days from decision to discharge of duty, which was the lowest case duration in Scotland in 2019/20 (national average was 224 days).

In 2019/20, Perth and Kinross Council had the lowest prevalence of households in temporary accommodation at 0.5 households per 100,000 population. We also had the shortest length of stay in temporary accommodation nationally with an average of 71 days (national average was 184 days).

The number of homeless households waiting for an offer of accommodation was, for several years, over 500 households. Home First has enabled us to significantly reduce this backlog, demonstrating that we are responding quickly and immediately when homeless occurs. We currently have only 80 homeless households awaiting an offer.

### **Health and Homelessness**

In 2019, we commissioned independent research, to better understand the linkages between health and homelessness, and to understand prevention and intervention opportunities, and implement appropriate support services in partnership with the Health and Social Care Partnership. Based on the findings and recommendations, we have implemented a range of key actions and activities such as:

- Housing being a core member of the weekly Protecting People Group resulting in greater support/input and improved joint working in relation to complex cases.

- Re-introduction of streamlined pathway to access services - enabling them to respond more effectively when people are ready to seek support and treatment.
- Dedicated and agreed time for the Drug and Alcohol Team and Drug Treatment Services to provide surgeries in our Supported Accommodation.

### **Housing Support**

Preventing homelessness and tenancy sustainment are key components of our Home First model. All homeless applicants or those threatened with homelessness are offered support. More than 1,000 people were supported by the Central Support Team in 2019/20.

Prevention activity is varied and can either be proactive and at scale such as the Integrated Schools Programme or individualised such as engaging with prisoners through housing advice surgeries. Prevention activity can also be reactive for example where someone approaches the service for advice and assistance because they are threatened with homelessness or where the Council has received a Section 11 notification.

Prevention and tenancy sustainment activity are very closely linked as by definition, the objective of supporting someone to sustain their tenancy is to prevent them losing the tenancy and becoming homeless.

### **Floating Housing Support**

Floating Housing Support (FHS) services enable vulnerable individuals at risk of losing their tenancy to live independently, maximise their independence and ultimately sustain their tenancy. The aim is to provide short-term personal outcomes focussed support, on both a practical and emotional level, to support people to live independently in their own home. In 2019, we recommissioned this service and three third-sector providers now deliver 1,020 hours of support per week across Perth and Kinross. 338 people were supported by this service during 2019/20.

### **Tenancy Sustainment**

A key priority is to support tenants to sustain their tenancy. Pivotal to this is the provision of the right information and a range of support services. Our approach to tenancy sustainment starts at the point of allocation by ensuring that the property is of a suitable size, type and in the right location. We have improved on our tenancy sustainment rates in all areas for 2019/20. This improvement has been achieved due to a range of improvement measures such as a more robust settling in process, increased availability and provision of housing support and enhanced quality assurance procedures around new tenancies. This resulted in 87.94% of our overall new tenants being able to sustain their tenancies for 12 months or more during 2019/20 compared to 86.2% in 2018/19. Of the tenancies which were not sustained, some of these were for positive reasons such as moving in with a partner, securing employment or participating in a mutual exchange or transfer to a CHR partner.

Through our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, we implemented a 'Property Ready Fund' to provide properties to homeless people that were ready to occupy and not just ready to let. Basic furnishings and white goods are provided through this fund to enable households to move into a property quickly whilst at the same time making it feel more like a home, increasing the likelihood of the tenancy being sustained. Our performance in relation to tenancy sustainment for those households who had experienced homelessness improved from 82.16% to 84.18% during 2019/20.

It is important that we respond early to any difficulties experienced by tenants when they first move into their new home. Providing housing support and dealing with any concerns allows us to establish a good tenant/Landlord relationship from the outset. Our target is to contact new tenants within 5 days of them receiving their keys and in 2019/20 we achieved this for 89% of new tenants, matching our performance in 2018/19.



To mitigate the impact of welfare reform challenges, in April 2018, we introduced our 'Sustaining Tenancies Fund'. This seeks to support tenants in arrears experiencing financial hardship and are at risk of losing their home. Arrears can often arise through no fault of the tenant, for example, zero hours contracts, ill-health and ongoing welfare reform. The fund provides assistance for tenants who are engaging with us and demonstrating a commitment to reducing their arrears. In 2019/20, 246 tenants were supported through payments towards clearing their outstanding arrears balance. We are aware that many families will have found themselves in financial hardship as a result of the pandemic. In March 2020, we reviewed and enhanced the criteria to ensure that those tenants who were unable to maintain arrangements or even pay their weekly rent are targeted for support. This compares to 145 tenants supported during 2018/19.

Due to many tenants losing income during the pandemic, rent arrears have increased. However, to support and assist tenants, we doubled our Tenancy Sustainment Fund (TSF) to £300,000 for 2020/21 to enable us to support as many tenants as possible in financial difficulties.

In addition, a 'Think Yes' fund was introduced in April 2020. This involves each locality team having a financial provision framed around the principle of sustaining a tenancy, agreed and delivered at a locality team level. The budget enables frontline staff to respond quickly and effectively to people facing situations which could impact on their ability to sustain their tenancy. This additional funding assists where funding from other sources such as Community Care Grant, Tenancy Sustainment Fund or Personalised Prevention Budget is not applicable. Examples include the provision of white goods, floor coverings, funds to purchase essential household items, funds or travel passes to enable attendance at important appointments, assistance with moving costs, top up gas or electricity meters or a contribution towards initial rent due.

### **Value for Money and Affordability**

We understand that household income and/or high housing costs can impact on a person's health and wellbeing. Housing costs is one of the key drivers of poverty and we are therefore committed to providing tenants with value for money services and maintaining affordable rents.

It is extremely important that, as a provider of social housing, we ensure that while delivering high quality services to our tenants, our rent levels remain affordable. Our rent levels continue to be the most affordable in the area and around the 6<sup>th</sup> lowest in Scotland.

Each year, in partnership with our tenants, we review the rent levels we charge for the Housing services we provide. These annual reviews ensure that we continue to meet our duties to tenants as their landlord, respond to tenants' priorities and maintain high levels of service delivery.

As a result of the pandemic our normal approach of using Summer and Autumn Tenant Conference events to consult with tenants was not possible. We were not able to hold conferences or have any face-to-face engagement events, and our focus on providing critical services through the pandemic meant the usual rent setting process could not take place. Despite this it remained very important to us that tenants have a say in their rent levels for 2021/22. We took time to consider how the pandemic impacted on our tenants and what we need to do to support them. We recognised that many tenants are struggling with financial hardship, digital inclusion, and social isolation and the rent options tenants voted on have enabled us to provide enhanced support for tenants during these difficult times.

Tenants, like many other people, are facing financial difficulty because of reduced income, loss of income or increased household costs. This is having an impact on some people's ability to meet rent payments. There has been an increase in rent arrears and the number of tenants applying for Universal Credit (UC).

We want to make sure that our rent represents good value for money for tenants by keeping them as affordable as possible whilst maintaining high levels of service delivery and tenant satisfaction. Perth & Kinross Council continues to have one of the lowest rent levels in Scotland and remain the most affordable option locally.

### **Safe and Secure Communities**

The external environment is important for health and wellbeing, creating a sense of place and community. Involving and empowering our communities is at the heart of creating safe and sustainable communities where people want to live. We are committed to providing our tenants and residents with a range of opportunities to become involved to help shape, influence and improve the services we deliver and continue to build on our previous successes with our Estate Based Initiatives (EBI) projects.

During 2019/20, through our environmental improvements programme, we invested £647,000 across Perth and Kinross to improve the safety and appearance of localities. Money was invested into improving boundary/retaining walls which were in a poor state of repair; improving steps on communal footpaths or house entrance paths which were defective and dangerous; introduction of new ramped access; new fencing; and new steps and handrails outside blocks of flats.

These improvements were carried out in several areas across Perth and Kinross over the last 12 months including Perth, Crieff, Aberfeldy, Blairgowrie, Methven, Almondbank, Auchterarder, Bridge of Earn, Errol, Scone and Glenfarg. These have made communities safer to live in; more accessible for elderly and disabled members of society; as well as also enhancing the visual appearance of many of these areas.

Every resident of Perth and Kinross has the right to the peaceful enjoyment of their home without the impact of undue levels of noise and anti-social behaviour. During 2019/20, 94.76% of anti-social behaviour cases (concerning council properties) were resolved within the local target, which is a 13.76% improvement on our 2018/19 performance. We continue to work in partnership with our colleagues in the Safer Communities Team to ensure every appropriate option is considered to tackle this.

During 2019/20, our Safer Communities Team tested and obtained a new Noise App which allows residents to help evidence noise levels during the past year. This has proved very popular in identifying action needed to address noise complaints and enable tenants to enjoy their home free from noise and anti-social behaviour. The Safer Communities team has also revised working arrangements to take a more proactive approach to addressing cases where drug use and dealing is impacting on the rest of the community.

A new 'City Operations Project' was set up during the last financial year to replace CCTV cameras in Perth City. New cameras will be installed in several hot spot locations. In March 2020, the Safer Communities Team also hosted a Serious Organised Crime Prevention Seminar for front line professionals. The Seminar focussed on the threat of serious organised crime in Perth and Kinross and what could be done to help contribute to the prevention of this.

### **Opportunities to Participate, Influence Decisions and Empower Communities**

Working collaboratively with all our stakeholders has been key to the delivery of our success. This will be further enhanced as the Service plays its part in the development of the

emerging Perth and Kinross Offer in which we aim to work together to meet the needs of people in Perth and Kinross and help achieve our vision of making it an area where services are fit for purpose, person-centred and shaped by people with lived experience.

### **Equality Engagement Conversations**

Engagement with equality protected groups has been ongoing throughout the year both before and after coronavirus lockdown. Using the Place Standard Tool, we met with people to hear how they wanted services to be improved and change things for the better.

We also had conversations with people from a range of groups across Perth and Kinross including people from the local South Asian, Chinese, Gypsy/ Traveller and LGBT+ communities. We have spoken to young people, disabled people, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) learners and people with learning disabilities. These conversations will continue in the coming months to develop agreed actions.

We have also met specifically with partner organisations and community groups around the Council's Recovery and Renewal Plan for equalities and identified 4 priority areas where the biggest impact was experienced during the coronavirus crisis by equality protected groups (digital inclusion; mental wellbeing; communication and employment)

Contact was maintained throughout the coronavirus lockdown with community groups and support and advice provided appropriately including multi-cultural dietary food deliveries; advice and information in other languages (including BSL) and an overall equality impact assessment of our collective response.

We continue to offer a range of communication channels and opportunities to participate in our decision-making processes from face-to-face contact, telephone conversations, emails and social media. We also have dedicated PKC Tenants Facebook and Twitter pages. Our Estate Based Initiatives (EBI) Programme is a good example of our partnership approach. Walkabouts including tenants, Elected Members and other Council services take place on an annual basis and tenants can identify and prioritise projects in their localities which they feel will for example improve community safety.

During 2019/20, money from the HRA was used to deliver 69 tenant and resident selected projects on HRA land and buildings that made a difference to the local community. Projects included improved signage in Potterhill Gardens; a community garden development in Perth City; new access paths and new off-street parking to improve safety and overcome derelict land in Birnam, Muthill and Abernethy; improved bin storage; and a bicycle store.

## **Impact of Achievements**

The impact of these achievements has been that:

- Our Housing Options approach allows early intervention to prevent homelessness and identify any support requirements to enable tenants to sustain their tenancy;
- Home First has transformed the way we assist homeless people straight into permanent accommodation in Perth and Kinross. It has had a positive impact on the outcomes for many households by reducing the stigma, duration and experience of homelessness;
- Tenancy sustainment activities aimed at early identification of support needs have helped households sustain their tenancies for longer;
- Work to ensure communities across Perth and Kinross remain safe and secure as well as involving residents in shaping decisions has helped create a sense of community belonging where people feel safe and want to live.

## What are we doing next?

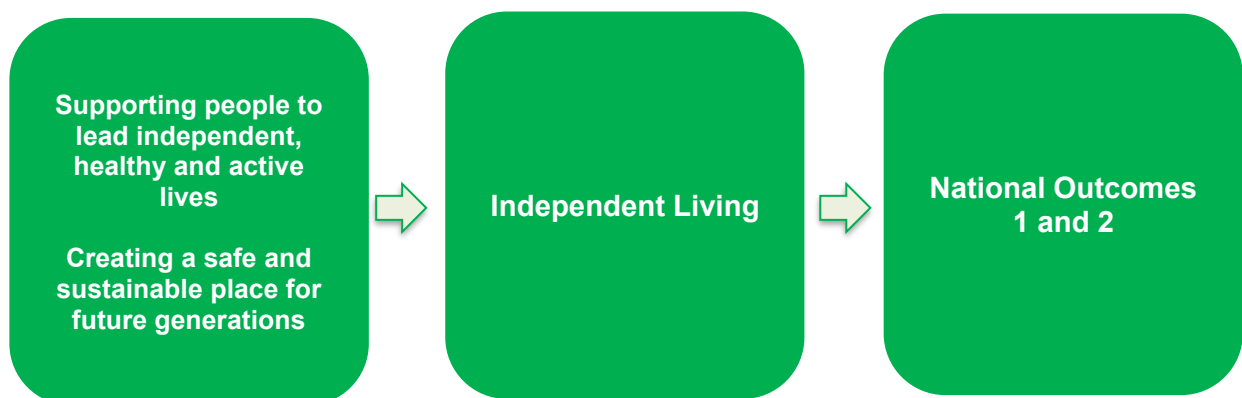
- Continuing to provide advice and support by delivering the Home First Model and implementing our Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan to assist households who are in need of housing;
- Continue to ensure tenancy sustainment levels remain high and tenants and residents are assisted as soon as they start to experience difficulties;
- Reviewing our Income Maximisation Team to ensure we can effectively monitor and respond to requests for Welfare Reform and Universal Credit helping tenants and residents to maximise their incomes and reduce rent arrears, where possible;
- Carry out our Tenant Satisfaction Survey to help us gauge satisfaction levels and areas for improvements;
- Continue to work with Partners and involve tenants and residents in any decision making to ensure the area is a safe place to live.

### Independent Living

- People have access to the right type of housing to enable them to live as independently as possible at home or in a homely setting
- People have access to the right type of support to sustain their accommodation.

**Our aim** – To support people to live independently at home for as long as possible with help from the community and local support networks.

### Strategic Links



## What have we achieved?

### Links with Health and Social Care Partnership

The Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan was updated for 2020–2025 and approved in November 2019. The plan presents the key strategic priorities and outlines the significant challenges that we will face to deliver services that address inequalities, are increasingly preventative and person-centred and which enhance the resilience of citizens and communities, resulting in improved opportunities and outcomes for all. The Housing Contribution Statement is referenced within the Strategic Commissioning Plan and sets out how, through the Local Housing Strategy, housing will support the delivery of the Health and Social Care Partnership priorities.

### New Homes

Enabling people to have access to suitable housing and support is key to enabling them to live independently. All our new homes either meet or exceed the housing for varying needs standards, ensuring that our mainstream housing is 'barrier free' with the flexibility to meet the existing and changing needs of most households, including those with temporary or permanent physical disabilities. During 2019/20, 215 affordable homes were completed to this standard.

Through our new build developments, several homes were also designed to facilitate independent living for people with more limited mobility. Over 41 of the affordable houses completed last year were houses on one level, level access and wet floor showers.

### Housing Adaptations

By working with a range of Partners, we ensure residents and tenants have access to services to allow their homes to be adapted to meet their medical needs. These adaptations allow people to live at home safely and independently. During 2019/20, the following adaptations were carried out:

- 95 major adaptations, and 257 minor adaptations to Council housing;
- 159 major adaptations were provided to private homeowners with financial support from the Council through the Care and Repair Scheme.

In 2019/20 the Council approved 200 Major Adaptation grants to private sector households, providing 234 individual major adaptations in their homes, with a works cost of £868k and a grant value of £743k. At the year-end, 159 of these major adaptations had been completed. The most common adaptations carried out include: level access and wet floor showers; stairlifts; and providing ramped access over 5m long. However, there has also been an increasing number of cases where very complex major adaptations have been required e.g. the provision of ceiling track hoists and associated internal door and partition works as well as bathroom adaptations, ramp and door entry system. These works all enable vulnerable people to remain in their own homes and communities for as long as possible, thus reducing the need for specialist housing provision until it becomes necessary.

In addition, there is a scheme for people who require small ramps (less than 5m long) to loan a ramp, regardless of tenure, to enable them safe and suitable access to their home. In 2019/20, 28 such ramps were installed with 14 in the private sector and 14 for PKC tenants. During the year 3 ramps were recycled from homes where they were no longer required and installed at new addresses.

### **Housing Occupational Therapist (OT) Provision**

In August 2018 we introduced a dedicated Housing OT, initially as a one-year fixed term post. The post holder has responsibility for carrying out housing needs assessments for housing transfer applicants requiring housing for specific needs; assessing void properties to suit specific needs e.g., where adaptations are required or for clients with specific varying needs. They are also involved in the early planning stages of the Council's new build development ensuring that specific needs are addressed as part of the build and additional suitable equipment is provided when properties are ready to let. They have been involved in assessing current waiting list demand for specific housing needs and are a member of the Independent Living Panel ensuring we focus on sourcing appropriate housing for applicants with complex needs. The Housing OT also works jointly with the wider OT Service in assessing housing need for hospital patients prior to discharge. This post has been successful in ensuring effective joint working across services to meet the needs of vulnerable clients enabling them to live as independently as possible. The post was made permanent from August 2020.

From this year we are also funding a second OT within the wider OT Team for 12 months. This post will focus on reducing the high number of complex private sector cases that have resulted from delays during the Covid pandemic. The post holder will specialise in assessing cases within private sector housing where the outcome will be a referral to Care & Repair for major adaptations. This post is funded from the Care & Repair Budget and will assess cases that have been subject to comprehensive scrutiny at the initial triage stage to determine the outcome required.

### **Independent Living Pathway and Panel**

During 2019/20, work to promote independent living, increase the availability housing, and support options for people with particular support requirements has progressed jointly with Housing, Planning and the Health and Social Care Partnership. We developed and implemented an independent living pathway which included a single assessment process and a multi-agency Independent Living Panel. This Panel has established itself as the central group whose main role and purpose has been to review, analyse and, if appropriate, authorise allocation of specialist housing provision for individuals with independent living needs in Perth and Kinross. During 2019/20 the Panel met 13 times and received 86 referrals. Of these referrals:

- 9 have been allocated either a supported accommodation placement or mainstream housing with a support package.
- 11 have been assessed as having an urgent and current need for accommodation/support.
- 66 have been assessed as having a future need for some form of specialist accommodation or support.

The Panel has ensured we have a greater awareness and understanding of the current and future need for supported accommodation for a range of groups – mild to moderate learning disability / autism, complex cases, mental health, physical disability and acquired brain injury. Both the pathway and single assessment have provided a streamlined process for people, carers, families and practitioners to follow in accessing suitable accommodation and support. The Panel has allowed an excellent platform for cases to be discussed fairly and proactively, and for accommodation to be allocated effectively.

We also continue to update and refine our Accommodation Modelling Tool and Framework to ensure the demand for housing for people with support requirements links into the new build programme, vacancy process for specialist provision and the allocation of some RSL and Council accommodation.



We devised and implemented a Checklist of Independent Living Needs as an appendix to the newly commissioned PKC Design Guide which outlines the various standards and features required within accommodation for people with a range of support requirements. This checklist has been used to inform design specifications of some projects ensuring accommodation will be built to meet the needs of clients, including housing with varying needs standards.

The Design Guide Checklist has enabled us to develop various accommodation models and housing options through our new build programme and through the regeneration of some surplus buildings for people with support requirements. 10 projects have been identified which could provide 44 units of accommodation and 9 units of staff accommodation throughout Perth and Kinross. 3 of these projects will be operational by the end of 2021.

We have also implemented a range of methods to engage and involve people with particular support requirements to ensure our pathway, assessment and accommodation options continue to meet their needs. Most of the engagement has been through the Making Where We Live Better Group (previously called Us and the Housing Group) which promotes inclusion through raising awareness of issues faced by those with learning disabilities in Perth and Kinross and works together to identify solutions and improve their lives. We have also developed a suite of feedback tools such as interactive surveys, the use of social media and small focus groups to help gain feedback from people not open to statutory services and the third sector agencies that are working with families and people who may require independent living accommodation in the future.

To ensure we reach out to as many people as possible, we also work closely with PKVAS, the Scottish Refugee Council and Housing Options Scotland. These agencies have been key in providing our information in a variety of languages and formats.

### **Housing and Support for Older People**

Our team of support officers provide housing support and assistance to tenants within our 91 units of retirement, 108 units of amenity and 151 units of sheltered housing. Within housing for older people, some tenants can receive a daily welfare check and all tenants have access to a range of activities and events, delivered in partnership with a range of services to help tackle isolation and improve their health and wellbeing.

We have produced a 'Housing Health Check' guide for people thinking about older persons housing. Included within this guide is the opportunity for people and their family/carers to visit our units or join in with social activities and discuss their hopes/aspirations for future housing. Dedicated support officers provide person centred support to tenants and connect them with other supports or organisations that will help them have a successful tenancy.

There has been a variety of improvement works across all the sheltered housing units including Wi-Fi being installed in communal lounges. Our tenants have also worked with Tayside Healthcare Arts Trust to produce or design dementia friendly artwork throughout the units.

We have installed TV screens in communal lounges and support tenants to participate with online classes, remote bingo and film nights. To increase digital awareness and technology with some of our tenants, we have sourced pedometers for tenants and staff as an introduction to technology. Support Officers now record their support sessions and interactions with tenants via their laptop and /or smart phones. To build on our progress with technology, we are also working through an Older Persons Housing digital/TEC action plan, which we developed based on tenant's, carer's and staff feedback.

To ensure we continue to meet the needs of our tenants and provide them with a range of opportunities, we continue to work with a range of services and partners such as working with local schools, colleges, Vision PK, Alzheimer Scotland, local community workers, police, fire service, PLUS mental health charity, centre for inclusive living (CILPK), libraries and carers hub.

We have currently expanded the support and services that we provide within our sheltered housing units to some of our older tenants and residents that live close to our units. This has enabled some older people who previously felt isolated or lonely to take part in the activities within the communal facilities such as bingo, exercise and art classes.

During the pandemic, Support Officers have continued to offer support and practical help to our 350 older tenants. To support our most vulnerable tenants within our sheltered housing complexes, staff from other teams within the housing service were re-tasked to the units to ensure that enhanced support and assistance was provided, particularly at this challenging time. Alongside this, welfare checks were also carried out every day, shopping collected for our 'shielded' tenants and staff continue to produce innovative ways to help reduce social isolation, keep tenants entertained and maintain their health and wellbeing. Activities included charity fundraising walks, fancy dress days and knitting hearts to send to the Covid Assessment Ward at PRI. Our appeal for primary school children to send letters to our sheltered housing tenants was a great success, with almost 100 letters received to help cheer up our residents.

### **Technology Enabled Care (TEC) within Housing**

During 2019/20, the TEC within Housing Group was formed to look at options of increasing the range of TEC available for housing tenants to support those with additional needs and increase tenancy sustainment. This group signed up to the TEC Charter developed to support and underpin the use of TEC in creating and delivering housing and support solutions. The work of this group has led to the creation of a training package for staff to promote the rollout of TEC options and the identification of staff champions within housing to raise awareness of TEC. A Guide was developed, which details a range of options and initiatives available, to help support staff in signposting and making referrals for TEC. Work has also been progressed to identify and link in with key partners to promote partnership working and expand the range of projects that can be rolled out within housing regarding TEC. This included work with Blackwood using their Clever Cogs system, students and Social Prescribers visiting the Smart Flat, and linking with the Fire Service and Community police. The development of further effective methods to gain feedback from tenants, carers and key partners on the impact and benefits of TEC within housing has also progressed, with TEC questions being embedded into existing surveys, support plans, newsletters, and on social media to allow feedback to be captured.

To support and enable people to live independently at home, 3,628 people currently have a community alarm system in their home. This system provides assistance to people in an emergency situation or if they simply need some reassurance.

### **Digital Inclusion**

The world we live in is changing rapidly due to the internet and technology. Based on the feedback from our tenants and information gained through our tenants' survey, we identified that many of our tenants are digitally excluded with many struggling to use online services or do not have access to broadband. This means that they have no access to important information about services, finances and communities. Therefore, to support our tenants, a Digital Inclusion Project was set up to help tenants access the many opportunities available online. The main aspect of the project is to provide group sessions or one to one support, including the loan of tablets for tenants who do not have access to a smartphone or



computer. The support sessions are usually targeted at what the person wants to learn, before being shown the main online usages and how to access services online. The project has:

- Provided 66 tenants with one-to-one support.
- 36 tenants, out of the 66, are now classed as being digitally included.
- 4 of the 66 tenants are now willing to become Digital Champions.
- Provided 1,075 hours of support to people.

### **Tackling Social Isolation and Welfare Checks**

Many tenants are struggling with social isolation as a result of the lockdown period and the restrictions. Feedback from tenants in response to our tenant welfare checks was overwhelmingly positive with many finding the support invaluable. The checks allowed us to personally connect with tenants and gain a far greater understanding about household circumstances and individual needs. We now know that the impact of social isolation is being felt significantly, especially by older and vulnerable tenants. As the pandemic and social restrictions ease, we need to be able to provide ongoing support in this area. We are currently setting up a new Social Inclusion Support Service for tenants that will enable us to maintain more regular contact with older tenants around their health and well-being, and to help link them with vital services and support that exist in their communities.

### **Impact of Achievements**

The impact of these achievements has been that many people who may have been isolated or required specialist housing and support have been supported into suitable accommodation and / or have support packages in place which means that they can continue to live independently and safely at home, which in turn helps improve their health and wellbeing.

### **What are we doing next?**

- **Continuing to have an oversight of the Independent Living Panel and progress any actions that are required;**
- **Developing and rolling out awareness training on independent living for those with support requirements as part of the iHub – Housing Solutions Change Programme;**
- **Continuing to develop and implement ways for Technology Enabled Care to be offered and/or included within the package of support;**
- **Continuing to develop and progress models of accommodation to meet independent living needs;**
- **Progressing any housing related actions as identified from the Supporting Adults with Complex Care Needs Transformation Programme;**
- **Expand the Digital Inclusion Project to help reduce the number of tenants that are digitally excluded.**

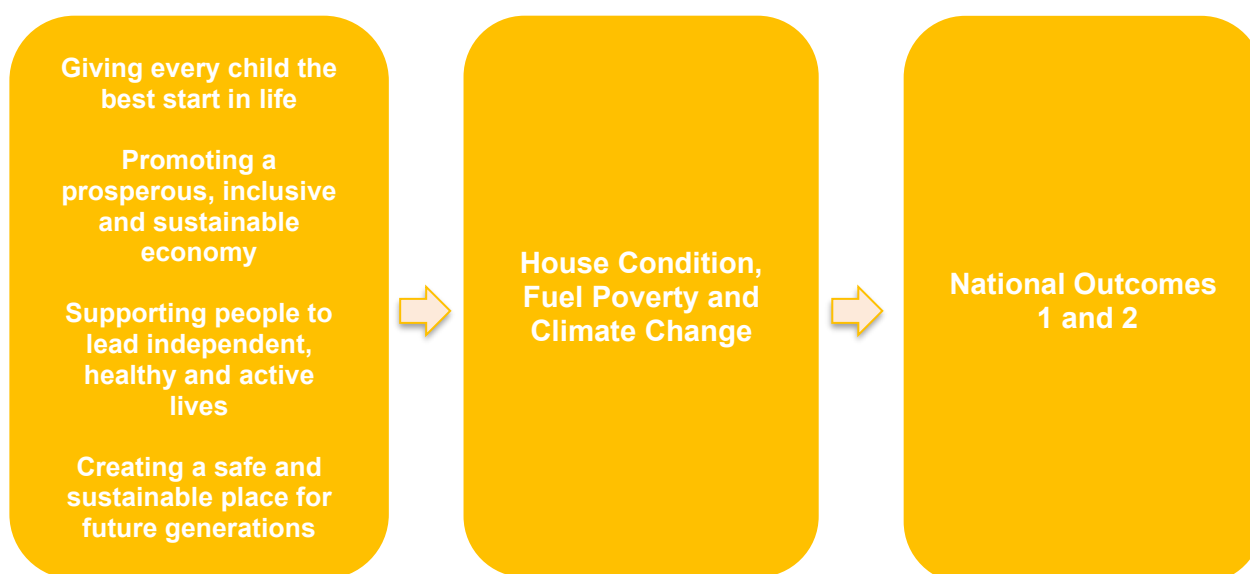
- **Develop and implement a Social Inclusion Support Service to support our most vulnerable and older tenants.**

### House Condition, Fuel Poverty and Climate Change

- All residents are living in good quality and energy efficient homes which meet the relevant standards.
- Residents are living in homes they can afford to heat and are aware of opportunities to maximise their incomes.
- People are aware of the assistance available to them to improve the energy efficiency levels of their homes.
- People are aware of ways in which they can reduce fuel consumption and save on energy costs

**Our aim** – Support residents of Perth and Kinross to live in warm, dry, energy efficient and low carbon homes which they can afford to heat.

### Strategic Links



### What have we achieved?

#### Housing Standards

We recognise the impact that poor quality housing can have on a person's health and wellbeing, and we are progressing a range of measures to support the provision of good quality housing in the area.

To achieve this outcome, we need to ensure that the design of all new build homes, as well as that of our existing stock, meets the relevant energy efficiency standards. We also need

to ensure that they are built in a way in which they are resilient to the future impacts of climate change. Good quality housing has a direct impact on the general health and wellbeing of a household, and we continue to invest in our housing stock to improve emotional wellbeing, decrease the risk of long-term health conditions and improve educational attainment levels.

During 2019/20, we invested over £8.7 million to improve the condition and energy efficiency levels of our Council housing stock and help towards achieving the Scottish Government targets in relation to house condition and energy efficiency. This level of spend enabled the following improvements to be carried out:

- 37 new kitchen replacements;
- 169 new bathroom replacements;
- 662 new central heating systems installed (414 upgraded central heating systems through the Capital Investment Programme and a further 248 replacements through the Warm Homes Fund);
- 333 new triple glazed windows and insulated exterior doors installed;
- 14 externally applied wall insulation installations;
- 28 internal wall insulation installations;
- 176 new gas mains connections installed;
- 89 air sourced heat pumps installed;
- Solar panels installed in 2 sheltered housing complexes covering 48 tenancies and in 10 new build properties;
- 1 solar thermal installation.

This programme of improvements helped us maintain a high Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) pass rate of 95.77% (end March 2020) compared with the Scottish average for 2018/19 of 94.09%. 82.3% of our Council housing stock is now also compliant with the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH) compared to the Scottish Local Authority average of 80.9% (2018/19).

However, housing standards need to be improved in the private sector as well as the social housing sector. The Energy Efficiency (Domestic Private Rented Property (Scotland) Regulations 2020) were due to come into force on 1 April 2020 however a decision was made to postpone these regulations as a result of COVID-19. Our Regulatory Services Team and Private Landlord and Private Sector Teams are in regular contact with Private Landlords in Perth and Kinross to respond to any complaints from tenants, carry out spot checks, and help raise awareness of the new regulations.

### **Fuel Poverty and Income Maximisation**

According to the latest data, the percentage of households living in fuel poverty in Perth and Kinross is consistent with the Scottish average of 25%. This equates to approximately 17,000 households across Perth and Kinross.

Perth and Kinross has a very challenging geography. Around 47% of the population of Perth and Kinross live in rural settlements. Many households have no access to the gas grid (which is still the cheapest form of energy) and often properties in rural locations can be older and more difficult to install energy efficiency improvements. Many households might also face additional living costs by living in a rural location such as travelling costs, shopping etc. This can all place additional pressures on household budgets and the ability to pay energy bills.

In addition, around one third of households within Perth and Kinross are single person households. Single person and single parent households are the two household types expected to see the highest percentage increase of all household types by 2041 (2016 household projections). Lower household incomes and/or increased housing costs can lead to difficulties in being able to heat the home to the recommended heating regimes and can often mean that households may be faced with very difficult decisions of whether to 'heat' or 'eat.' We therefore need to be able to identify these households and offer the help and support they may need which is something we will continue to prioritise in coming years.

One of the biggest challenges in addressing fuel poverty is being able to identify households or properties which would benefit from energy advice or energy efficiency improvements. Our 'Feeling the Pinch' campaign can let households know about the financial help and support available, the support available to help people heat their homes and reduce energy costs, and also other general support and mental health support available to those who may be struggling.

Although we do not have control over energy prices or households' incomes, we do offer comprehensive benefits checks to everyone contacting the Welfare Rights Hotline and we work with Partners to provide information on income maximisation and where to find fuel advice. We regularly signpost people and encourage our Partners to signpost households to our Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) should people find themselves in fuel poverty and requiring further assistance. Our HEAT service can work with the household and the Energy Supplier to arrange a debt recovery plan if the household is in fuel debt, or also check on eligibility for any energy discounts or energy improvement programmes.

### **Energy Efficiency Assistance**

A programme of awareness sessions was organised for frontline staff and managers in the public, private and voluntary sectors who regularly visit people within their own homes.

A total of 10 awareness sessions were arranged between October 2019 and end February 2020. 147 members of staff from across the council and many external organisations attended these sessions. These sessions enable staff to identify and direct many households living in fuel poverty to the HEAT service before fuel poverty can start to impact on the health and wellbeing of the household.

Whilst the pandemic resulted in the latest edition of our Home Energy Guide being delayed, this is now in the final stages and will be published and distributed soon. This guide provides useful information, tips and advice on how to save money on energy bills.

There are also various energy efficiency programmes available within the Perth and Kinross area which aim to improve energy efficiency levels and help make properties warmer and more affordable to heat.

The Scottish Government's national energy efficiency programme (Warmer Homes Scotland) is delivered by Warmworks and referrals for this programme come from Home Energy Scotland (the Scottish Government funded energy advice service). In Perth and Kinross our HEAT service can refer households to Home Energy Scotland who might qualify for the Warmer Homes Scotland programme.

Perth and Kinross also obtained funding through the Warm Homes Fund for improvements during 2019/20. This allowed a total of 309 properties to be improved during the year. 248 council properties and 28 private properties had gas central heating installed for the first

time; and a total of 30 council and 3 private properties were also able to benefit from Air Sourced Heat Pumps through this funding source.

HEEPS-ABS started in 2013/14 and to date Perth and Kinross Council has received a total of £13,530,966 of funding. HEEPS funding can be supplemented with ECO funding sourced from energy companies and this has enabled us to successfully carry out external wall insulation works for some homeowners completely free of charge. This work significantly reduces energy bills and the carbon footprint of these households helping enable residents of Perth and Kinross to live in warm, dry, energy efficient and low carbon homes which they can afford to heat.

During 2019/20, work on the HEEPS programme was progressing very well prior to the COVID-19 lockdown. Projects containing both Council (through Capital Investment Programme) and privately-owned properties were completed at High Street Alyth; MacDonald Crescent and Davie Park in Blairgowrie; Ardblair Road, Blairgowrie; Craig Varr and Schiehallion Place Kinloch Rannoch; and High Street, St Catherine's Road, St Johnstouns Buildings, Charles Street, Victoria Street and James Street in Perth.

The final phase of the 2019/20 programme included the installation of external wall insulation to properties in the Moncrieffe area. These properties are particularly difficult and expensive to insulate (costing more than £20,000 per property). We therefore had to work closely with the Scottish Government to combine their HEEPS Equity Loan Scheme to provide further assistance for owners. There have been three local authority and one self-funded property completed to date. Overall, a total of 90 properties received internal or external wall insulation as a result of the HEEPS-ABS funding during 2019/20.

It was recently announced that Perth and Kinross Council has been awarded over £1.68m to continue the programme of energy efficiency work on local homes. The Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland (HEEPS) award from the Scottish Government for 2020/21 will allow us to carry out work in the following areas:

- Pomarium and Potterhill Flats (external wall insulation);
- Milne, Market and Lickley Court Flats (external wall insulation);
- Moness Avenue/Crescent, Aberfeldy (external wall insulation);
- Glamis Place, Craigie (external wall insulation);
- North Bridge Street Crieff, High Street Kinross (internal wall insulation);
- North Methven Street, Melville Street, Atholl Street, County Place and South Inch Terrace Perth (internal wall insulation);
- Stuart Crescent, Coupar Angus (internal wall insulation).

A further 1,448 properties were able to receive energy efficiency measures through ECO funding during 2019/20.

### **Improving Awareness of How to Reduce Energy Use and Save Money**

It is important to ensure people are aware of ways in which they can reduce fuel consumption and save on energy costs to decrease fuel poverty levels and increase energy efficiency whilst minimising our carbon footprint.

During 2019/20, we trialled a new delivery model for the Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) service which is delivered in Partnership with Scarf. The HEAT service offers home visits to households within the Perth and Kinross area to help them save money on fuel bills and share hints and tips with them on how to reduce their carbon footprint. This service provides free and impartial energy efficiency advice to households across any tenure in Perth and Kinross.

The move to the new model of delivery meant that we could fund more home visits for households throughout the year and access a bank of energy advisors meaning that service provision would not be interrupted during busier periods. A total of 492 enquiries to the service were received during the last financial year and 315 home visits were carried out. This is a 97% increase compared to the number of enquiries received to the service in 2018/2019 (250 enquiries) and a 154% increase compared with the number of home visits carried out during 2018/2019 (124 home visits).

The home visit can lead to further referrals to organisations such as Home Energy Scotland (HES) for further details on eligibility for funding or loans; or referrals for grant funded schemes available within Perth and Kinross such as Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland Area Based Schemes (HEEPS-ABS), Energy Company Obligation (ECO), Warm Homes Fund, or Warm Home Discount Industry Initiatives Scheme (WHDii) as mentioned above.

In addition to the telephone advice and home visits carried out during 2019/20, the HEAT service also attended 11 events during 2019/20 to help raise awareness of the service. This included attendance at Perth foodbank; dementia cafes; local church events; and our tenants conference. In total it is estimated over 350 people were in attendance and these events and managed to hear about the service and how it can assist households within Perth and Kinross.

This service has been extremely important as it helps households across all tenures (including the private sector) reduce their fuel consumption and save on energy costs as well as making eligible households aware of energy efficiency programmes which might help. This, in turn, helps reduce fuel poverty and minimises the carbon footprint thus reducing the impact on the environment.

### Impact of Achievements

The impact of these achievements has meant that many households within Perth and Kinross have benefitted from energy efficiency improvements or advice, helping make their homes warmer and more affordable to heat. By trying to raise awareness of fuel poverty and the climate change challenges, we are slowly increasing awareness of the help and support available to households who may be struggling to heat their homes. Our Partnership with Scarf is ensuring many households are also aware of ways in which to reduce their energy use which is in turn can make their energy bills more affordable. All of this work is reducing the impact that cold, damp homes can have on a person's health and mental wellbeing.

### What are we doing next?

- **Ensuring our new build housing meets the relevant housing standards and energy efficiency requirements;**
- **Continuing to deliver housing improvements to Council properties through the Capital Investment Programme;**
- **Working with the Private Landlords to help improve housing conditions within the private sector;**

- Continuing to raise awareness of fuel poverty and the challenge of climate change;
- Working to identify households in fuel poverty and signposting these households to the Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) for assistance;
- Developing a Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) which will set out area-based plans and priorities for improving the energy efficiency levels of buildings and helping to decarbonise heat;
- Delivering the actions set out within the Climate Emergency Action Plan.





## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Housing and Communities Committee, 31 May 2021  
Strategic, Policy & Resources Committee, 2 June 2021

### Missing Shares Scheme

Report by Depute Director (Communities)  
(Report No. 21/70)

The last Local Housing Condition Survey determined that approximately 14,000 flatted/tenemental properties in Perth & Kinross exhibited visible/extensive disrepair. This report seeks approval to assist communal building repair works through a 'Missing Shares' scheme.

## 1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

### Disrepair of Flatted/Tenemental Properties in Perth & Kinross

- 1.1 The last Local Housing Condition Survey carried out in 2015 determined that the breakdown of housing types in Perth & Kinross comprised 25% flatted dwellings. The total number of tenements/other flats was 17,395, approximately 7,000 of these were built before 1944. The survey also identified that 11,821 of these flatted properties exhibited visible signs of disrepair and a further 2,129 exhibiting extensive disrepair. The total costs to patch the visible repairs were estimated at £5.5m (average cost £400 per dwelling), and £36.4m (average cost £2,000 per dwelling) for comprehensive repairs. A total of 54% of flatted properties were deemed below the 'repairing standard'.
- 1.2 As a result of these levels of disrepair, several Council services receive increasing numbers of enquiries and complaints associated with communal disrepair of private flatted properties. Complaints are mainly received from tenants (who are experiencing poor living conditions) and landlords and owner occupiers, where repairs cannot be resolved due to a lack of co-operation or funds from all responsible parties.
- 1.3 As repairs fail to be addressed, buildings deteriorate, resulting in a variety of structural issues e.g., water penetration, dry rot and crumbling stonework. Such disrepair can impact on resident's health and result in properties becoming defective or dangerous. A failure to address repairs as they arise leads to deterioration and ultimately higher repair costs often requiring the intervention and co-ordination of Council services including planning, building standards, housing and economic development.

## **Missing Shares**

- 1.4 The Housing (Scotland) Acts 2006 and 2014 provided Local Authorities (LAs) with the power to pay a sum, representing an owner's share for repair costs where the owner is unable (often due to lack of funds), unwilling or untraceable (e.g. absent landlords) and where most other owners agree to fund and carry out the repairs. This unpaid element of a required maintenance cost is known as a 'missing share'. Section 4.16 of the Council's Scheme of Assistance provides that where common repair work is delayed under these circumstances then PKC may fund the missing share to enable the work to go ahead. [https://www.pkc.gov.uk/media/47961/Scheme-of-Assistance2021/pdf/Scheme\\_of\\_Assistance\\_for\\_Private\\_Sector\\_Housing\\_January\\_2020.pdf?m=637510534555270000](https://www.pkc.gov.uk/media/47961/Scheme-of-Assistance2021/pdf/Scheme_of_Assistance_for_Private_Sector_Housing_January_2020.pdf?m=637510534555270000)
- 1.5 The Council's Scheme of Assistance (Section 1.1) promotes the principle that homeowners have the primary responsibility for maintaining and repairing their own homes. Therefore, payment of a 'missing share' by a Local Authority should only be considered as a last resort when other intervention methods and financial options have been evidenced and exhausted by the owners. Similarly, payment of a missing share could also be applied to a commercial property associated with an eligible residential property.

## **Enforcement Action vs Missing Shares**

- 1.6 Discretion to undertake enforcement action on essential repairs and/or where a public health nuisance exists e.g., water penetration via a defective roof, remains an option. However, such enforcement involves an increased level of risk. Not only is such a process resource intensive, but it also requires significant technical expertise, especially where works in default require to be project managed.
- 1.7 In comparison, the same outcomes can be attained through a missing shares scheme whereby the payment of missing shares actively encourages owners to organise repairs themselves without having to progress to enforcement action. Notably, the scheme can also proactively facilitate disrepair works at an earlier stage, prior to them becoming essential or having an adverse health impact. A missing shares scheme could also be implemented in circumstances where enforcement action was not applicable.

## **Benefits of Missing Shares**

- 1.8 Regulatory Services have tried to progress a number of eligible 'missing shares' cases on a pilot basis but have been restricted to only a small number due to lack of targeted funding. One pilot related to a property where the building suffered deterioration which resulted in the service of a Dangerous Building Notice and evacuation of each of the residential properties. The majority of owners were able to pay their share of the works, totalling, but the minority were unable. The properties could not be sold due to the Notice. By PKC paying the missing shares of just under £4,000 the Notice could be lifted, and the properties reoccupied. It enabled owners to sell their properties and

PKC to recoup the costs of the missing share. In addition, it resulted in some owners renting their properties through PKC lets, thereby bringing more affordable accommodation to the city centre.

- 1.9 Glasgow City Council (GCC) operate a missing shares scheme. Table 1, below, clearly highlights the significant private investment in housing improvements, resulting from the local authority supporting this work by contributing the missing shares.

*Table 1: Glasgow City Council - Missing Shares Allocation 2011/12 to 2017/18*

|                      | 11/12      | 12/13      | 13/14      | 14/15      | 15/16        | 16/17      | 17/18      | Total        |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Spend                | 75,760.00  | 91,615.00  | 47,717.00  | 79,741.00  | 123,172.00   | 85,550.00  | 76,866.00  | 580,421.00   |
| Overall Cost of Work | 366,318.00 | 715,215.00 | 466,320.00 | 637,850.00 | 1,917,446.00 | 642,395.00 | 618,540.00 | 5,364,084.00 |
| Number of cases      | 16         | 59         | 64         | 58         | 55           | 65         | 53         | 370          |

- 1.10 A significant number of local authorities have restarted or initiated missing shares recently, including Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, North Lanarkshire, Aberdeen City and Moray Council. Clear information regarding Edinburgh Council's scheme can be viewed at:  
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/25682/missing-shares-service-factsheet>
- 1.11 Such a scheme is particularly timely as a proactive and preventative measure in times when there are increased financial challenges faced by residents due to the pandemic.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

- 2.1 This report seeks approval to implement a 'Missing Shares' Scheme and, where necessary, funding for common repair works using enforcement powers. A Technician is also required to undertake the necessary work associated with this scheme. It is proposed that the scheme operates on a trial basis for two years with an update on progress reviewed by committee at the end of this period.
- 2.2 It is proposed that a specific policy and procedure will be developed to implement the Missing Shares Scheme and include a minimum and maximum indicative level for each missing share but acknowledging the need to assess each project on a case-by-case basis, prioritising those of greatest risk to health and wellbeing.

- 2.3 Many of the associated objectives that would benefit from a missing shares scheme are detailed within the 'Perth & Kinross Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2016-2021'. The Action Plan 2019-2020, Priority 4 – Housing Condition, Fuel Poverty and Climate Change, but specifically measure 4.8 'Explore opportunities across services to create a missing shares fund' .
- 2.4 The theme of this strategy is to ensure, as far as possible, that people are living in warm, dry, energy efficiency, low carbon homes which are affordable to heat and meet the required standards. Housing disrepair can adversely affect a person's health and wellbeing and the missing shares scheme will demonstrate our ongoing commitment to support improved housing standards in the area.

### **Financial Arrangements**

- 2.5 The power to pay the missing share under S50 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 is matched by the power to recover the sum from the owner of the house concerned (S59), together with administration charges and interest at a reasonable rate.
- 2.6 It is proposed that the Council's Affordable Housing earmarked reserve is used to underwrite the payments with a cap of £200,000. This will be kept under review as the scheme is rolled out and information on uptake reported to future the Housing and Communities Committee.
- 2.7 Ultimately all costs incurred in funding 'missing shares' are recoverable from the relevant owner via a Repayment Charge attached to the title of the property. This places a security against the property of the owner who has not paid and has priority over all future burdens and most existing burdens on the property. Local Authorities can determine a reasonable repayment period of between 5 and 30 years, which may include an agreed payment plan.
- 2.8 To ensure the successful implementation and delivery of the scheme it is requested that a Missing Shares Technician be employed for a flexible period of two years to implement all aspects of the new scheme. This post will be funded from the Affordable Housing earmarked reserve.

## **3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Having well maintained, secure, sustainable housing is key to providing attractive, vibrant and well managed neighbourhoods that support our communities and economic growth through tourism and business investment.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that a Missing Shares scheme will support a change in attitude amongst owners/co-owners towards property maintenance. It is also intended that it will encourage a greater degree of co-operation between co-owners in multi owned properties e.g. flatted properties.

## Housing and Communities Committee

3.3 It is recommended that the Committee approves:

- (i) the implementation of a “Missing Shares” Scheme to be operated by Regulatory Services, for a trial period, initially for two years.

## Strategic, Policy and Resources Committee

3.4 It is recommended that the Committee approves:

- (ii) that £200,000 is allocated for 2021 to 2023 to trial the missing shares scheme and is underwritten by the Council’s Affordable Housing earmarked reserve fund, on the terms detailed at Section 2.5 and 2.6
- (iii) that funds from the Council’s Affordable Housing earmarked reserve are used to pay for a Missing Shares Technician for 2 years (approx. £40k per year)

### Author

| Name          | Designation                                | Contact Details                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Kirsty Steven | Principal Officer,<br>Environmental Health | ComCommitteeReports@pkc.gov.uk<br>01738 475000 |

### Approved

| Name         | Designation                      | Date        |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Clare Mailer | Depute Director<br>(Communities) | 20 May 2021 |

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

|                                                     |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Strategic Implications</b>                       |            |
| Community Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b> |
| Corporate Plan                                      | <b>Yes</b> |
| <b>Resource Implications</b>                        |            |
| Financial                                           | <b>Yes</b> |
| Workforce                                           | <b>Yes</b> |
| Asset Management (land, property, IST)              | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>Assessments</b>                                  |            |
| Equality Impact Assessment                          | <b>No</b>  |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment                  | <b>No</b>  |
| Sustainability (community, economic, environmental) | <b>No</b>  |
| Legal and Governance                                | <b>Yes</b> |
| Risk                                                | <b>Yes</b> |
| <b>Consultation</b>                                 |            |
| Internal                                            | <b>Yes</b> |
| External                                            | <b>n/a</b> |
| <b>Communication</b>                                |            |
| Communications Plan                                 | <b>Yes</b> |

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan/Corporate Plan

1.1 The proposals detailed within this report support each 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

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

2.1 It is proposed that the Council's Affordable Housing earmarked reserve is used to underwrite payments up to a value of £200,000 for the period 2021 to 2023. Recovery of the missing shares cost from each owner will be sought through a repayment plan between 5 and 30 years with a repayment charge applied to the title of each property to provide additional security. In addition £40,000 per annum from the Councils Affordable Housing earmarked reserve is sought for the same period to fund a Missing Shares Technician to implement the scheme.

### Workforce

- 2.2 The additional resource required to implement a new missing shares scheme cannot be accommodated within the current capacity of Regulatory Services therefore it is proposed that a Missing Shares Technician be employed for a fixed period of two years to implement all aspects of any new scheme. This post will be funded from the Council's Affordable Housing earmarked reserve.

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

- 2.3 Not applicable.

## **3. Consultation**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA
- 3.2 This report aims to improve living conditions for all with no discriminating criteria.

### 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. The proposals have been considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.
- 3.4 Screening has determined that there is unlikely to be significant environmental effects and is therefore exempt and the Consultation Authorities will be notified. The reason for concluding that the PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects is that the environment will not be affected by the repair of relevant properties.

### Sustainability

- 3.5 The proposal has been considered under the provisions of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and it has been assessed that:
- A number of positive climate change and sustainable development outcomes are likely as a result of this proposal being implemented across ten of the eleven sections of the Integrated Appraisal Toolkit.

## Legal and Governance

- 3.6 Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and there are no adverse comments raised.

## Risk

- 3.7 The risks associated with improvements of communal repairs through a missing shares policy, as opposed to alternative enforcement action is significantly less.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 All relevant internal stakeholders have been consulted on the proposals and these stakeholders support the measures contained within the report.

### External

- 4.2 N/A.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 The role of the proposed Missing Shares Technician will include the promotion of the Missing Shares Scheme. Key target audiences will include those private property owners with existing communal disrepair issues, owners of empty homes, registered landlords etc

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 None.

## **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 None.