



**POLICE**  
**SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

## **Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee Report**

**North East Division**

**Aberdeen City**

**2016 - 17**

**Quarters 1 & 2 (April - September)**



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## **Introduction**

I present the latest Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Committee Report on behalf of Police Scotland, North East Division. This report provides a detailed account of Police Performance in support of agreed priorities, both local and national for Quarters 1 and 2 (April-September 2016).

A number of critical incidents have presented particular challenges, including the double murder and suicide in Tillydrone in July and the drowning of a mother and her young son at the Beach in August. I can only commend the work of my staff at both of these tragic incidents and many others which often go unseen.

At this time, work is ongoing in regard to the 3 Year Local Policing Plan which will be shared with partners in early February 2017 and will be aligned to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

This Performance Report reflects the mainly positive ongoing work within the Division which, as ever, is enhanced by the numerous partnerships undertaken as we continue to "Keep People Safe" in Aberdeen City.

Regards,

Campbell Thomson  
Chief Superintendent  
North East Division  
Police Scotland



## Staffing

	Authorised Establishment	Current	Difference
Police Officers	1129.00	1095.70	-33.30
	30-Sep-16	30-Sep-15	Difference
Police Staff	131.79	121.41	-10.38

The figures above provide details of staffing numbers and vacancies in North East Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City) as Full Time Equivalent (FTE) on the 30 September 2016.

## Complaints About the Police

In the review period (April - September 2016) Aberdeen City received **139** complaints. This equates to **23** new complaints received each month and represents an increase of **24** complaints, a **21%** rise when compared to the last year. This represents **33.8** complaints per **10,000** police incidents, a reduction however from **35.1** in 2015. Analysis of these figures has shown that that no common theme can be identified as the cause of this increase.

An individual complaint can contain multiple allegations. On average, for this review period, in Aberdeen City **1.5** allegations were made per complaint received.

The total number of allegations recorded in Aberdeen City for April to September 2016 was **212**, with **173** relating to On Duty Allegations and **2** Off Duty Allegations. There were a total of **37** Quality of Service allegations recorded.

For the same period in 2015 a total of **174** allegations were recorded, **130** being On Duty and **2** Off Duty, with **42** relating to Quality of Service issues.

A number of Complaints continue to be resolved at the earliest opportunity by the Front Line Resolution Unit based within the Professional Standards Department.

## Theft by Shoplifting

During this period, Aberdeen City experienced a slight drop in the number of Retail Crimes recorded with **2.8%** less instances of Theft by Shoplifting compared to the same period in 2015. Detection rates remain high at **69.4%**, however this is a decrease of **7.1%** compared to the same period last year. The Five Year Average detection rate also sits at **75.5%**.

In real terms there has been a reduction of **32** victims of Retail Crime during this period compared to that of last year.



The most popular items stolen remain clothing, cosmetics, foodstuffs and alcohol.

Aberdeen City Centre and its high number of properties linked to the retail sector remains the location in which most criminality of this nature takes place. Tackling Retail Crime remains one of the key objectives within Aberdeen City Centre under the 'Operation Oak' strategy which strives to prevent and reduce instances of crime.

Partnership work, in conjunction with Aberdeen Inspired, Safer Aberdeen, Scottish Business Resilience Centre, Police Scotland Crime Reduction Officers and 'Retailers Against Crime' (to raise awareness) of Retail Crime trends, continues to tackle this issue.

Where offenders are detected restrictive Bail / Curfew conditions are requested as appropriate. Repeat offenders are identified through analytical work and are subject to review and where appropriate Antisocial Behaviour Orders can and are sought to prevent their attendance in areas in which they have offended.

Where it is identified that a disproportionate level of Retail Crime is occurring at a particular premises it is intended, during 2017, to develop and pilot an 'intervention' process whereby focused attention can be given to identify the reasons why this may be the case. Meaningful support can then be given to the relevant retailer / premises from Police and aforementioned partners in the form of prevention and enforcement activity as appropriate.

### **Antisocial Behaviour**

Antisocial behaviour in its various forms continues to feature daily across the City and as such it is closely monitored. The Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) Hub specifically supports this monitoring with review of the locations, persons involved and the nature of the behaviour. This analysis has allowed us to identify patterns, key players and trends which can be addressed. The focus which it has received over the most recent years has resulted in a consistent pattern, seeing a reduction in the incidents reported across the City. This is evidenced in the Five Year Average figures showing reductions of **38.2%** for Fire-raising, **19.7%** for Vandalism (including Malicious Mischief), **26.9%** for disorderly conduct, **57.4%** for Drunkenness and Disorderly Conduct and **53.8%** for Racially Aggravated conduct.

This previous period of considerable success has resulted in a greater reflection of more stability amongst much of the performance data. Complaints of disorder have seen a slight decrease of **0.1%** to **5451** incidents, with youth annoyance reflecting a 0.2% increase to **1110** reports.

In looking more closely at the most recent review period, we are aware that a number of factors allow us to work in a focused manner with partners across the City to anticipate the problems, their location and apply preventative measures to address them. The summer generally brings warmer and drier weather with longer sunshine hours which draws young people out. This year was no exception, resulting again in the antisocial use of motorcycles across our communities; however a dedicated team of Officers secured the commitment of partners and crucially the public to challenge this inappropriate behaviour, resulting in another reduction in this activity this year.

Antisocial behaviour associated with young people loitering within communities and engaging in general disorder, acts of vandalism and intimidating residents through their presence, is



another summer or 'holiday' issue. Building on our experience, local communities have benefited over this period from the targeted efforts of Community Policing Teams, using a focused early intervention approach and sharing learning as a partnership. Over this period the locally developed Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) package and response structure was positively applied to address ASB in the Torry and Northfield areas of the City. In Torry where, over 18 weeks, Operation Smallwood operated, this effort has seen Third Sector partners becoming involved, diversionary opportunities being created and young people engaging, participating and not becoming involved in ASB. The operation evidenced a **19.7%** reduction in reported incidents over the preceding period and an increase of **46.8%** in recorded crime, illustrating a public confidence in reporting their concerns and a **89.9%** detection rate.

The incidents of reported damage which can often be associated with, but are not solely caused by young people, has illustrated reductions over the review period; Vandalism (and Malicious Mischief) have seen a further drop of **8.2%** or **98** incidents over that recorded in 2015-16. While the number of detections has dropped slightly, the detection rates have increased by **1.7%** to **2.1%**. Fire-raising has followed a similar pattern, with reported incidents down to **49** from **69** in 2015-16, though detection rates have fallen by **34.8%**, resulting in a **2.7%** reduction to **30.6%**.

The quality of life of our communities can be severely impacted by the inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour of others; this is often evidenced through complaints of Breaches of the Peace, Threatening or Abusive Behaviour and Stalking. The latter has over the past 5 years seen a constant increase, as what was new legislation was put to good effect. This year over the reporting period we have seen **20** reports being made, a **39.4 %** drop. This activity is often closely aligned to Domestic offences.

The wider disorder offences, are often linked to the inappropriate and excessive use of alcohol, but can be perpetrated by a large cross section of our community and in response to situations they find themselves in. The positive review of reports through the CSP Hub and by Local Policing Teams have allowed us to identify repeat offenders and key associations. By working in partnership we have been able to focus on these individuals, evidence and demonstrate their persistent antisocial behaviour resulting in them being subjected to the application for and regulation by Antisocial Behaviour Orders. This will have gone some way to supporting the **20.8%** reduction in Breach of the Peace (BOP) and **1.3%** reduction in Threatening and Abusive Behaviour offences, though an increase in BOP detection rates of **3.0%** contrasts with the **7.3%** reduction in Threatening and abusive detections.

Racially aggravated conduct or Hate Crime is often associated with other forms of Antisocial Behaviour. It is prioritised by Police Scotland and every effort is made to bring the perpetrator to justice. This has resulted in reductions in reported incidents consistently over previous years and specifically **30** incidents being reported over the review period, a fall of **33.3%** over the previous year. The events leading to such conduct can see only the perpetrator and the victim present which creates challenges to detecting these and the review period does show a **31.7%** reduction in detections, with only **28** incidents detected. The detection rate has however increased by **2.2%**.

The Closure of Albyn House, the City based Designated Place, previously used for those found Drunk and Incapable (D&I) of looking after themselves at the commencement of the review period, required a renewed partner based approach to dealing with this issue. The alternative approach has resulted in a range of interventions and proactive prevention and supporting mechanisms being used. The removal of the facility was never designed to criminalise those



found D&I and this is reflected in the reduction of **50%** of those recorded as being D&I, with only **4** incidents being recorded and detected as a crime, the remainder seeing alternative means of disposal, with partner referrals and support. The analysis of street drinking, which is also more evident over the summer months and is closely associated with D&I's shows detected crimes rising by **1.7%** to **59** incidents over the period, which sees a drop of **53.5%** below the five year average.

The Weekend Policing partnership, with over **70** collaborating partner agencies, strives to maintain the city as a safe and secure environment for all who, live, work and socialise in it, with its aim to retain its "Purple Flag" status. This period has seen determined efforts to educate the Public, reinforce responsible drinking messages and link closely with licensees to reduce the antisocial behaviour within our communities. The partnership messaging and planned activity welcoming the new fresher students to the city with the use of dry, 'non-alcoholic' nightclubs, set positive examples for our new residents.

### Housebreaking

During the review period, Acquisitive Crime has remained static when compared to the same period in 2015 and is down **12.7%** as a whole against the Five Year Average.

Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	Five Year Average	Apr 2016 - Sep 2016	Apr 2015 - Sep 2015	2016 v Five Year Av.
<b>Detection Rate</b>	20.9%	20.1%	18.0%	-0.8%
<b>Dwelling House</b>	170.6	184	136	+7.9%
<b>Non-Dwelling (e.g. Sheds)</b>	254.2	275	184	+8.2%
<b>Other Premises (e.g. Commercial)</b>	126.4	102	68	-19.2%

In relation to Housebreaking, this reporting period has seen an increase of 48 crimes over the previous years' figures. This is also **14** crimes above the Five Year Average. Throughout this period however, the detection rate has slightly improved to **20.1%**.

The cause for this increase has been identified as a group of recidivist criminals from Aberdeen committing crime throughout the Division. Enforcement action has been taken against this group of offenders and through positive liaison with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, they have been remanded in custody pending trial. This positive enforcement action has resulted in a significant reduction in these figures during the period of October to December.

The current picture in relation to domestic Housebreaking (including attempts) is that it is reducing month on month from **36** in October 2016 to **18** in December 2016.

The group of recidivist offenders were also responsible for a major proportion of the Theft of Vehicles, targeting houses to steal car keys and taking the vehicles.

The most recent data for these crimes between October and December 2016, shows **127** vehicles stolen, **60** were cars, **41** of these involved a true key being stolen from an insecure house (most of the remaining vehicles in this total were motorcycles with a large proportion



being stolen from an insecure shed or garage). There is an ongoing media strategy in relation to this, stressing to the public the importance of securing their property to prevent them being victims of these crimes.

With these crimes, there is also a downward trend of crimes with **55** reported in October 2016, falling to **47** in November and falling again to **25** during December 2016.

In relation to Housebreaking involving non domestic dwellings (sheds), commercial premises and domestic dwellings including attempts, for this period there has been an increase in reporting from **388** to **561** compared with the same period last year. There is also a slight increase in comparison with the Five Year Average of **551.2**.

These Housebreaking figures have been affected by two crime series involving break-ins to **52** sheds and garages in two nights of crime. Both of these crime series have been detected.

There is however still much work to be done in relation to this crime type which impacts so significantly on individuals and communities.

Longer term measures for diverting young offenders, working along with partners, are in place and it is hoped these measures will break the cycle of offending for these young people in the longer term.

## **National Security**

National Security is an ever present consideration and this period has seen continued terrorist activity including the Bastille Day truck attack in Nice. The threat level has remained at Severe (an attack is highly likely) throughout this time and much of the preventative messaging, reassurance patrols and education have become day business around contact with crowded places, faith groups and iconic locations.

Aberdeen City is an active partner within the North East Division pan Grampian Multi-Agency CONTEST Group, which benefits from the partnerships links with all **3** Local Authority Areas (Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray). This work drives the local CONTEST Action plans which are supported by the existing Pan-Grampian partnership structures including Education, Emergency Services, Resilience and Third Sector Partners. The structure is further mirrored in the Prevent Sub Group which allows maximum benefit to be gained by all partners, ensuring an excellent integrated approach to the potential of a terrorist attack.

The above detailed events have continued to shape our response to the threat, managed through the UK Government CONTEST Strategy. North East Division has the support of locally based Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSAs) who, working with the **15** Local Contest Liaison Officers based within the Community Policing Teams, have delivered **74** CONTEST based inputs and briefings across our Communities, to over **630** individuals.

The National Counter Terrorism Office (NaCTSO) has developed a Project Griffin product which is being made available to Industry in a self-delivery format, which has been offered to local companies. Designed for larger businesses with their own training teams, it addressed the requirements of front of house reception and security teams. It is acknowledged that this is not going to suit smaller businesses and here the locally Based CTSAs will provide inputs



supported by our own Local Contest Liaison Officers who have, over the period, developed an ability to deliver this product.

We also saw the launch of Project Argus - Stadia, aimed at larger event stadia, in respect of the potential to host large numbers of people and providing support and guidance for those managing these locations. This has been picked up locally by Aberdeen Football Club in particular who have been actively engaging with Police Scotland and other partners around this. With Counter Terrorism Security Advisers supporting this, expert advice, guidance and training was available to local companies.

While the CONTEST framework provides an overarching cover for this work, the four P's (Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare) also feature in the work of the Division.

Prepare and Protect based work streams continue with close links between local partners and the Local Authority through planning and resilience functions.

The Prevent agenda is a truly partnership process in the North East, with the Prevent Delivery Group, which during this time has seen the chair held by Aberdeen City Council, has been the driving force. This group has seen the responsibility for the delivery of Prevent messaging being taken on by members internally, resulting in a far wider cascade of information than previously achieved. This however has allowed Police Scotland to progress the delivery of products to others, including the WRAP3 and ActNow inputs to schools, through the City's **3** School Based and **1** Liaison Officer. This has formed a considerable part of the 4 strand activity during this period where the Division have directly delivered **60** specific inputs and briefings to over **550** individuals.

### **Protecting People**

A **13.5%** increase in crimes of a sexual nature was noted in the past year versus the same period last year. This compares with a national increase of **5.5%** for such crimes. It is assessed this may relate to an increase in public confidence to report such matters together with the growing use of technology to facilitate offending.

Detection rates in relation to sexual crime within the reporting period (April - September 2016) reduced to **66.7%** from **77.2%**. In more recent figures (April - December 2016) the detection rate rose to **71.7%**, which compares favourably to a detection rate of **74.6%** for of the same period in 2016.

These figures should be considered against the fact that crimes of this nature are very often protracted investigations involving multiple witnesses and forensic considerations in respect of people, places and electronic devices. Given this, when a number of incidents are reported around the same period, it may take some time for the investigation to be concluded. This will occasionally result in dips in the detection rate which will improve as investigations are brought to a positive conclusion (as can be seen above in the 'reporting period' detection rate versus the detection rate at time of writing).

Rape detection rates remain challenging and sat at **58.0%** at the end of the reporting period (April - September 2016). This is slightly below the Five Year Average of **66.7%**. As the year has progressed (April - December 2016) the number of rapes reported remained static but detection rates dropped to **66.7%** to a figure of **77.5%** in 2015. Detection rate figures from the



previous the year was unusually high as a result of a significant enquiry drawing to a close at that time directly resulting in a significant number of detected 'non recent' crimes.

In April 2016, North East Division restructured the Public Protection Unit (PPU) model in a move away from role specific units to create a wider pool of Officers skilled in investigating a range of reports across the Public Protection spectrum, such as Child and Adult Protection, Domestic Abuse, Rape, Human Trafficking, Honour Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation. This model provides increased flexibility in respect of resource allocation and creates an environment where officers can 'upskill'.

Throughout Quarters 1 and 2 there has been an awareness raising program delivered throughout Aberdeen Schools regarding 'online' sexual offending. School based and School Liaison officers have provided a number of inputs to pupils to raise awareness of the risks posed through online and modern communication platforms. These inputs are delivered in response to specific requests or more generally are part of the Educational Curriculum for Excellence programme and as such are widely delivered. Internet Safety, Social Media and the Law and more generally Sex and the Law are three of the inputs which address these issues, raising awareness of the risks faced by our young people in particular. Preventative advice is delivered in an engaging manner to limit the risk of them becoming the victim of sexually motivated offences.

### Safer Roads

Quarters 1 and 2 of 2016-17 saw **2** road deaths within Aberdeen City, the same figure as in the same period in 2015-16. None of those killed were children (individuals under 16 years). Both deaths occurred in August; one was a pedestrian and the other was the rider of a motorcycle.

In the same period the number of individuals seriously injured fell by **33.3% (42 to 28)**, significantly the number of children seriously injured rose from **3** to **6** an increase of **50.0%**. The number of people that were slightly injured on the roads fell by **9.9% (81 to 73)**.

The review period has provided a mixed picture in relation to traffic related offences with some experiencing sizeable reductions whereas detections for others have increased markedly. Efforts to tackle the problem have been made by both Divisional Officers and those in the Road Policing Unit.

Reductions have been experienced in Speeding offences (by **28.4%**), Seat Belt offences (by **61%**) and Mobile Phone offences (by **49.9%**). While it is pleasing to see such reductions, the numbers of detections still give considerable cause for concern. In addition, any positives therein are countered by the increases that have occurred in Dangerous Driving offences (by **36%**), Disqualified Driving offences (by **20.0%**), Driving Licence offences (by **18.1%**) and Insurance offences (by **26.3%**).

Drink /Drug Driving offences continue to be a constant challenge and have increased by **2.7%**.

In addition to more general road safety issues, there are two other aspects that continue to cause concern; the theft, and subsequent illegal use, of cars and motorcycles and the antisocial use of motor vehicles.



Those responsible for the thefts and subsequent offences are predominantly City-based; however the incidents have occurred across Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. The offenders have shown a blatant disregard for the safety of other road users and put themselves and anyone on the roads at great risk.

In respect of the anti-social use of vehicles, areas within Aberdeen City continue to experience occasional reports of Antisocial Behaviour from the drivers and riders of motor vehicles. The annoyance and noise nuisance has led to significant quality of life issues for some nearby residents and business owners.

Both aspects of criminal activity continue to be addressed by the Community Policing Teams and the Road Policing Unit.

In order to support the stated objectives in regard to safer roads, i.e. to decrease the number of persons killed or seriously injured on our roads and increase the enforcement activities and visibility on our streets and roads, the Divisional Road Policing Unit stopped and checked **14,179** vehicles during the review period in the Division as a whole.

In a continuation of existing policies, **4,446** minor offences have, where appropriate, been disposed of by an informal warning rather than by the issuing of a Conditional Offer or Report to the Procurator Fiscal.

### **Serious and Organised Crime**

Decreasing the impact of Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCGs) on our communities through targeted enforcement and disruption of their criminal activities in Aberdeen City continues to be a major focus.

Within the current review period, **87** Drug Search Warrants have been craved and executed by North East Division Officers within Aberdeen City.

This has resulted in Officers from the Division recovering over 2 kilograms of Cocaine with a potential value of over **£166,000**, **970** grams of 'Crack' Cocaine with a potential value of over **£90,000**, a kilogram of cannabis with a potential value of **£16,660** and **700** grams of Diamorphine with a potential value of over **£69,000**.

The Division continues to be supported by Specialist Crime Division (SCD). Their activities within the Division within the review period has resulted in the recovery of over 1 kilogram of Cocaine with a potential value of over **£67,000** and **148** Kilograms of cannabis with a potential value of over **£506,000**.

We continue to work closely with partners to target individuals and groups involved in Serious and Organised Crime by means of the 4 D's strategy (i.e. Detect, Deter, Disrupt, and Divert).

The Aberdeen City Serious and Organised Crime Partnership Group has been recognised throughout the North of Scotland as best practice and is being introduced within other areas of North East Division and in other Police Scotland Divisions.



Antisocial behaviour legislation is used to target Serious and Organised Crime. During this reporting period, Antisocial behaviour orders have been issued against individuals preventing them from being within geographic areas where they are known to be criminally active as well as closure orders used against addresses linked to organised crime.

Given Local Authority and Housing Association tenants are predominantly used at the front end to supply drugs, systems have been put in place between Police and partners to raise awareness of the risks to tenants but also to take enforcement action where necessary. Tactics have included joint visits between Police and Housing Officers, articles in tenant's newsletters and ultimately evictions where it has been proportionate to do so.

North East Division is working with the SCD Safer Communities in relation to the Positive Lifestyles initiative based at HMP Grampian. The identification of suitable individuals will be linked to existing Divisional processes via the Partnership Intervention Group in an effort to break the cycle of organised crime involvement.

It is recognised the provisions of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 afford effective means of disrupting organised criminals. During this financial year, North East Division has submitted **3** cash seizures (total value **£120,350.15**) and **20** Asset Restraint and Confiscation reports (total value **£2,087,394.89**) for the consideration of the Crown Office under this legislation.

### **Violent Crime**

Violence is pervasive and its effects are felt throughout communities who look to the Police for reassurance and safety. The overall level of violent crime has continuously reduced in recent years, although during this particular reporting period, it increased by **7.4%**.

We remain committed to challenging the number of violent crimes within Aberdeen. This includes strengthening our partnership working, increasing our intelligence gathering and maximising our enforcement activities. We are also increasing opportunities with criminal justice partners who work equally hard to reduce violent crime in our communities.

While overall violent crime remains **8.7%** below the Five Year Average, when comparing the impact such crime has on victims, families and communities, it rightly requires our full attention and that of all our partners, to ensure it remains a top priority.

The number of reported Robberies increased by **18** to **56** during the period April to September 2016. While that represents a sharp rise compared to the same period last year and is an increase of **20.7%** when compared to the Five Year Average. With some exceptions, in Aberdeen this type of crime is generally contained to individuals known to each other or with associates linked through criminality. Nevertheless, when considering the potential impact on victims and communities, this type of crime rightly demands a full and thorough investigation into each allegation irrespective of who may be involved in order to protect victims and prevent further occurrences.

While the report shows a sizeable reduction (**26.0%**) in detection rates compared to last year, the detection rate for Robberies (**71.4%**) is currently on a par with the Five Year Average (**74.1%**). A number of factors influence the detection rates and as forensic opportunities, intelligence and enforcement activity continue to progress, the number of detections will likely rise and be accurately reflected in future reports.



Serious Assault follows a similar pattern and has increased by **38** crimes year on year (2015-16). This follows the experience of elsewhere in the country and while an explanation may be sought from a change in criteria which took a wider range of injuries into the definition, there remains a heavy influence on victim durability between what is classified a Serious Assault and that regarded as Common Assault.

The detection rate for Serious Assault has again increased to **80.8%** for the review period which is significant for any city environment.

The number of Common Assaults increased by **4.6%** during the reporting period. However, when compared to the Five Year Average this represents **238** less victims of Assault across Aberdeen (a drop of **12.5%**). A detection rate of **70.8%** represents a small decrease from the previous year, however, there remains a drive to deliver further improvements in detection rates through combining effective frontline policing with strong back office support.

It is widely recognised that prevention is crucial in reducing the number of victims of violent crime across the North-East. Through Operation Pine, the Division's overarching violence prevention strategy, we maintain a strong governance process to compliment a robust investigatory structure. We dedicate staff to support frontline officers maximise all proactive, investigatory and forensic opportunities to apprehend those responsible and support victims or areas vulnerable to violence.



## APPENDIX "A"

<b>Scottish Crime Recording Standard</b> <b>Quarter 3 &amp; 4 Audit 2015/16</b> <i>(not available at Local Authority level but detailed at Divisional and Force level for information purposes)</i>							
45	Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime Audit 2015/16 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Test 1 - Incidents			Test 2 - Recorded Crime		
		Incidents Audited	No. of errors	SCRS Compliance	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
		A Division	150	10	93.3%	125	6
Force	2,360	129	94.5%	1,814	126	93.1%	

*Details of the methodology for Audit 1 can be found in Appendix A*

46	Audit 2 - Divisional Crime Audit 2015/16 - Quarter 4 (January to March)	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance	
		Aberdeen City	240	12	95.0%
		Force	3,500	212	93.9%

*Details of the methodology for Audit 2 can be found in Appendix A*

47	Audit 3 - "No Crime" Audit 2015/16 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Number of "No Crimes" Audited	No. of errors	SCRS Compliance	
		Aberdeen City	103	5	95.2%
		Force	973	47	95.2%

*Details of the methodology for Audit 3 can be found in Appendix A*

## APPENDIX "A" - AUDIT METHODOLOGY

### **Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime**

The audit sample was selected from Command and Control incidents over a specific four day period with initial call types CR-60 to CR-79 within the Crime category, and incidents with initial call types AB-57 Communications, AB-58 Hate Crime, PW-40 Domestic Incident and PW-76 Child Protection. The incident sample selected for audit ensured, working to a 95% confidence level with a confidence interval of +/-3%, that the sample audited was statistically representative of all incidents of this type recorded during the four day audit period. A formula was applied to the total number of incidents per Command Area and apportioned out between Divisions in that Command Area in order to obtain sample sizes. These were subject to a minimum of 150 and a maximum of 300 per Division.

Compliance in each of the two Tests is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.



The audit tested:

#### Test 1 – Crime Related Incidents

- That incidents initially inferring a crime or apparent criminal activity and closed as a non-crime contained a satisfactory narrative to eliminate any inference of criminality and fully justify a non-crime disposal.
- That each incident clearly indicated a crime or non-crime as a disposal on the incident text.
- Where an incident was closed as a crime, the corresponding crime record was traced.

#### Test 2 – Recorded Crime

- The correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit.

### **Audit 2 - Recording of Specific Crime Types (Divisional Crime Audit)**

To ensure that a number of different areas of crime recording are represented by Audit 2, samples were obtained from the following categories:

- Assault (Common Assault only)
- Group 1 Crime (Crimes of violence)
- Group 2 Crime (Sexual offences)
- Group 3 Crime (Crimes of dishonesty)
- Group 4 Crime (Damage to property)
- Other Crimes from Groups 5, 6 and 7

While not as statistically representative of all records within the audit period as Audit 1, the sample sizes in Audit 2 were weighted to take into account higher volumes of crime being recorded in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 100 records and a maximum of 300 records.

The audit tested the correct application of SCRS on recorded crimes in respect of the Scottish Government Counting Rules and the correct classification of crimes. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime over or under-recorded, or incorrectly classified was counted as having failed the audit.

Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

### **Audit 3 - Crime Records Reclassified to "No Crime"**

The third principle of SCRS states "once recorded, a crime will remain recorded unless there is credible evidence to disprove that a crime had occurred".

The audit tested the correct application of this principle in respect of recorded crime which was reclassified to "No Crime" following Police enquiry into the reported circumstances. In terms of compliance with SCRS each individual crime reclassified incorrectly was counted as having failed the audit.



The sample sizes in Audit 3 were weighted to take into account the higher number of records reclassified to "No Crime" in some Divisions subject to a minimum of 50 and a maximum of 100.

Compliance in this audit is achieved with a result of **95%** or above.

In order to allow Divisions a reasonable period of time to ensure that records are complete and compliant with SCRS, audits are generally undertaken once a period of three months from the date of the incident/crime has elapsed. Any record incomplete at the time of audit will be audited based on the information available at the time.