

# Performance against Local Policing Plan 2023-26



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## North East Division Aberdeen City



April - September 2023

## Introduction by the Divisional Commander

I am pleased to present the latest Public Protection Committee report on behalf of Police Scotland, North East Division. This report details performance in Aberdeen City aligned to the agreed priorities at local and national level from the period of 1 April to 30 September 2023.

With Community Policing at the heart of everything we do, and with high levels of engagement, we listen to the concerns of the people who live and work in Aberdeen. We know that Crimes of Violence and Acquisitive Crime are of particular concern and continue to deliver on our focused approach.

We highlighted to you previously that demand on policing is increasing, with a growing body of evidence indicating that upstream intervention with those who are vulnerable to be drawn towards offending is more critical than ever. We continue to drive proactivity and multiagency responses to reduce rises in these crimes, and particularly in relation to Robbery, that we know are impacted by rising vulnerability. Our links to inform and work with partners must be effective to guide them towards reducing the upstream causation factors before impacts are felt in our communities.

Rising to the challenges ahead of us, we continue to re-align and redesign functions to ensure we realise efficiency maximisation, and best utilise the skills and experience of our

Officers, while still maintaining our ability to meet increasing core demand placed upon us.

We must also continue to build on our heritage of innovation if we are to curb emerging threats. We are proud that our work to divert vulnerable people away from Serious Organised Crime has been recognised nationally. Our work to help deliver the Bairn's Hoose model in the north east is underpinned by the introduction of the SCIM, which is exceeding expectation in terms of output and quality.

Reducing fatalities and those seriously injured on our roads remains a priority balancing enforcement with educational activity. Our partnership approach continues to support our strong message of road safety facilitating education at our schools, at events and in our communities across the City, making our roads safer during this reporting period.

We continue to work collaboratively contributing to the Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIP) committed to our role in the Community Planning Partnership. In each element of this report we demonstrate that our collaborative partnership approach has contributed significantly to our success. Strong ties within our City must remain and evolve to meet the changing needs in our communities.

It is clear that our City has tremendous support from our Local Policing Teams, our Police Staff,

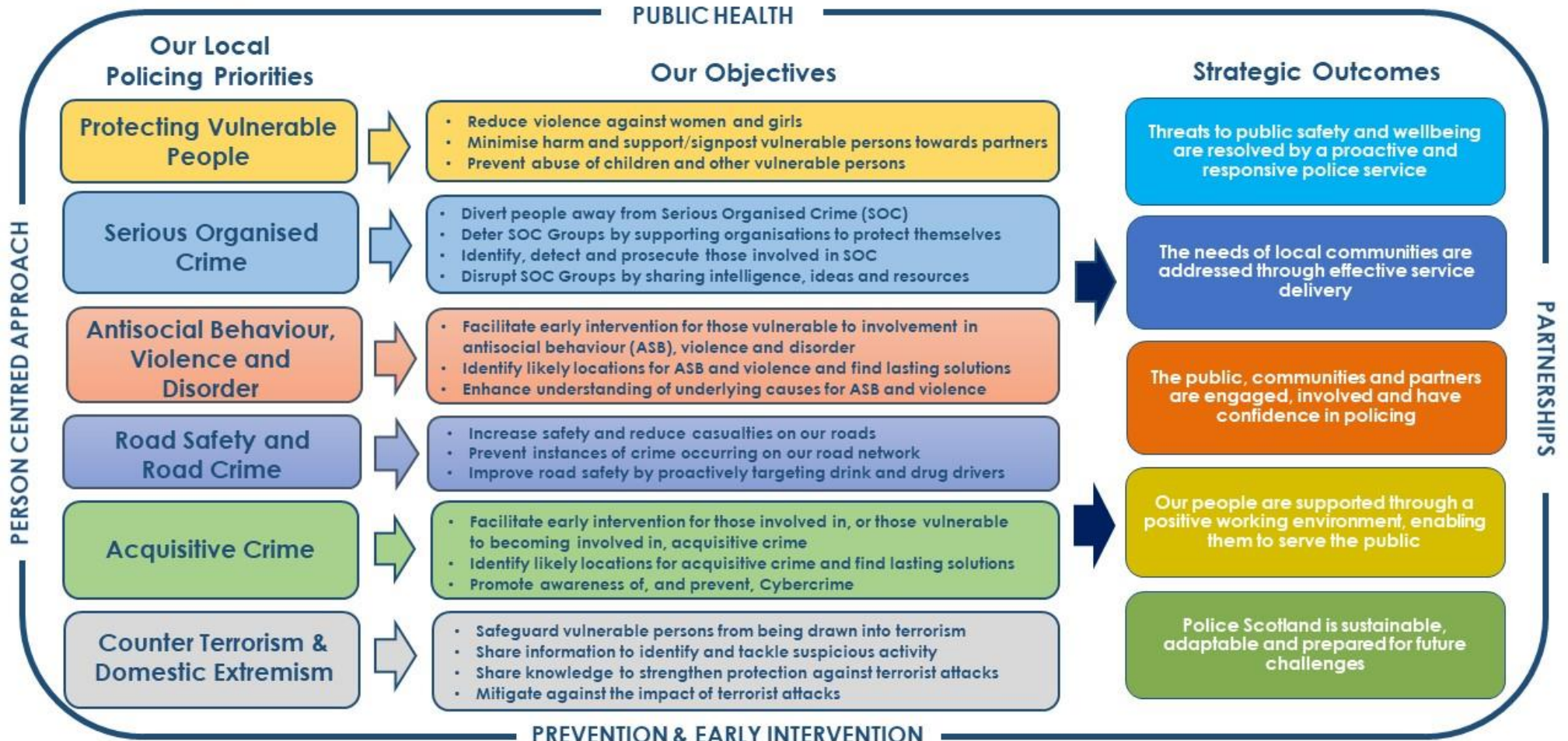
Special Constables and Police Scotland Youth Volunteers who have contributed significantly to Aberdeen's continued success. I also recognise the support provided by our colleagues in specialist roles and national teams who remain committed to delivering effective Policing across our City and beyond.

**Graeme Mackie**  
Divisional Commander  
North East Division



**Plan on a Page  
Aberdeen City**

**Our vision** | Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Aberdeen  
**Our purpose** | Improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Aberdeen  
**Our values** | Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Human Rights



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# Executive Summary



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## Protecting Vulnerable People

As part of our work to reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG), local governance and scrutiny of domestic crime remains robust. Year to date, detection rates for this crime type within North East Division, when compared with last year to date, have increased and currently sit at over 70%, exceeding the Force average. Our enforcement activities are equally balanced with preventative tactics including the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS), Multi-Agency Tasking & Coordinating (MATAC) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Supporting the wider agenda, we continue to chair and support the Aberdeen City VAWG Partnership, actively progressing actions aligned to the 2023-2025 Improvement Plan.

We continue to develop and grow our knowledge of and response to Adult Support & Protection matters within our communities, actively participating in and driving work streams via the Aberdeen Adult Protection Committee and Grampian Adult Protection Working Group. We also continue to work with partners to prevent abuse of children. Our specialist Officers were recently key to developing new Child Sexual Abuse Guidance through the Child Protection Committee. The guidance has been recognised nationally and shared Force wide, to aid our colleagues in other areas.

During the review period, the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) continued to be embedded across the North East with the specialist team of Police and Social Work staff conducting approximately 90% of Joint Investigative Interviews of children. This far exceeded the initial target of 60%. Our implementation has been recognised nationally.

## Serious Organised Crime

Our innovative approaches to tackling Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) saw North East Division achieve high levels of performance across the 4D strategy (Disrupt, Detect, Deter, Divert) in this reporting period. Additionally, our Division has been recognised at several national awards for its multiagency contribution to tackling SOC under our banner of Operation Protector. Utilising the '4D' method, we continue to ensure those vulnerable to becoming susceptible to drugs and the associated harm are provided with support, engagement and directed to the relevant partners. We also aim to ensure, via disruptive tactics, that those travelling to this area for the purpose of dealing controlled drugs and targeting those vulnerable are met with a hostile environment.

Continued enforcement has seen successful outcomes as we tackle those creating the greatest harms, whilst supporting our communities to be resilient in the fight against SOC. In this reporting period, controlled drugs with a street value of over £1 million have been recovered.

## Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

Often these crimes are seen and felt by communities therefore we must help drive out serious violence from society. Our performance in terms of Serious Assaults continues to maintain reductions at almost 20 percent when compared to this time last year. The detection rate remains high and significantly higher than the Force average, demonstrating our commitment to keeping our

communities safe. Our work in terms of protecting vulnerable people is ensuring that victims of Domestic Assaults are supported and justice sought.

Additionally our overt presence in our communities, and City Centre, alongside our preventative initiatives aim to target locations and causation factors leading to violence. Our Weekend Policing Plan and Licensing Interventions aim to reduce alcohol related violence making our City Centre a safe place to socialise and supported the partnership achievement of retaining the highly regarded Purple Flag Award. We must also recognise that often to reduce violence, multiple complex needs for individuals must be addressed in partnership with other agencies alongside robust visible Policing. This approach is vital in our drive to reduce Robbery and associated weapon related crimes. This same approach has successfully driven down ASB within Aberdeen City Centre.

### **Road Safety and Road Crime**

Road fatalities have decreased on Aberdeen's roads compared to the same period last year, while the number of people seriously injured has also reduced. Road safety is a priority and we are part of a crucial partnership approach.

Police Scotland continues to work with our partners toward Vision Zero - no deaths and no serious injuries on Scotland's roads by 2050.

### **Acquisitive Crime**

Overall crimes of dishonesty have shown an increase on the previous year with increases seen in crimes such as Theft by Shoplifting and Fraud. Significantly, Domestic Housebreakings show a reduction on the previous year along with break-ins to commercial premises. Theft of Motor Vehicles and associated from Motor vehicles were also down.

As part of North East Divisions Policing plan to combat Acquisitive crime, a variety of pro-active engagement with communities and targeting of locations such crimes have taken place. Working with partners who can help facilitate early interventions for those involved is key to reducing acquisitive crime.

### **Counter Terrorism & Domestic Extremism**

We aim to reduce the risk of terrorism so people can go about their lives freely and with confidence by focusing on the local delivery of the CONTEST strategy using four key objectives: PROTECT, PREPARE, PURSUE and PREVENT. Significant work has and continues to take place to ensure that Aberdeen City is protected against the threat of terrorism.

# Protecting Vulnerable People



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## **Objective: Work with statutory and third sector partners to reduce violence against women and girls**

The Division continues to support the Aberdeen City Violence against Women & Girls (VAWG) Partnership. The group is chaired by a Detective Chief Inspector within the Public Protection Unit and supported by a number of specialist officers. Notably, a Detective Inspector with responsibility for the Divisional Domestic Crime portfolio has led the development of a Grampian wide multi-agency dataset, incorporating all forms of VAWG. Previously this focused on Domestic Abuse only, but now includes Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour Based Violence (HBV), Sexual Offences and Stalking and informs performance reporting. Work is now underway to contextualise the data to identify and understand trends, patterns and impacting factors.

In a bid to maximise our performance in relation to Domestic Abuse Crime, the Division devised a bespoke Domestic Crime Guidance document setting the highest standards in terms of investigation and victim safeguarding. Following an initial roll out period, the process was reviewed and demonstrated improved quality and performance of domestic investigations. Use of the guidance is now well imbedded and subject to quality assurance processes. This is further supported by the implementation of a bespoke data dashboard, to help manage and allow critical oversight of all Domestic Abuse investigations, regardless of risk or grading. Our efforts in this regard are positively reflected in a consistent detection rate of over 70%, far exceeding the Force average.

Our MATAC (Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination) process continues to robustly target offenders. Year to date, MATAC referrals within the Division have increased 100%. This demonstrates the effectiveness by which the Division have taken ownership of the MATAC process, ensuring that partners are actively involved and support the targeting of serious and/or repeat domestic perpetrators.

Our specialist officers continue to work collaboratively with Rape Crisis Scotland supporting training and developing a sound understanding of respective roles in order to maximise the level of service provided to survivors.

## **Objective: Drive the development of multi-agency agendas to minimise harm and support/signpost those we identify as vulnerable towards partners**

We continue to support the Grampian Adult Protection Working Group, a combined mandate sub-group of all three local authority APC's. The group is now led by a Detective Chief Inspector from within our Public Protection Unit and supported at varying levels by specialist Officers.

Our commitment to improving multi-agency practice in respect of our response to Child Protection and Adult Support & Protection matters is well evidenced through our work with the APC and CPC Learning Review Sub-Committees, both of which are led by Police. The purpose of a Learning Review is to bring



together agencies, individuals and families in a collective endeavour to learn from a set of circumstances to improve and better develop systems and practice for the future.

The MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) process is well established and is working well with a primary focus to safeguard high risk victims of domestic abuse allowing information to be shared between partner agencies to allow a risk-focused, coordinated safety plan to be established to support the victim. The MARAC Steering group has been reinvigorated following the COVID pandemic, which focuses on driving improvements and efficiencies to the process. Year to date, there have been 316 MARAC referrals within Aberdeen City, which is comparable to referrals for the previous year to date.

The DSDAS (Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland) process gives people access to details of previous domestic offending of their partner within a relationship. Not only does this information empower the individual, but also allows them to protect their children within the context of the relationship.

Awareness of our DSDAS (Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland) process continues to grow through a combination of national media campaigns and local inputs to professionals working in the domestic abuse arena. Year to date, there have been 130 applications to the DSDAS scheme within Aberdeen City, representing a 64% increase from applications for the same period in the previous year.

**Objective: Raise awareness of and prevent abuse of children and other vulnerable persons, ensuring a victim centred approach**

Often crime and its impact upon vulnerable people is hidden. Therefore, we all must play a part in bringing harm into full view. During this reporting period, our public commitment to tackling VAWG, misogyny and racism has been clear. Through active campaigns and our media engagement across the Division, we have seen links and Policing support for vulnerable groups grow. We believe that our presence within media is vital to draw attention to unseen work in support of those often most at risk.

We continue to work with partners to prevent abuse of children. Our specialist Officers were key to developing new Child Sexual Abuse Guidance through the Child Protection Committee. The guidance has been recognised nationally within the Force and shared to aid our colleagues in other areas.

We continue to imbed the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) across the North East with the specialist team of Police and Social Work staff conducting approximately 90% of all Joint Investigative Interviews of children. The trauma informed approach of SCIM ensures that the needs of the child and those supporting them are at the heart of the decisions made. It is clear that the SCIM processes in the North East have enhanced service delivery already, with further developments in train.

Locally a process has been implemented whereby the feedback of children is sought following their interview. During the review period, approximately 90% of children advised that the interview process had been well explained to them with approximately 85% reporting that they would be willing to speak to the interviewers again.

## Case Study

The work of the North East SCIM Team continues to be held in high regard nationally. In particular, an incident in which a non-verbal young person with significant wellbeing challenges was successfully interviewed, despite previous assessments that such an interview could not be achieved, was recognised in the Scottish Parliament.

For this to happen the SCIM interviewers spent two days planning, observing the young person at school and meeting with the professional network around him. His Speech and Language Therapist and class teacher created the protocol alongside the interviewers, which was individual to the young person's needs and all felt this would allow him participate in a joint interview.

This was the first time that the young person had successfully been given an opportunity to have his voice heard

The SCIM Team will be critical to the city's successful development and implementation of the Bairns' Hoose model during 2024/2025. Divisionally we are well-linked in with partners and the appropriate multi-agency oversight and working group structures have been instigated to agree and facilitate the future delivery.

# Serious Organised Crime



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**Objective: DETER - Support private, public and third sector organisations to protect themselves and each other. Understand the drivers and emerging risks in respect of Serious Organised Crime and encourage a multi-agency approach to protect those vulnerable in our communities**

As part of the ongoing collaborative engagement with partners to divert people away from involvement in SOC, during the reporting period, a series of 'Days of Action' were undertaken in Aberdeen City under Operation Protector. During these, 291 safeguarding visits were undertaken to individuals identified as being at risk of drug related overdose and/or at risk of SOC exploitation. Additionally, over 400 members of the public were spoken to at dedicated support hubs across the city where they were provided with help and support in relation to drug and alcohol dependency, mental health and information regarding identifying and reporting information to police relating to suspected county lines behaviours. Such work strengthens our communities to repel the threat of SOC.

**Objective: DIVERT - Build an effective pan-Grampian partnership, with a view to diverting people away from involvement in Serious Organised Crime, making Aberdeen City a hostile environment for those who seek to exploit our communities**

Police Scotland remain a key partner involved in Drugs Deaths Reduction. Having an Officer embedded within the NHS' Assertive Outreach Service, we can quickly divert those most at risk of harm towards drugs harm reduction services.

In addition to Drugs Related Death, Child Criminal Exploitation is a substantial risk associated to SOC. Of note, during our Operation Protector 'Days of Action', two children considered to be the victims of County Lines based child criminal exploitation were traced, safeguarded and repatriated to their home area. A 52 year old female from the associated address was arrested and charged regarding Human Trafficking offences. By acting now to provide support that strengthens our communities, we are making it harder for SOC to operate, reducing SOC markets and bringing lifesaving support towards those in need.

To protect Aberdeen's young people, our work with partners such as Street Sports ensures that Police Scotland are directly involved in engaging with young people in our communities and intervening to reduce opportunities to them.

Additionally, North East Division have led the introduction of the 12 month pilot taking place with Aberdeen City. This pilot of drug education materials is delivered by the DSM Foundation, a charity who have successfully worked across the UK with a strong evidence base demonstrating their reach

and influence in the lives of young people and helping them make better life choices. The pilot is running within 3 key academies within Aberdeen.

**Objective: DETECT - Work collaboratively with others to provide a coordinated response to identify, detect and prosecute those involved in serious organised crime**

As a result of pro-active enforcement and disruption by local Policing, Pro-Active teams, Organised Crime teams and national resources there have been over 80 Drug Search Warrants executed across the City of Aberdeen during the reported period. Of those, over 40 were linked to County lines. Nearly 90 individuals were reported for being involved in the supply of controlled drugs. The following drugs have been highlighted to show recoveries during the period of reporting:

- Nearly 2 kilograms of Diamorphine (Heroin), with an estimated value of £95,000
- Over 1.5 kilograms of 'Crack' Cocaine with an estimated value of £160,000
- Over 3.5 kilograms of Cocaine with an estimated value of £390,000
- Over 26 kilograms of Cannabis with an estimated value of £430,000
- Over £100,000 in cash seized

Totalling over £1 million in recoveries and severely disrupting those causing the greatest harms in our communities.

**Objective: DISRUPT - Deliver a collaborative multi-agency response to disrupt Organised Crime Groups by sharing intelligence, ideas and resources**

The case study below is one of our many positive enforcement successes that we continue to build upon alongside our work with key partners to signpost those linked to SOC towards support, therefore reducing markets. This case study highlights our approach, beyond enforcement alone, to dismantle SOC groups and make the North East a hostile environment for them to operate in.

## Case Study

An OCG from elsewhere in the UK were involved in the supply of Class A controlled drugs in Aberdeen. On Monday 24 April 2023, enquiries identified this group were residing at an address in Aberdeen. OCG Officers along with CID Pro-Active Officers attended the address and a prolific gang nominal was found within along with the home owner. 167 grams of 'Crack' Cocaine, 411 grams of Heroin and over £9000 were recovered. The gang member was arrested, interviewed and charged with supply of controlled drugs along with further offences.

He was kept in custody to appear at Aberdeen Sheriff Court the following morning and ultimately bailed out of Scotland with conditions.

The team maintained close dialogue with COPFS evidencing significant harm that ensured that the individual was subsequently recalled to prison for an unspent sentence. Significant intelligence was gleaned allowing targeted disruption tactics to make Aberdeen a hostile area for this gang to

## Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder



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### **Objective: Reduce antisocial behaviour, violence and disorder by working with partners to facilitate early interventions for those involved in, or those vulnerable to becoming involved in, such behaviours**

Police Scotland play a prominent role within Aberdeen City's Community Justice Group currently holding the Vice Chair position within same. This group delivers on national outcomes, one of which aims to reduce violence across Scotland. Using our local Community Justice partnership as a platform, we are helping drive the multi-agency response to reduce violence by addressing the multiple complex needs for individuals involved in violent crime. Not surprisingly, an increase in persons presenting with multiple complex needs is being reported and is impacting on partners ability to address these upstream prior to manifesting into ASB and Violence.

Within Aberdeen City, Police are involved in number of projects, helping lead and informing our multi-agency approach to early intervention. Our work, as part of the Community Safety partnership within Aberdeen City Centre, has seen ASB reduced and a new ASB project has been agreed to operate under Stretch Outcome 8 of Aberdeen's Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The aim is to reduce ASB across the City. This project will benefit from the Community Safety Partnership's expertise in ASB and focuses on tackling vulnerability that can lead to people being in conflict with the law. The project is already making progress in replicating the 'Tesco Hub' model into other communities in the City and has secured funding to progress a similar project in the Northfield area.

### **Activity: With partners, identify locations where antisocial behaviour and violence is most likely to occur and work with communities and other agencies to find lasting solutions and enhance community safety**

During this reporting period, ASB within Aberdeen City Centre gained attention, evidencing the need for a partnership approach in tackling the underlying causes, alongside our continued commitment to take robust action to protect our communities. A Thematic Report was produced for this Committee evidencing the extent to which it was problematic and the action taken through the Community Safety Partnership to stem an increase and reduce reported ASB.

Led by the Police Safer City Team, robust enforcement continues to be taken against those causing the greatest harms in the City Centre. These efforts are enhanced by our weekend Policing plan which continues to see thousands of people safely visit our City Centre each weekend. It is to be celebrated that Aberdeen City was again accredited with a Purple Flag award, a significant achievement.

Our strong and close relationship with Street Pastors continues. Police Scotland are proud to have provided funding to the Street Pastors whose presence has helped deliver a safer City Centre by supporting those who become vulnerable as a result of alcohol consumption. Additionally, our work with the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership has seen the delivery of a Triage area in the City Centre, during times of peak demand, where those who may require medical interventions can first be seen and their requirement for accident and emergency treatment assessed. This innovative approach has reduced demand upon both Police and Accident and Emergency resources.

Though our work with the Community Justice Group, we must work in collaboration to address underlying causation factors, leading to an escalation in crimes such as Robbery. We also know that many Robberies are perpetrated with articles that can be used as weapons. Alongside our multi-agency approach, we must also ensure a robust response that targets individuals and locations. Extensive and robust initiatives, are taking place throughout our City to combat those perpetrating these crimes in support of our strong community safety ethos.

**Activity: Working with partners, we will enhance our understanding of the underlying causes of antisocial behaviour and violence and develop public health approaches to prevent these harms**

The Best Bar None awards scheme which promotes high standards to reduce crime and enhance safety within licensed premises is to be re-launched in Aberdeen. Led by Aberdeen City Council, Police Licensing Officers are key partners and at this time, 43 premises have expressed their commitment to this scheme.

Robust approaches to licensing offences across Aberdeen City also helps address harms as a result of alcohol consumption. Recognising the health impacts of said consumption, we have drawn health colleagues into multi-agency event planning discussions, an approach which saw a number of Dance events delivered safely and well earlier this year. This partnership has created a platform for a more health based focus on licensing.

These efforts are seeing a positive impact upon standards and will undoubtedly shape the way people view Aberdeen as a social centre.

# Road Safety and Road Crime



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## **Objective: With partners in the North East Road Safety Strategy Partnership (NERSSP) increase safety and reduce casualties on our roads**

To date Police Scotland has delivered on all commitments made to support the Road Safety Framework (RSF) 2030. Our objective within the RSF to incorporate specific campaigns, initiatives and directed activity targeting the safety of Vulnerable Road Users (VRUs) - including cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians - continues to be met. During this reporting period the majority of campaign work has been focused toward protecting VRUs and/or targeting motorists committing Fatal-Five offences (Drink/Drug Driving, Careless Driving, Speed, Mobile Telephone, and Seatbelt).

Our Engage/Educate/Enforce approach has been enhanced by Corporate Communication and Social Media support for all campaigns during this period.

## **Objective: Prevent instances of crime occurring on our road network**

Directed patrols across the City to detect those involved in wider criminality, such as dishonesties and drugs, are routinely deployed on an intelligence led basis incorporating use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology to disrupt criminal use of the road network. An example of this is found here:

### Case Study

During August 2023, Officers from the Community Policing Teams in Aberdeen collaborated with Officers from Road Policing and the Criminal Investigation Department in an operation which led to the recovery a number of stolen motorcycles and quad bikes and the subsequent arrest of the person responsible.

## **Objective: Improve road safety by proactively targeting drink and drug drivers**

Our Officers are out every day educating road users and carrying out enforcement in respect of drink and drug driving.

From 21 – 27 August 2023, the National Initiative on Drug Driving took place. The aims of this campaign included educating motorists via both social media coverage and roadside interaction. This was combined with pro-active patrols/enforcement against all forms of impaired driving, but with a focus on those consuming drugs before driving. Nationally, a total of 147 drink and drug impairment offences were detected during the campaign with a number of these occurring in Aberdeen City.



**Objective: Reduce acquisitive crime, by working with partners to facilitate interventions for those involved in, or those vulnerable to becoming involved in, acquisitive crime**

Our City's Community Justice Group, again, play a key role in the efforts to address the underlying causes leading to the increased perpetration of Acquisitive crimes such as Theft by Shoplifting. Unsurprisingly, partners are reporting an increased demand for their support whilst citing 'Cost of Living' and other current societal factors being a causation factor for the increase in crimes such as Theft by Shoplifting.

Operation Protector continues to seek to provide support and interventions to those involved in substance use who are vulnerable to becoming involved in crime, often acquisitive crime, to help fund an addiction. The engagement and days of action for Operation Protector are detailed in the Serious Organised Crime update. The engagement includes an assessment of individual needs and access into various support mechanisms.

**Objective: Reduce acquisitive crime, by identifying locations where acquisitive crime is most likely to occur and work with communities and partners to find lasting preventative solutions**

As part of North East Divisions Policing plan to combat Acquisitive crime, a variety of pro-active engagements with communities and targeting of locations victim to such crimes have taken place. Working with partners to facilitate intervention for those involved, identifying locations where Acquisitive crime is most likely to occur, raising public awareness and preventing instances of Cyber enabled crime continues to be the focus.

Our multifaceted approach has led to a reduction in Theft by Housebreaking during this reporting period, demonstrating our commitment to reducing crimes which can have the highest impact on victims.

During the reporting period, Crime Reduction Officers have undertaken awareness raising events at 29 different venues throughout Aberdeen City, inclusive of banks, retail premises and local universities. The focus of their work within Aberdeen city relates to the prevention of Fraud, Acquisitive crime and personal safety aimed at the thousands of students who descend upon the City annually.

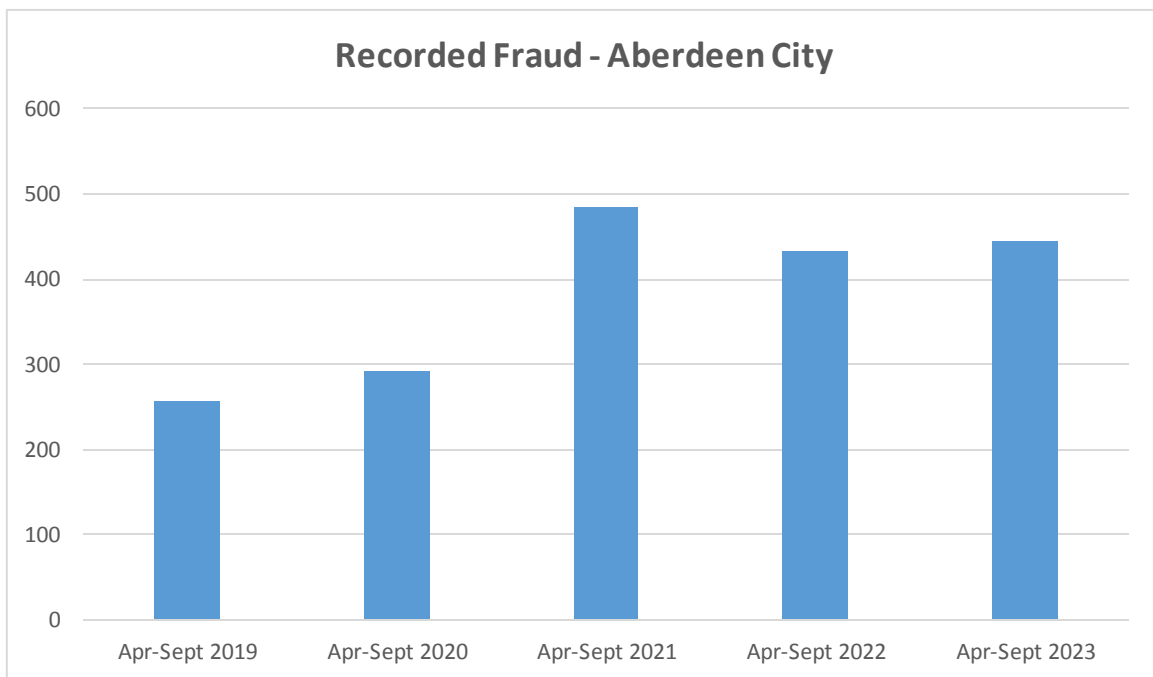


We know that more than ever before, people choose to engage with Police Scotland online. During the reporting period, new format 'video' social media messaging has also been successful significantly increasing the 'reach' of preventative posts.

**Objective: Raise public awareness, and prevent instances, of cyber enabled and cyber dependent acquisitive crime**

The Police Scotland Fraud Roadshow has continued to visit banks and other businesses in Aberdeen to upskilling staff with information on emerging trends and engaging with customers to raise awareness. In total, the Crime Reduction Team have attended over 30 banks and businesses across the North East, providing a range of advice and support in relation to Frauds, scams and how to take steps to reduce the risk of being a victim. During this time, approximately 1500 individuals have engaged with the Officers involved.

As highlighted 'Non-Contact' Frauds and Cyber enabled frauds have continued to increase on the previous year. The Divisional Cyber Enabled Investigation team (DCET) within the CID continue to investigate and provide preventative strategies in this area of criminality.



## Case Study

During the reported period, a 26 year old female from Aberdeen was victim to a Cyber enabled bank account takeover resulting in the loss of approximately £40,000.

The North East Division Cyber Enabled Crime Team took ownership of the enquiry. Significant investigations took place inclusive of Financial and Communication enquiries which resulted in a number of beneficiary accounts being identified belonging to individuals from Kent, Essex, South London and Newcastle.

In July 2023, warrants were executed at various addresses in these areas resulting in three members of the Organised Crime Group involved being arrested, charged and reported regarding

## Counter Terrorism & Domestic Extremism



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The CONTEST Strategy underpins our approach to Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism. The approach is formed by the following key strands:

- **PROTECT** – strengthening our borders, infrastructure, buildings and public spaces against attack
- **PREPARE** – where an attack cannot be stopped, to reduce its impact and ensuring we can respond effectively
- **PURSUE** – to disrupt or stop terrorist attacks
- **PREVENT** – to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

### **Objective: PROTECT – with partners we will share knowledge so that our communities and businesses can strengthen protection against terrorist attacks**

In the last six months, Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSA's) have carried out numerous security inspection visits to sites of a sensitive nature across our City. Their close partnership with Aberdeen International Airport, Aberdeen City Council, TECA and the Offshore Industry ensures that our city can be protected from current or emerging threats.

CTSA's are also currently working with Aberdeen City Council on the City Centre Transformation Project, only one example of the upstream work that we do to ensure Aberdeen remains a safe place into the future.

### **Objective: PREPARE – with partners we will mitigate against the impact of terrorist attacks**

In November 2023, the Joint Operating Principles for the Emergency Services for Marauding Terrorist Attacks and Operation Plato Guidance for UK Policing were updated in regard to learning derived from Manchester Arena Inquiries. These place a greater emphasis on emergency services responding quickly and dynamically in order to save life and neutralise threats, whilst also updating guidance in relation to Scene Command, Casualty Management and Fire & Hazards. Officers from our Counter Terrorism Planning Teams are working alongside partners and local officers to embed these new approaches.

Following Storm Babet a multi-agency Severe Weather Warning Workshop was held where Counter Terrorism Planning Teams engaged with relevant responders to gather learning and upskill local partnerships linked to emergency Responses during Major Incidents.

Counter Terrorism Planning Teams are also engaged with Scottish Fire & Rescue to plan for a CBRN related exercise in 2024.

**Objective: PURSUE – with partners encourage and share information to identify and tackle suspicious activity**

The PURSUE strategy allows National Counter Terrorism structures within Police Scotland to provide information and assessments to North East Division's CONTEST Multi-Agency Board. This process informs Aberdeen City Policing teams and local Partners on emerging themes and other relevant matters.

There has been no significant deviation in terms of expected volume or trends during this period within Aberdeen City, however the Local CONTEST Board, Local Contest Liaison Officers (LCLO's) and national Police structures are in place to monitor and respond appropriately.

**Objective: PREVENT – with partners safeguard vulnerable persons from being drawn into Terrorism**

Within Police Scotland a 'Prevent' referral process is in place which allows Police and partners to assess and respond to information and intelligence which may require early intervention and safeguarding from potential harm which could be caused by an individuals. This process is well established across the North East with representation from relevant partners to ensure wide ranging professions are present and perspectives gained to collectively manage people who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Such work is ongoing in Aberdeen City and there has been no significant deviation or trends in this area which cause additional concern.

## Performance statistics



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These statistics can be found in their expanded form at: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

Recorded Crimes & Offences Crime group/classification	Year-to-date (April - September)		
	2022/23	5 yr mean	2023/24
<b>TOTAL CRIMES AND OFFENCES (GROUPS 1 - 7)</b>	<b>10 871</b>	<b>11 688.8</b>	<b>11 649</b>
<b>TOTAL CRIMES (GROUPS 1 - 5)</b>	<b>5 948</b>	<b>5 872.2</b>	<b>6 288</b>
<b>OVERALL VIOLENT CRIME*</b>	<b>1 650</b>	<b>1 570.8</b>	<b>1 837</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFENCES (GROUPS 6 - 7)</b>	<b>4 923</b>	<b>5 816.6</b>	<b>5 361</b>
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>262.6</b>	<b>312</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	2	1.6	1
Culpable homicide (at common law)	-	-	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	-	-	-
Attempted murder	13	8.4	12
Serious assault	98	82.8	80
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	43	53.2	72
Domestic Abuse (of female)	49	x	62
Domestic Abuse (of male)	3	x	4
<b>Domestic Abuse (Total)</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>66</b>
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	10	23.0	6
Threats and extortion	40	24.6	48
Other group 1 crimes	20	13.6	27
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>347.8</b>	<b>376</b>
Rape	50	49.0	45
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	2	4.6	3
<b>Rape and attempted rape - Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>48</b>
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	-	4.0	2
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	138	97.6	130
Lewd & libidinous practices*	8	19.0	4
<b>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>120.6</b>	<b>136</b>
<b>Prostitution related crime - Total*</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>13</b>
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	13	15.0	24
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	28	33.0	31
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	16	11.6	15
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	10	9.8	17
Public indecency (common law)	12	7.4	11
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	66	61.0	55
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	5	6.8	9
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	23	19.6	17
Other Group 2 crimes	-	-	-
<b>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>164.2</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>2 785</b>	<b>2 619.2</b>	<b>2 946</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	80	82.6	74
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	53	80.8	63
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	57	49.2	45
<b>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>212.6</b>	<b>182</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	28	37.2	25
Theft of a motor vehicle	112	103.6	111
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc)	90	115.2	97

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Attempt theft of motor vehicle	7	7.8	11
<b>Motor vehicle crime - Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>263.8</b>	<b>244</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	31	28.8	29
Common theft	726	615.8	702
Theft by shoplifting	911	899.2	1 148
Fraud	431	334.6	466
Other Group 3 Crimes	259	264.4	175
<b>GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc</b>	<b>1 020</b>	<b>1 006.4</b>	<b>993</b>
Fireraising	72	65.6	56
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	889	886.6	904
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	-	-	-
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	54	50.6	32
Other Group 4 Crimes	5	3.6	1
<b>GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES</b>	<b>1 483</b>	<b>1 636.2</b>	<b>1 661</b>
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)*	25	28.4	41
Handling bladed/pointed instrument*	33	51.6	46
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	53	63.8	69
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	40	41.0	68
<b>Total offensive/bladed weapons</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>184.8</b>	<b>224</b>
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	8	13.6	13
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	117	119.6	137
Bringing drugs into prison	-	0.8	-
<b>Supply of drugs - Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>134.0</b>	<b>150</b>
Possession of drugs	667	802.4	674
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	3	4.2	4
<b>Total drugs crimes</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>940.6</b>	<b>828</b>
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1	0.2	1
Bail offences (other than absconding)	237	204.8	308
<b>Other Group 5 crimes</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>305.8</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>2 890</b>	<b>2 843.4</b>	<b>3 030</b>
Common Assault	1 250	1 204.0	1 448
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	244	220.8	224
<b>Common Assault - Total</b>	<b>1 494</b>	<b>1 424.8</b>	<b>1 672</b>
Breach of the Peace	103	100.6	62
Threatening & abusive behaviour	772	776.0	776
Stalking	19	17.6	17
<b>BOP, S38 &amp; S39 Crim Just &amp; Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>894.2</b>	<b>855</b>
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	47	47.2	32
Drunk and incapable	1	0.2	4
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	80	58.4	92
Other alcohol related offences*	29	30.4	20
<b>Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>116</b>
Wildlife offences*	1	1.8	2
<b>Other Group 6 offences</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>386.4</b>	<b>353</b>
<b>GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>2 033</b>	<b>2 973.2</b>	<b>2 331</b>
Dangerous driving offences	50	66.8	62
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	150	179.4	180
Speeding offences	203	628.4	248
Driving while disqualified	23	34.2	40
Driving without a licence	124	145.8	117
Failure to insure against third party risks	293	344.4	306
Seat belt offences	54	67.4	46
Mobile phone offences	56	68.6	51
Driving Carelessly	224	248.8	283
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	95	135.4	103
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	162	320.8	132
Other Group 7 offences	599	733.2	763

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Detection Rates Crime group/classification	Year-to-date (April - September)		
	2022/23	5 yr rate <sup>1</sup>	2023/24
<b>TOTAL CRIMES AND OFFENCES (GROUPS 1 - 7)</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>63.6</b>
<b>TOTAL CRIMES; INCLUDING PRO-ACTIVITY (GROUPS 1 - 5)</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>50.9</b>
<b>OVERALL VIOLENT CRIME*</b>	<b>74.5</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>72.8</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFENCES (GROUPS 6 - 7)</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>78.4</b>
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>74.1</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>75.3</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	100.0	87.5	100.0
Culpable homicide (at common law)	x	x	x
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	x	x	x
Attempted murder	92.3	97.6	100.0
Serious assault	93.9	94.2	91.3
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	100.0	91.4	84.7
Domestic Abuse (of female)	61.2	x	77.4
Domestic Abuse (of male)	66.7	x	75.0
<b>Domestic Abuse (Total)</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>77.3</b>
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	100.0	53.0	116.7
Threats and extortion	10.0	18.7	6.3
Other group 1 crimes	55.0	67.6	100.0
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>57.2</b>
Rape	58.0	57.6	44.4
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	0.0	47.8	66.7
<b>Rape and attempted rape - Total</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>45.8</b>
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	x	55.0	0.0
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	60.9	55.5	59.2
Lewd & libidinous practices*	0.0	53.7	50.0
<b>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>58.1</b>
<b>Prostitution related crime - Total*</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>84.6</b>
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	115.4	96.0	87.5
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	60.7	44.8	51.6
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	31.3	37.9	26.7
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	100.0	71.4	94.1
Public indecency (common law)	66.7	75.7	90.9
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	33.3	48.5	43.6
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	80.0	61.8	55.6
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	30.4	29.6	41.2
Other Group 2 crimes	x	x	x
<b>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>57.5</b>
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>32.8</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	56.3	42.9	40.5
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	45.3	29.7	22.2
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	52.6	37.4	35.6
<b>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</b>	<b>52.1</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>33.0</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	21.4	23.1	4.0
Theft of a motor vehicle	66.1	50.8	42.3
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc)	33.3	19.8	8.2
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	71.4	41.0	9.1
<b>Motor vehicle crime - Total</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>23.4</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	35.5	20.1	6.9
Common theft	25.6	27.9	22.2
Theft by shoplifting	59.1	65.4	48.6

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Fraud	15.8	24.0	16.7
<b>Other Group 3 Crimes</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>30.9</b>
<b>GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>27.5</b>
Fireraising	26.4	35.1	12.5
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	30.4	27.9	27.7
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	x	x	x
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	81.5	58.5	43.8
Other Group 4 Crimes	0.0	0.0	200.0
<b>GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES</b>	<b>105.7</b>	<b>97.9</b>	<b>91.0</b>
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)*	64.0	88.0	90.2
Handling bladed/pointed instrument*	84.8	93.4	93.5
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	103.8	78.1	60.9
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	97.5	86.3	89.7
<b>Total offensive/bladed weapons</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>85.7</b>	<b>81.7</b>
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	75.0	98.5	107.7
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	100.9	95.5	83.9
Bringing drugs into prison	x	0.0	x
<b>Supply of drugs - Total</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>86.0</b>
Possession of drugs	113.8	100.6	94.1
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	66.7	76.2	0.0
<b>Total drugs crimes</b>	<b>111.3</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>92.1</b>
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bail offences (other than absconding)	98.3	98.6	92.5
Other Group 5 crimes	104.3	99.1	93.7
<b>GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>75.1</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>72.9</b>
Common Assault	66.7	65.2	67.2
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	100.8	98.9	96.9
<b>Common Assault - Total</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>71.2</b>
Breach of the Peace	98.1	98.4	93.5
Threatening & abusive behaviour	73.3	78.7	73.3
Stalking	68.4	80.7	82.4
<b>BOP, S38 &amp; S39 Crim Just &amp; Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>75.0</b>
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	89.4	86.9	87.5
Drunk and incapable	100.0	100.0	100.0
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	97.5	98.6	100.0
Other alcohol related offences*	100.0	98.7	100.0
<b>Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Wildlife offences*	100.0	22.2	0.0
Other Group 6 offences	75.3	75.4	66.0
<b>GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>92.8</b>	<b>85.6</b>
Dangerous driving offences	84.0	79.3	77.4
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	112.7	94.1	95.6
Speeding offences	100.5	100.4	100.4
Driving while disqualified	113.0	101.2	100.0
Driving without a licence	106.5	102.6	95.7
Failure to insure against third party risks	102.0	100.1	99.0
Seat belt offences	101.9	99.1	100.0
Mobile phone offences	98.2	96.5	100.0
Driving Carelessly	95.1	91.7	89.8
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	100.0	99.3	92.2
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	103.1	99.1	99.2
Other Group 7 offences	68.9	77.0	64.7