

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Thursday 10 June 2021

Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To note the update from the divisional commander.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

Contact: Gavin King, Democracy, Governance and Resilience Senior Manager

E-mail: gavin.king@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 4239

Report

Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides the update for April 2020 to March 2021 from Police Scotland on the City of Edinburgh division.

3. Background

- 3.1 In May 2019 the Council agreed that police and fire and rescue service city-wide plans, policies and performance would be considered by the new Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 3.2 This would provide a forum for Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to discuss major cross-cutting issues with the Council as well as fulfilling their duty to engage with the local authority.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This report covers the period April 2020 to March 2021 and is part of a regular update from the divisional commander to the Policy and Sustainability Committee.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Policy and Sustainability Committee 1 October 2019 - [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)
- 8.2 Policy and Sustainability Committee 25 February 2020 – [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)
- 8.3 Policy and Sustainability Committee 11 June 2020 – [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)
- 8.4 Policy and Sustainability Committee 6 October 2020 – [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)
- 8.5 Policy and Sustainability Committee 1 December 2020 – [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)
- 8.6 Policy and Sustainability Committee 23 February 2021 – [Police Scotland – City of Edinburgh Division Update](#)

9. Appendices

Report by the divisional commander

POLICING FOR A SAFE, PROTECTED AND RESILIENT SCOTLAND



POLICE
SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

EDINBURGH CITY DIVISION

SCRUTINY REPORT

April - March 2020/21

OFFICIAL



Contents

Introduction by the Divisional Commander.....	3
Summary of Local Policing Priorities.....	4
Edinburgh City Division At a glance.....	5
Strategic Outcome: Public Safety and Wellbeing.....	6
Strategic Outcome: Needs of Local Community.....	16
Strategic Outcome: Confidence in Policing.....	17
Strategic Outcome: Positive Working Environment.....	18
Strategic Outcome: Sustainable & Adaptable Service	19
Crime Statistics.....	20
Useful Links.....	29

Introduction by the Divisional Commander



I am pleased to present the Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report for April 2020 – March 2021.

This report reflects the activity undertaken by my staff and officers in a truly extraordinary year and is presented just as we move into Level 2 of lockdown easing with the welcome return of many vital aspects of normal life, such as meeting loved ones indoors, only possible due to the commendable perseverance and discipline of the public, police and partners in working together.

Last year, the capital's famed hosting of visitors, events and night-time economy was virtually non-existent and consequently, throughout that period, policing had to quickly adapt to dealing with 'business as usual' alongside the new coronavirus legislation powers. Our performance shows significant reductions in recorded crime and an increase in detection rates, however the influence of the pandemic does not diminish the work that goes into solving and preventing crimes and I commend my staff and officers for their service. We continuously monitor crime trends to ensure that emerging issues are identified and met with effective intervention.

Looking forward, the resumption of the city's day and night-time economy, the right to hold public protests and the return of public events, sports and entertainment will likely see demand return to pre-pandemic levels. As intimated, the absence of these over the last year had a tangible impact on performance and makes comparison to previous years challenging. Therefore, this year we will continue to compare our performance to 5 year averages where possible to ensure that the information we provide you is meaningful.

The coming months will see the additional organisational challenges of planning for events such as the European Football Championships and the 26th Conference of the Parties. We will undoubtedly see protests in the capital aligned with these events and other global issues but we will ensure, through the continued close collaboration with our key partners, stakeholders and Police Scotland national specialist support, that we meet these demands whilst maintaining 'business-as-usual' and focussing on the community priorities within our policing plan. Moreover, this coming year we will support officers with the introduction of body worn video to specialists, expansion of the use of mobile technology, and the implementation of the new national crime recording system, in addition to other projects intended to improve how we deliver our service.

My staff and I take great pride in having been part of a tremendous collective community effort in dealing with this public health crisis and I look forward positively to a different but exciting future in the capital with new possibilities emerging from new ways of working in keeping the people and visitors to our great city safe.



Chief Superintendent Sean Scott
Divisional Commander
City of Edinburgh Division



Summary of Local Policing Priorities

For the reporting period of 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, a total of 43604 crimes were recorded by Edinburgh Division. This is a reduction of 16.7% (8757 fewer crimes) against the five year average and 14.2% (7220 fewer crimes) against last year to date (LYTD). Solvency has increased by 5.1% over the same five year period to 56.9%. The following summary provides a breakdown of the picture in respect of our Local Policing Priorities against the 5 year average or LYTD, which was the 2019/2020 reporting period.

Addressing Violence

Overall violent crime has reduced by 1.0% (9 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 19.0% (200 fewer crimes) against LYTD.

Murder has reduced by 54.5% (2 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Attempted murder has increased by 2.5% (1 fewer crime) against the 5 year average.

Serious assaults have reduced by 37.9% (145 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 32.5% (115 fewer crimes) against LYTD.

Common assault (including emergency workers) has reduced by 18.9% (1212 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.

Reducing Drug Harm and Targeting Supply

Partnership work with the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre continues, with the aim of reducing the opportunities for external Serious and Organised Crime Groups to supply controlled substances in Edinburgh, whilst also providing safeguarding opportunities for exploited children. Proactive enforcement has resulted in positive recoveries of illegal drugs, cash, related paraphernalia and the seizure of vehicles. Consequently total drug crime has increased by 12.6% (292 more crimes) against the 5 year average.

Targeting Housebreaking and Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive crime has reduced by 30.8% (5738 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 24.5% (4204 fewer crimes) against LYTD.

Domestic housebreaking has reduced by 65.4% (1031 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 49.1% (527 fewer crimes) against LYTD. Motor vehicle crime has reduced by 41.6% (1127 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 31.1% (713 fewer crimes) against LYTD.

Theft from a lockfast place (excluding motor vehicles / dwellings) has reduced by 40.7% (125 fewer crimes), theft shoplifting reduced by 35.7% (1444 fewer crimes), and common theft reduced by 47.8% (2373 fewer crimes). Fraud has increased by 52.7% (653 more crimes).

Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Overall antisocial behaviour has increased by 21.8% (8460 more incidents) against the 5 year average. This large increase is directly related to the reporting of offences and incidents in relation to Covid-19 regulations, which were not previously recorded in 2019-2020.

Overall Group 4 crimes (including vandalism, malicious mischief and fire-raising) have reduced by 20.5% (1170 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Vandalism has reduced by 24.4% (1225 fewer crimes) over the same period.

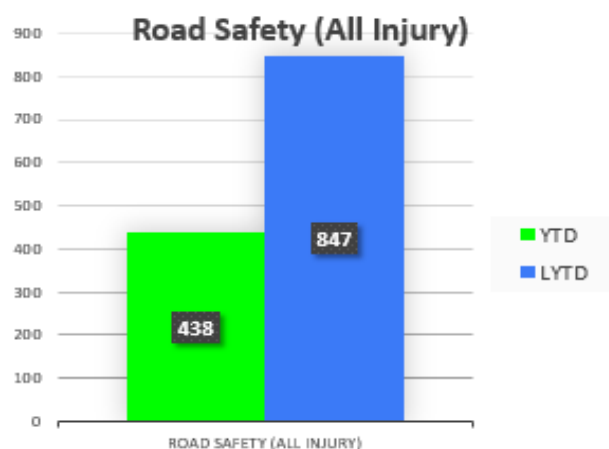
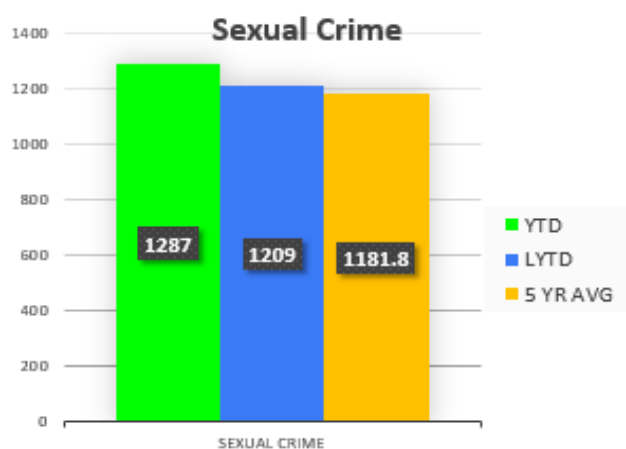
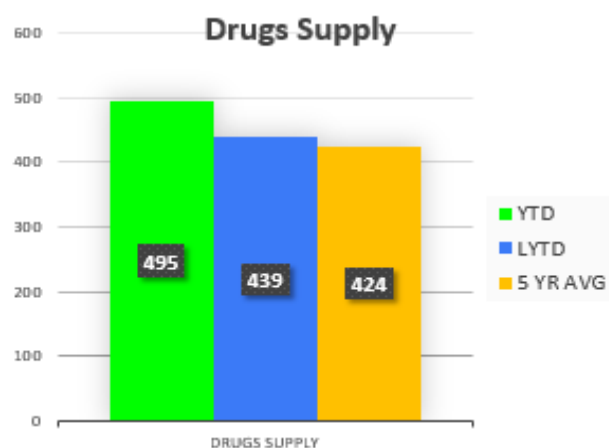
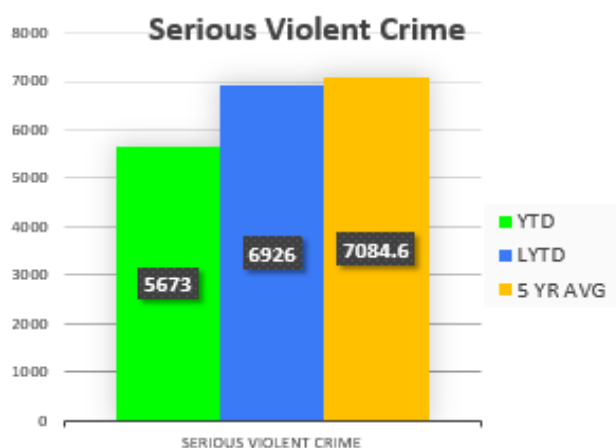
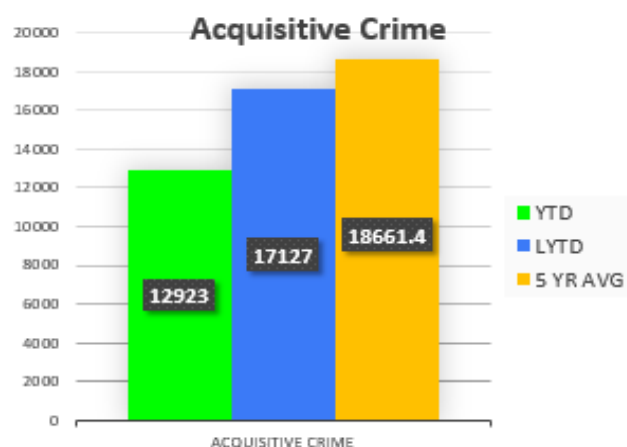
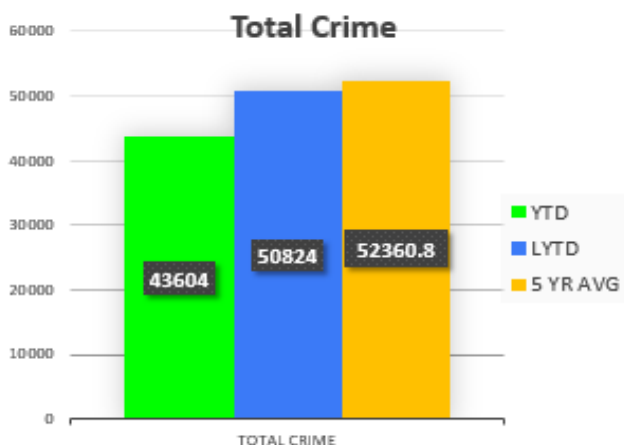
Making Our Roads Safe

Offences in relation to driving and the use of motor vehicles have reduced by 12.9% (1047 fewer offences) compared to the 5 year average and reduced by 14.2% (1171 fewer offences) against LYTD. There have been 3 fatal collisions, which is unchanged against LYTD. There has been a reduction of 35.4% (68 fewer collisions) in serious injury collisions and a reduction of 52.3% (341 fewer collisions) in those resulting in slight injury compared to LYTD.



Edinburgh City Division at a glance

The charts below represent year to date incident and crime demand throughout the Division, compared with last year to date.





Public Safety and Wellbeing

Success means that threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a responsive police service

Addressing Violence

Group 1 crime includes:

- Murder
- Attempted murder
- Culpable homicide
- Serious assault
- Robbery

	Group 1 Recorded Crime	Group 1 Solvency
		
April – March 2020/21	850	70.1%
April – March 5 year average	859	68.8%
% change from 5 year average	-1.0%	+1.4%

- Overall Group 1 violent crime has reduced by 1.0% (9 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 19.0% (200 fewer crimes) against LYTD.
- S.1 Domestic Abuse Scotland Act offences have reduced by 40.6% (68 fewer crimes) against LYTD, however it is noted their presence continues to affect the overall Group 1 picture. When excluding S.1 Domestic Abuse Scotland Act offences, overall Group 1 crime has reduced by 16.7% (144 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Solvency has increased by 1.4% to 70.1% against the 5 year average. All violent crime continues to be overseen by the Violent Crime Board ensuring all investigative opportunities are identified and emerging patterns and trends are acted upon.
- 2 murders have been recorded this year, which is 2 fewer than the 5 year average and has reduced by 66.7% (4 fewer crimes) against LYTD.
- 25 attempted murders have been recorded this year, which is 1 more than the 5 year average and 3 more than LYTD.
- Serious assaults have reduced by 37.9% (145 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 32.7% (115 fewer crimes) against LYTD.
- Robbery has reduced against the 5 year average by 20.8% (52 fewer crimes) and by 23.7% (62 fewer crimes) against LYTD.





QUOTE


Detective Chief Inspector Graham Grant:

***“As the DCI leading our investigative response to violence, I am encouraged with the division’s performance around Group 1 crime, particularly during a challenging year with the Covid-19 backdrop. Robbery and serious assault are two of the most challenging crime types to investigate, and our performance in these areas has been particularly positive.*”**

The consequence of various lockdowns has seen a displacing effect on crime. Increased numbers of offences have taken place behind closed doors, which provides greater investigative challenges. We have addressed this effectively, targeting those responsible for violent crime, and providing support to our victims.”



Group 2 crime includes:	Group 2 Recorded Crime	Group 2 Solvency
		
April – March 2020/21	1287	62.0%
April – March 5 year average	1182	56.5%
% change from 5 year average	+8.9%	+5.5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall Group 2 sexual crime has increased by 8.9% (105 more crimes) against the 5 year average and by 6.5% (78 more crimes) against LYTD. The increase in recorded crime has been influenced by the offence of Communicating Indecently. This has increased by 30.3% (37 more crimes) compared to the 5 year average and by 19.4% (26 more crimes) against LYTD. Communications offences of all types, which are most commonly committed via electronic and online communications, have increased this year. This is reflective of the wider national picture. Solvency has increased by 5.5% against the 5 year average and by 6.3% against LYTD. Rape has increased by 30.4% (60 more crimes) against the 5 year average and by 45.8% (81 more crimes) against LYTD. The increase in reports of rape is the consequence of a number of proactive operations into non-recent sexual offences. Sexual assaults have reduced by 16.4% (57 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and reduced by 22.8% (86 fewer crimes) against LYTD. 		



 <p>CASE STUDY</p>	<p>Investigation into Dylan Williamson:</p> <p>Dylan Williamson preyed on two victims, whose nights out culminated in them being subjected to serious sexual offences.</p> <p>Williamson was local to the Edinburgh area and relatively unknown to police. He was employed as a lifeguard at a local leisure centre.</p> <p>Through diligent and sensitive engagement by specialist officers, both victims found the courage to progress with their reports. Both of Williamson's victims were young, so it was critical to have partner agencies involved from the outset to ensure their welfare and wellbeing was considered throughout the investigation.</p> <p>Williamson's modus operandi was to prey on young vulnerable females under the influence of alcohol, whilst he remained coherent, attending after parties to identify his targets. His conduct appeared to have gone relatively unnoticed and was perceived to be due to his keen interest in personal fitness. This provided him with a guise, affording him the opportunity to identify and attack his victims.</p> <p>Williamson was found guilty of the rape of both victims at the High Court in Edinburgh on 10th February 2021. He was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment and ordered to be kept under supervision for 3 years after his release. His inclusion on the Sex Offenders Register will be indefinite.</p>



Reducing Drug Harm and Targeting Supply

Drug Supply crime includes:

- Manufacture or cultivation of drugs
- Supply of drugs to another (including intent)
- Bringing drugs into prison

	Drug Supply Recorded Crime	Drug Supply Solvency
		
April – March 2020/21	495	75.8%
April – March 5 year average	424	85.5%
% change from 5 year average	+16.7%	-9.7%

- Total drug crime has increased by 12.6% (292 more crimes) and solvency has increased by 1.8% to 94.9% against the 5 year average.
- Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs has increased by 17.8% (9 more crimes) and solvency has reduced by 1.6% to 94.7% against the 5 year average
- Supply of drugs has increased by 45.3% (133 more crimes) and solvency has reduced by 18.5% to 74.6% against the 5 year average. The reduction in solvency is largely due to the pending forensic analysis of controlled substances and electronic devices.
- Possession of drugs has increased by 11.0% (207 more crimes) and solvency has increased by 5.2% to 100.1% against the 5 year average.
- Bringing drugs into prison has reduced by 85.4% (90 fewer crimes) and solvency has reduced by 26.7% to 25.0% against the 5 year average. This reduction is a consequence of reduced visitor numbers to the prison.
- Partnership work with the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre continues, with the aim of reducing the opportunities for external Serious and Organised Crime Groups to supply controlled substances in Edinburgh, whilst also providing safeguards for exploited children.

Reducing Drug Harm



TARGETING SUPPLY

Detective Inspector Robert Campbell:

“Over the last quarter our investigative efforts have continued to identify those involved in Serious and Organised Crime within Edinburgh, targeting those ensconced within our society that use fear and intimidation to further their criminal exploits to the detriment of local residents. Our efforts have seen significant recoveries of class A and class B controlled drugs, which is reflected in the increase in drug supply statistics.

Our targeted approach has seen a number of significant arrests of crime group principals, impacting heavily on the organising and distribution of drugs within the division. Our enquiries have also identified numerous cannabis cultivations within the city, which themselves have placed the lives of many in danger due to the elaborate manner cultivations are assembled. Significant and sustained resourcing identified 10 cultivations with £1.5m of cannabis recovered along with the arrest of 7 individuals, many of whom were subsequently supported as Potential Victims of Trafficking.

This approach in targeting those directing and controlling Serious and Organised Crime demonstrates our commitment to not only robust enforcement, but towards a strategy that recognises the victims at the heart of these drug networks, with a careful and considered approach, utilising the support of key partners to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all.”



Targeting Housebreaking and Acquisitive Crime

Group 3 crime includes:

- Housebreaking
- Theft of / from motor vehicles
- Shoplifting
- Common theft
- Fraud

Group 3 Recorded Crime



Group 3 Solvency



April – March 2020/21	12923	27.2%
April – March 5 year average	18661	26.3%
% change from 5 year average	-30.8%	+0.9%

- Acquisitive crime has seen a reduction of 30.8% (5738 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and a reduction of 24.5% (4204 fewer crimes) against LYTD.
- Overall housebreaking, which includes domestic premises, businesses, sheds and garages has reduced by 44.4% (1354 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and has reduced by 20.6% (439 fewer crimes) on LYTD.
- Domestic housebreaking has reduced by 65.4% (1031 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 49.1% (527 fewer crimes) on LYTD. Solvency has increased by 4.8% against the 5 year average and by 6.5% against LYTD.
- Motor vehicle crime has reduced by 41.6% (1127 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average and by 31.1% (713 fewer crimes) against LYTD.
- Shoplifting has reduced by 35.7% (1445 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average, whilst common theft has reduced by 47.8% (2373 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Fraud has increased by 52.7% (653 more crimes) against the 5 year average, which is reflective of a wider national trend.



QUOTE

Detective Inspector Kevin Tait:

"I am pleased to report the 2020/21 year ended with significant progress made into the commission rates for acquisitive crime across Edinburgh Division. Year on year we have continued to see the rates fall for acquisitive crime, and this year has been no different in terms of the reduction, although we have seen a significant demographic change in people's lifestyles due to the global pandemic, which impacts the opportunistic nature of this crime type."



In addition to the daily reactive business of our dedicated Community Investigation Unit, who are responsible for the investigations of housebreakings and vehicle crime, we have and will continue to proactively target identified organised groups of housebreakers from across the city. This corresponds with our increased detection rates, which also in turn allows us to put in place partnership measures with these individuals in order to try and divert them away from offending and the criminal justice system."

Alongside our investigatory departments, our Preventions and Interventions Department continue to promote preventative measures for acquisitive crimes through our social media strands and neighbourhood watch contacts. I firmly believe that prevention is as vital as detection, and that working jointly alongside our partners and communities that we serve, I would hope to see this trend continue into 2021."



Group 4 crime includes:

- Culpable and reckless conduct
- Vandalism
- Fire-raising

ASB Group Recorded Incidents	Group 4 Crime
	
April – March 2020/21	4526
April – March 5 year average	5696
% change from 5 year average	-20.5%

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents have increased 21.8% (8460 more incidents), however overall Group 4 crime has reduced by 20.5% (1170 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Fireraising has reduced by 16.4% (43 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Vandalism has reduced by 24.4% (1225 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average, and solvency has increased by 4.8% to 21.4%.
- Public nuisance incidents have increased by 122.9% (11251 more incidents) on LYTD, whilst neighbour disputes have increased by 30.9% (609 more incidents) on LYTD.

Overall Group 4 crime and antisocial behaviour incidents have been heavily affected by Government restrictions, demonstrated by a significant reduction in recorded crime, contrasting with a large increase in reports of ASB. This rise is attributed to Covid-19 related regulation and compliance calls being classed as ASB on our Command and Control system.

Community Engagement VOW Project



QUOTE

The VOW Project is a Police Scotland initiative that aims to reduce offending and harm to people in Edinburgh by building positive relationships with those caught up in the offending cycle and building a bespoke service for each person to meet their needs.

PC Graeme Buchan – The VOW Project:

“Through our daily Operation Threshold work we identified a 34 year old female who experienced a near fatal drug overdose resulting in CPR and several doses of Naloxone being administered. We engaged with her through assertive outreach work alongside the NHS Harm Reduction Team. Peer Mentor Julie-Ann Graham was able to show empathy and very quickly established a relationship and gained the female’s trust and confidence. Following this, Julie-Anne provided valued follow up care to make significant therapeutic connections, both during VOW working hours and also by supporting her with telephone contact in the evenings. The female was encouraged to engage positively with Harm Reduction Team services. This resulted in her being registered with a GP which led to the provision of physical and mental health assessments and receiving Drug Treatment Therapy. We were able to arrange for rehabilitation services for our client and she was provided with train tickets, funded by Streetwork, to her new accommodation and treatment centre in England. This range of positive outcomes clearly highlights the benefits of the police officer and peer mentor team, working alongside partners in the NHS and the third sector to reduce harm to people in Edinburgh.”



Operation Proust



KEY FACTS

CI Sarah Taylor – North-West Edinburgh Area Commander:

Operation Proust was launched in response to an identified rise in youth related anti-social behaviour and disorder incidents aimed towards Edinburgh transport providers, most notably, Lothian Buses across Edinburgh.

These incidents impacted all aspects of our local communities, not just drivers and passengers but also the wider public through service disruption and the withdrawal of services from key routes on a number of evenings in March and April. The criminality involved included objects being thrown at buses while in transit, young people holding onto the rear of buses whilst the vehicle was in motion and interference with engine compartments whilst vehicles were stationary. Over the 6 week period of the operation, 127 incidents relating to Proust were investigated and 38 children and young people were charged with a variety of offences.

The initiative tackled all aspects of this sustained culpable and reckless behaviour by coordinating an operational and partnership response that involved the commitment of a number of key stakeholders, including City of Edinburgh Council, Education, Lothian Buses, Youth Justice partners, Youth Service providers and Crimestoppers.

The operation had two key aims, namely the co-ordinated investigation of incidents, ensuring a consistency in approach across the city, and to achieve a long term change in behaviour through prevention and early intervention activity. This latter aim was the cornerstone of Operation Proust, and activities delivered included the following:

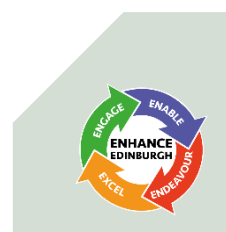
- Presentation of educational inputs to S1-S3 pupils at 24 schools across Edinburgh by Lothian Buses and Police.
- Creation of Diversionary Workshops as part of the restorative justice process which will see young people attend at Lothian Bus Depots in a planned programme of events to educate and change behaviours.
- Engagement with youth service providers to embed prevention and diversionary activities relating to transport anti-social behaviour in future work.
- The completion of Environmental Audits in known hot spot areas across the City with commitment to undertake recommendations from Community Improvement Partnerships.



Community Officers working with Lothian Buses staff to prevent disorder.

To assist in the delivery of a more strategic approach to these issues, a city wide Community Improvement Partnership was established in April.

In the 4 week period since the operation concluded, recorded incidents have fallen by 80%.



Operation Epanodos



KEY FACTS

CI Samantha Ainslie – South-East Edinburgh Area Commander:

As a large, open and easily accessible green space, the Meadows is routinely utilised by a range of individuals, including local residents, families, and young people, and whilst the vast majority have done so without any cause for concern, disappointingly there have been instances of anti-social behaviour and disorder, most markedly, over the Easter weekend.

In response, Edinburgh Division enhanced our dedicated high visibility mobile and foot patrol patrols with resources drawn from across Police Scotland's specialist resource cadres, which included the Flexible Response Unit and our Mounted Section. This deployment was also complemented by a suite of measures agreed at South East's Community Improvement Partnership, comprising engagement with local retailers, access to City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) CCTV van, enhanced cover from CEC's Street Enforcement Officers, Park Rangers and Street Cleansing, third sector youth engagement provision (6VT), Street Assist and increased opening hours of the on-site toilets.

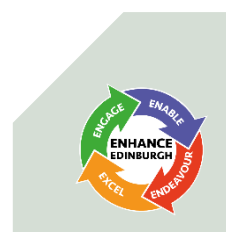
In addition to which, I adopted a prevention focused communication strategy, with messaging shared across partnership networks, including British Transport Police colleagues, transport providers (buses / trams / trains), School Link Officers, Edinburgh University and youth engagement service providers throughout the city and across other local policing divisions. With community concerns remaining a priority, I also shared Edinburgh Division's policing commitment during on-line community meetings.

These behaviours will not be tolerated, and to identify those individuals, who had very obviously attended at the Meadows over the Easter weekend for the express purpose of causing disorder, Edinburgh Division established a dedicated investigative response, formed from CID and local community based resources, and I am pleased to report that 14 individuals have now been identified, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

We are never complacent when dealing with anti-social behaviour, and this enhanced provision will remain over future weekends, and having already liaised with senior colleagues from City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Division remain grateful for their continued support.





Inspector Norman Towler and Mounted Officers carried out high visibility patrols at The Meadows.



Group 7 crime includes:

- Dangerous Driving
- Drink / Drug Driving
- Speeding
- Driving without a Licence
- Mobile phone offences
- Using a vehicle without an MOT certificate

	Group 7 Recorded Crime	Group 7 Solvency
		
April – March 2020/21	7062	83.9%
April – March 5 year average	8109	84.5%
% change from 5 year average	-12.9%	-0.6%

- Group 7 crime has reduced by 12.9% (1047 fewer crimes) and solvency has reduced by 0.6% to 83.9% against the 5 year average.
- Dangerous driving offences have increased by 38.2% (81 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Driving without a licence offences have increased by 22.3% (108 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Driving without insurance offences have increased by 33.0% (437 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- There have been 3 fatal collisions, which remains unchanged from LYTD. There has been a reduction of 35.4% (68 fewer collisions) in serious injury collisions and a reduction of 52.3% (341 fewer collisions) in those resulting in slight injury. The overall reduction in collisions has allowed Roads Policing officers to be increasingly proactive, resulting in the increased reporting in the above listed crime types.

Road Policing in Edinburgh



KEY FACTS

Sgt Andrew Trotter – Roads Policing Unit:

“With road use building again, the focus of Road Policing remains on protecting all road users, but particularly the most vulnerable.”




Specially-trained officers, working with our partners at the East Safety Camera Unit, are deploying the Ranger Speed Bike at pre-selected locations in support of City of Edinburgh Council's Spaces For People initiative.

Our Operation Close Pass work helps protect Edinburgh's burgeoning cycling community through appropriate driver engagement & enforcement. An example of our ongoing driver education program is PC Stewart Sinclair's current series of New Driver Early Intervention Scheme interactive presentations being delivered, via MS Teams, to 5th & 6th year pupils in Edinburgh.”



The Ranger Motorcycle, being used here on Portobello High Street, can be deployed across the city in order to detect and deter speeding.



	All Domestic Abuse Incidents	Domestic Crimes	Domestic Abuse Solvency
			
April – March 2020/21	5773	3379	70.3%
April – March 5 year average	5535	3587	64.6%*
% change from 5 year average	+4.3%	-5.8%	+5.7%

* no 5 year average figures are available, so LYTD used

- Domestic abuse incidents have increased by 4.3% (238 more incidents) against the 5 year average.
- Domestic crimes have reduced by 5.8% (208 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Solvency has increased by 5.7% to 70.3% compared to LYTD.
- Domestic Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland referrals have continued to increase on last year. The scheme provides means of sharing information about an abusive partner's past. Increased numbers of applications are being received by partner agencies demonstrating a greater awareness of the scheme and its key role in the provision of protection to those who may be at risk of domestic abuse.
- There has been an increase in referrals from Shakti via the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee, as a result of more frequent communication through regular Microsoft Teams meetings. The increase in referrals has not translated into more recorded crime, with Honour Based Abuse assessments frequently being conducted from a safeguarding perspective only.

Domestic Abuse

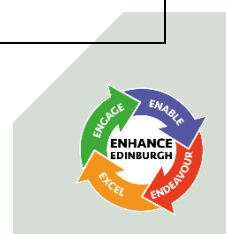





QUOTE

DCI Iain Ramsay – Public Protection Unit:

“The impact of lockdown and Covid-19 on levels of domestic abuse cannot be accurately predicted given the unprecedented nature of the pandemic. Academic research indicates that reports of domestic abuse are likely to increase dramatically as the UK emerges from lockdown, which can be attributed to a number of factors. Separation, which is one such factor, is widely acknowledged as a time when perpetrators are more likely to display significant abusive behaviours, including stalking and violence, at which the risk of serious harm to a victim is considered particularly high. The easing of lockdown is expected to result in a rise in separations that have been delayed as a consequence of the restriction of movement.

Whilst early indications are that Edinburgh Division has not yet seen a significant increase in reports of domestic abuse as lockdown restrictions are eased, we are very aware of the significant increased demand on our partner agencies such as Edinburgh Womens Aid, EDDACS and Shakti. The Edinburgh Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit continue to scrutinise levels of reported and unreported abuse through close engagement with these agencies and through a variety of processes in order to mitigate risk to victims at the earliest stage.”



	All Hate Incidents	Hate Incidents Where a Crime Is Recorded	Hate Crime Solvency
			
April – March 2020/21	1180	967	61.5%
April – March 5 year average	1287	1118	57.5%*
% change from 5 year average	-8.3%	-13.5%	+4.0%

* no 5 year average figures are available, so LYTD used

- Hate incidents have reduced by 8.3% (107 fewer incidents), while incidents where a hate crime is recorded have reduced by 13.5% (151 fewer incidents) compared to LYTD.
- Solvency for hate crime has increased by 4.0% compared to LYTD.
- Racially aggravated crimes have reduced by 12.9% (111 fewer crimes) compared to LYTD, and crimes aggravated by sexual orientation have reduced by 22.7% (49 fewer crimes) compared to LYTD.
- The reduction in recorded incidents and crimes can be attributed to the reduction in use of public transport, the night-time economy shutting down and the reduced footfall at commercial premises.

Engagement and Support During the Pandemic



QUOTE

Debbie Forsyth, Project Coordinator for Gig Buddies:

“Gig Buddies, along with Thera Trust, supports adults with a learning disability. Our Q&A session with the police was a great opportunity for our members to have an informal chat with the Police Scotland team. It was a really positive session, members were able to ask any questions they had without any agenda from us, and there was lots of good information shared. There was a great rapport between our members and Marc and Davie (PCs Marc Bell and David Clark, PIP). There were plenty laughs as well as serious discussions.

Based on the discussions at the Q&A session we plan to host future sessions with Police Scotland on specific topics around staying safe. The next topic is a specific Hate Crime input. The positive experience from the first session will be a great foundation for building good relationships between Gig Buddies members and Police Scotland in the future. It was really valuable for us as project coordinators as we got to hear direct from our members their concerns and thoughts around online safety and the issues they face in their day to day lives.

During the session we also found out about Third Party Reporting via questions from one of members and we are now planning on having Third Party Reporting training with Police Scotland. The Gig Buddies staff team and members are all looking forward to the next session.”



Needs of Local Community

Success means the needs of the local communities are addressed through effective service delivery

Preventative Approaches and Local Partnerships



SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH WEST

Reducing Drug Harm & Targeting Supply

In response to the divisional drug strategy, the South West LAVRU (Local Alcohol & Violence Reduction Unit) have continued to focus and prioritise the gathering of intelligence in the area in an effort to tackle the harm caused by substance misuse. As a result of the continued proactivity and excellent investigative work by the LAVRU, the following results have been achieved since the last report:

- Numerous drugs warrants have been executed at various address across the area, resulting in recoveries of heroin, cocaine, cannabis, diazepam and alprazolam, amounting to a potential street value of over £52,000.
- 20 persons charged in relation to various drugs offences.
- Engagement with CID continues to build on the intelligence picture and support wider investigations.

Tackling Antisocial Behaviour

SAUGHTON PARK – Following an increase in disorder and damage, a joint approach with police, Edinburgh Council, youth providers, and volunteers was undertaken. Work was carried out which included high visibility patrols, police being provided access out of hours, and a crime prevention survey. Recommendations were implemented along with a clean-up of the park (removing potential missiles) by volunteers, which all led to a significant reduction in calls and damage.

CRAIGLOCKHART HILL – This area has previously been known for young persons to congregate and drink alcohol. Proactive patrols were carried out alongside SW CPT (Community Policing Team) to disperse. Although initially faced with parents who were difficult to engage with, through continued efforts highlighting the community impact, the situation was resolved to the satisfaction of the residents.

OPERATION HAREFIELD – Between 27th March and the 4th April 2021, the South West Community Policing Team were engaged with Operation Harefield.

The focus of this Operation was around wildlife and livestock crimes, including dog walker education. Over the last 12 months Edinburgh has seen an increase in reported cases of sheep worrying, predominantly in the Pentland Hills Regional Park. This has been as a direct result of the increased visitor numbers in the park due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

One person was charged with a livestock related offence. Positive feedback on the operation was provided by partners, landowners, and the Pentlands Rangers.



South West Community Officers patrolling The Pentlands



Confidence in Policing

Success means public and communities are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing

Police Scotland is committed to a monthly User Satisfaction Survey. A change in process in January 2020 now sees a minimum of 123 surveys being conducted by an external consultancy every month within Edinburgh, to provide feedback on the public's interactions with the police. Participants are sent SMS messages containing a link to a survey, which they then complete.

Results from March 2021 are provided below:

	Adequately Updated	Treated Fairly	Treated with Respect	Overall Satisfaction
March 2021	59.5%	65.9%	84.1%	72.4%
Force	58.0%	67.4%	80.9%	71.0%

Engagement and involvement are key aspects of policing, identifying local priorities, problem solving and ensuring our communities have confidence in policing. We work hard to use the findings of these surveys to identify areas for service delivery improvement.

Community Engagement – North West



DIVERSIONARY PROJECTS

Community Pedal Bicycle Recycling Scheme:

This scheme was initiated by Sergeant Aaron Chadha and the North West Community Team after developing strong relationships with Granton Youth, Electric Cycle Company, and Bridge 8 Hub. The aim was to direct unclaimed bikes held at Police Scotland away from the traditional route of auction, and instead to redistribute them to Bridge Hub 8 for community use.

The bikes are stored, audited and repaired prior to being allocated back into the North Edinburgh Neighbourhood monthly bike sale. From inception the partnership agreed local young people and families would benefit from diversionary activities with the financial proceeds via a Community Pot.

Police Scotland initially funded the concept with North West's allocation of Partnership money to purchase bike maintenance equipment, enabling bikes to be repaired at the workshop and to deliver maintenance training to young people.

During the initial phase of the project, 64 bikes were identified through Edinburgh Productions staff and community officers, and were secured in storage at Bridge 8 Hub. The project is starting to demonstrate the immediate impact being made, with 12 bikes having been donated to young people and families in North Edinburgh.

£1100 has been raised for the community pot that allows Granton Youth Centre and other youth agencies opportunities to deliver diversionary activities across North Edinburgh. As restrictions ease, the focus will turn to delivering professional training and accreditation, allowing youth workers to deliver their own Sustainable Outdoor Activity Provision. Funds from the bike sale have sponsored the running of two [Scottish Cycling Ride Leader](#) Courses and a Mountain Training [Lowland Leader award](#). Cycle maintenance classes will commence once restrictions ease, with the aim of offering 4 free cycle maintenance classes over the next six months for up to 24 local people.



Positive Working Environment

Success means our people are supported through a positive working environment enabling them to serve the public

Positive Working Environment



KEY FACTS

Training & Development

- Enhance Edinburgh Group re-launched and to be chaired by CI Sarah Taylor. A new Enhance Sharepoint site is being developed.
- New divisional process to be developed for individuals returning to work following absence of 6 months or more. Settle-in period to be offered to support officers back into their role.
- Development Day – planning is underway for a new divisional personal development day.
- Inputs relating to incidents involving firearms took place in April via MS Teams for response Sgts and Inspectors.
- Planning is currently underway for an Acting Sergeant Training day.
- Edinburgh Division has facilitated access to departments and staff to seven Edinburgh University Criminology Masters students for various research topics including cybercrime, Covid-19 response, and missing persons.
- Driver training recommenced on 26th April.
- MS Teams crime prevention and personal safety inputs are being planned, with the Preventions, Interventions & Partnerships team (PIP) delivering the advice to the Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service as part of their staff wellbeing initiative.

Social Media & Communications

- Social media content is planned for various campaigns including:
 - Labour Exploitation Campaign.
 - Shut Out Scammers.
 - Rape campaign.
- Pedal Protect – Acquisitive crime campaign, tackling the rising number of bike thefts across the country. A video is to be produced and publicised via social media channels.
- LGBT Charter – Video input from Supt Robinson for internal use.
- LGBT Charter SharePoint page created for internal communications.
- Facebook Live Q&A – Monthly events on Facebook with the PIP.
- Sharepoint features produced for Police Mutual Stress Awareness support, Divisional Award Winners and wellbeing articles.

Wellbeing

- National Eleos Mental Health Training was rolled out across all Divisions in April 2021.
- An initial proposal has been submitted for a North West Wellbeing Event. One week at Drylaw and one week at Corstorphine, with various wellbeing inputs each day.
- The St Leonards Cycling Survey has concluded and a report will be collated to assist with a Cycling Scotland grant application.
- Little Things Wellbeing Initiative now concluded. Significant improvements and purchases have been highlighted on the Edinburgh Division Sharepoint.
- Wellbeing articles featured on Divisional Intranet and station wellbeing boards.



Sustainable and Adaptable Service

Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

The forthcoming year will see the implementation of a number of elements of organisational change across the Division.

Divisional Change Board



KEY FACTS

Mobile Devices

- The second phase of mobile device training will launch in June. This will see officers in CID and public protection roles receive mobile devices, and for those whose role involves extensive statement taking they will receive a tablet device as well. In addition to the CID officers, devices will also be issued to some specialists and special constables who were not included in the phase one rollout. This supports the national digitally enabled policing programme and realises efficiencies that reduce the amount of time spent on administrative tasks and maximises officer availability.

Core Operating Solutions

- Testing of the new national crime and case system is reaching its conclusion and a phased deployment across the country will start in June.
- E division is supporting the development of the national crime system through provision of specialists from the Recorded Crime Management Team to the testing programme.
- The national crime system is expected to deploy in E division at the start of 2022 and planning for training and rollout has commenced.
- E Division is participating in the national discussions around standardising crime management processes across the country.

Operation Talla

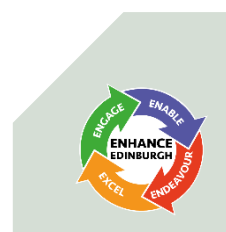
Since the last report the nation has moved from level 4 to level 2. The relaxation of restrictions brings some welcome return to many normal aspects of day-to-day life. It is not though a complete return to normality, and there is still a need to take reasonable precautions to protect the public, our staff and partners.

- Lateral flow testing has been made available to staff and officers. This was originally introduced within C3 division to ensure business continuity but is now rolling out to staff for use before attending certain training courses where social distancing is either limited or impossible. The ability to conduct tests prior to training allows another layer of security to prevent the risk of infections.
- Rollout of PPE to all front line officers has taken place and we continue to test and fit PPE to officers as required. The Divisional Coordination Unit are co-ordinating provision of PPE.
- The rollout of a new FFP3 mask referred to in the last report has been completed, providing security in supply of FFP3 masks in the long term.
- Provision for working from home, where possible, has been implemented. All outstanding requests to work from home have been reviewed. Adapting to a new working normal, provision of headsets, webcams and access to MS Teams software allows us to engage safely with our partners and minimise the need for travel between locations to conduct our business.



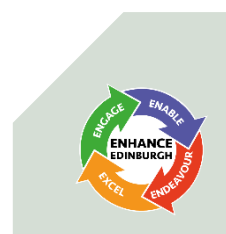
Overall Recorded Crime					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Group 1-5	30,045	25,323	-15.7	30,975.2	-18.2
Group 1-7	50,824	43,604	-14.2	52,360.8	-16.7
Group 1	1,050	850	-19.0	858.6	-1.0
Group 2	1,209	1,287	6.5	1,181.8	8.9
Group 3	17,127	12,923	-24.5	18,661.4	-30.8
Group 4	5,308	4,526	-14.7	5,696.0	-20.5
Group 5	5,351	5,737	7.2	4,577.4	25.3
Group 6	12,546	11,219	-10.6	13,277.0	-15.5
Group 7	8,233	7,062	-14.2	8,108.6	-12.9

Overall Solvency Rates					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Group 1-5	39.7	45.2	5.5	37.1	8.1
Group 1-7	52.5	56.9	4.3	51.8	5.1
Group 1	67.9	70.1	2.2	68.8	1.4
Group 2	55.7	62.0	6.3	56.5	5.5
Group 3	26.1	27.2	1.2	26.3	1.0
Group 4	19.6	24.7	5.1	17.6	7.1
Group 5	94.1	94.5	0.4	94.7	-0.1
Group 6	65.6	66.1	0.5	65.9	0.1
Group 7	79.6	83.9	4.3	84.5	-0.6



Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence - Recorded					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Group 1 Total	1,050	850	-19.0	858.6	-1.0
Murder	6	2	-66.7	4.4	-54.5
Culpable Homicide	6	3	-50.0	2.8	7.1
S1 Domestic Abuse	203	135	-33.5	40.6	232.5
Att Murder	22	25	13.6	24.4	2.5
Serious Assault	352	237	-32.7	381.8	-37.9
Robbery	262	200	-23.7	252.4	-20.8

Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence – Solvency					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Grp 1 Total	67.9	70.1	2.2	68.8	1.4
Murder	116.7	100.0	-16.7	100.0	-
Culpable Homicide	100.0	100.0	0.0	78.6	21.4
S1 Domestic Abuse	62.1	72.6	10.5	62.1	10.5
Att Murder	95.5	84.0	-11.5	92.6	-8.6
Serious Assault	72.4	80.2	7.7	72.7	7.5
Robbery	69.5	78.0	8.5	66.5	11.5



Group 2 – Sexual Crimes – Recorded					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 2	1,209	1,287	6.5	1,181.8	8.9
Rape	177	258	45.8	197.8	30.4
Sexual Assault	378	292	-22.8	349.4	-16.4
Lewd & Libidinous	130	139	6.9	108.6	28.0
Indecent Communications	134	160	19.4	122.8	30.3
Threat/Disclose Intimate Image	55	62	12.7	29.0	113.8

Group 2 – Sexual Crimes – Solvency					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 2	55.7	62.0	6.3	56.5	5.5
Rape	53.7	61.2	7.6	56.4	4.8
Sexual Assault	50.8	56.2	5.4	40.6	15.5
Lewd & Libidinous	70.8	75.5	4.8	62.6	12.9
Indecent Communications	57.5	63.8	6.3	65.5	-1.7
Threat/Disclose Intimate Image	41.8	37.1	-4.7	44.1	-7.0



Group 3 – Acquisitive Crime - Recorded					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 3	17,127	12,923	-24.5	18,661.4	-30.8
Housebreaking Dwelling	1,073	546	-49.1	1,576.6	-65.4
Housebreaking Non-Dwelling	607	827	36.2	782.4	5.7
Housebreaking other	453	321	-29.1	688.8	-53.4
Total Housebreaking	2,133	1,694	-20.6	3,047.8	-44.4
OLP Motor Vehicle	640	347	-45.8	907.0	-61.7
Theft of Motor Vehicle	669	567	-15.2	752.6	-24.7
Theft from Motor Vehicle	883	585	-33.7	870.2	-32.8
Total Motor Vehicle	2,294	1,581	-31.1	2,708.2	-41.6
Theft Shoplifting	3,967	2,597	-34.5	4,041.8	-35.7
Common Theft	4,637	2,593	-44.1	4,965.6	-47.8



Group 3 – Acquisitive Crime – Solvency					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 3	26.1	27.2	1.2	26.3	1.0
Housebreaking Dwelling	28.0	34.4	6.5	29.6	4.8
Housebreaking Non-Dwelling	10.2	12.8	2.6	6.2	6.6
Housebreaking other	37.3	39.6	2.3	32.2	7.4
Total Housebreaking	24.9	24.9	0.0	24.2	0.6
OLP Motor Vehicle	8.0	18.7	10.8	9.2	9.5
Theft of Motor Vehicle	24.5	40.4	15.9	26.9	13.5
Theft from Motor Vehicle	6.5	12.6	6.2	7.5	5.2
Total Motor Vehicle	12.4	23.7	11.3	13.8	9.9
Theft Shoplifting	53.0	49.7	-3.3	55.5	-5.7
Common Theft	15.2	19.9	4.7	14.5	5.5



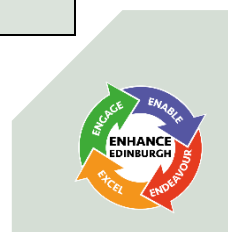
Group 4 – Fire-raising, Vandalism etc. - Recorded					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 4	5,308	4,526	-14.7	5,696.0	-20.5
Fire-raising	199	218	9.5	260.8	-16.4
Vandalism	4,694	3,787	-19.3	5,011.6	-24.4
Culpable & Reckless	404	509	26.0	410.4	24.0

Group 4 – Fire-raising, Vandalism etc. – Solvency					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 4	19.6	24.7	5.1	17.6	7.1
Fire-raising	16.6	22.0	5.4	19.8	2.2
Vandalism	18.5	21.4	2.9	16.6	4.8
Culpable & Reckless	34.7	50.7	16.0	28.4	22.3



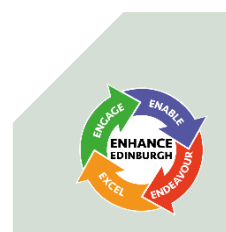
Group 5 – Other Crimes – Recorded					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 5	5,351	5,737	7.2	4,577.4	25.3
Carry offensive weapon	131	133	1.5	113.6	17.1
Handling bladed/pointed weapon	234	235	0.4	219.4	7.1
Bladed/pointed used in other criminality	186	132	-29.0	90.6	45.7
Total offensive weapon	741	717	-3.2	532.8	34.6
Supply of drugs	439	495	12.8	424.0	16.7
Possession of drugs	2,405	2,090	-13.1	1,883.2	11.0

Group 5 – Other Crimes – Solvency					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 5	94.1	94.5	-0.1	94.7	FALSE
Carry offensive weapon	90.8	92.5	-1.2	93.7	-1.2
Handling bladed/pointed weapon	93.2	93.6	0.0	93.6	0.0
Bladed/pointed used in other criminality	74.7	70.5	-4.2	74.6	-4.2
Total offensive weapon	84.8	83.8	-3.6	87.5	-3.6
Supply of drugs	96.4	75.8	-9.7	85.5	-9.7
Possession of drugs	93.3	100.1	5.2	94.9	5.2



Group 6 Recorded Crime					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Grp 6	12,546	11,219	-10.6	13,277.0	-15.5
Common assault	5,686	4,596	-19.2	5,885.0	-21.9
Common assault - emergency workers	597	613	2.7	536.0	14.4
Total Common assault	6,283	5,209	-17.1	6,421.0	-18.9

Group 6 Solvency Rates					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Grp 6	65.6	66.1	0.1	65.9	1.2
Common assault	54.3	55.3	0.9	54.4	2.0
Common assault - emergency workers	98.5	98.4	0.0	98.3	0.2
Total Common assault	58.5	60.3	2.3	58.0	3.0



Group 7 – Offences Related to motor Vehicles					
	19/20	20/21	% change from 19/20	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 7	8,233	7,062	-14.2	8,108.6	-12.9
Dangerous Driving	223	293	31.4	212.0	38.2
Drink / Drug Driving	420	484	15.2	371.4	30.3
Speeding Offences	411	299	-27.3	645.2	-53.7
Driving whilst Disqualified	155	147	-5.2	145.4	1.1
Driving without a Licence	453	590	30.2	482.4	22.3
Insurance Offences	1,350	1,761	30.4	1,324.4	33.0
Seat Belt Offences	154	57	-63.0	226.8	-74.9
Mobile Phone Offences	175	69	-60.6	377.0	-81.7
Driving Carelessly	723	685	-5.3	604.8	13.3
Using a MV without MOT	1,241	777	-37.4	1,097.0	-29.2



Police Scotland's Quarter 4 Performance Report for the Scottish Police Authority can be found [here](#)

Police Scotland performance statistics by council and multimember ward area is available [here](#)

Should you desire any information that is not detailed on our website, you may submit an access to information request by following the instructions provided [here](#)



