Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 29 March 2022

Police Scotland – Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report April – December 2021

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

1.1 To note the update from the Divisional Commander.

Richard Carr

Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services

Contact: Jamie Macrae, Committee Officer

Legal and Assurance Division, Corporate Service Directorate E-mail: jamie.macrae@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 553 8242



Report

Police Scotland – Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report April – December 2021

2. Executive Summary

2.1 This report provides the update from Police Scotland in relation to the Edinburgh City Division during the period April to December 2021.

3. Background

- 3.1 In May 2019 the Council agreed that Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Fescue Service city-wide plans, policies and performance would be considered by the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 3.2 This provides a forum for these organisations to discuss major cross-cutting issues with the Council as well as fulfilling their duty to engage with the local authority.
- 3.3 The <u>Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012</u> requires the local Commander to provide the local authority with:
 - 3.3.1 reports on the carrying out of police functions in its area (including by reference to any local policing plan in force for the area);
 - 3.3.2 statistical information on complaints made about the Police service in, or the policing of, its area; and
 - 3.3.3 other information about the policing of its area.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This report covers the period 1 April 2021 31 December 2021 and is part of a regular update from the Divisional Commander to the Policy and Sustainability Committee.
- 4.2 The report contains an overview and summary by the Divisional Commander, a summary of local policing priorities, crime statistics, and progress made around Police Scotland's strategic outcomes: Public Safety and Wellbeing; Needs of Local Community; Confidence in Policing; Positive Working Environment, and Sustainable and Adaptable Service.

Policy and Sustainability Committee – 29 March 2022

5. Next Steps

5.1 Under the <u>Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012</u> the Council can monitor and provide feedback to the local Commander.

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
- 8.7 Policy and Sustainability Committee 10 June 2021 Police Scotland City of Edinburgh Division Update
- 8.8 Policy and Sustainability Committee 5 October 2021 <u>Police Scotland City of Edinburgh Division Update</u>

9. Appendices

9.1 Report by the Divisional Commander.

POLICING FOR A SAFE, PROTECTED AND RESILIENT SCOTLAND



EDINBURGH CITY DIVISION SCRUTINY REPORT April - December 2021



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	15
Strategic Outcome: Confidence in Policing	16
Strategic Outcome: Positive Working Environment	17
Strategic Outcome: Sustainable & Adaptable Service	18
Crime Statistics	20
l Iseful I inks	29

Introduction by the Divisional Commander



I am pleased to present the Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report covering from April to December 2021. This period has seen a number of large-scale policing operations successfully delivered in Edinburgh and across Scotland, which affected the way we managed policing whilst dealing with competing demands. As restrictions were eased through the year, the return of sporting events and the opening of licensed premises have naturally impacted on the policing demand in Edinburgh.

One of the events that returned this year was an abridged version of the Edinburgh Festival, which saw Edinburgh's police officers working with our partners in the City of Edinburgh Council to deliver a safe and secure event for local, national and international visitors. We ensured that the gatherings were safe and Covid-19 procedures implemented, whilst maintaining our core policing values and services to the rest of the city.

Operation Crackle was Edinburgh Policing Division's response to bonfire night, where we worked with our colleagues in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure the safety of the public and emergency services personnel. We educated young people around the legal and safe use of fireworks and carried out enforcement of the relevant fireworks legislation. Despite this, it was disappointing that we saw attacks on both the police and other emergency services personnel.

November saw the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) climate conference, which was the largest policing operation ever run in the United Kingdom. Police Scotland managed the wider policing plan, supported by Edinburgh Division. Edinburgh played host to many of the conference's parallel events, accommodated around 60 world leaders and provided extensive resources to bolster the wider policing cadre, whilst still maintaining 'business as usual' local policing functions. No doubt you will have seen many of the visiting police officers and dignitaries around the city.

As this year has progressed the night-time economy has opened up and we have seen increased partnership working with the local charity, Street Assist. They work closely with our 'Operation NightGuard' officers patrolling the city centre's night-time economy. Their volunteers help protect potentially vulnerable members of the community and reduce demand on the police, the NHS and the Scottish Ambulance Service. They do this by carrying out first aid and providing welfare to vulnerable people, delivering treatment for intoxication, and assisting vulnerable people to get home safely or find a friend.

By using both quantitative and qualitative data, this report analyses our performance against our five strategic outcomes. As previously discussed, last year was unique and presented a different suite of challenges than normal. This had a profound impact on performance and makes comparison to previous years challenging. For that reason we have compared our performance to 5 year averages where possible to ensure that the information we provide you is meaningful.

We are continuing our work on the development of our national crime recording platform and other technologies that will improve service delivery to the people of Edinburgh, which will include the ability to report certain crimes online. It is encouraging to see that overall violent crime has reduced and that acquisitive crime, including housebreaking, has significantly reduced across the Capital; a testament to my officers and staff for their continued professionalism and hard work in keeping the city safe.

Chief Superintendent Sean Scott Divisional Commander



Summary of Local Policing Priorities

For the reporting period of 1st April to 31st December 2021, a total of 33751 crimes were recorded by Edinburgh Division. This is a reduction of 14.5% (3701 fewer crimes) against the five year average. Solvency has reduced by 1.2% over the same five year period to 51.6%. The following summary provides a breakdown in respect of our Local Policing Priorities against the 5 year average, and against last year to date (LYTD) where the 5 year average is not available.

Addressing Violence

Overall violent crime has reduced by 6.7% (355 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. There has been one recorded murder, compared to a 5 year average of 3. Attempted murder has reduced by 50.0% (10 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Serious assaults have reduced by 26.2% (70 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Common assault (including emergency workers) has reduced by 5.6% (267 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. Total recorded drug crime has reduced by 20.4% (374 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.

Targeting Housebreaking and Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive crime has reduced by 24.2% (3248 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Domestic housebreaking has reduced by 41.7% (381 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Motor vehicle crime has reduced by 33.9% (633 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average. Theft from a lockfast place (excluding motor vehicles) has reduced by 36.7% (79 fewer crimes), theft shoplifting reduced by 24.9% (744 fewer crimes), and common theft reduced by 29.1% (1007 fewer crimes)

Fraud has increased by 61.8% (654 more crimes), which is reflective of the wider national picture.

Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour incidents have reduced by 5.5% (1703 fewer incidents) against the 5 year average.

Overall Group 4 crimes (including vandalism, malicious mischief and fire-raising) have reduced by 13.7% (558 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.

Vandalism has reduced by 18.1% (646 fewer crimes) over the same period.

Making Our Roads Safe

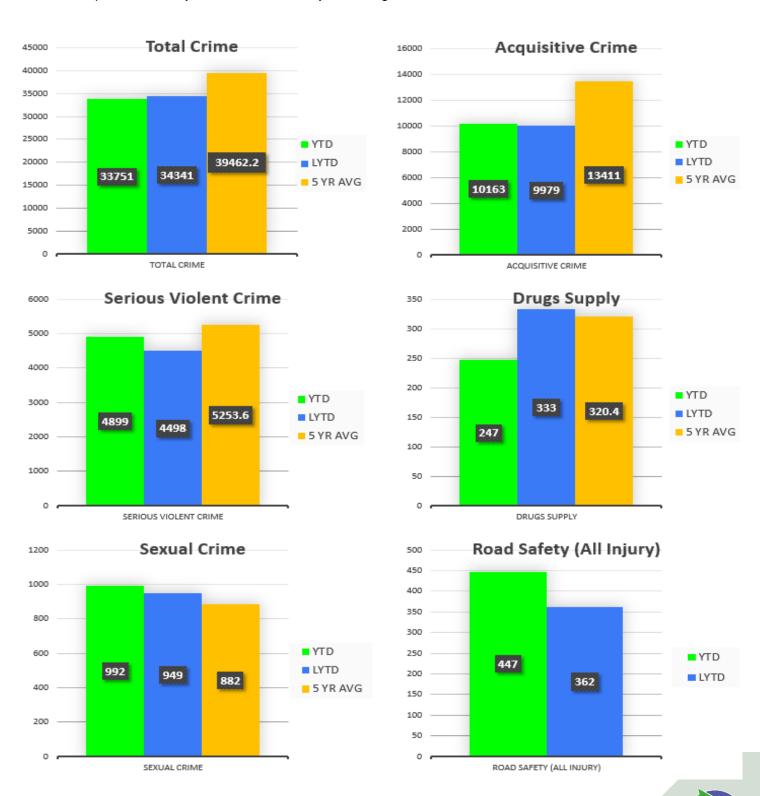
Offences in relation to driving and the use of motor vehicles have reduced by 11.5% (783 fewer offences) compared to the 5 year average.

There have been 3 fatal collisions, which remains unchanged against LYTD. There has been an increase of 28.4% (29 more collisions) in serious injury collisions and an increase of 21.8% (56 more collisions) in those resulting in slight injury against LYTD. This rise is a consequence of increased road use compared to last year.



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 and the 5 year average.



5 | Page

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:	Group 1 Recorded Crime	Group 1 Solvency
 Murder Attempted murder Culpable homicide Serious assault Robbery 		
April – December 2021	782	57.9%
April – December 5 year average	667	68.6%
% change from 5 year average	+17.2%	-10.6%

- Overall Group 1 violent crime has increased by 17.2% (115 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Solvency has reduced by 10.6% to 57.9% against the 5 year average.
- S.1 Domestic Abuse Scotland Act (DASA) offences have increased by 18.9% (20 more crimes) against LYTD. It is noted DASA offences continue to affect the overall Group 1 picture since its introduction on 1st April 2019.
- 1 murder has been recorded this year, which is 2 less than the 5 year average.
- 10 attempted murders have been recorded this year, which is 10 less than the 5 year average.
- Serious assaults have reduced by 26.2% (70 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Robbery has reduced against the 5 year average by 2.6% (5 fewer crimes).
- Threats & Extortion has increased by 129.0% (61 more crimes) against the 5 year average. A significant number of these were instances of webcam blackmail or 'sextortion'. These are frequently perpetrated overseas, however the crime remains recorded in Scotland.
- There have been 72 druggings reported this year to date, compared to a 5 year average of 5. The large rise in reported offences is a result of significant media and social media attention given to 'spiking' in October and November.
- The increase in 'sextortion' and drugging offences has significantly contributed to the reduction in Group 1 solvency. When excluding these offences from the crime statistics, Group 1 crime has reduced by 1.8% (11 fewer crimes) and solvency has increased by 0.9% to 73.2% against the 5 year average.

Case Against Anthony Oldham:

CASE

In December 2021, as a result of extensive and complex investigations into a home invasion robbery in the Leith area of Edinburgh, Anthony Oldham was sentenced to six years imprisonment. Oldham targeted a stranger within his own home, forcing his way into the property and violently assaulting the victim with a weapon before demanding money from him. Oldham was found guilty by a jury at trial for this offence.

Detective Inspector Kevin Tait:

"The sentence given to Anthony Oldham is a testament to the prolonged investigations carried out by our dedicated Violent Reduction Unit detective officers on a daily basis in the city. A crime that involves someone entering the safety and privacy of your own home is a particularly abhorrent and impactive crime to be a victim of. We recognise that thankfully these crimes are rare within the City of Edinburgh, however reducing violent crime remains a priority for us and is a focus of our daily investigative priorities.



Serious & Organised Crime

On 20th August 2021, E Division officers responded to an incident at Burdiehouse Drive following the report of a gun being discharged.

The gunman discharged 6 shots in the direction of a family home, despite children playing in the gardens nearby. No persons were injured in the attack.



A major investigation was launched under Senior Investigating Officer Detective Inspector Bob Campbell, who has oversight of the division's Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCG). Enquiries quickly identified the incident formed part of an ongoing feud, with previous incidents in Glasgow and Edinburgh having been attributed to rival crime groups. The investigation moved at pace with two suspects identified and arrested within days of the attack. The evidential picture for the incident compiled by the enquiry team has ensured the two males charged with the attempted murder remain remanded in custody pending trial.

On the evening of 11th November 2021, police officers were called to Tesco, Gracemount Drive, following reports of a male being attacked with a machete.

It was quickly established that a masked male has attacked the victim with a machete and pursued him into the store, where members of the public were shopping. CCTV captured the incident in full, with the victim eventually managing to escape from his assailant.

The intervention of medical professionals ensured the injuries suffered by the victim, although serious, were not significantly life-changing.

This attack was attributed to the ongoing SOCG feud. Through positive engagement with local residents and businesses, CCTV and other crucial evidence was quickly identified by the enquiry team, resulting in the arrest of two males identified as responsible for the attack. A robust and thorough investigation has seen the male assessed to be the attacker remanded into custody pending trial for the attempted murder.

Increased police patrols and community engagement since the attacks has reassured the local community, alongside the arrests of those responsible.

The two investigations have identified an emerging crime group affiliated to a long standing SOCG, which the CID Pro-active have now mapped as a new SOCG in Edinburgh. This allows for bespoke investigations and targeting of those identified as being part of this crime group, which has enhanced the overall intelligence picture within Edinburgh, putting us on a stronger footing in our quest to tackle SOCG violence and protecting our communities.

DI Bob Campbell

"The latter part of 2021 saw a number of SOCG-related violent attacks in Edinburgh that have been attributed to an ongoing feud between rival groups.

Robust disruption tactics deployed through front-line policing and thorough investigations into the attacks by specialists within Edinburgh's CID Pro-active Unit have seen these crimes solved and significant criminals remanded in custody, disrupting their respective operations. Serious and Organised Crime brings with it misery and a threat to life. This will not be tolerated and we leave no stone unturned in our targeting of these groups to ensure our communities are protected."



Sexual Crime

Group 2 crime includes:	Group 2 Recorded Crime	Group 2 Solvency
 Rape Sexual assault Lewd and libidinous practices Communicating indecently Disclosing intimate images 		
April – December 2021	992	57.7%
April – December 5 year average	882	55.1%
% change from 5 year average	+12.5%	+2.5%

- Overall Group 2 crime has increased by 12.5% (110 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Solvency has increased by 2.5% against the 5 year average.
- Rape has increased by 13.0% (19 more crimes) against the 5 year average. The increase in reports of rape is the consequence of a number of proactive operations into non-recent sexual offences. E Division reports proportionately more non-recent rapes than the national average.
- Sexual assaults have increased by 70.0% (145 more crimes) against last year to date. Analysis has showed a
 significant reduction in public space sexual assaults recorded during 2020, likely due to Covid-19 related
 restrictions. The rate of sexual assaults committed in public spaces, when compared to those committed in
 private, has returned to pre-Covid-19 levels.
- Communicating Indecently (SOSA 2009) and Communications Act 2003 (Sexual) offences have reduced by 4.0% and 44.9% (3 and 11 fewer crimes) respectively compared to the 5 year average. Both offences had increased significantly during 2020-21. Recorded offences are now in line with pre-Covid-19 numbers.

Detective Chief Inspector Alan Carson:



QUOTE

"The restrictions introduced during the various stages of lockdown over the last two years undoubtedly impacted the profile of sexual offending. By no means unique to the capital, we witnessed a general reduction in contact offending and a broad increase in many areas of noncontact offending. Whilst we always strive to improve our solvency, the increase, although moderate, is a reflection of the efficiency and robustness of investigations despite challenges during the pandemic.

Similarly, the Sex Offender Policing Unit continued to manage a relatively stable number of offenders which is testament to the criminal justice system and successful conviction of perpetrators of sexual offences.

As gradual re-emergence from pandemic related restrictions continues, so we see a correlated return to a crime profile of sexual offending broadly similar to one we recognise from before the pandemic.

There will be continued vigour around the division's efforts to target perpetrators of sexual offending. We plan to explore a number of initiatives to identify those who prey on potential victims, particularly those deemed vulnerable, and will give some focus to the night time economy as it too returns to normality.



Reducing Drug Harm and Targeting Supply

Drug Supply crime includes: • Manufacture or cultivation of drugs	Drug Supply Recorded Crime	Drug Supply Solvency
Supply of drugs to another (including intent)Bringing drugs into prison		
April – December 2021	1459	94.4%
April – December 5 year average	1833	91.5%
% change from 5 year average	-20.4%	+2.9%

- Total recorded drug crime has reduced by 20.4% (374 fewer crimes) and solvency has increased by 2.9% to 94.4% against the 5 year average.
- Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs has reduced by 37.5% (14 fewer crimes).
- Supply of drugs has reduced by 22.9% (73 fewer crimes) and solvency has reduced by 10.6% to 75.7% 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 reduced by 20.8% (313 fewer crimes) and solvency has increased by 6.3% to 99.1% against the 5 year average.
- Bringing drugs into prison has reduced by 76.9% (30 fewer crimes) 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.

Operation Avocation



Operation Avocation is joint Police Scotland and Scottish Prison Service (SPS) operation targeting the supply of illicit items being smuggled into Saughton prison. This followed reports and concerns from local communities who had witnessed drone activity and packages being thrown over the prison walls. The increase in this type of activity was attributed to a change in SPS policy that prevented letters, laced with drugs such as LSD and Etizolam, being smuggled into the prison estate, simply by photocopying letters as they arrived.

The operation consisted of joint patrols with prison staff, crime prevention surveys and agreed actions around the perimeter environment. There was also significant support from Police Scotland's Operational Support Division, including police drones and drugs dogs. SPS deployed their National Search Team to conduct targeted proactive searches within the prison estate.

The operation was extremely successful and resulted in drugs to the value of £40,000 being intercepted, along with sim cards and mobile phones, preventing these items making their way into the hands of organised crime groups.

Operation Avocation is now part of the South-West policing calendar of events, with plans to run the operation frequently in partnership with SPS. Crime prevention surveys have also resulted in a significant upgrade in the external CCTV and lighting at the prison, which itself will act as a deterrent and will also help identify people engaging in 'throwover' activity.



Targeting Housebreaking and Acquisitive Crime

Group 3 crime includes: • Housebreaking	Group 3 Recorded Crime	Group 3 Solvency
 Theft of / from motor vehicles Shoplifting Common theft Fraud 		
April – December 2021	10163	20.4%
April – December 5 year average	13411	25.7%
% change from 5 year average	-24.2%	-5.4%

- Acquisitive crime has seen a reduction of 24.2% (3248 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Overall housebreaking, which includes domestic premises, businesses, sheds and garages, has reduced by 42.7% (826 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Domestic housebreaking has reduced by 41.7% (381 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Motor vehicle crime has reduced by 33.9% (663 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Shoplifting has reduced by 24.9% (744 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average, whilst common theft has reduced by 29.1% (1007 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Fraud has increased by 61.8% (624 more crimes) against the 5 year average, which is reflective of a wider
 national trend. A significant proportion of this is perpetrated via electronic means. Police Scotland and the
 Scottish Police Authority's joint strategy for the future of policing in Scotland, includes the commitment to
 develop a specific cyber strategy to transform Police Scotland's internal cyber capability and response. This
 enables the delivery of proactive support to individuals, communities and partners that embeds resilience and
 aligns to our wider preventative model.

Recovered Stolen Property:



CASE STUDY

In July 2020, a keen bike enthusiast had his hand-built bike stolen from his home address in the East of Edinburgh. The bike was extremely unique and considered a "one off", valued at £3500. All enquiries conducted at the time of the report provided very few tangible lines of investigation. In November 2021, it was subsequently brought to the attention of the Search and Recovery Team that the bike was for sale on Facebook Market Place. Acting quickly on the information available, enquiries established a potential owner of the Market Place account and a warrant was craved and granted. On execution of the warrant, the bike was recovered and duly returned to its rightful owner.

Detective Inspector George Calder:

"The victims of acquisitive crimes can be left feeling unsatisfied and frustrated with the subsequent outcome of an investigation despite an officer's best efforts. Repatriating those with items close to their hearts is an extremely rewarding experience and always remains at the forefront of the minds of the Search and Recovery Team (SART). On this specific occasion, through the positive engagement and relationship formed with the complainer, it afforded an opportunity to do just that. The joy of the owner was a pleasure for the officers to behold. This is one of many occasions whereby property that was assumed lost forever was returned due to the diligent efforts of the SART officers"



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Group 4 crime includes:	ASB Group Recorded Incidents	Group 4 Crime
Culpable and reckless conductVandalismFire-raising		
April – December 2021	29515	3507
April – December 5 year average	31218	4065
% change from 5 year average	-5.5%	-13.7%

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents have reduced by 5.5% (1703 fewer incidents), and overall Group 4 crime has reduced by 14.0% (377 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Fireraising has reduced by 23.4% (15 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Vandalism has reduced by 13.9% (165 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average, and solvency has increased by 2.2% to 20.6%.
- Public nuisance incidents have reduced by 36.4% (5363 fewer incidents) on LYTD, whilst noise complaints have reduced by 14.0% (1040 fewer incidents) on LYTD.

Operation Crackle

Operation Crackle is the E Division response to disorder over bonfire season. Whilst enjoyed by many, it also sees a marked rise in antisocial activity and associated criminality across the country. Disruptive and potentially dangerous behaviour, particularly in relation to the lighting of bonfires and the use of fireworks, is often seen. There is typically a significant increase in youth disorder during bonfire season, with incidents ranging from the misuse of fireworks and the setting of bonfires in dangerous positions, to the deliberate targeting of Emergency Services and Local Authority personnel, their equipment and vehicles.



The intention of Operation Crackle is to ensure public and officer safety is maintained, whilst minimising the risk of public disorder, by working with partners and delivering effective communication ahead of the event, and by providing a proportionate policing response during the event.

A host of preventative activities took place, such as young people being provided educational presentations in schools that enabled them to make informed decisions about firework safety. Joint visits took place at retail premises to ensure there were no illegal sales of fireworks. A joint letter was created and widely circulated informing parents/guardians of their responsibility in respect of their children, and advised residents of actions they could take to help prevent fire and disorder. Youth provisions sought to divert young people from committing anti-social behaviour through a variety of activities in the run up and on the day. Over 40 tonnes of waste was removed from the streets ahead of the event, preventing it from being used in makeshift bonfires.

Reports of antisocial behaviour reduced in most areas, however the Niddrie/Hays area experienced a number of incidents resulting in the deployment of Public Order officers. Extensive enquiries have identified individuals involved in the disorder, with a number of charges brought against them. Further work with housing and Edinburgh Council has secured funding and additional CCTV in the area, in an attempt to prevent future offending.



Making Our Roads Safe

Group 7 crime includes:	Group 7 Recorded Crime	Group 7 Solvency
 Dangerous Driving Drink / Drug Driving Speeding Driving without a Licence Mobile phone offences Using a vehicle without an MOT certificate 		
April – December 2021	6056	78.8%
April – December 5 year average	6839	84.1%
% change from 5 year average	-11.5%	-5.3%

- Group 7 crime has reduced by 11.5% (783 fewer crimes) and solvency has reduced by 5.3% to 78.8% against the 5 year average.
- Dangerous driving offences have increased by 26.5% (48 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Driving without a licence offences have increased by 17.6% (72 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Driving without insurance offences have reduced by 7.8% (86 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- There have been 3 fatal collisions, which is the same as LYTD. There has been an increase of 28.4% (29 more collisions) in serious injury collisions and an increase of 21.8% (56 more collisions) in those resulting in slight injury. The increase in road traffic collisions is a consequence of increased road use compared to last year. The increase in collisions impacts the amount of proactive work carried out by Roads Policing Officers, as this impacts their ability to be proactive in identifying other offences, which explains the overall reduction in Group 7 crime.

Road Policing in Edinburgh

In St re

CASE STUDY

Conviction of Mohamed Bouhnika:

In the early hours of 12th September 2021, Mohamed Bouhnika drove his Ford Fiesta into Rose Street at speed, whilst under the influence of alcohol. He drove the vehicle in a dangerous and reckless manner towards members of the public and the police, colliding with one female member of the public, before colliding with 2 other pedestrians and then 2 other cars, which forced his vehicle to stop. Unfortunately, one person was seriously injured, whilst the others suffered minor injuries.

The vehicle drove away from the scene, however CCTV operators tracked the vehicle, directing other police officers to its location. Mohamed Bouhnika crashed his vehicle at Lothian Road, where he was immediately apprehended and found to be more than four times over the drink drive limit. It was quickly established this was not a terrorist incident, despite initial fears, and this was clearly communicated to prevent wider public concern.

A thorough joint investigation between Road Policing and CID took place. Road safety and the prevention and investigation of serious road traffic incidents remains a priority for the division, and due to the diligent work carried out by the inquiry team, Mohamed Bouhnika provided an early guilty plea for drink driving and causing severe injury by dangerous driving. He was sentenced to imprisonment for 20 months and disqualified from driving for 47 months.



	All Domestic Abuse Incidents Domestic Crimes		Domestic Abuse Solvency
April – December 2021	4309	2424	70.0%
April – December 5 year average	4278	2714	66.5%
% change from 5 year average	+0.7%	-10.7%	+5.2%

- Domestic abuse incidents have increased by 0.7% (31 more incidents) against the 5 year average.
- Domestic crimes have reduced by 10.7% (290 fewer crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Solvency has increased by 5.2% to 70.0% against the 5 year average.
- Detections for Domestic Bail offences have increased by 42.0% (96 more crimes) against the 5 year average.
- Domestic Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) 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.

Domestic Abuse

DI Adam Brown, Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit:



QUOTE

"There has been a documented increase in domestic incidents reported in the last quarter, which has seen the introduction of several proactive campaigns intended to address the issue of violence against women and hold perpetrators to account. The #Thatguy campaign encourages men to reflect on their own attitudes and behaviours, while encouraging them to challenge peers whose conduct is unacceptable. E Division partook in joint messaging with partner agencies during the international #16Daysofactivism campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. During this campaign additional resources were deployed to target men who had been reported to the police for domestic abuse offences, and over a two week period in December, a total of 25 individuals were subject of reports to the Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service for a range of crimes including serious sexual offences, offences of violence, stalking and other criminal behaviours covered by the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018.

The Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit based in Edinburgh continue to adopt a proactive approach to the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland, scrutinising domestic incidents and liaising with partner agencies for opportunities to intervene in potentially abusive relationships. We work closely with Edinburgh Women's Aid and the local authority to ensure not only that disclosures are made, but that potential victims are afforded appropriate follow-up support to assist them in dealing with the information provided to them about their partner's abusive past. This approach has resulted in an increase of referrals in excess of 25.0% over the previous year.

The DAIU enquiry team continue to investigate reports of serious and protracted domestic abuse. Several rape investigations have recently been brought to a conclusion and several more rape investigations have been initiated in the last reporting period."



Hate Crime

	Hate Incidents Hate Crimes		Hate Crime Solvency
April – December 2021	959	834	59.0%
April – December 5 year average	985	966	59.6%
% change from 5 year average	-2.6%	-13.7%	-0.6%

- Hate incidents have reduced by 2.6% (26 fewer incidents), while hate crimes have reduced by 13.7% (132 fewer crimes) compared to the 5 year average.
- Solvency for hate crime has reduced by 0.6% compared to the 5 year average.
- Racially aggravated crimes have decreased by 6.0% (37 fewer crimes) compared to LYTD, and crimes aggravated
 by sexual orientation have increased by 17.6% (23 more crimes) compared to LYTD. This rise can be attributed to
 the opening up of the night-time economy following an easing of restrictions, with pubs, clubs and students returning
 to the city centre.

Supporting People with Disabilities - Keep Safe Scheme

PC Lynsay Claxton - Prevention, Intervention & Partnerships (PIP)



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"The PIP team in Edinburgh Division have built relationships with partners across the city supporting people with disabilities, raising awareness of hate crime and the various ways in which it can be reported. In order to support vulnerable people in our communities who may experience hate crime and be unaware of the support that is available, we are committed to the Keep Safe scheme, a joint venture between Police Scotland and the charity, I Am Me.

QUOTE

By working alongside City of Edinburgh Council Health and Social Care Partnership, much progress has been made in recent months by raising awareness of the scheme amongst partners within the EVOC (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council) disability network and on social media platforms. Such has been the success of this awareness raising, since August 2021 we have provided training to Royal Bank of Scotland, Waitrose, Lothian Buses, St Mary's Cathedral, and the Scottish Parliament. During these inputs we have been assisted by guest speakers with lived experience who can explain the obstacles that they face on a daily basis and how the Keep Safe scheme gives them confidence to participate in community living."

Susan Dalgleish - Strategic Planning and Commissioning Officer, Edinburgh Council

"I have been working with Police Scotland's PIP team in Edinburgh and I Am Me to promote and expand the Keep Safe Scheme across Edinburgh. Working within the Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership, my focus is ensuring that citizens who have a physical disability can be as independent as possible and lead active and fulfilling lives.

The Keep Safe Place Scheme enables citizens who perhaps lack confidence or feel vulnerable to plan a lifestyle whereby they can go about their daily lives with the reassurance that there are Keep Safe places in and around the city that they can access should they need to with the knowledge that the staff within these premises are trained and confident to help them."



Needs of Local Community

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

Preventative Approaches and Local Partnerships

Joint Police, Fire Service & Pentland Hills Rangers Initiative

During December 2021, Community Policing Team officers joined with colleagues from Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) and the Pentland Hills Rangers to raise awareness of Winter Hill and Open Water Safety. There were demonstrations of rescue techniques and public engagement with the assistance of Ruby the Ranger Dog and Phoenix the Fire Dog to reinforce the key messages. SFRS supplied a professional photographer and a stock of images were taken to be circulated in the media as and when the weather turns colder and there is a danger of people venturing out on the ice.

Since then, several patrols of the Pentland Hills car parks and approach roads have been jointly carried out with the PHRP Rangers to continue this engagement and ensure SFRS access to the area is secured. Registered keepers of cars parked inconsiderately have been contacted by letter in a bid to educate them.



WORKING WITH OUR PARTNERS Commencing in early spring the activity will continue throughout 2022 with further activity planned around key dates. These joint operations will focus on key themes like sheep worrying, dirty camping, water safety and youth ASB.



Police and partners gather at Pentland Hills

'Beat Hate' Campaign

The 'Beat Hate' Campaign, involving North-East Community Policing Officers, focuses on bringing members of our diverse community together to try new food experiences, meet new people, informally introduce different cultural or other backgrounds, and provide greater community understanding and cohesion. Following the success of the 'Beat Hunger' Campaign, the proposal is to keep food as the anchor and evolve to align with the local priority of tackling hate crime by engaging with identified members from our diverse community.

This brings together individuals / families at an identified location to showcase community cooking over a series of classes, conducting cookery workshops to try new food experiences with members of the community that otherwise would not have met. The aim is to encourage informal discussion on cultural or other background and promote community understanding, acceptance and cohesion. A parallel media strategy has highlighted the initiative throughout the entire community, telling their stories and culminating in a larger scale community event for all to exhibit and promote the aim. This initiative directly involves partnership working to ensure the neighbourhood is a place where people of different backgrounds get along.



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 December 2021 are provided below:

	Appropriate Response	Adequately Updated	Overall Satisfaction
E Division	84.8%	65.3%	71.4%
Force	79.8%	61.3%	69.1%

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

Hunter Square

SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH-EAST

Hunter Square is a popular gathering place for the street drinking fraternity and is a hotspot for ASB which often escalates into more serious crimes. It is recognised that enforcement alone cannot solve the longstanding issue, this led to a partnership working group being established with representation from CEC, Public Health, Streetwork, Edinburgh University, The Access Place and other 3rd sector and support services, with Operation Taupe being created.

The group will seek to engage with those who gather at the square, offering support and diverting them from their current lifestyle. The main protagonists will be subject to PSoS and CEC intervention, with enforcement taken where crimes identified. The group will also explore the use of Hunter Square, changing the attitudes towards how the space is used and encouraging more community events and local initiatives.

Analytical work has been completed and this will assist with focusing on multi-agency interventions. The group will utilise a public-health approach, to reduce vulnerabilities and to improve the design and use of the area, yet where recidivist criminal activity is highlighted, use legislation that is available to us.

Making Our Roads Safe - Operation Slowtime

South-East Community Policing Team have launched Operation Slowtime, focusing on speeding, hotspot areas, ASB driving, multiagency events, Operation Close Pass, education and various other tactics working with Roads Policing, local residents, CEC, elected reps and schools/partners to tackle road policing issues and complaints.

One focus is engaging with pupils and parents around parking, ASB and speeding near schools. School Liaison Officers have been visible at key times and have conducted activities with schools (safe crossing), elected reps, CEC Traffic Enforcement Officers and Road Safety Officers. £1300 funding was obtained from the recent Community Grant, to purchase a number of large "No parking" style banners and "Parking Buddies" that will be provided to local schools on a rotational basis, working alongside police to promote road safety.



Community Officers at James Gillespie's Primary with a Parking Buddy.



Positive Working Environment

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

Positive Working Environment

Training & Development

- Police Leadership & Development Program application process facilitated.
- 'Hints & Tips' sheet for the promotion process has been prepared and distributed to Inspectors.
- Cohort of 16 probationers with 3 week's service integrated into Division during Operation Urram and thereafter deployed to Winter City and to support the division as a result of Covid-19.
- ACRA Incident Management Trainers (x6) paper, role profile and advert created for an ACRA training secondment. This role will involve providing training to all E Division officers on the new Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019. The training will take place during May-July, and will be a full day course.
- Candidates for Cohorts 2 and 3 Managing and Leading the Team (MLT) were identified and supplied with course materials, however this course was cancelled due to Covid-19. Cohort 1 MLT completed their 2 sessions in December as well as their consolidation day at the start of February.



KEY FACTS

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Wellbeing

- Wellbeing funds co-ordinated and dispersed across E Division for Business As Usual officers during Operation Urram.
- First two (of four) 'The Art of Resilience' seminars delivered via Teams by Martin Davies.
- Police Mutual budgeting sessions held in order to support staff and officers with managing their finances.
- 'It's the Little Things' campaign promoted within the division, inviting suggestions for ideas to improve the working day, shaping and changing working environments for the better.
- Briefing paper compiled on the Cannabis Cultivation Recycling project.
- Cycling Scotland grant (£9,483) secured for facility improvements at St Leonard's.
- Pilot successfully carried out to develop phased return to work scheme for those on maternity / long-term leave.
- Furniture funded for wellbeing room at Gayfield Police Station.

Special Constables (SC) and Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV)

- SC deployment at the Autumn tests at Murrayfield, across Edinburgh during Operation Crackle, and they were extensively used during Operation Urram in order to support local policing.
- A forum regarding City Centre / Operation NightGuard opportunities was delivered by a Community Policing Sergeant to SCs.
- New one-to-one meetings with SCs will take place twice a year, with the first meetings commencing before 31/03.
- SC deployment planned for Howden Hall initiatives, including LAVRU (ASB), a hate crime campaign deployment from St Leonards, and deployment at the 6 Nations, in addition to regular response duties.
- Restricted duties SCs are being utilised for serving citations.
- PSYV deployment to address antisocial parking at Fairmilehead.
- PSYV in-person training returned to Edinburgh College on 01/02/22, following a period of online training.



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

Mobile Devices



The division is continuing with the rollout of mobile devices to all officers. This is a positive step to ensure our agile way of working progresses across all specialisms within the city, and provides the opportunity for officers to deal with enquiries and administrative functions outwith the police station, thereby increasing efficiency.

Crime Recording

KEY FACTS

Nationally the rollout continues for one single national crime recording database, with the estimated go live date for Edinburgh Division currently being October 2022. To complement the new crime recording system and to increase the public's accessibility, we are also introducing further online crime reporting tools.

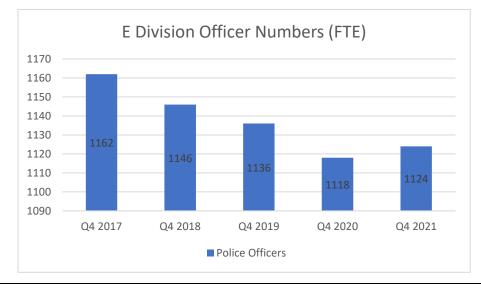
E Division Officer Numbers

The table below provides an overview of changes to the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) officer numbers for E Division, which include our Divisional roads policing, community, response and criminal investigations departments. These figures have fluctuated over the years due to requirements to reassign and realign officers to national projects, including the recently introduced Contact and Assessment Model (CAM) for call handling. Police Officer / staff numbers for each local policing division are available on Police Scotland's websiteⁱ.



KEY FACTS

The work in furtherance of Police Scotland's Strategic Workforce Plan continues. This commits to bringing additional permanent resources to the capital in order to meet E Division's day-to-day demand. Progress on changes to the division's budgeted establishment will be highlighted in this new section of future scrutiny reports.





Crime Statistics

During 2020/21 there were a variety of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and lockdowns. It is recommended that the primary comparator to use as a baseline is a five-year average. Where this is not available, then a three-year average should be used. Where comparisons are made between 2020/21 and 2019/20 caution should be used when interpreting analytical results.

Overall Recorded Crime					
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Group 1-5	19,235	19,040	-1.0	22,740.6	-16.3
Group 1-7	34,341	33,751	-1.7	39,462.2	-14.5
Group 1	642	782	21.8	667.0	17.2
Group 2	949	992	4.5	882.0	12.5
Group 3	9,979	10,163	1.8	13,411.0	-24.2
Group 4	3,345	3,507	4.8	4,065.4	-13.7
Group 5	4,320	3,596	-16.8	3,715.2	-3.2
Group 6	8,887	8,655	-2.6	9,882.4	-12.4
Group 7	6,219	6,056	-2.6	6,839.2	-11.5

Overall Solvency Rates					
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Group 1-5	45.8	38.0	-7.7	38.0	0.0
Group 1-7	58.8	51.6	-7.2	52.7	-1.2
Group 1	73.2	57.9	-15.3	68.6	-10.6
Group 2	64.7	57.7	-7.0	55.1	2.5
Group 3	27.8	20.4	-7.4	25.7	-5.4
Group 4	25.6	21.8	-3.7	19.2	2.6
Group 5	94.6	94.1	-0.6	93.3	0.8
Group 6	67.0	62.3	-4.7	65.0	-2.7
Group 7	87.4	78.8	-8.6	84.1	-5.3



Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence - Recorded								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Group 1 Total	642	782	21.8	667.0	17.2			
Murder	2	1	-50.0	3.0	-66.7			
Culpable Homicide	3	0	-100.0	3.4	-100.0			
S1 Domestic Abuse	106	126	18.9	X	Х			
Att Murder	19	10	-47.4	20.0	-50.0			
Serious Assault	183	198	8.2	268.4	-26.2			
Robbery	164	183	11.6	187.8	-2.6			

Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence – Solvency								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Grp 1 Total	73.2	57.9	-15.3	68.6	-10.6			
Murder	100.0	100.0	-	106.7	-6.7			
Culpable Homicide	100.0	х	х	82.4	х			
S1 Domestic Abuse	76.4	75.4	-1.0	х	х			
Att Murder	89.5	130.0	40.5	92.0	38.0			
Serious Assault	79.2	72.7	-6.5	71.2	1.6			
Robbery	81.7	65.0	-16.7	68.8	-3.8			



Group 2 – Sexual Crimes – Recorded								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 2	949	992	4.5	882.0	12.5			
Rape	188	174	-7.4	154.4	12.7			
Sexual Assault	207	352	70.0	257.4	36.8			
Lewd & Libidinous	93	75	-19.4	76.4	-1.8			
Indecent Communications	124	82	-33.9	85.4	-4.0			
Threat/Disclose Intimate Image	48	50	4.2	30.4	64.5			

Group 2 – Sexual Crimes – Solvency								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 2	64.7	57.7	-7.0	55.1	2.5			
Rape	61.2	67.8	6.6	52.3	15.5			
Sexual Assault	56.5	52.6	-4.0	41.3	11.3			
Lewd & Libidinous	82.8	74.7	-8.1	67.3	7.4			
Indecent Communications	70.2	47.6	-22.6	63.7	-16.1			
Threat/Disclose Intimate Image	43.8	28.0	-15.8	46.7	-18.7			



Group 3 – Acquisitive Crime - Recorded								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 3	9,979	10,163	1.8	13,411.0	-24.2			
Housebreaking Dwelling	428	532	24.3	912.6	-41.7			
Housebreaking Non-Dwelling	683	331	-51.5	577.0	-42.6			
Housebreaking other	273	245	-10.3	444.4	-44.9			
Total Housebreaking	1,384	1,108	-19.9	1,934.0	-42.7			
OLP Motor Vehicle	247	291	17.8	535.6	-45.7			
Theft of Motor Vehicle	422	398	-5.7	562.8	-29.3			
Theft from Motor Vehicle	446	478	7.2	640.8	-25.4			
Total Motor Vehicle	1,174	1,234	5.1	1,866.6	-33.9			
Theft Shoplifting	2,040	2,238	9.7	2,982.0	-24.9			
Common Theft	2,038	2,450	20.2	3,457.4	-29.1			



Group 3 – Acquisitive Crime – Solvency								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 3	27.8	20.4	-7.4	25.7	-5.4			
Housebreaking Dwelling	31.5	26.7	-4.9	27.4	-0.7			
Housebreaking Non-Dwelling	10.2	5.7	-4.5	7.3	-1.5			
Housebreaking other	39.2	37.1	-2.1	33.4	3.7			
Total Housebreaking	22.5	22.7	0.2	22.8	0.0			
OLP Motor Vehicle	14.2	11.7	-2.5	7.6	4.1			
Theft of Motor Vehicle	44.3	26.4	-17.9	28.2	-1.8			
Theft from Motor Vehicle	12.6	9.6	-2.9	8.3	1.3			
Total Motor Vehicle	24.1	15.8	-8.3	14.4	1.4			
Theft Shoplifting	52.3	37.3	-15.0	53.4	-16.1			
Common Theft	20.8	13.9	-6.9	14.7	-0.9			



Group 4 – Fire-raising, Vandalism etc Recorded								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 4	3,345	3,507	4.8	4,065.4	-13.7			
Fire-raising	166	178	7.2	193.8	-8.2			
Vandalism	2,850	2,915	2.3	3,561.0	-18.1			
Culpable & Reckless	320	399	24.7	301.0	32.6			

Group 4 – Fire-raising, Vandalism etc. – Solvency								
20/21 21/22 % change from 20/21 5 year mean from 5 year mean mean								
Total Group 4	25.6	21.8	-3.7	19.2	2.6			
Fire-raising	19.9	27.5	7.6	18.9	8.6			
Vandalism	22.7	20.1	-2.6	17.9	2.2			
Culpable & Reckless	54.1	32.8	-21.2	33.8	-1.0			



Group 5 – Other Crimes – Recorded								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 5	4,320	3,596	-16.8	3,715.2	-3.2			
Carry offensive weapon	105	99	-5.7	91.2	8.6			
Handling bladed/pointed weapon	183	207	13.1	174.4	18.7			
Bladed/pointed used in other criminality	104	134	28.8	88.8	50.9			
Total offensive weapon	572	597	4.4	472.2	26.4			
Supply of drugs	333	247	-25.8	320.4	-22.9			
Possession of drugs	1,574	1,192	-24.3	1,504.8	-20.8			

Group 5 – Other Crimes – Solvency								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Group 5	94.6	94.1	-0.6	93.3	0.8			
Carry offensive weapon	93.3	80.8	-12.5	91.0	-10.2			
Handling bladed/pointed weapon	92.9	86.5	-6.4	92.1	-5.6			
Bladed/pointed used in other criminality	75.0	78.4	3.4	75.5	2.9			
Total offensive weapon	84.3	80.6	-3.7	85.6	-5.0			
Supply of drugs	85.6	75.7	-9.9	86.3	-10.6			
Possession of drugs	96.8	99.1	2.3	92.8	6.3			



Group 6 Recorded Crime								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Grp 6	8,887	8,655	-2.6	9,882.4	-12.4			
Common assault	3,664	4,030	10.0	4,335.4	-7.0			
Common assault - emergency workers	466	477	2.4	438.4	8.8			
Total Common assault	4,130	4,507	9.1	4,773.8	-5.6			

Group 6 Solvency Rates								
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean			
Total Grp 6	67.0	62.3	-4.7	65.0	-2.7			
Common assault	55.8	52.6	-3.3	53.2	-0.6			
Common assault - emergency workers	97.0	97.9	0.9	96.9	1.0			
Total Common assault	60.5	57.4	-3.1	57.2	0.2			



Group 7 – Offences Related to motor Vehicles					
	20/21	21/22	% change from 20/21	5 year mean	% change from 5 year mean
Total Group 7	6,219	6,056	-2.6	6,839.2	-11.5
Dangerous Driving	235	228	-3.0	180.2	26.5
Drink / Drug Driving	344	384	11.6	303.8	26.4
Speeding Offences	541	309	-42.9	522.8	-40.9
Driving whilst Disqualified	113	90	-20.4	116.2	-22.5
Driving without a Licence	471	480	1.9	408.0	17.6
Insurance Offences	1,401	1,024	-26.9	1,110.2	-7.8
Seat Belt Offences	91	105	15.4	200.0	-47.5
Mobile Phone Offences	117	86	-26.5	330.0	-73.9
Driving Carelessly	530	624	17.7	492.0	26.8
Using a MV without MOT	547	644	17.7	842.8	-23.6



Police Scotland's Quarter 3 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 <a href="https://example.com/here/beauty-state-new-market-new-

ⁱ Police Scotland Officer Numbers - Police Scotland



