



# Keeping People Safe in West Dunbartonshire

**Our Purpose:- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.**

## Violence & Antisocial Behaviour

YTD crimes of violence remain 33.3% higher than last year however this is an improvement from Qtr 2 (+72%). 120 crimes have been recorded compared to 90 last year. Increased crime levels continue to be due to a rise in serious assaults which have increased from 43 to 68.

**60% of serious assault victims knew the perpetrator. Half took place in a private space.**

**in the current YTD period, an average of 93 stop search have been carried out per month in WDC**

The total number of complaints recorded YTD relating to disorder is almost unchanged. ASB crimes show an overall reduction of 3.7%, figures also remain 23.8% below the 5 year average. Common assaults have also reduced by 11.3% and breach of the peace and CJLS S.38 by 1.3%.

The detection rate for violent crime remains high at 76.7%, albeit this is slightly below last year's figure (81.1%). 70.6% of all serious assaults have been detected. While this is again a reduction from 81.4% last year, in Number terms 13 more crimes have been detected.

## Acquisitive Crime



**Vehicle crimes remain 85.7% higher**



**Domestic housebreakings have reduced by 29.3%**

Acquisitive crimes have increased by 10% compared to the same YTD period last year. Increases in vehicle crime (n=66) and theft by shoplifting (n=59) continue to account for most of the overall increase. Domestic housebreaking crimes continue to show a downward trend and have reduced by 29.3% YTD. To date 41% of all acquisitive crimes have been detected. Detection rates for housebreaking and vehicle crime remain relatively consistent at 26.1% and 27.3% respectively.



**Bogus crimes remain relatively low. 15 crimes have been recorded YTD which is an increase from 5 in the same period last year. Around half of all crimes reported related to social engineering fraud. The remainder mainly involved bogus workmen.**

## Public Protection

YTD there have been 120 Group 2 sexual crimes recorded which represents a reduction of 18.4% from the previous year. Rape crimes have reduced by 25% from 40 to 30. Indecent assaults have also seen a slight decrease from 53 to 47.

**Over 80% of sexual crimes have occurred within residential dwelling homes**

**Around one third of all sexual crimes recorded have been historical reports.**

Set against figures recorded at the end of Quarter 3 last year, the detection rate for Group 2 sexual crime has reduced from 53.7% down to 45%. The detection rate for rape crime has also fallen from 60.7% to 55.3% however this is an improved position from Qtr 2 (33.3%).



**The number of missing person incidents recorded YTD is 23.2% higher than last year which equates to 145 more reports. Children and Looked After Children continue to be the most common repeat missing persons and account for almost 80% of all missing person incidents.**

At the end of Qtr 3, the number of unique incidents resulting in an Adult / Child Concern being raised had reduced by 3.1% compared to last year. Concerns relating to youth offending remain 25.8% higher, however this is a further improvement on the position at the end of Qtr 2.

Domestic abuse crimes and incidents continue to show a downward trend. YTD incidents have reduced by 10.6% (n=112) and crimes/offences have reduced by 14.4% (77).

**User satisfaction results as at 31 December 2018 show that In Argyll & West Dunbartonshire public confidence levels remain high at 81.8% YTD. Furthermore, figures also indicate 84.3% of persons were satisfied with how police dealt with their incident.**

## West Dunbartonshire

### Local Policing Plan (2017 – 2020) Quarterly Report (Qtr 3 – 2018/19)

## Major Crime & Terrorism

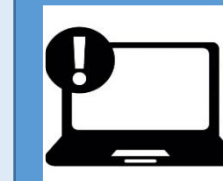


**Across Argyll & West Dunbartonshire 75 persons linked to serious and organised crime have been arrested and £501,438.20 seized under POCA.**

Detections for drugs supply remain 28.9% higher than last year, with a total of 98 crimes recorded compared to 76 last year. Drug possession charges also remain considerably higher with 646 crimes recorded versus 429 last year which is an increase of 40%.



**YTD a total of 13 drug related deaths have been recorded in West Dunbartonshire; 9 confirmed and 4 suspected. Twelve deaths were recorded in the comparative period last year. In most cases the victim had consumed a variety of drug types including heroin and etizolam.**



In total 48 cybercrimes have been recorded within West Dunbartonshire YTD. The majority of these have involved abusive or threatening message or indecent images being sent or posted on social media. To date 19 crimes have been detected.

## Road Safety & Road Crime



**One fatality was recorded in West Dunbartonshire during Qtr 3 bringing the YTD figure the same as last year (1). The number of serious injuries recorded remains lower at 19 versus 24 last year and slight injuries continue to show a marked reduction decreasing from 108 to 60. Overall this equates to 53 fewer casualties.**

The number of road traffic offences recorded YTD remains 14.5% lower than last year however, this is an improvement from the position at the end of Qtr2 (30.5%). Reduced crime levels are largely due to reductions in speeding and seat belt offences. Detections for dangerous driving have increased from 14 to 27.

**Police Scotland Youth Volunteers.**

Police Scotland youth volunteers are in operation in both the Dumbarton and Clydebank. Currently there are 45 young people volunteering in the programme within West Dunbartonshire, supported by 12 adult leaders. Collectively these groups spent almost 2,500 volunteering during 2018. During Qtr 3, the youth volunteers have embarked on a series of engagements including a team building weekend at Tulliallan where they were trained in Heartstart and received an introduction to Makaton. They also attended a community event at Erskine Hospital, the charity Christmas event at St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, Clydebank and were involved in the National Housebreaking Campaign whereby they carried out leaflet drops in the local community. The groups have also assisted in raising just under £12,500 for 6 different local and national charities.

**Working in Partnership**

There has been increased focus around the impact of shoplifting in our town centres and dedicated Town centre officers are now in place in Dumbarton and Clydebank who work very closely with local businesses to tackle this issue. Retailers can help in reducing crimes of shoplifting and for this reason we have adopted a multi-agency approach. During Quarter 3 our Community Safety and Town Centre Officers assisted retailers by providing advice on the steps they can take to minimise the risk of shoplifting. This has been complimented by a combination of high visibility and plain clothes.

**Improving Awareness of Domestic Abuse**

The division is currently working in partnership with the Champions Board and Education in West Dunbartonshire with a view to creating a bespoke presentation for secondary pupils highlighting the new Domestic Abuse legislation and specific issues aligned to cohesive behaviour and sexual exploitation through social media platforms. The aim is to allow care experienced young people and Police Scotland youth engagement officers to deliver inputs to secondary pupils in the first initiative of its type in Scotland.

**National Pilot – Stop Search**

An important part of the direct engagement strategy is the use of effective and proportionate stop and search legislation as a pro-active prevention and intervention tactic. As an extension of recent progress across West Dunbartonshire, a pilot relating to the supervisory management and quality assurance of this process has been put in place. As the pilot draws to a close, initial reviews suggest these measures fully support the continued development and scrutiny of all stop search activity.

**Improved Service - Concern Hub**

The divisional Concern Hub manages all information aligned to vulnerable people, children and adults, who come into contact with Police and partners. The hub identifies risk and concerns and then shares relevant information with partner agencies to ensure appropriate care and support for those individuals and families. To further improve this service a new 7 day working pattern has recently been implemented for staff. This fundamental change will ensure support is further enhanced for the most vulnerable people in our communities in both West Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute.

**Improved Public Engagement**

Social Media is fast becoming an invaluable tool for community engagement. In addition to traditional methods of engagement Police Scotland can now reach large numbers of people with important Community Safety messaging, seek their help through appeals for information, update them on our policing activity and encourage them to provide us with feedback. In the last quarter, the combined reach of the messaging on our Facebook alone was 492,715 people.

**Disrupting Serious & Organised Crime**

On 19 December 2018 police searched commercial premises within the Dumbarton area and recovered a large scale cannabis cultivation consisting of almost 1000 cannabis plants. Two Vietnamese males were subsequently arrested and charged. One of these males alleged he had been a victim of human trafficking.

**Tackling increased levels of Violence & ASB**

The operation within Clydebank Central area continues to be focussed around prevention, intervention and disruption and has delivered positive results within the area in so far as reversing an upward trend in violence and ASB. Police activity involved intelligence led targeting of problem areas, locations and individuals involved in public space violence. A similar operation will now be adopted within the Operation Waterfront.

Given that 55% of all violent crime currently occurs within residential premises or another private space, an Indoor Violence Strategy is currently being developed that will mirror the prevention and intervention approach being used but will focus primarily on two strands; domestic incidents response and problematic locations where ASB /disorder is being reported.

**Vehicle Crime - Targeted Operation**

Following the recent rise in vehicle crime specifically those targeting commercial vehicles, a premises in was searched in the Hamilton area and several stolen vehicles recovered. Whilst enquiries in relation to this are still ongoing, further overt action continues with dedicated nightly patrols utilising specialist traffic and Divisional units throughout West Dunbartonshire.

**Fire Safety Initiative - Bonhill**

Following a number of incidents of wheelie bins being set on fire in Bonhill over the festive period, the West Dunbartonshire Community Policing Team undertook a joint Fire Safety Initiative with colleagues in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. On Wednesday 16 January we carried out a leaflet drop and spoke with residents in the areas affected. Social Media and local press coverage ensured that our safety messaging had an even wider impact.

**Firework / Bonfire Safety Plans**

A West Dunbartonshire multi agency plan was put in place to meet the challenges and demands around fireworks celebrations. This was supported by a wider force initiative which made available Force resources to respond to and support divisional officer if and when required. This proved invaluable when large scale disorder was reported in the Whitecrook area on 5 November which saw police and fire vehicles damage when responding to an unsafe bonfire. The situation was quickly brought under control by utilising local and specialist officers on a quick response basis. Traditional family display in both Levensgrove Park and Dalmuir Park both passed without incident and were enjoyed by all present.

**Twelve Days of Christmas**

Over the festive period plans were put in place that focused on 4 key themes; party safety, home safety, road safety, online safety and shopping safety. This event was supported by a planned social media and press awareness campaign which focused on prevention and safety to encourage and enable persons living working and travelling through West Dunbartonshire to have an enjoyable and safe festive period. It would appear to have been received with one positive outcome being that the divisional Facebook and Twitter accounts are attracting increased attention from the local community.

