



Keeping People Safe in East Dunbartonshire

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

Divisional Commander's Introduction



Welcome to the latest East Dunbartonshire Local Police Plan update. This report contains management information and updates for the year 2022/2023. The report relates directly to our East Dunbartonshire Policing Plan for 2020/23. The report focuses on providing details of ongoing work and initiatives which have commenced or taken place in East Dunbartonshire between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023.

At the recent Scottish Police Authority board meeting, the Chief Constable publicly addressed the matter of institutional discrimination within Police Scotland. His comments have been reported, debated and speculated on in the media and in wider society. I would like to assure everyone across Greater Glasgow that we are taking meaningful action to eliminate racist prejudice and disadvantage and demonstrate fairness in all aspects of policing. Our vigilance has never been stronger with our focus on prevention and more visible conduct outcomes for those who have breached our values and standards.

2022/23 saw an number of football matches and public processions taking place throughout the Greater Glasgow area, which placed considerable demand on officers to keep people safe. We remain committed to supporting the rights of people to gather and express themselves while doing all we can to ensure those intent on causing serious disorder are met with a robust policing response.

To ensuring these resource intensive events were successfully delivered and policed without serious issue, we continue to work closely with partners, implementing local plans to minimise disruption to our communities and enhance public safety, and I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone who assisted.

We also continue to maintain focus on our Public Health Approach, maximising the effectiveness of partnership working to identify opportunities to improve our joint services and enhance the support available to individuals and communities.

East Dunbartonshire Local Policing Plan (2020-2023) Annual Report (2022/2023)

Violent Crime



In 2022/23 the number of **Robberies** decreased by 4 from 15 to 11. This represents a reduction of 33.7% on the 5 year average. Local officers are able to call upon specialist support from the Divisional Robbery Unit. We remain committed to preventing robberies and targeting those responsible

Serious Assaults decreased from 45 in 2021/22 to 37 in 2022/23. The detection rate remains high at 75.7%, this represents a reduction of 23.9% on the 5 year average. It is useful to highlight that East Dunbartonshire houses HMP Lowmoss 12 of these serious assaults can be attributed to within the prison estate.

We have taken proactive measures to reduce this demand, with a dedicated liaison officer working alongside senior management from HMP Lowmoss. This play a pivotal role in reducing the gap between inmates, staff and police to ensure every serious assault is promptly and accurately documented.

There has also been a reduction in **Common Assaults**. There were 529 crimes in 2021/22 compared to 447 in 2022/23.



Over the period **Domestic Abuse** crimes have increased. We remain committed to adopting a victim centred approach to dealing robustly and effectively with domestic abuse. In 2022/23 there were 639 incidents of domestic abuse of which 216 were recorded as crimes.

The detection rate for domestic abuse crimes has increased from 73.1% in 2021/22 to 76.6% in 2022/23 this remains above the 5 year average.

We have a number of strategies in place, such as monitoring bail conditions, ongoing safeguarding measures, and signposting to partners.



In 2022/23 there were 1911 public complaints of disorder. This figure is 21.7% less than the previous reporting period.

Crimes relating to antisocial behaviour (breach of the peace, drunkenness and consuming alcohol in public) have significantly reduced compared to previous years. Breach of the Peace crimes in 2021/22 were 480 compared to 372 in 2022/23. With the detection rate increasing to 83.3%. Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour offences remain low with a reduction from 21 in 2021/22 to 17 in 2022/23, 64.1% below the 5 year average.

Hate Crime



Hate Crimes target vulnerable members of our communities and can have a devastating effect on victims, their families and friends. We are committed to making it as easy as possible for victims to report hate crime. We have 6 remote reporting sites within East Dunbartonshire. In 2022/23 there were 46 Hate incidents reported, with 40 of these being crimes this is 36.9% below the 5 year average. Of the 40 Hate Crimes 18 were detected.

Drug Dealing and Misuse



In 2022/23 **Drug Supply** detections decreased by 13, from 41 to 28. **Possession of Drugs** offences decreased from 258 to 225. The detection rate remains the same at 93.8%. This means that the overall drug offences decreased from 300 to 253. The detection rate for these offences increased from 91.0% to 96.4%.

Acquisitive Crime



In 2022/23 there were 74 more victims of **Housebreaking**. There were 113 such crimes compared to 59 the previous year. This represents a decrease of 57 crimes on the 5-year average. Whilst the detection rate has increased from 23.7% to 30.1% this is not reflective of ongoing investigations and those awaiting forensic results. We continue to be supported by specialist teams.

Frauds continue to be on the rise many of these involving online or telephone scams. These offences have increased from 208 in 2021/22 to 219 in 2022/23. These schemes are often sophisticated and require support from external companies to allow the investigation to be completed, the detection rate has reduced from 20.7% to 16.4%. Many of these enquiries are still ongoing, as we respond to the innovative methods being used.



Public Protection

Sexual crimes have increased by 2 between 2021/22 and 2022/23, from 133 to 135. The number of reported Rapes has increased from 13 to 17. Detections for sexual crimes have increased from 45.9% to 48.9%. A high proportion of these are non-recent incidents which shows a confidence in reporting these crimes to the police, however reduces the possibilities of forensic opportunities.

Public Satisfaction / Complaints



In 2022/23 we dealt with 16593 incidents. During this time we received 43 complaints. This figure reflects a very small number of complaints (26.6 complaints per 10,000 incidents).

Surveys indicate satisfaction levels with policing remain high.

Public Health

The number of people reported missing has reduced from 441 to 321 in 2022/23. A high percentage of these are children being reported missing from one of our 8 Care Establishments. The Respect Programme seeks to reduce police involvement in minor matters, keeping children out of the criminal justice system.

Police Officers encounter people in crisis and this often relates to an individuals health needs. We work hard to improve information sharing, to develop more effective support and prevention strategies. As well as signposting individuals to the most appropriate support. The introduction of the East Dunbartonshire Asset Map has greatly increased our ability to signpost to all of the available support services to provide people with the care and support they need at the time they need it most.



PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Public Health

As a public health partner we often encounter individuals and families in crisis and strive to improve information sharing. The East Dunbartonshire Asset Map has increased our ability to signpost available services to provide people with support needed at the time they need it most and by the most appropriate service. Services can be accessed and signposted by officers from handheld mobile devices. Our LALO role ensures communication between key departments within EDC and Police Scotland. Thus providing the best possible outcomes for the community

Herbert Protocol

Adults suffering dementia or vulnerable and at risk of going missing within the community can now sign-up to the Herbert Protocol. This involves collecting personal information that may assist when attempting to trace a persons whereabouts. An additional 43 residents and many more in the process of completing required paperwork, brings our total to 98. The information recorded/held can be vital in progressing investigations without undue delay. Local officers are reaping the benefits and have been able to locate vulnerable adults in Bearsden and Bishopbriggs as a direct result of their membership. Local Doctors, Social Workers and Mental Health Teams are in contact with our Police Local Authority Liaison Officer and refer patients and clients for consideration for the protocol.

Missing Persons

We have established a Missing Persons Steering Group with membership from core partners including Police Scotland, Education, Housing, Community Protection, NHS , EDHSCP, Child, Adult and Mental Health Services and third and Independent Sector Services. The group provides strategic oversight of partnership activity to prevent and respond to missing incidents, and support and protect children and adults who at risk of going missing. This group provides updates on service's involvement in Missing activity, report progress on any improvement actions allocated to their service and raise and provides governance on the operation of inter-agency protocol.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

Economic and Financial Crime

Economic and Financial Investigation Unit specifically tackle the growing volume of varied financial crimes including cyber enabled and cyber dependent. Through training and collaboration with partners in the financial industry officers provide quality service to those who are affected by these crimes and have suffered significant financial loss. The Unit regularly provide inputs, advice and guidance to front line officers giving them confidence in how to manage enquiries, leading to an effective and sustainable response to financial crimes.

Serious and Organised Crime Group Activity

Local officers continue to be deployed as part of Operation Fallrake to prevent, detect and disrupt any incidents of disorder and criminality involving Serious and Organised Crime Groups that reside, work or are active within the local community. The ongoing operation has resulted in a number of key nominals being apprehended that risk a significant direct or indirect impact on the wellbeing of our communities. Local officers are supported by additional dedicated resources within Greater Glasgow Division and nationally.

High Value Travelling Acquisitive Criminals

Operation Enzone is our response to housebreakings where high value vehicles are targeted by groups from across the UK. Locally this is supported by the Greater Glasgow Investigation Unit who provide specialist investigative support to detect those responsible that are proven to be organised, targeted and forensically aware. There have been a number of detections and apprehensions made in relation to this crime group.

CRIME

Crimes of Dishonesty – Housebreaking

Following the success of the distribution of SelectaDNA in the Hillhead area. Further funding was obtained from the Police Scotland Divisional Commanders fund, with another one hundred kits being purchased for marking properties within Bishopbriggs, based on crime analysis which shows to have been targeted previously. Local Community Police and Community Wardens along with Police Scotland Youth Volunteers deployed in teams to identified addresses where previous victims of acquisitive crime resided. Home owners were then provided with home security advice and the *SelectaDNA* marking kits. The initiative was supported by a significant local media campaign and street signage was used to promote it. Visits to known acquisitive crime offenders were also conducted, to maximise the reach and impact of the operation.

Open Space Policing

Directed by our Multi Agency Tasking and Co-Ordinating meeting, and with the introduction of our priority locations targeting Places, People and Premises. Local officers have worked alongside various partners to create safer parks and open spaces. High visibility foot and cycle deployments by local officers and Community Wardens, along with the deployment of temporary camera from EDC- ensure all areas can be used by law-abiding members of the community for their intended purpose. Partners from the British Transport Police and Scottish Fire and Rescue have deployed along with Police Scotland officers in addressing concerns surrounding antisocial behaviour in and around our open spaces and water at the Milngavie reservoir and Campsie Glen.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Safer Roads

Our Officers remain committed to ensuring safer roads throughout East Dunbartonshire, and routinely attend at schools to ensure compliance with the rules of the road. We regularly carry out joint initiatives with Road Policing, DVSA (Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency) and VOSA (Vehicle and Operator Services Agency) targeting road users by carrying out roadside checks on drivers and vehicles, Speed checks and influencing road user behaviour. We also work alongside Road Policing Unit targeting drivers who do not give cyclists and horses the time and space necessary to complete a safe passing manoeuvre. They will often complete journeys in a manner being unaware of the correct passing distance to be given to a cyclist or completing a pass that compromises themselves or another road user. Operation Closepass targets those drivers and educates them.

Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP)

We are currently working with education, retailers and East Dunbartonshire Council to establish a CAP to tackle alcohol related harm to young people and improve the wellbeing of residents. The CAP will focus on understanding young persons' relationships with alcohol, providing additional training and publicity materials for retailers around underage sales and providing diversionary activities for local young people moving forward. Another result of a successful CAP will be to tackle the rise in calls regarding antisocial behaviour and the negative impact on the lives of both those engaged in and those subject to the behaviour.

Education

Campus Officers provide strong support and facilitate trusting relationships within all East Dunbartonshire schools. They provide educational inputs on many sensitive subjects including online safety, drugs and alcohol abuse, bullying and programmes such as Fearless (Crimestoppers). Officers also participate in the early intervention programme to ensure the most appropriate disposal is presented and considered for young people involved in criminality.