

Community Safety & Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Performance 2017/18

The current strategy for Community Safety & Antisocial Behaviour in Moray covers 6 different themes; Partnership Working & Intervention, Antisocial Behaviour, Road Safety, Fire & Home Safety, Violence Reduction and Alcohol as a cause of Community Safety issues. Each theme has an associated outcome and priorities aimed at improving overall Community Safety in Moray.

Theme 1	Partnership Working & Intervention:
Outcome	The Community Safety Partnership adds value to partners' work and delivers Community Safety outcomes for Moray
Priorities	1. Closer working between Community Safety Partners through the implementation of an integrated performance framework.
	2. Early Intervention begins within 2 weeks of any young person being identified as at risk of offending
	3. Strong communities are able to contribute to tackling Community Safety issues and their causes
	4. Progress against community safety outcomes is communicated to local communities.

The work of the Community Safety Partnership is based on the integrated performance framework of the Community Safety Strategy. Through the Community Safety Hub, partners work closely to share information and resources, addressing concerns via a tasking and co-ordinating process. For the past year, this work has been strengthened further with the introduction of a monthly extended hub meeting where key performance data relating to the strategy is discussed. This allows for any emerging trends or issues to be identified quickly and appropriate actions put in place.

Early intervention is always the focus of the Community Safety Hub, however, within the current Community Safety Strategy, the main priority for early intervention is to target young people at risk of offending and divert them away from the Criminal Justice System.

These young people can come from all over Moray and referrals can be made by any partner agency to Police Scotland's Early Intervention Worker (EIW). The majority of young people are referred due to their involvement in anti-social behaviour and/or behavioural problems at home. In the past year the average age of young people referred to the EIW was 12-13 years old however some have been as young as 9.

The total number of referrals made to the EIW during 2017/18 was 107; down by 18 from the 125 recorded in 2016/17. In previous years, two main sources of referrals were Operation Avon and the monitoring of A&E attendances involving young people and substance misuse. However, since early 2017/18 both these initiatives no longer take place; a fall in drinking in public and rowdy behaviour incidents (see Theme 2, table 1) has seen partners move resources elsewhere while funding has now stopped in relation to the sharing of A&E data.

Although the number of referrals has decreased, cases have become more complex and therefore more time intensive. With the majority of referrals, one to one and group work, (mainly with the Aberlour Youth Point mentoring scheme) has continued throughout the year. Of the 107 referrals that were received, 93% began intervention work within 2 weeks.

During 2017/18, Community Wardens have continued to assist local community groups whenever possible with issues and concerns relating to Community Safety while Community Councils have continued to be kept up to date via the monthly Community Safety Partnership Report.

This report includes inputs from the Community Safety Team, Police, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and if required the NHS and Community Justice Team. It is circulated at the start of each month to all Community Councils and is also published online via the Community Planning Partnership website, Your Moray; http://yourmoray.org.uk/ym_standard/Page_110794.html

Theme 2	Antisocial Behaviour
Outcome	Antisocial Behaviour in Moray is reduced
Priorities	1. Neighbour disputes are reduced by 5%
	2. Incidents of litter, dog fouling and fly tipping are reduced by 5%

The Community Safety Team (CST) deal with a wide range of complaints and issues in Moray. Although not all are reported as part of the Community Safety Strategy, this should not infer they are any less important to the community or that they have no impact on the workload of the Community Wardens. An example of this would be abandoned vehicles. Since 2014/15 reports of abandoned vehicles have more than trebled from 99 to 325 and it is the responsibility of the CST to investigate complaints and ensure Moray Council's abandoned vehicle procedure is followed correctly.

Complaints made to the CST fall into two main categories; Housing (complaints involving Moray Council Housing tenants which are allocated to the Housing Liaison Officer (HLO)) and ASB (complaints involving all other tenancies and in public space which are allocated to the Community Warden Team).

Moray Council has a statutory duty to investigate and tackle neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour within its housing stock and failure to do so could lead to scrutiny or intervention by the Scottish Housing Regulator. To assist the council in meeting this duty, complaints involving Moray Council tenants are prioritised with associated timescales for resolution (see table 1 below).

Table 1: Resolution Times for Housing ASB complaints

Category	Resolution Time	Summary of Category
A	20 days	Very Serious ASB
B	35 days	Behaviour that stops short of being criminal but that could be a deliberate attempt to cause disturbance or annoyance
C	40 days	Issues solely between 2 tenancies and minor breach of tenancy

Performance against these resolution times are reported annually to the Scottish Housing Regulator and every six months to the Communities Committee. Performance for 2017/18 was reported within the Housing Performance Report at the Communities Committee on 26 June 2018 (item 11, Appendix 1 refers). In this report it was stated significant improvement had been made this year with 95.1% of all ASB complaints being resolved within locally agreed timescales; up from 77.5% the previous year and 5.1% above the annual target.

In addition to dealing with ASB complaints, Community Wardens are often required to provide support to the HLO to ensure the timescales above are met. For 2018/19, Wardens workload has been prioritised to ensure this support continues.

In terms of the current Community Safety & Antisocial Behaviour Strategy and Theme 2, priorities for Antisocial Behaviour relate to reducing neighbour disputes and litter, dog fouling and fly tipping.

Table 2 shows the performance indicators that link into priority 1. 3 of these indicators; noise complaints, drinking in public and rowdy behaviour incidents have exceeded the aim of a 5% reduction between 2012/13 to 2017/18, however neighbour disputes have almost doubled during this period.

Table 2: Neighbour disputes are reduced by 5%

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
Neighbour Disputes	296	435	515	460	582	589	99%
Noise Complaints	1102	1170	990	923	777	906	-18%
Drinking in a public place	54	22	9	18	14	14	-74%
Rowdy Behaviour incidents Threatening or Abusive Behaviour, Breach of the Peace, Urinating, Drunk & Incapable (Police)+Rowdy Behaviour and Youth Disorder (CST)	1147	856	603	719	854	719	-37%

Although the increase in neighbour disputes is significant, the context of many disputes is often associated closely with noise issues. When combining these complaints it is clear that as neighbour disputes have increased in recent years, noise complaints have fallen (figure 1) and that overall since 2012/13 the total number of complaints have increased by just 7% (table 3).

Figure 1:

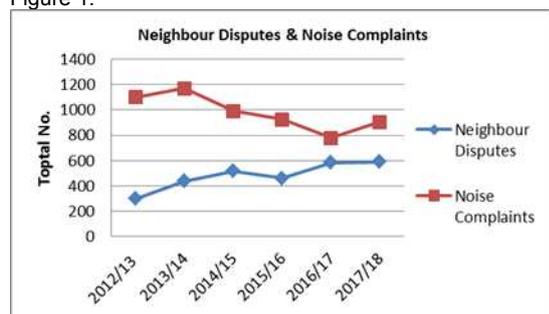


Table 3: Neighbour Disputes & Noise Complaints; combined data 2012/13 – 2017/18

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
Neighbour Disputes	296	435	515	460	582	589	99%
Noise Complaints	1102	1170	990	923	777	906	-18%
Total	1398	1605	1505	1383	1359	1495	7%

Within the current Community Safety Strategy, the agreed baseline data used is from 2012/13. From the total figures each year, it is clear the largest increase was between 2012/13 and 2013/14. Looking at this closer, it is likely to be linked with the changes that took place in relation to the Community Warden team.

In late 2011, management of the Wardens moved from Grampian Police to Moray Council. During the following year, the team was strengthened with new members of staff and a clearer focus for the Community Safety Team in dealing with issues such as neighbour disputes. Table 4 below appears to confirm this shift in responsibility and focus with neighbour dispute complaints dealt with by the Community Safety Team increasing from 78 to 210 between 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Table 4: Neighbour Disputes Breakdown of Complaints

Neighbour Disputes Breakdown of Complaints	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
Police	218	225	234	194	278	285	31%
Community Safety Team/Housing	78	210	281	266	304	304	290%
Total	296	435	515	460	582	589	99%

Taking these changes into account, a more accurate baseline would be data from 2013/14 when the Community Warden team would have been well established within Moray Council. If this is done, table 5 shows that the increase with neighbour disputes would be 35% while overall, neighbour disputes and noise complaints combined have actually fallen by 7%.

Table 5: Neighbour Disputes & Noise Complaints; combined data 2013/14 – 2017/18

Indicator	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2013/14 - 2017/18
Neighbour Disputes	435	515	460	582	589	35%
Noise Complaints	1,170	990	923	777	906	-23%
Total	1605	1505	1383	1359	1495	-7%

Both neighbour disputes and noise complaints are monitored by the Community Safety Partnership each week via the Community Safety Hub meetings. Repeat complaints are discussed at more length at the monthly extended hub meeting with any appropriate actions to tackle the problems being tasked and monitored. These actions can include warning letters, joint visits and the establishment of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts where applicable (ABCs).

Looking back at table 2, and as stated previously in relation to referrals to the Early Intervention Worker, the number of drinking in public offences and rowdy behaviour incidents in Moray have both fallen significantly compared to 2012/13. The decrease in these types of incidents and in particular those involving young people, has attributed to the move away from the partnership initiative Operation Avon. The aim of Operation Avon was to target drinking in public (in particular underage drinking) and the associated anti-social behaviour that often took place. With the decrease in complaints, partner agencies felt resources allocated to regular Operation Avon evenings were not sustainable.

Generally now tackling issues of this nature relies on patrols by Police and/or Community Wardens. If further action is required, a response involving other partner agencies can still be co-ordinated but these are likely to be on a one off basis. Data relating to drinking in public and rowdy behaviour (and those involving young people) will be monitored over the coming year to determine any impact the removal of Operation Avon may have.

The second priority under the theme of Antisocial Behaviour is to reduce the number of litter, dog fouling and fly tipping incidents by 5%. Table 6 below shows that this has been achieved for litter. With fly tipping, a decrease of 3% has been recorded against 2012/13 figures however dog fouling has increased for the past four years and complaints are now 44% higher than in 2012/13.

Table 6: Incidents of Litter, Dog Fouling and Fly Tipping are reduced by 5%

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
Litter Incidents	181	129	106	95	130	122	-33%
Dog Fouling Incidents	140	103	143	178	192	201	44%
Fly Tipping Incidents	327	329	329	193	172	317	-3%

A 44% increase in complaints relating to dog fouling is disappointing however Community Wardens do try to address the issue by targeting hot spot areas and educating members of the public of their responsibility to clean up after their dog. One long term initiative has been 'Operation Typhoon'. This work includes plain clothes and uniformed patrols, media releases, signage and where possible overt CCTV deployment.

Fixed Penalty Notices are also issued when evidence is available. FPNs relating to dog fouling only require one witness however the notice must be issued within 7 days of the incident and there is often a general reluctance on the part of the public to provide a signed statement.

A total of 13 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued in 2017/18 by the Community Warden team with 5 specifically for dog fouling. Of these 5, 3 were paid within 28 days at £80 each while 1 was paid after the 28 day period at a cost of £100. The final FPN is currently with the Procurator Fiscal after being contested.

As stated above, fly tipping incidents have declined by 3% when compared to data from 2012/13. Looking at the annual figures for the past 6 years, the number of fly tipping incidents remained relatively static between 2012/13 and 2014/15 before a significant fall was recorded in 2015/16 and 2016/17. This year incidents have increased back to a similar level seen previously. It is unclear if any specific actions contributed to the two year decline however looking at the source data, the main difference lies with the number of complaints recorded by Environmental Protection during those years.

At a meeting of the Community Safety Strategy Group on 14 February 2018, it was acknowledged that changes to refuse collections and the imposition of new waste charges from June 2018, may lead to an increase in fly tipping incidents. As a result, more detailed information is now shared between the Community Safety Team and Environmental Protection regarding these incidents; including descriptions of what was fly tipped and the location of where the items have been found. This information will be monitored throughout 2018/19 and any trends or issues will be highlighted to the Community Safety Hub for action.

Theme 3	Road Safety
Outcome	Road casualties and fatalities in Moray are reduced
Priorities	1. Collisions and inappropriate driving are reduced
	2. Drink/Drug driving is reduced by 5%
	3. All child seats are appropriately fitted and safe

For the road safety priorities above, data is recorded by Police Scotland in relation to the number of people and children killed or seriously injured and the number of drink/drug driving offences; see table 7 and 8 below. Due to financial cuts, the post of Road Safety Education Officer, previously shared between Moray Council and Aberdeenshire Council, was deleted therefore no child car seat clinics were undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership during 2017/18.

Table 7: People and Children Killed or Seriously Injured

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
People Killed	1	4	2	5	4	6
People Seriously Injured	41	36	41	40	42	29
Children Killed	0	0	0	0	1	1
Children Seriously Injured	5	7	5	2	6	1

Table 8: Drink/Drug Driving

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
Drink/Drug Driving	110	125	114	117	107	125	14%

In 2017/18 the number of people and children killed in Moray was unfortunately the highest figure in recent years. Recorded drink/drug driving offences have also increased (by 14%) however this is likely due to the continued targeting of this behaviour by Police Scotland.

In the summer of 2017, the North East Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy (NESRCRS) was finalised. This overarching document covers the collaboration between partner agencies across the North East to reduce road casualties in the area.

To align with this, the Moray Road Safety Plan 2018-2022 has been devised by the Moray Road Safety Group (item 7 of the Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Committee on 15 February 2018 refers). This plan focuses on the priorities and actions specific to road safety requirements in Moray and meets the statutory duty of the council under the Road Traffic Act 1988 (section 39).

Delivery of both the NESRCRS and the Moray Road Safety Plan sits with the Moray Road Safety Group which includes several Community Safety partner agencies. From a Community Safety partnership perspective, one area of note within the Road Safety Plan is the concern highlighted regarding the lack of co-ordinated road safety education in Moray. This area has been affected by reductions in funding and the council is unlikely to be in a position to address this more fully in the short to medium term.

In the meantime, the Community Safety Partnership continues to provide support for the 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' campaign aimed at S5 pupils across Moray while Police Scotland continues to engage with drivers by providing advice, guidance and verbal warnings where applicable.

Theme 4	Fire & Home Safety
Outcome	Fire & Home Safety in Moray is improved
Priorities	1. We protect our communities by actively preventing the occurrence of fire and other emergencies through the review of risk plans, maintenance of asset database and data sharing
	2. Health & Home Safety in the community is enhanced

Table 9 details the six performance indicators that link into the priorities above.

Table 9: Fire Safety Performance

Indicator	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18
All Dwelling Fires	104	59	50	54	37	-64%
Accidental Fires	232	212	180	204	149	-36%
Fatalities as a result of an accidental fire	0	1	0	1	0	n/a
Casualties as a result of an accidental fire	23	7	9	14	10	-57%
Deliberate Secondary Fires	72	53	52	59	43	-40%
Home Fire Safety Visits	647	728	884	1777	1431	121%

Four of these performance indicators have recorded significant decreases since the introduction of the Community Safety Strategy. In particular, dwelling fires have fallen by 64% compared to 2013/14 while casualties as a result of an accidental fire have decreased by 57%. Thankfully over the five year period, only two fatalities have occurred.

A key priority within the local plan for the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) is to reduce unintentional harm and promote home safety. With the Community Safety Strategy, SFRS play a vital role in ensuring Health & Home Safety in the community is enhanced.

To deliver on this, SFRS have increasingly focused on undertaking Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs). Since 2013/14, the number of these visits has increased each year peaking at 1,777 in 2016/17.

SFRS have credited these large increases to the effective information sharing achieved by the Community Safety Hub. Through day to day work undertaken by council staff and partner agencies, vulnerable households are identified early allowing SFRS to intervene promptly and deal with any fire safety issues. Other partner agencies involved in the hub can also check on which support packages are in place and ensure other home safety issues are addressed.

At the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee on 23 August 2018 (item 9, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Thematic Report – Unintentional Harm and Home Safety refers) it was confirmed that as part of future Service Transformation for the Fire Service, HFSVs will be developed and expanded to become Home Safety Visits. This will allow SFRS to provide a more holistic approach to home safety as soon as a visit takes place and ensure unintentional harm in the home is reduced further.

Theme 5	Violence Reduction
Outcome	Incidences of violence in Moray are reduced
Priorities	1. Domestic Abuse in Moray is reduced by 5%
	2. Risk of violence in Moray is reduced by 5%

The first priority relating to Violence is for domestic abuse incidents, to be reduced by 5% against baseline data from 2012/13. Looking at table 10 below, incidents against 2012/13 have actually recorded a 12% increase. Since 2014/15 there has been some slight fluctuations and, compared to last year, incidents have declined by 5%.

Table 10: Domestic Abuse Incidents

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18	% diff 2016/17 - 2017/18
Domestic Abuse Incidents	636	657	746	721	747	710	12%	-5%

From the Police Performance Report presented at the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee on 23 August 2018 (item 6, appendix 1 refers), Police Scotland stated that Domestic Abuse remains a priority for all staff and that detection rates this year, for those reported as a crime, have increased. It was also confirmed that a Violence Against Woman partnership (VAW) has been developed in Moray and that work continues with partners to support victims and reduce re-offending.

Reducing the risk of violence in Moray relates to two performance indicators; the number of Serious Assaults and the number of Common Assaults.

Table 11: Risk of Violence

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	% diff 2012/13 - 2017/18	% diff 2016/17 - 2017/18
Serious Assaults	36	20	30	44	45	54	50%	20%
Common Assaults	907	993	940	1011	1079	916	1%	-15%
Total No. of Assaults	943	1013	970	1055	1124	970	3%	-14%

Table 11 shows that since 2014/15, serious assaults have increased each year and are now 50% higher than in 2012/13. Over the same period, common assaults have increased by just 1% while combined, the total number of assaults have increased by 3%.

An increase of 50% in relation to serious assaults is significant. However it is likely that a proportion of this increase has occurred due to changes that were introduced in 2014/15 in how these incidents are categorised by Police. Over the same period, detection rates have also increased; for example in 2017/18 all 54 serious assaults were detected compared to just 91% of incidents the year before.

When comparing this year's data against 2016/17, common assaults have fallen by 15% while the increase with serious assaults is 20%. Overall, the total number of assaults has actually decreased in by 14%.

Prevention work tackling violence in Moray includes Police Scotland's 'weekend policing plan' along with the Safer Streets initiative organised by the Community Safety Partnership. Analysis of the 2017 Safer Streets initiative held over the festive period in the High Street area of Elgin showed no violent incidents took place during the associated period and recorded crime in the area was the lowest ever in the 11 years the initiative had been held.

Theme 6	Alcohol as a cause of Community Safety issues
Outcome	Alcohol has a reduced impact on Community Safety in Moray
Priorities	1. Alcohol and drug related offending is reduced by 5%

To monitor this outcome, data is collated in relation to the involvement of alcohol in a number of Community Safety issues; Serious and Common Assault, Domestic Abuse and Rowdy Behaviour incidents.

Table 12 below shows the number of incidents involving alcohol or drugs while figures 3 and 4 shows the change over time in the proportion of incidents involving alcohol or drugs.

Table 12: Serious & Common Assaults, Domestic Abuse & Rowdy Behaviour incidents inv. alcohol or drugs

Indicator	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Serious Assaults inv. alcohol/drugs	17	14	16	17	18	30
Common Assaults inv. alcohol/drugs	294	528	283	232	224	260
Domestic Abuse inv. alcohol/drugs	515	368	316	364	293	238
Rowdy Behaviour inv alcohol/drugs	n/a	n/a	282	324	396	297

Figure 3: Serious & Common Assaults

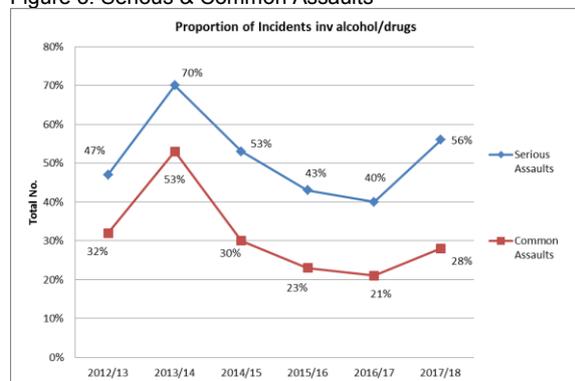
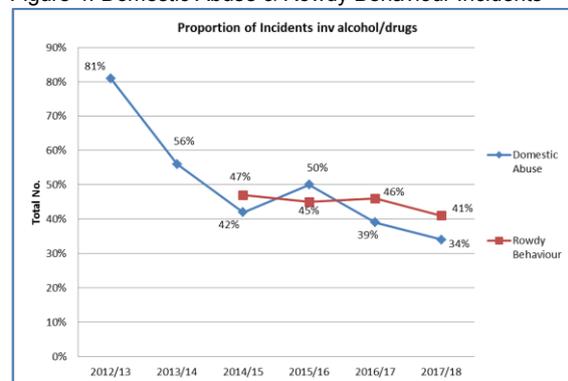


Figure 4: Domestic Abuse & Rowdy Behaviour Incidents



From the information above, a trend is clear with the involvement of alcohol or drugs in Serious & Common Assaults. Both peaked in 2013/14 and after 3 consecutive years of a decline, have recorded an increase again in 2017/18.

Conversely, the involvement of alcohol and drugs in both Domestic Abuse and Rowdy Behaviour incidents, have declined in 2017/18. Baseline data for Domestic Abuse incidents showed that in 2012/13, 81% involved alcohol or drugs; in 2017/18 this had fallen to 34%. In the first three years where data was available for Rowdy Behaviour incidents, the proportion involving alcohol or drugs remained relatively static. In 2017/18, a decline of 5% has been recorded.

As mentioned previously, prevention work tackling violence includes Police Scotland's 'weekend policing plan' and the Community Safety Partnership Safer Streets initiative. As violence tends to be associated with the over consumption of alcohol, an integral part of this prevention work is licensed premises visits which Police use to target levels of drunkenness and the likelihood of violence within a licensed premise.

An increase in these visits was noted during the Safer Streets 2017 initiative while the Police Performance Report for 2017/18, presented at the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee on 23 August 2018 (item 6, Appendix 1 refers), states that the total number of visits undertaken in 2017/18 was 3,594; an increase of 730 from the previous year.

At the same time as the number of these visits has increased (see table 13 below), the proportion of assaults involving alcohol or drugs that have occurred within a licensed premise, has decreased. This would infer that the greater Police presence involved in a licensed premises visit has assisted in preventing the likelihood of violence occurring there.

Table 13: Serious & Common Assaults inv. alcohol or drugs that occurred within a licensed premises

	2016/17 CFs involving alcohol/drugs	2016/17 CFs involving alcohol/drugs with licensed premises marker	2016/17 % involving alcohol/drugs w with licensed premises marker	2017/18 CFs involving alcohol/drugs	2017/18 CFs involving alcohol/drugs with licensed premises marker	2017/18 % involving alcohol/drugs w with licensed premises marker
Serious Assaults	18	8	44%	30	8	27%
Common Assaults	224	45	20%	260	37	14%
Total No. of Assaults	242	53	22%	290	45	16%

Although fewer assaults have taken place in these premises, incidents involving alcohol or drugs have still increased overall which would suggest a greater number are now occurring elsewhere, perhaps on the street or within private properties.

The level of intoxication of some members of the public in the High Street area was a point raised within the Safer Streets 2017 analysis. Compared to previous years, more people were noted as being heavily under the influence and requiring assistance from the Police and NHS.

With rowdy behaviour in 2017/18, a decline of 5% in the number of incidents involving alcohol or drugs is good progress considering over the previous 3 years, the proportion had remained relatively static. However, it should be noted that between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of rowdy behaviour incidents fell by 16% (Theme 2, table 2). Therefore, although fewer of these incidents are occurring, a relatively high proportion continues to involve alcohol or drugs.

Changing our relationship with alcohol is priority 5 of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) for Moray. This plan recognises that alcohol is a contributory factor in a range of issues including, crime, fire, poor parenting and economic losses and so by prioritising this, a range of improved outcomes would be achieved. Work with partner agencies with regards to the LOIP will be ongoing over the coming years.

Domestic abuse incidents recorded as involving alcohol or drugs have fallen significantly since the baseline data of 2012/13. This is to be welcomed especially when over the same period the number of incidents has increased. Police Scotland, with the assistance of partner agencies, continues to provide a process that supports those involved in Domestic Abuse incidents. For those where alcohol or drugs may have been involved, signposting or direct referral is available into support services. This will continue with the introduction of the Violence Against Woman partnership.

Other performance indicators in the Community Safety Strategy that link into Alcohol as a cause of Community Safety issues are Drinking in a public place (see Theme 2, table 2) and Drink/Drug Driving (see Theme 3, table 8).