

## Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

Thursday, 18 February 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee is to be held at remote locations via video-conference, on Thursday, 18 February 2021 at 09:30.

## **BUSINESS**

- 1 Sederunt
- 2 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests \*
- 3 Resolution

Consider, and if so decide, adopt the following resolution: "That under Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting for Item 10 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act."

Minute of Meeting dated 19 November 2020 7 - 10
 Written Questions \*\*
 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Moray Local Fire and 11 - 34
 Rescue Plan 2021
 Report by Martin Tait, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire and Moray
 Thematic Report - Contact Assessment Model (CAM) 35 - 40

Report by Chief Superintendent George MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland

## 8 Police Performance

Report by Chief Superintendent George MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland

## 9 Question Time \*\*\*

Consider any oral question on matters delegated to the Committee in terms of the Council's Scheme of Administration.

# Item(s) which the Committee may wish to consider with the Press and Public excluded

## 10 Police Scotland Operational Update [Para 14]

Verbal Update by Chief Superintendent George MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland

# Summary of Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee functions:

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred or delegated to this Committee:

- (1) To deal with all matters relating to Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Moray.
- (2) To participate in consultations relative to national strategic plans and priorities for the Police and Fire and Rescue Services.
- (3) To work with the Local Police Commander and the Local Senior Officer for the Fire and Rescue Service to set priorities and objectives for Local Police Plans and Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Moray.
- (4) To monitor delivery of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Moray, providing feedback and making recommendations for improvements as required.
- (5) To call for reports from the Local Police Commander or the Local Senior Officer for the Fire and Rescue Service on issues relevant to the delivery of the Police or Fire and Rescue Service in Moray as appropriate.
- (6) To facilitate Community Planning relative to the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in accordance with statutory guidance.

Any person attending the meeting who requires access assistance should contact customer services on 01343 563217 in advance of the meeting.

#### **GUIDANCE NOTES**

- \* Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests The Chair of the meeting shall seek declarations from any individual or political group at the beginning of a meeting whether any prior decision has been reached on how the individual or members of the group will vote on any item(s) of business on the Agenda, and if so on which item(s). A prior decision shall be one that the individual or the group deems to be mandatory on the individual or the group members such that the individual or the group members will be subject to sanctions should they not vote in accordance with the prior decision. Any such prior decisions will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.
- \*\* Written Questions Any Member can put one written question about any relevant and competent business within the specified remits not already on the agenda, to the Chair provided it is received by the Proper Officer or Committee Services by 12 noon two working days prior to the day of the meeting. A copy of any written answer provided by the Chair will be tabled at the start of the relevant section of the meeting. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than 10 minutes after the Council has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he or she can submit it in writing to the Proper Officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within 7 working days.

\*\*\* Question Time - At each ordinary meeting of the Committee ten minutes will be allowed for Members questions when any Member of the Committee can put a question to the Chair on any business within the remit of that Section of the Committee. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than ten minutes after the Committee has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he/she can submit it in writing to the proper officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within seven working days.

Clerk Name:

Clerk Telephone: 01343 563014

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## THE MORAY COUNCIL

## **Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee**

## <u>SEDERUNT</u>

Councillor Paula Coy (Chair)

Councillor Louise Nicol (Depute Chair)

Councillor George Alexander (Member)

Councillor James Allan (Member)

Councillor Theresa Coull (Member)

Councillor Gordon Cowie (Member)

Councillor John Divers (Member)

Councillor Donald Gatt (Member)

Councillor Ray McLean (Member)

Clerk Name:

Clerk Telephone: 01343 563014

Clerk Email: committee.services@moray.gov.uk

#### MORAY COUNCIL

## Minute of Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

## Thursday, 19 November 2020

## remote locations via video-conference,

## **PRESENT**

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor James Allan, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor Gordon Cowie, Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Ray McLean, Councillor Louise Nicol

## IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Superintendent G MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander and Chief Inspector N Stevenson, both from Police Scotland; Mr M Tait, Local Senior Officer and Mr B Milne, Group Commander, both from Scottish Fire and Rescue Services; Head of Economic Growth and Development and Mrs L Rowan, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee.

#### 1 Chair

Councillor Coy, being Chair of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee, chaired the meeting.

## 2 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

#### 3 Resolution

The meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Paragraph No. of Minute

Paragraph No. of Schedule 7A

10

14

## 4 Minute of Meeting dated 20 February 2020

The Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 20 February 2020 was submitted and approved.

#### 5 Written Questions

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

## 6 Moray Local Police Plan 2020-23

A report by Chief Superintendent George MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland presented the Committee with the Moray Local Police Plan for 2020-23.

The Committee joined the Chair in welcoming Chief Superintendent MacDonald to his first meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee and invited him to introduce his report.

Chief Superintendent MacDonald thanked the Committee for their welcome and provided a short summary of the previous positions he had held within Police Scotland before taking up his recent appointment of Divisional Police Commander for the North East Division. He then presented the Moray Local Police Plan (MLPP) 2020-23 for formal ratification.

The Committee welcomed the MLPP 2020-23 stating that it is an excellent piece of work which is easy to read and very informative.

In relation to the increase in cyber crime during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chair asked for an update in this regard.

In response Chief Superintendent MacDonald advised that at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic the level of crime decreased during lockdown however has started to increase to usual levels as time has progressed. He advised that, in the North East Division, compliance with the measures put in place by the Scottish Government has, been broadly adhered to. During this time, surveys have been carried out on various social media platforms to gauge public opinion in terms of police performance which was generally found to be positive with any areas of improvement noted for action. Overall crime has reduced by 10% however cyber crime has increased by 81% and Chief Superintendent MacDonald urged members of the public to be vigilant and ask for support if in any doubt as to whether online communication is legitimate or not.

Chief Superintendent MacDonald further advised that mobile devices have been provided to police officers so that officers can access emails, telephone when required and record information digitally rather than in paper notebooks. The Committee were shown an informative video which highlighted the benefits of the mobile devices according to officers.

The Committee welcomed the move to mobile devices and their benefit in terms of providing a more efficient means of communication.

Chief Superintendent MacDonald provided a short update on the Contact Assessment Model however advised that a presentation would be provided in this regard at the next meeting of this Committee. This was noted.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed to:

- approve the Moray Local Police Plan 2020-23 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- ii. note that the Divisional Commander will continue to report to the Committee quarterly on performance measures against service objectives as articulated in the Local Police Plan 2020-23; and
- iii. note that there would be a presentation on the Contact Assessment Model at the next meeting of this Committee.

# 7 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Review of Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray

A report by LSO Martin Tait, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS), Aberdeenshire and Moray informed the Committee of the performance undertaken by the SFRS locally and in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20, and presented the proposed priorities for the next Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021-24. The proposed priorities are Unintentional Harm and Home Safety; Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals; Deliberate Fires/Anti-Social Behaviour; Non-Fire Emergencies; Emergency Response and Community Resilience; and Non-Domestic Fire Safety including Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires.

LSO Tait advised that overall, when compared to the 3 year rolling average, there has been a 9% reduction in incidents involving fires however there has been a 4% increase in unwanted fire alarms and an 18% increase in special service calls. LSO Tait further outlined the proposed priorities for the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray and advised that, should the Committee agree these priorities, the revised Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray will be brought for consideration at the meeting of this Committee on 18 February 2021. This was noted.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:

- i. to note the information contained in the review and progress made over the lifetime of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan;
- ii. the proposed priorities for the development of the revised Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray; and
- iii. to note that the revised Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray will be brought for consideration at the meeting of this Committee on 18 February 2021.

# 8 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Moray Performance Report 1 April 2020 - 30 September 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 23 November 2017, a report by LSO Martin Tait, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS), Aberdeenshire and Moray informed the Committee of the performance undertaken

by the SRFS locally and in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20.

LSO Tait provided a summary of the performance highlights in the report which revealed a decrease in all accidental dwelling fires, accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities, special services, all deliberate fires, non domestic fires and unwanted fire alarms. During the COVID-19 pandemic road traffic collisions had also decreased as there was less traffic on the road and home fire safety visits had also reduced due to the lockdown.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note performance outlined in the report applicable to annual performance for 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020.

#### 9 Question Time

Under reference to paragraph 9 of the minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 20 February 2020, Councillor Alexander sought an update in relation to the Working Group that was to be set up regarding Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) and whether reduced funding to Police Scotland was impacting the service provided.

In response, Chief Inspector Stevenson advised that he would provide the Committee with an update on the impact on reduced funding following the meeting.

With regard to the proposed Working Group in relation to SIDs, Chief Inspector Stevenson advised that no working group had been set up specifically in relation to SIDs however a working group had been formed due to the change in traffic volumes as a result of increased tourism during the Covid-19 pandemic. This working group had focussed on specific coastal areas and some inland areas and involved partnership working with the Council as Roads Authority. Chief Inspector Stevenson agreed to provide an update in relation to this including SIDs at a future meeting of this Committee.

The Head of Economic Development further advised that a report was due to be considered at the next meeting of the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee on 1 December 2020 in relation to the implications of community purchased vehicle activated signs.

## 10 Police Scotland Operational Update [Para 14]

The Committee was provided with an informative operational update by Chief Superintendent MacDonald, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the informative operational update from the North East Division, Police Scotland.



REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE

**ON 18 FEBRUARY 2021** 

SUBJECT: SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE MORAY - LOCAL

**FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2021** 

BY: LSO MARTIN TAIT, LOCAL SENIOR OFFICER,

ABERDEENSHIRE AND MORAY

## 1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To present for approval by the Committee the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 (as referred to on **APPENDIX 1**).

1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (J) (3) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to relating to setting priorities and objectives for Local Fire and Rescue Plans for Moray.

## 2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee consider and approve the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 and the priorities contained within.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The main purpose of this report is to request Committee to approve the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 and the priorities contained within.
- 3.2 The Police and Fire (Reform) Scotland Act 2012 places a duty on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to prepare a local fire and rescue plan for the local authority area. This can be summarised as follows:
  - The SFRS must prepare a local fire and rescue plan for each local authority area.
  - The SFRS must submit a local fire and rescue plan for approval to the local authority for the area to which the plan relates.

- The SFRS must give to a local authority such information or reports
  relating to the carrying out of the Service's functions in the local authority's
  area as the authority may reasonably request.
- The Local Senior Officer for each local authority area for the purpose of carrying out on behalf of the Service delegated functions including:
  - a) The preparation and review of the local fire and rescue plan
  - b) The provision of information to the local authority
  - c) The receiving of feedback from the local authority
  - d) The SFRS's functions relating to its duty to participate in Community Planning.
- Monitor and provide feedback to SFRS on the manner in which it carries out its functions
- Provide feedback by reference to any local fire and rescue plan in force in its area.
- 3.3 The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 is a 3-year plan and details local priorities, actions and outcomes for the wider Moray area.
- 3.4 The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 will continue to be underpinned and delivered via respective local fire station plans.
- 3.5 This report aligns to a previous report submitted and as approved by Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee on 19 November 2020.

## 4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) The discharging of the Council's responsibilities in relation to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 is of direct relevance to the delivery of the Council's responsibilities in relation to Community Planning and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

#### (b) Policy and Legal

This report is brought before the Moray Police and Fire Committee within its remit for local scrutiny and governance arrangements.

## (c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### (d) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising from this report

## (e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications arising from this report

## (f) Property

There are no staffing implications arising from this report

## (g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

A generic equality impact assessment is available from SFRS on request. There will be no differential impact, as a result of the report, on people with protected characteristics.

## (h) Consultations

A robust consultation and engagement process was undertaken by the Local Senior Officer utilising the SFRS's consultation hub involving key internal and external stakeholders for the development of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The Committee approves the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan for 2021.

Author of Report: Martin Tait, Local Senior Officer, Aberdeenshire & Moray



# LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

MORAY

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## **Foreword**

As Local Senior Officer for Aberdeenshire and Moray and as Chair of Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee, it gives us pleasure to present the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan for 2021. This plan details key priorities for the next three years, how we intend to deliver against these and associated performance measures. This reflects our continued contribution to ensure Moray is a safe place to live, work and visit.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan has been developed as an outcome of a detailed local area assessment allowing for the targeting of resources to those most vulnerable or at risk from fire and/or harm in Moray communities. This extends to and includes within the home, workplace, environs and natural and build heritage.

As a statutory partner, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is committed to continued collaboration and integration within the Community Planning Partnership to support the delivery of Local Outcome Improvement Plans and Locality Plans. Notwithstanding our role within the Moray Community Safety Group and Public Protection Partnership.

A key aim for us is to work together with communities to target our resources to where the need is greatest. It is fundamental that we invest in preventing the problems of the future through a strong commitment to early intervention and focus on "Place".



Area Commander Martin Tait Local Senior Officer (LSO) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Aberdeenshire and Moray LSO area



Councillor Paula Coy Chair Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

## Introduction

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to deliver a range of core services and functions. While the service is ready to respond to fire and other emergencies, it also maintains a strong focus on **prevention** and **protection** arrangements to ensure the safety of our communities. The associated Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 and SFRS Strategic Plan 2019 - 22 sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS.

Our focus remains firmly on **Working Together for a Safer Scotland** and our local contribution to making Moray a safe place to live, work and visit. This establishes a clear and committed message of what we are here to do. Our ambition goes well beyond 'safer from fire'. It means we are committed to making people safer from experiencing the effects of harm, much of which is driven by social and economic inequality.

The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan details the priorities which are most significant within Moray and sets out to identify solutions to deliver a broad range of prevention services which add the greatest value to peoples' lives. A common understanding between agencies and communities of local priorities will allow for better integration of plans, co-production and coordination of services to target prevention activity where it will be most effective. We will therefore increasingly deliver our prevention work through the deployment of our local area community safety action team.

Our safety work goes beyond protecting people in their own homes. We also have a statutory duty under Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 to provide advice and enforce fire safety regulations in most non-domestic buildings across Moray.

To do this more efficiently and effectively across a wider range of community issues and risks requires strong collaborative working with our partners and communities.

The introduction of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (CEA) and Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 reinforces the commitment required of local partners to plan together with communities. We will continue to integrate fire and rescue services with other community planning partner services to prioritise and achieve shared goals in all of Moray's communities.

Early in 2020 we faced an unprecedented challenge in the form of a global pandemic. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, we dramatically changed how we worked so that we could continue to deliver an emergency service whilst keeping our staff and the public safe.

The pandemic is expected to have a lasting effect on society and this will change the way in which we deliver services in the long-term. The full implications are not yet known and this makes it difficult to make any far-reaching plans with certainty. As such we will keep the priorities of this Plan under regular review to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate.

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## National Context

Scottish Ministers set out their specific expectations for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016. This provides the outline we should follow to ensure our resources and activities are aligned with the Scottish Government's Purpose and national outcomes.

Our Strategic Plan 2019-22 has been designed to meet these national expectations. Set against a complex and evolving backdrop our Strategic Plan encapsulates our mission, values and our strategic outcomes and objectives.

Working Together for a Safer Scotland

## **OUTCOME 2 OUTCOME 1** Our collaborative and Our flexible operational targeted prevention and model provides an effective emergency protection activities response to meet diverse community risks across Scotland. support sustainable conomic growth. Safety To work in partnership with communities and Innovation others in the public. private and third sectors. on prevention, protection and response, to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland OUTCOME 3 Respect

To ensure we can prevent the worse from happening or to be fully prepared to respond should we be called, we need to be aware of any new changing risks which threaten the safety of communities or the workforce. When developing our most recent plan, cognisance was given to: our changing population and the forecasted rise in over 75s: doing what we can to balance social and economic inequality; climate change and the devastating impact the inclement weather can have on peoples' lives and livelihoods; and the threat of terrorism.

Our Strategic Plan is supported by a three-year Strategic Plan Programme which provides details on all the activities we intend to carry out to successfully achieve our ambitions. The Programme informs our Annual Operating Plan, which provides specific detail on the actions we carry out each year, and from which our performance is scrutinised.

This Plan is a statutory Local Fire and Rescue Plan. It sets local direction to meet the strategic outcomes and objectives outlined above. It also demonstrates how we will contribute to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs).

## Local Context

Moray lies in the North East of Scotland between Inverness in the Highlands to the West and Aberdeenshire to the East. It sits along the south shore of the Moray Firth and extending further south into the Cairngorm Mountains and National Park. Its area of 2,238 square kilometres makes it the eighth largest council area in Scotland. The area is mostly rural, comprising 70% open countryside and a further 25% woodland. However, in terms of its population, it ranks 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 32 with a population of 95,520 (National Records of Scotland). Just over half the population live in the five main towns of Elgin, Forres, Buckie, Lossiemouth and Keith.

Moray is a diverse area of rich agricultural landscape and is renowned for whisky and scenic coastline. There are a significant number of listed buildings, conservation areas and other culture and artistic assets within the area. There are 68 designated protected areas either wholly or partially within Moray.

The age profile of Moray varies from the Scottish average. In terms of overall size, the 45 to 64 age group was the largest in 2018, with a population of 27,550. In contrast, the 75 and over age group was the smallest, with a population of 9,184. Between 2018 and 2028, the 0 to 15 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-14.1%) and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+32.4%). In terms of size, however, 45 to 64 is projected to remain the largest age group.

The Moray economy is still largely based on its natural resources with focus on agriculture, fishing, forestry, food products, whisky and tourism. The largest employer is the Ministry of Defence with bases at Kinloss and Lossiemouth.

Statistical information on the population, local economy, housing and employment land development in Moray and its main towns can be obtained from the "National Records Of Scotland" website at:

https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/council-area-data-sheets/moray-councilprofile.html

The SFRS participates as a statutory partner within community planning in Moray and this extends to and includes our involvement in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Community Planning Partnership, Public Protection Partnership, Police, Fire and Rescue Services Committee, and Area Forums as examples. In addition and to support wider community safety the SFRS is a member of Grampian Local Resilience Partnership (GLRP).

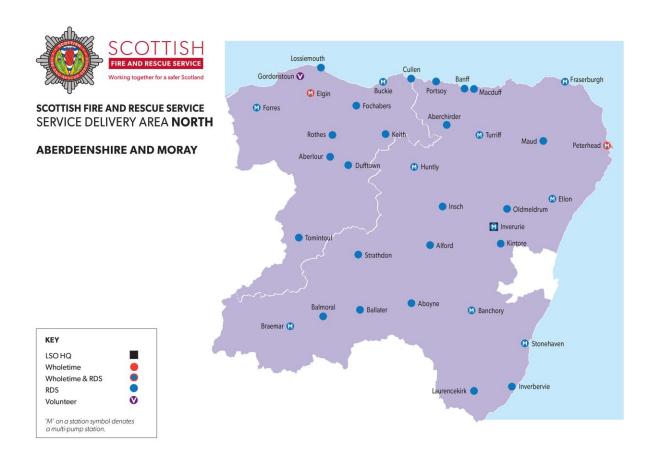
Moray CPP Board formally agreed four priorities for Moray:

- Growing, diverse and sustainable economy
- Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray
- Empowering and connecting communities
- · Changing our relationship with alcohol.

The SFRS locally will proactively support the above priorities through deployment of necessary resources as aligned to the priorities detailed within this plan.

http://www.yourmoray.org.uk/downloads/file118306.pdf

Moray is served by 12 Community Fire and Rescue stations, 1 permanently staffed at Elgin, a volunteer station at Gordonstoun School and the remainder on a part-time basis by our cadre of retained duty system (RDS) staff. This is supported through local and national department staff in Training & Employee Development, Prevention & Protection (Fire Safety Enforcement and Community Safety & Engagement), Response & Resilience, Finance, People and Organisational Development, Fleet and Asset Management.





Moray presents a unique and diverse range of risks for the fire and rescue service to protect and respond to. These range from commercial industry that includes the whisky industry, military bases, marine transport, the vast network of roads, heritage sites, agriculture, an ageing population and associated socio-demographics, as examples. External national and local challenges faced include climate change and the threat from International terrorism.

Protecting and responding to those most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm in the home is a key priority for us. This includes the reduction of casualties and fatalities associated with accidental fires in the home and our contribution to making the home a safe place to live free from harm and risk. This can only be achieved through effective collaboration with partners and will do so through the priorities contained within this plan and support from Moray Community Planning Partnership.

Evidence reflects the incidents of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) and the detrimental impact this has on businesses, economy and our RDS firefighters is an area of concern and as such has been rightfully identified as a priority. This extends to our fire safety enforcement programme aimed to ensure the safety of public, visitors and businesses across Moray.

The SFRS locally attends an unwelcoming amount of road traffic collisions (RTC) in Moray.

SFRS local staff will ensure a continued contribution to road safety and the reduction in casualties and fatalities that occur on Moray roads. This extends to and includes our lead role in delivering Crash Live events, our contribution to successful road safety initiatives such as Safe Drive Stay Alive and our contribution to the North East Road Casualty Reduction Strategy.

Through our wider contribution to community resilience and aligned to our work with the Community Planning Partnership we will explore ways in how we can further maximise the use of our community fire and rescue stations and our staff in communities. The network of

community fire and rescue stations are located in key towns in Moray and have opened our doors to a variety of groups including the provision of CPR life-saving awareness skills to members of the public in support of our commitment to Scottish Government Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest strategy.

The response to, and recovery from, major emergencies as defined within the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 will continue through our participation in the GLRP. These arrangements include the emergency plans and agency specific operational orders and procedures and are intended to facilitate an effective joint response to any emergency affecting Grampian or the North of Scotland. These emergency plans are written in response to identified hazards and are recorded in the GLRP Community Risk Register.

The development of a local youth engagement framework and supporting young persons in our communities is also seen as a priority area in support of reducing anti-social behaviour and incidents of deliberate fire setting in key areas of Moray. As a statutory partner in The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (CYPA) and GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) provides a unique foundation to support the development of such youth engagement activities through supporting restorative justice programmes and the delivery of our Firesetter Intervention and Re-education Scheme (FIReS).

The provision of community safety information and making adjustments to how, what and when we will communicate with communities is an important aspect of our work. The effective use of the media can support communities through targeted or generic safety information to the promotion of events and vacancies in the Moray Area. Whenever possible we will deliver joint safety messaging along with our partners through the use of social media, broadcast, publications, leaflets and newspapers.

In order to meet the needs of Moray and support wider community safety agenda in

Moray the following priorities have been identified and these will be delivered from 2021 onwards:

- Unintentional Harm and Home Safety
- Non-Fire Emergencies
- Deliberate Fire Setting
- Non-Domestic Fire Safety including Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires
- **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**
- Emergency Response and Community Resilience

## **Performance Scrutiny**

The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan is scrutinised and approved via the Council's administration and governance route of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee.

To ensure performance monitoring is consistent with our strategy we will work with our managers, staff representatives and wider partners to develop a comprehensive set of performance measures against the outcomes, priorities and objectives outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

These measures will form the basis of our future performance reports, which will enable us to continue to provide relevant, accurate, timely and consistent data and information to maintain effective scrutiny and challenge both at national and local levels.

In support of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan, there are eleven individual station plans which detail more localised activities and give ownership to our community fire and rescue stations across the area.

The Local Senior Officer and / or their deputy will attend Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee and provide an update on progress against this plan, overall performance, and any other matters deemed relevant to the delivery of fire and rescue matters in Moray.

Local Group and Station Managers, or their deputies, will continue to attend Area Forums.

Local Station Managers, or their deputies, will engage with elected members, communities, community councils and other key stakeholders.

## **Local Priorities**

## **Priority – Unintentional Harm and Home Safety**

## **Background:**

Unintentional harm in the home environment, and in particular, accidental fires, slips, trips, falls and burns/scalds to the very young and old, is now widely recognised as presenting significant issues to the health of the public, as well as the wider impact these injuries have on our public services.

Working with our community safety partners in Moray and across Scotland, SFRS has a significant role to play in contributing towards identifying those at persons most vulnerable and/or at risk, the risks they are exposed to, and reducing those risks, either directly through SFRS, or indirectly through partner intervention. Our key aim is to improve safety, including fire safety and reducing injury and/or harm.

The SFRS is the national lead for Building Safer Communities Phase 2: Reducing physical and psychological harm and champion "Home Safety".

The promotion and delivery of free Home Fire Safety Visits remain a priority theme for the SFRS locally across Moray and these visits will be expanded to include home safety and through a targeted approach delivered to those most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm in the home.

## We will achieve it by:

- Promoting and undertaking Home Fire Safety Visits to those deemed most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm.
- Providing an additional focus on cooking related fires which have accounted for 172 (65%) of the 264 accidental dwelling fires that occurred over the last five years.
- Working with our partners in Moray to share information where risks within the home have been identified and to provide solutions to reduce risk and protect those from harm.
- Focusing engagement activities in those areas where service demand has been identified.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- Number of Home Fire Safety Visits Delivered (broken down by category High/Med/Low)

- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Enable people to maintain independence, improve wellbeing, personal resilience and quality of life

## **Priority – Non-Fire Emergencies**

## **Background:**

A core part of SFRS's activity locally is responding to emergencies such as road traffic collisions (RTC's), co-response to medical emergencies and flooding, as examples. Firefighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for the rescue of persons in traumatic situations.

The SFRS has a crucial role at a local level in contributing to the wider road safety agenda, as statistically fire and rescue operational activity continues to be an area of concern within

Moray for the SFRS, local and national statistics identify that the most at risk group is young male drivers.

Moray has experienced significant flooding events in recent years. The SFRS has a duty to respond to and support communities in recovering from these incidents. The development of our local water rescue teams strategically located across the area has significantly improved emergency response and public safety.

## We will achieve it by:

- Continuing to contribute to Moray Community Planning Partnership initiatives such as Crash Live, Safe Drive Stay Alive and Operation Cedar
- The SFRS locally will support the priorities of the North East of Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy and our contribution to evidence based and partnership led initiatives
- Contributing to the development of local flood action plans and supporting local community initiatives
- Contributing to the Grampian Local Resilience Partnership
- Staff development and allocation of resource to meet local and national need.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- Number of all Non-Fire Emergencies
- Number of Road Traffic Collisions
- Number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non-Fatal)

- Reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions
- Reduction in the number of casualties resulting from Road Traffic Collisions (Fatal and Non-Fatal)
- Contributing to reducing the impact of large scale flood events for business community and people
- Enable people to maintain independence, improve wellbeing, personal resilience and quality of life

## **Priority – Deliberate Fire Setting**

## **Background:**

Deliberate fire setting accounts for a significant number of operational incidents within

Moray and takes various forms. Whilst a small proportion involves occupied buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures (primary fires), the majority of deliberate fires are classed as secondary fires (grass, bushes, refuse etc.) and on most occasions, occur in outdoor locations.

In Moray evidence reflects that deliberate fires can be closely linked to antisocial behaviour. Youth engagement is a key area of work in relation to this priority and we will continue to run our youth engagement initiatives and develop these further to create maximum impact.

Dealing with instances of deliberate fire setting can divert fire and rescue resources from other meaningful activities.

## We will achieve it by:

- Delivery of thematic and multi-agency action plans tailored to meet local need
- Continuing to utilise recognised SFRS Firesetters. Fireskills and Fire Service Youth Volunteer Scheme and our involvement in the Moray "Children's Service" plan
- Increasing community fire safety education in targeted areas where most deliberate
- Continuing work with our partners to develop joint risk reduction strategies to further mitigate the impact of deliberate fires and the economic and social cost to the community.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

All Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires

- Reduction in the number of Deliberate Fires
- Reducing the negative impact on local communities
- Diverting young people away from anti-social behaviour to positive destinations by encouraging them to be good citizens, through initiatives such as Firesetters, Fireskills and The Fire Service Youth Volunteer Scheme.

## **Priority – Non Domestic Fire Safety Including Accidental Primary** and Secondary Fires

## **Background:**

The SFRS has a statutory duty to promote fire safety under Part 2 (section 8) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) to include provision of information aimed at preventing fire and reducing fire deaths and injuries, restricting fire spread and advising on means of escape from buildings. All such workplaces and business premises involved in fire are classed as Non-Domestic Fires.

Sleeping risks are seen as a particularly high fire risk since most fatal fires occur at night when people are less vigilant and at their most vulnerable. Residential care homes and Houses in Multiple Occupation make up the greatest proportion of these risks within the Moray area.

Accidental primary and secondary fires include fires involving agricultural land, forestry and moorland also present a unique risk to the Moray area as it contributes substantially to the local environment by providing economic benefit through tourism, employment and industry. It is a key role for the SFRS locally to promote fire safety to land owners and the farming community and in doing so contribute to making Moray a safe place to live, work and visit.

## We will achieve it by:

- Continuing the fire safety audit programme for high risk premises
- Engaging with the business community to highlight their responsibilities for compliance with fire legislation.
- Identifying trends in building types and conducting thematic fire safety audits
- Contribution and engagement with recognised national and local wildfire groups.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- All Non domestic fires (Relevant Premises)
- All Accidental primary and secondary fires.

- Assisting the private and business sector in understanding their fire safety responsibilities
- Ensuring that buildings are safer, people feel protected and the opportunities for acts of deliberate or wilful fire raising are reduced
- Supporting and protecting business continuity and employment within Moray
- Contribute to protecting our natural heritage, biodiversity and environment.

## **Priority – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**

## Background:

The SFRS aim is to reduce the impact of unwanted fire signals generated by automatic detection systems on service delivery, business and commerce. By doing this we aim to improve the safety of Moray communities and businesses by ensuring that our service is more readily available for genuine emergencies. An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) is defined as a signal transmitted by an Automatic Fire Detection (AFD) system reporting a fire where, upon arrival of the fire service, it is found that a fire has not occurred. UFAS are entirely avoidable through good system design, management practice, procedure, maintenance and the appropriate use of space within buildings.

Key building types will be identified and monitored closely by our Fire Safety Enforcement staff with supportive interventions offered to duty holders and responsible persons.

The incidents attended by local staff not only impact on local business but also on our parttime RDS firefighter's primary employment.

All operational response crews provide advice to occupiers on every occasion that we attend a UFAS incident. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Staff monitor UFAS calls and take appropriate action at the various stages as stipulated in SFRS policy.

## We will achieve it by:

- Identifying premises with high UFAS activity levels to determine if they comply with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and have appropriate fire safety management procedures in place
- Engaging with owners and occupiers to provide necessary support, advice and guidance for developing suitable action plans for UFAS reduction
- Robust call management and implementation of service policy for UFAS
- Educating our frontline emergency response staff to identify problems, support responsible persons and provide feedback to our fire safety enforcement department.

#### **Performance Indicators:**

Number of UFAS Incidents.

- Reduce the unnecessary demand and impact on the public and business sector through lost working time including employers releasing RDS staff to respond to such calls
- Reduce the road risk to staff and wider community
- Reduce the unnecessary cost of fire and rescue service response.

## **Priority – Emergency Response and Community Resilience**

## **Background:**

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities and to make certain that they receive the best possible service. It is essential our firefighters possess the skills, knowledge and expertise to respond to incidents which, by their nature, can be varied in both their type and complexity.

The SFRS has a duty to prepare for and respond to major emergencies. The scope of such preparations may include responding to adverse weather events, natural disasters, pandemics, chemical incidents or major transport incidents. The threat of terrorism also compels the SFRS to ensure it can also respond alongside other partner agencies should such an event occur.

It is essential that we have enough staff with the right skills in the right place at the right time to deliver our services when communities need them.

## We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our staff are developed and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current and future risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances
- Ensuring all known local risk information is obtained, communicated and tested
- Working locally with partner organisations to ensure effective emergency response plans are developed for identified local risks including our own local business continuity plans
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) by way of our contribution to Grampian Local Resilience Partnership and North of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership.

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe should an incident occur
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur
- Proactively helping the wider community by contributing to preventing emergencies, planning to mitigate their effects when they occur, and by adding value through focus on prevention and protection
- Contribute to community resilience through maximising the use of our estate and resources.

## **Performance Indicators**

| PRIORITY: UNINTENTIONAL HARM AND HOME SAFETY                                               |                                                                                                                                         |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| KPI                                                                                        | Target                                                                                                                                  |  |
| Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires                                                        | Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires compared to the three-year rolling average.                                |  |
| Number of Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties and Fatalities                               | Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities compared to the three-year rolling average.       |  |
| Number of Home Fire Safety<br>Visits Delivered (broken down<br>by category High/ Med/ Low) | Increase in the number of Home Fire Safety Visits delivered within 'High' risk premises compared to the three-year rolling average.     |  |
| PRIORITY: NON-FIRE EMERGENCIES                                                             |                                                                                                                                         |  |
| KPI                                                                                        | Target                                                                                                                                  |  |
| Number of all Non-Fire<br>Emergencies                                                      | Monitor all Non-Fire Emergencies and ensure appropriate resources are in place to respond.                                              |  |
| Number of Road Traffic Collisions                                                          | Ongoing reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions compared to the three-year rolling average.                                  |  |
| Number of Road Traffic<br>Collision Casualties (Fatal and<br>Non-Fatal)                    | Ongoing reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non- Fatal) compared to the three-year rolling average. |  |
| PRIORTY: DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING                                                           |                                                                                                                                         |  |
| All Deliberate Primary and<br>Secondary Fires                                              | Ongoing reduction in the number of Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires compared to the three-year rolling average.                   |  |
| PRIORITY: NON-DOMESTIC FIRE SAFETY INCLUDING ACCIDENTAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY FIRES        |                                                                                                                                         |  |
| Number of Non-Domestic Fires (Relevant Premises)                                           | Ongoing reduction in the number of Non-<br>Domestic Fires compared to the three-year<br>rolling average.                                |  |
| All Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires                                                 | Ongoing reduction in the number of Accidental and Primary Fires compared to the three-year rolling average.                             |  |
| PRIORITY: UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS                                                      |                                                                                                                                         |  |
| Number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals                                                      | Ongoing decrease in the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals compared to the three-year rolling average.                               |  |

## **Review**

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once every three years. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved. Following a review, the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

## **Contact Us**

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REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON

**18 FEBRUARY 2021** 

SUBJECT: THEMATIC REPORT – CONTACT ASSESSMENT MODEL (CAM)

BY: CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT GEORGE MACDONALD, DIVISIONAL

POLICE COMMANDER, NORTH EAST DIVISION, POLICE

**SCOTLAND** 

## 1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee about the Contact Assessment Model (CAM).

1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (J) (4) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the monitoring of delivery of the Police and Fire & Rescue Services in Moray.

## 2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Police and Fire & Rescue Services

Committee consider the information provided in this report in relation to the Contact Assessment Model.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Contact Assessment Model is a new way of managing all 101 and 999 calls to the Police.
- 3.2 The Model is built on three elements:
  - Risk Assessments Every contact from the public is THRIVE assessed; calls are considered in respect of the level of Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigative opportunity and Vulnerability through Engagement with each caller, and the level of Police response prioritised according to immediate need.
  - Resolution Teams Teams of trained and experienced Officers, known as resolution teams, provide support and guidance to the public, engage with other agencies to help them get the services they need and carry out

#### **OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS**

- any Policing activity that can be done remotely, such as recording non urgent crimes through telephone or video conference calls 24/7.
- Local Policing Appointments Calls where there is a need for Officers to attend, but not immediately, the public are able to set up local policing appointments at convenient times that suit them.
- 3.3 The public will still call Police Scotland in exactly the same way on 101/999, but the prioritisation of their call and different options available will depend on the level of risk or harm involved, identified through a THRIVE assessment.
- 3.4 CAM was brought into North East Division on 21 April 2020 and has been operating since that time.
- 3.5 The Resolution Team function was initially provided by a temporary team of Officers established in Dundee, to allow time to establish a permanent team in Inverness, with the new North Resolution Team operating in Inverness as of 29 September 2020.
- 3.6 Local policing appointments were established across North East Division as of 22 July 2020, following detailed consultation with local Officers and commanders. At this time there are local appointment frameworks in place for all parts of the Division.
- 3.7 In Moray there are currently 44 weekly appointment slots available for members of the public to arrange to be visited by local Officers at a time that is convenient for them.
- 3.8 It should be noted that in order to support local COVID-19 related restrictions in parts of Scotland, Police Scotland has implemented a policy of a presumption of limited attendance to lower priority calls in areas with greater restrictions.
- 3.9 Therefore local appointments may be temporarily suspended in Moray at any time, as restriction levels are identified by the Scottish Government in response to the virus spread.

## 4. RESPONSE

## Impact on Demand

- 4.1 At this time, Police Scotland is handling over 3.2 million calls from the public, which translates to 1.57 million incidents, with Officers dispatched to 2,498 incidents a day. This demand level is increasing year on year by 6%-7%.
- 4.2 During normal circumstances, the impact of a new method of operating, such as CAM, would be evidenced by direct before and after demand comparisons.
- 4.3 However, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic occurring in the middle of the roll out of the Model in 2020, police demand figures have been significantly distorted. This makes any direct before and after comparisons challenging at this time.

- 4.4 In addition, the primary purpose of CAM is not about demand management, but about the early identification of vulnerability, a more effective prioritisation of policing response and increased options for the public.
- 4.5 It is therefore anticipated that more meaningful data will only be available after 12 months of operation, to evidence improved services to the public.
- 4.6 However, some evidence can be presented around the impact of CAM and the use of resolution teams in Dundee and now Inverness, as a means of removing immediate demand on on-duty Officers in Tayside Division.
- 4.7 Under the Model, an average of 335 incidents per day are being reported to the Division at this time. The actual number of calls being received from members of the public will be approximately twice that number, but through the application of THRIVE, a significant proportion are being resolved by the Police Scotland Call Centre.
- 4.8 Of the 335 incidents, 216 per day are being managed by on-duty Officers attending personally, while 119 are being resolved through the North Resolution Team providing the public with alternative ways to engage with Police Scotland.
- 4.9 The alternatives available to the North Resolution Team include:
  - Recording crimes directly by telephone or video calls
  - Creating appointments for local Officers to attend at a convenient time
  - Signposting to other more suitable agencies
  - Simply providing advice and guidance to the public
- 4.10 This is a significant reduction of immediate demand on on-duty Officers, freeing them up to respond to more immediate needs and proactivity; all based on the THRIVE process, to allow the most appropriate Police response to be identified at first contact.

# Mental Health Pathway

- 4.11 One of the opportunities created by an effective THRIVE assessment process at first point of contact is the opportunity to redirect members of the public to more appropriate services.
- 4.12 An early example of this is the Mental Health Pathway; a collaboration of NHS 24, Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service, which has resulted in the establishment of a dedicated mental health hub within the NHS 24 service centre.
- 4.13 This hub now operates 24/7 and provides a service for callers to NHS 24 who would benefit from speaking directly with qualified mental health professionals and receive access to support and care services as required.

- 4.14 From a policing perspective, the Mental Health Pathway also provides a referral option for members of the public who contact Police Scotland suffering mental health/distress.
- 4.15 Following a THRIVE assessment, those callers who meet agreed criteria can be referred directly to the mental health hub by Police service advisors.
- 4.16 The Mental Health Pathway does not impact on local partnership driven Distress Brief Interventions following mental health crises, but compliments them at the time of crisis.
- 4.17 While the Mental Health Pathway supports the referral of less urgent mental health related calls, it is recognised that a significant proportion of mental health related calls to Police Scotland are not suitable for such referrals, due to immediate vulnerabilities and risk.
- 4.18 As a consequence, work is now being progressed with partners to develop a more sophisticated referral model, which will allow Police Scotland to safely refer a greater proportion of mental health related callers to more appropriate services.
- 4.19 Strategic governance and oversight in respect of this work is being provided by the Mental Health Pathway Strategic Steering Group, comprising of senior representation from each of the national partners.

# 5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

# (a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)

The Moray Council's responsibilities with regards to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 are directly relevant to Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan.

# (b) Policy and Legal

This report is presented to the Moray Police and Fire & Rescue Services Committee within its remit for local scrutiny of the Police.

### (c) Financial implications

There are no identified financial implications.

#### (d) Risk Implications

There are no identified risk implications.

#### (e) Staffing Implications

There are no identified staffing implications.

# (f) Property

Not applicable.

# (g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

Not applicable.

#### (h) Consultations

The Local Police Plan, upon which the performance is reporting, was subject to consultation with elected representatives, and was heavily influenced by ongoing feedback from local communities within the Moray Council area.

# 6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 CAM enables Police Scotland to provide a service much more consistently focused on threat, risk and harm, while giving the public greater choice in how it accesses its services.
- 6.2 It is a way of working that enables on-duty Officers to focus more on immediate need at the time, through the effective management of less urgent calls and incidents.
- 6.3 In addition, it gives greater opportunity to work with partners to ensure callers get the service they need through the THRIVE assessment process at the first point of contact. The Mental Health Pathway is just one example that evidences the potential of this approach.
- 6.3 The roll out of CAM had to be accelerated in March 2020 in response to the pandemic, impacting on the pace of change for local policing. However, it was critical to take this step to enable Police Scotland to have a national approach to the early identification of risk, essential in coordinating the police response the crisis.
- 6.4 In addition, the pandemic has impacted on the profile of police demand, making before and after comparisons for the Model very difficult and it is anticipated to take at least 12 months of information to quantify its impact.
- 6.5 Despite that, qualitative benefits are already evident through the impact of the North Resolution Team to support callers better and reduce immediate demand for local Officers, not to mention the public being safer through the earlier identification of vulnerability and risk.

6.6 Finally, although accelerated, work is still ongoing with the North East Division to ensure the full potential of CAM can be realised for the public, local policing and partners.

Author of Report: Chief Inspector Mike Whitford

North East Division Police Scotland

Background Papers: N/A

Ref:



REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 18

**FEBRUARY 2021** 

SUBJECT: POLICE PERFORMANCE

BY: CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT GEORGE MACDONALD, DIVISIONAL

POLICE COMMANDER, NORTH EAST DIVISION, POLICE

SCOTLAND

#### 1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2020-23 and other key indicators.

1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (J) (4) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the monitoring of delivery of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Moray.

# 2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Police and Fire & Rescue Services Committee:-
  - (i) scrutinise performance outlined in the reports; and
  - (ii) note that the Local Commander will continue to report to the Committee quarterly on performance measures against service objectives as articulated in the 2020-23 Local Policing Plan.

# 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 An initial draft of the Moray Local Policing Plan 2020-23 was circulated by email to Committee on 3 March 2020 for feedback before circulation of the final version on 13 July 2020. The Plan was approved at Committee on 19 November 2020 (paragraph 6 of the Minute refers).
- 3.2 Section 47(2) of the Police and Fire Reform Act 2012 states "a local police plan is a plan which:
  - a. sets out the main priorities and objectives for the policing of the local authority's area.

- where reasonably practicable, identifies outcomes by reference to which the achievement of those priorities and objectives may be measured."
- 3.3 The performance report (**Appendix 1**) provides those outcomes, as per Section 47(2)(d) of the Act, for April–September 2020 for the Moray Council Area. In addition, it is supported with further key indicators to assist context of the outcomes of the Local Policing Plan.

# 4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

# (a) Moray 2026: A Plan for the Future and Moray Corporate Plan 2015 – 2017

The Moray Council's responsibilities with regards to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 are directly relevant to Community Planning and the Single Outcome Agreement.

# (b) Policy and Legal

This report is presented to the Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee within its remit for local scrutiny of the Police.

# (c) Financial implications

There are no identified financial implications.

# (d) Risk Implications

There are no identified risk implications.

#### (e) Staffing Implications

There are no identified staffing implications.

# (f) Property

Not applicable.

# (g) Equalities

Not applicable.

#### (h) Consultations

The Local Policing Plan, upon which the performance is reporting, was subject to consultation with elected representatives, and was heavily influenced by ongoing feedback from local communities within the Moray Council area.

# 5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 This report informs the Committee of the performance of Police in respect of the Local Policing Plan 2020-23 and other key indicators.

Author of Report: Chief Superintendent George Macdonald

Divisional Commander North East Division Police Scotland

# **Background Papers:**

Police Performance Report (April - September 2020)



Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

**North East Division Moray** 

**April - September 2020** 



# **Contents**

- Introduction
- Staffing
- Complaints About the Police Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence and Disorder
- Acquisitive Crime
- Road Safety and Road Crime
- Protecting People at Risk of Harm Serious Organised Crime
- Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism
- Miscellaneous



#### Introduction

I present to you this latest Police and Fire and Rescue Services report on behalf of Police Scotland, North East Division. The report documents a detailed journey of Police performance in Moray aligned to the agreed priorities at both local and national levels, between 1 April and 30 September 2020.

This reporting period was of course heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the significant changes and challenges it continues to bring. However the resilience and flexibility demonstrated by communities in Moray and indeed my Officers and Staff remains encouraging as individually and collectively we respond to this ongoing situation.

During this reporting period we have seen reductions in Crimes of Violence, encompassing Serious Assaults and Robberies and Acquisitive Crime has reduced across the board when compared against the 5 Year Average.

However those involved in criminality also adapted to the changes by, for example, targeting premises unoccupied due to the 'Stay at Home' approach or by moving online to commit offences. Protecting life and property, adapting to changing criminal practices and supporting businesses and communities in alternative ways was the focus of the partnership which helped maximise the prevention opportunities.

Our strengths in dealing with criminality turned more than ever to proactively supporting partners and our NHS colleagues as they endeavoured to provide the best possible care and support to everyone in our community, particularly those most in need of protection from the aggravating factors brought on through isolation, even when at home.

Our fullest attention was on the prevention of 'hidden harm' in the private setting through close working with Local Authority partners and support agencies who work directly with families. National and local messaging to raise awareness in all aspects of offending in a domestic setting were utilised heavily in the media. It is likely that this approach contributed to consistent reporting of offences through continued confidence in the reporting and investigation phases, but more importantly the support provided by the multi-agency support networks.

I would like to take this opportunity to record my thanks for the excellent work carried out by Police Officers and Staff, Special Constables and Police Scotland Youth Volunteers as we strive collectively to achieve positive outcomes, alongside partners and communities themselves, in order that Moray emerges through these challenging times in an even stronger position than before.

Regards

George Macdonald Chief Superintendent

George Pardul.



# **Staffing**

|                              | Authorised<br>Establishment | September 2020 | Difference |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Police Officers <sup>1</sup> | 1114.0 FTE                  | 1045.12 FTE    | -68.88 FTE |
|                              | September 2019              | September 2020 | Difference |
| Police Staff <sup>1</sup>    | 119.37 FTE                  | 119.18 FTE     | -0.19 FTE  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> North East Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire, and Aberdeen City) Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

The authorised establishment of North East Division remains unchanged at **1114.0 FTE**. During the reporting period we were below our establishment of Police Officers by **68.88 FTE** across the Division and dipped just under our Police Staff establishment by the smallest of margins.

There are **22** Constables working in Moray within their probationary period, some of whom have had a very different start to their Police careers, not knowing any different working practises than those implemented during the COVID pandemic.

The Moray area is supported by **8** Special Constables who are valued team members volunteering to work in and support their own communities. The lockdown period changed their personal and professional lives, however this had little impact on their continued commitment to Police Scotland. Indeed, it served to enhance their profile and in some cases provided more capacity for their deployment. This was to their credit as while dealing with change, they selflessly sought to commit more to the community. New online meeting arrangements between them and the Local Area Commander have served to strengthen relationships and visibility as part of the team.

Throughout this very different period, Police Scotland's recruitment campaign has remained strong and will continue to bring new recruits into the organisation and North East Division over the coming months.



# **Complaints About The Police**

| Indicator                                                                | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>2019 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Overall Satisfaction of How Police Dealt With Your incident <sup>2</sup> | N/A               | 75.0%                   | 87.0%                   |            | -12.0%                     |
| Complaints Received About The Police                                     | N/A               | 30                      | 34                      | -4         | -11.8%                     |
| Number of Complaints Per 10,000 Police Incidents                         | N/A               | 25.3                    | 28.6                    | -3.3       | -11.5%                     |
| On Duty Allegations<br>Raised                                            | N/A               | 33                      | 59                      | -26        | -44.1%                     |
| Off Duty Allegations<br>Raised                                           | N/A               | 0                       | 0                       | -          | -                          |
| Quality of Service<br>Allegations                                        | N/A               | 6                       | 5                       | +1         | -                          |
| Total Allegations                                                        | N/A               | 39                      | 64                      | -25        | -39.1%                     |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> North East Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City)

Levels of overall satisfaction remained very positive at **75%**, albeit down slightly on the same period in 2019. We have faced particular challenges associated with dynamic and evolving laws, regulations and guidance during the COVID pandemic but have constantly adapted to provide the best level of service in challenging circumstances.

National communication strategies, complimented by local input from Officers across Moray were key to maximise awareness along with consistent public messaging through partners and Elected Members. Through a continual process of self-assessment and sharing of good practice on a local and national level, the commitment to service delivery has been resolute in our drive to keep communities safe.

There have been **no** 'Off Duty' allegations and it is encouraging to see an **11.8% decrease** in the number of complaints received during this reporting period as well as a significant decrease of **44.1%** in the number of 'On Duty' allegations raised.

A number of these complaints arose from a lack of clarity on Police powers and procedures, emphasised during the challenges of the pandemic. Such allegations are categorised as 'Quality of Service' allegations which have only **increased by 1 in total.** 

Our Front Line Resolution process, which affords the complainer an opportunity to ask questions and receive an explanation regarding actions taken by Police, remains the primary means by which complaints are resolved while ensuring learning is extracted.

Where Front Line Resolution is not suitable or not accepted by the complainer, our Divisional Service Delivery Unit ensure a robust investigation is undertaken with oversight from the national Professional Standards Department, where appropriate, thus ensuring consistency in process. Of the 30 complaints about the Police received, 26% required action by our Service Delivery Unit, with 23% of allegations contained within these complaints being upheld.



Through 'User Experience Surveys' and a robust governance process, we ensure that learning points and areas for improvement are identified, shared and acted upon to improve our overall service to the public.



## Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

| Indicator                                     | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>5 Year Av |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Common Assault - Recorded                     | 473.4             | 395                     | 421                     | -78.4      | -16.6%                          |
| Common Assault - Detection Rate               | 72.3%             | 69.1%                   | 69.8%                   |            | -3.2%                           |
| Robbery - Recorded                            | 4.2               | 4                       | 1                       | -0.2       | -5.0%                           |
| Robbery - Detection Rate                      | 95.2%             | 75.0%                   | 200.0%                  |            | -20.2%                          |
| Vandalism - Recorded                          | 292.4             | 228                     | 237                     | -64.4      | -22.0%                          |
| Vandalism - Detection Rate                    | 30.5%             | 41.2%                   | 32.9%                   |            | +10.7%                          |
| Public Reports of Street<br>Drinking          | 2.4               | 0                       | 1                       | -2.4       | -                               |
| Licensed Premises Visits                      | 1,398             | 366                     | 2,018                   | -1,032     | -73.8%                          |
| Indicator                                     | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>2019      |
| Group 1 Crimes - Recorded <sup>3</sup>        | N/A               | 55                      | 53                      | +2         | +3.8%                           |
| Group 1 Crimes - Detection Rate               | N/A               | 70.9%                   | 83.0%                   |            | -12.1%                          |
| Serious Assault - Recorded <sup>4</sup>       | N/A               | 13                      | 25                      | -12        | -48.0%                          |
| Serious Assault - Detection<br>Rate           | N/A               | 92.3%                   | 100.0%                  |            | -7.7%                           |
| Number of Complaints of Disorder <sup>5</sup> | N/A               | 1,942                   | 1,329                   | +613       | +46.1%                          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Group 1 Crimes of Violence include Murder, Attempted Murder, Culpable Homicide, Cruelty, Neglect and Un-natural Treatment of Children and Adults, Abduction, Robbery, Assault with intent to Rob, Serious Assault, Threats and Extortion and Coercive or Controlling Behaviour.

Group 1 Crime is a term used to encapsulate all forms of serious non-sexual Violent Crime and incorporates a range of diverse offences.

The overall figures for Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour are unsurprisingly framed by the COVID pandemic where call demand and crime reporting reduced as restrictions on movement saw people locked down in the early stages of this reporting period.

The lack of a meaningful night time economy through the associated licensing restrictions also influenced crime trends across Moray and saw a demand shift from public to private space violence, which naturally affected reported street drinking and disorderly conduct.

Following 'lockdown' we saw a partial return to more familiar levels of criminality closely resembling business as usual, however we are aware that this period will undoubtedly impact on 'binary' comparison with last year's figures and will also influence future reporting for some time to come.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> April 2016 - implementation of broader definition of Serious Assault, 5 year comparison is therefore not possible at this point

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Disorder includes Public Nuisance, Disturbance, Noise, Neighbour Dispute and Nuisance Phone Call incidents.



Looking at the figures in more depth there are welcome reductions in Common Assault, down **over 16%** against the 5 Year Average, with a consistently strong detection rate of **69.1%**, just below the national average.

Respecting the challenges in comparison with last year's figure, Serious Assaults are nevertheless down by **over 48%** with detection rates remaining exceptionally high at **92.3%**. These positive results demonstrate our commitment to ensuring that those intent on committing acts of violence are held accountable.

Recorded Robbery has shown a limited increase rising to **4** in the six month reporting period. Detection rates remain strong at **75%**.

Throughout the implementation of Scottish Government COVID restrictions, we have remained fully engaged with our partners across Moray to better understand the implications for the hospitality sector and to provide advice, guidance and support. Indeed, our 'one on one' partnership working has increased and improved greatly as we collectively support communities and businesses through the pandemic legislative changes.

Appreciating that activity at licensed premises has been curtailed we remain aware of the wider impacts harmful levels of alcohol consumption can have in terms of Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence with indications that alcohol consumption has increased and been drawn more into private spaces. This has only served to further drive our work with various agencies to tackle alcohol fuelled violence, provide support to the most vulnerable and promote a responsible drinking culture.

We are a committed partner in Moray Community Planning Partnership's drive to deliver on shared Local Outcome Improvement Plans which include commitments to addressing substance abuse in all forms as a priority.

Furthermore, we are very aware that local communities continue to experience quality of life issues and working together with partners our teams across the area have ensured there is an appropriate balance between enforcement, education and diversion, modified in accordance with pandemic restrictions.

This approach has contributed to a notable **22% reduction** in Vandalism against the 5 Year Average with detection rates increasing to **41.2%**.



# **Acquisitive Crime**

| Indicator                                   | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>5 Year Av |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Crimes of Dishonesty -<br>Recorded          | 504.4             | 466                     | 452                     | -38.4      | -7.6%                           |
| Crimes of Dishonesty -<br>Detection Rate    | 44.5%             | 51.5%                   | 44.9%                   |            | +7.0%                           |
| Housebreakings -<br>Recorded                | 63.6              | 61                      | 42                      | -2.6       | -4.1%                           |
| Housebreakings -<br>Detection Rate          | 29.6%             | 32.8%                   | 28.6%                   |            | +3.2%                           |
| Motor Vehicle Crime - Recorded <sup>6</sup> | 59.6              | 34                      | 42                      | -25.6      | -43.0%                          |
| Motor Vehicle Crime - Detection Rate        | 32.6%             | 64.7%                   | 35.7%                   |            | +32.1%                          |
| Theft of Motor Vehicle - Recorded           | 19.0              | 16                      | 17                      | -3.0       | -15.8%                          |
| Common Theft -<br>Recorded                  | 162.2             | 122                     | 137                     | -40.2      | -24.8%                          |
| Common Theft -<br>Detection Rate            | 27.0%             | 39.3%                   | 28.5%                   |            | +12.3%                          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Theft from secure motor vehicle; Theft from insecure motor vehicle; Theft of a motor vehicle; Attempted Theft of a Motor Vehicle.

This period has seen an increase in reported Housebreakings when compared to the same period last year but this figure remains **4.1% below** the 5 Year Average across Moray. This rise relates mainly to commercial premises, vacant during the lockdown and may correlate directly to the significant reduction in Common Theft and Motor Vehicle related crime. Robust investigative work has ensured a rise in the detection rate of **over 4.0%** against the same period last year and **over 3.0%** against the 5 Year Average. Our continuous drive to utilise intelligence and gather information ensures a focus on offenders being dealt with swiftly so as to minimise the disruption and trauma this crime type can cause.

Recorded Acquisitive Crime has **reduced by 7.6%** against the 5 Year Average with the ongoing prevention work in our communities; the reduction in the number of open business premises and more people being at home with their personal property undoubtedly supporting this effort.

There have been notable reductions in Thefts of Motor Vehicles and Common Thefts against the 5 Year Average, by **15.8% and 24.8%** respectively. These pleasing figures give a clear indication that the correct approach is being utilised to prevent and respond to these crime types.

With the very positive aspects of the Acquisitive Crime returns, we have however seen a rise in reported Fraud, Division wide and in particular in relation to non-contact and online crime types. Analysis shows a continued increase in the use of technology to exploit and socially engineer money from people that is more apparent during the COVID pandemic. Police Scotland have been alert to cyber security for some time and have been working at a national level to continue to address this. The 'Banking Protocol' initiative ensures that banking institutions have a close link to local Policing should they identify a potential victim of Fraud in their branches and in addition to this, the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has launched its cross-government campaign offering actionable advice for people to protect passwords, accounts and devices.



Locally, community safety messages have sought to ensure awareness in communities of emerging trends and to ensure that cyber security advice is delivered to the most relevant audiences.



# **Road Safety and Road Crime**

| Indicator                                        | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>2019      |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| People Killed/Seriously Injured (KSI)            | N/A               | 14                      | 18                      | -4         | -22.2%                          |
| Children Killed/Seriously Injured                | N/A               | 0                       | 2                       | -2         | -                               |
| People Killed                                    | N/A               | 2                       | 3                       | -1         | -                               |
| Children Killed <sup>7</sup>                     | N/A               | 0                       | 0                       | 0          | -                               |
| Advice/Education Given to Motorists <sup>8</sup> | N/A               | 6,126                   | 9,975                   | -3,849     | -38.6%                          |
| Indicator                                        | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>5 Year Av |
| Mobile Phone Offences                            | 33.0              | 39                      | 56                      | +6.0       | +18.2%                          |
| Speeding Offences                                | 109.0             | 187                     | 151                     | +78.0      | +71.6%                          |
| Drink/ Drug Driving<br>Offences                  | 51.6              | 49                      | 48                      | -2.6       | -5.0%                           |
| Dangerous Driving                                | 20.4              | 26                      | 27                      | +5.6       | +27.5%                          |
| Disqualified Driving                             | 7.6               | 8                       | 13                      | +0.4       | +5.3%                           |
| Detected Offences<br>Related to Motor Vehicles   | 852.8             | 866                     | 968                     | +13.2      | +1.5%                           |
| Parking Fixed Penalties Issued 9                 | 530.8             | 105                     | 415                     | -425.8     | -80.2%                          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Child is under 16 years of age.

While the number people killed and seriously injured on Moray roads has decreased, focus is continually required to improve Road Safety.

Our commitment to the North East Scotland Strategic Road Casualty Group remains unwavering and is driven locally through Operation CEDaR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce). We continue to identify and target routes with significant collision histories, appropriately balancing enforcement and education in order to improve road safety and driver behaviour.

Our activity continues to be aligned to the Priority Focus Areas contained in the Scottish Government's National Road Safety Framework.

The 'Rider Refinement' training scheme, designed to improve motorcycle riding standards, was unfortunately postponed this year as a result of the COVID pandemic restrictions. Undeterred, plans are in place for this initiative to return once the restrictions are reduced. The initiative remains part funded by Transport Scotland's Road Safety Framework Fund and is supported by the local authorities. Despite this postponement, Road Casualty Reduction operations ran during the summer months, with a number

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> North East Division (figures area for Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City) figures by Road Policing Officers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> North East Division (figures area for Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City).



of dedicated weekends of action focusing on key problem areas or routes commonly used by motorcycle users. This was resourced predominantly through Road Policing Officers, supported by those in Community Policing Teams.

The increase in speed detections can be attributed to two aspects. Firstly and overall, our maintained focus on priority routes revealed a decrease in traffic flows as a result of COVID restrictions. Volume of vehicular traffic naturally provides a degree of 'traffic calming', however as volume reduced in the pandemic, this led to increased opportunity and/or propensity to exceed the speed limit. Secondly, following an increase in support from the community to identify local 'hot spots' for speeding, we focused Road Policing and CPT resources in these areas, which contributed to the increase in detections. This also provided education opportunities for road users generally and engagement opportunities with residents in these areas.

Under the ethos of Operation CEDaR, joint work was carried out with national Road Policing resources and Officers from the Proactive Unit in Aberdeen supporting local CPT Officers in order to focus on Road Safety and other criminality facilitated through the roads network. The Media Strategy centred on delivering information before, during and after rather than solely as a result of this, as the focus in Moray is about prevention in respect of these operations.

Focusing on mobile phone use and distractions within the vehicle, local Road Policing Officers joined Community Policing Team colleagues in a week long initiative to raise awareness of the issue. Again, reduced traffic volume provided a greater opportunity to detect and report offenders.

Improving the safety of cyclists on the roads, Operation 'Close Pass' was carried out in the North East through a number of days of action. Due to the increased number of cyclists as a result of COVID restrictions and the introduction of the 'Spaces for People' initiative, the operation gained positive local media coverage. Compliance in respect of the safe passing of pedal cyclists in the Moray area was particularly high, with the respect for 'shared road space' obvious to see. This is a real positive for the area and proves the worth of maintaining this particular road safety initiative and messaging.



# **Protecting People at Risk of Harm**

| Indicator                                  | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>5 Year Av |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Group 2 Crimes -<br>Recorded <sup>10</sup> | 108.4             | 84                      | 133                     | -24.4      | -22.5%                          |
| Group 2 Crimes - Detection Rate            | 60.7%             | 63.1%                   | 54.9%                   |            | +2.4%                           |
| Rape - Recorded                            | 18.4              | 19                      | 19                      | +0.6       | +3.3%                           |
| Rape - Detection Rate                      | 54.3%             | 57.9%                   | 68.4%                   |            | +3.6%                           |
| Indicator                                  | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference | % Change<br>2020 v<br>2019      |
| Domestic Abuse Incidents<br>Reported       | N/A               | 485                     | 415                     | +70        | +16.9%                          |
| Domestic Abuse Incidents Detection Rate    | N/A               | 71.2%                   | 73.9%                   |            | -2.7%                           |
| Hate Crime - Recorded                      | N/A               | 37                      | 30                      | +7         | +23.3%                          |
| Hate Crime - Detection Rate                | N/A               | 83.8%                   | 80.0%                   |            | +3.8%                           |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Group 2 Crimes of Indecency include Rape, Assault with intent to Rape, Indecent Assault, Sexual Assault, Prostitution related crime and others with an indecent element.

This period of reporting saw a general reduction in demand in respect of several aspects of 'Protecting People at Risk of Harm'. Notwithstanding, the partnership very quickly focused on the promotion of national and local preventative messaging to mitigate wherever possible the potential for abuse to become more prevalent 'behind closed doors'. It was recognised at an early stage that this type of abuse may not be fully realised for weeks or months to come as victims may not report such instances until they feel safe to report it in less restrictive conditions than those imposed by the COVID pandemic.

Although the lockdown and associated restrictions had a material effect on the levels of Rape and serious sexual offending being reported initially, recorded Group 2 crime was **down 22.5%** against the 5 Year Average and **down 36.8%** against 2019's figure, the number of reported Domestic Abuse incidents has increased, which is a positive factor.

The number of recorded Rapes **remains static**, compared against last year and a fraction more than the 5 Year Average. The victim-centred approach and commitment by Officers to ensure confidence in reporting such offences has contributed to this, as well as the strength of partnerships.

Detection rates for Group 2 crime have remained strong and above the national average. This stems from robust governance, investigative processes and the commitment of Officers to support victims and successful investigations.

As mentioned previously there has been a rise in recorded Domestic Abuse incidents during this period albeit with only a small reduction in the detection rate. The benefits of effectively using the latest legislation to tackle Domestic Abuse, identifying patterns of offending behaviour, using safety plans to build in additional protection for victims and diligently documenting details of the crime to allow for the fullest investigation has contributed to a relatively stable detection rate year on year.



It is important to highlight that detections for bail related offences have increased by 40.6%. At an early stage, it was identified that the controlling aspect of offending does not diminish due to lockdown rules and it was clear offenders were just as likely to seek out the company of their victims. In response we increased proactive visits by Officers to both victims and offenders and support to victims from family, friends and neighbours increased the level of reporting on offenders, all of which contributed to this positive increase.

Throughout the lockdown and periods of restrictions, we continued to work with partners to ensure high risk victims were provided additional support and protection while we also proactively targeted high tariff offenders. Local Officers worked with specialists in the Public Protection Unit and the Domestic Abuse Task Force.

We have continued to focus on and support the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS), the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process (aiming to reduce future harm to the most vulnerable victims and their families), and the management and scrutiny of perpetrators provided by the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) process, where the objective is to protect people at risk of harm by focussing on higher risk perpetrators.

Media campaigns and initiatives have been crucial during this period with regards to preventative messaging and also ensuring victims are aware of the support and assistance available to them. In conjunction with partners, safety messaging in relation to sexual offending to coincide with the relaxing of lockdown restrictions, particularly in respect of the hospitality sector was launched. This links in with national campaigns and also offers development opportunity and longevity going forward.

The Scottish Government led Domestic Abuse campaign was well supported in Moray through the Violence Against Women Partnership (VAWP) to ensure victims are aware that support is available locally and nationally despite COVID restrictions. Messaging was translated into the 10 most requested languages in the North East and sent out through community channels to ensure the farthest reach as possible. This included articles published in local community newsletters and distributed to locality areas, aiming to reach those who may not have internet access. With local radio supporting the campaign, this preventative multi-faceted public messaging ensured focus remained on helping the most vulnerable in our communities.

The use of technology in crimes is ever increasing. In order to tackle the rise in abusive internet or social media messages, collaborative preventative messaging campaigns under the 'Eyes and Ears Open' were delivered that included messages about 'cyber safety', asking members of the public to report any related suspicions. This strategy has been well supported in the North East Division social media channels. School Liaison Officers used social media to promote safety and reach pupils in education setting where the Officers could not physically attend due to lockdown measures.



#### **Serious Organised Crime**

| Indicator                                       | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference  | % Change<br>2020 v<br>5 Year Av |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Proceeds of Crime Act<br>Seizures <sup>11</sup> | £131,154.18       | £66,929.28              | £185,433.87             | -£64,224.90 | -48.97%                         |
| Drug Possession Offences                        | 166.0             | 116                     | 177                     | -50.0       | -30.1%                          |
| Drug Supply Offences                            | 25.4              | 16                      | 30                      | -9.4        | -37.0%                          |
| Indicator                                       | 5 Year<br>Average | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2019 -<br>Sept 2019 | Difference  | % Change<br>2020 v<br>2019      |
| Drug Deaths                                     | N/A               | 4                       | 4                       | -           | -                               |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> A Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City) reported seizures only.

As highlighted above the number of individuals reported for Drug Possession offences has **decreased by more than 60** when compared to the same period last year and more than **30% lower** than the 5 Year Average. Drug supply offences have almost halved since the same period last year and are **37% below** the 5 Year Average. The reduction in drug supply offences is demonstrative of the excellent partnership working and intervention and prevention work that continues to gain momentum across Moray through the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. Through this enforcement, it is clear that the intelligence led and proactive work is having an impact albeit there is a recognition that the COVID pandemic has contributed towards these positive downward trends.

This naturally correlates with the reduction in Proceeds of Crime Act seizures when set against the aforementioned reductions in drug related offences.

Key to the success for all operational activity, linked to the sale and supply of controlled drugs, is creating a level of trust in the community which results in confidence to report suspicious activity. This drives our intelligence led approach, enabling us to target individuals and groups across the area and is brought about through positive engagement undertaken by Officers and Staff in the course of their duties.

Through this approach, Drug Search Warrant execution rates have remained strong in Moray, resulting in the seizure of a range of controlled drugs including significant quantities of Diamorphine (Heroin), Cocaine and Cannabis. This continued turnover is a credit both to those involved in the cultivation of intelligence and to the public in supplying information on those committing drug supply offences.

With these positive enforcement outcomes, it is important to continue to recognise that local people, often taken advantage of in their most vulnerable moments, are themselves victims of the unscrupulous activities of Organised Crime Groups (OCG's).

These OCG's, from out with the area, continue to pose the greatest threat in terms of 'County Lines' activity in Moray, albeit there has again been a reduction in reported incidents of 'Cuckooing' which could also be as a result of the COVID lockdowns and lack of criminal opportunity. National and cross-border partnership work is ongoing to establish support mechanisms and preventative strategies relating to this type of exploitation, which will only grow stronger as pandemic restrictions evolve and in time



gradually reduce. The 'Cuckooing Initiative' is developing well in Moray, with the partnership resolute in their determination to protect people, vulnerable through their own reliance on alcohol and drugs.

North East Division and all partners are acutely aware that the activities of OCG's does not solely relate to the supply of controlled drugs and that these activities can take a number of forms such as Human Trafficking, Counterfeit Goods and elements of Cybercrime.

Throughout the course of this reporting period and looking ahead, North East Division, in collaboration with the local authority, third sector partners and other law enforcement agencies have and will continue to instigate operations to combat activities of this nature. This approach provides an increasingly hostile environment for OCG's who would seek to operate in Moray and which affords residents a level of protection equal to the rest of the Division.



#### **Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism**

Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism remains a Policing Priority for North East Division. Acts of Terror across the UK have demonstrated the significant impact and harm that can be caused in our communities. This as we have seen is not always carried out by organised groups, but often by vulnerable people who have been exploited, radicalised or who have aligned their views with an ideology to harm others. We will continue to work together to keep individuals and our communities safe.

The nationally assessed threat to the UK from Terrorism is **SUBSTANTIAL** (an attack is likely). This threat level incorporates the 'Threat of Ireland Related Terrorism' previously assessed separately.

North East Division continues to play a key role in protecting communities. Our innovative approaches, developed locally with partners, has seen notable successful practises embedded into public and private sectors.

Our strong local partnerships have been further developed under the North East CONTEST Multi-Agency Board and Prevent Delivery Group which includes the NHS, Emergency Services, Military, Scottish Government, Local Authorities, local businesses, right through to transport agencies and ports. With strength coming from its diversity, the group effectively delivers on the key principles of the national CONTEST model; **Prevent, Pursue, Protect** and **Prepare**.

In Moray, Local CONTEST Liaison Officers (LCLOs) continue to have an important role, which is carried out in addition to their core duties. They remain an important asset to our Policing teams and not only provide information and guidance to communities but also develop the knowledge of colleagues in these important matters. This work strikes right into the heart of the community day to day and is supported by Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSA's) where specialist support is required.



# <u>Miscellaneous</u>

# Stop and Search

| Indicator                                      | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020 | Apr 2020 -<br>Sept 2020<br>(positive) |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Consensual                                     | 0                       | -                                     |
| Legislative                                    | 160                     | 48                                    |
| Number of Consensual Stop and Searches Refused | 0                       | -                                     |

