



Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

Thursday, 20 February 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the **Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee** is to be held at **Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX** on **Thursday, 20 February 2020** 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."

4 Minute of Meeting dated 21 November 2019 **5 - 8**

5 Written Questions **9 - 10**

6 Police Performance Report - April to September 2019 **11 - 38**

Report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland

7 Thematic Report - Communications **39 - 44**

Report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson, Divisional Police Commander, North East Division, Police Scotland

8	Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	45 - 48
	Report by Local Senior Officer Martin Tait, Aberdeenshire & Moray Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	
9	Question Time	49 - 50

**Item which the Committee may wish to consider with the
Press and Public excluded**

10 Police Scotland Operational Update

- Information relating to action taken, or to be taken, in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

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: Caroline Howie

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THE MORAY COUNCIL

Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

SEDERUNT

Councillor Paula Coy (Chair)
Councillor Louise Laing (Depute Chair)
Councillor George Alexander (Member)
Councillor James Allan (Member)
Councillor Theresa Coull (Member)
Councillor John Divers (Member)
Councillor Tim Eagle (Member)
Councillor Donald Gatt (Member)
Councillor Graham Leadbitter (Member)

Clerk Name: Caroline Howie
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Minute of Meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

Thursday, 21 November 2019

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

PRESENT

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor James Allan, Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Louise Laing, Councillor Graham Leadbitter

APOLOGIES

Councillor Theresa Coull

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Grant Nicoll, Group Manager, Moray Area, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson and Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson, both Police Scotland; Ms Karen Sievwright, Environmental Health and Trading Standards Manager and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

1 Chair of Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Coy.

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 of Spokespersons in regards 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
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5	14
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4 Written Questions **

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5 Minute of Meeting dated 22 August 2019

The Minute of the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee dated 22 August 2019 was submitted and approved.

6 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Moray Performance Report 1 April 2019 - 31 October 2019

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting dated 23 November 2017 a report by Local Senior Officer Martin Tait, Aberdeenshire & Moray Scottish Fire and Rescue Service informed the Committee of the performance undertaken by Scottish Fire and Rescue locally and in respect of the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-20.

Councillor Divers was of the opinion that figures for unwanted fire alarm signals had plateaued and sought clarification on how numbers compared with 10 to 15 years ago.

In response Mr Nicoll advised he didn't have the figures to hand but could provide information to the next meeting.

Thereafter the Chair requested a thematic report to the next Committee on unwanted fire alarm signals including information on the equipment used and steps being taken to improve numbers.

As no one was otherwise minded Mr Nicoll undertook to present a thematic report on unwanted fire alarm signals to the next meeting of the Committee.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to:

- i. note performance outlined in the report applicable to annual performance for 1 April 2019 to 31 October 2019; and
- ii. seek a report on equipment used and steps taken to reduce the number of unwanted fire alarm signals.

7 Police Performance Update

A verbal report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson provided Committee with an update on Police Performance.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the informative verbal performance update from Police Scotland.

8 Thematic Report - Rural Crime

A report by Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson informed Committee about Rural Crime.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the information provided in the report in relation to Rural Crime.

9 Question Time ***

There were no questions raised.

10 Police Operational Update [Para 4]

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the informative verbal operational update from Police Scotland.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS



REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: POLICE PERFORMANCE – APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2019

**BY: CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CAMPBELL THOMSON, 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 2017-20 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 and 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 2017-20 Local Policing Plan.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 An initial draft of The Moray Local Policing Plan 2017-20 was circulated by email to Committee on 7 February 2017 for information and presented for consultation / feedback at Committee on 16 February 2017 (paragraph 7 of the minute refers). Following local elections a revised copy of the plan was presented to Committee on 1 June 2017 (paragraph 13 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.

- b. 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 the last quarter of the year 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) 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 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 2017-20 and other key indicators.

Author of Report: Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson,
Divisional Commander
North East Division
Police Scotland

Background Papers:

- Police Performance Report (April 2019 - September 2019)



Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

**North East Division
Moray**

April - September 2019



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Introduction

I am pleased to present this latest Police and Fire and Rescue Services report on behalf of Police Scotland, North East Division. This report provides a detailed account of Police performance in Moray in support of agreed priorities, both local and national, between 1 April and 30 September 2019.

During this reporting period, we have seen a significant decline in Crimes of Violence with decreases in Robbery and Serious Assaults being of particular note. When combined with the reduction in Theft by Housebreaking, there is clear evidence that in partnership we are reducing the types of crimes which affect our communities the most.

Proactivity is our strength when tackling Serious and Organised Crime in Moray, which we continue to do with unreserved determination, striving to protect the vulnerable in our communities and target those intent on causing harm. This is further evidenced in the increased seizure of criminal assets and in the development of a 'Cuckooing' initiative for Moray.

While the picture appears to be improving in terms of road casualty reduction we are acutely aware that work must continue with partners to improve road safety and reduce the numbers of people killed or injured on our roads.

The prevention of Domestic Abuse remains a priority and we are committed to ensuring that victims can come forward and report such criminality with confidence. We have embraced change in the form of enhanced training for our staff aligned to the new legislation which is designed to also tackle coercive behaviour.

I would wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson and his team of Police Officers, Police Staff, Special Constables and indeed our Police Scotland Youth Volunteers as we collectively strive with partners and communities themselves to make Moray an even safer place to live, work and visit.

Regards

Campbell Thomson
Chief Superintendent
North East Division
Police Scotland



Staffing

	Authorised Establishment	September 2019	Difference
Police Officers ¹	1114.0 FTE	1092.9 FTE	-21.1 FTE
	September 2018	September 2019	Difference
Police Staff ¹	117.35 FTE	119.37 FTE	+2.02 FTE

¹ North East Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire, and Aberdeen City) Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

The authorised establishment of North East Division remains at **1114.0 FTE**. At the moment we are above our establishment for Police staff by **2.02 FTE** and below our Police Officer establishment by **21.1 FTE**, which can be attributed to the influence of retirals, resignations and transfers.

We currently have **13** Probationer Constables working in Moray with **2** due to start on their teams in the coming weeks.

These teams are supported by **8** Special Constables whose continued support is invaluable and as with Police Officers, we actively seek to bring new Special Constables into the Division through our ongoing recruitment processes.

In this regard we are due to welcome **25** new Police Officers to the Division in March, followed by a further **25** in June.



Complaints About The Police

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 2018
Overall Satisfaction of How Police Dealt With Your incident ²	N/A	87.0%	86.6%		+0.4%
Complaints Received About The Police	N/A	34	36	-2	-5.6%
Number of Complaints Per 10,000 Police Incidents	N/A	28.6	30.3	-1.7	-5.6%
On Duty Allegations Raised	N/A	59	74	-15	-20.3%
Off Duty Allegations Raised	N/A	0	0	0	-
Quality of Service Allegations	N/A	5	11	-6	-54.5%
Total Allegations	N/A	64	85	-21	-24.7%

² North East Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City)

Levels of overall satisfaction remain high at **87%**, an increase of **0.4%** on 2018's figure and above the **83.3%** national average. Through weekly and monthly surveys we ensure that any learning points and areas for improvement are identified and subsequently shared across the Division with the aim of improving and developing the service provided. We see a reflection of this level of satisfaction in the letters of thanks we regularly receive from members of the public.

In this reporting period the number of Complaints received about the Police in Moray has **decreased by 5.6%**, with an **equal decrease** in the number of Complaints per 10,000 police incidents.

The number of On Duty allegations has reduced by **15** allegations in comparison to last year. In addition, there have been no Off Duty allegations raised.

Of particular note, the number of Quality of Service allegations received has significantly **reduced by 54.5%** from 85 to 64 and in total the number of allegations made have also decreased by **21**, a drop of **24.7%**.

From extensive experience we understand that a significant percentage of Complaints stem from a lack of awareness regarding Police powers and procedures. As such the majority of Complaints received across the North East are resolved through the Front Line Resolution process which affords the complainer an opportunity to ask questions and receive an explanation regarding the actions taken by Police.

Where Complaints are not resolved by Front Line Resolution our Service Delivery team ensure a full investigation making use of the support and assistance of the National Professional Standards Department where appropriate. This model ensures consistent and timeous investigations which are important components in any Complaint handling process.

Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 5 Year Av
Common Assault - Recorded	482.0	416	479	-66	-13.7%
Common Assault - Detection Rate	73.4%	70.9%	71.6%		-2.5%
Robbery - Recorded	4.8	1	9	-3.8	-79.2%
Robbery - Detection Rate	87.5%	200.0%	100.0%		+112.5%
Vandalism - Recorded	304.8	241	257	-63.8	-20.9%
Vandalism - Detection Rate	29.9%	34.4%	38.1%		+4.5%
Public Reports of Street Drinking	3.2	1	2	-2.2	-68.8%
Licensed Premises Visits	1475	2018	1529	+543	+36.8%
Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 2018
Group 1 Crimes - Recorded ⁴	N/A	53	48	N/A	N/A
Group 1 Crimes - Detection Rate	N/A	81.1%	89.6%		N/A
Serious Assault - Recorded ³	N/A	25	29	-4	-13.8%
Serious Assault - Detection Rate	N/A	100.0%	93.1%		+6.9%
Number of Complaints of Disorder ⁵	N/A	1,328	1,522	-194	-12.7%

³ April 2016 - implementation of broader definition of Serious Assault, 5 year comparison is therefore not possible at this point

⁴ 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, and Threats and extortion.

⁵ Disorder includes Public Nuisance, Disturbance, Noise, Neighbour Dispute and Nuisance Phone Call incidents.

Group 1 Crime is a term used to encapsulate all forms of serious non-sexual Violent Crime and incorporates a range of diverse offences. This reporting period has seen the inclusion of Section 1 of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act to this category of offences. These offences relate to Coercive or Controlling Behaviour and are 'mapped' to Group 1 Crime reflecting the gravity of this type of offending.

It is important to highlight that these offences were not included in last year's figure and as such there is no comparison with 2018 shown. However, and encouragingly, when the 20 domestic related offences which were recorded during this reporting period are excluded, the 'like for like' comparison with last year's figure means that in fact we have **reduced** Group 1 Crime.



I am pleased to report that in this period Violent Crime in general terms has decreased with detection rates remaining strong.

Robberies for example, have seen a significant reduction with only **1** being reported, compared to 9 in the same period last year. This single crime is a **79% reduction** when set against the 5 Year Average.

The detection rate for Robberies has risen to **200%**, which is explained by the single Robbery being detected, along with a Robbery being detected during this reporting period which took place in the previous period.

Furthermore Serious Assaults have **reduced by 13.8%** when compared to the same period last year and Common Assaults have **reduced by 13.7%** in comparison to the 5 Year Average.

While these figures are positive it is however no cause for complacency and we will continue with a robust focus on these areas in order to maintain these reductions. This will be delivered through high visibility patrols, Licensed Premises visits, the monitoring of high risk offenders and working innovatively with partners in all sectors.

One example of these partnerships at work was during June 2019 at a dance event at the Town Hall in Elgin, where our Officers, Security Staff, the Town Hall Committee, NHS, Street Pastors and RAF Police came together to ensure that the several hundred people in attendance could do so safely and responsibly, deterring violence and substance misuse through a highly visible presence.

This reporting period has seen a notable **20.9% reduction** in Vandalism offences, supported by a **4.5%** increase in the detection rate against the 5 Year Average.

Local Policing Inspectors understand their respective areas well and undertake regular initiatives with partners, which goes some way to explaining these positive figures. Problem areas have been identified through community engagement and collaborative strategies set in place. This has been demonstrated in local schools where School Liaison Officers have raised awareness among pupils of the detrimental effect Anti-Social Behaviour and Vandalism has on community wellbeing.

Delivering on Locality Plans in New Elgin East, Moray Officers supported and attended the New Elgin East Community Action Plan launch, highlighting the strength and benefits of the partnership in the community. With over 500 people in attendance our Community Policing Officers, Road Policing and Special Constables took the opportunity to highlight how North East Division are integrated into the strategy and the benefits of this to the Locality.

These factors are all contributing to the significant reductions in these crime types and the increase in diversionary community based activities that will continue to add value to the people of Moray and reduce crime.

Acquisitive Crime

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 5 Year Av
Crimes of Dishonesty - Recorded	540.0	471	457	-69.0	-12.8%
Crimes of Dishonesty - Detection Rate	42.1%	44.6%	54.0%		+2.5%
Housebreakings - Recorded	77.2	44	52	-33.2	-43.0%
Housebreakings - Detection Rate	24.9%	29.5%	36.5%		+4.6%
Motor Vehicle Crime - Recorded ⁶	65.8	44	43	-21.8	-33.1%
Motor Vehicle Crime - Detection Rate	34.3%	45.5%	34.9%		+11.2%
Theft of Motor Vehicle - Recorded	20.4	17	14	-3.4	-16.7%
Common Theft - Recorded	180.8	140	149	-40.8	-22.6%
Common Theft - Detection Rate	26.0%	27.9%	26.2%		+1.9%

⁶ Theft from secure motor vehicle; Theft from insecure motor vehicle; Theft of a motor vehicle; Attempted Theft of a Motor Vehicle.

Housebreaking and Thefts from Vehicles have reduced by **43%** and **33.1%** respectively across Moray during this reporting period compared to the 5 Year Average and remain some of the lowest levels recorded.

Overall Acquisitive Crime, while up slightly on last year (14 crimes), has fallen by over **12%** against the 5 Year Average and the detection rate remains strong with an increase of **2.5%**, contrary to the national trend.

Our intelligence led approach of targeting offenders combined with effective preventative work and visibility has resulted in these downturns in a crime type that can be very traumatic for victims.

While these reductions are welcome we will continue to utilise all information and intelligence at our disposal to focus resources in the right areas at the right time to prevent these crimes.

Moray overall is a safe place to live, but this is in the main attributed to the continued engagement with communities ensuring that everyone plays their part in preventing crime. Proactive messages through our Community Council reports and all aspects of social media with details of important national and local initiatives all contribute towards this.

We take a proactive approach in dealing with offenders, engaging with them as they integrate back into the community from any period of incarceration while working with partners who provide support and diversionary opportunities. Furthermore, where re-location is required, due to the strength of partnership with Local Authority partners, we collaborate prior to any relocation to ensure recidivist offenders are not placed in a community where vulnerabilities could be exposed.



There was a minimal increase in reported Motor Vehicle crime across Moray for this period. Specifically, there was an increase of **3** reported Thefts of Motor Vehicle crimes compared to the same period last year. However, this still shows a **33.1%** decrease when compared to the 5 Year Average.

These positive results can only be achieved through a collaborative approach and robust governance processes into the investigation of these crime types.



Road Safety and Road Crime

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 2018
People Killed/Seriously Injured (KSI)	N/A	15	25	-10	-
Children Killed/Seriously Injured	N/A	1	1	0	-
People Killed	N/A	3	7	-4	-
Children Killed ⁷	N/A	0	1	-1	-
Advice/Education Given to Motorists ⁸	N/A	9,975	12,617	-2,642	-20.9%
Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 5 Year Av
Mobile Phone Offences	81.6	89	45	+7.4	+9.1%
Speeding Offences	554.0	380	455	-174	-31.4%
Drink/ Drug Driving Offences	55.0	49	50	-6.0	-10.9%
Dangerous Driving	18.2	27	18	+8.8	+48.4%
Disqualified Driving	6.6	16	7	+9.4	+142.4%
Detected Offences Related to Motor Vehicles	1,531.6	1,457	1,341	-74.6	-4.9%
Parking Fixed Penalties Issued ⁹	702.4	300	495	-402.4	-57.3%

⁷ Child is under 16 years of age.

⁸ North East Division (figures area for Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City) figures by Road Policing Officers.

⁹ North East Division (figures area for Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City).

While the number people killed and seriously injured on Moray roads has decreased there is still a significant amount of work required to improve Road Safety.

Our commitment to the North East Scotland Strategic Road Casualty Group remains resolute 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 user awareness and safety.

Our activity continues to be aligned to the Priority Focus Areas contained in the Scottish Government's National Road Safety Framework, namely: speed, motorcyclists, pre-drivers, young drivers, older drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

Activity during this reporting period targeting speeding, drink driving, mobile phone usage and vulnerable road users, all issues raised frequently by communities through engagement. During these initiatives fixed penalty notices were issued and drivers charged where appropriate, with many more educated in order to improve driving standards.



One unique local initiative was developed through the partnership between Moray Council and Living Streets, supported by local Community Police Officers, which led to the closure of a street where a school was situated, on a one day trial basis. This was to assess the feasibility of such measures being utilised on a more permanent basis in order to improve Road Safety in and around schools in Moray. Feedback from the community and the school was very positive, accepting the challenges this brought for some residents. This initiative continues to be developed for the future in Moray by the partnership.

Motorcycle safety continues to be a priority for Road Policing in the Moray area, with the continued deployment of marked Police motorcycles to enhance the profile on the roads. This strategy compliments the delivery of the Rider Refinement North programme to the area, which continues to see excellent subscription rates for spaces on the courses. Further Rider Refinement North dates are planned for the forthcoming period.

As you are aware the North East has recently benefitted from the roll out of Mobile Digital Devices to Officers affording greater flexibility to spend concerted periods away from Police Offices, providing a visible presence and focusing on priority routes.

Protecting People at Risk of Harm

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 5 Year Av
Group 2 Crimes - Recorded ¹⁰	101.2	131	104	+29.8	+29.4%
Group 2 Crimes - Detection Rate	68.2%	55.7%	52.9%		-12.5%
Rape - Recorded	16.8	20	18	+3.2	+19.0%
Rape - Detection Rate	54.8%	65.0%	22.2%		+10.2%
Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 2018
Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported	N/A	422	374	+48	+12.8%
Domestic Abuse Incidents Detection Rate	N/A	73.0%	63.0%		+10.0%
Hate Crime - Recorded	N/A	31	27	+4	+14.8%
Hate Crime - Detection Rate	N/A	77.4%	81.5%		-4.1%

¹⁰ 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.

Overall recorded Group 2 Crime has seen an increase in comparison to the 2018 figure and the 5 Year Average while the detection rate has also increased when compared to 2018 and decreased against the 5 Year Average. However recorded Rape remains close to last year's figure and the 5 Year Average but with an **increased** detection rate of **65%**. Protecting People at Risk of Harm will remain an absolute priority for the Division as we continue to protect the most vulnerable and target offenders, while working in partnership.

Each Local Authority area has a Group 2 'Champion' who provides an oversight of these crimes in their respective area. This provides an additional layer of scrutiny ensuring all lines of enquiry are considered and progressed. Those crimes dealt with by the Public Protection Unit have robust supervisory governance through Detective Sergeants, however are always victim focused.

Rape investigations are led by a Senior Investigating Officer, always of at least Detective Inspector rank. These investigations involve protracted enquiries with every possible evidential opportunity considered and explored. A number of these investigations are reflective of the national picture of non-recent case reporting where timescales are out with the generally accepted 'forensic window.' Trace evidence and CCTV opportunities have in most cases been lost making them particularly challenging.

Investigations of this nature are resource intensive with Specialist Officers, on occasion sensitively approaching potential victims and taking time to explain the process and support them to a point where they are able to provide evidence.

It is vitally important that these protracted enquiries are dealt with thoroughly and they often take some considerable time to complete. As a consequence, detection rates vary throughout each reporting period.



Significant focus has been given to preventative campaigns in relation to sexual offending, collaborating with partners in the private, public and Third Sectors. The national '#GetConsent' campaign stresses the importance of consent in sexual relationships and is providing education around this theme.

Domestic Abuse remains a priority and while recorded incidents have risen slightly in the reporting period the detection rate has **increased** by **10%** to **73%**. With respect to recorded incidents this figure has been impacted by the addition of offences under Section 1 of the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018.

Raising awareness of the new legislation is a priority and Officers have been involved in providing inputs at key events such as the Violence Against Women Partnership Conference in Elgin. This event was widely reported in the local media, raising the profile of the Partnership as well as the new legislation. Additionally, a programme of inputs continue to professionals and community groups alike to apply the awareness raising as widely as possible.

The Violence Against Women Partnership (VAWP) is now established in Moray, where it meets regularly and reports to the Chief Officer Group. The Partnership is Chaired by Detective Chief Inspector Kevin Walker.

Recognising the importance of early identification of signs of Domestic Abuse, we have ensured two days of comprehensive 'Domestic Abuse Matters' training for every Officer up to the rank of Chief Inspector enhancing understanding and awareness.

There is strict governance around all aspects of Domestic Abuse as well as extensive multi-agency work to ensure the safety and support of victims and robust enforcement in relation to offenders.

We continue to work with partners to ensure high risk victims are provided additional support and protection while proactively targeting the highest tariff offenders, whether that be through Local Officers, the Public Protection Unit or the Domestic Abuse Task Force who are a national resource.

During and post investigations, the safety of victims and their children/families are absolute priorities. Investigating Officers and the Divisional Partnership Coordination Unit work closely with victims and our partners to put in place appropriate safety plans, providing advice and access to services as well as providing physical security measures to assist in preventing further harm.

Additional layers of investigation, management and scrutiny of perpetrators is provided by the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) process, where the objective is to protect people at risk of harm by targeting higher risk perpetrators. Victims can also be further assisted with the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process, which aims to reduce future harm to the most vulnerable victims and their families.

In addition, the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) gives those in a relationship, or those concerned for them (including friends, relatives and professionals), the 'Right to Ask' or 'Power to Tell' about an individual whom they suspect may have a history of violent or abusive behavior towards a previous partner.

This period has seen a slight increase in recorded Hate Crime however the detection rate remains strong.



There does not however appear to be any specific pattern or trend giving rise to concerns over the targeting of any particular diversity strand. As has been the case in previous years a proportion are attributed to comments made to Police Officers and other Emergency Service workers.

All crimes of this nature are wholly unacceptable and as well as being the subject of robust investigation we work closely with partners to ensure that victims are fully supported and have the confidence to report instances for investigation.



Serious Organised Crime

Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 5 Year Av
Proceeds of Crime Act Seizures ¹¹	£101,665.22	£185,433.87	£115,779.77	+£83,768.65	+82.4%
Drug Possession Offences	157.0	179	187	+22.0	+14.0%
Drug Supply Offences	24.2	31	27	+6.8	+28.1%
Indicator	5 Year Average	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2018 - Sept 2018	Difference	% Change 2019 v 2018
Drug Deaths	N/A	4	4	0	-

¹¹ A Division (Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City) reported seizures only.

Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) impact on the communities of Moray in a number of ways whether that be through Drug Supply, Acquisitive Crime or other associated offences. We are focused upon the disruption of Serious Organised Crime through targeting those that support and assist these groups. This type of criminal behaviour has a significant impact on local communities and our approach is to utilise enforcement and interventions, while attempting to identify and assist those vulnerable to being preyed upon by OCGs.

A number of OCGs operate on a 'County Lines' format, whereby gangs predominantly from locations in England use vulnerable individuals to transport drugs to the North East and Moray on their behalf and organise drug deals via a dedicated mobile telephone that may still be in England. Thereafter, they may take over the home address of vulnerable individuals as a base for drug dealing, which is known as 'Cuckooing'.

Following on from successful initiatives being run in Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City, North East Division are working with Local Authority and Health partners in the Moray area in an effort to establish a similar initiative. This approach to protecting the most vulnerable and disrupting Serious Organised Crime and is manifested through partnership briefing sessions and potential 'Cuckooing' victims have already been identified.

There have been significant proactive operations and seizures during this reporting period with a number of key individuals being arrested and charged with relevant offences. The outcomes are that, when measured against the 5 Year Average, Proceeds of Crime Act Seizures in North East Division have **increased** by **82.4%** and Drug Supply offences **increasing** by **28.1%**.

We will continue to utilise an intelligence led approach, employing all available assets and tactics to target those causing the most harm in our communities, while ensuring communities are involved and supported following activity in any one area.

While Drug Deaths have remained static, key information from each one is collaboratively reviewed in order to learn and work towards the prevention of further deaths. We continue to work closely with partners and support services to signpost vulnerable individuals to referral pathways to support them through substance addiction and dependency.



Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

The North East CONTEST Multi-Agency Board and the associated Prevent Delivery Group continue to deliver the national CONTEST strategy in the North East of Scotland. The Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare principles are the continued focus of the strategy which aims to reduce the risk from terrorism to the UK.

Prevent involves safeguarding people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism and at a local level this involves close working relationships between partner agencies to identify persons at risk. Thereafter, the collaborative approach continues as plans are developed and implemented to divert those at risk. Positive multi-agency engagement with the community is crucial in this approach and the excellent working relationships between partner agencies and the combined vision for empowered, resilient and sustainable communities assists in the delivery of this objective.

Protect has the aim of strengthening our protection against a terrorist attack. Traditionally the local multi-agency work has been aimed at providing advice and guidance in relation to the protecting and safeguarding of physical locations, sharing best practice for cost effective, proportionate physical security for community and commercial buildings utilising the principles of a national programme known as Action Counters Terrorism (ACT). While this work continues with tailored inputs, advice and guidance, there is an emerging threat in relation to cyber-attacks and multi-agency work will also be focused towards this area in the future. The Police Scotland Cyber Crime Prevention Unit continues to engage with local businesses to highlight the 'Cyber Essentials' principles which provides guidance for maintaining cyber security against the ever-changing threat of cyber-attacks.

Prepare involves mitigating the impact of a terrorist incident if it occurs.

In Moray, the Contest strategy is embedded into our local policing structures through Local CONTEST Liaison Officers (LCLOs) based throughout our area, and our Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSAs). LCLOs carry out activities within their local policing area, where necessary assisted by experts or specialists from national departments. LCLOs and Border Policing colleagues visit local ports, engaging with harbour masters and key staff, forging important working relationships to maintain border security. This approach assists to blend national and local requirements while ensuring the interests and needs of local communities are at the forefront of everything we do.

We continue as a lead partner within the North East Division Pan-Grampian Multi-Agency CONTEST Group. With key infrastructure and military sites, it is vital that we all play our part to Prevent, Protect and Prepare. Recent work with the Ministry of Defence, Health, Education and Business partners has seen training delivered to those working in these sectors. Over the coming months, further training will be delivered with the aim of increasing awareness on the role each person can play in preventing vulnerable people from seeking affiliation to relevant groups or ideologies.



Miscellaneous

Stop and Search

Indicator	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019	Apr 2019 - Sept 2019 (positive)
Consensual	0	0
Legislative	318	104
Number of Consensual Stop and Searches Refused	0	N/A

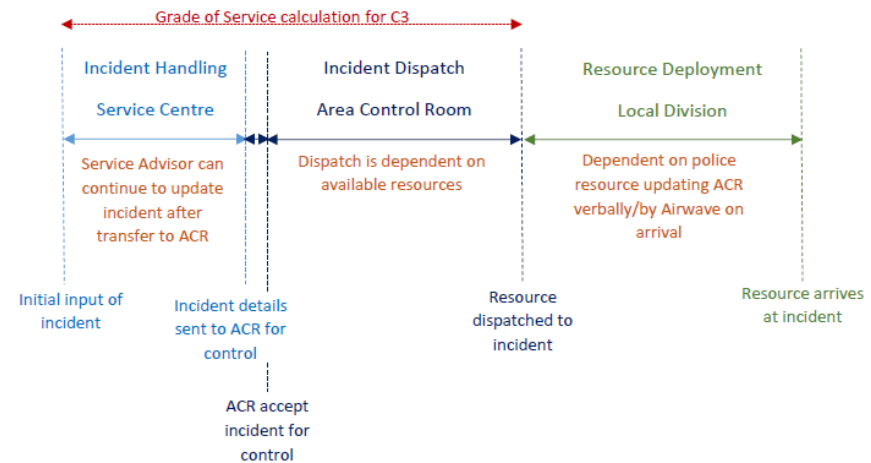


Response time stages

Police response times are based on incident handling and measure the time taken from the initial input to the incident (first keystroke in a new incident) to the time of arrival of the resource at scene (officer updating the ACR via their airwave). The police response time is thereafter broken down into its component parts, giving an indication of efficiency at each stage.

Incident Handling – Service Centre

This is the measure of time from creation of a command and control incident by a service adviser until the time the incident is sent to the relevant ACR for control. For East and West regions this calculation is the difference between two timestamps: time the incident is created (first keystroke on a new incident, known as initial input) and the time the incident is sent to the ACR for control. This measure is not presently available for the North region.



This measure is specifically for police response to incidents reported by the public, but is not a measure of the amount of time a member of the public spends speaking to a service adviser. Instead this measures the length of time a service adviser retains an incident on STORM Unity until notifying the ACR. The incident may continue to be updated by the service adviser with real time information even after it has been accepted at the ACR for control and a resource has been dispatched.

Resource Deployment – Local Division

This is the measure of time from the first resource being dispatched to the incident location until the time first resource arrives at scene (not necessarily the first resource that was dispatched, but the resource which arrived fastest). The arrival time relies on the resource which arrives at scene to update the ACR, either verbally via their airwave or preferably by automatic means via their airwave by pressing the appropriate soft key.

This measure is specifically for Police response to incidents reported by the public and may be considered as the “travel time”.



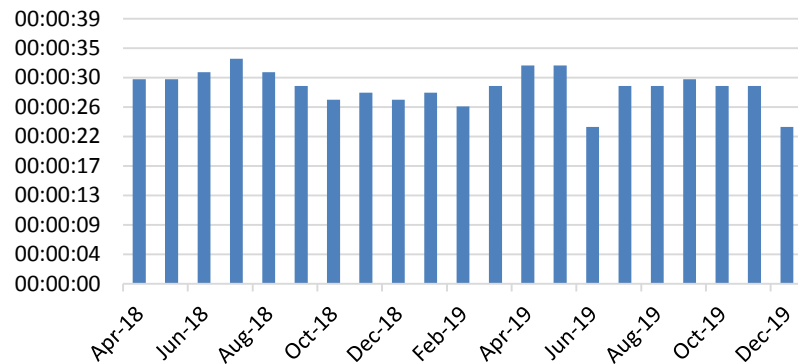
Overall Response Time

This is the overall measure from the first point of contact with the Police to the resource arriving at scene. A calculation is made between the times of initial input on STORM until the time the first resource arrives at scene.

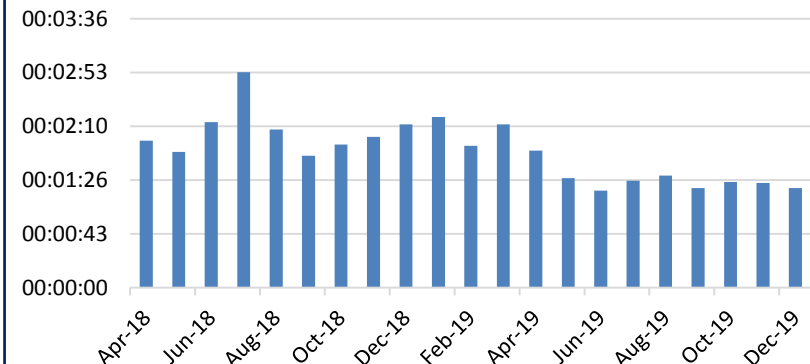
Incident Handling (Service Centre) Time

One of the time stamp fields which is used to calculate this time is overwritten each time the incident is transferred to the ACR. For instance if a call was disposed but subsequently reopened for updates and transferred to the ACR, this time would be corrupted. This can cause the AVERAGE incident handling time to be skewed in such a way that it appears to take longer to handle a call than it does to take the call and attend the incident. As a result any incidents which have a transfer to ACR time which is later than the first resource allocated to incident time is discounted. This only affects this one timestamp, all others are unaffected. The incident is only excluded from this part of the process but is nevertheless included in the volume of incidents excluded from the data.

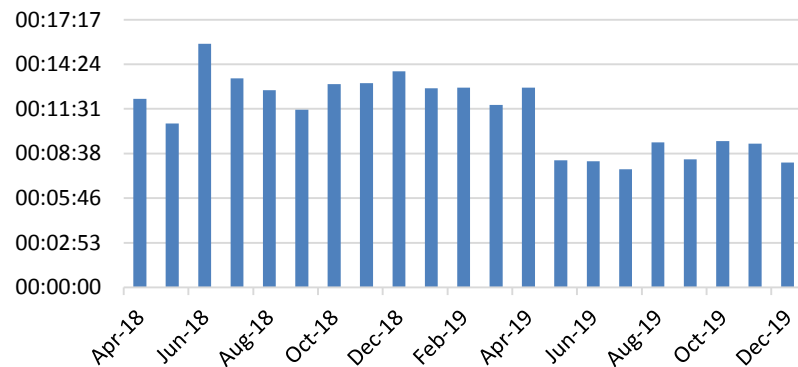
Grade 1 - Incident Handling - Service Centre (monthly avg. time)



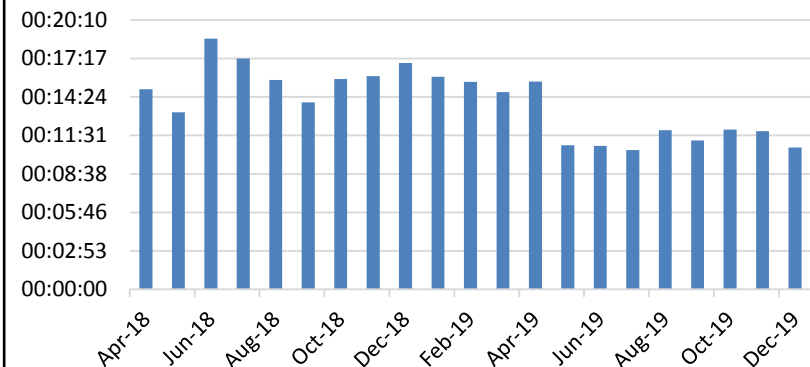
Grade 1 - Incident Dispatch - Area Control Room (monthly avg. time)



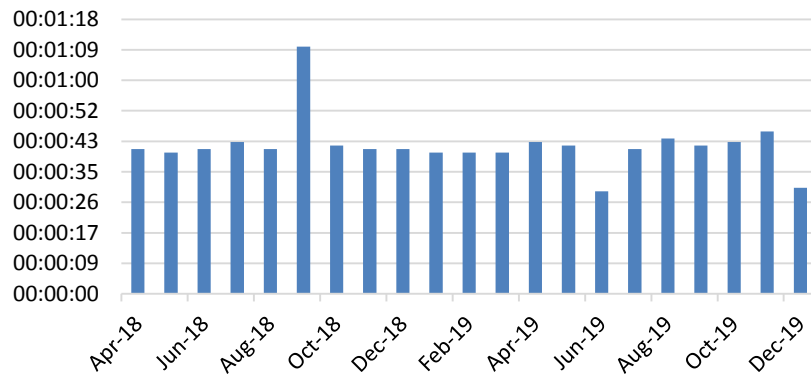
Grade 1 - Resource Deployment - Local Division (monthly avg. time)



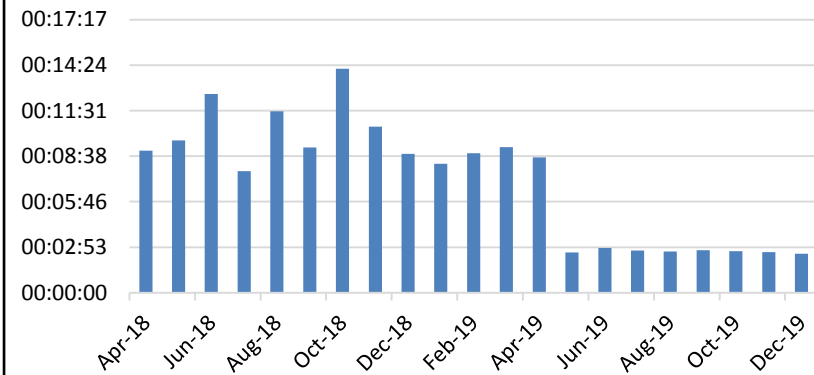
Grade 1 - Overall Response Time (monthly avg. time)



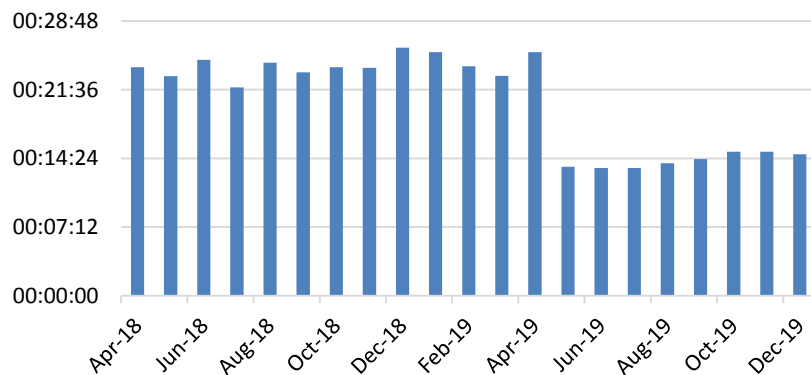
**Grade 2 - Incident Handling - Service Centre
(monthly avg. time)**



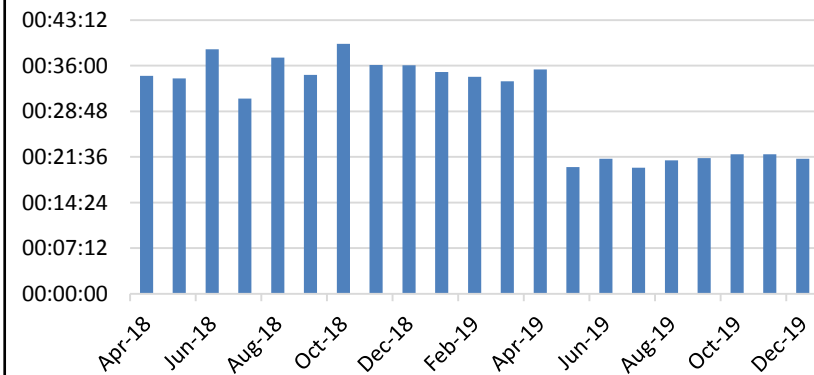
**Grade 2 - Incident Dispatch - Area Control
Room (monthly avg. time)**



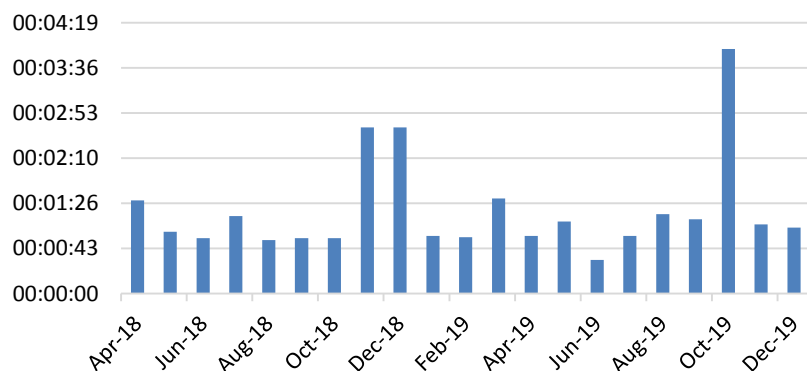
**Grade 2 - Resource Deployment - Local
Division (monthly avg. time)**



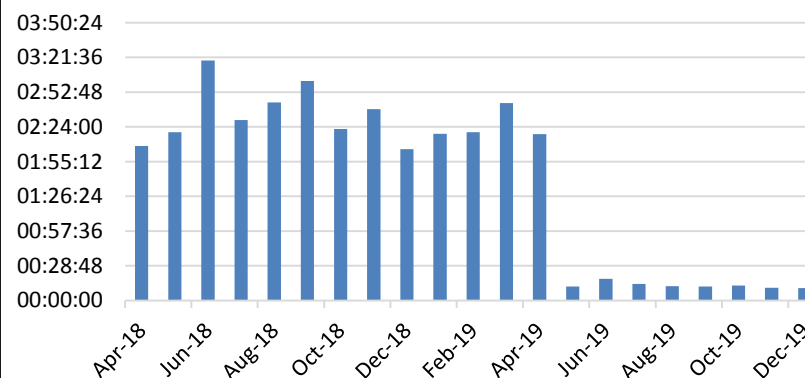
**Grade 2 - Overall Response Time (monthly
avg. time)**



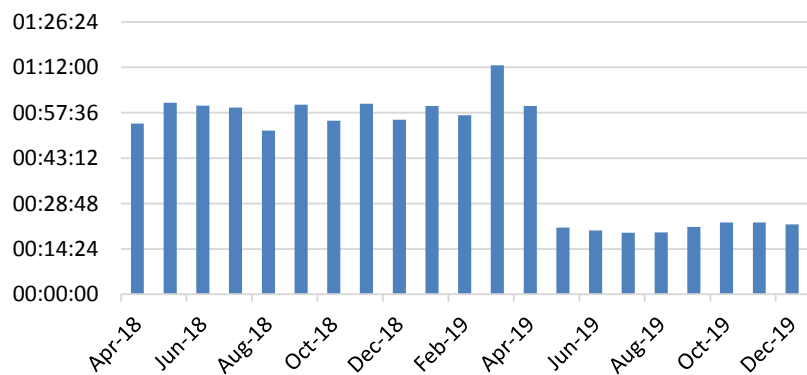
Grade 3 - Incident Handling - Service Centre (monthly avg. time)



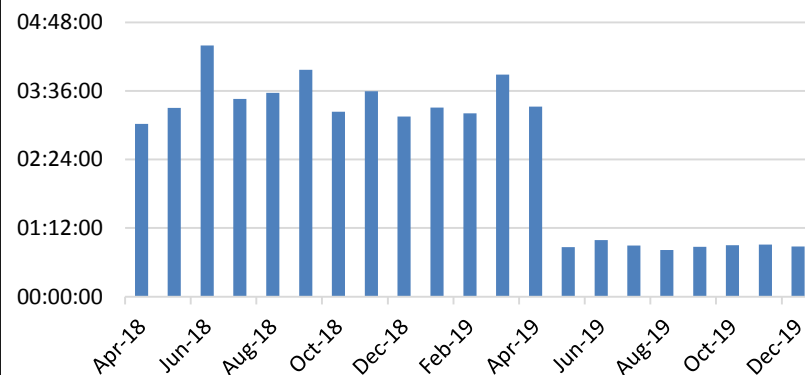
Grade 3 - Incident Dispatch - Area Control Room (monthly avg. time)

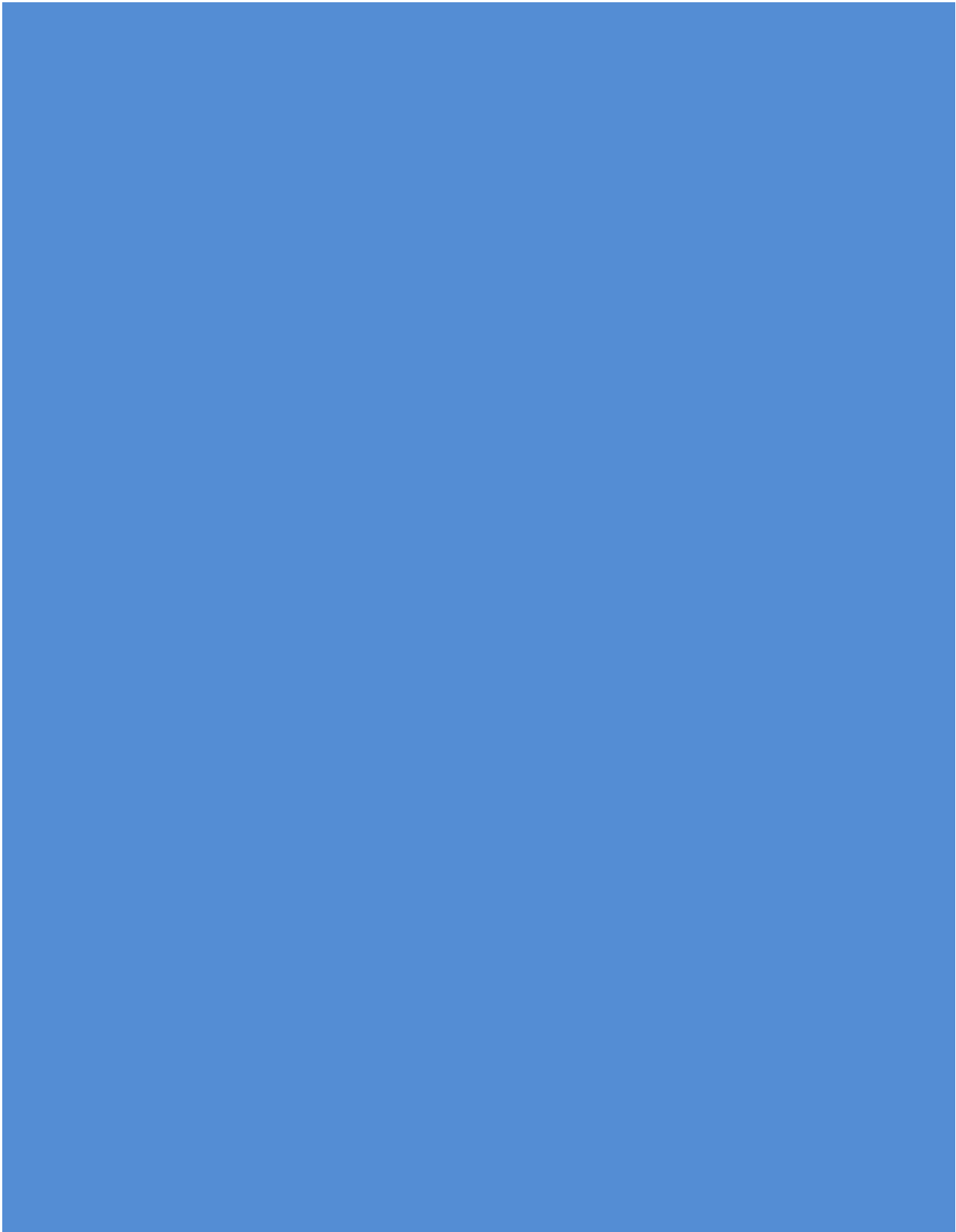


Grade 3 - Resource Deployment - Local Division (monthly avg. time)



Grade 3 - Overall Response Time (monthly avg. time)







**REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
20 FEBRUARY 2020**

SUBJECT: THEMATIC REPORT – COMMUNICATIONS

**BY: CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CAMPBELL THOMSON, DIVISIONAL
POLICE COMMANDER, NORTH EAST DIVISION, POLICE
SCOTLAND**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee about how Police Scotland communicates with the public at a local level.
- 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 and Rescue Services Committee scrutinise and note the information provided in this report in relation to Communications.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The focus of Police Scotland is on keeping people safe. Communicating effectively with the public is vital in preventing crime and disorder, building confidence and providing reassurance. To support that focus Police Scotland are committed to providing information which is timely, accurate and relevant to the public via numerous channels.
- 3.2 The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 sets out the principles that *“the Police Service, working in collaboration with others where appropriate, should seek to achieve that main purpose by policing in a way which is accessible to, and engaged with, local communities, and promotes measures to prevent crime, harm and disorder”*.
- 3.3 This report details how Police Scotland Divisions and Departments communicate and engage with local communities.

4. RESPONSE

- 4.1 Police Scotland communicates with the public in a variety of different ways, from face-to-face interactions; community engagement in various formats; the use of digital and social media platforms and engaging with the media.
- 4.2 The Corporate Communications service within Police Scotland has responsibility for communicating the organisation's strategic priorities, and providing communications support to Local Policing Divisions and Departments, with the aim of improving the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities.
- 4.3 As a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, Police Scotland also has a legal duty to warn and inform the public about emergencies and Corporate Communications discharges this responsibility on behalf of the service. As well as responding once an emergency has happened, it also involves planning with resilience partners, such as Local Authorities.
- 4.4 Local Divisions also have a responsibility to communicate directly with people living in the local policing area through, for example, attending and arranging community engagement events, community forums, partnership events, developing direct relationships with local media and using social media.
- 4.5 Both Corporate Communications and Local Divisions, working alongside partners where appropriate, play a key role in communicating preventative messages as part of Police Scotland's focus on 'Keeping People Safe'. National campaigns are proactively designed, co-ordinated and delivered throughout the year on a range of issues including festive safety, doorstep crime and sexual crime. Exploring opportunities with the national and local media, utilising social media channels and working with partners is key to communicating each campaign's key messages.

Media

- 4.6 Corporate Communications is the main point of contact between Police Scotland and the media. Its purpose is to provide specialist advice on communications, media management and output.
- 4.7 Engagement with the media and the information which flows to the media is an integral part of the support provided by Corporate Communications. The media is an important channel through which Police Scotland can reach relevant audiences however it also plays a fundamental role in a free and democratic society and in keeping the public informed on a wide range of issues.
- 4.8 Information which is provided to the media must have a legitimate policing purpose and support the objectives of Police Scotland. There is a clear responsibility to ensure that interactions and relationships with the media are professional, transparent, impartial and capable of withstanding scrutiny.

- 4.9 Divisions are also encouraged to establish and maintain regular contact with local press on matters of local crime, local campaigns, local crime initiatives of topics which are purely of interest or applicable to the public at local community level. Officers within the Moray area continue to identify opportunities for local media coverage and, where appropriate, organise with partners to promote partnership working.

Social media

- 4.10 Corporate Communications Officers and Police Officers use social media as a crucial way of communicating messages and engaging with the public. It allows Police Scotland to share real-time information about the work of Local Policing Teams and to notify the public about ongoing incidents. It is also an effective way of enlisting help with an ongoing criminal enquiry or missing person search; the chances of reaching someone who recognises the person or people involved increases with every retweet and shared post.
- 4.11 Social media also provides Police Scotland with a tool to publicise the proactive operations and initiatives being carried out on a daily basis within communities to help keep people safe. It is a communication channel which offers an opportunity to talk directly to the public and increases community engagement. For example Officers within North East Division routinely carry out live 'chats' on Facebook which offer the public an opportunity to ask questions about a topic and receive a real-time response. Previous sessions on Road Policing, Recruitment and Domestic Abuse have proved particularly successful, with thousands of people engaging during a short period of time.
- 4.12 The corporate Police Scotland Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts are run by Corporate Communications and are used to promote campaigns, policies and work of national importance. Each Division also has its own Facebook and Twitter account, with further localised Twitter accounts for different areas. For example, in addition to the North East Twitter account there are also devolved accounts for Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire South, Aberdeenshire North and Moray. These local accounts are focused on engaging with local communities and communicating about the work of the Local Policing Teams.
- 4.13 In Moray, numerous Police Officers have access to social media which empowers the communication of local messages and information directly to people living in the communities the Officers serve. It enables Officers to publicise proactive events, successful operations, provide crime prevention advice and retweet partner messages.

In Moray, the local Twitter account has more than 4,000 followers. The North East Division Twitter account has 49,500 followers.

@NorthEPolice/ @MorayPolice

One Facebook page exists for North East Division as a whole – it has more than 104,000 followers. The Police Scotland national Facebook page has more than 304,850 followers.

@NorthEastPoliceDivision/ @PoliceScotland

- 4.14 Social media is always evolving and its use worldwide will continue to grow. The advantages of social media use by Police outweigh the disadvantages and it is a communication channel Police Scotland will continue to invest in and explore. Members of the public, businesses and organisations will also continue to be encouraged to follow Police Scotland social media channels in order to receive information of relevance.

Working with partners

- 4.15 Partnership working and the sharing of information with organisations, including Local Authorities such as Moray Council, is vital to ensure consistency of message and to impact positively on public confidence. Police Scotland works with partners to identify opportunities for collaborative working to deliver joint communications support for campaigns and initiatives.
- 4.16 A close working relationship is also crucial in the event of a major incident so that messages are consistent and accurate. Police Scotland chairs the North Public Communications Group (PCG), of which Moray Council is a member, and which supports the Local Resilience Partnership in maintaining emergency plans.

Transformation

- 4.17 In September 2019, Corporate Communications underwent a restructure to enable the department to deliver a seven-day a week media response service to deal with the 30,000+ enquiries from journalists across Scotland received each year. Alongside a national News Desk, eight Executive business leads now support various portfolio areas of Police Scotland, including dedicated strategic communications support for the North Divisions which includes the North East.
- 4.18 The Corporate Communications department continues to work alongside local Divisions to enable and empower Officers to communicate effectively with local communities.

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 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/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 Communicating effectively with the public is vital in preventing crime and disorder, building confidence in Police Scotland and providing reassurance. By working in collaboration with others where appropriate, Police Scotland aim to use effective communication as a way to engage with local communities and promote measures to prevent crime, harm and disorder.

6.2 Partnership working and the sharing of information with organisations, including Local Authorities such as Moray Council, is vital to ensure consistency of message and to impact positively on public confidence. Police Scotland will continue to identify opportunities for collaborative working to deliver joint communications support for campaigns and initiatives and to work cohesively in the event of a major incident.

6.3 The Corporate Communications department will continue to work alongside local Divisions to enable and empower Officers to communicate effectively with local communities.

Author of Report: Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson
North East Division
Police Scotland

Background Papers: N/A

Ref:



REPORT TO: POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 20 FEBRUARY 2020

SUBJECT: UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

**BY: LSO MARTIN TAIT, LOCAL SENIOR OFFICER,
ABERDEENSHIRE & MORAY**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal reduction methodology.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (J) (1) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Moray.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee consider and note the contents of the thematic report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A key priority within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Moray is the reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.
- 3.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the committee with information on this priority both in relation to past performance and how the SFRS intend to deliver against this priority now and in the future. The report will be delivered in the form of a PowerPoint presentation.
- 3.3 The SFRS aim is to reduce the impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals generated by automatic fire detection systems on service delivery, business and commerce. By doing this the aim is to improve the safety of Moray communities and businesses by ensuring that the 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. The majority of UFAS are entirely avoidable through good system design, management practice, procedure, maintenance and the appropriate use of space within buildings.

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

The current structure of the Fire Safety Enforcement Team is;

1 x Group Commander

1 x Station Commander

3 x Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (1 x UFAS Champion)

1 x Auditing Officer

- 3.5 The incidents attended by local staff not only impacts on local business but also on part time retained duty system firefighter's primary employment.
- 3.6 All operational response crews provide advice to occupiers on every occasion a UFAS incident is attended. Fire Safety Enforcement Staff monitor UFAS calls and take appropriate action at the various stages as stipulated in SFRS policy.
- 3.7 Expected outcomes are that the reduction of 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 the wider community and reduce unnecessary costs to the SFRS.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan supports the outcomes contained within the Moray LOIP

(b) Policy and Legal

An equality impact assessment is not required because this report refers principally to advice to Committee on the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the relevant periods. There will be no detrimental impact, as a result of the report, on people with protected characteristics.

(c) Financial implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no Risks directly identified in respect of this matter in terms of the Corporate and Directorate Risk Registers as the Committee is monitoring the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service as required under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no specific staffing implications arising from this report.

(f) Property

There are no specific property implications arising from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no specific implications arising from this report.

(h) Consultations

No consultations were undertaken in writing the report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will continue to work to reduce the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals as a key priority.

5.2 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will continue to reduce the number of blue light journeys to automatic fire alarm signals based on pre-determined attendance reduction methodology.

Author of Report: Area Commander Martin Tait,
Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Background Papers: PowerPoint presentation.

Ref:

QUESTION TIME

