

## FALKIRK COUNCIL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Subject: FALKIRK AREA COMMAND PERFORMANCE REPORT**  
**Meeting: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**Date: AUGUST**  
**Author: REPORT BY LOCAL POLICE COMMANDER**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight matters in the Area Command such as emerging trends and threats or particular successes and difficulties.
- 1.2 The Falkirk Policing Performance Scrutiny Report table contains the current information on performance against key performance indicators. This covering report provides complementary information to that in the table to present a rounded picture of issues affecting policing in Falkirk Council area.
- 1.3 The format of the report generally follows that of the Local Policing Plan priorities (eg Violence/Disorder & ASB, Serious Crime, Domestic Abuse etc) as they appear on the Scrutiny Report table.
- 1.4 **NB The content in this version is provided to show how future reports would be structured and is based upon data from a single month. The comments below are therefore illustrative only as the restricted data available from a very short time period does not permit full and proper analysis and assessment of the issues.**

### **2. TRENDS**

- 2.1 The performance indicators used in the table are a mix of those which are reported on across all operational divisions and those which reflect the objectives in the Falkirk Local Policing Plan. The local plan indicators are shown as emboldened in the table. The indicators reported nationally also provide valuable information on local performance as they fit comfortably under the six local priority headings.
- 2.2 Of the 21 local plan indicators for which data is available, 15 show positive performance whilst six show reduced levels. The data shows that the majority (5/6) of reduced performance relates to drops in detection rates, whilst about 70% (10/15) of improvement can be seen in reductions in the numbers of crimes and road collision injuries.
- 2.3 The long-term downward trend in crimes and offences involving **Anti-Social Behaviour, disorder and vandalism** has continued over the reporting period. This is reflected, for example in the 10% drop in the number of incidents of disorder reported to the police (1036 to 929).

- 2.4 There was also a welcome reduction across those categories of **violent crime** which are reported in the table.
- 2.5 A focused effort against the **misuse of drugs** has seen a rise in the number of persons charged with the supply, production or cultivation of illegal substances.
- 2.6 **Crimes of dishonesty (group 3)** have reduced against both the previous year and the 5 year average, with a particular drop in reports of motor vehicle crime (-54%). There was, however, a noticeable rise in cases of fraud from 16 to 32. The detection rate for acquisitive crime remained steady at about 50%, which showed a slight improvement on previous performance. Effort has been directed towards known repeat offenders, with early intervention reducing the likelihood of a series of crimes being committed.
- 2.7 The number of **domestic abuse incidents** (133) shows a drop against the previous year (125) and continues the recent trend of reductions in the numbers of such incidents reported to police. This issue has been given particular emphasis within Forth Valley Division and measures including intervention, enforcement and target profiling have been applied successfully.
- 2.8 **Road Policing and Road Crime** are being addressed within the new structure of a Forth Valley Divisional Road Policing Unit supplemented by the national Trunks Road Policing Group which covers activity on key main routes. The number of road collisions (21 to 18) and people killed or seriously injured (4 to 3) both show reductions. Tragically, one collision resulted in the death of a teenage boy. Focused effort on addressing the potential causes of collision such as speeding and use of mobile phones while driving have led to increased detections under these categories.
- 2.9 One of the objectives under the priority of **Protecting the Public** is to reduce the levels of **crimes of indecency** and these have decreased from 12 during the reporting period last year to 10 in this year. Enquiries into such crimes are often protracted and the low detection rates shown presently will improve as enquiries are completed. Work is ongoing to maintain awareness of issues of personal safety and potential vulnerability. Levels of offending by individuals who are strangers to the victim remain low.
- 2.10 Another objective under the above heading is to respond to **hate crimes and offences**, and the rates for detecting offenders remains high at almost 80%. This reflects the importance placed on addressing this issue, and work in detecting offenders is complemented by the provision of assistance and guidance to victims.
- 2.11 **Community Confidence and Engagement** remain at the heart of local policing, and the **number of complaints about the police** and the nature of such complaints can be a measure of how well this is being achieved. The number has reduced for this reporting period (4 to 2) and no trends in respect of the type of behaviour complained about are currently discernible.

### **3. RISKS AND THREATS**

3.1 Some of the risks and threats which continue to present are:

- Metal theft
- Skimming devices in Automated Teller Machines
- Bogus collection/theft of "charity" clothing
- Child neglect
- Local impact of serious organised crime groups
- Changes/trends in drugs supply

By their nature, these remain longer-term threats and Forth Valley Division continues to focus on intervention and enforcement to address them.

3.2 Issues which emerged in the previous reporting period were an increase in offensive weapons charges and a larger number of domestic abuse target profiles.

3.3 The situation in respect of offensive weapons was monitored and most recent figures show a 31% reduction in such charges which indicates that the previous peak was an anomaly which was not maintained.

3.4 The larger number of domestic abuse target profiles resulted from the application of the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour-Based Violence (DASH) checklist across the Force area. This process continues to be applied and domestic abuse remains a priority area of business within the Public Protection Unit.

3.5 Newly emerging issues are bullying and sexual exploitation on social media networks; threats of overdose/death from polydrug use; and fraud with particular emphasis on internet fraud. Information on these issues will be provided at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

### **4. RECENT OPERATIONAL UPDATES**

4.1 This section of the report provides brief details of any operational matters within Falkirk Area Command which presented a challenge for Forth Valley Division or which were of particular interest. Information on recent incidents which occurred since the production of this report will be provided by way of a verbal report at the meeting.

Police Scotland

Falkirk Area – Performance Information 2013 - 14

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )_							Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities
							Growing Business and Prosperous People
							Young People Who Are Confident and Successful
							Safer Communities
							Healthier People
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Actions/Response
1	Total No Group 1: Crimes of Violence	11	13	2 fewer	-15.4%	15	<p><b>Context:</b> Whilst there are fluctuations across the Area Command, the general trend is a reduction in the serious crimes of violence categorized in Group 1, with figures at present showing a 15.4% reduction on the previous year and a 26% reduction on the 5 year average. 9 of the 11 crimes have been detected to date (82%) which is in line with the high detection rates regularly achieved for these types of crime. Victims and offenders are often known to each other, and, where a weapon has been used, this tends to be an article acquired at the location of the crime rather than something carried with the specific intent of using it in the incident.</p> <p><b>Standard Actions :</b> Group1 crimes of violence are scrutinised on a daily basis and at present there are no clear trends of concern. The Criminal Investigation Department has primary responsibility for the investigation of such incidents.</p> <p><b>Further Response:</b> Assistance is being provided in respect of one of the outstanding crimes by the Major Investigation Team (MIT) which is a regional resource based at Tullibody Police Office, and providing specialist investigation services to Fife and Forth Valley divisions.</p>
2	Murder	0	0	None	–	0	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <p><b>Standard Actions :</b></p> <p><b>Further Response:</b></p>
3	Attempted Murder	1	2	1 fewer	-50.0%	0	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <p><b>Standard Actions :</b></p> <p><b>Further Response:</b></p>

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )_						Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities	
						Growing Business and Prosperous People	
						Young People Who Are Confident and Successful	
						Safer Communities	
						Healthier People	
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Actions/Response
4	Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	0	None	–	0	Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
5	Culpable Homicide (other)	1	0	1 more	%	0	Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
6	<b>Serious Assault detection rate</b>	0.0%	133.3%	-	-133.3%	87.5%	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
7	<b>Serious Assault</b>	0	3	3 fewer	-100.0%	6.4	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
8	<b>Robbery detection rate</b>	50%	60%		-10.0%	100%	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
9	<b>Robbery</b>	2	5	3 fewer	-60.0%	2	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
10	<b>Petty (Common) assault detection rate</b>	79.9%	81.6%		-1.8%		Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
11	<b>Petty (common ) assault</b>	144	147	3 fewer	-2.0%	149	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
12	Stop and searches conducted	700	341		105.3%	-	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
13	Number of positive stop and searches conducted	98	33		197.0%	-	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )_						Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities	
						Growing Business and Prosperous People	
						Young People Who Are Confident and Successful	
						Safer Communities	
						Healthier People	
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Actions/Response
14	<b>Number of complaints regarding disorder</b>	929	1036	107	-10.3%	-	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
15	Vandalism detection rate	26%	26.8%		-0.8%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
16	Vandalism	127	138	11 fewer	-8.0%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
17	Number of detections for Consuming Alcohol in a designated place (where appropriate byelaws exist)	8	9		-11.1%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
18	<b>Public perception of personal safety in communities</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:

<b>Serious Crime</b> (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )_						<b>Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities</b> Growing Business and Prosperous People Young People Who Are Confident and Successful Safer Communities Healthier People	
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Response
19	<b>Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation</b>	25	16		56.3%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
20	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	27%	35.5%		-8.5%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
21	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	37	31	6 more	19.4%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
22	Theft by shoplifting detection rate	77.2%	86.2%		-9.0%	90.5%	Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
23	Theft by shoplifting	57	65	8 fewer	-12.3%	63	Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
24	<b>Total No. Group 3 : Acquisitive Crime</b>	302	315	13 fewer	%	305	Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
25	<b>Applications for confiscation of assets under Proceeds of Crime legislation</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
26	<b>Prevent SOCGs from involvement in legitimate enterprise</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:

Tackling Domestic Abuse (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )							Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities
							Young People Who Are Confident and Successful
							Safer Communities
							Healthier People
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Response
27	<b>Total domestic abuse incidents</b>	125	133		%	132	Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
28	<b>Total crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents detection rate</b>	89.9%	93.7%		-3.8%		Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:
29	<b>Ensure 95% of domestic abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24hrs)</b>	90.9%	-%		-%		Context: Standard Actions: Further Response:



Road Policing and Road Crime (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )						Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities	
						Safer Communities	
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Response
30	Dangerous driving	5	2		150.0%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
31	<b>Speeding</b>	129	121		6.6%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
32	<b>Disqualified driving</b>	3	1		200.0%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
33	Driving Licence	22	9		144.4%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
34	Insurance	66	35		88.6%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
35	Seat Belts	158	52		203.8%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
36	<b>Mobile Phone</b>	118	35		237.1%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
37	Seizure of vehicles				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
38	<b>Number of injury road collisions</b>	18	21		%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
39	<b>Number of people killed or seriously injured</b>	3	4		%		Context: Standard Actions :

							Further Response:
40	Number of children killed or seriously injured	1	0		%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:

Protecting the Public (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )						Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities	
						Fairer Falkirk	
						Young People Who Are Confident and Successful	
						Safer Communities	
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Response
41	<b>Number of Group 2 - Crimes of Indecency</b>	10	12	2 fewer	-16.7%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
42	Group 2 crimes detection rate	50%	141.7%		-91.7%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
43	<b>Rape detection rate</b>	0%	66.7%		-66.7%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
44	<b>SOLO deployed within 24 hours for all rapes</b>	%	%		%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
45	<b>Timely inspection reviews of managed offenders</b>	%	%		%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
46	<b>Level of repeat offending</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
47	<b>Hate crimes and offences – detection rate</b>	77.8%	73.5%		4.3%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:

Community Confidence and Engagement (Local Policing Plan objectives <b>emboldened</b> )					Linked Single Outcome Agreement Priorities		
					Fairer Falkirk		
					Young People Who Are Confident and Successful		
					Safer Communities		
No.	Performance Indicator	April 2013	April 2012	Victims	% Change	3/5 Year Average	Context and Response
48	<b>Emergency Calls attended within agreed timescale.</b>	%	%		%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
49	<b>Public satisfaction with the police.</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
50	<b>Number of complaints about the police.</b>	2	4		-50%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:
51	<b>Appropriate testing of emergency plans</b>				%		Context: Standard Actions : Further Response:

