



# **Agenda Item**

**4**

## **Police Scotland – Falkirk Area Performance**

**Falkirk Council**

**Title:** Police Scotland – Falkirk Area Performance  
**Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee (External)  
**Date:** 8 March 2018  
**Submitted By:** Director of Corporate and Housing Services

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the latest performance report on behalf of Police Scotland.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee considers the performance of Police Scotland and select a course of action from the following options:-**

- (1) Approve the report and acknowledge progress by the organisation in meeting their priorities;**
- (2) Request further information on specific aspects of the service provided; or**
- (3) Request action with a follow-up report for future Scrutiny Committee consideration.**

**3. Background**

- 3.1 Following the establishment of Police Scotland on 1 April 2013, local commanders are required to report on performance with regard to the local policing plan. A new local police plan for the period 2017 – 2020 was considered and approved by Council on 6 December 2017.
- 3.2 Section 45 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 sets out the role of the local authority with regard to the governance of Police Scotland, as follows :-
- A local authority may monitor and provide feedback to the local commander on the policing of its area, and (in particular) may provide to the local commander:-
    - (a) Its views on any matter concerning or connected to the policing of its area, and
    - (b) Any recommendations for the improvement of the policing of its area that it thinks fit.
  - A local authority may provide feedback by reference to any local police plan in force for the area.

- A local commander must provide to the local authority:
    - (a) Reports on the carrying out of police functions in its area (including by reference to any local policing plan in force for the area),
    - (b) Statistical information on complaints made about the Police Service in, or the policing of, its area, and
    - (c) Other information about the policing of its area, as the local authority may reasonably require.
- 3.3 In addition to considering information and scrutiny performance, the committee may also request that the local commander provides any additional information it may require.

#### **4. The Local Policing Priorities and Performance**

- 4.1 The local policing plan sets out the local priorities and objectives for the Falkirk Council area, and is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The plan takes account of the following:
- The Scottish Government's overarching vision for public services;
  - Strategic priorities set by Scottish Ministers;
  - The Scottish Police Authority's Strategic Police Plan;
  - The Chief Constable's Annual Police Plan; and
  - Local context and need.
- 4.2 The local policing plan is supported by nine local community based plans, one for each of our Multi-Member wards. Local priorities have been informed by local people, communities and issues through Police Scotland's intelligence led community policing approach. The plan also details how police resources will be deployed in support of local priorities and stresses the importance of working closely with partners.
- 4.3 This report covers the period April 2017 to December 2017, and highlights the performance of local policing across the Falkirk Council area, in accordance with the local policing plan, and the following local priorities:
- Responsive to the concerns of our communities;
  - Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats;
  - Protecting people most at risk of harm; and
  - Promoting confidence through our actions.
- 4.4 In order to achieve these priorities the annual Police Plan sets out the actions Police Scotland will undertake within the timeframe of the local policing plan i.e. 2017-2020.

#### **Responsive to the Concerns of Our Communities**

- 4.5 Areas of action within this priority include:
- Violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour;
  - Acquisitive crime;
  - Hate crime; and
  - Road crime and road safety

## **Enhancing Our Collective Resilience to Emerging Threats**

4.6 Areas of action within this priority include:

- Serious organised crime;
- Drugs misuse;
- Counter terrorism; and
- Planning for emergencies

## **Protecting People Most at Risk from Harm**

4.7 People and groups supported within this priority include:

- Vulnerable people;
- Children and young people; and
- Victims of sexual crime and domestic abuse.

## **Promoting Confidence Through Our Actions**

4.8 Areas of action within this priority include:

- How police services are delivered;
- Engaging and involving local communities;
- Developing and supporting staff; and
- Future sustainability.

4.9 The Local Policing Plan sets out how Police Scotland will be able to demonstrate that it is making a difference on each priority, through a number of success measures. A new reporting format has been used for this report, following feedback from Committee. This includes the provision of contextual information on each priority, as well as data and trends. The following provides some brief performance highlights over the reporting period:

## **Responsive to the Concerns of Our Communities**

- An increase of 18.4% in crime groups 1-5 for the year to date, when compared to the same period during 2016/17. The detection rate for these crimes for the same period stands at 56.4%;
- The trend for crimes of violence has increased by 31.2% when using the 5 year average;
- Attempted murder has decreased by 75.6% when compared to the 5 year average, although the number of cases is very small;
- Common assault has increased by 15.8% for this reporting period, when compared to the same period in 2016/17. The 5 year trend using the average for this indicator has increased by 8.9%; and
- The number of overall casualties from road safety incidents has fallen by 19.1%, when compared to the same period in 2016/17.

## **Enhancing Our Collective Resilience to Emerging Threats**

- Tackling drug dealing and drug misuse remains a community priority according to a recent local survey. During the reporting period the number of drug related deaths across the Forth Valley Division fell by 5.5%, when compared to the same period in 2016/17. Possession of drugs increased by 25.3%, while other drugs offences fell by 70.6%.

### **Protecting People Most at Risk from Harm**

- The number of sexual crimes has increased by 109, or 47.2% when compared to the same period in 2016/17. A number of these relate to historic enquiries however; and
- The number of domestic abuse incidents reduced by 3.9% when compared to same period in 2016/17.

### **Promoting Confidence Through Our Actions**

- 145 complaints have been received regarding the police in Falkirk. This equates to 36.5 complaints per 10,000 police incidents; and
- The number of stop and searches conducted during the reporting period was 660. Of these 226 were positive.

- 4.10 The reports will be presented by a senior officer from Police Scotland. The reports comprise the local commander's overview of performance – appendix one, a detailed performance report – appendix two, and Scottish Crime Recording Standard data – appendix three.

## **5. Consultation**

Nil

## **6. Implications**

### **Financial**

- 6.1 Nil

### **Resources**

- 6.2 Nil

### **Legal**

- 6.3 Local authorities are able to scrutinise police performance under the terms of Section 45 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

### **Risk**

- 6.4 If these services are not provided by Police Scotland then there is a risk to the safety of our communities.

### **Equalities**

- 6.5 Nil.

### **Sustainability/Environmental Impact**

- 6.6 Nil.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1 Members are asked to consider the information presented in this report and at Committee to ensure that Police Scotland is providing the services consistent with their agreed Strategic Plan.

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### **Director of Corporate and Housing Services**

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**Date** 28 February 2018

### **APPENDICES**

Appendix One – Overview report by the local commander on Police Scotland performance  
Appendix Two – Performance report from Police Scotland  
Appendix Three – Scottish Crime Recording Standard from Police Scotland

#### **List of Background Papers:**

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

- None



**Subject: PERFORMANCE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA APR 2016 – DEC 2017**  
**Date: 8 March 2018**  
**Author: LOCAL POLICE COMMANDER**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight matters in the Area Command such as emerging trends, threats and issues or particular successes and difficulties.
- 1.2 The Falkirk Policing Performance Scrutiny Report table contains the current information on performance against selected 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 data provided in the table and report is for information purposes to allow Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. It should be noted that the timing of this meeting of the Committee allows the reporting of preliminary year to date 2017/18 statistics covering Quarters 1 - 3. There may be minor amendments between the information in this report and the final 2017/18 statistics – for example due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, road crashes or incidents. It would not therefore be accurate or appropriate to refer to, quote or use the data in this report as official statistics. 5 year average figures are not available for all measures.
- 1.4 The format of this report reflects the Falkirk Local Policing Plan priorities (i.e. Responsive to the concerns of our communities, Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats, Protecting people most at risk from harm and Promoting confidence through our actions). There is also a further category of Cross Cutting Themes which are relevant to all the foregoing priorities.
- 1.5 There will be contextual information provided on current performance. For a small number of indicators only the Forth Valley Division figure is available at this time, and this is identified in the contextual comments.

## **2. RISKS AND THREATS**

- 2.1 Some of the risks and threats which continue to present are:
  - Anti-Social Behaviour
  - Missing Person
  - Violence

- Local impact of serious organised crime groups and organised groups of shoplifters
- Concern calls linked to people with mental health concerns
- Alcohol & Drugs misuse

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

- 3.2 No significant new operational issues emerged during the last reporting period.

### **3. UPDATES**

- 3.1 This section of the report provides brief details of any matters within Falkirk Area Command which present a challenge for Forth Valley Division or which are of particular interest. Information on recent issues which emerged since the production of this report will be provided by way of a verbal report at the meeting.

### **4. Appendices**

- 4.1 Appendix 1 – Falkirk Police Performance Report  
 4.2 Appendix 2 – Scottish Crime Recording Standard Quarter 3&4

Tony Beveridge

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Chief Superintendent  
 LOCAL COMMANDER, FORTH VALLEY DIVISION

Date: 08 February 2018

Contact Name: PC Mervyn Almeida (01786 456 033)



# Falkirk Police Performance Report



Tony Beveridge  
Chief Superintendent

April - December 2017



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

**POILEAS ALBA**

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## **BACKGROUND TO THIS REPORT**

As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Police Scotland to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The LPP clearly sets out the policing priorities for Falkirk.

Performance in relation to the identified policing priorities is monitored and reviewed internally on a weekly basis. Half yearly reports are produced to allow scrutiny by Falkirk council Scrutiny Committee. This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

In order to support effective scrutiny and determine whether our preventative approach is having a lasting positive impact, members of the Scrutiny Committee will consider information linked to the priorities outlined within this plan which includes:-

- Responsive to the concerns of our communities
- Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats
- Protecting people most at risk from harm
- Promoting confidence through our actions

This report will make reference to crime groupings. Groups 1-5 refer to an amalgamation of five crime groups. They are Group 1, consisting of violent crime; Group 2 covering sexual offences; Group 3 covers a wide range of crimes of dishonesty, Group 4 includes vandalism, fire-raising and malicious mischief; and group 5 includes Pro-Active Crimes. All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data is sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and is correct as at 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

## RESPONSIVE TO THE CONCERNS OF OUR COMMUNITIES

As shown on pages 6 - 7, the total number of crimes (Groups 1 to 5) recorded year to date in the Falkirk Command Area has increased by 18.4% when compared to the previous year and by 0.7% when compared to the 5 year average. These increases largely attributable to increases in:

- Group 1 crimes of violence (12 additional crimes committed),
- Group 2 sexual offences (109 additional crimes committed) with a rise in
- Crimes of dishonesty (Group 3 crimes) and
- The number of fireraising, vandalisms and incidents of reckless conduct (Group 4 crimes) reported.

It is worthy of note that Police proactivity has also contributed towards this increase in recorded crime by 34.8% overall in Group 5 crimes. The overall detection rate has increased by 0.4% when compared to the same period last year. As detection rate is calculated as the proportion of crimes detected against those recorded over a specific period, this can result in detection rates of more than 100%.

Changes to the way offensive weapons and knives are recorded in Scotland were introduced on 1 April 2017 by the Scottish Crime Recording Board. This recording standard enables information to be extrapolated for the first time on the use of knives or offensive weapons in other criminal activity, schools or prisons. This will further improve Police Scotland's understanding of weapon and knife crime across the country; allowing us to better target our resources locally and work more effectively with partners to prevent crime. This change to recording practice means that our local statistics in relation to recorded crimes involving knives and offensive weapons is likely to increase. Of the 162 offensive or bladed weapon offences recorded year to date 66 were used in other criminal activity in a public place.

During this review period we have worked to prevent violence, disorder, antisocial behaviour (ASB) and acquisitive crime as these are areas that our communities told us cause them concern and can have a lasting, detrimental impact on their lives. Year to date there has been no increase in serious assaults and a 15.8% increase (220 more) in common assaults when compared to the previous year. Analysis has not indicated any discernible pattern or repeat locations however shows that alcohol is a contributing factor. Such incidents are prioritised for investigation and are reviewed daily. To tackle this we have focused our activity around consumption of alcohol, which has seen 352 licenced premises in Falkirk inspected over the review period. The licence holders have worked closely with police and been supportive of the additional policing activity.

The Lord Advocates guidelines changed in relation to test purchase operations, as such only one has been carried out since April last year. These guidelines are geared towards working closely with the premise licence holder to address any issues highlighted through community intelligence, and proceed to enforcement if intervention has not addressed the issues identified.

As an example, following an increase in reported incidents of violence at a licensed premises in Falkirk, the Community, Alcohol & Violence Reduction Unit devised "Operation Bluebird". The aim of this operation was to work in partnership with staff at the premises, to help prevent violence, disorder and ASB. Additional officers were deployed over 2 weekends, which resulted in early

intervention into several incidents of intoxicated persons attempting to gain entry to the premises.

The areas of Larbert and Stenhousemuir have experienced a rise in open space youth related disorder. Over the last quarter a high profile operation was put in place to tackle such disorder in the specific area of Kinnaird. Due to this operation, the disorder has been displaced into the Stenhousemuir area, in response to this change we have expanded the operation to cover these areas. As part of a multifaceted approach, referrals were made to education and council to look into diversionary activities for youths in the area.

“Operation Tank” ran in Falkirk Town Centre during July and August which focused on targeting known nominals who were responsible and involved in ASB within Falkirk Town Centre. This operation gained positive feedback from local MSP, business users, employees and residents within Falkirk Town Centre.

On 27th November 2017 Falkirk North Community Police launched “Operation Christmas” along with Falkirk Delivers, Falkirk Council and local retailers. This was widely publicised on social media and in local press and saw officers carrying out dedicated patrols in and around Falkirk Town Centre, both plain clothes and in uniform, to provide a safe and secure environment for people attending Falkirk to utilise local amenities. Uniform officers have completed several Crime Advice surveys to those premises adversely affected by shoplifting.

Between November and December, the Community Policing Team (CPT) at Bonnybridge responded to a spike in reports of ASB and Disorder by deploying under the banner “Operation Bluebird”. This saw dedicated patrols at peak times in areas highlighted by call analysis. Street surgeries were conducted and members of the Team attended two public meetings to give an update of Police work carried out thus far and note any community feedback.

The Community Safety Team at Falkirk Council were consulted and this resulted in additional patrols conducted by them, as well as their attendance at a public meeting and at a street surgery. Engagement with Local Councillors also took place which resulted in a very positive working relationship that saw local elected members referring residents directly to the CPT.

Over a three week period in November, 2017, members of the Community Policing Team at Larbert conducted a speed enforcement campaign at two ‘problem’ locations that had been identified through community engagement. A number of road traffic offences were detected however more importantly, a large number of motorists were spoken with and educated regarding the dangers associated with exceeding the speed limit.

As a result of community intelligence and proactive police work, officers in Falkirk Area command have issued 551 parking tickets during the reporting period.

Total Crime	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Total Crimes: Groups 1 to 5	5,078	4,289	+18.4%	+0.7%	56.4%

Violence	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Group 1 Crime: Crimes of violence	165	153	+7.8%	+31.2%	88.5%
Murder	-	1	-100%	-100%	-
Culpable homicide	-	-	-	-	-
Attempted murder	2	5	-60.0%	-75.6%	100.0%
Serious assault	92	92	-	+59.7%	87.0%
Robbery / Assault with intent to rob	20	18	+11.1%	+5.3%	85.0%
Threats and extortion	19	11	+72.7%	+196.9%	89.5%
Common assault	1,610	1,390	+15.8%	+8.9%	70.7%

Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour	Crimes / Incidents				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Number of complaints regarding disorder	6,995	6,239	+12.1%	NDA*	NDA*
Group 4 Crime: Fire-raising, malicious mischief etc.	1,271	1,065	+19.3%	+8.4%	34.6%
Fire-raising	76	43	+76.7%	+8.3%	46.1%
Vandalism / malicious mischief	1,125	981	+14.7%	+7.1%	32.2%
Reckless conduct	1	2	-50.0%	-44.4%	100.0%
Racially aggravated harassment / conduct	43	56	-23.2%	-32.0%	83.7%
Carrying of offensive / bladed weapons	162	50	+224.0%	+134.8%	88.3%
Drunkenness and disorderly conduct	125	55	+127.3%	+16.4%	97.6%

Acquisitive Crime	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Group 3 Crime: Crimes of dishonesty	2,016	1,886	+6.9%	-16.1%	44.2%
Housebreaking (including attempts) total	205	182	+12.6%	-40.8%	32.2%
Housebreaking (including attempts) - Dwelling houses	109	86	+26.7%	-26.6%	29.4%

NDA\* - NO DATA AVAILABLE

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Road Safety	2017/18		2016/17		% Change
Total Casualties	204		243		-19.11%
Fatal	1		1		0.0%
Serious	36		41		-12.2%
Slight	167		201		-16.9
Children (aged <16) killed	0		1		-100.0%
Children (aged <16) seriously injured	5		3		66.7%
Road Crime	Offences				Compared to 5 year average
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change		
Group 7: Offences relating to motor vehicles	2,846	3,574	-20.4%		-53.1%

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## ENHANCING OUR COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE TO EMERGING THREATS

It is important that we remain adaptive and responsive to new and emerging threats in order to protect our communities from the risks and harm that they pose. An increasing proportion of our daily life carried out online and as a result criminals are increasingly seeking opportunities to exploit technology in order to commit crime. As new trends are identified, Forth Valley's newly established Digital Engagement Team have been working in partnership with local businesses to promote awareness and provide safety advice via social media. Some of the videos produced in response to new threats were;

[FVPD Investment Scam](#)

[FVPD Home Security Advice](#)

[FVPD Gift Card Scam](#)

Grangemouth Community Police Team ran a crime prevention initiative in conjunction with local Neighbourhood Watch partners and Tesco Redding's Community Team on 6 December 2017. A mock ATM was set up to educate members of the public on Cash Machine Security. Numerous members of the public were given advice and the local officers took the opportunity to discuss home security and personal safety in the run up to Christmas. The event was very well received, it was put out on the Falkirk Police Twitter page and attracted positive comment from all who attended.

Feedback from our recent 'Your View Counts' survey highlights that tackling drug dealing and drug misuse remains a priority for our communities and we continue to work in partnership in an effort to mitigate the health and social harms associated with drugs. During the reporting period there have been 34 drug related deaths in Forth Valley Division which is a drop of 5.5% compared to the same period last year. Bi-monthly meetings are held with partner agencies to discuss emerging trends and consider whether there are any learning points or opportunities for intervention. Representatives from Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs have also provided briefings to our local officers highlighting what local support mechanisms are available and where to signpost individuals or their families in time of crisis.

Whilst we continue in our efforts to disrupt the drug supply chain, recorded crime in relation to drug supply has increased by 3.1% in comparison to the previous year. It is of note however that despite the small increase, the number of warrants actioned through community intelligence in the Falkirk area command has stayed the same. Some of the warrants yield small amounts of drugs which were reported as possession charges rather than supply. This activity is effective in disrupting drug dealers and impacts on the amount of drugs circulating in our community.

Between the 5th and 6th of September, enforcement action took place targeting individuals involved in drugs supply in Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk areas. Led by officers from Forth Valley Proactive CID, supported by the local officers and the Operational Support Unit, several addresses were entered and searched under warrant. This operation led to the recovery of nearly £20,000 worth of drugs and numerous individuals being arrested, charged and reported for offences relating to the supply of controlled drugs. During the reporting period C Division has applied to sized assets to the value of £2,536,204 under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2000.

During this reporting period Police Scotland participated in an exercise named Border Reiver which was aimed at giving the emergency services, partner agencies and Government an

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opportunity to test their response to a terrorist incident. The exercise involved dynamic live scenarios at various sites. A COBRA meeting was chaired by Home Secretary Amber Rudd, involving ministers from both UK and Scottish governments. The Scottish government resilience room was also stood up to provide updates as the scenario unfolded. These scenarios help us to prepare and plan for such incidents in the event they should occur within our local area.

Grangemouth community team officers took the lead in developing community intelligence into executable warrants. Notably a drug search warrant was executed in Bo'ness on Thursday 9 November 2017 where 12 cannabis plants were recovered. Plants were split into two cultivations. 3 persons were reported to the Procurator Fiscal. On 22 November a further cultivation was discovered at an address in Grangemouth and 10 cannabis plants were recovered. 1 person was reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

We, along with our partners, are committed to provide better, more targeted support to those members of our communities who are considered vulnerable and most in need. In support of this commitment we are working with NHS Forth Valley on a joint initiative to prevent elderly and vulnerable members of our communities falling victim to doorstep crime and financial exploitation. This initiative will see safety advice leaflets attached and delivered with repeat prescribed medication. This literature will be fact filled with awareness information and prevention tips and include contact details should they require additional information or support. This initiative has proved successful in a previous pilot carried out previously by colleagues in the Highlands.

In conjunction with Falkirk Council, plans are underway to have doorstep crime literature inserted in the Falkirk Council tax renewal notices in March of 2018 giving access to 75000 homes in the Falkirk Council area. A full assessment of the initiative's effectiveness will be reported in the April update after these letters are issues in March 2018

Forth Valley Police recognises that the geography of the Division and its easy accessible transport routes to Scotland's major cities means that it is a viable target for Organised Crime Groups in terms of committing crime in the area and for passage of stolen goods. In particular, police presence and activity at Grangemouth Docks in recent years has been dominated by Counter Terrorism

This means that there is a gap in policing activity at the docks in terms of prevention of stolen goods being smuggled in and out the country. In conjunction with ForthPorts authority, Forth Valley Priority Crime team have received training with regards to Shipboarding and legislation which empowers the entry and search of containers suspected to contain stolen goods or other criminal proceeds. Using this training, the team carried out a day of action along with colleagues from the Forth Ports Authority.

This operation led to two stolen vehicles being recovered (£25000 in value) and intelligence ascertained suggesting the involvement of a male nominal from the West Lothian area. Enquiries continue. Very positive feedback from Forth Ports.

Drug Harm and Misuse	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Number of drug related deaths (Forth Valley Division)	34	36	-5.5%	-	-
Possession of drugs	629	502	+%25.3	+27.7%	84.7%
Detections for Supply of drugs	66	64	+3.1%	-43.2%	-
Other drug offences (including importation)	1	6	-83.3%	-70.6%	200.0%

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## PROTECTING PEOPLE MOST AT RISK OF HARM

During this reporting period sexual crime (Group 2) has increased overall by 47.2%; up 109 crimes from 231 to 340. Crimes are recorded according to the date they are reported regardless of when they occurred. It should be acknowledged that 74 of these crimes (21.8%) were committed prior to 1 April 2017 and are classed as historic enquiries. The positive element of the level of reporting of historic crime is the indication that victims feel more confident and able to report such offences. The detection rate for Group 2 crime remains high at 75.9%.

The number of domestic abuse incidents shows a drop of 3.9% against the previous year (1,662 to 1,597). Domestic abuse remains a priority within Forth Valley Division with incidents of domestic abuse reviewed on a daily basis by our Domestic Abuse unit in order to assess the risk to the victim and ensure protective measures are in place to reduce the risk of reoffending. Where significant risk is identified, the cases are referred to MARAC/MATAC for multi-agency discussion and formulation of an action plan.

Ongoing domestic abuse enquiries continue to be tasked out as a priority on a daily basis to our Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit. This allows action against domestic abuse perpetrators to be prioritised. We also continue to robustly enforce bail conditions and work to support the victims of domestic abuse, re-visiting them as soon as reasonably practical (and in any case within 24 hours) to carry out welfare checks and pass any information on bail conditions that have been imposed once the perpetrator has appeared in court. Each domestic incident is reviewed by the ward officers. Should the victim be a repeat victim / considered to be in need of support, the ward officer will make contact and offer assistance.

Analysis shows us that we can experience spikes in number of domestic related incidents linked to pre-planned events taking place out with our divisional area such as the 'Old Firm' football match. In response to this fixture in September we initiated "Operation Einstein" which involves deploying additional resources prior to and on the day of the event to undertake proactive interventions with domestic abuse perpetrators in our community.

The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DS DAS) provides us with a framework to share information about a partner's abusive past, with a potential victim. It gives people at risk of abuse the information they need to make an informed decision on whether to continue the relationship. There are two main triggers for disclosure; the Right to Ask and the Power to Tell. The Right to Ask is open to anyone who has concerns about a new partner's abusive past or has concerns about another person's new partner. The Power to Tell allows police to disclose information when we receive information or intelligence about the safety of a person who might be at risk. Multi-agency awareness training on the scheme has been undertaken across the division by our Domestic Abuse Unit in order to give partners who may come into contact with victims the confidence to make applications for Power to Ask. Forth Valley Division already has an outstanding record for the number of DS DAS disclosures made by targeting housing and health centre staff.

In the Falkirk area we have dealt with 70 applications year to date; 56 relating to the Power to Tell and 14 to the Right to Ask. Forty nine disclosures have been made as a result. There are currently 2 outstanding disclosures to be made from December 2017.

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Staff and officers working in our Adult Support and Protection Unit and dealing with adults with learning difficulties, were given specific communication training by an external partner. The training aims to ensure that professionals working with the most vulnerable adults can further develop their communication skills and are equipped with practical tools they need to carry out effective assessments.

During this reporting period Falkirk area command has dealt with 253 missing persons reports. Of these reports:

- 43.1% (109 reports) related to missing children
- 45.1 % (114 reports) related to repeat missing persons
- 42.3% (107 reports) were mental health related

Forth Valley Division has a young runaways protocol which states that once a young person hits 2 or more missing episodes contact is made with education/social work/health as appropriate and intervention options are discussed. Meetings are then held as and when required if missing episodes continue. Forth Valley's missing person coordinator also attends TAC (Team Around Child) meetings and LAR (Looked After Reviews) for repeat missing persons. Repeat adult missing persons result in the missing person coordinator phoning their social worker (if they have one) to discuss options for reducing the missing episodes. If they are not known to social work and have other vulnerabilities, the missing person coordinator will ensure that VPDs are shared to ensure the missing person gets appropriate support from partner agencies.

Community intelligence led officers from the Larbert Community Policing Team to identify a brothel operating from an address, in Larbert. A search of the property was carried out and a substantial quantity of Crystal Meth (Methamphetamine) was recovered. Of note that this was only the second recovery of Crystal Meth in the Forth Valley area.

A multi-agency Halloween initiative was undertaken by Offender Management Unit (OMU) supported by Community Policing Teams on 30th and 31st October to provide extra monitoring of Child Offenders due to the increased victim access.

This was successful with OMU carrying out visits and/or 'drive bys' to offender's houses to ascertain if they had children at the door or decorations up enticing children to their property. The following numbers of child offenders were visited or had a 'drive by' by OMU and CPT's:

Stirling – 27

Falkirk – 63

Clacks – 37

Total: 127 RSO's

There were no offences detected during this period which was a preventative operation. This initiative was shared nationally by the NOMU as best practice.

Sexual Crime	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Group 2 Crime: Sexual	340	231	+47.2%	+75.8%	75.9%
Rape and attempted rape	43	37	+16.2%	+28.0%	79.1%
Indecent / Sexual assault	109	93	+17.2	+51.4	78.0%

Domestic Abuse	2017/18	2016/17	% Change
Number of domestic abuse incidents recorded	1,597	1,662	-3.9%
Proportion of domestic abuse incidents that result in a crime report	42.9%	43.3%	-0.4%
Number of detections for domestic bail offences	44	62	-29.0%
Total number of applications received under the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS)	70	-	-
Number of disclosures made under the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS)	49	-	-

Children and Young People	Crimes				Detection Rate
	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to 5 year average	2017/18
Cruel and unnatural treatment of children	19	19	-	-21.5%	105.3%

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

## PROMOTING CONFIDENCE THROUGH OUR ACTIONS

Community confidence and satisfaction remains at the core of the approach in Forth Valley Division. Staff are encouraged to focus on the needs of the individual at all stages of contact across all types of situation. Data is currently only available for Forth Valley Division as a whole. The levels of satisfaction at various stages of contact with police / police approach to calls are noted on page 15. We recognise that the proportion of respondents who felt that they were adequately informed on the progress of their incident is an area which could be improved upon and are hopeful that the recently introduced Public Service Team (PST) will have a positive impact in improving satisfaction in this area.

The number of complaints about the police is a further measure that can infer whether our actions are helping to promote trust and confidence in our local communities. There have been 145 complaints received relating to Falkirk year to date. This equates to 36.5 complaints per 10,000 police incidents. In total these complaints contained 188 allegations; 121 of which related to incidents involving staff on-duty and 67 relating to the quality of service delivered by the organisation. There have been no discernible patterns or trends from the complaints in respect of individuals, police business units or locations and there were no complaints regarding officer's conduct whilst off duty during this time.

As highlighted within our 2026 policing strategy, it is important that we continue to engage with our communities and this includes engaging the virtual space. To support this we have recently established a Virtual Community Team to engage with communities online, provide operational support to events and seek the help of the public in relation to ongoing incidents and local enquiries. Through this approach we want to encourage wider two-way dialogue, show that we are listening and demonstrate that we are responding to what our communities are telling us. For example, during the Falkirk Fireworks display a number of drones were observed hovering over members of the public and in the danger zone. Directed police patrols on the ground to identify the pilots and safety advisory posts on social media platforms helped propagate the message out quickly and in real time.

Safety messaging using video content and our local "PC Gav" has been shared and used by police forces across the UK and around the world. Forth Valley Division reach includes: - 45,000 Facebook & 10,000 Twitter followers. The @PCGav Twitter account has 1,000 followers. One of our informational videos has had 253,400 views.

Forth Valley Division continues to undertake a Public Consultation survey. This presents us with the ability to seek the views of our diverse communities and give local people the chance to influence the national and local policing priorities. Of the 308 respondents that completed the survey 195 were from the Falkirk area. The full report can be accessed via the link below:-

[Forth Valley Division Report Q2 2017-18 \(PDF\)](#)

Stop and Search	
Number of stop and searches conducted	660
Proportion of stop and searches which were positive	226

Responsiveness (December 2017)	
Percentage of Grade 1 calls (immediate response) attended within 5 minutes of dispatch	96.3%
Percentage of Grade 2 calls (priority response) attended within 30 minutes of dispatch	83.1%
Percentage of Grade 3 calls (standard response) attended within 60 minutes of dispatch	65.0%

Public Satisfaction and Confidence (Information relates to Forth Valley Division)	2017/18	2016/17	% Change	Compared to national average
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied that Police Scotland were professional and courteous when they contacted police	98.7%	89.1%	+9.6%	97.2%
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied with the service received when they first contacted Police Scotland	89.3%	87.5%	+1.8%	94.4%
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied with the way they were treated by officers who attended their incident	88.1%	87.3%	+0.8%	84.7%
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied they were adequately informed about the progress made with their incident	65.2%	62.5%	+2.7%	65.2%
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied they were treated fairly	90.7%	89.1%	+1.6%	87.6%
Proportion of respondents reporting they were satisfied they were with respect	92.0%	92.2%	-0.2%	89.8%
Proportion of respondents satisfied overall with the way police dealt with their incident	73.3%	81.3%	-8.0%	80.1%
Proportion of respondents reporting their confidence in Police Scotland is high	78.7%	75.0%	+3.7	80.5%

Complaints about the Police	2017/18			
Number of complaints received about the police	145			
Number of complaints per 10,000 police incidents	36.5			
Allegations Recorded	Total	On Duty	Off Duty	Quality of Service
	188	121	0	67

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

## Ward Breakdown

*Due to changes in the ward boundaries this data is temporarily unavailable. We are currently in the process of updating our IT systems to reflect this change.*

### Contact Details

Divisional Commander - Chief Superintendent Tony Beveridge  
Falkirk Police Station, West Bridge Street, Falkirk

Area Commander - Chief Inspector Damian Armstrong

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**



<b>Scottish Crime Recording Standard</b> <b>Quarter 3 &amp; 4 Audit 2016/17</b> <i>(not available at Local Authority level but detailed at Divisional and Force level for information purposes)</i>						
Audit 1 - Crime Related Incidents and Associated Recorded Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Test 1 - Incidents			Test 2 - Recorded Crime		
	Incidents Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
C Division	150	13	91.33%	86	2	97.67%
Force	2,193	162	92.61%	1,219	89	92.70%
<i>Details of the methodology for Audit 1 can be found in Appendix A</i>						

Audit 2 - Divisional Crime Audit 2016/17 - Quarter 3/4s (October to March)	Crimes Audited	No. of Recording Errors	SCRS Compliance
C Division	290	11	96.21%
Force	3,435	280	91.85%
<i>Details of the methodology for Audit 2 can be found in Appendix A</i>			

Audit 3 - "No Crime" Audit 2016/17 - Quarters 3/4 (October to March)	Number of "No Crimes" Audited	No. of Errors	SCRS Compliance
C Division	57	4	92.98%
Force	944	48	94.92%
<i>Details of the methodology for Audit 3 can be found in Appendix A</i>			