Keeping People Safe in Greater Glasgow

Our Purpose:- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland

Introduction



Welcome to the latest Glasgow City Local Police Plan update. This report contains management information for quarter two of the year April 2022 – March 2023. The report focuses on providing details of ongoing work and initiatives which have commenced or taken place in the Glasgow City area between 1st July and 30th September 2022.

Following on from the postponement of events and concerts from previous years, due to the impact of Covid-19, Greater Glasgow faced increased demand in relation to policing stadium concerts and music events, and was also host to the TRNSMT festival. It was recognised that given the prolonged break from events and the significant increase in demand as the industry recovered, that our local communities would be affected. Police Scotland worked with event organisers in advance at each event to support community plans and engagement events to ensure local views on issues such as noise, anti-social behaviour and travel were addressed. Police Scotland worked with a number of partners in this regard to support the delivery of multiple safe and enjoyable events for thousands of people.

As the cost of living increases and energy prices rise, impact on both our communities and our staff is inevitable. It is therefore essential that we come together to identify and support the most vulnerable. Our Public Health Approach continues to be a key focus, maximising the effectiveness of partnership working to identify opportunities to improve our joint services and enhance the support available to individuals and communities.

Greater Glasgow Local Policing Plan (2020-2023) Quarterly Report (Q2 July– September 2022/2023)

Public Protection

YTD **sexual crimes** have increased very slightly by 0.6%, (up by 6 crimes) compared to last year and have increased by 2.2% from the 5 year average. This equates to 1,014 crimes PYTD compared to 1,020 YTD and a 5 year average of 998.2. Serious sexual crimes, however, have noted a decrease. **Rape and Attempted Rape** have decreased by 16.3% compared to PYTD and a 17% decrease from 5 year average. Local partnership work and public engagement are ongoing to promote safety within licenced premises, supporting Police Scotland's rape and sexual crime prevention campaign, "THAT GUY".

Operation Altercation- On 14/09/22**,** following trial, two men, aged 52 and 33 and two women aged 62 and 48, were convicted of Human Trafficking and Brothel Keeping offences at Glasgow High Court. All four accused have been remanded in custody and will appear for sentencing next month. Their convictions mark the end of an operation by Greater Glasgow Human Trafficking Unit, which started in September 2019, in partnership with Home Office (Scotland) Criminal Financial Investigations, to detect offenders involved in Human Trafficking and Exploitation.

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour

Violence

Whilst overall crimes of violence (including Simple Assault) have shown an overall increase of 10.6% compared to PYTD, and 4.6% on the 5 year average, **Serious violent crimes** (e.g. Murder, Attempted Murder, Serious Assault, Robbery), have all decreased. **Murder and Attempted Murder** decreased by 57% and 27.6% respectively from PYTD, and against the 5 year average, this year's figures also show a 53.1% decrease in Murder and a 45.6% decrease in Attempted Murders. Similarly, **Serious Assault and Robbery** have noted a 17.3% and 20.6% reduction respectively, compared to previous YTD and 25.1% and 32.8% decrease from 5 year average. Detection rates have also increased for all crimes outlined above, with murder currently noting a 100% detection rate.

Antisocial Behaviour

Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct has decreased by 16.3% from PYTD and decreased by 18% from 5 year average, with 1,678 crimes recorded PYTD compared to 1,405 YTD and a 5 year average of 1,712.6. **Racially aggravated conduct** has decreased by 5.2% compared to PYTD and decreased 12.1% from 5 year average. This equates to 212 reports PYTD, compared to 201 this year and 5 year average of 228.6

Public Health

We continue to drive forward our **Public Health Approach** to Policing, working closely with partners to support vulnerable members of our communities. We received the University of the West of Scotland evaluation report into our approach which highlights some achievements to date including; effective and committed leadership, established and effective partnership working and, successful delivery of awareness raising and training to frontline officers. Some areas for development identified were; enhanced data sharing capability, mental health training for officers and challenges with out of hours availability of partners. Nine recommendations have been suggested which we are committed to progressing over the coming months.

We share concerns with partners on the impact the cost of living crisis will have on community wellbeing. We have established a cost of living working group to monitor impacts, both on the public and our own officers and staff. We will continue to work with partners to support the citizens of Glasgow through this extremely challenging period.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Hate crime decreased by 3.2% from PYTD and decreased 4.0% from 5 year average, with 905 crimes PYTD compared to 876 this year and a 5-year average of 912.8. **Hate Incidents** decreased by 5.4% from PYTD and increased 0.4% from 5 year average, with 964 incidents recorded last year compared to 912 this year and a 5 year average of 908.4.

Road Safety & Road Crime

Between April – September there were two road deaths in the Glasgow City area, this is the same figure for the same period last year. There were no fatalities during the Q2 period. Serious injury collisions reduced by 21.7%, from 115 last year to 90 this year and slight injury collisions reduced by 21.9%, from 256 last year to 200 this year.

Public Satisfaction

User experience surveys indicate satisfaction levels with policing in Glasgow remain high. On average this quarter, satisfaction levels are higher than national levels of 71.19%, with 75.03% of respondents indicating that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience.

Complaints - Between April and September 2022 a total of 397 complaints were received compared to 458 complaints the previous year, a reduction of 13.3%, and also a 9.6% decrease from the 3 year average. This figure reflects a very small number of complaints (35.9 complaints per 10,000 incidents).

Looking Ahead – Forthcoming Priorities

Planning is underway for the period around Bonfire Night, one of the most demanding periods for police and our partners. Working closely with partners, the implementation of local plans aims to minimise disruption to our communities and enhance the safety of our partners attending bonfire/ firework incidents.

G Division will welcome key partners and practitioners to our Public Health Partnership Summit at Hampden Park on 11/10/22. The summit will mark the significant progress under way in our collaboration with Public Health Scotland.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Ukrainian Refugees- The Scottish Government, alongside Glasgow City Council have worked together to provide temporary accommodation to displaced Ukrainian people as a result of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. MS Ambition, docked at King George V Dock, Govan, has the ability to accommodate up to 1400 persons. At time of writing, approx. 1120 persons are currently aboard (74% capacity). Police Scotland have been working with partners to provide a welcome pack, containing local information, customs, currency information and access to key local services. Local Community officers and Safer Communities colleagues have maintained regular liaison with staff dockside and on the ship, to provide visibility and reassurance.

Third Party Reporting Centre Training – Face to face refresher training was delivered to GCC and over 120 people from 24 different organisations attended a virtual event whereby they were provided with Third Party refresher training. This training was well received across the various organisations.

Community Safety Index- G Division Partnership Prevention and Community Wellbeing (PPCW) department continue to provide reassurance, assistance and support to victims of crime or preventative engagement work, as detailed in the Community Safety Index tasking. Reassurance visits were also carried out at the Hindu temple in relation to Muslim/Hindu community tensions in Leicester, following a sporting event there.

Student Safety – Greater Glasgow (PPCW) attended a three day Fresher's Week event in Glasgow City Centre where crime prevention advice was distributed along with various partner organisations, including British Transport Police. Safer Communities also attended an Online Personal Safety event on Facebook with university students, which was well received. Plans for further events during the festive period are currently underway.



CRIME

Drug Harm- In Glasgow East we continue to disrupt criminality through focusing on identifying drug dealing activity and taking appropriate action. Within the Calton and Bellgrove areas Community officers have embarked on dedicated operations to arrest drug dealers, whilst providing support to drug users through our Public Health Approach to Policing. In the Gallowgate area, we have focussed on disrupting county lines drug dealing under Operation Langlet, which resulted in the arrest of two key nominals for Attempted Murder, directly related to drug dealing.

Operation Glamour is an intelligence-led operation to tackle Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SAOG) across Glasgow. During Q2 Greater Glasgow Proactive officers recovered a total of 170 grams of cocaine individually wrapped (approx. £12,000), 3.5kg of herbal cannabis (approx. £14,000), 88 Cannabis plants (approx. £50,000) and £6,930 cash. These recoveries resulted from proactive stop searches and search warrants executed within the Govanhill, Thornliebank and Penilee areas of Glasgow. As a result five males and one female were arrested and charged with Misuse of Drugs Act Offences.

Operation Virion is an intelligence led operation targeting theft by housebreakings primarily committed against Asian householders. During Q2, intelligence suggested perpetrators for housebreaking are travelling to Glasgow from North West England. A Senior Investigating Officer supported by a team of dedicated officers led these enquiries, with Local Area Commanders implementing and mangaging local prevention plans.

The **Divisional Violence Reduction Unit (DVRU)** focus on violent offending and support local plans throughout Greater Glasgow Division to tackle anti- social behaviour and disorder. Over the Q2 period, the DVRU recovered 9 weapons, arrested or reported 410 offenders, seized 31 vehicles, executed 129 warrants, undertook 10 football disorder enquiries and conducted almost 300 stop / searches.

EVENTS

Public Processions - There were 34 processions during the period, including the Annual Boyne Parade, which required a deployment of over 900 officers of varying ranks and specialisms. We further facilitated a Grand Black Chapter procession which required a significant policing deployment due to the number of participants and feeder parades. Within this period 1 Loyalist and 1 Republican procession each required a Public Order structure to be put in place to safely manage counter protests, protecting the right to assembly while preserving order.
We continue to focus on proportionately protecting the rights of individuals to assemble and protest, with the rights of our wider communities.

Football - There have been 24 professional football games within the divisionthrough the period, at Hampden, Celtic Park, Ibrox and Firhill, with an estimated 900,000 persons in attendance. High profile fixtures include Rangers v Tottenham Hotspur, played on the same day as Celtic v Norwich in July and the Celtic v Rangers and Celtic v Real Madrid fixtures in September. Fans are fully back in stadia post-Covid which has led to increased anti-social behaviour and disorder associated with fixtures, which is indicative of the picture seen elsewhere in the UK. We continue to work with clubs and football authorities to support the delivery of fixtures and have developed and implemented Local Reassurance Plans, to provide additional patrols to minimise disorder and community impact.

Night-Time Economy – Safer Glasgow City Centre Policing Plan (SGCCPP) continues to be resourced to appropriately police the city centre post-Covid, recognising the changed dynamic of the night-time economy, in particular an increase in young people frequenting and congregating in the City Centre. We continue to work with communities and partners to reduce anti-social behaviours and crime in the City Centre, and also to reduce the harm caused through alcohol and drugs, referring those affected to appropriate support services and diversionary activities.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

Operation Caton is a joint Human Trafficking and Exploitation investigation between Greater Glasgow Human Trafficking Unit and Home Office (Scotland) - Criminal Financial Investigations. Following intelligence development, Misuse of Drugs Act warrants were executed at private dwellings in Glasgow and East Kilbride resulting in approximately £40,000 in cash and a cannabis cultivation with an estimated value of £160,000 being recovered. During this phase of executive action, two Vietnamese nationals were charged with drug offences and a victim of Human Trafficking was safeguarded and entered into the National Referral Mechanism.

Operation Spin is an intelligence-led operation to tackle Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SAOG) across Glasgow. During Q2 the SAOG Proactive officers recovered a total of 37kg of herbal cannabis (approx. £147,000), £75,000 cash and a Rolex watch valued at £30,000. These recoveries were as a result of searches at two addresses in the Southside, one address in Kelvinside and one address in the Parkhead area. As a result three males were arrested and charged with Misuse of Drugs Act Offences, and two males and one female were arrested on suspicion of Proceeds of Crime Act offences.

Community Investigation Unit (CIU) - After a series of violent incidents in August (two of which involved robberies with knifes), at a convenience store on Great Western Road, a male was arrested at the locus by CIU officers while attempting to commit another robbery. Further investigation led to two males being arrested in connection with four separate crimes of robbery and theft.

SAOC Disruptions Unit– During Q2, the Unit continued to disrupt criminal activity around SAOC and made significant seizures including approx. 1.7Kg Heroin, 275g Cocaine, and 3.25kg cannabis (total value of £134,000). In addition the unit recovered 18 stolen/uninsured vehicles and £44,190 in POCA seizures. In total 114 cases have been reported to the PF.