

Police Scotland ward update noted – Request to Police Scotland.

4 There was heard and noted a verbal report by Sergeant Jamie Kerr, Police Scotland advising the Partnership that

- (1) the recent Presidential visit had had an adverse impact on resources, however Community Police were now able to provide a sustained period of improved contact;
- (2) the number of incidents reported between April and September 2025 had shown a decrease of 5.4% compared to the same time last year;
- (3) recorded crimes had increased since last year, and that theft, mainly shoplifting, had shown an increase of 23%, and that this trend was also a UK wide issue;
- (4) statistics regarding assaults had remained static and were mostly reported in private places;
- (5) housebreaking had shown a reduction of 36%;
- (6) vehicle crime had reduced by 44% and a number of arrests had been made due to the proactive approach being taken by the Service;
- (7) road traffic offences had increase by 37% but that reflected the proactive efforts by officers in tackling the crime;
- (8) reductions in both sexual crimes and robberies had decreased;
- (9) road safety issues, in particular parking at schools was being monitored due to the schools just having returned; and
- (10) more officers were visible in the parks over the summer.

After consideration, the Partnership

- (a) noted the update and thanked Sergeant Kerr; and
- (b) raised a number of questions, highlighted the issues associated with people barbequing in parks, and requested that Sergeant Kerr meet with Community Councillors to look at re-educating communities on disposal of barbecues after use and to work towards developing a parks policy.