



**Dundee City Council**

**Dundee City Council Scrutiny Committee  
Report No 368-2023**

**DUNDEE LOCAL POLICING AREA  
QUARTERLY POLICE REPORT**

**1 July 2023 – 30 September 2023**

**Report by Chief Superintendent Phil Davison  
Police Scotland D Division (Tayside)**

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 It is recommended that members note and scrutinise this operational report.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report (Appendix A) is to provide information to the Committee regarding the performance of Police Scotland to facilitate local scrutiny.
- 2.2 Appendix A will provide information in relation to some of the work which has taken place within Dundee Local Policing Area.
- 2.3 The content in this report is for information purposes to allow Board Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

**3. PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 Appendix A will provide updates on:
- Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
  - Acquisitive Crime and support for victims
  - Road Safety
  - Enabling and supporting effective engagement and communication with the public

## **OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS**

- Use innovative approaches to accelerate capacity and capability for effective service delivery
- Prioritise wellbeing and keep our people safe, well equipped and protected
- A Thematic Spotlight on Addressing violence through preventative and enforcement measures

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1. There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

### **5. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no staffing issues as a result of this report.

### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

6.1 This report does not have any impact on the environment.

### **7. SUMMARY**

7.1 The attached report updates members regarding significant operational matters and performance of the local policing area.

### **8. COMPLIANCE**

Is the proposal;

- |                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) Human Rights Act 1998 compliant? | YES |
| (b) Equality & Diversity compliant?  | YES |

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**Report No 368-2023**

Dundee City Council Scrutiny and Audit Committee  
Quarter 2 ending 30 September 2023

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## **Introduction and Overview of Local Policing Priorities**

As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Divisional Commanders to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The Dundee LPP 2023-2026 clearly sets out the policing objectives for Dundee and will report to the Dundee Scrutiny Committee. Quarterly Performance Reports are produced to allow scrutiny by Dundee Scrutiny Committee. This report covers the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023.

In line with the Dundee LPP, the Quarterly Performance Report provides a more holistic overview of progress across the service to meet our strategic outcomes. This approach provides a wider and more detailed picture of traditional policing performance measures, supplemented with additional insight and narrative to the many different aspects of policing and corporate support functions.

The measures are longer term focussed rather than reflecting the ongoing performance of the day-to-day operational challenges we face and aim to provide evidence of the effectiveness and impact of our services as a whole.

We have introduced a number of key performance measures and insights questions in support of our local police plan to focus attention on impact and outcomes. For example:

- How effective are the diversionary activities provided?
- How effective are the processes in place to prevent acquisitive crime?
- How well are we engaging with the public?
- What progress has been made in terms of collaboration and what percentage of the divisional estate is co-located with partners?

To enable a more detailed examination by the Committee of specific local priorities and strategic outcomes, a 'Spotlight' focus will be provided on one of the priority areas on a quarterly basis. The Spotlight focus will rotate each quarter in line with the expected updates outlined in the Dundee LPP.

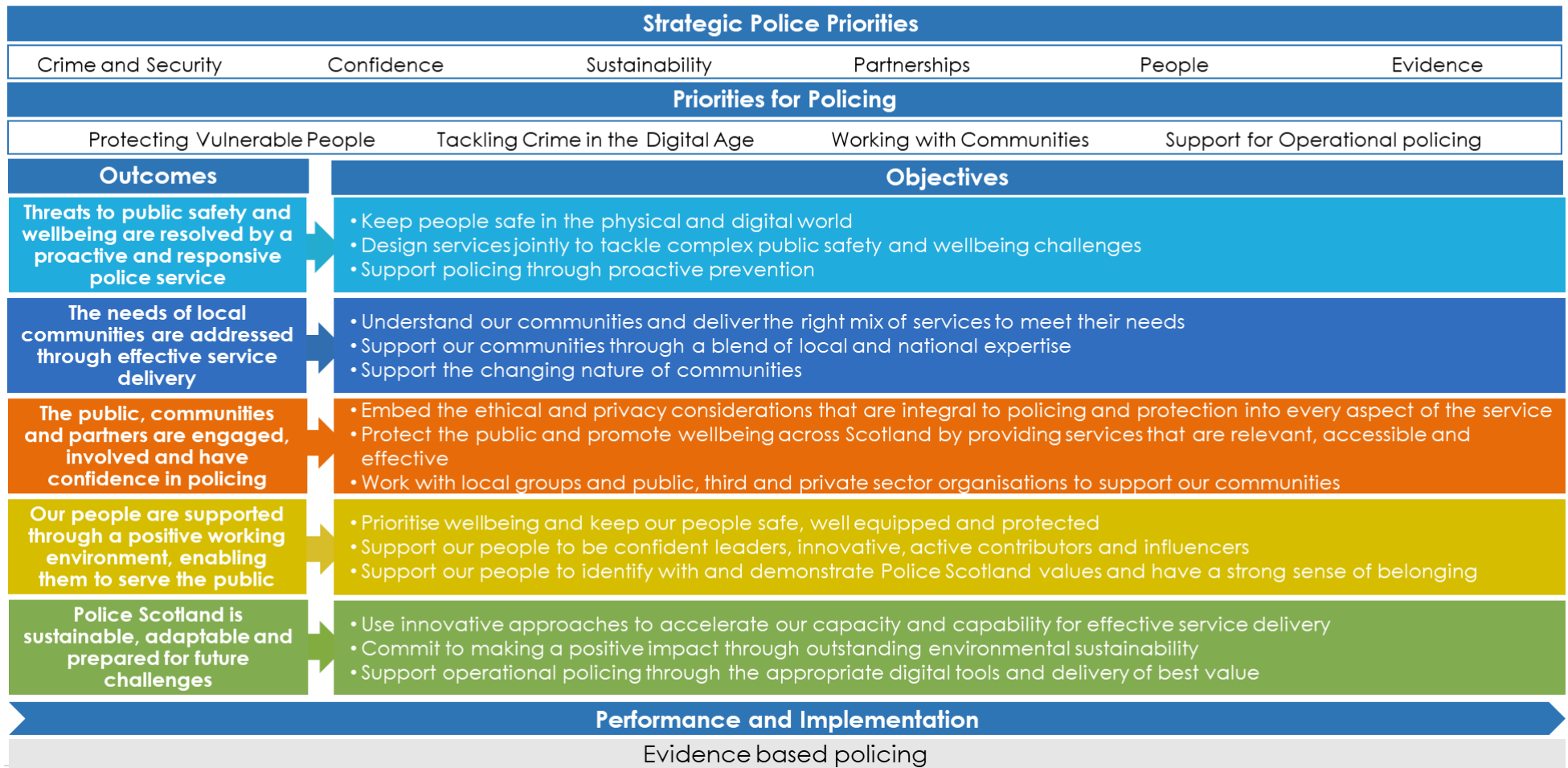
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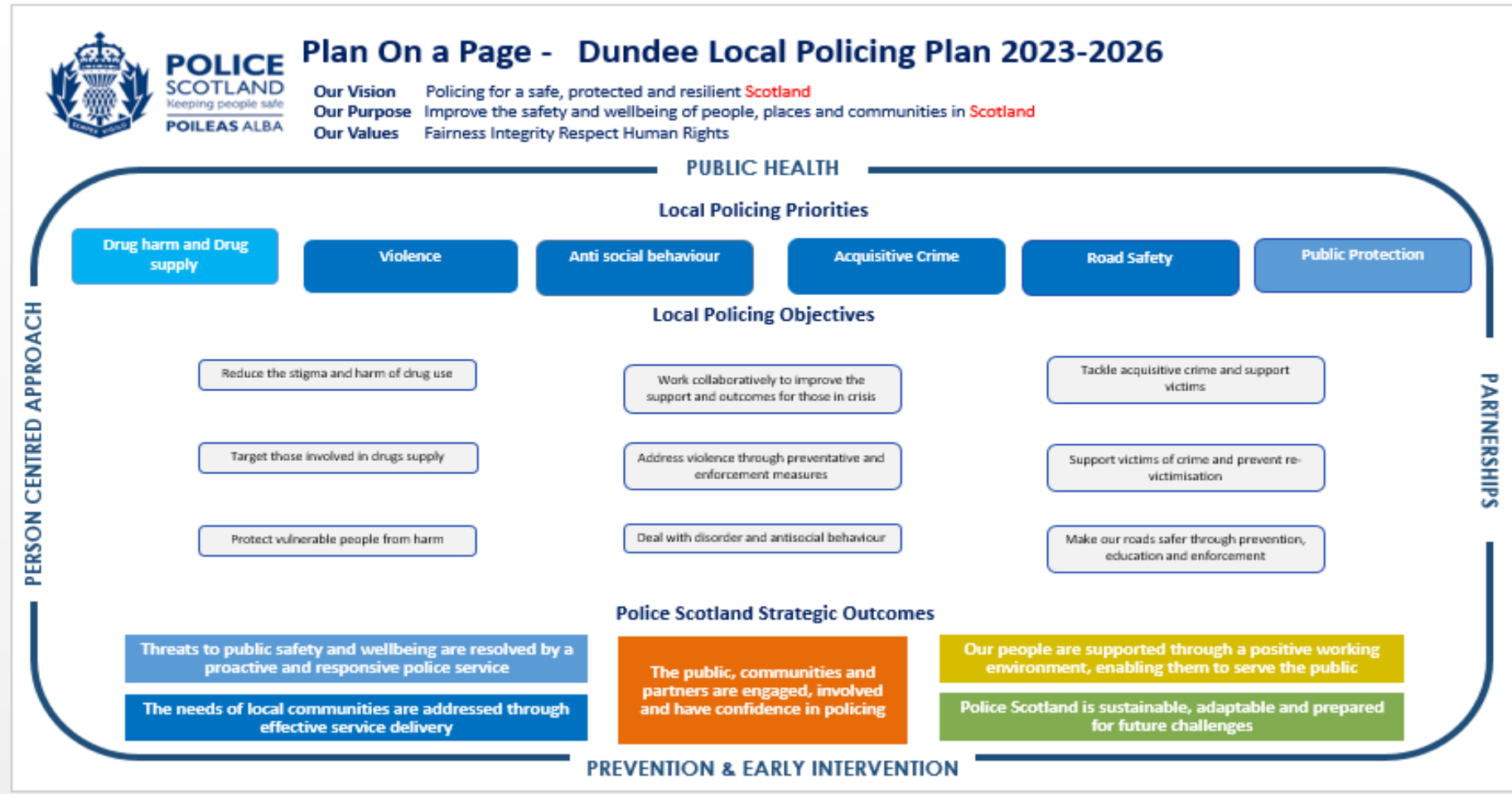


# Police Scotland’s strategic objectives



**Our Vision** | Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland  
**Our Purpose** | The purpose of policing is to improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland  
**Our Values** | Fairness | Integrity | Respect | Human Rights





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Quarter 2 - Performance on a Page - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 30 September 2023

	Recorded Crimes			Change		Detection Rate			% point Change	
	CYTD	LYTD	5 Yr Av.	From LYTD	From 5 Yr Av.	CYTD	LYTD	5 Yr Av.	From LYTD	From 5 Yr Av.
ASB and Disorder										
Overall group 4	834	830	936	0.5%	-10.9%	29.1%	25.1%	39.7%	4.1%	-10.6%
ASB Incidents	6133	6211	7713	-1.3%	-20.5%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Violence										
Robbery	92	70	71	31.4%	28.9%	56.5%	65.7%	72.8%	-9.2%	-16.3%
Serious Assault	64	79	76	-19%	-15.3%	64.1%	77.2%	77.8%	-13.2%	-13.7%
Common Assault (excl Emergency Workers)	982	1020	1018	-3.7%	-3.6%	66.4%	60.0%	62.5%	6.4%	3.9%
Public Protection										
Overall Group 2	290	234	283	23.9%	2.4%	63.8%	56.4%	60.2%	7.4%	3.6%
Rape	60	35	53	71.4%	12.8%	63.3%	62.9%	56.0%	0.5%	7.3%
Domestic Abuse	67	52	-	28.8%	-	74.6%	61.5%	-	13.1%	-
Road Safety										
Speeding offences	169	125	547	35.2%	-69.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Drink / Drug Driving	87	103	135	-15.5%	-35.7%	97.7%	109.7%	95.3%	-12%	2.4%
Acquisitive Crime										
HBs	234	220	211	6.4%	10.7%	33.8%	29.1%	29.4%	4.7%	4.3%
HBs (Domestic)	88	102	123	-13.7%	-28.6%	21.6%	25.5%	24.4%	-3.9%	-2.8%
Motor Vehicle Crime	484	460	326	5.2%	48.3%	20.2%	22.8%	29.4%	-2.6%	-9.1%
Fraud	353	389	249	-9.3%	41.9%	11.3%	15.4%	26.1%	-4.1%	-14.8%
Shoplifting	1159	808	614	43.4%	88.8%	34.3%	44.3%	53.9%	-10.1%	-19.7%

Overall Group 2' **All** Sexual Crimes including Rape & Attempts, Indecent & Sexual Assaults, Prostitution Offences and 'Other' Group 2 Crimes.

Overall Group 4' **All** Fireraising, Vandalism, Reckless Conduct and 'Other' Group 4 Crimes.

**CYTD** – Current Year to Date, **LYTD** – Last Year to Date.

## Local Priority/Activity – Deal with disorder and antisocial behaviour

Dundee currently has 115 Anti-Social Behaviour Orders with 24 Breaches of said orders reported to, and investigated by Police Scotland across the reporting period.

- 305 crimes of vandalism were reported in Q2, a reduction of 15.3% from the same quarter in 2022/23
- 33 crimes of fire-raising were reported in Q2, a reduction of 19.5% from the same quarter in 2022/23
- Overall Group 4 incidents decreased by 14.5% from the same quarter in 2022/23

We continue to work to prevent and deter instances of Anti-social behaviour and disorder by working closely with local authority ASB teams, Housing, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Trading Standards. Examples of this include:

- Attendance at weekly meetings to discuss recurring ASB issues ensuring proportionate action is taken from a multi-agency perspective.
- Progression of joint visits to ensure a co-ordinated approach.
- Support to the Quarterly MATAC relating to ASB to focus on emerging trends/ repeat locations and wider impact of ASB.
- Joint visits with SFRS to provide fire and crime prevention advice. These visits are always well received and SFRS are able to fit letter box jammers and smoke detectors free of charge.

ASB incidents often occur in public spaces and to tackle this, both Community Policing Teams and Response Officers work closely with Community Wardens to provide visibility within communities both by foot patrols and high visibility patrols in marked vehicles.

Officers are regularly tasked to patrol areas which have night time economy businesses, both to prevent and deter any ASB and to provide support to night-time workers. Officers continue to be supported by the Police Scotland Licensing Department who assist with the operation and regulation of Liquor and Civic Licensing which plays a significant role in maintaining public safety in the city.

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During Q2 Lochee Community Policing Team targeted hotspot locations where commercial premises were subject of anti-social behaviour. Premises included Myrekirk Retail Park, Co-op Brook Street, Sainsbury Perth Road and Tesco South Road. Officers carried out high visibility patrols, engaging with staff during visits and made use of powers of search where appropriate. As a result of ongoing focused patrols around Tesco South Road, there has been a 43% reduction in calls to the police during the reporting period.

Longhaugh Community Policing Team has been working with Scottish Fire and Rescue and the ASB Team to deliver a Youth Fire Offender Safety Course to young people identified as being responsible for setting fires in the North East area of Dundee.

In response to information gathered via Your Police Survey which identified locations where people feel less safe, Maryfield Community Policing Team carried out high visibility patrols within Stobswell West. Some of the activities carried out have included stairwell checks and the apprehension of those wanted in relation to crimes of Violence or Anti-Social Behaviour. This operation also included liaising with partners including Housing associations and Dundee Anti-Social Behaviour Team to ensure any issues raised were dealt with collaboratively and importantly provided reassurance that the Community Policing Team were responding to local concerns.

Regular patrols were carried out across Dundee Local Policing Area, focusing on Anti-Social Behaviour, targeting areas highlighted by community members. These areas included Hilltown, Lochee and the City Centre.

### Licensing

Between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the licensing team has processed 505 licence applications for the Dundee area. This included applications for occasional licenses to allow premises to have additional outdoor areas, renewals for taxi operators and drivers, renewals and grants of Houses In Multiple Occupancy and applications for grants of Short Terms lets.

60 recorded ASB incidents were at or in the immediate vicinity of licensed premises. There were 45 inspections carried out throughout Dundee, with no single premises identified as problematic during this period.

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The licensing team has been promoting the 'by-stander' and 'It'll Cost You' campaigns, and assisted by Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, the team has carried out public engagement within our communities and Premise Licence Holders. The Licensing Team are continuing efforts to deliver training to licenced premises in respect of keeping people safe in particular during the night time economy.

### Local Priority/Activity – Tackle acquisitive crime and support victims

This quarter has seen increases in Acquisitive Crime both locally and nationally. We continue to work hard in the preventative space, understanding that reducing the numbers of victims of crime and limiting the harm that these crimes cause is of vital importance. The following paragraphs will focus on key Acquisitive Crime types which impacted Dundee local authority area during Q2.

#### Housebreaking (Domestic Dwelling)

The figures for Housebreaking include attempted housebreaking and instances of housebreaking with intent to steal (i.e. where the security of the dwelling has been overcome but no property stolen). This analysis considers break-ins and attempts to dwellings only.

There were 45 crimes recorded during the Q2 period which is a small reduction from the 46 reported during the corresponding period the previous year. 11 of these crimes have been detected to date giving a detection rate of just below 25% which matches the 5 year average. Many of the outstanding undetected crimes have forensic results pending and positive lines of investigation are still being pursued which means this figure will likely rise.

Overall there have been a total of 88 Housebreaking to Dwelling Houses crimes recorded this year to date which is a 13.7% reduction from the 102 recorded last year to date.

#### Motor Vehicle Crime

This section includes all thefts of vehicles, theft of property from within vehicles and attempts of both crimes.

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As these crimes often overlap or are connected with housebreakings and other criminality, the Divisional Acquisitive Crime team has responsibility for investigating crimes series under the line management of CID. This provides enhanced investigative ability and resources to address motor vehicle crime.

This approach has provided an enhanced investigative response in relation to a group of young males from Dundee who have criminal associates throughout Fife and the East coast of Scotland. These groups have been responsible for several crimes series which involved cross border investigations with neighbouring Divisions.

During Q2, 261 crimes were recorded which is an increase from 215 crimes recorded the previous quarter and the 189 recorded in Q2 last year.

22% of these crimes were detected however a number of crimes remain under enquiry with forensic results and other enquiries pending so further detections are possible.

### Fraud

There were 175 recorded frauds during Q2 which is an increase of four crimes (171) on the corresponding quarter last year. This represents a small increase from the 167 crimes reported during the previous quarter.

The current detection rate is 13%, compared to the 15.9% detected nationally.

Analysis of these offences shows the majority were credit card frauds or had an online element. This makes investigations challenging as perpetrators often live overseas providing additional barriers regarding identification and opportunities to bring them to justice. Fraud enquiries are complex and investigations can often take several months to detect or complete meaning there may be several more crimes detected moving forward.

During Q2 some notable activities have been taken by Officers which are detailed below:

- Commercial House Breakings – Several crime prevention visits have been completed across Dundee in relation to Theft HBs including licensed premises, commercial premises, retail locations and a sheltered housing complex with suitable advice and re-assurance provided.

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- Crime Reduction Surveys – further to the identification of repeat locations relating to Theft HBs or Shoplifting crimes, reduction surveys have been conducted with positive engagement from management at the respective locations with opportunities identified through Retailers Against Crime with appropriate signposting in place.
- Operation Shut Out Scammers – Event held in Dundee City Centre in conjunction with Trading Standards to raise awareness around scams and frauds, with advice offered to members of the public.
- Emerging Trends - Officers continue to respond to ongoing and emerging trends relating to Theft HBs (domestic and commercial), frauds/scams, building site security and cybercrime releasing supporting messaging/ information and advice on all available platforms.
- Derelict Buildings Group - Continued attendance and support at the Multi-Agency Group chaired by SFRS, with joint visits undertaken to prolific locations across Dundee resulting in follow up actions being identified and progressed.
- Longhaugh Community Policing Team have engaged with members of the public in Broughty Ferry during 'Coffee with a Cop' sessions, focusing on providing advice regarding Bogus Crime.
- In Maryfield locality, Community Team members held a 'Coffee with a Cop' session within the Boomerang Cosy Café, Kemback Street and a police surgery within Connect Shop, Albert Street offering location based engagement opportunities for the community to attend. These were well attended and provided opportunities to pass on information, report crime or seek advice.
- 37 year old female detected for 33 theft of fuel offences and 10 theft by shopliftings.
- A 26 year old male and a 33 year old male were arrested and charged for 4 commercial housebreakings.

### Local Priority/Activity – Make our roads safer

There has been 1 fatality for the period under review which is a 100% increase for the same period last year.

Year to date, 14 persons have been seriously injured as a result of a road traffic collision in Dundee. This is a 33% decrease on the same period last year.

Rider Refinement North was carried out throughout the reporting period. This evaluated very well amongst both participants and instructors. It has been recommended that it remains a core aspect of road safety engagement with motorcyclists. As a direct result, it has been rolled out across the East of Scotland. The feedback found the course



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enhanced rider confidence around critical skills. Furthermore, the focus on skills such as forward observation, cornering, and road positioning rather than solely emphasising risk and overt safety messages, was the most effective method of positively impacting road safety according to academic research.

A quote from the evaluation:-

“RRN adopts an innovative and informed approach to rider engagement, rider awareness, and skills building.”

During the period under review 2261 vehicles were stopped across Tayside with 620 Fatal 5 offences detected. The Fatal 5 encompasses:

- Drink/Drunk Driving
- Careless Driving
- Using a mobile phone whilst driving
- Speeding
- Not wearing a seatbelt

These elements are the main causation factor in fatal and serious road traffic collisions. Through the use of social media we provide education and information to all road users highlighting the dangers associated with each.

The Road Policing Unit deploy a variety of tactics when tackling the Fatal 5, this includes the unmarked tractor unit to target larger goods vehicles. The unit was particularly effective on the A90 and Kingsway, Dundee due to the number of commercial vehicles using this route on a daily basis.

During Q2 some notable activities by local officers included:

- Summer Drink, Drug Drive campaign
- Commercial vehicle week working with the Safety Camera Unit to tackle commercial vehicles speeding
- Vulnerable Road users
- Officers also attended St Andrews Primary School and Coldside Primary School to support partners and community teams with exclusion zone enforcement.

## Local Priority/Activity – Enable and support effective engagement and communication with the public

In the Q1 Scrutiny Report we laid out a range of strategic tools which Police Scotland use to engage and communicate with the public. These included the Your Police and User Experience Surveys. These surveys seek to engage in two distinct ways, with the Your Police survey focussed on the perception of people within local communities of their local Police service, in circumstances where they may never have actually had to contact the Police or engage with the service. The User Experience Survey seeks specific feedback from those who have recently accessed and used the service and therefore have a first-hand view of the service provided and how they were treated.

This quarter we will seek to lay out some of the local responses received and provide an overview of how we shall respond to the issues raised in coming months.

It is important to place the responses in context and it is therefore encouraging that the vast majority of respondents to the Your Police survey from the Dundee Local Authority area intimated they felt safe within their local communities and believed their local officers were friendly and approachable. The clear messages received were that the public value officers who show understanding, compassion and listen to individuals' needs. The values and behaviours demonstrated in these positive interactions were seen to be core drivers of public confidence alongside visibility, accessibility, presence and community engagement.

As a result, we are committed to ensuring that every officer interaction is as positive as possible, whether that be our response to a call for service, through engagement at public events, processions or protests, or in the context of delivering proactive patrols. It is a challenging time for policing and hard choices are being taken to deliver effective policing within the revenue budget available to us, however our local priority remains being present in local communities, visible in our approach and accessible to our communities.

Further areas which were consistently raised, relate to the need for officers to provide good quality updates and information to those who have reported a crime or asked for assistance. Survey responses highlight the fact that just over half of the responders reported feeling that the Police provided an appropriate response. It is of fundamental importance that the work undertaken on behalf of community members is fed back, in order to instil confidence and

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provide reassurance. This will be a key area of focus in coming months, with our approach to both individual engagement with victims of crime and broader public reassurance messaging being considered and improved.

In response to specific questions regards areas where community members felt less safe, there were some consistent responses provided in respect of Lochee, Hilltown and Dundee City Centre. In response local Community Sergeants, in conjunction with their Locality Inspectors, have been tasked to develop plans for these specific areas in order to enhance our approach to tackling ASB and seeking to improve the sense of safety of those who live, work in or visit these areas. This will continue to be supported by Dundee City Centre Policing Team.

Lastly, respondents highlighted the importance of those calling the Police receiving an appropriate response. This related to receiving a slower response than callers would like in respect of non-emergency matters (including use of the 101 system) and decisions around non-attendance. This feedback has been shared with our Contact, Command and Control Division as part of the ongoing review of the Contact Assessment Model.

The strategic direction of policing is driven by research, insight and engagement to enable the service to build a robust understanding of the drivers of trust and confidence, and what is needed to enable positive experiences with people who contact us for help. Locally, understanding more about trust and confidence enables the service to respond to community needs more effectively. This service is important when considering strategic choices in the future, our tactical approach now and our current approach to operational engagement.

We will seek to update the Committee on emerging trends driven by our diverse approach to Community Engagement in future quarters and continue to update on those emerging themes which are important to local communities in terms of their interaction and engagement with their local Police service.

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 to 30 September 2023, Preventions, Interventions and Partnerships Officers in Dundee have progressed 56 support visits to vulnerable people, working with statutory and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners to provide follow up contact and re-assurance advice.

Police Scotland are committed to ensuring Dundee's citizens are protected and feel safe with its continued work in conjunction with I Am Me Scotland and the Keep Safe partnership initiative. Currently there are 46 Keep Safe places

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across Dundee with ongoing annual reviews in place to ensure all staff remain trained to the required standard with appropriate signage in place.

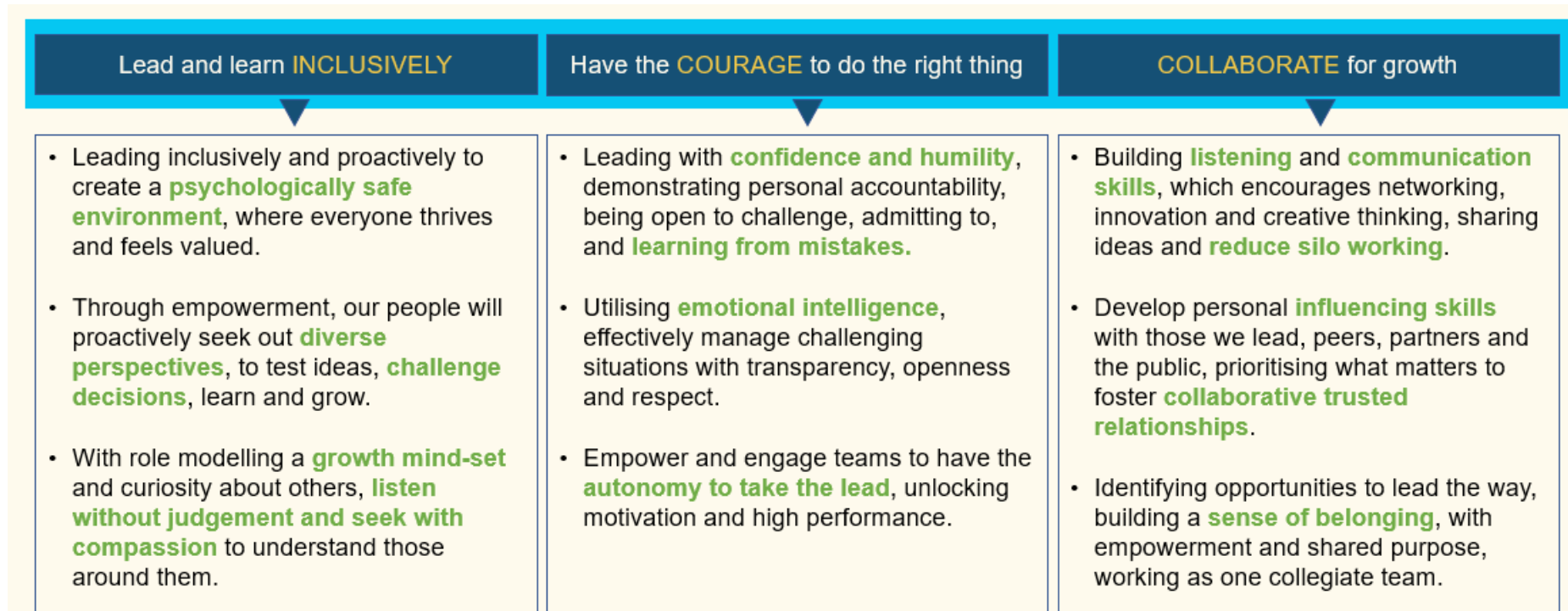
Officers have remained focused on engaging with wider communities between 1<sup>st</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 as detailed:

- Engagement session held in conjunction with DCC Humanitarian Protection Team for re-settled Ukrainian families with attendance also supported by Children and Families services.
- Attendance at the Ukrainian re-settlement Picnic In the Park with SFRS allow members of the community and their respective families to engage with our staff and the fire crews.
- Multi-agency drop-ins in conjunction with SFRS, Scottish Ambulance Service and Mears to introduce emergency services representatives to asylum arrivals.

### National Priority – Use innovative approaches to accelerate capacity and capability for effective service delivery

Your Leadership Matters Core Programme (YLM) is a virtual first programme designed to enhance leadership behaviours, through a blend of summits on MS Teams virtual platform, combined with guest speakers and elements of digital learning, to equip our leaders with the support, capability and skills needed to lead, in a manner that is aligned to our Competency and Values Framework, and to the three leadership behaviours that have been defined as part of the programme.

1. Lead and Learn Inclusively
2. Have the Courage to do the Right Thing
3. Collaborate for Growth



Police Scotland has evolved as an organisation both internally and in response to the current external challenges that we face in policing the communities of Scotland. Our ambition for our people, and their professional experience have also grown, as a reflection of how society has changed over almost a decade.

Leading and learning inclusively is the consistent thread that runs through everything that we do. We are building inclusive teams with diverse perspectives to proactively strengthen decisions and solutions. It is vital that we equip our leaders with the support, capability and skills they need to be able to lead, in a manner that is aligned to Police Scotland's Competency and Values Framework, and to the three leadership behaviours that have been defined the Your Leadership Matters program (YLM).

## National Priority – Prioritise wellbeing and keep our people safe, well equipped and protected

### Officer Safety Training (OST)

Following extensive review, Operational Safety and First Aid Recertification Training have been fully reviewed and updated.

The course was developed as part of the Your Safety Matters initiative and follows the previous Chief Constable's Assault Pledge to give officers and staff the tools and training needed to stay safe. Officer Safety Training has been extended to a two day annual course designed for all officers from the rank of Constable to Inspector and certain members of police staff.

It is delivered at venues across the country by staff from the newly created National OST Unit. The new two day course includes refresher training of Operational Safety theory and techniques including:

Practical first aid inputs introducing the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs); Compression bandages; Inputs on situational awareness and de-escalation alongside the introduction of new operational safety techniques.

### Mobile Working

Police Scotland commenced a program of introducing new mobile devices in 2019, designed to provide officers with access to a range of Police databases and additional communication functionality, limiting officer's time behind desks and maximising visibility within local communities.

This technological advance ensures officers have instant access to detailed information, including warning markers to help keep them safe, through smart devices which incorporate radio communication, mobile telephony and online access.

Recently, some 12,400 new devices with enhanced functionality have been rolled out across the country, with a focus on prioritising those engaged in front line policing.

### Senior Leadership Engagement

During August and September 2023, Tayside's Senior Leadership Team hosted 14 staff engagement sessions with staff across the division. This was an opportunity to bring officers and staff together to hear about key activities ongoing both divisionally and nationally and to enable staff to pose questions and engage directly with members of the leadership team.

The events were well attended with a significant commitment and enthusiasm evident from all staff. The learning and ideas generated from these sessions are being developed into an Action Plan to drive forward in a way which best supports the public and our people. These sessions will be repeated at 6-monthly intervals.

### Quarter 2 Thematic Spotlight

#### Local Priority/Activity – Address violence through preventative and enforcement measures

Tackling violent crime is part of Police Scotland's main focus in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our communities. This report will provide a detailed breakdown of the levels of violent crime recorded and investigated within the Dundee local authority area during the current performance year, whilst exploring the current trends and perpetuating factors which are central to the commission of these crimes.

The report will demonstrate the strategic and tactical approach adopted by Police Scotland in respect of crime prevention, investigation and enforcement activity, highlighting the broad range of resources which are deployed daily to protect our diverse communities and deliver a sense of public safety.

#### Crime Categorisation and Investigative Response

Crimes of violence are categorised into Murder, Attempted Murder, Serious Assault, Robbery and Common Assault.

In terms of the investigation of those more serious and complex investigations, Domestic Violence and Child Abuse we have a number of specialist teams, all of which are led by Senior Investigating Officers. These teams come under the

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management of Tayside Division Criminal Investigation Department and our Public Protection Units. They are the Reactive CID, Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) and Child Protection Investigation Unit (CPIU).

Tayside Division is also fully supported by national units, which are geographically based within the Tayside geographic footprint and have a vital part to play in tackling violence in our local communities. These teams are managed by our Specialist Crime Division (SCD);

Major Investigation Team (MIT) – The North MIT lead the investigation of murder inquiries and large scale and complex criminal investigations. A unit is based in Dundee.

National Domestic Abuse Task Force (NDATF) – Investigate serious and complex instances of domestic abuse. A unit is based in Forfar.

National Child Abuse Investigation Unit (NCAIU) – Investigate serious and complex crimes committed against children. A unit is based in Dundee.

Every morning senior managers meet to discuss each incident of note and assign each case to the appropriate department to review and investigate.

### Statistical Analysis and Crime Management

Tayside Division Community Analysts produce a monthly 'Violent Crime Report' which allows senior officers to analyse reported crimes of violence in Dundee and react to emerging trends, deploying both local and national resources on an 'intelligence led' basis to prevent crimes of violence from taking place. This detailed approach to Tasking is governed via monthly Tasking and Coordinating Group meetings which are chaired by the Divisional Commander and attended by the full Senior Leadership Team.

Our 'crime management' department ensures that each crime is properly recorded and that a robust professional investigation is delivered. Line managers across local policing, CID and PPU routinely assess crimes under investigation to ensure that these investigations are being progressed at pace and that vital safeguarding for victims is in place.



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Through this combination of strong governance, statistical analysis and careful tasking we can focus our resources effectively to maximise detection rates, limit repeat offending and prioritise crime prevention activity.

### Performance Data by Crime Type

- There have been no Murders during the reporting period.
- There has been one attempted murder during the reporting period. The perpetrator and victim were known to one another and this incident was part of an ongoing feud. The person responsible was arrested and remanded in custody. This is a significant fall from the 3 which occurred in the previous reporting period and 2 within the corresponding period last year.
- There have been 26 Serious Assaults recorded within this quarter. This is down from 38 in the corresponding period last year. 19 of these crimes have been detected giving a detection rate of 73%. It should be noted that a number of these investigations are ongoing with positive lines of investigation.
- Weapons were used in 13 of these crimes which ranged from bottles to knives and an axe on one occasion. Further analysis shows that alcohol and substance abuse plays a significant factor in the commission of these offences.
- 39 robberies were reported in this reporting period which is higher than the same period last year (26). Weapons ranging from knives to blunt objects were used in the majority of these crimes. Drugs and alcohol were also factors in the majority, and most offenders were known to the victim prior to the incident.
- Of these offences 39 reported robberies, 25 were detected with a detection rate of just over 64%. This is below the 5 year average detection rate of 72.8% however further detections are anticipated.

### Common Assault

There have been 982 crimes of Common Assault recorded CYTD, in comparison to 1020 crimes LYTD, demonstrating a 6.4% reduction in occurrence rates. The current detection rate is 66.4%, which is an increase from 59.8% LYTD.

### Common Assault – Emergency Workers

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Unfortunately Assaults perpetrated against Emergency Workers have seen a significant increase during the reporting period. There have been 186 crimes committed CYTD, in comparison to 150 crimes LYTD. A number of crimes occurred within Headquarters at Bell Street, with drugs and alcohol being a significant factor in a high number of crimes.

This is a national trend, which has been identified by Police Scotland, who take the safety of officers and staff extremely seriously. The national strategy is delivered via the 'Your Safety Matters' campaign which is led directly by members of the Force Executive.

### Crime Prevention

The above information provides some key information in terms of how investigations are structured and delivered, whilst outlining current performance in the local authority area. The robust investigation of crimes and the detection of offenders is critical in maintaining public confidence, providing community reassurance, reducing risk, supporting victims and delivering a sense of justice.

A detailed approach is taken to prioritising our resources to ensure that our activity is targeted in a way which identifies those who present the greatest risks and have the propensity to cause the most harm. Although not exhaustive, some of the key components of that approach will be outlined here.

### Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

MAPPA provides a robust set of governance arrangements centred on the development of multi-agency risk assessments and action plans designed to mitigate the risks posed by the most dangerous offenders within local communities.

Category 3 MAPPA offenders are those individuals subject to court order and under the management of Local Authority Criminal Justice Social Workers, who are assessed to pose a High or Very High risk of harm.

Offenders who fit this criteria are subject to frequent Risk Management Meetings, where a collective understanding of the risks posed, those most likely to be at risk and those steps which are required to be taken to mitigate risk are discussed and agreed.

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The Dundee Area Commander is responsible for ensuring that all necessary proactive policing activity is delivered in support of MAPPA risk management plans, working closely with local authority leads to prevent re-offending. MAPPA meetings are attended by all agencies who have an active role in the offender's supervision and management from across the partnership.

A very small number of offenders fit the MAPPA Category 3 threshold, which is reserved for those critical few which pose the greatest risks.

### Bail orders and apprehension warrants

When an investigation has reached the point where Police Scotland have sufficiency of evidence to charge a person there are three disposal options available, with outcomes of each individual circumstances assessed and determined on a case by case basis;

- 1) The accused person is charged with the crime and a report detailing the circumstances is submitted to the Procurator Fiscal service for their consideration. This is generally for minor matters where there is no wider concerns.
- 2) Release the accused on a 'bail undertaking' after they agree to attend a future court hearing.
- 3) Keep the accused person in custody to appear at court the next day. In these cases Police will send a report to the Procurator Fiscal detailing the circumstances and provide an evidence based view on whether the accused person should be released on bail or 'remanded' to prison for trial.

Conditions of bail are designed to reduce the risk of reoffending and Police will make use of specific conditions such to reduce risk of reoffending.

Police Scotland have a role to ensure that any bail conditions are enforced and should a violent offender breach his bail conditions or any other court order he will be proactively arrested and returned to court.

By the same rationale if a person accused of a violent crime fails to attend a court hearing the Sheriff will consider issuing a warrant for that person's arrest. The enforcement of these warrants is another priority for Police Scotland.

### Prison Release Visits

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Police Scotland liaise closely with the Scottish Prison Service, sharing critical information in order to maximise opportunities to support violent offenders from returning to the commission of crime on release from the prison system. In Dundee, those deemed to pose a risk of returning to violent offending receive a pro-active visit from local officers on release, sign-posting to appropriate support services, either within the local authority (Housing, SWD etc) or across the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.

### Public Support and Reassurance

Locally, Senior Investigating Officers and the Area Commander deliver well-developed external communication strategies, to ensure communities understand the nature of Police activity in their local area and are reassured rather than concerned by those more high profile investigations.

The support of members of our local communities is crucial in the fight against violent crime and a focus on our services being visible and accessible is crucial.

Police Scotland routinely seek the support of members of our local communities through a range of engagement tools, ranging from use of the main stream media, printed press and social media, seeking to engage with as broad a range of community members as possible.

We will continue to ensure that the harm caused by serious violent crime is mitigated and local communities reassured through the provision of well timed, accurate and accessible information.

### Violence Against Women & Girls

Police Scotland's strategy to tackle violence against women and girls is now published. Police Scotland engaged extensively with survivors, stakeholders, partners and the public to develop this strategy which sets out a vision for Scotland where women and girls live free from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, and harassment.

Police Scotland's approach to tackling domestic abuse is recognised as an exemplar world-wide, as is the perpetrator focused approach to prevention epitomised in the ground-breaking *That Guy* campaign which ran for the second year in November 2022 which urged men to be part of the solution, by promoting that having a quiet word with a friend at

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the right time could stop sexual offending before it starts. The campaign will run again in 2023, and although progress is being made, there continues to be more work to do to support culture change and the rights of women and girls to feel safe.

Police Scotland's strategy sets out 4 Strategic Outcomes to deliver change, these are;

1. To support women and girls
2. To prevent harm and secure justice
3. To create safe spaces
4. To uphold trust and confidence

The following paragraphs will lay out our local approach to delivering on our national strategic intent.

### Domestic Abuse Investigations

A critical component of the local delivery of our national strategic objectives relates to the quality and speed of our investigations. Police Scotland see each report as a crucial opportunity to safeguard women and girls who have been subject to violence. This involves ensuring that each investigation is victim-centred, sympathetic to the needs of the individual's circumstances, holistic in the sense of exploring the full range of offences which may have been committed and cognisant of the impact those offences may have had on other family members. We understand the courage it takes to report domestic abuse offences and seek to ensure we are accessible, responsive and robust.

Police Scotland maximise all investigative opportunities including the in depth analysis of offender behaviour, understanding that perpetrators have often been abusive within the context of a range of previous and current relationships.

Domestic Abuse investigations are subject to daily review by the Local Area Commander, ensuring that investigations are progressed quickly, enforcement opportunities are maximised, offenders arrested quickly and all opportunities to prevent further offending are explored. This involves the use of both criminal and civil legislation, such as prohibitive bail conditions and non-harassment orders.

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Every high risk victim and offender receive additional pro-active contacts to ensure safeguarding remains robust, women and their families are safe and to ensure perpetrators are adhering to the conditions of court orders.

### Operation Argonite

Operation Argonite supports the Local Area Commander and ensures that focus is given to Domestic Perpetrators who present the most risk. They develop intervention strategies and tactics designed to prevent, reduce and mitigate the threat, risk and harm posed by criminals in Dundee, in particular those priority nominals.

As part of their main functions, they work collaboratively with partners to protect the most vulnerable victims and maximise safeguarding opportunities.

### Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC)

Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meetings were introduced nationally by Police Scotland in 2013, in accordance with Priority 4 of the Scottish Government Equally Safe strategy, which seeks to ensure perpetrators 'receive a robust and effective response'.

The aim of MATAC is to effectively tackle offending by perpetrators who present the greatest risk of harm, in order to achieve positive outcomes for victims and their families through coordinated partnership work to identify and investigate domestic abuse perpetrators using relevant and legitimate police tactics.

MATAC meetings take place in Tayside Division held every four weeks.

### Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

MARAC is a local meeting where representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies meet to discuss individuals at high risk of serious harm or homicide as a result of domestic abuse. The meeting provides a safe environment for agencies to share relevant and proportionate information about current risk and develop a coordinated action plan.

The primary focus of the MARAC is to safeguard the adult victim. However, the MARAC will also make links with other agencies to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. Ensuring that the victim is supported

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throughout, and their needs represented at the MARAC is crucial to managing risk, improving and maintaining safety, and reducing repeat victimisation.

MARAC meetings are held as a matter of routine in Dundee in support of those who are most vulnerable to abuse and violence.

### Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS)

The aim of DSDAS is to provide a way of sharing information about a partner's abusive past, with a potential victim. It gives people at risk of Domestic Abuse the information they need to allow them to make an informed decision whether to continue the relationship.

The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland has two main triggers for disclosure, the Right to Ask and the Power to Tell.

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. An example of this would be a parent concerned about their child's new partner.

Power to Tell - enables Police to make a public interest disclosure when we receive information or intelligence about a relationship/developing relationship which may otherwise leave a person at avoidable risk of harm from a violent partner.

Anyone can make a DSDAS application via the Police Scotland internet page.

### Violence perpetrated against children

'Keeping children safe' is a priority for Police Scotland and we are committed to thoroughly investigating all child protection concerns.

Any crimes of violence in which a child has been assaulted are managed by our Child Protection Investigation Unit (CPIU) who work closely with partners from Dundee Social Work Department.

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The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2014) states that all staff who work with children and their families have a role to play.

Police Scotland have a statutory responsibility to engage with partners via the Inter-agency Referral Discussion (IRD) multi-agency process involving Social Work, NHS and education partners.

### IRD Outcomes

The IRD is a platform to enable all relevant information to be shared and analysed to ensure that any Child Protection investigation is based on a reasoned, informed and considered plan.

When a child has disclosed that they have been the victim of violence the following actions will always be considered;

- The immediate safety of the child and what safety measures are required to keep the child safe.
- A Child Protection Investigation
- A Joint Investigative Interview (JII)
- Medical examination of the child involving a Consultant Paediatrician with a Forensic Medical Examiner.
- Multi Agency assessments

Once these actions have been concluded a debrief meeting will be arranged to update partners.

### Quality Assurance

The IRD process and the subsequent investigations are carefully minuted and documented. The decision making process is routinely audited to evaluate;

- Adherence to the process
- Information sharing guidance
- Quality of the critical analysis & decision making



- Planning for the child

In Dundee during Q2, CPIU and Dundee SWD have taken part in 97 IRDs during which 242 children were discussed and have jointly interviewed 69 children.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, this thematic report has sought to provide a detailed overview of local service delivery in terms of violent crime in Dundee. It has demonstrated the breadth of resource which is targeted towards this critical area of work, not only in respect of investigation and arrests, but also in terms of our commitment to partnership working and critical areas of prevention activity.

The report touches on the critical area of violence against women and girls, demonstrating the importance of bringing a continued focus to our work in changing cultural attitudes towards violence and specifically violence directed towards women and girls.

The impact of violence continues to be felt across the local authority and we remain determined to reduce rates of offending, mitigate the harm caused and promote public confidence and sense of safety.

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