Ward 6 Cromarty Firth February 2025





Reporting Period - 01 February 2025 – 28 February 2025

Local Policing Priorities



Road Safety and Road Crime

Intention - With Partners, enhance Road Safety across the Highland Area.

Objective – With Partners, deliver a Road Safety Strategy focusing on: Challenging driver behaviour; Education at the road side and elsewhere; Detection of offences linked to contributing factors of Fatal and Serious Road Traffic Collisions and collectively reducing potential harm.

Road Safety continues to be a priority for local officers and the dedicated Road Policing and Safety Camera unit who will deploy and conduct pro-active patrols where possible. During February a number of road traffic offences have been recorded including instances of dangerous driving in Invergordon, careless driving in Alness, Invergordon and the A9 at Delny and speeding in Tain and Alness.

A number of people were also arrested and charged for drink or drug driving in the Invergordon and Alness area's. Officers continue to deal with other moving road traffic offences in the area including vehicles with no insurance, no MOT and accident offences.

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Anti-Social Behaviour, Disorder and Violence

Intention – With Partners, better understand the causes to prevent and reduce instances of Anti-Social Behaviour, Disorder and Violence to enhance community safety across the Highland Area.

Objective – Work with Partners to share information, support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement Measures linked to harmful alcohol consumption; maintain robust procedures around licensed premises; support victims of violent crime by working with partners to improve service provision and prevent repeat victimisation.

Alcohol related violence, domestic violence and violence towards the Police are the biggest issues in this area for February. Police Scotland is committed to effectively dealing with perpetrators of domestic violence and will not tolerate violence of any kind towards its officers. Perpetrators of such incidents will always be dealt with robustly and reported to the courts where there is sufficient evidence.

Police Scotland continues to work with partners regarding any reported anti-social behaviour in the community and will respond to any reported incidents as required. As part of our approach to reduce violence we will continue to complete pro-active patrols and routine licensed premises checks.

Some notable incidents this month include a disturbance at the Station Hotel, Alness on 15/02/25 which resulted in 3 females being charged with assaulting 3 other females. There was also a serious assault recorded on 06/02/25 as a result of two males fighting in Invergordon. Both were arrested and reports will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 06/02/25 officers utilised their stop and search powers in Invergordon and found a male in possession of a knife and a quantity of drugs. The male was subsequently arrested and charged with the relevant offences.

Between 17th and 18th February 2025 there was also a report of youths causing damage to a wall of a property in the Burnside area of Alness. A crime record has been raised and enquiries are ongoing. Local officers are also aware of the issue and will be conducting extra patrols when available.

Acquisitive Crime

Intention – With Partners and Communities, prevent instances of acquisitive crime across the Highland area.

Objective – With Partners, share information, support education, prevention, diversionary and enforcement activity linked to acquisitive crime; develop work with targets – recidivist offenders to reduce reoffending linked to acquisitive crime e.g. Persistent Offenders programme; enhance the use of all media platforms to raise awareness of local and national preventative initiatives.

On 18/02/25 there were 3 linked crimes of Housebreaking and Attempted Housebreaking to commerical properties in Invergordon. Crime records have been raised and positive lines of enquiry are being investigated by local CID.

There have also been a number of alcohol related shopliftings in the Alness and Invergordon areas. Crime records have been raised and enquiries are ongoing. We will continue to work with shops and supermarket security teams to assist in increasing their security measures and preventing instances of shoplifitng.

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Protecting Vulnerable People

Intention – Protect people at risk of harm.

Objective – With Partners and as corporate parents we will deliver the Highland CHAMPS (Highland Champion Board) strategy; with Partners we will focus on safeguarding communities; with Partners we will address emerging issues through Prevention and Intervention.

There is nothing specific to report for February under this section however protecting vulnerable people remains a priority for local officers. Calls regarding concern for person and mental health related incidents are attended frequently. These calls can have quite an impact on local resources however there is currently a review ongoing at executive level to ensure Police Scotland are providing the most appropriate response to these types of incidents. Further information can be found here <u>Thematic review of policing mental health in Scotland | HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland</u> and <u>Multi-Agency Partnership Approach to Distress: Framework for Collaboration</u>

Serious and Organised Crime

Intention – With Partners, reduce the threat, risk and harm caused by Serious Organised Crime.

Objective – With Partners work to safeguard the Highland area by taking all opportunities to prevent crime and make the Highland area a hostile environment for Serious & Organised Crime Groups; to improve outcomes for individuals and communities and reduce offending through prevention, early intervention and diversion; in support of our Partners in the Local Authority and NHS via the Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership Strategy we will direct those who are substance dependant towards recovery through prevention, treatment and support services; with Partners work to reduce the instances of substance misuse in our communities.

Drug related incidents continue to be the main issue in this section. Local officers will continue to act on intelligence provided by the public regarding drug misuse and will use all powers at their disposal, including stop and search, to bring prepetrators to justice and reduce the harm on the community. As a result of proactive work by local officers, search warrants were executed at two separate addresses in Alness, where a quantity of drugs were recovered and the occupants have been charged with being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs. A further male was also similarly charged after officers attended an address in Alness for a separate matter.

Around 10 people were found with drugs in their possession in the Alness and Invergordon areas during February, as a result of good proactive work by local officers.

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Counter Terrorism

Intention – Support the delivery of the CONTEST strategy to reduce the threat posed by terrorism and domestic extremism.

Objective – Strengthen PREVENT work with Partners and institutions; with Partners, support individuals who are vulnerable to terrorism and violent extremism; strengthen PREVENT work in relation to the internet and Social Media; Effective Multi-agency planning in respect of Counter Terrorism is taking place; Develop our ability to response effectively to any terrorist attack (with a specific focus on emerging high-risk threats, and specialist capabilities).

ACT Early is a program delivered to schools across the Highland area. The ACT Early session is a vehicle for debate around the sensitive issue of violent extremism within communities. As such it is an enabler for community participants to air grievances, debate matters of interest to them and work through a group problem solving experience. The following links can provide more information regarding the program: https://act.campaign.gov.uk/ https://actearly.uk/

Whilst Counter Terrorism is obviously a priority for Police Scotland, in the monthly report it is anticipated that there will be nothing to report on a monthly basis and the information will generally remain as above.

Published crime data can also be accessed online via the following link:-Crime data - Police Scotland

Contact – Should you require further information on this report then please contact us in the normal way using 101 or online through https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/.