

Ward 6 Cromarty Firth March 2025



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Reporting Period - 01 March 2025 – 31 March 2025

Local Policing Priorities

 ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads	 ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, VIOLENCE AND DISORDER Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime	 ACQUISITIVE CRIME Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending	 PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners	 SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME Reduce the harm caused by serious organised crime including cyber related crime	 TERRORISM AND PUBLIC ORDER Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness
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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.

There have been a number of days of action targeting the NC500, vulnerable road users including older drivers and Fatal 5. In addition, Police officers have participated in deployments in respect of the National Speeding Campaign between 17 - 23 March 2025 and the National Motorcycle Safety Campaign which launched on 21 March 2025. Police Scotland have also engaged with Partners in respect of visitor management.

As part of visitor management, tourist drivers and road users are being issued with advisory leaflets in respect of driving standards and driving whilst in Scotland, including driving on country roads. Furthermore, drivers and road users have been issued with wrist bands (printed in various languages) reminding them to drive on the correct side of the carriageway.

Road Safety continues to be a priority for local officers and the dedicated Road Policing and Safety Camera Unit have conducted pro-active patrols and will continue where possible.

During March a number of moving road traffic offences have been recorded including instances of dangerous or careless driving, driving under the influence of drink / drugs, speeding and a number of vehicle defects. Penalty notices have been given, where appropriate, with others being reported directly to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 26th of March, in Alness, officers on patrol saw a person driving an unregistered motorcycle without protective gear, while driving in the opposite direction to the traffic, going over the footpath and driving dangerously putting himself, his passenger and other road users at risk of harm. He has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

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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 section for March. Police Scotland is committed to effectively dealing with perpetrators of 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.

There have been a number of reports of assault and threatening and abusive behaviour in the reporting period, which involved both young people and adults. Officers continue to deal robustly with perpetrators to maintain public order.

A young person acted in a racially aggravated abusive manner, causing fear and alarm to other members of the public, which resulted in that youth being reported to the Scottish Children's Reporter and two adult males have been charged with assault, following a review of CCTV evidence.

There have also been a number of incidents of vandalism reported, however they appear to be isolated incidents. Local officers are 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.

A range of crimes reported under this section in March include thefts, shopliftings, frauds and attempted frauds. Of note was a series of ringing the changes frauds, whereby a person attended at financial institutions asking to change money, appeared to change their mind regarding the requested denominations several times and left having taken money from the cashier without them noticing. Police Scotland urges employees to be vigilant and contact Police as soon as possible should they note suspicious activity.

There have been a number of reports of theft of petrol in Alness and attempted thefts from within motor vehicles. Enquiries are ongoing.

Police Scotland will continue to work with shops and supermarket security teams to assist in increasing their security measures and preventing instances of shoplifting.

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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 March 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 [Thematic review of policing mental health in Scotland | HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland](#) and [Multi-Agency Partnership Approach to Distress: Framework for Collaboration](#)

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.

I'm pleased to report that there is nothing specific in relation to this section in this reporting period. Officers continue to record and act upon all intelligence submitted to Police Scotland in regards to serious and organised crime and encourage public to report suspicious activity via contact us form on the website or via 101.

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.

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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/>.

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