
Report to Housing, Health and Care Committee

Date of Meeting: 23 May 2013

Subject: Clackmannanshire Policing Performance Report 2012/13

Report by: Chief Superintendent Flynn

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide information on policing performance in the Clackmannanshire local authority area during 2012/13. This was the final period during which policing was the responsibility of Central Scotland Police, prior to the establishment of the single Police Service of Scotland (known as Police Scotland) on 1 April 2013.
- 1.2. The report will enable members to assess the impact Policing is having on taking forward the Community Planning Priority Outcomes, in particular that Our communities are and feel safer.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The committee are invited to note the contents of the report.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. Previously, the Central Scotland Joint Police Board received a Force Performance Framework document which contained information on performance against all of the key managed performance indicators. This was presented at Force level and the framework and data in it was structured at that level.
- 3.2. The attached report and tables presents information relating to Clackmannanshire from the previous performance information system and in a similar format where the data could be disaggregated readily to local authority level.
- 3.3. This report may be regarded as a closure report from the former policing arrangements, and members should note that the format and content of the tables is a legacy from those used by Central Scotland Police and may not be that which is provided in future following the establishment of Police Scotland.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

4.1. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. *Financial Details*

5.2. There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

5.3. *Staffing*

5.4. There are no staffing implications resulting from this report .

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes No

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix 1 – Clackmannanshire Policing Performance Report 2012/13.

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes (please list the documents below) No

Central Scotland Police force performance framework 2012/13

Central Scotland Police force injury collision tables 2012/13

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POLICE SCOTLAND – FORTH VALLEY DIVISION

CLACKMANNANSHIRE POLICING PERFORMANCE REPORT 2012/13

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information on the performance against key managed indicators in respect of policing in the Clackmannanshire local authority area. It covers the period from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, during which the delivery of policing services in the area was the responsibility of Derek Penman, the then chief constable of Central Scotland Police.
- 1.2 Police Reform established the Police Service of Scotland (commonly known as Police Scotland) on 1 April 2013, at which time Central Scotland Police ceased to exist. Policing services for Clackmannanshire are now delivered through the Clackmannanshire Area Command of the Forth Valley Division of Police Scotland.
- 1.3 Previously, the Central Scotland Joint Police Board received a Force Performance Framework document which contained information on performance against all of the key managed performance indicators. This was presented at Force level and the framework and data in it was structured at that level. The Performance Framework attached to this report presents only those indicators which could readily be disaggregated to local authority level. This covers the main crime groups and road collision statistics.
- 1.4 This report provides complementary information to present a rounded picture of issues affecting policing in Clackmannanshire during 2012/13.
- 1.5 The format of the report generally follows the order of strategic priorities (eg ASB/Disorder, Vandalism, Violence etc) as they appeared on the Force Performance Framework. 3 or 5 year average figures are provided depending upon the source from which they are derived. In both cases, they are provided to give some longer-term balance to year on year figures.
- 1.6 It should be noted that the format and contents of the framework is a legacy from those used by Central Scotland Police and may not be that which is used following the establishment of Police Scotland.

2. TRENDS

- 2.1 The downward trend in crimes and offences involving **Anti-Social Behaviour, disorder and vandalism** continued throughout the year. There has been a reduction of around 25% in the incidence of such offences when compared with the 3 year average. Part of this may be attributable to the reclassification of some common law breach of the peace charges to the new statutory offence of threatening and abusive behaviour. This legislation has only been introduced recently and there is not sufficient long-term data to fully establish its impact. Vandalism accounts for almost 30% of group 1-4 crime and its prevention and detection remained a focus in Clackmannanshire Area Command.
- 2.2 There was a welcome reduction with regard to **incidents of violence**. Minor assaults which make up the largest number of acts of violence (659) continued to reduce from the previous year totals (776) and against the 5 year average (674). However, Group 1 crimes, which comprise more serious acts, increased to 88 for 2012/13 compared to 69 last year and 77 for the 5 year average. The detection rate rose to 96% from 90% in 2011/12 and exceeded the previous high 3 year baseline of 95%. Child neglect cases continued to show an increase, but there was a sharp focus on the welfare of the child and a direction to officers to robustly report the circumstances of the neglect as recording the incident as a crime promotes early intervention by services as a statutory requirement.
- 2.3 Although the number of **drugs-supply** cases reported shows a noticeable drop against the 3 year average, much of this is attributable to new counting conventions which reduced the number of charges previously labelled on crime reports. The number for 2012/13 is similar to that of 2011/12 which was the first year following the introduction of the new conventions. The number of drug dealers reported (33) has returned to close to the levels from the previous year and the 3 year average.
- 2.4 **Crimes of dishonesty (group 3)** reduced by 13% against the 3 year average, with a particular drop in reports of motor vehicle crime (-30%). The detection rates for group 3 offences and for residential housebreakings remained steady at about 50% and 40% respectively. Effort was directed towards known repeat offenders, with early intervention reducing the likelihood of a series of crimes being committed.
- 2.5 The trend of reductions in the levels of **crimes of indecency** continued with a reduction of almost 30% against 2011/12. The detection rate increased by 30% compared to last year and by 14% against the 3 year average. Work was undertaken to maintain awareness of issues of personal safety and potential vulnerability. Levels of offending by individuals who are strangers to the victim remained low.
- 2.6 The 3 year average figures in relation to **race and other hate crimes** are not available because of previous data loss on the system. There was an

improvement on the figures for the previous year in respect of both racially motivated offences (-38%) and recorded racist incidents (-32%).

- 2.7 There was a reduction in the overall recorded rate for **crimes in Groups 1 to 4** compared to last year (-18%) and to the 3 year average (-17%). The reduction in overall crime rates follows the trend that was experienced during 2011-12.
- 2.8 The number of **injury road collisions** shows little variance for this reporting period across the figures for the current year, previous year and 3 year average (76/ 75 / 71). Similarly, the profile of fatal and serious injuries resulting from the collisions remained relatively consistent (17/ 16/ 18). The number of slight injuries increased slightly to 89 from 88 the previous year and from 76 as the 3 year average. There were a number of different contributory factors but no single link in these incidents. There were **no child road fatalities for the third year in a row** although the number of serious injuries at 3 was up by 2 from last year and by 1 on the 3 year average. It should be noted that the number of injuries arising from road collisions has reduced significantly over the past decade and that the targets set for that period by central government were comfortably met.
- 2.9 The number of **young drivers (aged 17-24)** involved in road collisions and the number suffering injury as a result of collisions were both down against previous comparators. This issue continues to be a focus for activity alongside the efforts of other partners involved in road safety.
- 2.10 There was also a decrease in **collisions and injuries involving motor cyclists**. This again was a particular focus of activity.
- 2.11 The number of **domestic abuse incidents** (713) showed a welcome drop against the previous year (796) and 3 year average (778). This issue was given particular emphasis during 2012/13 and measures including intervention, enforcement and target profiling were applied successfully.
- 2.12 The supply of drugs is still the main activity of **serious organised crime groups** in the force area. Whilst the seizure of drugs forms part of the force response, the disruption of the activities of such groups through a wide variety of different actions, often in conjunction with partner organisations, has produced significant successes. The high level of activity undertaken is reflected in the manner in which intelligence received from the communities was pursued and drugs warrants enforced. Applications for financial asset confiscation also have a significant impact on individuals involved in the supply of controlled drugs.
- 2.13 The Force provides **reports on detected crimes and offences** to the Procurator Fiscal. There are regular meetings to discuss the quality and timeliness of reports, with feedback from the fiscals indicating that they are generally content with both elements. The force recognises the importance of

this element of business by applying a number of indicators to it. These are monitored closely, and receive attention as appropriate. For example the small but steady increase in the number of cases marked “no proceedings” by the fiscal led to a detailed assessment by the force of the reasons for this, and guidance being issued to officers to address the most prominent causes. The application of **early and effective intervention** measures has resulted in a diversion rate of almost 60% for children away from formal reports to the fiscal or the Scottish Children’s Reporters Agency.

2.15 The number of **Special Constables** doing duties in Clackmannanshire during 2012/13 was 13, and they undertook 2266 hours of duty which was an increase on the previous year. Proportionately, this was the highest for any area of the force. Special Constables undertake a wide range of duties and provide a valuable resource for the force, as well as a source for recruitment of regular officers.

2.16 There were marginal changes in the percentage of **working time lost to sickness absence**, with a slight reduction for police officers and a small increase for police staff. The year end target of 4.1% was met.

2.17 The level of **complaints cases about the police** reduced against previous comparators. There were no discernible trends or patterns which might identify preventative action. The number of complaints made should also be considered against the number of calls received by the force which in 2011/12 amounted to 298,928,

2.18 **Service user satisfaction** was maintained or showed a steady improvement in long-term trends across the majority of indicators, with only one area showing a small decrease (general satisfaction with force). The remaining indicators for Trust, Confidence and Satisfaction provide a positive picture which reflects force efforts in this respect.

3. RISKS AND THREATS

3.1 There were a number of risks and threats identified across the force, including Clackmannanshire:

- Metal theft
- Skimming devices in Automated Teller Machines
- Bogus collection/theft of “charity” clothing
- Child neglect
- Sexual exploitation of looked-after children (eg those in care)
- Local impact of serious organised crime groups
- Changes/trends in drugs supply

By their nature, these remain longer-term threats and Police Scotland will continue to apply measures for intervention and enforcement to address them.

- 3.2 Other emerging issues were identified over the year including an increase in offensive weapons charges compared to the first two quarters of 2012/13 and a larger number of domestic abuse target profiles.
- 3.3 Offensive weapon charges had previously shown a significant increase across the first two quarters. Analysis had not identified issues in a particular area or with specific individuals. The situation was monitored and most recent figures showed a 31% reduction in such charges for the year which indicates that the previous peak was an anomaly which was not maintained.
- 3.4 The larger number of domestic abuse target profiles resulted from the application of the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour-Based Violence (DASH) checklist. This process continues to be applied and domestic abuse remains a priority area of business within the Public Protection Unit.
- 3.5 The most recently emerging issues were bullying and sexual exploitation on social media networks; threats of overdose/death from polydrug use; and fraud with particular emphasis on internet fraud.
- 3.6 Social Networking affords many opportunities for enhanced communication but can also suffer from misuse. Over the reporting period there were incidences across the force area involving the use of Facebook which involved bullying of young / vulnerable people and the setting up of a Facebook page aimed at mocking school teachers. The latter resulted in two young persons being charged with a criminal offence. Social media is becoming more of a problem too in relation to crime and incidents with people openly discussing police issues and crimes which have occurred in their communities. This can have disclosure issues later in an investigation and can also affect police reputation.
- 3.7 The use of “cocktails” of drugs (Polydrug) is becoming more prevalent. Users are continuing to use different drugs in order to gain the effect they are seeking. Toxicology results of the majority of drug-related deaths across the area confirm polydrug use. Issues with cost and supply can affect what users take. Alcohol and prescription drugs are often found as contributory factors as well as illegal drugs.
- 3.8 Frauds committed over the Internet have become more apparent over the reporting period. Despite protection offered through Ebay, buyers are choosing to purchase goods outwith Ebay processes and as a result have been victim to goods not being delivered and in some cases credit card details being compromised. Frauds over Gumtree have resulted in persons not receiving goods and in some cases being paid in counterfeit money. Many

internet based companies recommend the use of PayPal as a secure method and they have reportedly prevented more frauds from being committed by stopping any transaction which is deemed suspicious; however, in some instances sellers have sent goods prior to the transaction being completed and have therefore fallen victim to fraud.

Scrutinizing the Performance Framework and Associated Tables

The attached framework (Appendix 2) contains all of the indicators which are used to inform progress against the Single Outcome Agreement in Clackmannanshire. It is colour coded to allow easier visual identification of variations in performance.

In the column for 2012/13 the font is shown in either **red** or **green**. **Red** means that the performance for the current year is not as good as **either** the previous year **or** the 3/5 year average; **green** means that the performance is equal to or better than **both** the previous year and the 3/5 year average.

In the columns for 2011/12 and for the 3/5 year average there is a colour infill which is either **light red** or **light green**. If it is light red for either of these, it means that the current performance is not as good as for that particular period; if it is light green it means that current performance is equal to or better than the performance for that particular period.

So, for example, in the fifth row (1-1-22:Group 4 – Vandalism etc detected) the **font** in 12/13 column is **red** because performance is **not as good** as the 3/5 year average and the infill for the 3/5 year average box is also therefore **light red**; but the infill for the 11/12 box is **light green** as performance in 12/13 was **better** than 11/12.

The first text column provides some contextual information about the indicator, whilst the second identifies what action is taken or planned to address the issue.

The **table for injury road collisions** (Appendix 3) provides data for all casualties, but also breaks this down to those involving children. The **maps** attached provide a visual representation of the location and severity of the collision and the involvement of specific categories of injured parties such as children. The system produces a single sheet showing the map for all three local authority areas.

The **categories of injury** are **fatal, serious and slight** and can be described as follows:

- A. **'Fatal'** injury includes only those cases where death occurs in less than 30 days as a result of the accident. 'Fatal' does not include cases where death results from natural causes or suicide.
- B. Examples of **'Serious'** injury are:
- Fracture
 - Internal injury
 - Severe cuts
 - Crushing Burns (excluding friction burns)
 - Concussion
 - Severe general shock requiring hospital treatment
 - Detention in hospital as an in-patient, either immediately or later
 - Injuries to casualties who die 30 or more days after the accident from injuries sustained in that accident.
- C. Examples of **'Slight'** injury are:
- Sprains, not necessarily requiring medical treatment
 - Neck whiplash injury
 - Bruises
 - Slight cuts
 - Slight shock requiring roadside attention.

