

County Buildings
Wellington Square
AYR KA7 1DR
Tel No: 01292 612436

18 October 2023

**To: Councillors Saxton (Chair), Bell, Cochrane, Cullen, Dixon,
Kilpatrick, Scott and Weir**

All other Elected Members for information only

Dear Councillor

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL

You are requested to participate in the above Panel to be held **on Tuesday, 24 October 2023 at 10.00 a.m.** for the purpose of considering the undernoted business.

This meeting will be held in the County Hall, County Buildings, Ayr on a hybrid basis for Elected Members, will be live-streamed and available to view at <https://south-ayrshire.public-i.tv/>

Yours sincerely

CATRIONA CAVES
Head of Legal and Regulatory Services

B U S I N E S S

1. Declarations of Interest.
2. Minutes of previous meeting of 19 September 2023 (copy herewith).
3. Action Log and Work Programme (copy herewith).
4. Local Performance Report: Police Scotland – Submit report by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities (copy herewith).
5. FOISA/EIR Annual Report 2022/23 - Submit report by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services (copy herewith).
6. 2022-25 Council Workforce Plan Annual Update – Submit report by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities (copy herewith).

7./

7. Thriving Communities – Operating Model Year 2 Report – Submit report by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities (copy herewith).
8. Participatory Budgeting Activity in 2022/23 – Submit report by the Director of Strategic Change and Communities (copy herewith).

For more information on any of the items on this agenda, please telephone Andrew Gibson, Committee Services on 01292 612436, Wellington Square, Ayr or
e-mail: andrew.gibson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk

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Agenda Item No 2**SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL**

Minutes of hybrid webcast meeting on
19 September 2023 at 10.00 a.m.

Present
in County
Buildings:

Councillors Philip Saxton (Chair); and George Weir.

Present
Remotely:

Councillors Kenneth Bell, Ian Cochrane, Chris Cullen, Mark Dixon; and Mary Kilpatrick.

Apology:

Councillor Gavin Scott.

Attending
in County
Buildings:

M. Newall, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development; G. Hunter, Assistant Director – Communities; W. Wesson, Chief HR Adviser; W. Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic Governance; K. Braidwood, Head of Roads and D. Manson, Special Project Officer, Ayrshire Roads Alliance; A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer; and C. McCallum, Clerical Assistant.

Attending
Remotely:

S. Tyeson , Senior Manager,(Planning, Policy and Commissioning), Health and Social Care Partnership.

Chair's Remarks.

The Chair

- (1) welcomed everyone to the meeting; and
- (2) outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that this meeting would be broadcast live.

1. Sederunt and Declarations of Interest.

The Chair called the Sederunt for the meeting and having called the roll, confirmed that that there were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes of 22 August 2023 ([issued](#)) were submitted and approved.

3. **Action Log and Work Programme**

There was submitted an update of the Action Log and Work Programme ([issued](#)) for this Panel.

The Panel heard the Assistant Director – Strategic Change give a verbal update on the Action Log and Work Programme and advised

- (1) that, as stated in the Work Programme, it was now proposed that reports to be considered relating to Scottish Fire and Rescue would be on the agenda for the meeting on 24 October 2023; and
- (2) that in relation the reporting of the Local Performance Report for Police Scotland and following a question from a Member of the Panel, it was agreed that the Assistant Director – Communities would ascertain which periods it was proposed to report to the meeting of this Panel, scheduled for 21 November 2023 and advise Panel Members accordingly.

The Panel

Decided:

- (a) to agree the current position with regard to the Action Log; and
- (b) to note the current status of the Work Programme.

4. **Active Travel Strategy Performance Report**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 7 September 2023 by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development providing an update on the Council's Active Travel Strategy.

With reference to the Major Projects listed in in paragraph 6.1 of the report and following a question from a Member of the Panel, it was confirmed that the majority of funding was in place for these Projects.

Following a question from a Member of the Panel, it was confirmed that Active Travel Member/Officer Working Group had already met twice and would meet monthly going forward. It was also confirmed that the Community Action Group had already met approximately four times and had thirty regular members but were keen for new members to join the Group. It was further noted that meeting locations were varied throughout South Ayrshire.

A Member of the Panel indicated that, as stated in the report, one of the key objectives was Education and asked to what extent this was still a focus. The Special Project Officer advised that it was still a priority to engage with youths and that about five schools were currently being worked with in this regard.

Having heard a Member of the Panel in relation to the funding of the Doon Valley Active Travel Scheme, it was noted that each Authority could make bids directly to Sustrans, who had a budget in excess of £100 m. for this purpose.

A Member of the Panel praised the development of the Dunure Road underpass. It was noted that this project had been put forward for a national award next month.

The Panel, having scrutinised the Ayrshire Roads Alliance performance in delivering the Active Travel Strategy across the network,

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

5. **Employee Absence 2022/23.**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 7 September 2023 by the Chief Executive providing detailed information and analysis of sickness absence across Council services for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Having heard a Member of the Panel advise that it would be helpful in the report if, in relation to comparing the breakdown of absence for all employees in the years 2021/22 and 2022/23, as listed in paragraph 4.1.2 of the report, if there could be better context with the number of employees being indicated within these figures.

Following a matter raised by a Member of the Panel, it was noted that in relation to early intervention, if a sickness period was over four weeks, that employee would be referred to Occupational Health.

A Member of the Panel enquired if, in the future, different categories of staff could be reflected in the statistics shown in the report. The Chief HR Adviser indicated that this could be undertaken and at present the Council were providing Healthy Working Lives Programmes to Grounds Maintenance and Health and Social Care Partnership staff.

Having heard a Member of the Panel enquire about the Cycle to Work Scheme, it was noted that it was proposed to relaunch this Scheme in October of this year and that it was the intention to build in more healthy working lives programmes in the future.

Having scrutinised this information in the context of the Local Government Benchmarking Information previously reported, the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

6. **Integration Joint Board (IJB) Annual Performance Report 2022-2023**

There was submitted a report ([issued](#)) of 7 September 2023 by the Director of Health and Social Care providing a copy of the Integration Joint Board (IJB) Annual Performance Report 2022-23 for scrutiny.

Having heard a Member of the Panel in relation to the high number of delayed discharges and how this could be improved upon, the Senior Manager (Planning, Policy and Commissioning) advised that this was a challenging matter across the sector, but that the recruitment and retention of staff was a high priority. It was further noted that she would provide the Members of the Panel with the indicative cost of keeping a patient in a hospital bed.

After a Member of the Panel spoke on collecting data from the positive outcomes and experiences, he was advised that there had been a post created to undertake this role.

Having heard a Member of the Panel in relation to the Emergency Bed Day Rate, it was agreed that the Senior Manager (Planning, Policy and Commissioning) would provide further information to Members on the statistics provided in the report, by way of a Briefing Note.

It was agreed that, with reference to Locality Planning, officers should take on board, to providing in future reports to this Panel, information on which activities related to each Ward.

Having considered the contents of the IJB Annual Performance Report 2022-23 (attached as Appendix 1 to the report), the Panel

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

The meeting ended at 10.55 a.m.

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL – ACTION LOG

No.	Date of Meeting	Issue	Actions	Assigned to	Update	Completed
1.	19 September 2023	Local Performance Report – Police	To ascertain which periods it is proposed to report to this Panel in November 2023 and advise the Panel Members accordingly.	Assistant Director - Communities	Item on agenda for meeting of 24/10/23 (this meeting) providing information on year end performance for 2022/23 and Q1 of 2023/24. Further report scheduled to be considered at the meeting on 21/11/23 with information about mid-year performance.	YES
2.	19 September 2023	IJB Annual Performance Report 2022-2023	To provide indicative costs of keeping a patient in a hospital bed	Senior Manager (Planning, Policy and Commissioning)	To be provided prior to next meeting on 24 October 2023	NO
3.	19 September 2023	IJB Annual Performance Report 2022-2023	Further information to be provided to Members, by way of a Briefing Note, in relation to the statistics provided in the report regarding the Emergency Bed Day Rate	Senior Manager (Planning, Policy and Commissioning)	To be provided prior to next meeting on 24 October 2023	NO

SERVICE AND PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME

	Issue	Actions	Assigned To	Due Date To Panel	Latest update
1.	Local Performance Report: Scottish Fire and Rescue – 2022/23 Full Year Performance and Service Update Report	Provide members with information about performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in South Ayrshire	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	Originally being reported to Panel on 13 June, 19 September then 24 October 2023
2.	Scottish Fire And Rescue – Draft Strategic Plan 2023-26	Advising Members of consultation process in relation to draft plan	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	Originally being reported to Panel on 13 June, 19 September then 24 October 2023
3.	South Ayrshire Way Strategic Change Programme	Update on progress including benefits proposals for all change projects	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	Deferred from October Panel
4.	Council Plan Quarter 2	Scrutiny of first report re new plan (including quarterly update re service plans	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	Deferred from August Panel
5.	Developer Contributions Update – Quarters 1 and 2	6-monthly update for reporting period April to September 2023	Depute Chief Executive and Director of Housing, Operations and Development	21 November 2023	
6.	Joint Inspection of Adult Community Health and Care Services	6-monthly update	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	
7.	Local Performance Report: Police Scotland	Information about mid-year performance	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	

	Issue	Actions	Assigned To	Due Date To Panel	Latest update
8.	Service Plans 2023-24	Quarterly Update	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	21 November 2023	Will be reported as part of Council Plan Quarter 2 report to SPPP on 21 November 2023
9.	Business Support – Ambition Programme – Performance Update	Scrutiny of report	Director of Strategic Change and Communities	9 January 2024	Deferred from August Panel

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Strategic Change and Communities
to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel
of 24 October 2023**

Subject: Local Performance Report: Police Scotland

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel with information about the year-end performance of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire for 2022/23 and Quarter 1 of 2023/24.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Panel scrutinises the performance reports of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire and provides feedback to the Area Commander.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 created a national police force and a national fire and rescue service. The implications of the legislation for local authorities are that the Council will:

- Comment on SPA and SFRS Strategic Plans;
- Contribute to the preparation of the local plan for police and local fire and rescue plan and approve the plans;
- Monitor the delivery of police and fire and rescue functions in the area and make recommendations for improvement; and
- Provide feedback to the Local Police Commander and the Fire and Rescue Service Local Senior Officer.

- 3.2 The Local Police Plan for South Ayrshire was agreed by [Cabinet in March 2023](#).

4. Proposals

- 4.1 At the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel in August 2023, an administrative error by Police Scotland resulted in an incomplete Quarter 1 report being submitted instead of the anticipated year end 2022/23 report.

4.2 The attached performance report includes information relating to 2022/23 and a completed version of the Quarter 1 report (Appendix 1) which Panel members are invited to scrutinise and provide feedback on.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

8.2.1 If the recommendation is rejected then there is a risk that the Council is considered to not have discharged its responsibility under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 in terms of scrutinising local performance.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals in this report allow scrutiny of performance. The report does not involve proposals for policies, strategies, procedures, processes, financial decisions and activities (including service delivery), both new and at review, that affect the Council's communities and employees, therefore an equality impact assessment is not required.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - The proposals in this report do not represent a qualifying plan, programme, policy or strategy for consideration for SEA. There exists therefore no obligation to contact the Scottish Government Gateway and no further action is necessary. An SEA has not been undertaken.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12/

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 3 of the Council Plan: Civic and Community Pride.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no consultation on the content of this report which relates to performance of an external organisation.

Background Papers **Report to Cabinet of 14 March 2023 - [Local Police Plan 2023-26](#)**

Report to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel of 22 August 2023 – [Local Performance Report: Police Scotland](#)

Person to Contact **Kevin Anderson, Service Lead – Policy, Performance and Community Planning.**
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Phone 01292 612982
E-mail kevin.anderson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 13 October 2023

South Ayrshire Performance Summary Report - Q4 2022/23

Reporting Period: 01/04/2022 - 31/03/2023

Appendix 1



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Total Crime



5.2%



8,724 Crimes

Incidents
Recorded

Violence/Homicide

Drug Supply

Sexual Crime

Hate Crime

ASB

-13.0%*

8.7%

-45.0%

4.7%

0.0%*

-20.8%*



29,678

1,198

33

216

91

5,757

Domestic Abuse

Housebreaking

Robbery

Fraud

Speeding

Drink/Drug Driving

8.8%*

-29.1%

-7.3%

28.4%

-10.5%

27.8%



764

168

28

239

250

174

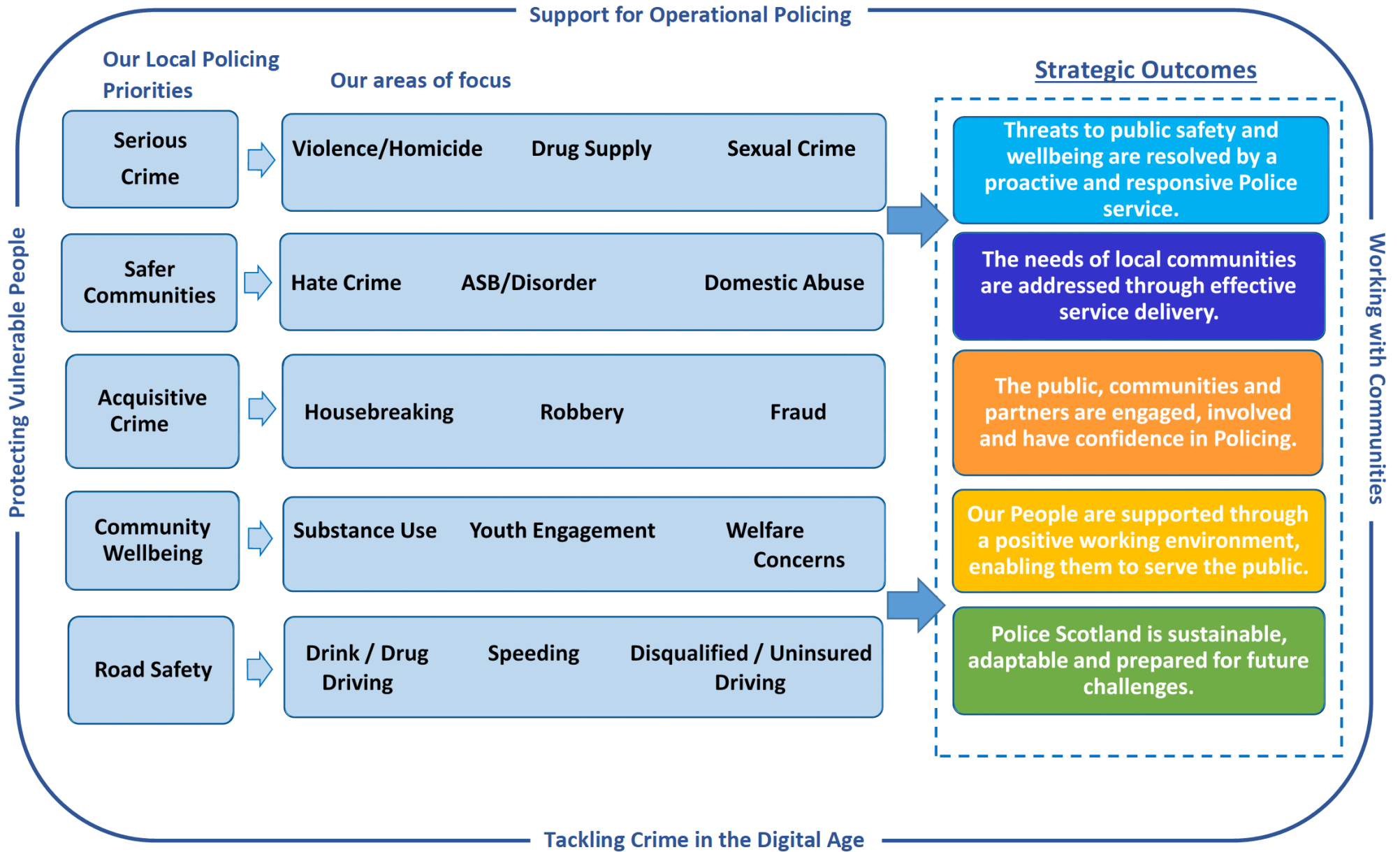
Note: All percentage figures are based on the 5-year average with all data based on Management Information which may be subject to change. *5-yr Average is locally produced and not MI (Incl Hate)

Introduction

This document has been compiled to look at the quarterly data available for South Ayrshire. The report will be based on the areas of focus identified within the Local Policing Plan agreed with the Local Authority. The 'Plan on a Page' document is available on Page 3, this provides details of the areas Police Scotland have agreed to report on. There is a new Local Policing Plan and 'Plan on a Page' which will be reported on as part of Q1 later in 2023.

The following list of contents provides an overview of the items included in this report:

TOPIC	SECTION	PAGE
Local Policing Plan	Plan on a Page	3
Serious Crime	Violence/Homicide	4
	Drug Supply	5
	Sexual Crimes	6
Safer Communities	Domestic Abuse	7
	Hate Crime	8
	Antisocial Behaviour	9
Acquisitive Crime	Housebreaking/Fraud	10
	Robberies	11
Community Wellbeing		12
Road Safety -	Drink/Drug Driving	13
	Speeding	14
Public Confidence	User Satisfaction Survey	15
	Complaints	16
Glossary of Terms		17



SERIOUS CRIME—Violence/Homicide

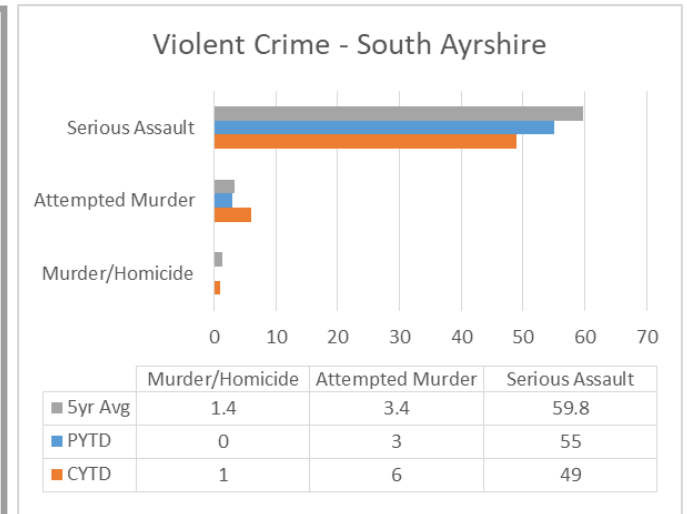
Analytical Context:

Violent crime is currently up 8.7% on the 5-year average.

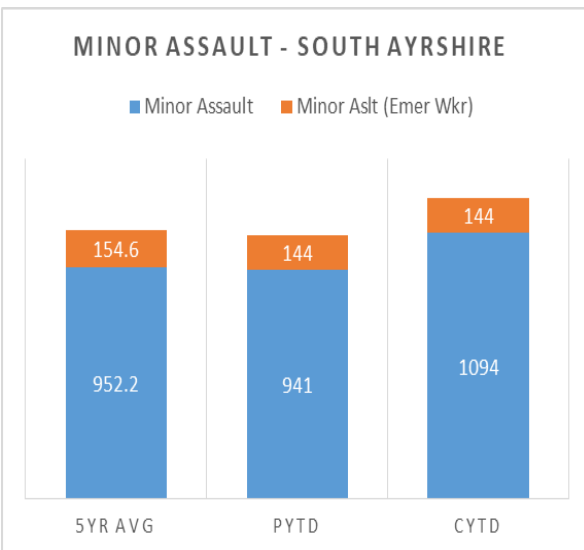
Serious Assaults reduced with 46 crimes recorded at the end of Q4 compared with 53 the previous year and a 5-year average of 57.8. Detection rates ended the year at 95.7% compared to 84.9% the previous year. Fourteen of these crimes have taken place within the home with five being domestic related. 28 of the crimes have noted alcohol consumption as a potential factor, with a further two mentioning Drugs. Nine of the victims were female.

There was one Murder in the reporting period, and six Attempted Murders, five of which have been detected.

Minor Assaults on members of the public are recording higher numbers, compared with both last year and the 5-year average (see chart below). Notably 42 assaults on retail workers have been recorded at the end of the year and these are included in these figures. The end of year detection rate was 63.1% which is above the figure the previous year (60.5%) but lower than the 5-year average (67.4%). Minor Assaults on Emergency Workers are currently below the 5-year average (131 compared to 143.6), however slightly above the 2021/22 figure of 128.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

The majority of violent crime occurs whereby those persons involved are known to one another or already involved in existing criminality. All crimes of violence continue to be subject of daily management review. Local officers continue to be supported in this review by Priority Policing Teams who are deployed to identify and quickly apprehend offenders. We also use other specialist resources who are used to investigate this crime type and collectively this has helped support the increase in detection rates.

A number of successful initiatives across South Ayrshire including Operation Inver and Safer Shores that have collaborative and effective partnership working and ensures a co-ordinated approach have also contributed to the decrease in serious assaults. Each of these initiatives are subject to scrutiny to ensure they evolve and adapt to support the wider safety of our local communities.

The Community Wellbeing Unit (CWU) continue to work closely with individuals who are involved in crime in an effort to divert them from this and to ensure they are encouraged and supported to engage with services in an effort to improve outcomes for them, their families and the wider community.

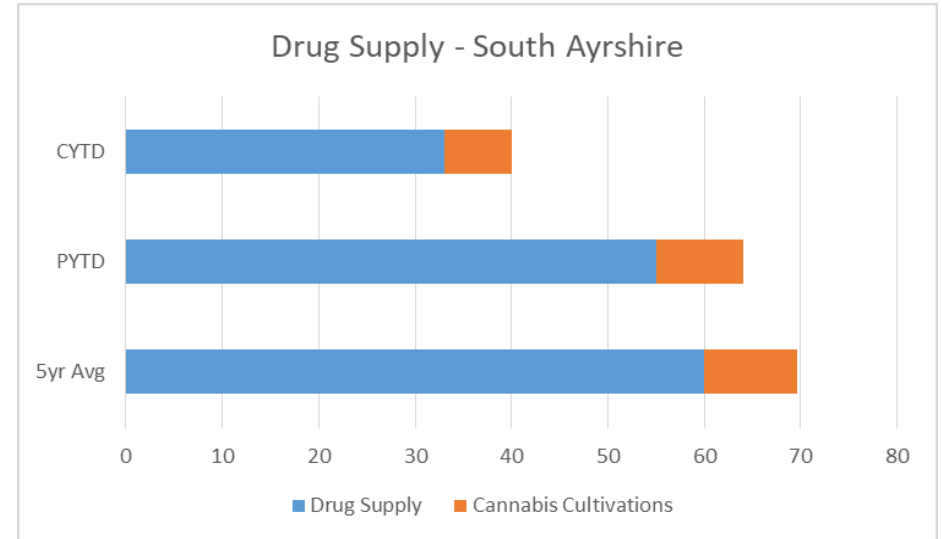
SERIOUS CRIME—Drug Supply

Analytical Context:

Drug Supply charges ended the year down 45.0% on the 5-year average.

There has been a marked reduction (n=33) in the number of charges being brought compared with both last year (n=55) and the 5-year average (n=60). The number of Cannabis cultivations has also decreased, 9 last year compared to 7 this year.

Proactivity remains the main focus and means by which these charges are obtained, however identifying any real patterns to where these crimes are taking place is often difficult. As stated previously, identifying potential suppliers is more likely to be the result of combined work with local officers, specialist resources as well as building on the Community Intelligence provided by the local community including residents and partners



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

Tackling drug supply and targeting those individuals and groups involved in the supply of drugs continues to be a priority for all South Ayrshire officers. Local officers are supported by dedicated and embedded specialist divisional intelligence support who have access to a variety of National resources, which supports the identification, tasking and executing of all opportunities to disrupt individuals involved in the illicit supply of drugs. All avenues are exploited to generate, gather and utilise intelligence in order to drive executive action in terms of tackling drug supply.

Throughout the reporting period 76 drug warrants were executed in South Ayrshire that resulted in 31 positive returns for a number of offences including drug supply, drug possession and money seizures related to the proceeds of crime. An example of a significant seizure includes a large cannabis cultivation that was discovered within a property in High Street, Ayr that had cannabis plants to the value of £120,000. As a result of this 3 males were arrested and charged.

Locally, 60 frontline staff from South Ayrshire Council including housing officers were provided bespoke training that was delivered by Police Scotland to help raise awareness on signs to look for in respect of drug supply, cuckooing, exploitation and human trafficking. Part of this training also included the reporting mechanism to Police should they have any concerns or suspicions that such activity is ongoing.

SERIOUS CRIME—Sexual Crime

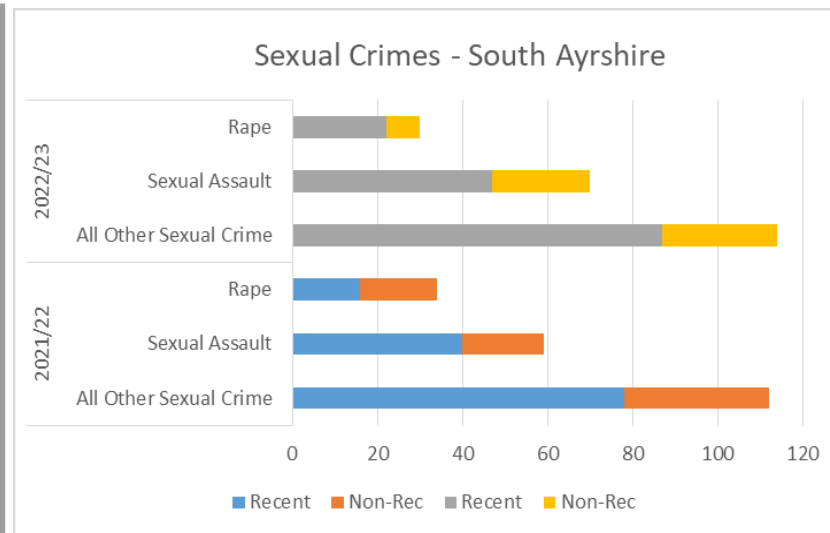
Analytical Context:

Sexual crime ended the year down 4.7% on the 5-year average.

Non-recent crimes decreased significantly on those being reported the previous year. In total there were 216 Sexual crimes reported of which 58 were non-recent, this compares with 206 crimes in the same period the previous year of which 71 were non-recent.

The detection rate ended the year at 49.1% which is below the previous year (66.0%) and below the 5-year average (60.6%). This detection rate is likely to increase as investigations progress into the new reporting period. Rape detections were 54.8% at year end while Sexual Assault detections ended at 47.1%.

Police Scotland has made a concerted effort to raise awareness and encourage survivors of sexual abuse to report incidents regardless of when they occurred. Every report is investigated thoroughly, albeit there can be challenges with tracing witnesses or securing forensic opportunities.



Source: Taken from Crime Management through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

South Ayrshire Police remains committed to working with partners to enhance the confidence of victims and encourage them to engage with the criminal justice system and the benefits of this positive collaborative approach is demonstrated in the rise in reporting recent sexual crime. South Ayrshire continue to work closely with Rape Crisis, Woman's Aid and ASSIST to promote their support and counselling services for those who have been impacted by this type of crime. Feedback from partners continues to highlight the overwhelmingly positive work of our specialist Sexual Offences Liaison Officers who are committed to provide the best levels of service for our victims and who work tirelessly to gather evidence to bring perpetrators into the criminal justice system.

It is acknowledged that while the criminal justice system can itself present challenges for survivors, there is a risk that witnesses, especially children and other 'vulnerable witnesses' of the most serious and traumatic crimes can be re-traumatized through their participation in the criminal justice process. Officers are being further trained with information about the impact of trauma and how these can impact on a person's ability to participate in an interview to provide a fair and consistent approach under video recorded conditions.

We also continue to work closely with partners to ensure survivors are supported throughout the criminal justice process. The Willows in Prestwick is a dedicated sexual assault response coordination service that offers healthcare choices including a forensic medical examination, and is available to individuals who have experienced rape or sexual assault, in a way that is sensitive, compassionate and reduces the risk of any re-traumatization.

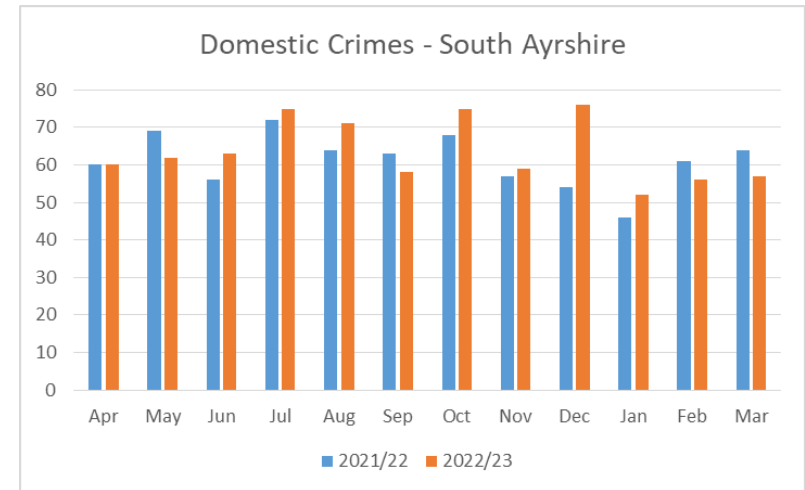
SAFER COMMUNITIES—Domestic Abuse

Analytical Context:

Domestic Abuse crimes were up 8.8% on the 5-year average.

Overall crimes ended the year with an increase compared to the previous year (n=764 this compared with n=734). There have been a number of months showing spikes in these crimes however the January to March period recorded an overall reduction compared with the previous year.

Examination of the types of domestic abuse committed across the year indicates that a high proportion of crimes continue to be minor assaults or Threatening or abusive behaviour. However there have been 7 Serious Assault, 11 Rapes and 28 Domestic Abuse Act crimes (examples include Stalking and/or Coercive behaviour).



Source: Data taken from iVPD through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

Throughout the reporting period there has been a number of months showing spikes in this crime. It is unknown at this time why this has occurred however it could be considered that these months are recognised holiday periods for the majority of people.

All domestic abuse incidents and crimes reported to Police Scotland are subject to daily scrutiny and reviewed by supervisory and specialist officers to identify all safeguarding and evidential opportunities. We remain committed to the continued investigation of domestic crime and the provision of the best services to victims.

Local officers are supported by specialist officers from within the Ayrshire Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit. In addition we also have Domestic Abuse Champions. These are officers with specialist training in all domestic abuse matters, providing a point of contact for front line supervisors and officers to seek advice and direction when faced with challenging or complex scenarios.

Work continues in consolidating the position of the Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Team within the Domestic Abuse Unit. Feedback and approval from partners has so far been positive with many reporting greater ease of information sharing and access to the unit. DSDAS continues to grow at an exponential rate, with a 46.5% increase in applications across Ayrshire throughout the reporting period. South Ayrshire applications have increased to 69 in this period compared to 48 the previous year.

We continue to develop, deliver, support and promote campaigns and initiatives with our partners. This includes the 16 Days of Action, White Ribbon Campaign, Reclaim the Night and International Women’s Day. The key messages within this continue to be delivered in bespoke inputs to children and young people around healthy relationships as well as “Is That Me” Campaign. Planning is underway to deliver a number of “Understanding the dynamics of domestic abuse and awareness seminars” throughout South Ayrshire during 2023/2024.

SAFER COMMUNITIES—Hate Crime

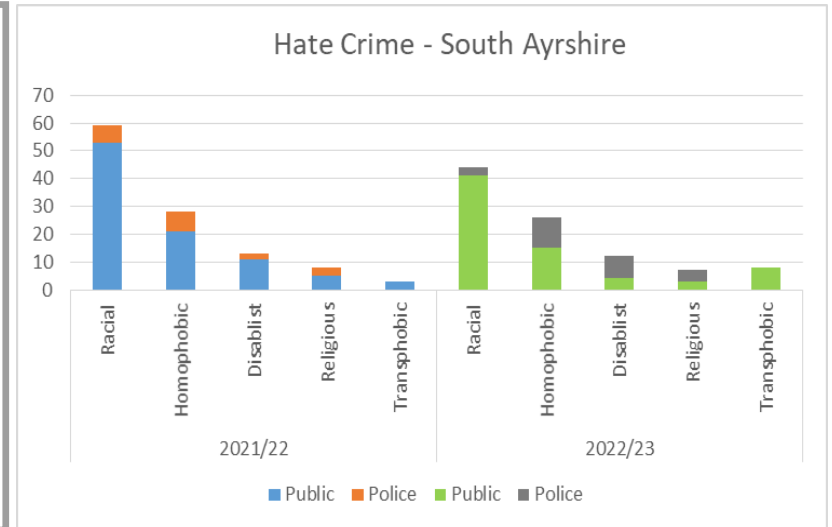
Analytical Context:

Hate crimes ended the year on a par with the 5-year average.

There has been a decrease noted when compared with the previous year (91 in 2022/23 down from 108). Note that a single crime can have more than one hate crime type, for example one incident could feature homophobic and sectarian language.

The chart opposite provides a breakdown of the different types of hate related crimes and shows a slight increase in Religious crimes and a greater increase in Transphobic crimes whilst all other crime types have decreased. It was noted that a high proportion of the Homophobic crimes are directed at Police Officers being subjected to inappropriate language.

A total of four repeat victims have been identified. There were two repeat hate crime offenders across the year, one of whom committed a hate related crime on three separate occasions.



Source: Taken from the iVPD database through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

The South Ayrshire Campus Police Officers continue to deliver hate crime awareness inputs to young persons over the impact that hate language and incidents have on their victims, families and wider community. We also continue to be proactive on social media platforms promoting campaigns utilising the #DontTolerateHate hashtag, encouraging victims to come forward to engage with Police and also to signpost reporting mechanisms and access to support agencies.

The majority of offenders are under the influence of alcohol at the time of the offences and where police officers are subject to hate language this tends to occur when offenders are being arrested for a different offence.

Throughout the reporting period sadly one Scottish Asian family had been repeatedly targeted by a group of youths over a 7 week period. Our Antisocial Behaviour and Prevention and Intervention Officers visited the family on a couple of occasions and offered safety advice, including the benefits of CCTV and provided further guidance material and signposting. These specialist officers thereafter took responsibility into the enquiry and liaised with the varying initial attending officers. As a result of a robust investigation a total of 6 crimes committed against the family were identified. Throughout this period officers worked in collaboration with the Local Community Policing Team, and partners including South Ayrshire Council Antisocial Behaviour and Thriving Communities to increase patrols and offer reassurance within the community, whilst identifying opportunities to engage and educate youths loitering in the area. As a result 2 juvenile offenders were identified and are now subject of a report sent to the Scottish Children’s Reporters Administration. To date the family has not reported any further incidents to police.

Throughout February Ayrshire Police Division supported by LGBTQI+ History month. This gave us the opportunity to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex lives and culture, recognising the contribution LGBT+ colleagues have made to Police Scotland and society.

SAFER COMMUNITIES—Antisocial Behaviour

Analytical Context:

ASB Incidents are currently down 20.8% on the 5-year average.

All months of the past year recorded lower figures compared with the 5-year average as detailed in the second chart below. However it is notable that both February and March 2023 recorded higher levels of incidents compared with the previous year. Around 20% of incidents so far this year have resulted in a crime report being raised. It is assessed that approximately 13% of ASB incidents are youth related.

A new system to provide ASB Fixed Penalty data is progressing and should be available in the near future.

Local Action/Context:

Throughout the reporting period Ayrshire Division has remained committed in identifying and tackling anti social behaviour.

The welcome reduction is due to the collaborative partnerships across South Ayrshire and includes a number of pro-active tasking meetings supported by a broad range of partners and voluntary organisations including:-

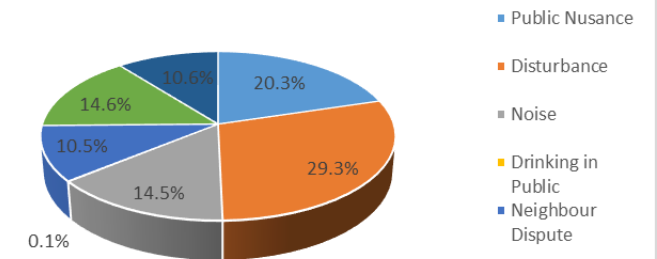
- Housing and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)—Daily meeting—focusses on housing issues and neighbour disputes
- Multi Agency Task and Co-ordination meeting (MATAC) - fortnightly meeting - focusses on emerging trends, areas of concern, vulnerability or risk relating predominantly to anti social behaviour within our local communities
- Reducing Violence Joint Action Group—bi-monthly meetings —focusses on ASB and violence predominantly around events and night time economy

Throughout the reporting period our dedicated anti social behaviour officers made 587 disclosures to South Ayrshire Council that resulted in 28 Live Anti-social Behaviour Orders and undertook 281 joint visits with housing colleagues.

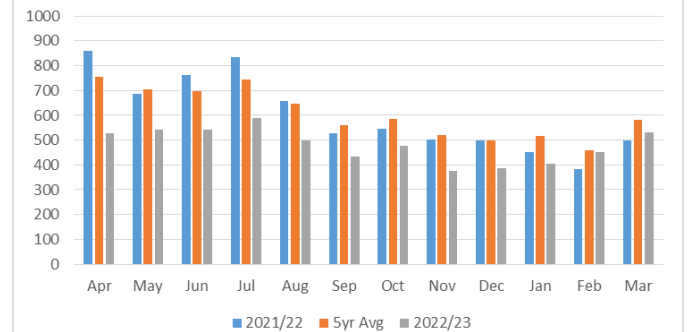
Local officers also carried out 1376 licensed premise visits during this period . These are pro-active visits to offer support to the local licensing trade and to ensure that they are abiding by their licence conditions.

Equally, South Ayrshire Police directly policed 50 events and provided passing attention to a further 60 events. Each event is unique and covers a multitude of things such as the Scottish Grand National, Remembrance Parades, Football fixtures, and community events.

ASB Incident Breakdown South Ayrshire



Monthly ASB - South Ayrshire



Source: Taken from STORM data extracted through ScOMIS

ACQUISITIVE CRIME—Housebreaking / Fraud

Analytical Context:

Housebreakings are currently down 29.1% on the 5-year average.

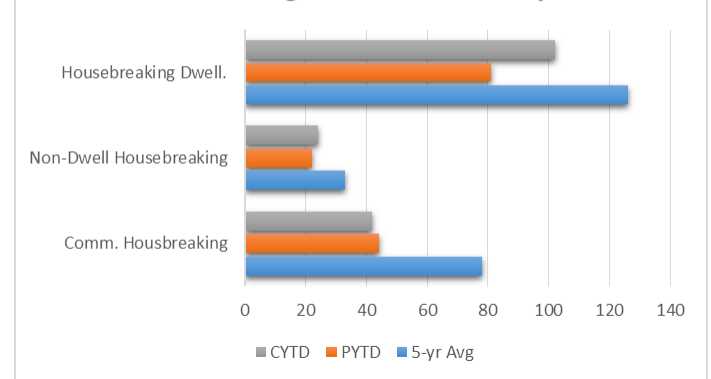
However the end of year figures show increases in housebreaking crimes to dwelling houses and non-dwelling properties (sheds and garages) as shown in the chart opposite. Housebreaking crimes to Commercial properties have reduced slightly on the previous year. The detection rate ended the year at 34.5% which is above both last year (26.5%) and the 5-year average (28.5%).

Examination of the commercial housebreakings shows a total of 7 repeat locations across the year.

Frauds are currently up 28.4% on the 5-year average.

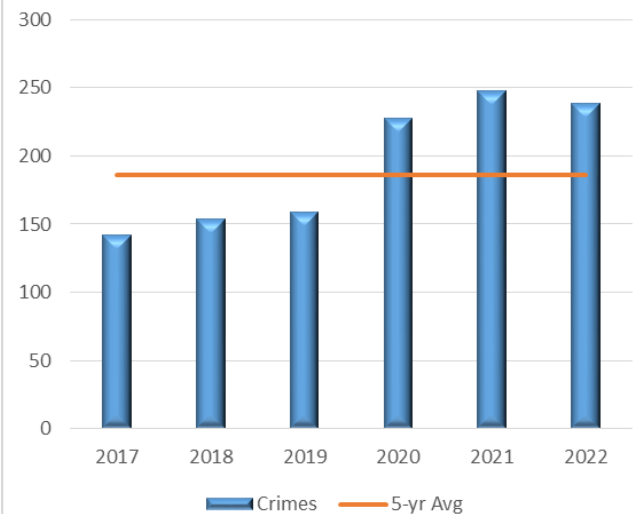
Since 2020/21 levels of Fraud have been relatively static as seen in the chart below. The total to the end of the Q4 period shows a slight decrease on the number of crimes recorded in 2021/22. The detection rate at year end was 22.2% which is above the previous year (21.8%) but below the 5-year average (35.1%).

Housebreaking Crimes - South Ayrshire



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Fraud - South Ayrshire



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

Throughout the reporting period detection rates into housebreaking has risen. This is as a result of improved governance and investigative structures including the tasking of priority actions to specialist resources to ensure a targeted and focused approach. We fully recognise the impact that housebreakings can have on victims and ensure that the investigation into such crimes remains a priority for local policing.

A high proportion of frauds committed have been on online platforms such as Facebook, Facebook Marketplace, Messenger, WhatsApp, SMS text message and cold call/phone and perpetrators are often based outwith the UK, adding to the complexity of the enquiry. Our Preventions and Interventions Officer collaborates closely with South Ayrshire Council Trading Standards Department and attends a variety of premises and groups such as sheltered housing, care homes for both SAC and private owners, a variety of chat, knitting, and writing groups which are located within our local libraries to hold crime prevention awareness sessions to highlight current scams / frauds and offer relative advice concerning how to spot, avoid and report scams. At these sessions our dedicated Preventions and Intervention Officer provides each premise and employees an electronic and paper guidance pack which educates, signposts and contains Police Scotland and third party organisations prevention guidance material.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME—Robberies

Analytical Context:

Robberies ended the year down 7.5% on the 5-year average.

The overall picture for the year shows an increase in robberies compared to the previous year (28 compared with 26).

The year-end detection rate is 64.3% which is below the 5-year average (75.3%).

By year end it is noted that 13 of the crimes have taken place within the home, while the rest occurred in an outdoor public location, including 3 in a shop and 1 at a petrol station. Six have involved the use/threat of a knife or bladed weapon.

In at least 11 of the crimes the victim and offender are known to each other.

The items most commonly being taken are mobile phones and cash.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

Robberies remain a key priority and daily focus and enhanced governance and scrutiny demonstrate that all crimes are thoroughly investigated and any offenders are identified and apprehended at the earliest opportunity.

A large proportion of these crimes the perpetrator and victim/witnesses are assessed to know each other, however in most instances those involved are largely uncooperative or actively hostile with investigations.

Dedicated town centre officers and locality officers continue to proactively engage with retailers regarding preventative measure and raising awareness.

Preventative measures continue, including those known offenders subject to bail conditions are subject to routine checks to ensure they are complying with their conditions and any issues identified during these checks are dealt with robustly as well as escalating to any other relevant agency.

We remain committed to tackling the factors that could lead to offenders committing such crimes, and continue to work closely with partners to ensure appropriate support is in place reducing the likelihood of offending.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Local Action/Context:

Our dedicated community wellbeing offices continue to engage with individuals who are deemed vulnerable or at risk. They adopt a trauma informed approach and can include supporting persons in crisis. Every day local management scrutinise all calls that relate to the South Ayrshire area. From this and taking into consideration the updates provided from the responding officers to the initial incident the CWEO are tasked accordingly to undertake a targeted intervention and support visit to the individual. The purpose of this is to support the wellbeing of the individual at a time where they are more likely to engage and welcome support that is being offered. This can include a joint visit with police and key partners including mental health practitioners, thriving communities, housing officers, and SFRS. For the last quarter of the reporting period the CWEO undertook 72 targeted interventions. 29 of these were joint visits.

An example of an intervention was the engagement with a vulnerable female resident of Wallacetown. The female was struggling to cope and had lost all support and connection with her family. The female had made a serious attempt at taking her own life that resulted in police being involved which resulted in her admittance to the Emergency Department. She was discharged a short time later with guidance on how to self refer into mental health services. This incident was identified as part of the daily scrutiny and tasked to the CWEO to follow up. CWEO attended at her home address whereby it was apparent that she continued to be in mental distress. They helped support her engage with her GP and assisted her with this appointment which resulted in further appointments from CPN's a few weeks later. The officers then ensured she was aware of local support including the local breakfast club. They encouraged her to attend again with their support. This then led to them ensuring that housing became involved and that the local university where she was studying were made aware (with her consent) to ensure wrap around care and support. Her wellbeing has improved as a result of the kindness shown and is being continued with a local charity whom she has now been connected to and is helping her with her trauma and recovery.

Pitchin in Programme — March 2023

Once again the successful Pitchin In programme was delivered in South Ayrshire. The football themed programme is aimed at building improved relationships with young people who are in the periphery of non engagement at school, involved in youth disorder or criminality, are vulnerable, or are from minority groups. The programme is supported by Ayr United Football Club and Thriving Communities. Throughout the 3 days the young people learn more about Roles, rights and responsibility, Hate Crime, Life Choices Awareness, Ultra Groups, Social Media and A-Z of football. It culminates in a visit to Hampden Football Stadium. The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive. Further programmes are being planned for Summer 2023.

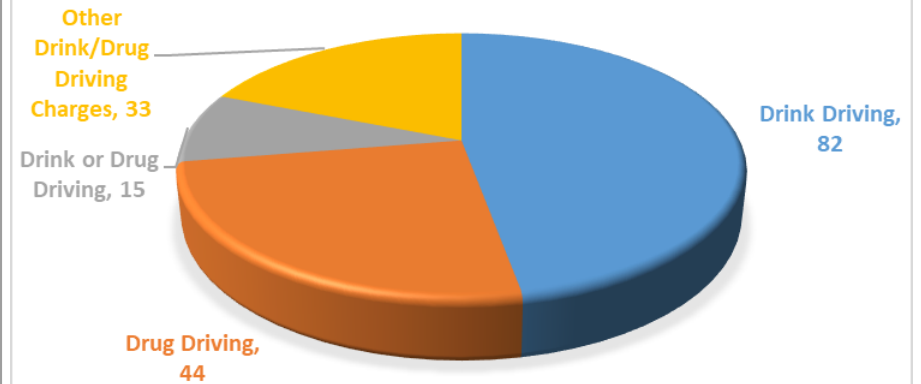
ROAD SAFETY—Drink/Drug Driving

Analytical Context:

Drink/Drug driving offences are currently up 27.8% on the 5-year average. The introduction of the legislation in relation to Drug Driving came into effect in October 2019 and therefore there can be no direct comparison with 5 year averages.

At year end there were a total of 174 offences recorded which is an increase on the previous year (n=136). Solely Drink Driving continues to be the most perpetrated offence, the overall figures in 2022/23 were slightly up on the previous year (82 compared with 81). Drug driving crimes are up significantly on the previous year, with a total of 44 last year compared with 23 the year before—an increase of 91.3%.

DRINK/DRUG DRIVING - SOUTH AYRSHIRE



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

Ayrshires Road Policing unit, supported by local officers continue their strong focus towards the key priority of Road Safety within South Ayrshire, working towards the outcomes set in the Scottish Government's Road Safety Framework to 2030.

Officers in South Ayrshire continue to carry out high visibility and unmarked patrols of the road network, in an effort to deter and detect motorists who place both themselves and other road users in danger, by choosing to drive under the influence of alcohol/drugs. This pro-active approach has assisted in the increase in detections in this type of crime.

A number of localised action plans and intelligence led target packages have been created to allow officers to pro-actively target repeat offenders within South Ayrshire. In addition to this, officers have deployed to a number of traditional static road checks at key times to identify drink/drug drivers.

Local officers remain vigilant and regularly seek assistance from Road policing trained Medacx Drug Wipe officers, whenever they suspect a motorist has been driving under the influence of drugs.

South Ayrshire officers regularly patrol priority routes and those areas identified via analytical products where there is more likelihood for offences to be detected. The National Calendar of Road Safety Activity identifies specific periods to target these priorities, and officers in South Ayrshire strongly support these campaigns, conducting a number of mobile patrols at key areas throughout the sub division.

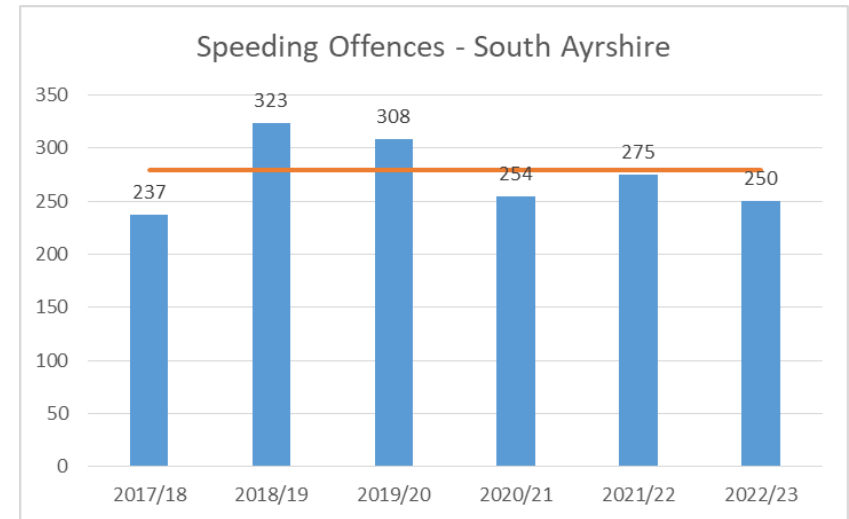
In March 2023, in collaboration with South Ayrshire Council and key partners we assisted in the delivery of Reckless Driving Wrecks Lives. Approximately 900 young people (S5/S6) attended the event that had key messaging about driver and passenger behaviour that focussed on drink/drug driving, wearing of seatbelts, speeding, peer influence from passengers.

ROAD SAFETY—Speeding

Analytical Context:

Speeding offences finished the year down 10.5% on the 5-year average and down 9.1% on the previous year. In 2021/22 there was increased activity during the last three months of the Financial Year which resulted in higher numbers of crimes being reported. In the most recent period activity has remained consistent with what was being reported across the rest of the year giving an overall figure similar to that recorded in 2020/21.

The Road Policing Unit continue to carry out initiatives in specific areas based on information from local communities and Elected Members, which may influence where offences occur.



Source: Taken from Crime Management through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

Speeding remains a key priority for South Ayrshire Police as we work towards the outcomes set in the Scottish Governments Road Safety Framework to 2030.

Ayrshire Police Division supported by colleagues from Road Policing unit, continue to proactively target motorists that speed and drive inappropriately for the road conditions.

Listening to our communities and local elected members, South Ayrshire Police have identified a number of static speeds checks that have been selected based on community concerns and complaints.

Officers deploy to these sites routinely to conduct targeted enforcement which provides reassurance to our communities that the subject of speeding is taken serious.

In addition, officers have deployed to areas such as the A70, A77 and A79 where a number of motorists were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for exceeding the speed limit as a result.

More recently, the West Safety Camera Unit have begun short term deployments on the A70 providing further reassurance to our local elected members and communities.

Other areas across South Ayrshire that were prevalent previously for speeding complaints have been the subject of routine high visibility and unmarked patrols for additional enforcement.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE—Survey Information

User Experience - Current Position

The information on the table below is from data gathered in the April 2022 to March 2023 period for the whole of Ayrshire and is not specific to South Ayrshire. It should also be noted that the 'Feeling adequately informed' question has changed this year and only applies to those who stated they expected to be kept informed.

Questions	YTD	Force YTD	Female	Male	Blank/Other
Number of Respondents	1041	15,323	430	279	332
Ease of Contact? (% Easy and Very Easy)	71%	72%	76%	74%	63%
Being provided with the appropriate response? (% Yes)	62%	63%	70%	63%	52%
Feeling adequately informed about progress made with your report	53%	49%	59%	54%	47%
Overall Satisfaction? (% Satisfied or Very Satisfied)	68%	68%	76%	71%	55%

Your Survey

The following information is based on data from April 2022 to March 2023 (it should be noted that December figures are likely to change as they are updated)

How safe do you feel in your local area?			Total Respondents	
	Very Safe	Fairly Safe		Total
South	19.54%	62.57%	82.11%	389

Concern about Crime			Total Respondents	
	Increased a Lot	Increased a Little		Total
South	18.30%	32.22%	50.52%	389

Local Action/Context:

The Your Police Survey remains open for all police and members of the public to provide their views on Policing in the Local Community.

Local officers continue to promote engagement with Your Police Survey at all events and community engagements and details of the survey has been shared with local elected members, PFRC members and broadcast on media and social media channels.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE—Complaints Against the Police

Complaints

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% CHANGE	YTD	LYTD	% CHANGE
TOTAL	372	329	13.10%	533	641	-16.8%
South Ayrshire	129	81	59.3%	186	196	-5.1%

Breakdown of Case Categories

	FLR (Early Resolution)	FLR PSD (NCARU)	FLR (Spec or PSD)	Criminal Complaint	Non Criminal (not FLR)	Abandoned	Withdrawn	Ongoing (NCARU)	Not Relevant Complaint
U DIVISION	1	147	42	30	65	46	18	23	0
South Ayrshire Council	0	56	8	11	20	17	7	10	0

Breakdown of Allegations

Breakdown of Allegations	Assault	Corrupt Practice	Discriminatory Behaviour	Excess Force	Incivility	Irregularity in Procedure	Neglect of Duty	Oppressive Conduct/ Harassment	Other - Criminal	Non-Criminal	Traffic Irregularity/ Offence	Unlawful Unnecessary Arrest or Detention
U DIVISION	39	0	6	33	78	142	3	14	3	3	4	7
South Ayrshire	16	0	1	11	25	45	1	6	1	0	2	4

Breakdown of Quality of Service Allegation

Quality of Service	Policy/Procedure	Service Delivery	Service Outcome
U DIVISION TOTAL	60	57	84
South Ayrshire	22	17	35

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

South Ayrshire Performance Summary Report - Q1 2023/24

Reporting Period: 01/04/2023 - 30/06/2023



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Total Crime



19.8%



2,699 Crimes

Incidents
Recorded

Violence/Homicide

Drug Supply

Robbery

Domestic Abuse

Sexual Crime

-0.4%*

33.1%

-55.9%

-9.8%

27.9%*

54.7%



8,752

375

6

9

229

73

ASB

Hate Crime

Acquisitive Crime

Drink/Drug Driving

Speeding

Serious Injury &
Fatal Accidents

-18.6%*

74.8%*

0.0%

58.0%

41.7%



1,721

36

535

55

119

Note: All percentage figures are based on the 5-year average with all data based on Management Information which may be subject to change. *5-yr Average is locally produced and not MI

Introduction

This document has been compiled to look at the quarterly data available for South Ayrshire. The report is based on the areas of focus identified within the Local Policing Plan agreed with the Local Authority. The 'Plan on a Page' document is available on Page 3, this provides details of the areas Police Scotland have agreed to report on.

The following list of contents provides an overview of the items included in this report:

TOPIC	SECTION	PAGE
Local Policing Plan	Plan on a Page	3
Serious Crime	Violence/Homicide	4
	Drug Supply	5
	Robbery	6
Violence Against Women and Girls	Domestic Abuse	7
	Rape & Sexual Assault	8
Safer Communities	ASB	10
	Hate Crimes	11
	Acquisitive Crime	12
Community Wellbeing		13
Road Safety -	Drink/Drug Driving, Speeding and Serious Injury & Fatal Accidents	14
Public Confidence	User Satisfaction Survey	15
	Complaints	16
Glossary of Terms		17



**Plan on a Page
South Ayrshire**

Our vision | Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland
Our purpose | Improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland
Our values | Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Human Rights

PUBLIC HEALTH

Our Local Policing Priorities

Our Areas of Focus

Strategic Outcomes

PERSON CENTRED APPROACH

PARTNERSHIPS

Serious Crime



Violence Drugs Supply Robbery

Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service

Violence Against Women and Girls



Domestic Abuse Rape & Sexual Assault Child Sexual Abuse

The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery

Safer Communities



Anti-Social Behaviour Hate Crime Acquisitive Crime Online Safety

The public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing

Community Wellbeing



Drugs Harm Community Justice Mental Health Youth Engagement

Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public

Road Safety



Drink / Drug Driving Speeding Serious Injury and Fatal Accidents

Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION

SERIOUS CRIME—Violence/Homicide

Analytical Context:

The Q1 period shows that overall violent crime has increased by 33.3% on the 5-year average. This increase is due to the number of Minor Assaults both on Emergency workers and the public. However there has been a decrease noted in Serious Assaults on both last year and the 5-year average. Both Murder and Attempt Murder charges have remained the same as last year. There are currently just over 4% of the Minor Assaults which are non-recent.

The Attempt Murder remains undetected at this stage with almost 78% of the Serious Assaults currently detected.

Local Action/Context:

In respect of violent crime there are no significant trends or patterns that have been identified. Serious Assaults have decreased however the rise in violent crime is predominantly minor assaults which have increased considerably in comparison to the same period last year and on the year average.

A minor assault can include actions by an individual such as a push, slap and kick. The person does not have to be injured for it to be recorded as an assault. 7 out of the 9 reported serious assaults have been detected to date and enquiries continue for the remaining 2.

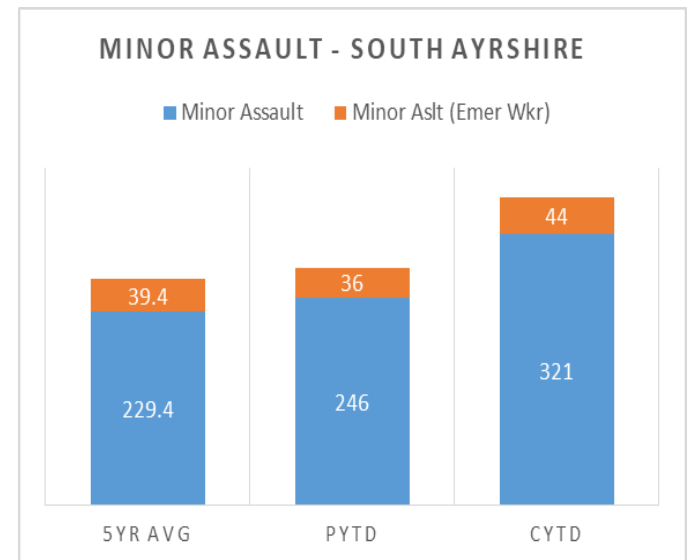
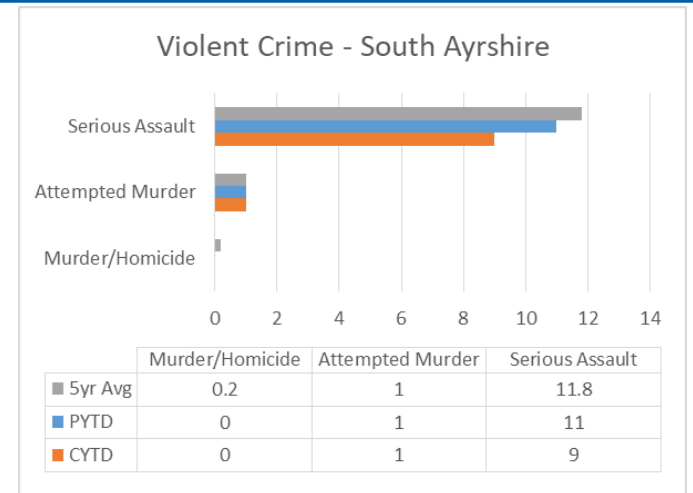
Throughout the reporting period there has been no murders/homicides. There has been 1 attempted murder that continues to be investigated. There is not any wider threat to the public in respect of this incident.

All crime is subject of daily review and scrutiny with investigations being allocated to the most appropriate department/specialist. This can include the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and our Priority Policing Team (PPT).

All violent crime continues to be a priority. Weekly tasking meetings led by the Area Commander ensure local officers are briefed and provided with up to date information in relation to priorities, crime trends and any emerging threats ensuring public safety and community wellbeing remains at the core of service.

As part of the Reducing Violence Joint Action Group and in collaboration with partners from South Ayrshire Council, Taxi Marshals, Voluntary Street Pastors and St Andrews Ambulance we continue to deploy every weekend as part of the Operation Inver Plan. This is our targeted approach to help support the safety of persons frequenting both hospitality and licensed premises at the weekend. The plan has a focus on Ayr and Prestwick.

Throughout the reporting period local police undertook 494 visits to licensed premises across South Ayrshire.



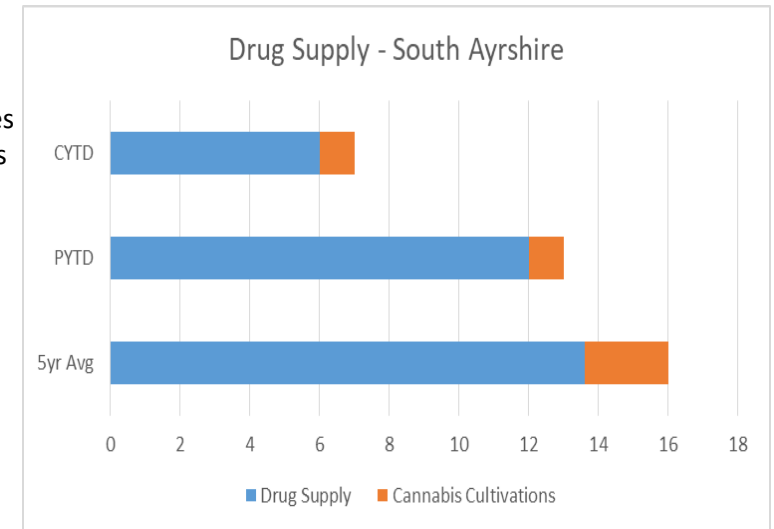
Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

SERIOUS CRIME—Drug Supply

Analytical Context:

Drug supply charges in South Ayrshire have noted a decrease during the first quarter of the year. Charges are down almost 56% on the 5-year mean for Supplying Drugs and down 58.3% for Cannabis Cultivations on the 5-year average.

Proactivity remains the main focus and means by which these charges are obtained. Identifying any real patterns to where these crimes are taking place requires the combined work of local officers and Divisional staff, building on the Community Intelligence provided by South Ayrshire residents, community groups or via Crimestoppers.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

Local Action/Context:

Throughout the reporting period there has been a decrease in drug supply charges. We continue to target those offenders who are involved in serious organised crime and supply of controlled drugs. We have executed 10 drug warrants throughout this time which resulted in 1 person being charged in the supply of drugs.

We encourage our communities, elected members and any other persons to report any suspicious activity to Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively then can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

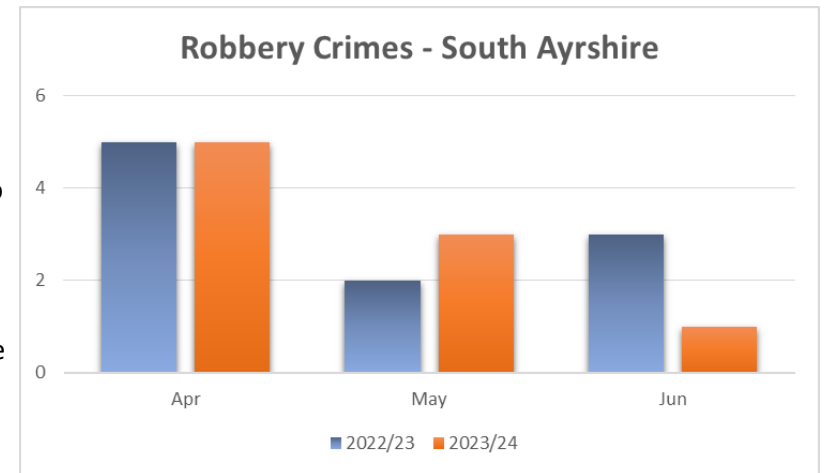
SERIOUS CRIME—Robbery

Analytical Context:

The number of reported Robbery type crimes so far this year (n=9) is lower than last year (n=10) but slightly above the 5-year average (8.2). So far 5 of the 9 reported crimes this year have been detected.

Church Court in Ayr is currently being shown as a repeat location with two crimes taking place at two addresses on this street.

Four of the robberies reported have taken place within the home, with a physical assault being most commonly used against the victim. Seizure of a purse/bag/wallet and contents has been the most commonly acquired item and the victim knew the offender, in some capacity, in at least 56% of these crimes.



Source: Taken from Crime Management through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

Every report of a Robbery is subject to immediate supervisory overview and review with ongoing investigation support by the CID. The enhanced levels of scrutiny allows for the prioritisation of investigations resulting in the early identification and arrest of offenders involved in this type of criminality.

We use every tactic available to us to detect crimes. This can include things such as forensics, digital technology, CCTV, and door to door. On occasion some of the victims and perpetrators are known to one another.

Any robbery that is yet to be detected continues to be investigated.

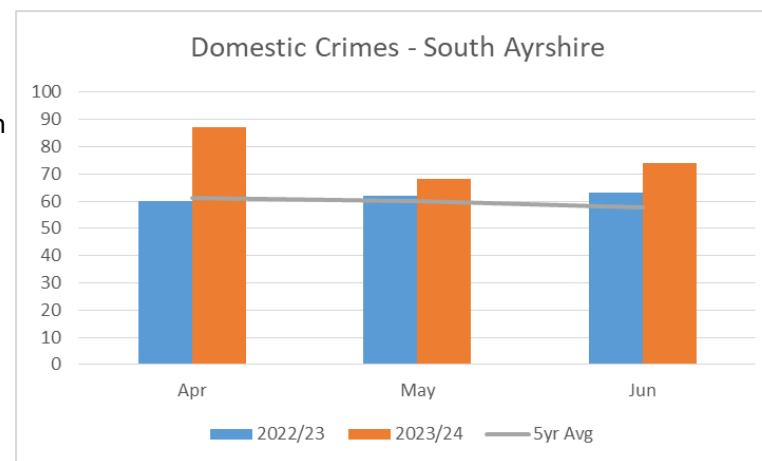
None of the reported robberies have taken place in a commercial/retail setting. We continue to utilise other specialist resources available to us including dedicated town centre officers, prevention and intervention officers and locality officers who engage with retailers, licensed premises, transport hubs as well as community groups to raise awareness, offer advice and public reassurance.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS—Domestic Abuse

Analytical Context:

Domestic crimes during the first three months of this year are showing an increase when compared with last year (up 23.8%) and also up on the 5-year average of 27.9%. The chart opposite clearly shows that all three months have been above the 5-year average as well as the numbers last year.

It has been noted that almost 7% of the crimes reported during this period are non-recent.



Source: Data taken from iVPD through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

The increase in reporting during the period examined may be influenced by the success of the Domestic Abuse Investigation and Safeguarding Team in offering the victims in all domestic abuse cases reported to Police Scotland in Ayrshire a follow up contact from the department. This important function has given a notable increase in victim confidence and the ability to discuss their situations, often made clearer after a short passage of reflection following the initial incident. It also offers the increased opportunity for third sector signposting and referral to our partner agencies. This approach has seen an additional take up of police assistance, which otherwise may have been lost.

This confidence can be demonstrated in significant ongoing increase in the use of DSDAS which continues to show exponential growth in applications. In April – June 2023 the department processed 79 applications, an increase of 44% over the previous year. MARAC cases in this period totalled 33 for South Ayrshire, and two high profile nominals from South Ayrshire were identified as MATAC targets with investigations currently ongoing.

Our commitment to local service improvement will continue throughout 2023 with a refresh of the local Domestic Abuse Champions portfolio. Domestic Abuse Champions are officers with specialist training in all domestic abuse matters, providing a point of contact for front line supervisors and officers to seek advice and direction when faced with challenging or unusual scenarios. This resource has been under-utilised in recent years and we intend to make the position more pro-active going forward. Our plans are to re-invigorate with locally delivered training alongside the new National material which is arriving shortly. We plan to bolster training with events in which we will invite partners and professionals as specialist guest speakers. Our goal with the DA Champions will be a partnership, currently being discussed with North Ayrshire Women's Aid in trialling a "pop up shop" where officers will attend NAWA premises and be available for informal discussion with their clients in a safe anonymous setting, offering support and advice. If successful this model will be rolled out across Ayrshire.

Local Domestic Abuse refresher training packages have begun roll out to operational Response Policing Officers giving the latest updates on case law, operational scenarios and domestic offending trends. These presentations have been well received by officers and supervisors.

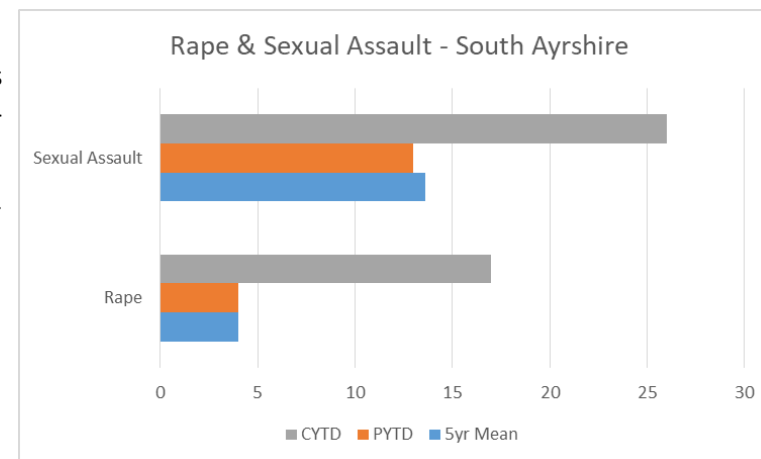
The DAIU remains committed to the VAWP and are involved in the organisation and delivery of this year's pan Ayrshire conference to be held in November.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS—Rape & Sexual Assault

Analytical Context:

Examination of the Rape crimes which were reported in Q1 shows a marked increase in the numbers this year compared with both last year and the 5-year average. It is notable that a total of 7 of these are non-recent crimes and 9 were Domestic related.

Sexual Assaults have noted a marked increase during the first three months of this year on both last year and the 5-year average. Of the 26 reported crimes, 10 are non-recent so far, and at least 5 are domestic related.



Source: Data taken from iVPD through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

Targeting sexual crime remains a priority for Police Scotland. Every reported incident of a sexual nature is robustly investigated. Officers are being further trained with information about the impact of trauma and how these can impact on a person's ability to participate in an interview to provide a fair and consistent approach under video recorded interview (VRI). Increases in sexual crime reporting highlight how our response to online offending and public protection are a key part of frontline policing in a modern society. Tackling sexual crime remains a key priority and we will continue to focus enforcement in this area.

The DRIU Detective Inspector engages with STAR Rape Crisis centre on a monthly basis to discuss survivor feedback and operational issues. This pathway has afforded opportunity to engage directly with survivors about their experiences engaging with police officers through the investigation process. Where learning opportunities are identified, it is discussed with the team to ensure we are adopting a victim centred approach and providing the most effective service. Evaluating feedback assists in understanding successes and where we can learn and develop. We are committed to continually improving the service we provide, to build confidence in reporting and in policing more widely.

We are committed to continually improving the service we provide, to build confidence in reporting and our Ayrshire schools and college campus officers continue to work proactively with young persons to highlight reporting mechanisms and perpetrator warning signs. There is ongoing work to utilise campus officers in the delivery of a new educational resource, accompanied by officers from DRIU and DAIU, in schools across Ayrshire in the new school term. This presents opportunity for specialist officers to share their investigative experiences with our young communities in response to VAWG, domestic abuse and sexual crime.

Prevention is a key area in sexual crime that divisionally we are increasing our pro activity in the build up to the 16 days of Action 2023. This will see officers working closely with partners and highlighting national sexual crime campaigns such as 'That Guy' at a local level through places of education.

SAFER COMMUNITIES—Antisocial Behaviour

Analytical Context:

Anti-social behaviour in general has shown a reduction this year when compared to the 5-year average, down 18.6%, however the change from 2022/23 is only slightly down at 0.4%. Both May and June have recorded increases on last year and this may be as a result of the improved weather which resulted in more transient visitors to the beaches in Ayrshire, including those in South Ayrshire.

ASB incidents involving youths accounted for just under 12%.

A total of 90 ASB Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued in South Ayrshire during the Q1 period.

Local Action/Context:

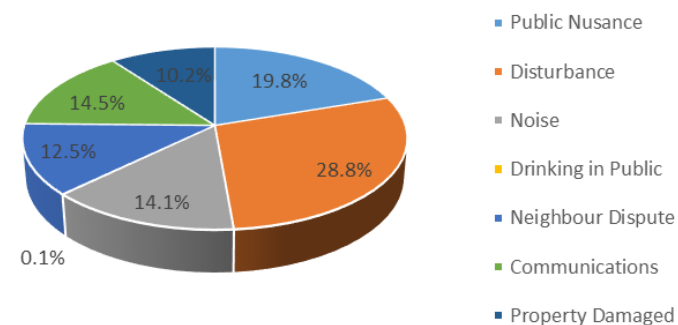
Anti Social Behaviour continues to be targeted across South Ayrshire with a focus on issues that have a direct impact to the wellbeing of our local communities. We work collaboratively with partners and stakeholders to ensure an appropriate response to any concerns, emerging issues and to ensure we have appropriate resources in the right places at the right times to reduce and mitigate any such acts or behaviours. This includes our response and planning around Safer Shores.

Throughout the month of June the seasonally good weather seen an increase in persons visiting our beaches. Using an intelligence led approach local officers were deployed along the beaches with specialist resources including the mounted branch. This was further supported on some days with partners from the Coastguard, SAS, ScotRail, British Transport Police and other local policing Divisions in Glasgow and Inverclyde to ensure that persons attending did so responsibly.

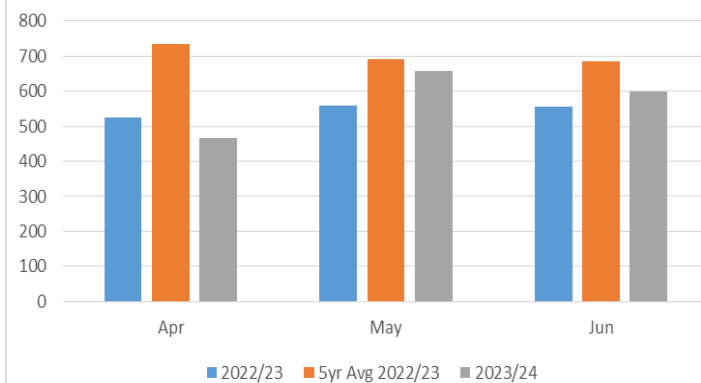
Throughout the Reporting period local officers undertook a total of 494 visits to licensed premises. The majority of these were high visibility routine visits to ensure that the conditions of the premise licence were being followed and to offer re-assurance to the licence trade and patrons within. 31 visits were as a result of an incident taking place within.

Our dedicated Anti Social Behaviour officers work hold daily meetings with partners to identify and respond to any concerns or emerging issues with a focus on housing and neighbour disputes. As a result they have made 198 disclosures to the Local Authority and undertook 91 joint visits to properties where anti social behaviour has been identified and/or reported.

ASB Incident Breakdown South Ayrshire



Monthly ASB - South Ayrshire



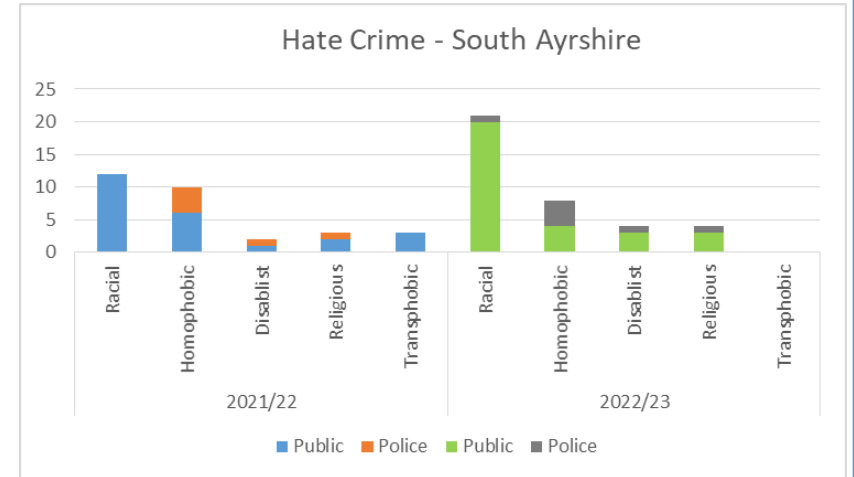
Source: Taken from STORM data extracted through ScOMIS

SAFER COMMUNITIES—Hate Crime

Analytical Context:

Hate crime across South Ayrshire is currently showing an increase when compared to the same period in 2022/23 (n= 36 this year n=27 last year) and the 5-year average (20.6). The chart opposite highlights the fact that Racial crimes have increased markedly . The majority of these have involved members of the public rather than Police Officers. Police Officers continue to be subjected to Homophobic and Disablist slurs.

There is one repeat victim identified who has been subjected to two racial crimes during the first three months of the year. There are currently no repeat locations identified apart from the address associated to the repeat victim. However Whitletts Road has recorded three crimes, although the locations differ.



Source: Taken from the IVPD database through ScOMIS

Local Action/Context:

Addressing and tackling the increase in hate crime is a priority in South Ayrshire. It is recognised that any incident motivated by hate can have a hugely damaging impact on victims, their families and the community.

Every report of hate crime is subject of additional scrutiny and governance from the Local Area Commander and team to identify any patterns of behaviour, repeat victims and repeat locations and to ensure the relentless pursuit of offenders of such incidents.

Throughout the reporting period there has been 2 repeat victims. One of these victims have settled in South Ayrshire after fleeing Ukraine. The incident to this individual involved two occasions whereby offensive graffiti that was written in close proximity to their home address. Police Scotland takes all reports of hate crime seriously. To date this crime remains undetected.

SAFER COMMUNITIES—Acquisitive Crime

Analytical Context:

From the table opposite it is evident that the majority of acquisitive type crimes are currently showing increases when compared with last year but decreases when compared with the 5-year average.

Fraud type crimes have been on the increase for a number of years, and this was exacerbated with the start of the pandemic in 2020 as more people moved their shopping habits online making them more vulnerable to potential scams and fake sites. Around 36% of Fraud crimes this year in South Ayrshire can be classed as having a cyber element, whether that is due to goods purchased and not received, monies not received for goods sent or false websites, there is some part of the Fraud which has involved the use of the internet.

Housebreaking crimes are also showing an increase but this has been across all types—dwelling houses, non-dwelling properties (garages, sheds, etc) and commercial premises. However the total number remains below the 5-year average at this stage.

Local Action/Context:

Acquisitive crime is subject to daily scrutiny to identify trends and patterns and to ensure a targeted and preventative approach is adopted at an early stage.

Throughout the reporting period there has been an increase in housebreakings to commercial premises. As a result a 17 year old male is subject of a report to the COPFS in respect of 5 housebreakings to retail premises within Ayr town centre.

The increase in fraud is replicated across Ayrshire and nationally. With just under half of frauds being attributed to scams/cyber related it is vital that we communicate and alert the public to the crime type and tactics used. We do this using our social media channels as well as bespoke inputs that are delivered by our Prevention & Interventions officer to targeted groups. Throughout the reporting period 11 presentations have been delivered across South Ayrshire with key messaging around Internet and Personal Safety. These presentations are delivered to community groups, sheltered housing complexes, libraries and other identified groups where some people may be deemed vulnerable.

Our dedicated town centre officers work tirelessly dealing with shopliftings. They also continue to raise awareness on prevention measures that retail premises can take. There has been a number of incidents whereby the same offender is responsible for multiple shopliftings. Local police are working closely with key retail premises in an effort to target harden the premise.

	CYTD	PYTD	5yr Mean
All Housebreaking	55	37	57
All Vehicle Crime	24	41	46.2
Fraud	62	51	48.2
Common Theft	120	106	134.8
Shoplifting	239	224	207
Other Thefts	35	34	41.6

Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Local Action/Context:

The Pan Ayrshire Community Wellbeing Unit (CWU) continues to further embed In South Ayrshire with a particular focus on Wallacetown and the Ayr North area. One of the key priorities for them is to work collaboratively with partners including Mental Health Services, Addiction services, SAC Housing, SAC ASBO team and SFRS. They help support and signpost persons in distress. Some of these individuals can be suffering the effects of trauma, substance misuse, poverty and other life challenges.

The CWU have also had several engagements with members of the public who have their own social issues, whether it's through alcohol or drug addiction, mental health problems, poverty, cost of living crisis, education or employment. The CWU will link in with other partner agencies and services to come up with the plan to provide the best support for their needs whether it is for a detox, or mental health counselling/psychiatry.

The CWU have also been working in partnership with 3rd sector charities, Connect4change and we are with you by identifying persons within the South Ayrshire community and thereafter sign posting or arranging the best treatment or care for the client moving forward.

The CWU's main focus is South Ayrshire with a dedicated 2 days a week focusing on the Wallacetown area. Each Tuesday, the CWU have a multi-agency meeting with other services to highlight any issues or problem with the Wallacetown and thereafter come up with a solution to best support that person. Wellbeing visits are then carried out to any Individuals identified.

The CWU also attends Newton Primary, within the Wallacetown area, on a Tuesday and Friday afternoon, along with other services (SAC Housing, Seascope, Home energy, SFRS, Social security Scotland, and Homeless Nurse). This is to provide a drop in service for members of the local community to attend for any assistance or support.

In addition our locality police officers and local authority liaison officer have been involved in the planning of the Drug Recovery Festival that is scheduled to take place in Belleisle Park Ayr in September.

Throughout school term our dedicated school liaison officers deliver bespoke presentations to young people within schools that help support and underpins the Curriculum for Excellence Health and Wellbeing objectives. This includes presentations on Healthy Relationships & Peer Influence, Substance Misuse, Internet Safety and Child Exploitation. The liaison officers ensure that the messages contained within the presentation are age relevant and should help empower young people to make an informed choice.

Along with all local operational police officers our Street Pastors who deploy at the weekend as part of the Reducing Violence Partnership are now trained in the administration of Naloxone. Naloxone is a medication that is used to reverse the effects of opioids. Those trained in this now feel re-assured and more confident on how to administer the medication should they come into contact with an individual who has overdosed.

ROAD SAFETY

Analytical Context:

There has been an increase in both Speeding offences and Drink/Drug Offences during Q1 within South Ayrshire. However, this is likely to be due to increased pro-activity across the area to ensure road users are driving appropriately and safely.

In terms of Serious and Fatal Road Accidents—there have been one Fatal Accidents so far this year compared with zero last year. However there have been 6 serious road traffic collisions during Q1, this is a decrease of 2 since last year (2022/23 Q1=8).

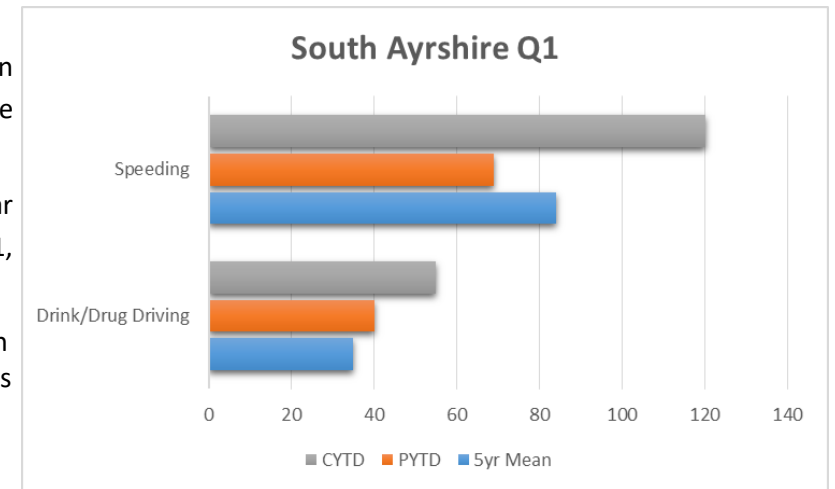
It should be noted however, that these numbers include circumstances where an individual has been required to stay in hospital overnight for observations, however has not necessarily sustained serious injuries. Any overnight hospital stay is classed as a Serious Road Traffic Collision.

Local Action/Context:

Road Safety remains a key priority for Police in South Ayrshire as they continue to work towards the outcomes set in the Scottish Government's Road Safety Framework to 2030.

A strong partnership between Police, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, South Ayrshire Council and local elected members ensures all concerns regarding road safety are discussed in collaboration. This allows officers to deploy appropriate tactics through a range of education and enforcement measures, supported by partners. All speeding locations are re-evaluated after 6 weeks, and if appropriate are rotated to ensure other communities within South Ayrshire receive equity of service. This flexibility allows officers to deploy as required to other locations with emerging road safety trends. A mixture of high visibility and unmarked patrols enables officers within South Ayrshire to target priority routes, which are known to be frequented by repeat offenders who continually choose to drive under the influence of alcohol/drugs, posing a danger to both themselves and other road users. To support these deployments, Ayrshire's Road Policing Unit has recently acquired a second unmarked patrol vehicle, and also obtained support from the National Motorcycle Unit for unmarked motorcycle patrols. The benefits of this approach can be seen in the significant increase in persons being identified speeding as well as driving under the influence of substances.

Continued short term Safety Camera Van deployments continue on the A70 following a spate of RTC's during previous reporting periods. In addition to this, the A70 features on Ayrshire Road Policing's priority route matrix where high visibility directed patrols provide reassurance that the priority of road safety within South Ayrshire is taken seriously. Police in South Ayrshire recognise the benefits of education when targeting Road Safety. During the reporting period, local officers supported by Road Policing colleagues and partners from South Ayrshire Community Safety, delivered a series of presentations to S1 pupils utilising Virtual Reality 360 technology. These inputs were delivered across all South Ayrshire Secondary Schools to educate S1 pupils on the dangers of being distracted and not paying attention whilst crossing the road, along with a solid reminder of the need to be a responsible passenger whilst being conveyed within a vehicle.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE—Survey Information

User Experience - Current Position

The information on the table below is from data gathered in the April 2023 to June 2023 for South Ayrshire. It should also be noted that the 'Feeling adequately informed' question has changed in 2022/23 and only applies to those who stated they expected to be kept informed.

Questions	YTD	Force YTD	Female	Male	Blank/ Other
Number of Respondents	88	3885	31	30	27
Ease of Contact? (% Easy and Very Easy)	67%	70%	68%	77%	56%
Being provided with the appropriate response? (% Yes)	63%	63%	72%	72%	42%
Feeling adequately informed about progress made with your report	52%	49%	47%	60%	50%
Overall Satisfaction? (% Satisfied or Very Satisfied)	65%	48%	74%	73%	44%

Your Survey

The Your Police Survey remains open throughout the year for all members of the public and police . The survey helps us understand people's opinions of policing in their local area, as well as tell us about any concerns regarding their area which was affecting their safety or wellbeing o provide views on Policing the Local Community.

Should you wish to complete the survey you can using the QR code shown below or alternatively at:- www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us



PUBLIC CONFIDENCE—Complaints Against the Police

Complaints about the Police

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% CHANGE	YTD	LYTD	% CHANGE
TOTAL	79	94	-16.0%	105	131	-19.8%
South Ayrshire	43	33	30.3%	58	49	18.4%

Breakdown of Case Categories

	FLR (Early Resolution)	FLR PSD (NCARU)	FLR (Spec or PSD)	Criminal Complaint	Non Criminal (not FLR)	Abandoned	Withdrawn	Ongoing (NCARU)	Not Relevant Complaint
U DIVISION	0	27	3	5	26	10	4	4	0
South Ayrshire Council	0	11	0	4	20	4	3	1	0

Breakdown of On Duty Allegations

Breakdown of Allegations	Assault	Corrupt Practice	Discriminatory Behaviour	Excess Force	Incivility	Irregularity in Procedure	Neglect of Duty	Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	Other - Criminal	Non-Criminal	Traffic Irregularity/Offence	Unlawful Unnecessary Arrest or Detention
U DIVISION	6	0	1	5	9	33	2	1	0	0	3	2
South Ayrshire	5	0	1	3	3	16	1	1	0	0	1	1

Breakdown of Quality of Service Allegations

Quality of Service	Policy/Procedure	Service Delivery	Service Outcome
U DIVISION TOTAL	15	7	21
South Ayrshire	11	3	12

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acronym	Details
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
ASBIT	Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team
CWU	Community Wellbeing Unit
CYTD	Current Year to Date
DAIU	Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit
DAST	Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Team
DRD	Drug Related Deaths
DSDAS	Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland
NAC	North Ayrshire Council
FLR	Front Line Resolution
GIRFEC	Getting It Right For Every Child
HMP	Her Majesty's Prison
LPP	Local Policing Plan
LPT	Local Policing Team
LYTD	Last Year to Date
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
NCARU	National Complaints and Resolution Unit
Non-Rec	Non Recent (over one year from incident occurring)
PACT	Pro-Active Crime Team
PSOS	Police Service of Scotland
PYTD	Previous Year to Date
QoS	Quality of Service (relates to complaints)
RADAR	Rapid Access to Drug and Alcohol Recovery
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
ScOMIS	Scottish Operational and Management Information System
SFRS	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
SWD	Social Work Department
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
YTD	Year to Date

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Head of Legal and Regulatory Services
to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel
of 24 October 2023**

Subject: FOISA/ EIR Annual Report 2022/23

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Members on the Council's response times and the volume of requests made under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs) by subject matter and type of requester during the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

2.1.1 scrutinises the contents of this report, and

2.1.2 requests a further report to a future meeting of the Panel providing an update on the Council's FOISA/ EIR performance during the period 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 5 September 2013, the Corporate and Community Planning Standing Scrutiny Panel considered a report on implementation of the recommendations contained within the Scottish Information Commissioners Assessment of February 2013.
- 3.2 Within paragraph 4.1 of the 2013 Panel report, it was advised that an Annual Report be submitted to the appropriate Panel detailing Directorate response times and volumes of requests under FOISA and EIRs, by subject and applicant status.
- 3.3 Reporting is also underpinned under Section 60 of FOISA and Regulation 18 of the EIRs, which states that public authorities should review and report on their FOI performance data regularly. South Ayrshire Council reports performance to the public, elected members and senior management, as well as providing quarterly performance figures to the Scottish Information Commissioner.
- 3.4 Should the Scottish Information Commissioner consider a public body is failing to perform to its standards, it has enforcement powers allowing their Enforcement Officers to invoke statutory [Interventions Procedures | Scottish Information Commissioner \(itspublicknowledge.info\)](#).

- 3.5 South Ayrshire Council's performance continues to meet the standards required of the Scottish Information Commissioner, with no interventions sought.
- 3.6 The Council's Information Governance (IG) Team handles all Council information requests under FOISA and EIRs.
- 3.7 Public bodies are required to respond to information requests under both FOISA and the EIRS within 20 working days (in exceptional circumstances this timescale can be extended under the EIRS, but there is no extension mechanism under the FOISA legislation).
- 3.8 For the 2022/23 reporting period outlined in this report, 82% of FOISA responses were issued within 20 working days, and 84% of EIR responses being issued within statutory time scales.

This shows an improvement in our performance from the previous year despite the Council also receiving 116 more information requests in 2022/23 than 2021/22.

	FOISA		EIRS	
	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
Information Requests responded to within 20 working days	77%	82% ▲	71%	84% ▲

- 3.9 [Appendix 1](#) – provides further information on the administration of FOISA and EIR requests, the Council's performance against statutory time scales; how South Ayrshire Council performs in comparison to other similar Local Authorities within Scotland; the number of Internal Reviews and Scottish Information Commissioner investigations carried out, and future steps being taken to improve the Council's performance.
- 3.10 [Appendix 2](#) – provides information on the Council's response times to FOISA requests within 20 working days, broken down by Directorate performance, together with analysis of requests by subject and requestor categories.
- 3.11 [Appendix 3](#) – provides information on the Council's response times to EIR requests within statutory time scales, broken down by Directorate performance, together with analysis of requests by subject and requestor categories.
- 3.12 [Appendix 4](#) – provides further analysis information of FOISA requests by the categorisation of the requestor.
- 3.13 [Appendix 5](#) – provides further analysis information of EIR requests by the categorisation of the requestor.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 Members are asked to scrutinise the contents of this report.
- 4.2 Request a further report to a future meeting of the Panel, providing an update on the FOISA/ EIR performance of the Council during the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

8.2.1 There are no risks associated with rejecting the recommendations.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 6](#).

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy, or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and Effective Enabling Services.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Ian Davis, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Human Resources and ICT, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers/

Background Papers **Report to Corporate and Community Planning Standing Scrutiny Panel of 5 September 2013 - [Freedom of Information \(Scotland\) Act 2002 \(FOISA\) Environmental Information \(Scotland\) Regulations 2004 \(EIR\) – Assessment – Scottish Information Commissioner’s Assessment Report](#)**

[Scottish Ministers’ Code of Practice on the Discharge of Functions by Scottish Public Authorities under the Freedom of Information \(Scotland\) Act 2002 and the Environmental Information \(Scotland\) Regulations 2004](#)

Report to Service and Performance Panel of 20 September 2022 – [FOISA/ EIR Annual Report 2021/22](#)

Person to Contact **Catriona Caves, Head of Legal and Regulatory Services
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612556
E-mail Catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Date: 13 October 2023

Additional Background Information

As part of the Council's commitment to provide an open and transparent Freedom of Information service to our citizens, the Information Governance (IG) team works with Council services to establish ways we can improve our performance whilst providing high quality responses within statutory timescales.

Monthly, quarterly and annual reporting of FOI/EIR performance statistics is also provided to Council Senior Management, and Elected Members through monthly communications which analyse performance against the previous year.

Members are asked to note the following:

Pro-Active Publication of Information

- 1.1 The IG team recommends Council services take a pro-active approach to publishing information, to keep the public advised in an open and transparent manner. This can also reduce the number of information requests received by the services, allowing resources to be focused upon daily operational service delivery.
- 1.2 The IG team monitors trends in requests and works with services to consider publishing information on the Council's website when that information is being requested frequently.
- 1.3 The Council's Revenue & Benefit's team recognised the increasing volume of request for information under FOISA for Non-Domestic Rates data. As a result, and with the support of the IG Team, a dedicated web page is now available online that allows members of the public to access information without the requirement of making a request under FOISA [Non-Domestic \(Business\) Rates FOI requests - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/non-domestic-rates-foi-requests)
- 1.4 An ongoing trend in requests for information relating to the Council Statutory Notices (e.g., under Planning and Housing legislation) has been established and over the course of 2023/24 the IG team will be working with services to find ways to make this information available within the public domain, using the success of our Non-Domestic Rates data publication as positive example of how pro-active publication can support service delivery.

2.0 Monitoring our Performance

- 2.1 Members will note that the Council received **116** more information requests between 2021/22 (1,284 requests) and 2022/23 (1,400 requests). Further information on the breakdown of these statistics is detailed in Appendix 2, Appendix 3, Appendix 4, and Appendix 5.
- 2.2 The Council's internal service performance indicator target for responses being issued within the 20-day timescale is set at **80%**. In 2022/23 **82%** of FOISA requests and **84%** of EIR requests were answered within the prescribed timescales.

2.3 Between 2021/22 and 2022/23 there has been an improvement of **5%** in the number of FOISA requests being issued within 20 working days, i.e., 82% in comparison to 77% from the year before. There has also been an improvement of **13%** in the number of EIR requests being issued within 20 working days, i.e., 84% in 2022/23 in comparison to 71% in 2021/22

	FOISA		EIR	
	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
Closed, information provided within the 20 day timescale	77%	82% ▲	71%	84% ▲
Key Performance Target		80%		80%

2.4 As per Appendix 2 and Appendix 3, in 2022/23 the Council saw an increase of **12%** in the total number of FOISA requests received, and a slight decrease of **2%** in the number of EIR requests received from the previous year.

2.5 We have continued to make improvements in providing responses to information requests within 20 working days, despite the continuing trend in receiving more information requests through FOISA and the EIRS. This is in part due to the IG team offering support to services who are experiencing difficulties in balancing daily operational matters and responding to information requests within timescales.

2.6 To provide a realistic comparison of South Ayrshire Council's performance, benchmarking information is provided below around similar groups of Councils within Scotland, who have a similar customer demographic (e.g., relative deprivation and affluence) and the type of area in which service provision is made (e.g., urban, rural, semi-rural) in terms of the number of FOISA and EIR requests received, the percentage responded to within 20 working days and the percentage resulting in an Internal Review.

2.7 Based on our Scottish Information Commissioner return, over the reporting period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, South Ayrshire Council responded to **79%** of all our information requests within statutory time scales, with our performance being positively comparable against other Scottish Councils:

	Council	Total Requests	Total on Time	% on time
1	Dumfries & Galloway Council	1517	1483	98%
2	South Lanarkshire Council	1273	1168	92%
3	Clackmannanshire Council & Licensing Board	1207	1044	86%
3	West Lothian	1123	966	86%
4	South Ayrshire Council & Licensing Board	1374	1091	79%
5	Falkirk Council	1519	1145	75%
6	Renfrewshire Council	1627	1210	74%

2.8 The IG Team has recently launched a mandatory FOISA/ EIR COAST training which is currently being undertaken by all Council staff. It is anticipated that the deployment of this new FOISA/ EIR training the Council will promote improved understanding and communication, leading to improvements in the number of requests being responded to within 20 working days.

2.9 The Co-ordinator of Registration, Records & Information has also recently provided an overview session to the Council's ELT making recommendations to improve our procedures and processes and integrate Senior Management engagement into these processes to support our statutory obligations in responding to requests within 20 working days.

3.0 Internal Reviews and Scottish Information Commissioner Investigations

3.1 The number of internal review requests and referrals to the Scottish Information Commissioner allows the Council to gauge the quality of the responses that has been issued to an applicant.

3.2 When an applicant is dissatisfied with the response to their information request, they can ask that the Council undertakes an Internal Review to revisit our decision of applying an exemption and not providing the requested information. If they remain dissatisfied, they have the right of appeal to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC).

3.3 The following Internal Review and OSIC investigations were undertaken in 2021/22 and 2022/23:

	FOISA		EIRS	
	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
Internal Reviews	21	11 ▼	8	2 ▼
SIC Investigations	3	1 ▼	2	0 ▼

Internal Reviews of all FOISA and EIR requests are undertaken by the Co-ordinator (Records, Registration, and Information).

3.4 Based on statistics submitted to the Scottish Information Commissioner and with comparison to the other Councils benchmarked within paragraph 2.7 above, the percentage of applicants seeking Internal Review after they have received an FOISA/ EIR response is also positively comparable:

	Council	Total Requests	No Reviews	% of total requests
1	Renfrewshire Council	1627	15	0.009%
2	South Ayrshire Council & Licensing Board	1374	14	0.010%
3	West Lothian Council	1123	29	0.025%
4	Falkirk Council	1519	44	0.029%
5	Dumfries & Galloway Council	1517	65	0.043%
6	South Lanarkshire Council	1273	28	0.219%
7	Clackmannanshire Council & Licensing Board	1207	38	0.314%

- 3.5 If a requester continues to be unhappy with the outcome of the review, they have the right of appeal to OSIC. In 2022/23 1 of our FOISA Internal Review applicants then sought a further investigation from the OSIC. None of our EIR applicants contacted the OSIC.

The OSIC is currently investigating the FOISA investigation referred to above and has not yet issued a formal Decision Notice. All Decision Notices are published by the OSIC at: [Decisions | Scottish Information Commissioner \(itspublicknowledge.info\)](https://itspublicknowledge.info/Decisions)

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Enquiries – 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

	<i>Chief Executive</i>		<i>Place</i>		<i>Health and Social Care Partnership</i>		<i>People</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>
Number of Enquiries	484	462	308	352	155	148	315	201	1262	1163
Closed, information provided within the 20-day timescale	370	340	258	241	95	113	257	148	980	842
Awaiting clarification	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closed, information provided out with the 20-day timescale	109	120	50	111	56	35	56	53	271	319
Open	5	2	0	0	4	0	2	0	11	2
Turnaround Percentage	76%▲	74%	84%▲	69%	61%▼	76%	82%▲	74%	78%▲	72%

While the Council received **1,051** enquiries, **211** of these required a response from multiple Council services meaning that in total services processed **1,262** requests.

There has been an increase in the Council's response rate within the statutory 20 working day timescale across all Directorates, from **72%** in 2021/22 to **78%** in 2022/23.

The IG Team continue to support services in how to manage information electronically, to reduce the reliance upon paper records and improve access to information. Over the course of the next year, information management of FOISA and EIR requests will be migrated to the Council's GOSS Platform, which is anticipated will reduce reliance on paper records and support further improvements in responding within timescales.

By Subject					
Type of Enquiry	Total		Type of Enquiry	Total	
	2022/23	2021/22		2022/23	2021/22
Administration	102	152	ICT	30	27
Adult Care	49	35	Insurance	3	1
Building Control	1	1	Leisure	33	39
Child Care	38	40	Licensing	25	15
Civic	0	0	Multi	136	46
Community Care/ Planning	2	2	Neighbourhood Services	26	17
Community Safety	3	2	Planning	3	8
Corporate	4	1	Procurement	27	22
Criminal Justice	3	4	Property and Design	0	0
Elections	1	1	Pupils	6	0
Environmental	16	17	Registration Services	0	1
Estates	8	30	Roads	9	8
Events	4	2	Schools	170	99
Ex Curr	0	0	Sustainable Development	0	2
Finance	100	145	Teachers	4	6
Fleet Management	5	8	Trading Standards	8	0
Grants	0	0	Transport	0	1
Health	2	1	Waste Management	3	8
Health And Safety	0	4			
Housing	109	100			
HR	121	83			
Total				1,051 ▲	928

By Requester		
Type of Requester	Total	
	2022/23	2021/22
Charity/Vol Org	23	21
Company	174	148
General Public	448	521
Local Authority	17	6
MSP/MP	248	99
Other	4	0
Press	125	111
Solicitor	3	3
Union	7	14
Uni/College	2	5
Total	1,051 ▲	928

Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004
Enquiries – 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

	<i>Chief Executive</i>		<i>Place</i>		<i>Health and Social Care Partnership</i>		<i>People</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2021/22</i>
Number of Enquiries	84	76	294	304	0	1	7	13	385	394
Closed, information provided within the 20 day timescale	74	55	237	220	0	0	5	6	316	281
Awaiting clarification	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closed, information provided outwith the 20 day timescale	10	21	55	81	0	1	2	7	67	110
Open	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	3
Turnaround Percentage	88%▲	72%	81%▲	72%	0%	0%	71%▲	46%	82%▲	71%

While the Council received **349** enquiries **36** of these required a response from multiple Council services meaning that services processed **385** requests in total.

The Council responded within the statutory 20 working day timescale across all Directorates in **82%** of all cases in 2022/23 which is an increase from the **71%** response rate reported in 2021/22. There has been a consistent increase in response times across all services for EIR Requests.

EIR requests are often relating to high-profile projects and developments within the Council, requiring multiple service input into responses. The IG Team continue to support services in how to manage information electronically, to reduce the reliance upon paper records and improve access to information. Over the course of the next year, information management of FOISA and EIR requests will be migrated to the Council's GOSS Platform, which is anticipated will reduce reliance on paper records and support further improvements in responding within timescales.

EIR Enquiries – 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023
Analysis by subject and by requester (*Further Analysis is available in [Appendix 5](#))

By Subject					
Type of Enquiry	Total		Type of Enquiry	Total	
	2022/23	2021/22		2022/23	2021/22
Administration	16	29	ICT	1	1
Adult Care	0	0	Insurance	1	0
Building Control	12	9	Leisure	1	7
Child Care	0	0	Licensing	0	0
Civic	0	0	Multi	37	14
Community Care/ Planning	0	0	Neighbourhood Services	21	20
Community Safety	0	0	Planning	42	37
Corporate	0	0	Procurement	1	1
Criminal Justice	0	0	Property And Design	0	0
Elections	0	0	Pupils	0	0
Environmental	51	49	Registration Services	0	0
Estates	16	15	Roads	110	113
Events	0	0	Schools	0	0
Finance	0	4	Sustainable Development	4	8
Fleet Management	2	2	Teachers	0	0
Grants	0	0	Trading Standards	0	0
Health	0	0	Transport	0	0
Health And Safety	4	4	Waste Management	22	31
Housing	8	13			
HR	0	0			
Total				349 ▼	357

By category of requester		
Category	Total	
	2022/23	2021/22
Charity/Vol Org	5	3
Claims Company	0	0
Company	130	92
Local authority	1	0
Public	131	197
MSP/MP	33	23
Other	0	0
Press	34	29
Solicitor	14	13
Trades Union	1	0
Uni/College	0	0
Total	349 ▼	357

FOISA enquiries 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Analysis of requests by category of requester

Each request for information is logged and categorised using pre-defined categories within the IG FOISA logging system. The following provides further analysis of the category of requesters and subject matter (as outlined in [Appendix 2](#)).

Public

448 requests were identified as having been made by the public, representing 43% of all FOISA requests. This is 13% lower than the percentage received in 2021/22. Applications will be categorised as being from the public where the request clearly shows a personal email address or residential property address, as well as when the request has no further contextual information to indicate the request is from a company, MSP, Journalist etc.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total received in year	1,051	928
Public	448	521
Percentage %	42% ▼	56%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated as public requests with Council Administration, Human Resources and School receiving the majority.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	48
ADULT CARE	17
BUILDING CONTROL	1
CHILD CARE	16
CORPORATE	3
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	1
ELECTIONS	1
ENVIRONMENTAL	9
ESTATES	5
EVENTS	1
FINANCE	35
FLEET MANAEMENT	5
HOUSING	40
HR	48
ICT	19
INSURANCE	1
LEISURE	18
LICENSING	7

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
MULTI	78
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	11
PLANNING	2
PROCUREMENT	21
PUPILS	3
ROADS	7
SCHOOLS	45
TEACHERS	1
TRADING STANDARDS	3
WASTE MANAGEMENT	2
TOTAL	448

*ADMINISTRATION information relating to, for example Complaints, Elected Members, Council Policies and Council contact details

**Multi = information requests covering multiple categories

Solicitor

FOISA requests were made by a solicitor representing 0.2% of all requests. This is a decrease of 0.1% from the same reporting period in 2021/22. When a request is categorised as being from a solicitor, this is clearly established from the correspondence issued by the relevant legal representative. (e.g., incorporates a letter with official letter head, official footer to an email).

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Solicitor	3	3
Percentage %	0.2% ▼	0.3%

The three requests were split evenly across all enquiry types.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADULT CARE	1
FINANCE	1
MULTI	1
TOTAL	3

Company

174 were made by a Company representing 17% of all FOISA requests. This is a 1% increase from 2021/22. Requests that are categorised as being from a company will be private companies seeking information from the Council, e.g., BT, Millar and Bryce. (e.g., incorporates a letter with official letter head, official footer to an email).

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Company	174	148
Percentage %	17% ▲	16%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the Company FOISA requests, with the majority (17%) relating to Finance.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	17
ADULT CARE	10
CHILD CARE	8
COMMUNITY CARE/PLANNING	1
ENVIRONMENTAL	1
ESTATES	1
EVENTS	1
FINANCE	30
HOUSING	22
HR	19
ICT	9
INSURANCE	1
LEISURE	2
LICENSING	13
MULTI	15
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	4
PLANNING	1
PROCUREMENT	5
PUPILS	2
ROADS	1
SCHOOLS	9
TRADING STANDARDS	1
WASTE MANAGEMENT	1
TOTAL	174

MSP/MP

248 requests were made by an MSP/MP representing 24% of all FOISA requests. This is a 13% increase to the percentage received in 2021/22. Requests categorised here will be clearly established as being from an MSP/MP from the correspondence received by the Council. (e.g., incorporates a letter with official letter head, official footer to an email).

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
MSP/MP	248	99
Percentage %	24%▲	11%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the MSP/MP FOISA requests, with the majority (33%) relating to Schools.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	14
ADULT CARE	13
CHILD CARE	4
COMMUNITY CARE/PLANNING	1
COMMUNITY SAFETY	1
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	1
ENVIRONMENTAL	2
ESTATES	1
EVENTS	1
FINANCE	18
HEALTH	2
HOUSING	26
HR	41
INSURANCE	1
LEISURE	10
LICENSING	1
MULTI	21
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	7
PROCUREMENT	1
SCHOOLS	82
TOTAL	248

Press

125 were made by the Press in 2021/22 representing 12% of all FOISA requests. This is equal to the percentage received from the Press in 2021/22. Requests categorised as being from the Press/Journalist will be clearly defined based on the correspondence received. (e.g., incorporates an official footer to an email).

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Press	125	111
Percentage %	12% ◀▶	12%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the Press FOISA requests, with the majority (23%) relating to schools' information.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	17
ADULT CARE	5
CHILD CARE	3
COMMUNITY SAFETY	1
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	1

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ENVIRONMENTAL	3
ESTATES	1
EVENTS	1
FINANCE	9
HOUSING	16
HR	7
LEISURE	3
LICENSING	3
MULTI	15
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	2
PUPILS	1
ROADS	1
SCHOOLS	29
TEACHERS	3
TRADING STANDARDS	4
TOTAL	125

Charity/Voluntary Organisation

23 requests were made by a Charity or Voluntary Organisation representing 2% of all FOISA requests. This is equal to the same reporting period of 2021/22. Applications from Charities and Voluntary organisations will be categorised based on the correspondence received (e.g., incorporates a letter with official letter head, official footer to an email).

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Charity / Vol Org	23	21
Percentage %	2% ◀▶	2%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the Charity/Voluntary Organisation FOISA requests with Child Care receiving the most at 26%

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	2
ADULT CARE	1
CHILD CARE	6
ENVIRONMENTAL	1
FINANCE	3
HOUSING	3
LICENSING	1
MULTI	3

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
SCHOOLS	3
TOTAL	23

Claims Company

No requests were identified as being made by claims companies in 2022/23

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Claims Company	0	0
Percentage %	0% ◀▶	0%

Trade Unions

7 requests were made by Trades Unions representing 0.6% of all FOISA requests. This shows a decrease from the same reporting period in 2021/22, where 1.5% of requests were made by Trade Unions.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Trade Union	7	14
Percentage %	0.6% ▼	1.5%

Unsurprisingly most requests related to the HR information:

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
FINANCE	2
HOUSING	1
HR	3
MULTI	1
TOTAL	7

University/College

2 requests were made by a university or colleges representing 0.2% of all FOISA requests. This is a decrease of 0.3% from this reporting period in 2021/22.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
University/College	2	5
Percentage %	0.2% ▼	0.5%

The two requests were split evenly across all enquiry types.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADULT CARE	1
CORPORATE	1
TOTAL	2

Local Authority

17 FOISA requests were made by a Local Authority representing 1.6% of all FOISA requests. This is a 1% increase from the same reporting period in 2021/22.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Local Authority	17	6
Percentage %	1.6%▲	0.6%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to Local Authority FOISA requests.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	4
ADULT CARE	1
CHILD CARE	1
FINANCE	1
HOUSING	1
HR	2
ICT	2
MULTI	2
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	2
SCHOOLS	1
TOTAL	17

Other

4 requests were categorised as “other” in 2022/23 representing 0.4% of all requests.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	1,051	928
Other	4	0
Percentage %	0.4%▲	0%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to Other FOISA requests.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
COMMUNITY SAFETY	1
FINANCE	1
HR	1
SCHOOLS	1
TOTAL	4

EIR Enquiries 1 June 2022 to 30 June 2023

Analysis of requests by category of requester

Each enquiry is logged and categorised using pre-defined broad categories within the EIR logging system. The following provides further analysis of the category of requester and subject matter of the requested information (as outlined in [Appendix 3](#)).

Public

131 requests were identified as having been made the public, representing 38% of all EIR requests. This is a decrease of 17% from 2021/22 where 55% of EIR requests were received from the General Public:

	2022/23	2021/22
Total received in year	349	357
Public	131	197
Percentage %	38% ▼	55%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the public EIR requests, with the majority (35%) relating to Road's information:

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	6
BUILDING CONTROL	2
ENVIRONMENTAL	15
ESTATES	5
ICT	1
INSURANCE	1
LEISURE	1
MULTI	16
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	11
PLANNING	14
PROCUREMENT	1
ROADS	46
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	1
WASTE MANAGEMENT	11
TOTAL	131

**Information relating to, for example complaints relating to environmental information, general enforcement, and Council Policies.*

Solicitor

14 requests were made by a Solicitor, representing 4% of all EIR requests. This is equal to the same reporting period in 2021/22.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Solicitor	14	13
Percentage %	4% ◀▶	4%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the Solicitor EIR requests, with the majority (64%) relating Roads:

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
BUILDING CONTROL	2
MULTI	1
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	1
ROADS	9
WASTE MANAGEMENT	1
TOTAL	14

Company

130 requests were made by a Company representing 37% of all EIR requests. This is an increase of 11% from 2021/22 where 26% of EIR requests were received from a Company:

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Company	130	92
Percentage %	37%▲	26%

The following categories were allocated to Company EIR requests, with the majority (26%) relating to Road's information:

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	4
BUILDING CONTROL	8
ENVIRONMENTAL	27
ESTATES	7
FLEET MANAEMENT	2
HEALTH AND SAFETY	3
HOUSING	4
MULTI	11
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	1
PLANNING	23
ROADS	34
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2
WASTE MANAGEMENT	4
TOTAL	130

MSP/MP

33 requests were attributed to being from an MSP/MP, representing 9% of all EIR requests. This is a decrease of 2% from 2021/22.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
MSP/MP	33	23
Percentage %	9%▲	6%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the MSP/MP EIR requests, with the majority (21%) relating to Road's information.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	4
ENVIRONMENTAL	2
ESTATES	3
HOUSING	2
MULTI	3
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	4
PLANNING	4
ROADS	7
WASTE MANAGEMENT	4
TOTAL	33

Press

34 requests were made by the Press representing 10% of all EIR requests. This is an increase of 2% from 2021/22:

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Press	34	29
Percentage %	10%▲	8%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to the Press EIR requests with the majority (41%) relating to Road's information.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ADMINISTRATION	2
ENVIRONMENTAL	5
ESTATES	1
HOUSING	2
MULTI	4
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES	4
PLANNING	1
ROADS	14
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	1
TOTAL	34

Charity/Voluntary Organisation

5 requests were made by a Charity/Voluntary Organisation, representing 1.4% of all EIR requests. This is an increase of 0.4% from 2021/22.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Charity/Vol. Org	5	3
Percentage %	1.4%▲	0.8%

In 2022/23 the following categories were allocated to Charity/Voluntary Organisations EIR requests.

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
ENVIRONMENTAL	2
HEALTH AND SAFETY	1
MULTI	1
WASTE MANAGEMENT	1
TOTAL	5

Claims Company

No requests were made by claims companies in 2022/23.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Claims Company	0	0
Percentage %	0%◀▶	0%

Local Authority

1 request was made from a Local Authority in 2022/23.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Local Authority	1	0
Percentage %	0.3%▲	0%

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
MULTI	1
TOTAL	1

University/College

No requests were made from Universities/Colleges in 2022/23.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
University/College	0	0
Percentage %	0%◀▶	0%

Trades Unions

1 request was made from a Trade Union in 2022/23.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Trades Unions	1	0
Percentage %	0.3%	0%

Type of Enquiry	Total for Period
WASTE MANAGEMENT	1
TOTAL	1

Other

No requests were made by requestors categorised as 'Other'.

	2022/23	2021/22
Total Received In Year	349	357
Other	0	0
Percentage %	0% ◀▶	0%

South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	Complaints – Scrutiny Update
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Wynne Carlaw, Service Lead – Democratic Governance – wynne.carlaw@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-
Sexual Orientation – person's sexual orientation i.e., LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children's Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet Basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e., financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e., parent's education, employment, and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the 'Three Key Needs' of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium, or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5/

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Rationale for decision: This report is an analysis of performance that allows scrutiny. There are no proposals at this stage to alter the way we provide services or Council policies	
Signed: Catriona Caves	Head of Service
Date: 15 September 2023	

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Strategic Change and Communities
to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel
of 24 October 2023**

Subject: 2022-25 Council Workforce Plan Annual Update

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update of the Council 2022-2025 Workforce Plan and associated Action Plan.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

2.1.1 notes the contents of this report;

2.1.2 agrees amendments and extension to related activities within [Appendix 1](#);

2.1.3 requests an interim report in April 2024 that provides:

- an update on workforce planning governance and oversight;
- preparation for the 2024 Best Value thematic audit;
- progress on actions in [Appendix 1](#) that require an extension up to March 2024; and

2.1.4 requests a further report to a future meeting of the Panel providing an annual update on the Workforce Plan and Action Plan during the period 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024.

3. Background

3.1 The Council's current 3-year workforce plan was approved by the Service and Performance Panel on 25 October 2022 and the Cabinet on the 29 November 2022.

3.2 Section 9 of the workforce plan contains an Action Plan which sets out a broad range of activities that will progress during the next 3 years.

3.3 The majority of activities are led, with input from Service Leads, by support services including Organisational Development, Human Resources, Thriving Communities and Performance, Policy and Community Planning. These services are part of the workforce planning implementation group which meets regularly to review progress.

- 3.4 Each activity has a specified lead officer and progress is monitored via Pentana.
- 3.5 Workforce Planning was embedded for the first time within the 2023 Service Planning process, with a range of actions specified that require Service Lead input and consideration during the life of the plan. These included completion of workforce and succession planning templates, reviewing casual staff requirements and increasing PDR response rates.
- 3.6 The Health and Social Care Partnership's workforce plan also runs from 2022-25, and Organisational Development continues to provide workforce planning support to the Partnership, ensuring close alignment between both plans and associated action plans.
- 3.7 The Audit Scotland's recent Best Value thematic review recognised:
- The Council's 2022-25 Workforce Plan as comprehensive in detail with an action plan that details ownership and timescales across a range of workforce themes.
 - Work is still ongoing to align workforce needs at a service level. This is being progressed through the service plans.
- 3.8 There has been limited national workforce planning activity during 2022/23. From a COSLA perspective, the key working group that Councils input into is the Society Personnel Development Scotland (SPDS) workforce planning portfolio. The SPDS plans to develop and issue an updated survey on workforce planning activity and related resources across Councils. The survey will assist COSLA and SOLACE in understanding the national workforce planning landscape. From a Health and Social Care perspective, the Scottish Government workforce planning unit is revising reporting requirements for Partnerships, and Organisational Development has requested that it is included in any short-life working group (as it has been previously).
- 3.9 The Accounts Commission has indicated that workforce planning will be the focus of Best Value thematic work in 2024 and will be covered in all council annual audit reports (initial timescale is Autumn 2024), followed by a national thematic report.
- 3.10 Workforce data has historically been provided by a suite of Oracle reports with further analysis by Organisational Development. As the implementation of Fusion has initially focused on the transactional and operational requirements for HR and Finance, no replacement reporting suite is available. At this stage, Organisational Development is therefore unable to provide wider workforce data and analysis. A Fusion Board Strategic Board has now been formed (chaired by the Head of Finance, ICT and Procurement) and will consider future development proposals for Fusion which will include corporate/ workforce reporting.
- 3.11 Services completed workforce and succession planning templates during Q1 and Q2 of 2023. These templates require services to consider a range of workforce and succession planning criteria and risks developed by the Local Government Association (LGA). Analysis of the information corporately and per directorate is currently being undertaken by Organisational Development and will be submitted to ELT by November 2023.

- 3.12 ELT will also be asked to consider a governance and oversight process to workforce planning recently adopted by the Partnership. That process reinforces the requirement for a strategic executive oversight group which has ownership of workforce strategies and the workforce plan, with Directorate sub-groups (each led by a Chief Officer) aligned to the key workforce themes of Plan, Attract, Train, Employ and Nurture.
- 3.13 Many of the activities within the Action Plan have commencement and implementation dates throughout 2022-25 which reflect their complexity, scale and priority. Therefore the focus for this annual update is on those activities that have completion dates up to December 2023.

4. Proposals

4.1 The Panel is requested to:

- 4.1.1 note the progress of the relevant activities within [Appendix 1](#);
- 4.1.2 approve the amendments to WOR 05, 19, 20, 28, 32, 35, 37 and 38;
- 4.1.3 request an update in April 2024 on the following activities:
- The development and implementation of the proposed workforce planning governance and oversight process;
 - Further clarity (dependent on Audit Scotland time-scales) on preparation for the 2024 Best Value thematic audit on Council workforce planning;
 - Actions within [Appendix 1](#) that have been extended until March 2024; and
- 4.1.4 request a further annual update in October 2024 on actions with a completion date of December 2024.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 No immediate implications applicable as the workforce plan is a strategic document. However, where any activity within the Action Plan requires further consideration from a financial perspective, this will be brought back to Panel and via existing governance mechanisms related to staffing and establishment changes. Examples of potential implications may include centralising elements of training budgets; however, it is only as the activities develop and are explored further will implications be known.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable, however the delivery of the workforce plan is based upon Lead and Support services identified as owners in the Action Plan having sufficient resource to undertake their specific actions.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

8.2.1 The risks associated with rejecting the recommendations are:

- Failure to meet the recommendations related to workforce planning contained with the 2021 Best Value report, and indicative requirements for the 2024 thematic Best Value; and
- Failure to meet the actions contained within the Health and Social Care workforce plan approved by the Scottish Government and the Integrated Joint Board.

9. Equalities

9.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA), (including the Fairer Scotland Duty in respect of any Strategic decision), was completed as part of the development of the 2022-25 workforce plan.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - The Scottish Government Gateway has been contacted regarding this plan, policy, programme or strategy, and it has been determined that an SEA will not be pursued.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 4 of the Council Plan: Efficient and effective enabling services.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Ian Davis, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Human Resources and ICT and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

13.3 Consultation has taken place with Trade Unions and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers **Report to Service and Performance Panel of 25 October 2022 – [2022-25 Council Workforce Plan](#) (Action Plan – Section 9)**

[Health and Social Care Partnership Workforce Plan 2022-25](#) (Action Plan – Section 7)

Report to Cabinet of 29 August 2023 - [Best Value Thematic Work in South Ayrshire 2022/23](#)

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Date: 13 October 2023

Appendix 1

PLAN - Supporting evidence and outcome- based workforce planning					
No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
WOR01	Incorporate workforce planning into the service planning process.	December 2023	Workforce Planning is now embedded within the corporate service planning process. All new Service Plans contain a section on workforce planning with services required to complete a workforce planning template and succession planning template.	Complete	Policy, Performance and Community Planning
WOR05	Align future Workforce Monitoring equality reports with workforce planning reports and updates.		The Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report was published in April 2023 which included workforce monitoring data. However there has been limited access to workforce reporting data since Fusion went live, and the Community Planning and Equalities Officer role has not been filled. On that basis an extension of March 2024 is requested to meet this action fully.	Not complete	
WOR02	Incorporate workforce planning into the Transformation Programme.	December 2023	All projects on the programme are now assessed in terms of workforce planning impact. This forms the basis of collaboration between OD and Strategic Change to align activity between Strategic Change, Organisational Development and Workforce Planning.	Complete	Strategic Change Programme Office
WOR03	Revise workforce planning and succession planning manager toolkits.	June 2023	Templates completed all services bar two (Corporate Finance and Risk and Safety still to undertake), providing a summary of workforce considerations, risk evaluation and scoring. Information from the templates will form part of a wider workforce report for Directors to help facilitate strategic workforce planning.	Complete	Organisational Development
WOR04	Workforce planning training for CLT and Service Leads.	December 2022	Local Government Association sessions delivered to CLT and Service Leads (including NHSAA Service Managers to strengthen workforce planning within the HSCP) with additional sessions delivered by OD to Service Leads and Coordinators.	Complete	
WOR07	Provision and analysis of workforce profiles until Oracle Fusion reports available.	December 2023	Profiles issued to all services. Content included FTE by team and grade, age profile, sickness data, turnover, casual staff usage, recruitment timescales, and PDR completion.	Complete	
WOR08	Review and re-launch of the exit and starter surveys.		Revised surveys developed and short pilot proposed, and will be placed on a new platform with assistance from ICT.	On target	
WOR10	Consider and progress recommendations within the Digital Maturity Assessment (DMA).	December 2023	Development of the next iteration of the corporate Digital Strategy incorporates recommendations from the DMA, and the Council will take part in the revised Digital Office maturity process during 2024 and 2025.	On target	CLT

ATTRACT - Effective recruitment to attract the best staff into the Council.					
No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
WOR11	Regular school and further education recruitment engagement programmes.	August 2023	Our Employer Engagement team have attended 5 school career events and 2 college career events since January 2023. These events promote career pathways and opportunities available within various sectors across South Ayrshire. We will continue to support education with these engagement events as a priority to raise awareness and encourage networking opportunities.	Ongoing programme	Thriving Communities
WOR12	Progression of employability opportunities and national funding programmes.		Thriving Communities are fully committed to improving training and employment opportunities for young people and adults. In line with the Scottish Government's No One Left Behind and UK Governments Shared Prosperity priorities we ensure we are delivering programmes that are meaningful and offer work experience and training opportunities for people across South Ayrshire to help them achieve their employment goals.	Ongoing programme	
WOR13	Further development of employability programmes to meet identified workforce and succession planning needs.		Thriving Communities provides a range of support to council departments in relation to service delivery and workforce planning. The team supports work placements through our Modern Apprenticeship programme and Employability pipeline provision. Thriving Communities chairs the Local Employability Partnership which identifies gaps in the current labour market and will commission specific training courses to support recruitment in occupational areas that may otherwise have skills gaps and recruitment and retention issues.	Ongoing programme	
WOR15	Participation in a range of national workforce planning activities and groups.	October 2023	The OD Coordinator represents the Council on the Society of Personnel Development Scotland workforce planning portfolio group and the Scottish Government Health and Social Care Workforce Planning Unit short-life working groups, and liaises with the Improvement Service on a range of workforce planning activities.	Ongoing programme	Organisational Development
WOR17	Explore enhancement available on MJS recruitment portal and implement when possible.	June 2023	Enhancements with MJS have been explored; however, it has been established by the portal provider that the Council is using all functionalities within the system. South Ayrshire is one of four Councils selected for a pilot with Indeed (one of the largest UK online job browsers) which will improve visibility for roles where there are recruitment challenges. The pilot has now commenced.	Complete	Human Resources
WOR19	Consideration of notice period requirements to ensure the Council is consistent with other employers.		Some initial benchmarking carried out however this piece of work was put on hold due Oracle Fusion. HR will now resume with a proposed revised timescale of December 2023	Not complete	

WOR20	A short life working group (multi-agency), in conjunction with the HSCP, exploring the international Health and Social Care Visa and refugee talent pool.		Group created and aligned to the HSCP workforce plan. Recommendations and options to be presented to the HSCP Staff Governance Group in October 2023 date. Proposed revised time-scale December 2023.	Not complete	
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TRAIN- Supporting staff through education and training to equip them with the skills to undertake their role effectively.					
No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
WOR22	Development of a corporate Leadership Development Programme.	December 2023	Over 50% of modules developed and ready for delivery. Module content still to be received from a range of subject matter experts to allow for completion of development phases in December 2023.	On target	Organisational Development
WOR23	Application and facilitation of the annual Workforce Development Fund.	October 2023	Full allocation of the fund has been spent and will include courses on Excel (Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced), Excel Pivot Tables, Microsoft Dashboards, Customer Services and Effective Meetings. A total of 9 courses will be delivered, with 10 spaces in each, with the final course to be delivered on 28 September 2023.	Complete	
WOR24	Completion of a digital skills competency framework, gap analysis and associated action plan.	December 2023	Framework developed with input from the Digital office and currently being piloted. Corporate digital skills survey completed with 1300 responses and summaries provided to all Service Leads. Outcomes linked to the revised Digital Strategy.	On target	
WOR25	Development of a digital champions network.		Surveys issued to existing champions to identify improvement areas which will be progressed. Organisational Development will help guide corporate and service-specific champion networks using best practice frameworks recommended by the Digital Office (linked to the revised Digital Strategy).	Complete	
WOR26	Refresh of the corporate succession planning toolkit, focusing on future leadership and statutory posts, and gaps in service critical roles.	June 2023	SharePoint toolkit developed and available to managers. OD assisted services in adopting maturity matrixes and age analysis with a focus on succession planning (as part of WOR03).	Complete	

EMPLOY - Making SAC and “employer of choice” by ensuring staff are, and feel, valued and rewarded.

No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
WOR27	Further promotion and embedding of a corporate employee Yammer channel.	December 2023	Communications continue to issue regular, engaging, audience appropriate content on Viva Engage (Yammer). They are also encouraging managers and staff to engage with posts that relate to their service area, by liking and commenting on posts and answering any queries as appropriate, to help further embed the platform throughout services.	On target	Public Affairs
WOR30	Further recognition for innovation and ‘best practice’ through award schemes including COSLA, APSE, SAC Outstanding People Awards.	Ongoing	Organisational Development has facilitated – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9 submissions to APSE, with 2 successful nominations being shortlisted under the “Best Workforce Initiative” and “Best Efficiency and Transformation Initiative” categories. - 9 submissions to the CoSLA Excellence Awards. - The Scottish Public Service Awards (SPSA) nominations process is currently open, with an internal deadline of Tuesday 3 October. OD will co-ordinate nominations for SPSA accordingly. 	Ongoing programme	Organisational Development
WOR28	Development and implementation of a corporate Employee Opinion Survey.	March 2024	To align with the new Chief Executive in November, development of the survey extended to allow Chief Executive input. Proposed extension to March 2024.	Not complete	
WOR29	Increased undertaking of PDR across all services, and positioning that PDR is the key tool to capture and review corporate and personal objectives.	December 2023	PDR reports provided to services alongside awareness sessions delivered by Organisational Development to support the use of Managers Scorecard to record completion.	On target	Service Leads

NURTURE - Creating a workforce and leadership culture focusing on the health and wellbeing of all staff.					
No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
WOR32	Further consideration of support specific to psychological, musculoskeletal and long-covid absences.	December 2023	The development of a corporate well-being strategy (see WOR 38 which has a proposed date of March 2024) will now encompass this action in full.	Not complete	Human Resources
WOR33	Menopause – Devolution of a separate policy and related activities such forums or workshops.	June 2023	Menopause workshop programme agreed and delivered by our Occupational Health provider (Optima). First round of workshops is coming to an end and feedback has been very positive.	Complete	
WOR36	Further input into national wellbeing groups (such as the SPDS Wellbeing Group), benchmarking, and exploration/adoption of national wellbeing tools and solutions.	December 2023	HR Policies and Operations Coordinator has now joined the SPDS Wellbeing Group. This will give the Council the option to benchmark with the other Scottish local authorities and give visibility of any tools and proposals at national level which could be implemented in South Ayrshire.	Complete	
WOR35	Consideration on ageing workforce over the next 10 years when reviewing personnel policies.		Considerations are ongoing however this piece of work was put on hold due to Oracle Fusion. HR will now resume with a proposed revised timescale of March 2024.	Not complete	
WOR37	Consideration of the proposed changes to the Healthy Working Lives scheme which aims to support workplace health and improve staff health and wellbeing in Scotland.	December 2023	The development of a corporate well-being strategy (see WOR 38 which has a proposed date of March 2024) will now encompass this action in full. Lifestyle Screening (mini health-checks) have continued, albeit only to 40 employees due to budget considerations. Future/immediate Lifestyle Screening may require to be funded by services directly, and this will be explored further by Risk and Safety.	Not complete	
WOR38	Review of health and financial employee well-being activities, which will inform an aligned approach which has an	December 2023	The staff wellbeing survey remains open until October 31 st 2023. The Trauma Informed Officer (TIO) has developed a mental health first aid network that is available for staff to access when facing challenges, either personal or professional. The TIO also delivered wellbeing sessions (Vicarious Trauma training, Heal the Healers etc.) to staff and leaders. A mapping exercise is currently underway of all wellbeing activities by the Council and partners which will help inform future wellbeing	Not complete	Policy, Performance and Community Planning

NURTURE - Creating a workforce and leadership culture focusing on the health and wellbeing of all staff.

No.	Action	Timescale	Progress	Status	Lead
	additional focus on Trauma Informed Practice (safety, choice, collaboration, trust and empowerment).		opportunities. A short life working group was established and funding was successfully obtained to support ongoing work in relation to staff wellbeing, including the recruitment of a wellbeing officer. The TIO will have oversight of this project which will include research and development that will inform a wider staff wellbeing strategy; increased opportunities for wellbeing activities throughout the organisation; and increased peer support, both formal and informal. As the wellbeing officer post will shortly be advertised, and to fully align wellbeing activities, this action has a proposed extended date of March 2024.		
WOR34	Review light duties process and other related opportunities across services to enable employees to begin the return-to work process sooner.	December 2023	Services and directorates consider all opportunities that facilitate an employees' return to work. Routine conversations with HR are helping define requirements.	On target	Service Leads

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Strategic Change and Communities
to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel
of 24 October 2023**

Subject: Thriving Communities – Operating Model Year 2 Report

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Service and Partnerships Performance Panel with an update on Thriving Communities operating model and provide members with report detailing the effectiveness of Thriving Communities during 2022/23

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

2.1.1 notes the effectiveness of the new Thriving Communities delivery model and progress made during 2022/23; and

2.1.2 approves the Thriving Communities ‘story so far year two report’

3. Background

- 3.1 A Thematic Review of Community Services was undertaken and, on 15 June 2021, the Leadership Panel approved the new Thriving Communities service.
- 3.2 Thriving Communities brought together community-based services employability and skills, health and wellbeing, community safety, community learning and development and community engagement.
- 3.3 An Elected Members Briefing (Appendix 1) was submitted in June 2022 providing Members with an update on the new Thriving Communities operating model that detailed highlights and progress during 2021/22.
- 3.4 On 1 March 2023, South Ayrshire Council identified savings from Thriving Communities of £517,665, including £300,000 saving as part of a service review. An update on the service review will be presented to Cabinet in November 2023.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Panel notes the key achievements of Thriving Communities during 2022/23 (Appendix 2).

5/

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

8.2.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals within this report have been assessed through the EQIA scoping process and there are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts in agreeing the proposals, therefore an EQIA is not required.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The above recommendations relate to Priority 1 - Spaces and Place, Priority 2 - Live, Work, Learn and Priority 3 – Community and Civic Pride

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Stephen Ferry, Portfolio Holder for Education, Councillor Alec Clark, Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Culture and Rural Affairs and Councillor Brian Connolly, Portfolio Holder for Sport and Leisure, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers **Report to Leadership Panel of 15 June 2021 – [Thematic Review of Communities Services](#)**

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Date: 13 October 2023



A Briefing for Elected Members

June 2022





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Thriving Communities

The Thriving Communities service was established in June 2021. The new service brings together the Council’s community-based services - Health and Wellbeing, Employability and Skills, Community Learning and Development, Community Safety and Engagement.

Staff were involved in the development of a new branding for the service – ‘Thriving Communities’ – which they felt best represented their ambition to support people and communities to thrive.

The new service builds on the humanitarian response during the covid-19 pandemic where officers demonstrated a huge amount of resilience and commitment to our communities. Their work, prior to and after the lockdowns, involved establishing area-based teams delivering a ‘Team Around’ approach to support individuals, Schools and communities. This includes the coordination of free school meals, providing support to people who were shielding and working alongside the 3rd sector to provide direct funding to support communities and 3rd sector groups and organisations.

Thriving Communities officers also lead on the consultations in North Ayr and Girvan that allowed local Place Plans to be developed and published in 2021.



The Story So Far.....

Thriving Communities has established four locality-based teams in Troon/Prestwick, North/South Carrick, Ayr North and Ayr South and Villages (Coylton, Annbank, Mossblown and Tarbolton).

The new area teams are responsible for coordinating community learning and development, community safety, employability and health and wellbeing provision at a local level.

During summer 2021 Thriving Communities officers coordinated the 'Get In To Summer' holiday programme. This offer aimed to support young people, parents, and families to reconnect with their communities while addressing food insecurity across our most deprived communities. The summer offer benefited over 2000 participants and promoted community wealth building by providing £71,000 of funding to local groups and organisations to deliver activities across South Ayrshire.



Health and Wellbeing

The new South Ayrshire Physical Activity and Sport Strategy was approved in January 2021 and shares an ambitious and collaborative approach to encouraging the population of South Ayrshire to Grow Well Live Well Age Well. Thriving Communities officers have worked alongside strategic partners and local sport clubs to provide sport and physical activity opportunities across South Ayrshire.

Participation (school/club/community)

- Continued development of our Active Schools programme offering free opportunities for young people to access sport and physical activity before school, after school and during lunchtimes. From Aug 21 – April 22 the team have delivered 2106 activity sessions with 4634 individual young people participating (47,417 visits/participant sessions) with 21% of participants from SIMD 1 and 2, 13% in receipt of free school meals and 31% of participants who have at least one additional support need.
- The Active Communities programme launched in mid February 2022 with between 29 and 50 weekly sessions running across South Ayrshire including our early years programme, Active Minis, primary, secondary and diversionary sport opportunities in addition to 10 weekly health walks for adults.
- Support for young people and families who are care experienced to participate in a range of sport, physical activity and outdoor learning opportunities across South Ayrshire and at our Outdoor Centre Dolphin House. 48 young people and 15 family groups have engaged in these activities with 70% regularly attending opportunities and building towards a lifelong culture of activity.
- Development of our Inspire (Disability Sport programme) reducing the barriers for young people and adults with a disability to access sport and physical activity opportunities within their schools and communities. Over 1400 participants have an additional support needs and over 250 young people and adults with an assessed disability engage in our school and community programme weekly.



Compete

- Thanks to COVID Recovery funding we created state of the art inland beach volleyball courts at Kyle Academy, we are proud to be hosting the European Beach Volleyball tour from 3rd-5th June 2022.
- This is the start of our ambition to promote South Ayrshire as a host venue for a range of regional, national and international sporting events.

Progress

- Secured nearly £7.6million funding to develop facilities at Craigie Campus, Kyle Beach Volleyball, River Ayr Pontoon and a new MUGA at Craigie Park adjacent to St. John's Primary School.
- Strengthened the partnership agreements with Ayr United FC, Ayr Rugby Club Carrick Rugby Club, Marr Rugby Club and Ayrshire Sportsability.
- Launch of the Club Ready and Changing Lives Through Sport programmes to support local sports clubs and organisations to return following COVID and to develop in using sport as an intentional tool to bring about increased participation and impact on wider social outcomes.
- Return to club sport has been supported via the 5 Community Sports Hubs across South Ayrshire with a total of 54 sports clubs engaging and supporting 4258 club members (3302 youth and 956 adult members), and a coaching workforce of 389 to support delivery across the community.
- Return to support local athletics via the Talented Athlete programme and grant funding for national and international athletes and competitors.



People

- Launch of the new DYW Leadership Academy to provide young people with the opportunity to become young leaders in sport and physical activity. The South Ayrshire Active Schools Leadership Academy incorporates coach education, employability skills, and marketing and event planning by providing young people with training, mentoring and qualifications. The Active Schools Leadership Academy had over 200 applications to 8 programmes in Feb/March 2022. Following a number of selection days 88 Young People were then selected into the Silver and Gold Coaching and Dance Leadership programmes with an additional 62 accepted into Transition Leadership, Gymnastics and Cycle Leadership and the Young Peoples Sport Panel.
- In addition to this an existing 48 young leaders from previous years are still engaged and leading extra-curricular and community sessions.
- Selections has still to take place for S5 Young Ambassadors which will give another 16 Young People a chance to be part of the Leadership Pathway.

Outdoor Learning

- 525 young people have enrolled with the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award with 93 completing so far this academic year. The young people taking part in the award have faced significant barriers to accessing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in school and in the community over the course of the past year COVID Recovery funding of £35,653.20 has allowed us to work with schools to reduce the barriers to taking part in an expedition to ensure young people can complete the award.
- Collaborative working across the Thriving Communities team within the Domain Youth Centre has supported a group of 8 young people with care experience to complete their Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh's Award. The group are continuing to engage and are currently working towards their Silver Award.
- Dolphin House has welcomed 33 schools (25 primary and all 8 secondary schools) and 855 pupils during term 1 and 2 to enjoy a residential outdoor learning experience. COVID recovery funding has also supported the development of outreach outdoor learning/activities to targeted groups in S1/S2 who have missed out on residential outdoor learning over the lockdown period.
- Dolphin House has also supported care experienced families to take part in a day visit or a 2 day residential programme at our Outdoor Education Centre, Dolphin House. 20 care experienced young people took part in day visits whilst 8 families engaged in our residential programme, for some this was the first 'holiday' they had ever been on. The residential experience gave families the opportunity to spend quality time together in new surroundings whilst experiencing a range of outdoor activities. This programme was such a success that it will now be embedded within our programme for each school holiday period.



Employability

The new Thriving Communities collaborative approach to employability aligns with the Scottish Governments partnership approach to ensuring No-One is Left Behind. Employability outcomes in South Ayrshire remain higher than the national average with school leaver destinations continuing to be among the highest in Scotland.

2021/22:

Inline with the Scottish Government’s No-One Left Behind and the European Social Fund priorities we have supported 1,492 adults and young people during 2021/22 through a wide range of employability programmes and initiatives. In addition, we have supported 90 individuals facing redundancy to secure alternative employment and supported 75 local employers through our Employer Recruitment Incentive.

With European Social Funding (ESF) ending March 2023 Thriving Communities officers are developing plans to replace the existing programmes through UK Shared Prosperity Funding.



School Leaver Destinations



In partnership with Skills Development Scotland and Education, Thriving Communities have played a significant role in ensuring our young people reach a positive destination on leaving school.

In Feb 2021 the SLDR was published confirming South Ayrshire’s leaver destinations were the best in Scotland at 98.4% when the Scottish average declined from 95% to 93.3% and in Feb 2022 the SLDR for South Ayrshire was 98.3% (national average 95.5%). This underlines our commitment to closing the gap for young people by helping them fulfil their potential.

May 2022 Participation Measure



Skills Development Scotland publish monthly management information related to the learning, training and work of 16 to 19 year olds in Scotland. The report provides an overview of the participation at a national and local authority level. In South Ayrshire 92.6% of young people aged 16-19yrs are in a positive destination (national average 90.7%)

Modern Apprentices

We currently have 88 Modern Apprentices based within 11 different vocational areas, these include Business and Administration, Social Services and Health Care, Youth Work, Craft Trade and Sport and Leisure. To support workforce planning we are working with departments to create new apprenticeship opportunities in Communications, Sustainability, Outdoor Instructor and Adult Craft Apprentices.



We are committed to providing opportunities for all, closing the equality gap and ensuring young people who previously may have struggled to get into an apprenticeship are given the opportunity. Thriving Communities was commended by Skills Development Scotland in their Quality Assurance Review for the strategies and resources put in place to support individuals from specific equality groups to optimise their chances of success.

Care Experienced Young People

Period	SAC	National Average
01/04/21 – 31/03/22	9.4%	2%

Young People with an Additional Support Need(s)

Period	SAC	National Average
01/04/21 - 31/03/22	37.5%	12.8%



In 2021-22 we recruited 77 apprentices with the achievement rate of apprentices entering a positive destination after completion of their MA being 86%.

Tailored Jobs

To enhance the existing Supported Employment programme, we created tailored part-time jobs – the purpose is to provide individuals with additional support needs the opportunity to progress into the world of work. We work with colleague across the council to create job opportunities specifically designed to suit each individual young person's circumstances. The jobs are designed around the skills, interests and capabilities of the young person. To date we have supported 11 young people on a tailored job, 7 have completed the programme and progressed to permanent employment.



Town Centre Programme



The Town Centre programme was re-established December 2021. The programme is aimed at supporting young people, furthest from the labour market, to build a wide range of core and employability skills by carrying out duties connected with the general upkeep of Ayr Town Centre. 35 trainees have engaged in the programme to date with 6 progressing to a positive destination.

Long-term unemployed Job Creation Programme – Evolve

We have committed to creating 40 temporary, new and additional positions within the organisation. The aim is to create jobs in occupational sectors where there are skills shortage, existing labour demands or emerging sectors. Jobs will provide access to certificated and accredited training which will provide individuals with the ability to demonstrate skills and recent experience, to boost their chances to secure sustainable jobs as the wider economy recovers. The Thriving Communities team have been working with council services and 3rd sector organisations to create employment opportunities.



Community Learning and Development

Community Learning and Development Plan was approved at Leadership Panel in September 2021. The Plan sets out the priorities over the next three years that include employability and volunteering, health and wellbeing while placing community engagement/empowerment at the heart of the plan.

These priorities were set following consultation with communities and practitioners and reinforce the Thriving Communities collaborative approach to improving outcomes for young people and adults.

Despite the challenges delivering youth work and adult learning programmes due to restrictions, Thriving Communities continued to deliver youth work, adult learning, and literacy programmes across South Ayrshire both in school and in the community.

In 2021 Thriving Communities officers secured external funding to support adult learners gain qualifications. Over 190 adult learners benefited from this input and 28% achieved a recognised qualification which helped them progress into employment, volunteering and/or further education. These learners took part in 7598 learning hours which included 3720 in the SWAP programme and 2268 hours in adult literacies and ESOL provision. 5 family learning programmes were delivered involving 21 parents.



Detached youth work and diversionary activities helped address youth disorder in communities in partnership with Police Scotland. One example is our project in Maybole where detached youth work has been used as method of youth engagement throughout the pandemic and remains an excellent mechanism when engaging with young people in their terms in their communities.



As we moved further into the Covid recovery phase, the Thriving Communities team, in partnership with the Carrick Centre have been engaging with young people every Friday evening on the streets and continue to link in with over 100 young people each month. Special Operations in partnership with Police Scotland took place over the school holiday Easter weekends that tied in with youth work activities, Bubble Football, Silent Disco, Barbeque, and youth drop-in sessions.

From the detached project, we developed a Friday night drop-in in partnership with health and wellbeing team with Football at the Carrick Academy pitches. Furthermore, an afterschool drop-in on a Friday from 3pm was developed where young people can come together and plan their own activities and events enabling young people to take the lead in their town. As a result of our engagement, there has been a significant drop in calls to Police Scotland in relation to youth disorder and over a 14 day period in April 2022, only 5 calls were received.

Community Engagement and Development

Community engagement is at the heart of Thriving Communities and the new service has enhanced South Ayrshire Council approach to community engagement.

Following the publication of the Community Engagement Strategy in 2020 officers have led the Place Planning consultations. Between September 21 – February 22 we consulted with over 1100 residents across a range of communities.

Officers have established a new consultation officers' group across the organisation following the training that was delivered to senior officers, elected members and operational staff. This new officers group will provide support to services who intend to consult with communities.



Groups benefited from funding include:

- Girvan Youth Trust
- Maybole Community Resilience Team
- Ayrshire Cancer Support
- Dunure Community Council
- Ayr Yacht and Cruising Club
- Fort Seafield and Wallacetown Community Council



In March 2022 Thriving Communities officers coordinated and managed the community council elections. Following the initial nominations process three contested elections took place with over 1200 ballot papers returned and counted.

Every community council now has a Thriving Communities link officer who can provide support to each community council. Officers are currently consulting with Community Councils to allow us to further enhance the role and support for community councils.


Community Safety

Community Safety remains a priority for Thriving Communities and our new model ensures local issues can be addressed by local officers with a range of skills and experience.

Thriving Communities continue to provide support to the CPP - Community Safety Partnership SDP, work includes coordinating re-deployable CCTV, Violence Against Women Partnership and Reducing Violence.

- Youth disorder has fallen in 2021-22 by 7% from the previous year. Community Safety are currently working with police on a Summer Action Plan to tackle youth disorder over the summer holidays.
- Community Safety are currently dealing with 25 complaints from members of the public ranging from graffiti, quad bikes, and antisocial behaviour by young people including fire raising, drinking and general nuisance.

Next Steps



Continue to develop Thriving Communities model and work alongside local residents, community groups and Community Councils to ensure they feel engaged and consulted.

Ensure we meet priorities and actions set in the relevant strategies while ensuring we are at the forefront of the council's vision creating Thriving Communities.

This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio formats and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات ناپینا افراد کے لئے ابھرے حروف، بڑے حروف یا آڈیو میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے اور اسکا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

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ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਬੋਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸਣਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਰਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਤਰਜਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie, w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le iarrtas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha e comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

South Ayrshire Council
Contact Centre
0300123 0900

PART 2



Thriving Communities 2022/23

THE STORY SO FAR





INTRODUCTION

In June 2021 South Ayrshire Council established the new Thriving Communities service. The service brought together community-based services employability and skills, health and wellbeing, community safety, community learning and development, and community engagement.

In June 2022 Thriving Communities provided members with a report highlighting the progress and key success stories between 2021 – 2022.

The report below provides a further update for members highlighting how Thriving Communities continues to be a high performing, effective and efficient service that continues to evolve while supporting South Ayrshire Councils' new Strategic Plan.

Building on the progress made in year one, Thriving Communities have established four locality-based teams across South Ayrshire:

Ayr North • Prestwick and Troon • Ayr South and Villages • Carrick

Locality teams are made up of officers from across the service who work collaboratively with partners at a local level ensuring the needs of each of our unique communities are met.

Over the past year the service has been focusing on establishing these locality teams while supporting other services to move to a locality-based approach.

Thriving Communities are at the forefront of the Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) approach to locality working and are working closely with colleagues in HSCP and Education to develop new approaches to locality working.

Following approval of the new council plan, Thriving Communities developed a new Service Plan that was approved at Council in June 2023.

Thematic Team Plans have also been developed for Employability, Communities and Health and Wellbeing. These plans have helped shape Thriving Communities Locality Plans which set key priorities in each of our localities. These plans have helped ensure the work of Thriving Communities is aligned to SAC priorities and key themes across the CPP are embedded within the plans.

During 2022/23 Thriving Communities also took on the responsibility for Community Wealth Building (CWB) across South Ayrshire. Officers continue to work with colleagues in Procurement, Economic Development and other council service to embed CWB principles within our service and across the organisation.



2022/23 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

EMPLOYABILITY

Thriving Communities are fully committed to improving training and employment opportunities for young people and adults. In line with the Scottish Government's No One Left Behind and UK Shared Prosperity Fund priorities we ensure there are real, meaningful, work experience and training opportunities for people across South Ayrshire to help them achieve their employment goals.

During 2022/23, through a wide range of employability programmes and initiatives **1,175 young people and adults** were supported.

WORK OUT!

The [Work Out!](#) programme was established in 2009 and offers pupils in S4-S6 the opportunity to take their first steps into the world of work through a range of supported vocational work placements and accreditation.

- In 2022/23 **76 young people** completed the programme and progressed to a positive destination.
- To date over **1,000 pupils** have successfully graduated from the programme.

Over the past three years South Ayrshire has been in the **top three councils** across the country for the number of young people progressing to a positive destination on leaving school and programmes such as Work Out! contribute to that success.



SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATION REPORT (SLDR) / PARTICIPATION MEASURE

In partnership with Skills Development Scotland and Education, Thriving Communities play a significant role in ensuring young people reach a positive destination on leaving school.

In February the **SLDR** confirmed **98.6%** of our young people progressed to a positive destination on leaving school – our highest performance to date! (national average 95.7%). For care experienced young people **98.3%**, which equates to 59 out of 60 school leavers progressing to a positive destination, this is significantly higher than the national average of 86.5%.

In June 2023 the **SLDR Follow Up Report** was published confirming South Ayrshire were in the top 3 in the country at **96.9%** (national average 93.5%). The percentage of care experienced leavers in a sustained positive destination was **93.3%** which equates to 56 of the 60 school leavers in a positive destination, this is significantly higher than the national average of 79.2%.

Participation Measure reports provide an overview, at national and local level, of how many 16 to 19 year olds in Scotland are in learning, training or work. In May 2023 it was reported that **93.7%** of South Ayrshire young people aged 16-19 years were in a positive destination (national average 90.8%) and in August 2023 the report confirmed **96.6%** of young people were in a positive destination (national average 94.3%).



MODERN APPRENTICES



We offer [Modern Apprenticeship](#), at a variety of SCQF levels, to young people aged 16 to 19 or up to the age of 29 if they are care experienced, a young carer and/or have an additional support need.

- During 22/23 we supported **157 Modern Apprentices** within **12 vocational areas** across the organisation.
- We are committed to providing opportunities for all and closing the equality gap by ring-fencing MA opportunities for **young people who are care experienced** or a young carer During 2022/23 **12.7%** of SAC's Modern Apprentices were care experienced (national average 2%)
- To **support young people with additional support needs** to access our modern apprenticeships we use a range of methods, including flexible, personalised, one-to-one support and pre-apprenticeship opportunities. **36.6%** of our apprentices identified as having an additional support need (national average being 13.3%)
- Since 2018 over **2,000 young people have started with South Ayrshire Council as a Modern Apprentice.**

LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED PROGRAMME – [EVOLVE](#)

During 2022/23 Thriving Communities committed to creating **40 temporary, new and additional employment opportunities**. Due to the success of the programme and support from the Scottish Government **we were able to create an additional 9 positions**.

Employment opportunities were created in occupational sectors where there are skills shortage, existing labour demands or emerging sectors. **31 jobs** were created with South Ayrshire Council and **18** with the 3rd Sector.

EMPLOYER RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE (ERIS)

From April 2022 to March 2023, through No One Left Behind funding, Thriving Communities have helped **50 local businesses** recruit individuals through our Employer Recruitment Incentive.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT / CHILD POVERTY

Thriving Communities provide support for families experiencing poverty within South Ayrshire. They receive tailored support to develop the skills to address their situation which includes developing money management skills, access to training and improving employment opportunities. Enhanced support is available to families living in South Ayrshire's most deprived areas. During April 2022 – March 2023 **the team provided support to 86 families across South Ayrshire**.

Free School Meals	Clothing Grants	Benefit Gain	Best Start Grant
£34,806	£9,129	£12,768	£3,420

LOCAL EMPLOYABILITY PARTNERSHIP (LEP)

South Ayrshire's [LEP](#) is a well-established partnership with collective leadership and a shared commitment across partners to provide a more aligned approach to national and local employability support. The LEP lead the planning, decision-making and implementation of employability provision across South Ayrshire to ensure individual needs and labour market demands are met.



COMMISSIONING

Through No One Left Behind the LEP **commissioned 5 training programmes**, including a Skills Academy with QTS and Sector Based Work Academies where there are labour market demands such as Hospitality and Care. **59 clients have been supported to access commissioned training, with a completion rate of 86%**





COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Safety remains a priority for Thriving Communities and our new model ensures local issues can be addressed by local officers, at a local level, with a range of skills and experience.

Thriving Communities continue to provide support to the CPP Community Safety Partnership SDP. Work includes; coordinating re-deployable CCTV, Violence Against Women Partnership, reducing violence, reducing accidents in our homes and on our roads, and creating safer, more attractive places through community engagement.



COMMUNITY SAFETY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Youth disorder has fallen in 2022-23 by **14%** from the previous year.
- Delivered road safety input to **900** S5/6 pupils, Modern Apprentices and Ayrshire College pupils.
- Provided £10,000 funding to Police Scotland to support local campaigns such as Safe Ayr.
- Delivered targeted community safety inputs to individuals and groups at all secondary schools.
- Delivered environmental initiatives at Dalmling, Braehead and Kincaidston Primary Schools.
- Worked alongside youth workers and Police Scotland to address youth disorder and anti-social behaviour during the school holidays in our communities.
- Continued to coordinate the re-deployable CCTV cameras across South Ayrshire this includes support for events such as The Pavillion and The International Ayr Show.
- Currently dealing with **16 areas** of complaint from members of the public ranging from graffiti, quad bikes, and antisocial behaviour by young people including fire raising, drinking and general nuisance.

Over the next year officers will be working partners to develop a new Community Safety Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027. This plan will set out the key priorities for the Community Safety Partnership.





COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CLD)

The mid-term Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-24 was approved at [CLD Plan Service and Partnership Performance Panel](#) in June 2023. The report sets out key highlights across the CLD partnership including key achievements of Thriving Communities.



YOUTH WORK

Our Thriving Communities Youth Work team aim to empower and support young people to improve their life chances and opportunities so as they can plan for a better future. We believe that every young person should have the opportunity to realise their potential whatever their life circumstances. We work collectively to provide our young people with the skills, confidence and resilience required to achieve the very best they can. Our youth work takes place in a variety of settings including community centres, schools, youth cafés and street work.

- **2,122** young people engaged in CLD youth work provision in 2022/2023.
- **968** young people engaged in community-based youth provision
- **778** engaged in Holiday Programmes
- **376** engaged in school provision across the service

- **964** young people were within targeted groups, which is **45%** of young people engaged in CLD youth work provision either lived in SIMD decile 1-3, were a young carer, care experienced or a referred group.
- **89** programmes and **31,566** hours of learning
- **35** of the programmes were community-based youth work involving **15,182** hours of learning
- **22** holiday programmes across the authority engaging young people in **6,931** hours of learning
- A further **32** programmes were based in schools involving **9,453** hours of learning. On average, each individual young person was engaged in **15** hours of learning
- Adult and youth volunteers contributed to **969** hours of volunteering in youth work programmes in 2022-23.
- Young people gave **800** hours of volunteering commitment and adults 169 hours. Volunteering roles included organising youth club activities, community events and running youth groups.



YOUTH WORK NETWORK

In August 2022, we set up our Youth Work Network with the intention of bringing local youth work organisations together. The network provides partners supporting youth work for young people aged 8-18 in South Ayrshire with an opportunity to engage with other practitioners, plan collaboratively, develop their skills, knowledge and practice and inform local and national youth work strategy.

The South Ayrshire Youth Work Network currently has **45** member organisations including South Ayrshire Council – Thriving Communities; Uniformed Youth Groups; Girvan Youth Trust; The Ark; VASA; Room 60; Champions Board; South Ayrshire Befrienders; South Ayrshire Young Carers Centre; LGBT Youth Scotland; The Gaiety and Voluntary Youth Work Groups.



In August 2022 Thriving Communities hosted the first ever youth work festival for young people 'Bounce Festival 22'.

The main aim of the event was to provide local young people aged 10 to 16 with an opportunity to engage and enjoy a wide range of positive activities, including live music, entertainment, street food, health and wellbeing workshops and a Youth Voice consultation. Thriving Communities recognised that engagement levels of young people aged 10 to 14 were lower than expected in our Childcare Hubs when compared to that of young people aged 5 to 10. Anecdotal evidence suggested that older young people were reluctant to participate due to the large age gap and their differing needs hence why we created, developed and delivered #BounceFestival22!

Over **300** young people attended the event in Ayr and took part in the activities arranged by Thriving Communities officers. Young people from as far as Ballantrae to Dundonald attended the event with transport being provided by Thriving Communities.

The event is scheduled to take place again in August 2023.

NATIONAL YOUTH WORK OUTCOMES

Through a Learning Conversation with their Key Worker, young people were asked to reflect on their involvement in youth work and what difference this had made. Learner Journey Forms were completed by 513 young people.

Positive Relationships

Almost all young people (494), completing a learner journey form reported that their involvement in the CLD youth work had helped to build positive relationships.

Safe and Welcome

Almost all young people (512), reported that they were able to participate safely and effectively in their group.

Have a Say

Almost all young people (466), reported that they have had the opportunity to express their voice and demonstrate social commitment.

New experiences

Almost all young people (467), said that they had the opportunity to broaden their perspectives through new experiences and thinking.

Gained Skills/Knowledge

Most young people (429) reported that they had gained a new skill and/or knowledge.

Better informed decisions

Most young people (440), completing a learner journey form reported that they were better informed to consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control.

Positive future

Almost all young people (459), reported being confident, resilient and optimistic for the future.

YOUTH WORK ACCREDITATION

404 young people registered their participation in youth awards with **396** successfully achieving this, which is a completion rate of **98%**. The most popular youth awards were Hi5! Awards, Dynamic Youth Awards, Saltire Awards and John Muir Awards. Of the **89** youth projects delivered in 2022-23, accreditation was offered in **27** of these.

DETACHED AND DIVERSIONARY YOUTH WORK

Working closely with colleagues across Thriving Communities and Police Scotland, we have continued to develop our Detached Youth Work offer across South Ayrshire over the past 12-months.

Our role is to deploy skilled Youth Workers to engage positively with young people in their local community to challenge their attitudes and actions in an attempt to alleviate antisocial behaviour and support critical discussion around alcohol consumption, personal safety, and drug use. Detached Youth Workers respond quickly to emerging themes by facilitating informal issue-based inputs on the street. It's also a great opportunity for us to build relationships with young people who aren't engaged in traditional youth work provision and support them to make informed choices.

We also devised an aspirational diversionary programme targeted at young people of secondary school age involved in anti-social behaviour and underage drinking on Friday evenings and during the weekend. The programme has a focus on off-site activities which offer young people new experiences and opportunities to participate in exciting activities, out-with our centre-based provision. Young people have been identified through targeted local youth club provision, street work and discussions with other key partners. This initiative complements our TAYP (Targeted Approach Young People) project which is usually facilitated during the school day.

- Youth disorder has fallen by **14%** in 2022/23 from the previous year
- We have delivered a total of **101** detached youth work sessions on Friday evenings (**21** during Summer 2023) in 2022/23.
- Areas targeted by youth workers are directly informed by local data and trends



YOUTH VOICE

Consultations

Young people had the opportunity to complete a range of consultations on issues that matter most.

The surveys were delivered in a range of methods such as online/paper through school drop in's and youth groups.

- A total of **10** consultations (surveys and focus groups) delivered with **922** young people sharing their views on issues that matter most.
- 2 of the surveys were fed nationally to shape GIRFEC and Scottish Government for the National Discussion with young people reporting what they expect from Education.
- Feedback from the surveys have created a better understanding of how to communicate and share information. Young people's views gathered were used to identify existing and emerging needs to set and review priorities and targets.



Youth Voice Events

Events ranged from first young person's Ayr Pride, Bounce Youth Festival, Question Time with Elected Members and National Discussion.

- A total of **3** youth led youth events open to young people aged 12 to 25 years across South Ayrshire.
- A total of **485** young people participated in the planned events.
- There were various sessions set up to work with **35** young people to plan the various events.

YOUTH VOICE

Young Scot National Entitlement Card Progress

A total of **11,046** young people aged 5 to 22 years now have access to free bus transport, which is **57%** of the population. Those living in most disadvantaged communities and circumstances were supported to apply within a wide range of settings that met their needs.

From September 2022 to August 2023 a total of **112** in-person support sessions were offered, enabling around **3,000** families to have one-to-one support to apply for the NEC smart card.

A wide range of methods were put in place to support families and young people across South Ayrshire to complete NEC applications:

- Online via GOSS open for pupils in all Primary and Secondary Schools to complete
- **10** market stalls at community events
- **29** in person school support sessions
- **73** community library drop in sessions

Say It Out Award

The SIOL Award supports schools in evaluating their own mental health and wellbeing approaches and developing plans to identify areas for improvement within the school community.

- **14** primary schools and **4** secondary schools registered with Say It Out Loud Award.
- **170** young people participating in the award and acting as School Mental Health and Wellbeing Ambassador's
- **2** schools have achieved the 1st level
- **4** schools have achieved the 2nd level
- **3** schools have achieved the 3rd level



SHOWCASING IMPACT



Braehead Primary Fun
Friday's Alternative
Curriculum Project



Summer Programme
2022

**VIDEO
COMMING
SOON**

Summer Programme
2023



Bounce Youth Work
Festival 2022

**VIDEO
COMMING
SOON**

Bounce Youth Work
Festival 2023



Iona Barrie, Youth Work
Modern Apprentice



Maybole Youth
Voice Group



Lochside Senior
Youth Club



Fullerton Woods
Allotment



ADULT LITERACIES, ESOL AND MULTIPLY

In January 2023 a new Multiply team was established to meet the UKSPF Multiply objectives. Multiply is a specific funding stream to support adults over 19yrs to improve numeracy as part of the Levelling Up UK Government agenda.

To date 182 parents have requested numeracy support and links with Education have identified 32 classroom assistants looking to upskill. The new team is developing new programmes and interventions to support people who require support, this provision will continue until March 2025.

Adult Literacies:

During 2022 the team have been involved in national initiatives, including writing the new Adult Learning Strategy with Scottish Government Adult learning strategy 2022 to 2027 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) .

This has given South Ayrshire increased profile at policy discussion level and staff continue to play a strategic role in the future of the strategy with planning board representation.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES - ESOL

Thriving Communities play an active role in the settlement of unaccompanied single children.

We are currently supporting 11 young people aged 16/17 years who are settling in South Ayrshire.

The learners include nationalists from countries such as Afghanistan, Iran, Sudan and Eritrea, most have had little or no education and are supported by our literacy officers.

Generic ESOL provision which takes place across all localities is available over 5 days and 3 evenings per week.

CASE STUDY

South Ayrshire ESOL Chat Café is a successful project where local residents along with New Scots come together once a month to have coffee and a chat.

The café offers the possibility to volunteer as a server. This gives New Scots the opportunity to practice their newly acquired language skills in a working café. It also provides upskilling opportunities to all who wish to partake in some of the duties needed to run the café. A trained barista prepares a variety of drinks, and the volunteers use their speaking and writing skills to take orders. This is an effective way to meet people but also an opportunity to gain experience within a café environment.



UKRAINIAN RESPONSE



Since April 2022, we have welcomed Ukrainian learners into the service, engaging with **213 residents** in South Ayrshire. The ESOL programme was delivered across South Ayrshire in various venues in Ayr, Girvan, Troon and Maybole. Our focus continues to be to respond to needs as they arise and provide quality and timely community-based adult literacies learning opportunities across South Ayrshire for all.

Our Ukrainian guests have benefited from the new Thriving Communities model and have had the opportunity to participate in a range of outdoor activities arranged by Thriving Communities and local partners. During the summer 2022 Ukrainian families took part in kite surfing, paddleboarding, and scaling a climbing wall in Troon.

During 2022 South Ayrshire became the first LA to work with WEA in creating and delivering the first Community Interpreting course in Scotland. This will start to develop opportunities for New Scots and Ukrainian guests to develop their language skills in a way that could lead to employment as well as providing a much-needed service to our communities that supports integration.

FUNDING

Thriving Communities External Funding Officer supports local groups and organisations to build capacity by identifying and assisting with external funding streams. During 2022/23 relationship have been formed with key funders including NCCBC, Foundation Scotland and National Lottery.

The External Funding Officer has also supported each of the thematic teams across Thriving Communities. This includes; supporting local sports clubs, supporting the local economy and community empowerment.

Thriving Communities coordinated the distribution of LACER funding that supported communities and social enterprises.

- **£200,000 was distributed to support Social Enterprises**
- **£100,000 was distributed to empower community groups and organisations to support with the Cost of Living.**

In March 2023 **£112,991.62** was distributed to 9 community groups through the Coastal Communities Fund.

Key strengths

- **33 dedicated funding reports developed**
- **£324k investment to communities (int)**
- **£1.6m of external funding**

Plans are being developed to distribute more funding to communities through the use of UKSPF, this will include participatory budgeting.

The funding alert that has been redesigned and published continues to receive positive feedback from groups, organisations and local communities. The role of the external funding officer has strengthened the relationship with VASA and the 3rd sector.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Placing community empowerment and engagement as a key priority has allowed Thriving Communities to provide dedicated support for community councils. 29 active Community Councils have been supported by a dedicated link officer from across the service.

During the 2022/23, we facilitated three contested elections which resulted in 6,000 ballot papers being prepared. Thriving Communities also provided training for Community Councils, SAC Service Leads and Elected Members. We carried out surveys with Community Councillors and following this made changes to the Scheme for Establishment.

Officers continue to work alongside groups to take on assets in their local community through the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process and provided ongoing support to ensure groups feel supported.

Thriving Communities also facilitated the Place Planning sessions that resulted in capital projects being awarded funding through the Capital Investment Programme. This includes projects such as; Stumpy Tower, The Pontoon and installation of community display boards.



HEALTH AND WELLBEING



Thriving Communities are fully committed to improving health and wellbeing across South Ayrshire supporting communities to increase participation in sport, physical activity and outdoor learning to improve physical, social and emotional wellbeing, and to provide additional opportunities for those to become involved and remain involved in performance sport. We also create a variety of opportunities to volunteer, gain accreditation and develop skills for life.

ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Our Active Schools programme provides more and higher quality opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and develops effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community.

During 2022-23 **5,664 young people** (nearly **80,000 participant sessions**) took part in our Active Schools programme including

- **1,888 young people with additional support needs**
- **267 from a BME background**
- **131 with care experience**
- **87 young carers.**

*Participant sessions = number of visits to Active Schools sessions

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES



Our Active Communities programme, incorporating our Inspire Disability sport programme, was launched in May 2021 to re-engage communities with sport and physical activity following COVID. COVID recovery funding allowed us to offer nearly **1,750 free sessions** across South Ayrshire communities during evenings and weekends to support our communities to improve their physical and mental wellbeing; this has continued as a subsidised low-cost community programme of activities for children, young people, adults and older adults.

Our free holiday programme over summer 2022 provided secondary school based multi-sport camps, village pop up sport sessions for those living in rural areas, transition sport camps to support young people moving from primary to secondary school, beach sport days and diversionary activity to discourage anti-social behaviour.

In 2022 we were successful in receiving **£410,722** investment from SportsScotland to expand our support to communities in Ayr South and Ayr North, and complement existing staffing in North/South Carrick, and Prestwick/Troon until March 2026. The focus of the funding is to support healthier communities, reduce inequalities and create a positive sport and physical activity culture across communities.



WALKING FOR HEALTH

Following the recruitment of a Walking Development Officer in April 2023 the programme has focused on improving capacity, resilience and the profile of our Health walk programme. The current funding targets our older population, those with additional support needs, families living in areas of high deprivation, New Scot communities and individuals with experience of the criminal justice system.

- **15 weekly walks taking place across 7 localities from Troon to Ballantrae**
- **1447 people participating in the walking programme.**
- **33 Active volunteer Walk Leaders**
- **Walk Leader recognition event at Rozelle**
- **16 new Walk Leaders trained in 2022/23**

CLOSING THE GAP

Equality, diversity and inclusion underpin the programmes we develop and deliver across South Ayrshire. In 2022 we were successful in receiving **£501,032** investment from sportscotland to employ and Active Schools Assistant per locality area to work in and support targeted communities. The focus of this investment is to increase positive engagement with young people living in identified areas with high levels of rural and social deprivation and identify and reduce the barriers to lifelong participation in sport and physical activity.





COMMUNITY SPORTS HUBS

Our Community Sports Hub programme has established improved partnerships with local sports clubs and organisations to develop, diversify and encourage collaboration to improve the range of opportunities for all ages and abilities across South Ayrshire. Our Club Ready affiliation scheme supports sports club to improve and provides reassurance to schools and communities that they are safe, fun and a good place to participate in sport. Our new Changing Lives approach uses sport and physical activity to intentionally bring about positive changes for people, which delivers against the six Active Scotland outcomes as well as wider outcomes such as health, education, environment, and transport. We are committed to embedding a 'Changing Lives' approach within South Ayrshire's Scotland's sporting system.

- **45** Club Ready affiliated clubs
- Delivery of **2 Changing Lives workshops**
- **17** clubs receiving over **£30,000** of Changing Lives funding
- **5** clubs/partners receive annual SAC funding totalling **£32,000** via Service Level Agreements

This funding has supported South Ayrshire clubs to remove barriers to participation for identified groups within their communities whom they may not have connected with before. A few examples of some of the projects are:

COACHING & VOLUNTEERING

Our Coaching and Volunteering programme delivers a range of opportunities to develop a diverse workforce about to support sport across South Ayrshire. COVID recovery funding allowed us to support sports clubs to return to delivery and develop their workforce to meet the needs of the club and local community.

- **18** coach education courses delivered
- **150+** coaches and volunteer participated
- **23** different local sports clubs represented

Our Developing Young Workforce programme provides a robust pathway of opportunities for young people from Primary 7 to S6, and students from Ayrshire College and UWS.

- **1017** P7 pupils completed the Junior Coaching Academy programme
- **85** S3-S6 pupils selected to be part of the Active Schools Leadership programme
- **787** qualifications achieved by Young Leaders
- Leadership Academy 2 day residential at Inverclyde National Sports Centre in October 2022
- **10** UWS students selected to complete a placement within the Active Schools programme
- **18** students from Ayrshire College and UWS engaged as volunteers within the Active Schools programme

December 2022 welcomed the return of our annual Sports Awards recognition evening at Troon Town Hall. The awards are a fantastic opportunity to recognise the commitment and invaluable contribution of coaches and volunteers across South Ayrshire, and to celebrate the successes of our talented athletes.



COMPETITION

This year we returned to our full primary and secondary competition programme. Competitions and festivals were held across South Ayrshire for a range of sports, ages and abilities.

- **40** primary competitions
- **11** secondary competitions
- **2,079** different young people took part in at least one competitive opportunity
- **13** different sports available
- **10** local sports clubs supported the competition programme

COVID recovery funding has supported a number of facility developments locally to improve the sporting infrastructure within the North Ayr Craigie campus and allows us to attract national and international sporting events to South Ayrshire. We were invited to host the Olympic qualification women's beach volleyball Nations Cup at Kyle Academy Beach Volleyball Courts welcoming international athletes from Poland, Czech Republic and Belgium; and the GB trials for Beach Sprints at Ayr beach in partnership with Scottish Rowing.

TALENTED ATHLETES

Our Talented Athlete programme was relaunched to support our elite athletes with the opportunity to access a range of support in their journey to excellence including:

- Funding to support attendance at regional/national training camps or competitions
- Free membership to their nearest South Ayrshire Council gym in partnership with SA Sport & Leisure
- Sport specific strength and conditioning programmes
- Access to a range of talented athlete workshops

In 2022 a total of **17 South Ayrshire athletes** received talented athlete support

- **6** Athletes supported through gym only membership
- **4** Athletes supported through grant only
- **7** Athletes supported through gym and grant
- **£2240** in grant payments were distributed

The additional training and grants were invaluable to the success of our athletes last year with 10 athletes competing for Scotland and Great Britain in a variety of sports including; basketball, handball, pétanque, gymnastics and swimming. Many of our athletes also reached the podium in a variety of sports.

DOLPHIN HOUSE

Dolphin House is now open to schools and communities for **50 weeks per year, and 7 days a week** allowing us to provide a greater range of outdoor learning experiences to an increasingly diverse audience including schools groups, community groups, Young Carers, The Champions Board and care experienced young people and their families, Thriving Communities groups such as youth work and employability, those with additional support needs and older adults. The centre's programme has developed to offer a variety of quality outdoor education programmes and experiences including:

- 4-day residential programme supporting pupils to develop independence, team skills and communication
- 2-day adventurous activities residential focussing on experiential learning and exploring the great outdoors
- Outreach activities at various locations across Ayrshire bringing outdoor learning to communities
- Accreditation opportunities for school and community groups including encouraging respect and appreciation of the natural world through the John Muir Award
- Approved training centre for a range of National Governing Body awards including Mountain Training, Cycling Scotland and National Navigational Awards providing training courses for the outdoor workforce

During 2022/23 Dolphin House welcomed nearly **1500 young people, 36 different schools, including 4 additional support needs schools, and 41 different community groups.** Dolphin House has also been successful in achieving a two-year Adventurous Activities Licence (AALA) providing assurance that good safety management practice is being followed so that young people can have opportunities to experience exciting and stimulating activities outdoors while not being exposed to avoidable risks. The Adventurous Activities Licence commissioned by HSE, allows the team to deliver a range of safe, adventure activities including; caving, hillwalking, water sports, climbing and mountain biking. These activities foster a culture of 'challenge through choice' and introduce the concepts of exploration and collaborative learning.



TALENTED ATHLETES

Care Experienced Programme: Funding was used during 2022 to support young people and their families who are care experienced to engage in outdoor learning activities at Dolphin House. Weekly visits took place throughout the summer holidays giving **18 families** the chance to take part in a residential experience and a further **15 young people** took part in day activities.

Secondary COVID Recovery Programme: Funding was secured to expand the current outdoor opportunities to ensure young people who had missed out on a residential experience, or who struggled to engage in learning following lockdown, were supported to engage in outdoor learning. Additional outdoor learning sessions were arranged in the community and at Dolphin House for all 8 secondary schools and three additional support needs schools/bases. Over **400 young people** took part in the 4-day programme during 2022/23 and evaluations demonstrated positive feedback from young people, parents, and staff.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

In 2022/23 **526 young people** started the programme with **373 (83%) completing the award**, this is one of the highest completion rates in Scotland.

The Thriving Communities team created a new group in conjunction with the Virtual School team and have supported **8 care experienced young people** to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award and start working towards their Silver Award.

This year we are really proud of the dedication and hard work of the **14 young people**, representing 6 different South Ayrshire secondary schools, who achieved their Gold Duke Of Edinburgh's Award and were invited to attend Holyrood Palace to celebrate their achievements.

COVID Recovery – Expedition programme: COVID recovery funding was secured to support young people within South Ayrshire secondary schools to overcome financial barriers to access the expedition part of the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award supporting them to complete the award during 2022/23. The funding provided **77 expedition places** as well as support within schools to complete the other sections of the award and expedition training.

OUTREACH OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

A range of additional outreach venues and activities have been developed over the last year to support the demands on outdoor activities post-COVID and to increase the delivery capacity of the outdoor team. Risk assessments and operating procedures were developed and embedded across the team to utilise our natural environment to promote and support physical activity and outdoor learning within communities across South Ayrshire.



SUMMARY

The new Thriving Communities service continues to have a positive impact on communities across South Ayrshire. As the service continues to evolve, new ways of working continue to be developed that will further enhance and increase opportunities for South Ayrshire Council and our communities.

Despite the economic challenges the service continues to demonstrate that it is a high performing service while also seeking new opportunities by maximising external funding.

The new service has also strengthened the relationship with partners including the 3rd sector and the Community Planning Partnership, and these partnerships with continue to grow through the new locality-based model.

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Director of Strategic Change and Communities
to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel
of 24 October 2023**

Subject: Participatory Budgeting Activity in 2022/23

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Panel of the Participatory Budgeting (PB) Activity undertaken by Council Services for the period 2022/23.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Panel considers the content of the PB Activity Report attached as [Appendix 1](#) and notes the value of budgetary spend influenced through the PB processes.**

3. Background

- 3.1 PB is a tool for community engagement and developing participatory democracy. The Council has implemented strategies which address the key issues contained within the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council has also worked with the Community Choices programme, which supports and promotes PB nationally.
- 3.2 CoSLA has provided a definition of mainstreaming PB as follows: *Proactively involving and engaging local people in making decisions for how public money is spent in their community. This means engaging people in the design of policy and strategy that eliminates existing participation gaps.*
- 3.3 As highlighted to Panel previously, PB is a long-term strategy that will be developed and delivered over many repeated cycles. The Council continues to evolve its strategic approach to PB ensuring that residents are as engaged as possible in the budget allocation process.
- 3.4 The Council has, over the past few years, evidenced greater participation in wider consultation and engagement with communities across a number of social media and mainstream communication platforms.
- 3.5 The Council's 1% target for financial year 2022/23 (as derived from the information contained in the 2022/23 Finance Order FC5/2022), was £2.476m. This is defined by COSLA and Scottish Government as: *'The total estimated expenditure for revenue, as per the Local Government finance circular, less assumed Council tax intake'*.

3.6 The COSLA framework on PB explains that local authorities can use both revenue and capital spend to arrive at the target.

3.7 As outlined in the [report](#) submitted to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel of 16 May 2023, the Council had already exceeded the 1% PB activity target within the first half of the 2022/2023 financial year.

4. Proposals

4.1 It is proposed that the Panel considers the content of the PB Activity Report for the full year 2022/2023 attached as [Appendix 1](#) and notes the value of budgetary spend influenced through the PB processes – a total of **£3,407,626**. Members will note that this exceeded the initial 1% target of £2.476m highlighted in 3.6.

4.2 As previously highlighted to panel, it is intended to report to the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel on a six-monthly basis with regards to the development of mainstreaming PB. This will continue to ensure that members are sighted on the obligation to ensure citizens are encouraged to become more directly involved on influencing expenditure going forward.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

5.1 This participatory budgeting satisfies the legal obligations of the council under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to promote and facilitate public participation in its decisions and activities and to give communities more powers to achieve their own ambitions. It also complements the Council's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 and delivers the public sector equality duty by advancing 3 equality of opportunities and fostering good relations between groups. Advice and guidance will be sought from Legal Services on an ongoing basis, where appropriate.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Although there is no direct budget for mainstreaming PB, its ethos is for communities to have a greater influence on spend. [Appendix 1](#) provides detail of the Council spend influenced through PB for the full year 2022/23.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations

8.2.1 The Council will be unable to report its PB activity to the relevant bodies.

9. Equalities

- 9.1 The proposals in this report allow scrutiny of performance. The report does not involve proposals for policies, strategies, procedures, processes, financial decisions and activities (including service delivery), both new and at review, that affect the Council's communities and employees, therefore an equality impact assessment is not required.

10. Sustainable Development Implications

- 10.1 **Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** – not applicable.

11. Options Appraisal

- 11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

- 12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Priority 3 of the Council Plan: Civic and Community Pride.

13. Results of Consultation

- 13.1 There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report.
- 13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Dowey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

Background Papers Report to Leadership Panel of 11 June 2019 - [Moving Towards Mainstreaming Participatory Budgeting](#)

[Community Choices 1% Framework Agreement](#)

Report to Service and Partnerships Performance Panel of 16 May 2023 – [Participatory Budgeting Activity in 2022/23 \(Quarters 1 and 2\)](#)

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Date: 13 October 2023

Participatory Budgeting Activity In 2022/23

1% target defined as 'total estimated expenditure for revenue, as per the Local Government finance circular, less assumed Council tax intake	£2.476m
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Breakdown of revenue and/or capital subject to participatory budgeting during 2022/2023			
	Service Area	Revenue (£)	Capital (£)
	Ayrshire Roads Alliance	£128,000	£200,000
	Children's Health, Care & Justice Service (HSCP)	£65,000	
	Community Health and Care Services (HSCP)		£130,000
	Community Services and Facilities Maybole Town Centre Regeneration Public Realm Improvements		£1,500,000
	Housing Services	£1,105,000	
	Thriving Communities	£23,025	£256,601
	TOTAL	£1,321,025	£2,086,601
GRAND TOTAL		£3,407,626	