

## South Ayrshire Council

### Report by Assistant Director - People to Partnerships Panel of 9 February 2022

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**Subject: Local Performance Report: Police Scotland**

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#### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Partnership Panel with information about the mid-year performance of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire.

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Panel scrutinises the mid-year performance report of Police Scotland in South Ayrshire and provide feedback to the Area Commander.**

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Police and Fire and Rescue 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 at Leadership Panel on 25 May 2021. Performance is reported twice yearly and this report relates to the mid-year performance.

#### 4. Proposals

- 4.1 The Area Commander, Chief Inspector Kevin Lammie, has provided the attached performance 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 and Rescue 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. Link to Council Plan**

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Commitments 1 and 6 of the Council Plan: Fair and Effective Leadership/ Leadership that promotes fairness; and A Better Place to Live/ Enhanced environment through social, cultural and economic activities.

### **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**    [Local Police Plan 2021-23](#)

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**Date:** 1 February 2022

# South Ayrshire Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/2021 - 30/11/2021

Appendix 1



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

**Total Crime**



**-8.6%**



**5,716 Crimes**

Incidents  
Recorded

Violence/Homicide

Drug Supply

Sexual Crime

Hate Crime

ASB

**-10.0%**



21,925

**-2.1%**



752

**-4.6%**



37

**15.3%**



154

**34.1%\***



74

**1.6%\***



5,128

Domestic Abuse

Housebreaking

Robbery

Fraud

Speeding

Drink/Drug Driving

**12.5%\***



538

**-43.8%**



101

**11.1%**



20

**70.3%**



190

**-69.0%**



68

**-1.4%**



99

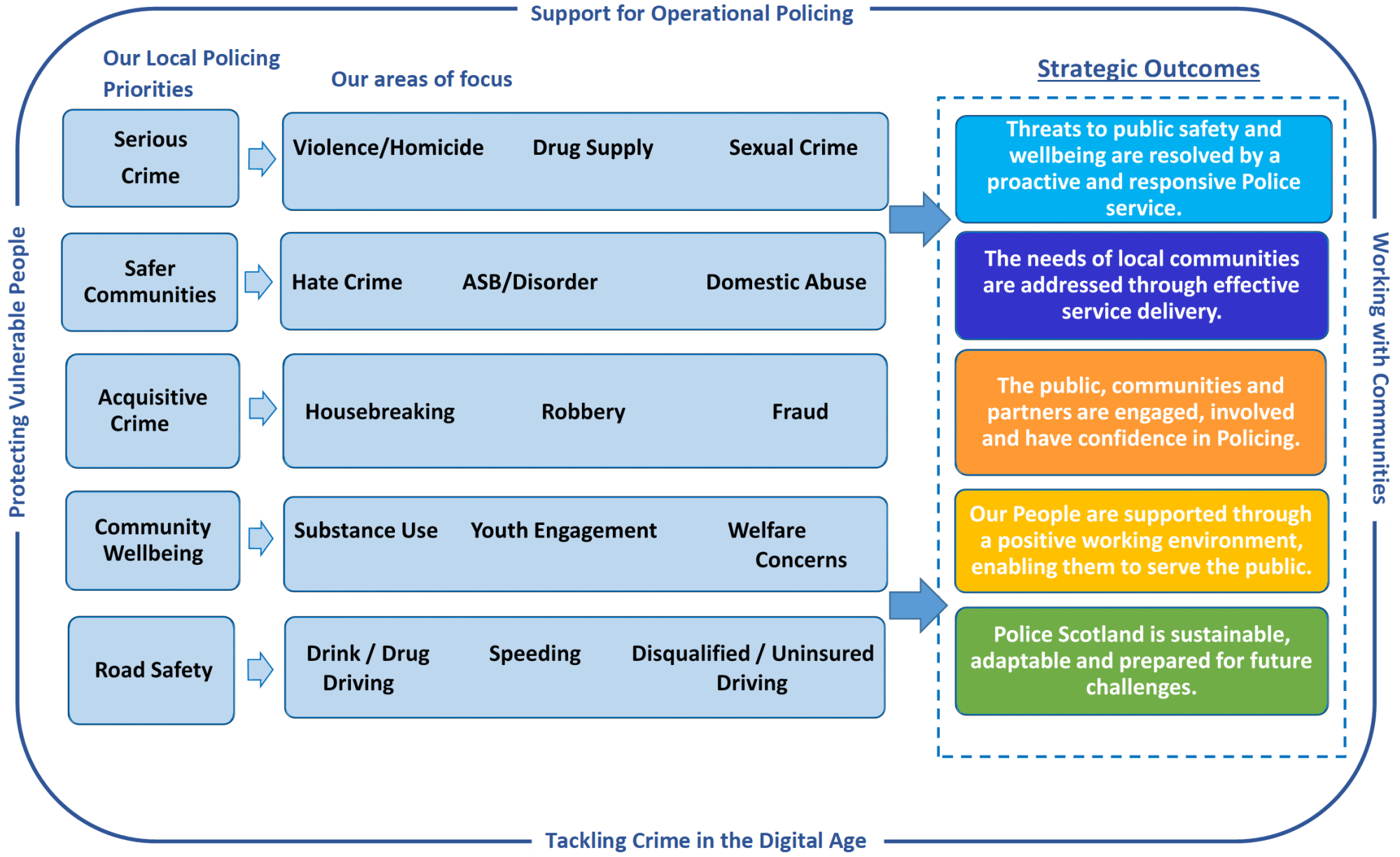
Note: All percentage figures are based on the 5-year average. All data is based on Management Information and may be subject to change. \*5-yr Average figures are locally produced and not MI

## 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.

This document will provide an overview of crime and incidents based on the requirements of the LPP. However there will be areas where reporting will be on a rotational/exceptions basis particularly within the Safer Communities and Community Wellbeing Priorities. 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	Youth Engagement	12
	Substance Use	
Road Safety	Drink/Drug Driving	13
	Speeding	14
Public Confidence	User Satisfaction/Your Police Surveys	15
Complaints Against the Police	Complaints/Learning	16



# SERIOUS CRIME—Violence/Homicide

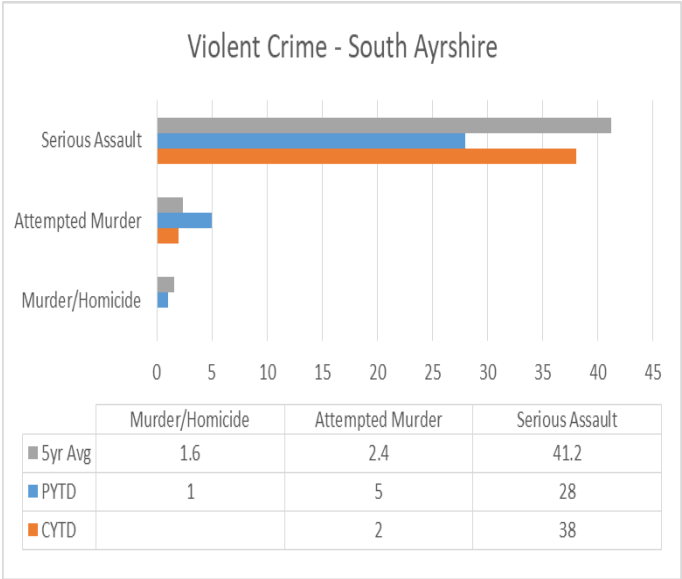
### Analytical Context:

The position in terms of violent crime this year shows an overall decrease of 2.1% on the 5-year average. In terms of Serious Assaults, as can be seen from the graph, shows the current figure remains below the 5-year average, although above the figure for last year. The detection rate is currently at 92.1% which is above both last year (85.7%) and the 5-year average (81.1%) and work continues on all undetected reports. In terms of location, there are more crimes in a Public space (n=23) with 69.6% of these being on a footpath or street. Ayr has recorded the greatest volume of crimes with 55.3%. It is notable that Girvan (5 crimes), Prestwick (4 crimes) and Troon (4 crimes) are the only other towns with more than two such crimes. The majority of victims are males, accounting for around 71.1% with an average age of 35. Domestic crimes will be examined further in the section dedicated to this topic.

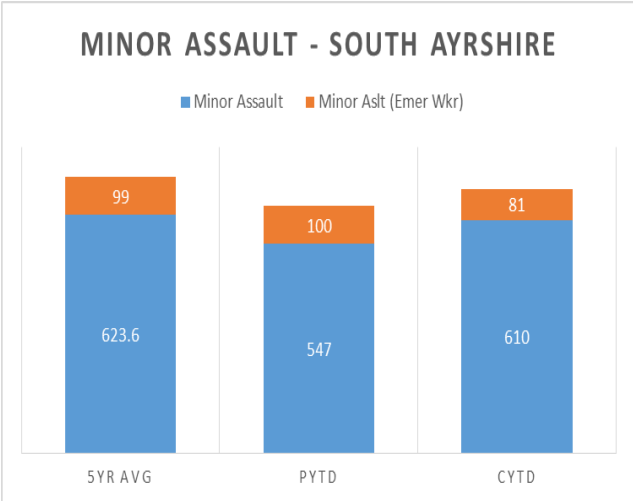
Murder and Attempted Murder figures remain low, there are just two recorded Attempt Murders and no Murders. Both of these figures are below the 5-year averages. One of the Attempt Murders is still undetected.

Finally, Minor Assaults have increased on last year but remain below the 5-year average. There have been around 25 non-recent crimes recorded this year of which 64.0% remain undetected. Overall detection rates are down on last year at 60.5% and lower than the 5-year average. Again further information on Domestic crimes will be covered in that specific section.

The new charges relating to shop workers have now come into effect with 3 crimes recorded in this period.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Local Action/Context:

Tackling serious crime remains a high priority for policing in South Ayrshire. As restrictions in place as a result of the pandemic have continued to ease, we note there is still a decrease in the overall violent crime compared to the 5 year average.

Although it has been noted there has been an increase in the number of victims of serious assaults this year this still remains below the 5 year mean, with last year showing a notable decrease in serious assaults overall in comparison to the 5 year average. It should be borne in mind the change in socialisation from the previous year when many licensed premises were closed due to the COVID pandemic and various restrictions on everyday life.

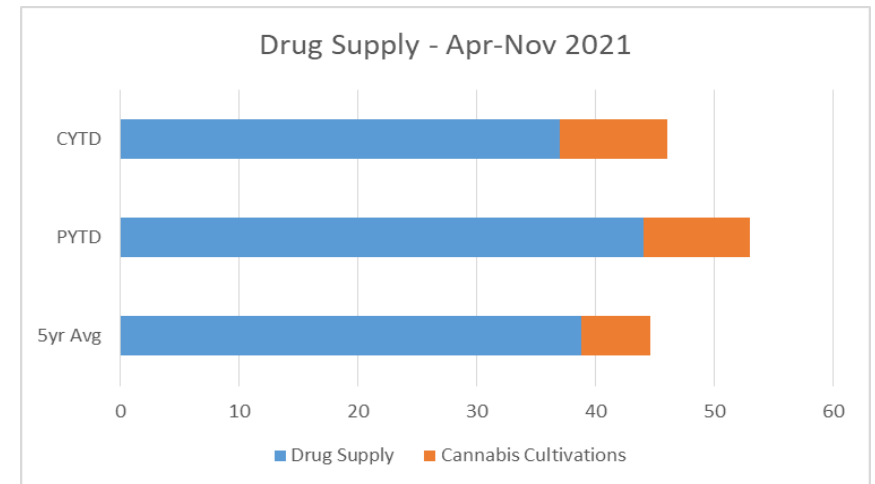
This year with the reopening of premises we continue to work with partners including SAC Licensing, Scottish Ambulance Service and the hospitality trade to provide a focus to our night time economy. Operation Inver Plan is a bespoke plan to policing our night time economy which involves high visibility static and mobile patrols in key areas at key times and includes visits to licensed premises and working with taxi marshals and street pastors to reduce incidents of alcohol related violence and ensure peoples safety. South Ayrshire has dedicated town centre officers who work with partners in retail to provide reassurance, visibility and confidence to report on the new crimes.

## SERIOUS CRIME—Drug Supply

### Analytical Context:

Total Drug Supply charges in South Ayrshire have increased on the 5-year average – up 3.1% but have decreased on the figures from last year. The number of Cannabis cultivations has remained the same (n=9) this year compared to last and is above the 5-year average.

Drug supply charges are often as a result of proactive work and therefore identifying any real patterns to where these crimes are taking place is difficult. Identifying potential suppliers is more likely to be the result of combined work with local officers and Divisional staff building on Community Intelligence provided by South Ayrshire residents and local organisations.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Local Action/Context:

Ayrshire Division benefits from a dedicated Pro-active Crime Team (PACT). These specialist officers are supported by dedicated intelligence officers in tackling serious and organised crime in our communities. The work of the PACT is supported locally by work of our Priority Policing Team (PPT) who continue to target drug dealing, develop local intelligence and progress issues identified by members of the community. The PPT is supervised by the Localities Inspector so that their activity is focussed on emerging risks and concerns, many of which are also raised by elected members. Notable recoveries are often shared on our social media platforms.

Campus officers continue to promote Fearless, the Crime Stoppers youth service aimed at 11 to 16 year olds. This service aims to increase awareness of the dangers surrounding street crime, drugs and violence, whilst also providing a confidential platform to provide information anonymously.

We are constantly mindful of the risks of county lines crimes within our communities and work with partners to raise awareness in community and educational settings of the warning signs. Going forward the Division will be establishing a Community Wellbeing unit, designed to reflect and reinforce the increasing shift within Police Scotland to adopt a public health, whole system approach to tackling many of the complex issues faced by our communities. We will continue to work with a range of partners to signpost those with drug dependency issues as well as reviewing opportunities for intervention in response to non-fatal overdoses and drug related deaths.

This work is already well underway within Wallacetown where we have embedded within the community our Scottish Violence Reduction Unit and two dedicated Community Officers who will adopt a preventative and intervention approach to policing, already taking a proactive approach to engaging with families of individuals at risk of overdose as well as the individuals themselves and diverting them to meaningful support groups and activities.

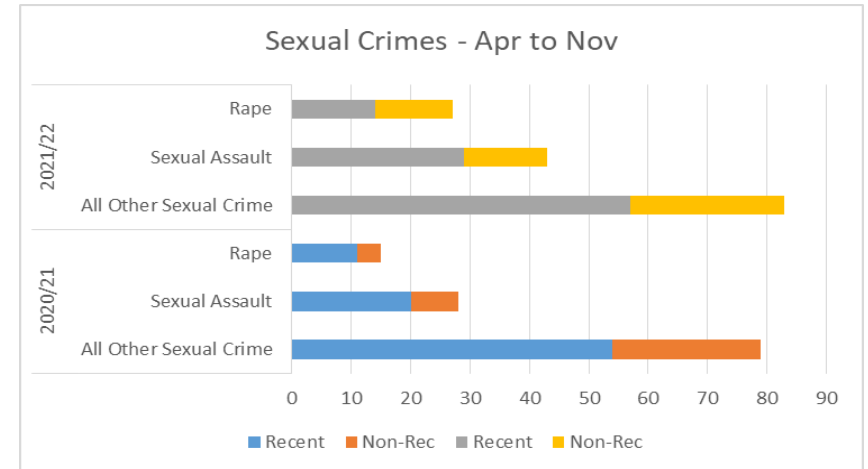


## SERIOUS CRIME - Sexual Crime

### Current Position

There has been a marked increase in the number of sexual crimes reported this year - up 15.3% on the 5-year average. The biggest increases have been noted in Sexual Assaults and Rape crimes, up 28.7% and 52.9% respectively on the 5-year average. It should be noted that 34.6% of crimes are non-recent, this includes 13 non-recent Rape crimes and 14 non-recent Sexual Assaults.

The current detection rate for all sexual crimes stands at 50.0% which is below the figures at this point last year and the 5-year average. Rape detections to the end of November were 46.2% which compares to a 5-year average of 54.1%, this discrepancy exists as there are still potential forensic opportunities for this year's crimes. There are also a number of challenges in relation to obtaining detections for non-recent Rape crimes due to the potential lack of forensic opportunities.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Local Action/Context:

Sexual crimes in South Ayrshire continue to follow national trends in their increase. A number of large scale enquiries into non recent offending and high profile convictions has resulted in an increase in the reporting of non-recent sexual crimes which account for 34.6% of sexual crimes reported. We recognise the challenges in relation to obtaining detections for non-recent sexual crimes due to potential lack of forensic opportunities however continue to exhaust all investigative opportunities in relation to these reports and support victims by signposting them to the appropriate agencies.

We recognise the need and importance of raising awareness of reporting mechanisms as well as confidence when reporting and continue to work with partners at events such as the recent 'Safe Space' event held at All Warriors Woman Only gym in partnership with Police Scotland, South Ayrshire Woman's Aid and SA Health and Social Care partnership.

We recognise the recent increase during November in reports of spiking and the way in which we respond force wide has been reviewed. Locally we scrutinise any reports of spiking to ensure all early investigative opportunities are captured and the victim is supported. Through social media we continue to promote the safety of woman and girls. Since there media reports in November 2021 there have been 8 incidents reported in South Ayrshire.

We have also widely publicised the 'That Guy' campaign that has been very positively received by partners and the public in general, and will continue to develop ways to alter or change male behaviours, targeting offenders rather than victim behaviour.

It is recognised that online platforms facilitate offending and victimisation, particularly in younger age groups. Campus officers across Ayrshire met during the summer holidays to review and update our lesson plans. This will standardise our educational inputs across schools, but equally ensure the lessons are inclusive of what young people are telling campus officers. Sexual crimes are reviewed daily and all opportunities to detect these scrutinised. Most recent example of this would be a number of reported incidents of sexual exposure in Troon. Following a proactive policing operation involving locality policing and plain clothed officers we were able to trace and identify the offender who has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

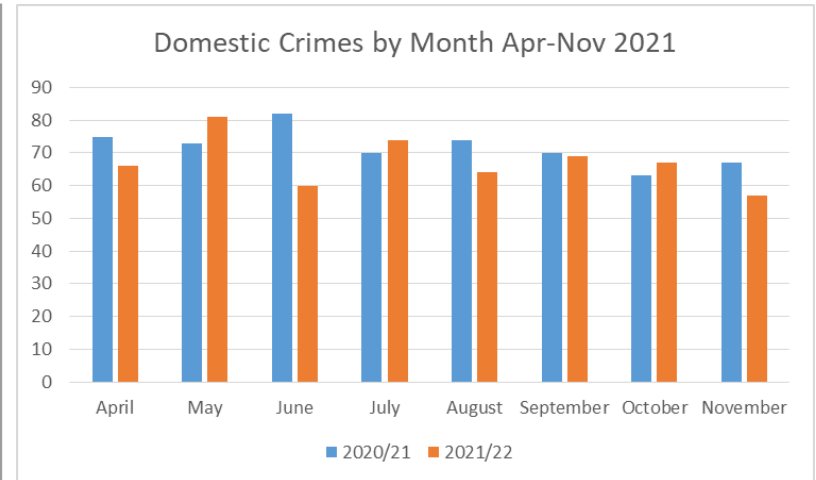
## SAFER COMMUNITIES—Domestic Abuse

### Analytical Context:

There has been an increase in the number of recorded Domestic Crimes this year compared with the 5-year average (up 12.5%). The chart opposite shows that crimes tend to peak in the spring/early summer with May recording the highest levels of crime so far this year. Crimes have been following a downward trend since September with November recording slightly below average numbers for the time of year.

Looking at the types of crimes being committed shows that there have been eight domestic Serious Assault and around 37% of Domestic crimes were Common Assaults, although this figure would need further work to confirm the accuracy. Around 2.7% of Domestic crimes are sexual including some Rapes.

We continue to support and work with Women's Aid and other partner organisations working to assist those who have been the victim of domestic abuse.



Source: Data taken from iVPD through ScOMIS

### Local Action/Context:

We continue to be a proactive and key participant in the Violence against Women partnership, supporting partners in tackling gender based violence and domestic abuse both internally and externally. There has been a local focus on raising awareness among young people around the warning signs of domestic abuse, with appropriate signposting for support and reporting mechanisms. The introduction to Ayrshire of a Domestic Abuse Liaison Officer will see additional scrutiny around each reported domestic incident but also a strengthening of existing partnerships.

Ayrshire's Operations Superintendent Chair's the monthly Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS), giving people the right to ask about the background of their partner and I can confirm South Ayrshire received 28 disclosures during this period. We continue to collaborate with partners on the delivery of campaigns and information around domestic abuse during these challenging times with supporting victims remaining our priority. National media coverage of the subject of women's safety and crime against females continues to see a heightened level of concern and sensitivity. Addressing the issue remains a priority with our involvement in a number of collaborative events with partners during the 16 days of activism with an aim to increase public confidence and address these concerns.

We continue to support and work with Woman's Aid and other partner organisations working to assist those who have been victim of domestic abuse. Most recently we organised the 'Reclaim the Night' awareness walk to highlight the need for women to feel safe and empower them to take action in highlighting the issue. This was planned in coordination with the South Ayrshire Violence against Women Partnerships (VAWP) and was a community event to raise awareness of violence against women and girls and our aim to eradicate gender-based violence. This event had to be cancelled and will now take place on International Women's Day on 8th March 2022.

With one of the root causes of violence against woman being gender stereotyping we recently supported the 'YOU CAN BE' campaign across all 51 Early Years Centres across South Ayrshire providing them a range of children's books which at 3-5 year olds that target gender stereotyping in early years. Campus officers engaged with child care providers and the children to build relationships and communicate to the young people they can 'be all they can be'. Providing meaningful engagement and adopting a preventative approach to the long term effects of Violence Against Women and Girls.

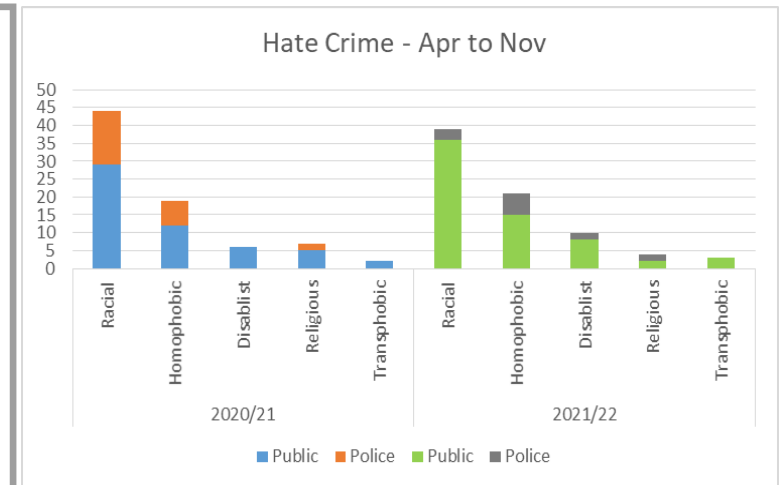
## SAFER COMMUNITIES—Hate Crime

### Analytical Context:

There are a total of 73 reported hate crimes in South Ayrshire for the current period, this compares with 68 in the same period last year. Note that a single crime can have more than one hate crime type for example one incident could feature homophobic and sectarian language. (Note: Official data does not provide a 5-year average for this crime type yet).

The chart opposite provides a breakdown of the different types of hate crime being experienced and shows that racial crimes continue to be the most perpetrated hate crime. Homophobic crimes have remained relatively static over the two years, while disablist crimes have increased from 6 to 10.

A high proportion of the Homophobic crimes have been directed towards the Police (28.6%) whereas only 7.7% of Racial crimes were directed at the Police. Examination of the religious crimes shows all these were mainly sectarian slurs but did not appear to be football related.



Source: Taken from the iVPD database through ScOMIS

### Local Action/Context:

HMICS published their Thematic Inspection of Hate Crime on the 3rd of June 2021. 15 recommendations were provided to Police Scotland. Locally we are already implementing some of these recommendations including a review and the improvement of Third Party Reporting Centres, which have been impacted by COVID due to business closures and the sharing of updated hate crime knowledge and training with our partners which is currently being developed.

Locally, the Partnership Inspector sits on both the national inspection focus group and the Ayrshire Equality Partnership. We regularly conduct reviews of trends, noting no discernible hotspots, repeat offenders or repeat locations.

Crimes against police officers and other emergency services personnel have increased but can be attributed to the Chief Constable's pledge on assault as previously mentioned with regards to reporting mechanisms in place. In July Ayrshire's emergency services made a collective vow to reduce attacks of violence and verbal abuse on their staff. In addition to ourselves partners from NHS, S.A.S, BTP, HMP Kilmarnock, SFRS all made the collective vow setting out our collective commitment.

During Pride week, alongside colleagues from SFRS and Vibrant Communities, we showed our continued support for PRIDE. Ayrshire Division has a LGBTI forum through which they continue to support colleagues and work collaboratively with partners and third party organisations to promote diversity and increase opportunities for reporting of hate crime, particularly during the month of October which incorporates Black History Month and Hate Crime Awareness Week.

## SAFER COMMUNITIES—Antisocial Behaviour

### Analytical Context:

Looking at the year on year picture Public reported ASB incidents had been following a downward trend however last year saw a significant increase in incidents due to COVID restrictions and the number of reports relating to breaches of the restrictions. This year has recorded above average levels however does show an 18.9% reduction in incidents compared to last year. Incidents have fluctuated during this latest period with the start of the year being above the 5-year average while from August onwards below average numbers have been recorded. Around 17.3% of incidents resulted in a crime report being raised. From available data it is estimated that youths were involved in approximately 12.9% of ASB incidents.

The number of ASB tickets issued has increased over 40% on last year but remains significantly below the 5-year average. The majority of tickets were issued for breach of the peace and street drinking offences.

### Local Action/Context:

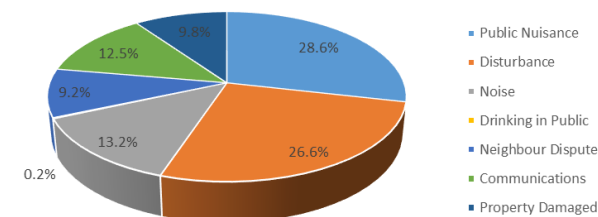
It should be borne in mind that last year was not a 'normal' year due to the COVID pandemic with various lockdown, restrictions and limitations on everyday life. With new legislation introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic there was a significant increase in calls as a result, relating to breach of the guidelines with more people spending time at home during this period. With public nuisance and disturbance calls accounting for over half of anti-social behaviour calls received in South Ayrshire these were included within this crime type.

Campus Officers returned to their roles within the school communities in April following a period of lockdown. To positively impact on youth disorder complaints, they continue to carry out the role of prevention and intervention through inputs to young people in the schools. Although only 12.9% of incidents involve youth disorder this year we understand the impact this has on our communities. To address standing complaints locality policing and campus officers regularly carry out joint patrols with youth workers from South Ayrshire Thriving Communities with a view to concentrating not only deterring and preventing crimes and offences but identifying opportunities to proactively engage with young people to divert them away from criminality towards more meaningful activities.

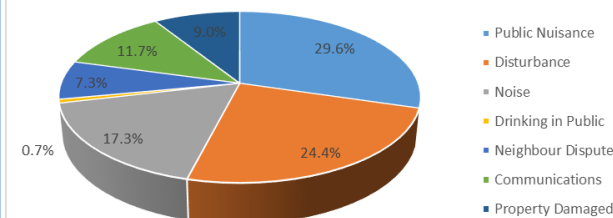
We continue to implement our Safer Shores Plan in readiness for visitors to the beaches in South Ayrshire which provides a multi-agency contingency plan which can be activated at short notice to create a safe and welcoming environment particularly around popular locations such as train stations at Ayr and Troon.

We continue to work with our ASB Teams at SAC as well as other local housing organisations to identify and target those causing problems in our community. Where factors such as mental health or addiction is deemed a potential factor we continue to work to provide a partnership approach to problem solving through referrals at the monthly Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating meeting.

ASB Incident Breakdown Apr-Nov 2021



ASB 5 year Average Apr-Nov



Source: taken from STORM data extracted through ScOMIS

## ACQUISITIVE CRIME—Housebreaking/Fraud

### Analytical Context:

Overall **housebreaking** crimes have decreased this year, with all types of crimes showing lower numbers in South Ayrshire. Levels of crime are now significantly below the 5-year averages with commercial housebreakings recording the biggest decrease. Current detection rates show that overall there has been a decrease compared with last year however this is due to a decline in the detection of crimes at domestic properties (down 14.4%).

Examination of the housebreaking to dwelling houses shows the Spring months - April and May and then again in July - recorded higher numbers of crimes whilst June then August to November have seen lower levels of crimes.

In terms of **Fraud** there has been an upward trend in recent years, particularly as more people use online means to shop, bank and communicate. In total this year there have been 190 crimes which is up 70.3% on the 5-year average. Detection rates are currently low at 15.9%, this is primarily due to the difficulties in obtaining detections for online fraud type crimes.

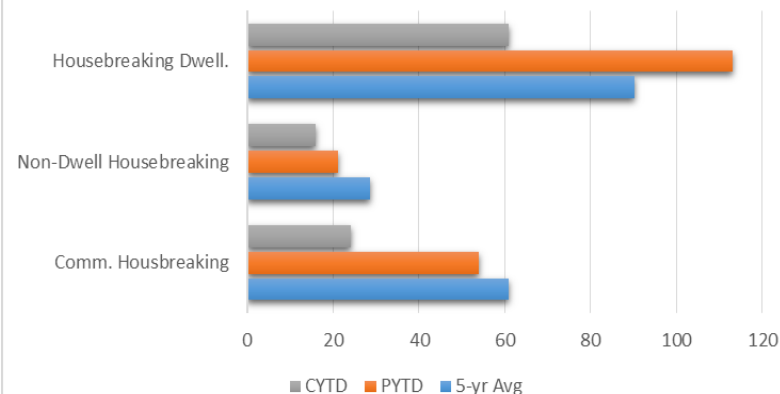
### Local Action/Context:

**Housebreaking** continues to drop with the biggest decrease being housebreaking to commercial premises. There was an identified vulnerability with commercial premises in 2020 due to lockdown which left premises more exposed to housebreaking due to them being closed to comply with government guidance and throughout the pandemic local officers provided proactive patrols to these premises. This year premises have reopened as restrictions in relation to government guidance has eased with many premises reopening, reducing the time premises are unoccupied and reducing their vulnerability which has resulted in fewer housebreaking to these premises. There also continues to be a decrease in domestic dwellings as many also continue to work from home meaning less dwellings unoccupied.

Housebreakings continue to be reviewed daily to ensure any evidential opportunities are identified, including the use of scene of crime examinations to maximise all investigative opportunities for detection and apprehension of offenders. We continue to promote awareness of acquisitive crime and housebreaking through our social media channels. Our Detective Chief Inspector has taken a pan Ayrshire approach to reviewing housebreakings and the way in which we respond to identify all opportunities to prevent them and increase detections of domestic housebreakings.

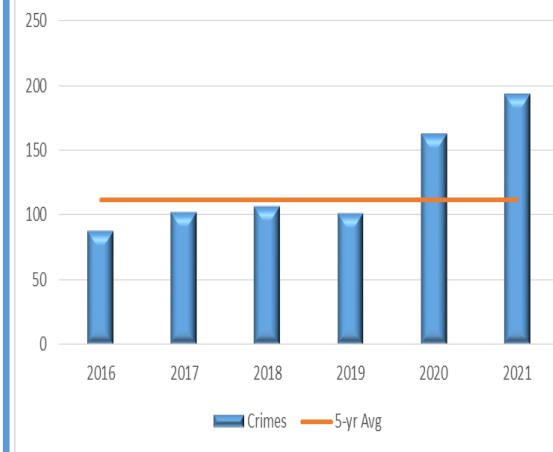
**Fraud** remains persistently high, again following national trends. We continue highlighting the 'Take Five' campaign as well as increasing communication around awareness of fraudulent schemes particularly during the festive period through our social media channels. We continue to adapt our working practices along with partners and local business to address these crimes, and raise awareness to reduce the risk of falling victim. We have developed strategies with partners to prevent repeat victimisation and signposting any additional support requirements to appropriate agencies.

### Housebreaking Crimes - Apr to Nov 2021



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Fraud - Apr to Nov 2021

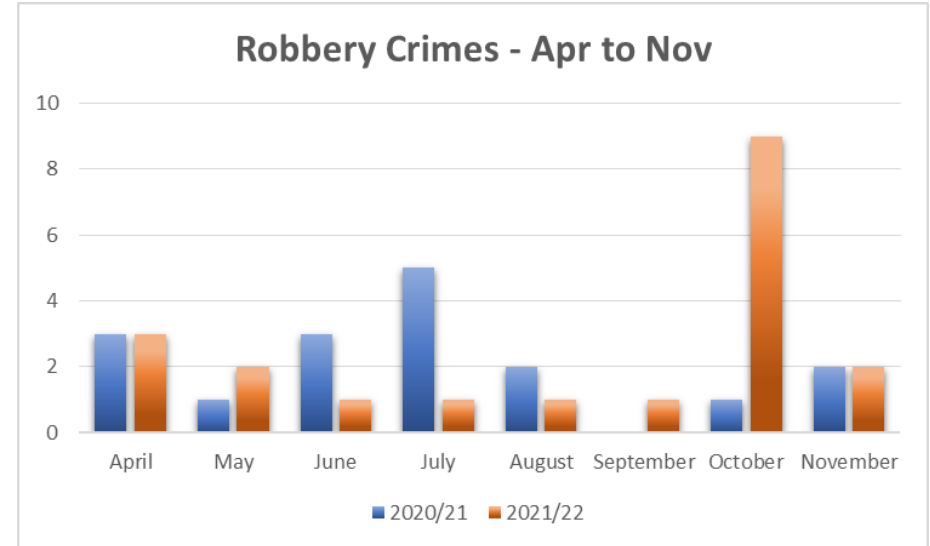


## ACQUISITIVE CRIME—Robberies

### Analytical Context:

There are currently 20 Robbery type crimes (8 were Assault with intent to Rob crimes) committed within South Ayrshire compared with 17 last year and a 5-year average of 18. The current detection rate is 75.0%. The spike in October this year was partly due to four crimes committed by two individuals in the Wallacetown area of Ayr on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

The majority of robberies occurred in public space (n=14) primarily on the street with two occurring within shop premises. Robberies were more prevalent on Thursdays and Sundays and generally occurred between 1600hrs and midnight. From confirmed data we know that at least seven robberies involved an offender known to the victim. Over half of the crimes involved the use of a weapons with knives and glass/bottles most commonly utilised. Mobile phones and cash were the most frequently targeted items.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Local Action/Context:

Robbery is not only a crime that impacts on the victim but on the wider community and every one reported is a top priority.

We continue to work with partners and third sector organisations such as Seascope, South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership and South Ayrshire Health and Social Care to support individuals at higher risk of committing such offences and to decrease the likelihood of them reoffending.

Local officers continue to provide targeted patrols in areas of significance and make appropriate use of stop search in relation to these crimes to make every effort to prevent them and provide reassurance to the public.

Through proactive policing and engagement with the community we were able to apprehend two offenders responsible for the four robberies committed in Wallacetown in October for which they have been remanded in prison awaiting their appearance at court.

## COMMUNITY WELLBEING

### Local Action/Context:

#### YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

We continue to be innovative in our approach to deliver targeted police inputs and interventions to support young people, working with partners from South Ayrshire Active Schools, South Ayrshire Woman's Aid and SAC Thriving Communities to name a few, and focus where necessary on young people most at risk of involvement in Anti-social behaviour and criminality.

Campus officers and local policing have supported young people whom they have nominated to participate in the 'Targeted Approach to Young People' Xtra Project developed by SAC Community Safety by assisting in the deliverance of the programme to direct key young people to positive destinations over the next couple of years where otherwise the outcome would be detrimental to their health and wellbeing.

Local policing highlighted an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour and a concerning decline in behaviour of young people at key locations including the River Doon and St Cuthbert's Golf Course. Campus officers and locality policing from the respective areas conducted joint patrols with SAC Community Safety Officers to identify key individuals involved. Programmes have been delivered to young people identified or are deemed at immediate risk of involvement in criminality due to behaviour or associations including Bushcraft, Pitchin Football programme and Positive Pathways. Through the deliverance of these programmes we continue to provide key messages to young people to deter them from involvement in anti-social behaviour and have noted an increase in attendance at school by those who have been involved.

#### SUBSTANCE USE

Under the Strategic Delivery Partnership, we currently have a pilot project for the Wallacetown area of North Ayr. Each of the statutory authorities, third sector and community organisations have committed to adopting a public health approach to improving the wellbeing of residents in this area. South Ayrshire Police have dedicated two Community Wellbeing Officers to the pilot to assist the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit to tackle the issues and priorities raised by the residents, one of which was concerns around drug misuse. This has led to an increase in intelligence which will assist us to detect and deter offenders and disrupt those involved in the supply of drugs whilst along with partners supporting them to make positive life choices. The Community Wellbeing Officers have been pivotal to the success of various projects and groups and have been successful in engaging individuals who would otherwise be disadvantaged through their addiction. This has resulted in numerous referrals to partners to offer Intensive Support to individuals relating to various issues such as mental health, addiction and poverty. A recent example was a veteran who was at risk of overdose or increased involvement in criminality due to mental health and addiction. Through building relationships with this individual the officers were able to establish a support network through contact with disengaged family members, the Riverside Community Trust and Seascope where otherwise he would have been at serious risk of harm to himself and his community.

We have also provided support to a number of third sector groups and charities including Oshay's FASD (Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) who we provided funding to support them to establish and promote their services through their new premises in Ayr, a hub for those in our community who have been diagnosed or suspected to have FASD and their families. With our support we will continue to support them through signposting those in need of their services.



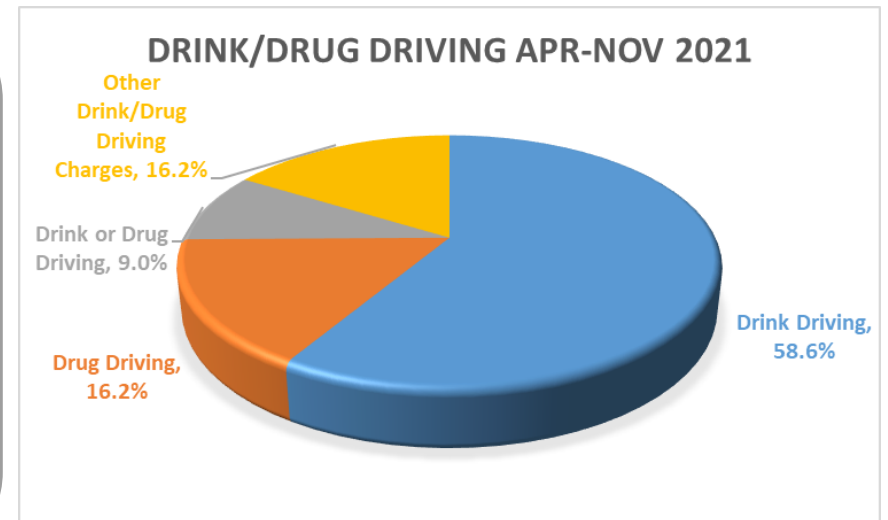
## ROAD SAFETY—Drink/Drug Driving

### Analytical Context:

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. However the figures for the last two years within South Ayrshire show a slight decrease this year from 105 offences to 99 recorded this year.

It is notable from the chart opposite that drink driving continues to be the most perpetrated crime. Compared with last year the number of solely drink driving charges has increased and is on a par with the 5-year average. Charges involving just Drug Driving have decreased on last year and cannot be compared to the 5-year average.

Ayr shows the greatest volume of crimes with the town centre as well the areas around the main roads recording a number of offences.



Source: Taken from Police Scotland Business Intelligence Portal

### Local Action/Context:

Ayrshire Road Policing is committed to identifying and detecting offences in relation to those who continue to drive whilst under the influence of drink or drugs. The implementation of Section 5(A) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and the arrival of "Medacx" Drug wipes has provided a valuable additional tool for road policing officers to stop and test those persons who are suspected of using either cocaine or cannabis (or both) whilst driving.

The significance of the new legislation and the success of achieving detections has led to dedicated National Campaigns to target drivers who may be impaired through the use of illegal substances. The current volume of offences detected is however causing delays in the testing of blood samples now sitting at a 10 month turn around. This will improve over the coming months after the testing facility has outsourced some testing to decrease the turnaround time.

Our South Ayrshire Festive Patrol Plan 2021 provides a significant focus on drink drug driving with increased targeted patrols from Road Policing around the night time economy and outlying link roads to surrounding villages and towns.

Drink / Drug driving offences have decreased by 6 since the previous year. We continue to work alongside Road Policing colleagues to target those who drive whilst impaired with 13 offenders being reported for drink / drug driving in the 6 weeks preceding this report.

We continue to highlight through social media drink drug driving detections to prevent those thinking of committing such offences from doing so.



## ROAD SAFETY—Speeding

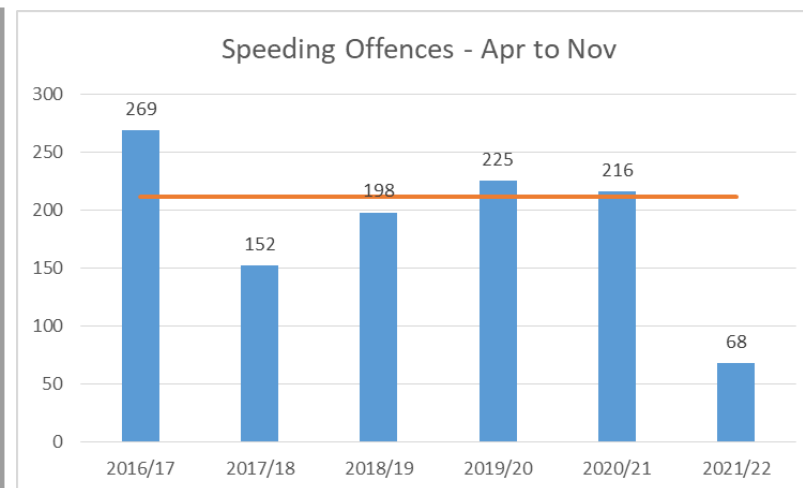
### Analytical Context:

The number of individuals being stopped for Speeding within South Ayrshire has reduced markedly this year and are currently well below the figures over the last five years and therefore below the 5-year average.

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

The Annual Festive Campaign took place in December 2021 covering the run-up to Christmas and the New Year period. This plan incorporates a number of factors, including pursuing those who drive whilst under the influence of drink or drugs, but efforts were also made to identify other offences during static and moving road checks. Speeding formed part of the wider Road Policing strategy.

There has been an increase in the number of road accidents within South Ayrshire this year, which has led to increased demand on Road Policing resources. Fatal accidents have increased from 1 to 5, while accidents where people were seriously injured increased from 24 to 28.



Source: Taken from Crime Management through ScOMIS

### Local Action/Context:

Road safety is an absolute priority for Police Scotland and it is vital that everyone is aware of the risks associated with using our roads, whether you use them as a motorist, a pedestrian, cyclist or for any other activity. Dangerous and careless driving are both key factors in fatal and serious injury collisions on the roads and are our enforcement focuses on tackling these risky driving behaviours, along with speeding, drink and drug driving and mobile phone use offences.

Our officers carry out enforcement activity across Ayrshire every single day in order to improve safety for all road users. The number of offences detected can change year on year for a number of reasons.

Our Road Policing Unit are based in North Ayrshire and allocate their resources to each sub division to carry out proactive patrols however will ordinarily attend where demand requires in relation to road accidents and other vehicle crime. In comparison to other areas within Ayrshire, South Ayrshire has relatively low vehicle crime which has reduced proactivity naturally within our area .

Moving forward we have implemented a South Ayrshire Road Patrol led Operation to proactively target drivers during the Festive Period and into the new year on our roads, to target offenders committing offences such as drink driving, drug driving and speeding which is currently ongoing of which we should see the benefits of in the new year. In the 6 weeks preceding this report there has been 50 offenders detected for speeding by officers, showing our recognition to improve our targeted patrols to detect those who commit such offences on our roads and influence driver behaviour.

To further compliment our action plans we are looking to increase resources with the support of our Special Constables , developing their knowledge in the use of Unipar, our tool to detect speeding vehicles on our roads. I can confirm however there were 2049 speed activations in South Ayrshire by our fixed speed cameras which are operated by Safety Camera Partnership Scotland. This figure includes emergency vehicles.

## Confidence in police

### User Experience - Current Position

The information in the table below shows the level of User Satisfaction to the end of November 2021 for the whole of Ayrshire and is not specific to South Ayrshire.

### Your Police Survey

The Your Police Survey remains open for all Police and members of the Public to provide their views on Policing in their Local Community. Understanding the views and priorities of Scotland's diverse communities has played a vital role in shaping our response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Public feedback has driven positive changes to operational policing across Scotland during the most challenging of times.

As the country moves through the latest restrictions and relaxation of same, we continue to recognise the importance of understanding the views and priorities of Scotland's diverse communities. It is vital, especially as Scotland rebuilds from the effects of COVID-19 that we listen, understand, and respond to the views of the people who live here. This survey is one of the ways we listen to the views of those we keep safe.

Questions (At a glance)	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	YTD	Force YTD
Q1: Ease of Contact? (% Easy and Very Easy)	75%	81%	70%	71%	67%	70%	71%	75%	73%	71%
Q2 - Being provided with the appropriate response? (% Yes)	70%	69%	55%	61%	62%	68%	68%	70%	65%	64%
Q3 - Overall Satisfaction? (% Satisfied or Very Satisfied)	75%	74%	55%	65%	67%	70%	70%	73%	69%	66%

### Local Action/Context:

Although user satisfaction locally is above the force average we understand there is still work to be done to improve our response. We work with partners to raise awareness of reporting methods and frequently use social media to highlight the ease of reporting matters to the police.

During the pandemic a number of community councils held their meeting online, and with restrictions easing Locality Officers are looking to re-attending physical meetings and engaging with a wide range of stakeholders on local matters.

With a new area commander in post he has reintroduced Police and Councillor Engagement meetings which continue to be virtually at this time and will look to address any concerns and communicate local plans face to face.

Realising that rural communities and residents feel disconnected, through our wildlife and rural crime officers, positive improvements have been made in our interaction with rural stakeholders, and this work has potential to positively impact on confidence in police as well as crime statistics.

## COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE

### Complaints:

DIVISION TOTAL	YTD	LYTD	% CHANGE
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>-12.3%</b>
South Ayrshire	60	68	-11.8%

	Criminal Complaint	Non Criminal Complaint	FLR Combined	Abandoned / Withdrawn	Ongoing NCARU
<b>U DIVISION</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>
South Ayrshire Council	5	20	30	5	0

### Organisational Learning:

During the month of November the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner provided us a summary of learning from a recent Complaints Handling Review as follows;

- ◇ Officers are advised that all accounts from complainers should be taken in writing. Whilst verbal communication over the telephone is useful to clarify points, full accounts of the circumstances should always be written. Where accounts are noted over the telephone, these should then be sent to the complainer for verification.
- ◇ As per the PIRC statutory Guidance, Officers should be named or badge number used in response letters to complainers unless there is a clear risk involved in doing so.
- ◇ Complaint handlers must ensure that, where appropriate, CCTV footage should be seized at the earliest opportunity and that proper auditable records must be maintained. This ensures thorough investigation and its capture, as well as supporting any subsequent PIRC review.
- ◇ As per Police Scotland's CAP SOP, the FLR process should only be considered for non-complex complaints.

This has been published for our officers and South Ayrshire are committed to ensuring all points of review are complied with.