



ANGUS COUNCIL

Police and Fire and Rescue Sub Committee

Report by Chief Superintendent Eddie Smith
(Quarter ending 30 September 2014)



Contents

Background to this Report	page 3
Local Policing Priority Updates:	
Serious and Organised Crime	page 4&5
Public Protection and Safety	pages 6, 7, 8 & 9
Road Safety	page 10&11
Antisocial Behaviour	pages 12&13
Theft and Scams	page 14&15
Multi Member Ward Breakdown	page 16

BACKGROUND TO THIS REPORT

As from April 2013, the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 has required Police Scotland to produce and publish a Local Policing Plan (LPP) for each local authority area. The LPP clearly sets out the policing priorities for Angus.

Performance in relation to the identified policing priorities is monitored and reviewed internally on a weekly basis. Quarterly reports are produced to allow scrutiny by Angus Council Police and Fire and Rescue Sub Committee. This report covers the period from 1st July to 30th September 2014.

Data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Board Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

This report will make reference to crime groupings. Groups 1-4 refer to an amalgamation of four crime groups. They are Group 1, consisting of violent crime; Group 2 covering sexual offences; Group 3 covers a wide range of crimes of dishonesty; and Group 4 includes vandalism, fire-raising and malicious mischief.

Serious and Organised Crime

Tackling Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCGs) in Angus remains a key focus.

Local officers, often supported by national resources, continue to target crime groups in Angus. Such groups take every opportunity to gain profit from criminal activities ranging from dealing in controlled drugs; crimes of dishonesty such as fraud; prostitution; and financial offences linked to money laundering.

As a Division, our use of Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) legislation continues to deprive criminals of millions of pounds each year. There has been a 173% increase on the year to date target with over £2.5 million of gains. In addition, we continue to seize counterfeit and illicit goods and utilise an array of intervention tactics to deprive SOCGs of access to legitimate enterprise.



Local Officers are also involved in Project Jackal which is a national Police Scotland initiative which aims to dismantle and disrupt criminal business structures and activity by capturing financial intelligence from SOCGs.

Our officers have continued to target crime groups that profit from the supply and distribution of Class A drugs including

Diamorphine (Heroin). The number of detections for drugs supply, production and cultivation has decreased by 28% in comparison to the same period last year. However, by focusing on high level targets, these detections characteristically represent increased quantities of drugs which are removed from the streets of Angus.

There will be an increased emphasis on intelligence gathering and proactive operations in relation to drugs with a view to increase detections and the number of drugs seized.

The detection figure for drugs supply, production and cultivation does not include New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). There has been an identified shift from the use of recreational drugs such as Cannabis and Cocaine to NPS, particularly by young people and the community impact of NPS is recognised, both in terms of public health and the concern that it causes. Operation Carinate continues to target the sale of NPS with warrants being executed at commercial premises.

Our officers currently have limited powers as simple possession of NPS is legal if it is found to contain no controlled substance following forensic analysis. However, stop and search powers are utilised where appropriate and partnership work is on-going with the COPFS and Trading Standards to ensure that we make best use of available legislation and maximise all opportunities to take robust action against those recklessly selling such products under the banner of Operation Redwall which is a national interventions initiative.

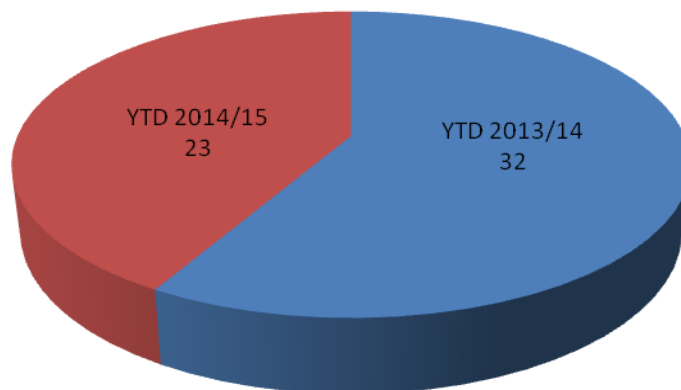
By broadening our investigative scope to tackle all aspects of criminality associated with SOCGs, we have targeted assets acquired by illegitimate gains and have made it increasingly difficult for SOCGs to operate within Angus and we will continue to explore all avenues to disrupt their activities.



Serious and Organised Crime

		5 year average	Apr-Sep 2013/14	Apr-Sep 2014/15	% Change from last year
22	Number of detections for drugs supply, production, cultivation.	45	32	23	-28.1%

No of detections for drug supply, production and cultivation



Public Protection and Safety

In relation to Public Protection and Safety, Angus has seen a recent spike in crimes of violence with an increase of 55%. However, this is largely attributable to an increase in serious assaults and robberies - both crime types which we have been accustomed to low levels. Scrutiny, research and analysis has shown that incidents of robberies were linked to particular victim and perpetrator groups. Operation Luiberg was established to target and tackle the perpetrator groups involved and aided by our partners, we have disrupted and detected the criminal activities of numerous offenders.

As a direct result of our multi-faceted approach, such offenders have been charged and are currently awaiting court disposals. Our continued victim-centred focus undoubtedly improves the outcome for the most vulnerable in our community and improves the safety of potential victims.

The number of serious assaults has increased by 47% which is 3 over the five year average, but the detection rate is 100%. This demonstrates the necessary importance placed on protecting the victims from repeat offending and robustly detecting the perpetrators of violence.

In recognising that the number of robberies and serious assault has increased, Angus has implemented a Violence Reduction Plan which is successfully halting this increase and will, in time, reduce this unusually high level to its normal 5 year average before seeking to improve further and reduce the number of victims.



Serious violent crime, including robbery, is an area we are focusing on to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice. We utilise intervention tactics to disrupt the activities of known violent offenders and liaise closely with our partners to maximise all available opportunities.

This quarter has seen the number of reported domestic abuse incidents rise by 22%. This rise has been assessed to be linked with increased confidence on the part of victims to report such abuse and the quality of follow-up by our officers to understand the duration and extent of the abuse. Moreover, there has been increased disclosure by victims in terms of other historic incidents and crimes which have then been fully investigated. Domestic detection rates are consistently high and are currently 81%.

Police Officers in Angus have been supported by Asda in Forfar through their Community Life Initiative, which has seen the supermarket chain provide Police Scotland with photographic equipment. The photographic equipment will be for the use of frontline officers within the local area. The cameras are to be an additional resource to benefit potential prosecutions, primarily dealing with domestic violence incidents.



We have robust prisoner release management processes which involve thorough risk assessments based on all available intelligence and perpetrator visits. Safety plans are implemented to ensure the protection of victims.

As stated in previous reports, there is increased public confidence nationally in the commitment and ability of Police Scotland to

investigate incidents of sexual abuse. There has been a 17.6% reduction in crimes of indecency and the detection rate is 75%.

Hate crime detection rates continue to increase and are currently 97%. However, it is recognised that this is an area with relatively few crimes. We are continuing to monitor community tensions in light of the current global political situation and current counter-terrorism threat so that we are sighted at an early stage of any perceived rise in hate crime as a consequence.

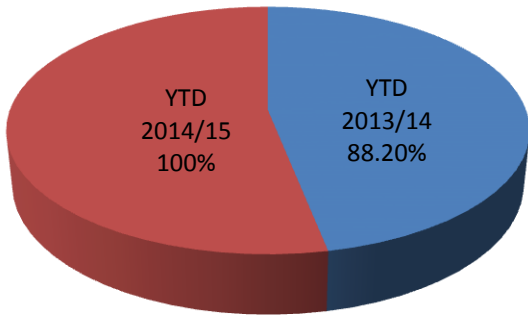
Our continued victim-centred approach undoubtedly improves the outcome for the most vulnerable in our community and effectively tackles private-space violence and abuse.

In addition, we have refreshed our approach with regards to seeking sustainable solutions to frequent missing persons within Angus. Many children within the care system have a propensity to abscond from their carers and truant from school. As with all missing people, such incidents are treated as high priority and are robustly risk assessed. We have strengthened our relationships with partners and closely examined the reasons why individuals go missing. This has significantly reduced the numbers of repeat missing persons and improved outcomes for the young and most vulnerable. Revised procedures are in a formative state and will be further enhanced when concern hubs are established to ensure all information and opportunities are shared. This will ensure that vulnerable people are kept safe.

Public Protection and Safety					
		5 year average	Apr-Sep 2013/14	Apr-Sep 2014/15	% change from last year
1	Total Number Group 1: Crimes of Violence	50.6	40	62	55%
2	Murder	0.8	-	-	-
3	Attempted Murder	5.2	2	2	-
4	Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	0	0	-
5	Culpable Homicide (other)	0	0	0	-
6	Serious Assault detection rate	84.3%	88.2%	100%	11.8%
7	Serious Assault	22	17	25	47.1%
8	Robbery detection rate	102.2%	100%	88.2%	-11.8%
9	Robbery	4.2	2	17	750%
10	Petty (Common) Assault detection rate	80.6%	80.7%	83.7%	3%
11	Petty (common) Assault	606	621	663	6.8%
12	Stop and searches conducted	-	1955	1304	-33.3%
13	Percentage of positive stop and searches conducted	-	24.5%	21.5%	-3%
15	Number of Domestic Abuse incidents reported to the Police	-	549	672	22.4%
16	Total crimes and offences in Domestic Abuse incidents	-	401	472	17.7%
17	Percentage of Domestic incidents that result in a crime being recorded	-	55.2%	57.6%	2.4%
18	Total crimes and offences in Domestic Abuse incidents detection rate	-	78.8%	80.7%	1.9%
19	Total detections for Domestic Bail offences	-	26	40	53.8%
20	95% of initial Domestic Abuse Bail Checks are conducted within 24hrs	-	-	98.8%	-
21	Hate crime and offences detection rate	-	90.5%	97.1%	6.6%
30	Number of Group 2: Crimes of Indecency	73.6	136	112	-17.6
31	Group 2 crimes detection rate	77.8%	77.2%	75%	-2.2%
32	Rape detection rate	63.2%	89.5%	77.8%	-11.7%

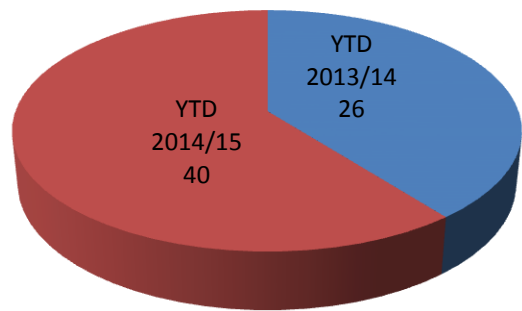
Serious Assault - Detection Rates

■ YTD 2013/14 ■ YTD 2014/15



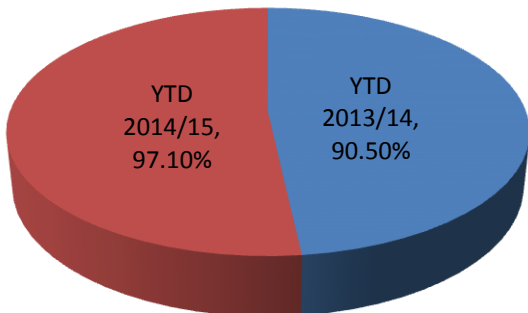
Domestic Bail Offences - Total Detections

■ YTD 2013/14 ■ YTD 2014/15



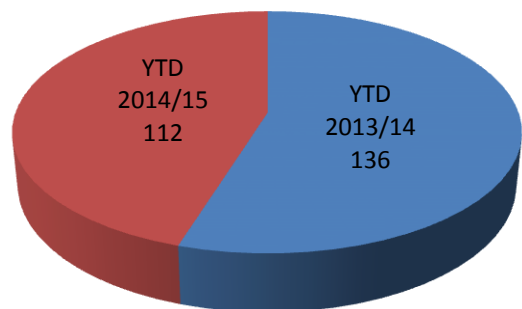
Hate Crime - Detection Rates

■ YTD 2013/14 ■ YTD 2014/15



Number of Group 2 - Crimes of Indecency

■ YTD 2013/14 ■ YTD 2014/15



Road Safety

The strategic priority for road safety is keeping people safe on the roads of Angus.

Road Casualty Statistics for the reporting period have shown reductions in comparison to the same period last year. No children and 60% less adults were seriously injured on our roads.

Crucially, there has been a 53% reduction in instances of dangerous driving.

We have listened to the needs of our communities and dangerous/careless driving has been highlighted as an area of concern, particularly in the vicinity of schools. As a direct result, we have supported several National Roads Policing Campaigns and Days of Action, in addition to carrying out checks and patrols to educate road users, enforcing the law where appropriate, to make our roads safer.

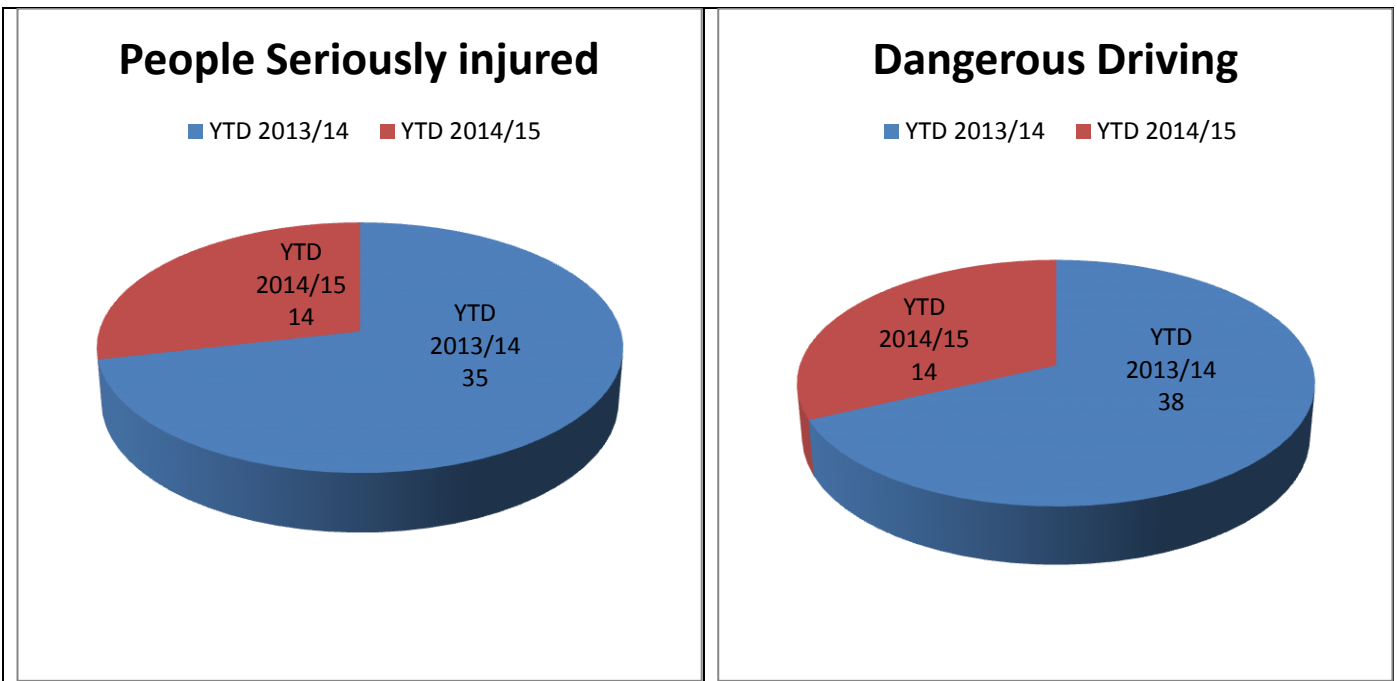
The Committee will note the significant reduction in formal prosecution measures from speeding to use of mobile phone usage, with the exception of a 14% rise in driving without a valid licence. Police Scotland and Tayside Division recognise community concerns that local enforcement should deliver meaningful outcomes for road safety. During 2014/15, there has been an increased focus on discretionary warnings and driver education rather than blanket policies of enforcement. This is subject to continual review based on the current road safety picture.



Moreover, our local Road Policing Officers are undertaking a national Winter Road Safety Initiative in October 2014 specifically to encourage drivers to prepare for winter driving. The intention of the initiative is to reduce the number of casualties resulting from road collisions and improve driver behaviour; to raise awareness through a media campaign in relation to the increased hazards which are prevalent during the autumn and winter months; and to enforce Construction and Use Regulations 1986 to ensure the roadworthiness of vehicles on the road.

We have worked with our partners locally and nationally to influence road design and have continued to educate drivers in order to influence behaviour in the long-term.

Road Traffic Statistics					
		5 year average	Apr-Sep 2013/14	Apr-Sep 2014/15	% Change from last year
N/A	People Killed	-	2	2	-
N/A	People Seriously Injured	-	35	14	-60%
N/A	People Slightly Injured	-	81	77	-4.9%
N/A	Children (aged <16) Killed	-	0	0	-
N/A	Children (aged <16) Seriously Injured	-	4	0	-100%
33	Dangerous driving	31.4	51	24	-52.9%
34	Speeding	708	1745	1097	-37.1%
35	Disqualified driving	19.2	11	5	-54.5%
36	Driving Licence	69	56	64	14.3%
37	Insurance	164.6	157	124	-21%
38	Seat Belts	126.6	400	148	-63%
39	Mobile Phone	58.4	171	104	-39.2%



Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is comprised of a variety of offences including noise nuisance, neighbour disputes and intentional damage to property and can have a significant impact on our communities.

Working closely with our partners we have achieved a significant drop of 21% in reported complaints of disorder in comparison to the same reporting period last year.

The table overleaf clearly illustrates that vandalism and malicious mischief levels have steadily dropped over the last 5 years. The five year average for both is 630 but during this period the figure is 419, which is 211 crimes below the average, and there has been a percentage reduction of 4% year-on-year.

Moreover, there has been a marked reduction in the consumption of alcohol in public places within Angus which is directly attributable to the consistent, robust proactivity taken by our officers and the on-going good work with the licensed trade.

We are aware that we should not become complacent. Officers will continue to be directed to 'hot spot' areas to provide reassurance and will continue to work in partnership with the Safer Communities Team and Community Wardens to provide a highly visible presence in our communities.



Traditionally Halloween / Bonfire Night can be a time for increased anti-social behaviour and an operational plan is being developed to ensure that this period can be enjoyed safely by everyone.

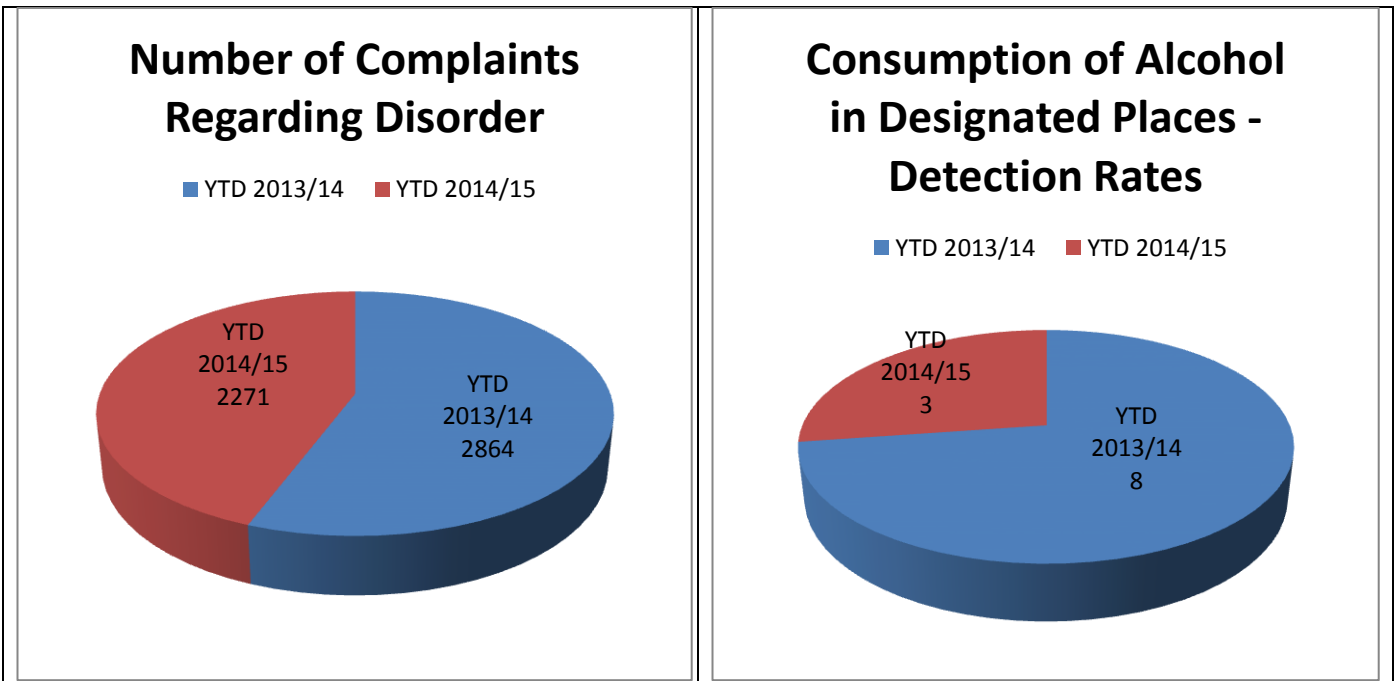
Joint partnership working, particularly with our Scottish Fire and Rescue Service colleagues, will aim to promote safe activities to reduce injuries caused by illegal fires and fireworks and we will offer advice and reassurance to residents on

activities in their locality, in addition to tackling anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, fly-tipping and illegal bonfires.

Community Wardens will also offer advice and reassurance to residents regarding possible disruption and welfare of pets when fireworks are being set-off. Vulnerable residents in particular will be advised about 'guisers'.

Police Officers will also be visiting off-licenses and other retailers in 'hot spot' areas and liaising with Trading Standards Officers who will be targeting retailers which sell fireworks to under-18s or stock unsafe and illegal fireworks. Such retailers will be visited routinely by both Police Officers and Community Wardens.

Antisocial Behaviour					
		5 year average	Apr-Sep 2013/14	Apr-Sep 2014/15	% Change from last year
14	Number of complaints regarding disorder	-	2864	2271	-20.7%
27	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief detection rate	33.6%	32.9%	31.3%	-1.6%
28	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief	630.4	438	419	-4.3%
74	Number of detections for Consuming Alcohol in a designated place (where appropriate byelaws exist)	17.8	8	3	-62.5%



Theft and Scams

The number of instances of theft by housebreaking (which includes dwelling houses, garages, sheds, retail and non-occupied premises) has decreased by 17%.

Detection rates for housebreaking involving solely dwelling houses have increased by almost 26% year-on-year whilst the number of recorded have decreased by 45% and are currently 19 below the five year average. Theft involving domestic dwelling houses is the local target for the Division and significant work has gone into achieving these very positive outcomes.

Housebreaking to residential premises is particularly distressing and our officers appreciate the impact that this has on people. We have a Divisional Lead for Operation RAC which is designed to identify those responsible for break-ins and thefts and bring them to justice.

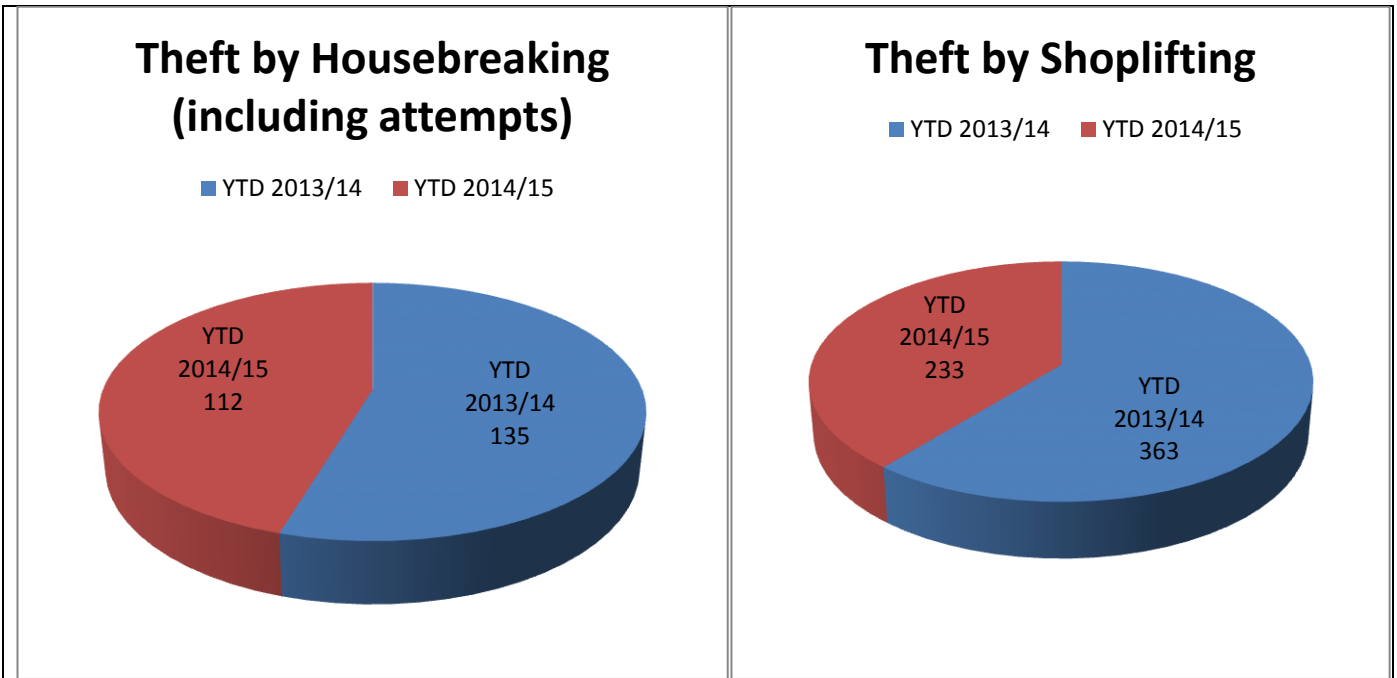
With the onset of winter and shorter days, Operation After Dark has been reinvigorated with officers engaging with the community, providing reassurance and reminding them to review their home security.



Theft by shoplifting has decreased by 36% and the detection rate is 85%. Good partnership working with retail premises is crucial in maintaining these high rates, with loss prevention advice being given to premises at risk.

In terms of bogus workers and scams, Operation Monarda is still on-going and continues to raise awareness and empower local communities in the fight against doorstep crime. We have achieved a number of notable detections in recent months consisting of individuals who were targeting the elderly and vulnerable members of our community.

Theft by Housebreaking and Theft by Shoplifting					
		5 year average	Apr-Sep 2013/14	Apr-Sep 2014/15	% Change from last year
23	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	26.2%	17%	22.3%	5.3%
24	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	131.2	135	112	-17%
25	Theft by shoplifting detection rate	86.6%	86.2%	85%	-1.2%
26	Theft by shoplifting	295	363	233	-35.8%



NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Arbroath East & Lunan			Arbroath West & Letham			Brechin & Edzell			Carnoustie & District		
	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%
Groups 1-5	431	262	60.8%	210	110	52.4%	227	133	58.6%	97	46	47.4%
Groups 1-4	323	165	51.1%	160	62	38.8%	164	69	42.1%	81	30	37%
All Group 1	17	15	88.2%	4	4	100%	8	8	100%	3	3	100%
Murder/ Attempt Murder	0	-	-	0	-	-	2	2	100%	0	-	-
Serious Assault	6	7	116.7%	0	-	-	4	4	100%	3	3	100%
Robbery	3	2	66.7%	1	1	100%	2	2	100%	0	-	-
Common Assault	209	179	85.6%	60	50	83.3%	42	32	76.2%	48	38	79.2%
Knives/ Offensive Weapons	5	5	100%	4	4	100%	2	2	100%	1	1	100%
Drugs Supply/ Production	7	6	85.7%	2	2	100%	1	1	100%	1	1	100%
All Group 2	21	16	76.2%	23	12	52.2%	10	5	50%	4	2	50%
Housebreaking	13	1	7.7%	16	2	12.5%	17	8	47.1%	3	0	0%
Shoplifting	60	57	95%	32	23	71.9%	16	10	62.5%	8	6	75%
	Forfar & District			Kirriemuir & Dean			Monifieth & Sidlaw			Montrose & District		
	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%	Rec	Det	%
Groups 1-5	345	203	58.8%	155	74	47.7%	130	41	31.5%	276	151	54.7%
Groups 1-4	287	148	51.6%	135	55	40.7%	121	32	26.4%	223	100	44.8%
All Group 1	14	14	100%	6	6	83.3%	3	3	100%	7	5	71.4%
Murder/ Attempt Murder	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-
Serious Assault	5	5	100%	2	2	100%	2	2	100%	3	2	66.7%
Robbery	7	7	100%	2	2	100%	0	-	-	2	1	50%
Common Assault	96	86	89.6%	34	23	67.6%	23	19	82.6%	143	121	84.6%
Knives/ Offensive Weapons	5	5	100%	5	5	100%	2	2	100%	7	7	100%
Drugs Supply/ Production	6	6	100%	3	3	100%	2	2	100%	1	1	100%
All Group 2	24	18	75%	6	5	83.3%	15	12	80%	11	12	109.1%
Housebreaking	10	4	40%	12	2	16.7%	23	3	13%	17	5	29.4%
Shoplifting	69	60	87%	14	13	92.9%	3	1	33.3%	28	25	89.3%

Contact Details

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D Division HQ
West Bell Street
Dundee

Area Commander - Chief Inspector Gordon Milne
Angus Local Policing Area (LPA) HQ
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Forfar

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