

# Angus Safer Communities Forum

## Angus Community Safety and Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2017-20



October  
2017

# Introduction

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A broad definition of Community Safety, as defined by the Scottish Community Safety Network is:



Protecting people's rights to live in confidence and without fear for their or other people's safety, ensuring that people are safe from crime, disorder, danger and free from injury and harm; and communities are socially cohesive and tolerant; are resilient; and have strong networks that support individuals to take responsibility for their wellbeing.



This is a definition which basically encompasses all forms of behaviour which make communities feel unsafe. It is shaped by, and touches, all communities and all peoples across Scotland – young and old alike. Community Safety applies to a broad range of issues that can affect the quality of life in Angus. Feeling safe at home, in the street and within the wider community is essential to everyone's quality of life.

The Angus Safer Communities Forum strategy is devised to deliver services that benefit the local community by identifying local concerns and then working with local people to address those concerns.

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# 1.0 Strategic Context

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## 1.1 National Context

The Scottish Government's Building Safer Communities is a collaborative programme which seeks to help national and local partners and communities work together to make Scotland safer and stronger. Its vision is for:

'a flourishing, optimistic Scotland in which resilient individuals, families and communities live safe from crime, disorder and harm'.

Building Safer Communities aims to reduce the number of victims of crime in Scotland by 250,000 by 2017-18 and also reducing the number of victims of unintentional harm during the same period. Through the provision of strategic products and support, the programme works collaboratively with partners to help them achieve local outcomes and thus the overarching aims of Building Safer Communities.

## 1.2 Local Context

The framework at Figure 1 sets out the building blocks for our work together to achieve the vision for Angus. It is based on the five national strategic objectives and the three cross cutting themes of economy, people and place. At the core of it all are four priorities. We all need to focus on these as they are fundamental to improving outcomes in Angus.

Figure 1



### 1.3 Legislative Background

The Anti-social Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 requires each local authority and the relevant chief constable to prepare a strategy for dealing with anti-social behaviour in the authority's area.

### 1.4 Angus Community Planning Partnership

More than 20 different organisations are represented on the Angus Community Planning Partnership, including:

- Angus Council
- Integrated Joint Board
- Dundee and Angus College
- Scottish Enterprise
- Tactran
- NHS Tayside
- Voluntary Action Angus
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
- Scottish Enterprise
- Skills Development Scotland
- Angus Alive
- Private Sector
- Third Sector
- Community

In order to ensure community planning in Angus is 'fit for purpose' the structure and membership of the partnership has been revised and there is a greater emphasis on:

- tackling inequality
- promoting opportunities for all
- promoting a sense of pride in community
- supporting people to have greater control of their lives
- supporting people to help each other

The structure consists of:

- Angus Community Planning Partnership Board – responsible for the strategic direction of community planning in Angus
- Angus Community Planning Partnership Executive Group – responsible for the performance and resource realignment of community planning in Angus
- Angus-wide Community Planning Partnership– responsible for engaging a broad range of partners in forward planning, creative thinking and problem solving
- Angus Locality Implementation Partnerships – responsible for the implementation of locality planning in Angus
- The localities in Angus are:

1. Arbroath
2. Carnoustie, Monifieth, Sidlaw
3. Forfar/Kirriemuir
4. Brechin/Montrose

**Figure 2**



## 1.5 Angus Safer Communities Forum

The Angus Safer Communities Forum comprises partners from:

- Police Scotland
- Angus Council
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- Third Sector

The remit of the group (previously known as Angus Community Safety Partnership) is to work in partnership to ensure that people in Angus can live in confidence and without fear for their own or other people's safety. Community safety impinges on the work of a wide range of public, voluntary and private bodies in Angus. No one agency owns community safety. It is vital that all services and agencies in Angus take community safety issues into account in their service plans and day-to-day activities. Partnership and genuine community collaboration are essential when planning for safer communities. This will require partners to work collaboratively on key issues facing the communities they serve.

In addition to the Community Planning Partnership, and Safer Communities Forum, further partnerships are in place across Scotland, known as Resilience Partnerships, which deal with the preparation, planning, response to and recovery from a range of emergencies under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, (Contingency Planning Regulations Scotland 2005) The alignment to the resilience partnership is achieved through integration with the resilience service, and also representatives from other partner agencies. The work of the resilience partnership covers a broad range of risks, which are highlighted at UK and Scottish levels and incorporated in a document published as the national risk assessment, which includes risks such as flooding, severe weather, pandemic influenza and terrorism.

## 2.0 Making Angus Safer – The Evidence Base

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A wide evidence base has been used to identify outcomes that will make the communities of Angus safer. This ensures that resources are targeted to those communities, families and places most in need.

In Angus, the Community Safety Partnership strategic assessment is the instrument used to identify community safety issues. Additional evidence is taken from a range of partners, including Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Angus Council to identify emerging patterns and trends across Angus. Further information is available at Appendix 1.

### 2.1 Community Safety Priorities

The strategic assessment has identified the community safety priorities within Angus as follows.

**Anti-social Behaviour**

**Gender Based Violence & Domestic Abuse**

**Home Safety**

**Public Protection & Safety (including financial harm and acquisitive crime)**

**Road Safety**

### 2.2 Prioritising Prevention, Encouraging Early Intervention and Reducing Inequalities

The Christie Commission report of 2011 placed a specific focus on prevention, early interventions and equalities.

“All public services need to reduce demand in the system through prevention and early intervention to tackle the root causes of problems and negative outcomes.

This means tackling persistent problems of social and economic inequality and inter-generational cycles of deprivation and disadvantage”



In practise, this means:

- A decisive shift towards prevention
- Greater integration of public services at a local level, driven by better partnership, collaboration and effective local delivery
- Greater investment in people who deliver services through enhance workforce development and effective leadership
- A sharp focus on improving performance through greater transparency, innovation and use of digital technology.

### 2.3 Place

Angus Community Planning partners have a key role to play in place-shaping, understanding what kind of place Angus is and what we and our communities would like it to be. All services within Angus are delivered in a “place” of some kind. The place in which an issue is experienced is a factor in how community safety partners and indeed members of that community react.

Places can be defined (for example) as the home, outdoor spaces, community venues and schools. It can be something more analogous like the internet or cyber-space. These places must be considered, along with the communities in greatest need to avoid inequalities in the way community safety services are delivered.

## 3.0 Anti-Social Behaviour

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### 3.1 Introduction

The Anti-social Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 requires that each local authority and relevant Chief Constable to act jointly to prepare and publish a strategy for dealing with anti-social behaviour within the authority's area. The Scottish Government has also produced guidance on the use of this legislation, which is the basis for the production of this section of the strategy.

### 3.2 Definition of Anti-social Behaviour

The definition of anti-social behaviour set out in the Anti-social Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 states a person engages in anti-social conduct if they:

*“Act in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress; or pursue a course of conduct that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress, to at least one person who is not of the same household.”*

In 2009, the Scottish Government launched the National Anti-social Behaviour Framework, which saw a change in direction from widespread use of enforcement measures to a more preventative approach through early intervention, communication and resolution by changing behaviour. The framework covers both the Council and Police Scotland, who work jointly to investigate anti-social behaviour

incidents and take the necessary action within our communities.

### **3.3 Anti-social Behaviour in Angus**

Reducing anti-social behaviour in Angus is one of the agreed priorities of the Angus Safer Communities Forum and the key aim of this section of the strategy. In order to measure our performance against this agreed priority, it is important that we assess and review anti-social behaviour complaints and calls in Angus.

The anti-social behaviour strategy 2017-20 incorporates all anti-social behaviour calls and complaints made to Angus Council, Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, in order to provide a complete picture of anti-social behaviour in Angus.

### **3.4 Angus's Strategic Outcomes**

This Anti-social Behaviour Strategy for Angus covers the period 2017 to 2020, and is intended to deliver the following outcome:

*"To reduce anti-social behaviour in Angus, including its impact on individuals, their families and the whole community."*

The strategy sets out how the Angus Safer Communities Forum will deliver this outcome to reduce anti-social behaviour in Angus using four core elements, based on the Scottish Government's national guidance:

- Prevention – through the use of an intelligence led approach, partners will use preventative measures to tackle the causes of anti-social behaviour.
- Intervention – working in partnership to address issues as they arise and achieve shared outcomes, partners will take action where anti-social behaviour has occurred.
- Enforcement – protecting the wider community by using appropriate and effective action against the minority of people who are persistently involved in anti-social behaviour.
- Communication and community engagement – ensuring people receive positive, coordinated evidence based updates on local issues and encouraging people to lead active and engaged lifestyles within their local community. The core elements represent a holistic approach to anti-social behaviour and will address the outcomes within the LOIP and locality plans.

#### **Strategic Priorities**

Achieving the following priorities is the primary aim of this strategy, with each priority having an agreed approach detailed below.

#### **To increase and improve partnership working**

- Implement and instil a the multi-agency response to anti-social behaviour

#### **Ensure a consistent approach to anti-social behaviour**

- Monitor and review our approach to anti-social behaviour on an ongoing basis

**Increasing public awareness of anti-social behaviour, services and support available**

- Provide details to the public of how and when to contact us to report anti-social behaviour

**Increasing public feelings of safety and security**

- Increase community engagement in our approach to anti-social behaviour
- Update victims on progress made in tackling anti-social behaviour

These strategic priorities will be taken forward with partners and will be monitored and coordinated through the Angus Safer Communities Forum.

## 4.0 Links With Partnership Plans

Safer Communities is not starting from a blank piece of paper. We already have a number of partnership plans and strategies at a Tayside, Angus and local level which feed into and help to achieve our joint outcomes. In addition, there are many single agency plans and strategies which also have a positive impact on our community safety outcomes. We need to ensure that we continue to foster the strong links between ourselves and our partners, including agencies, the private and voluntary sectors and communities, so that we understand each other’s priorities and commitments in order to work together more effectively.

Figure 4



## 5.0 Priorities

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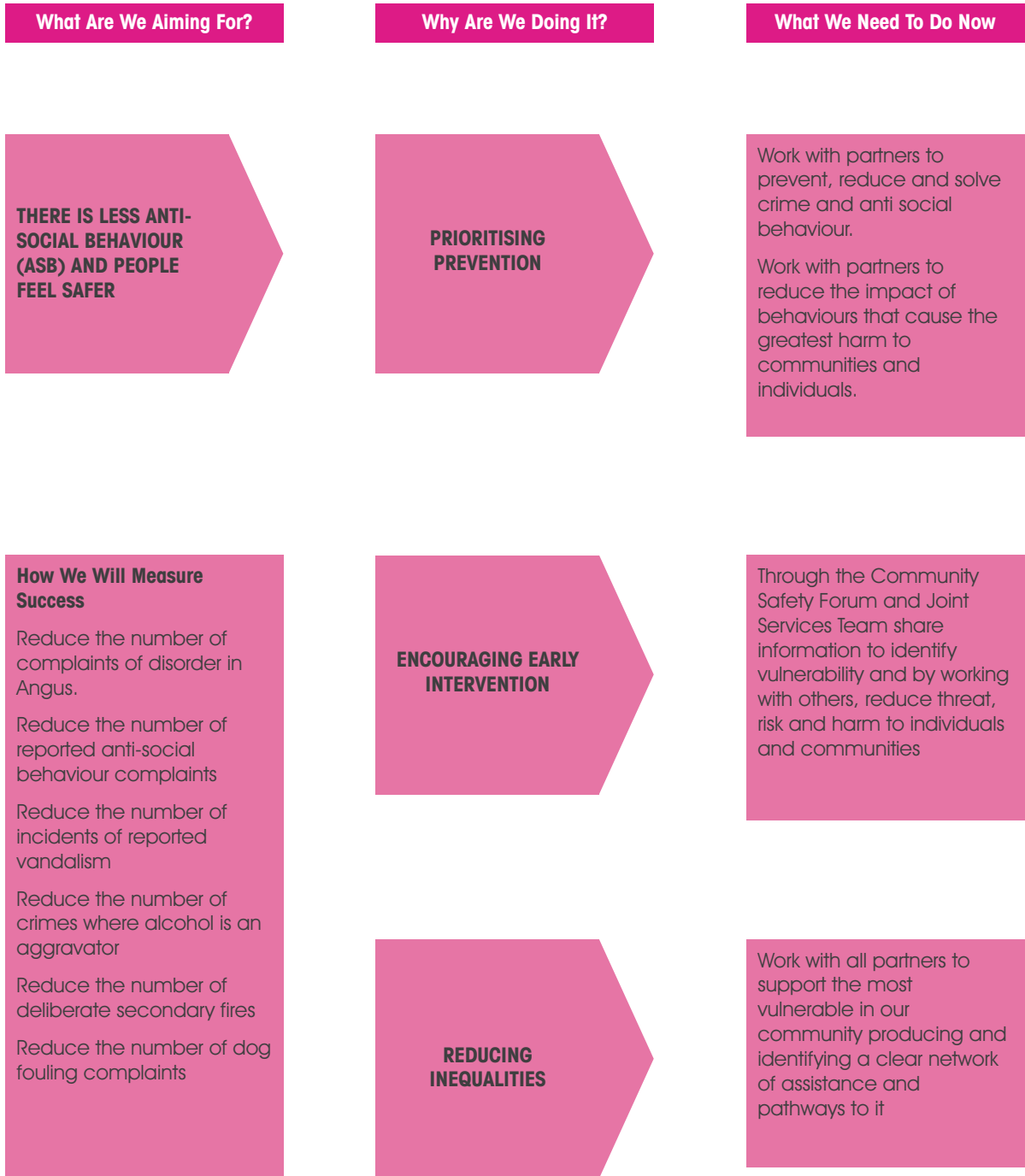
### A. Anti-Social Behaviour (Asb)

Anti-social behaviour incorporates disorder, breach of the peace, vandalism, housing/neighbourhood anti-social behaviour, youth causing annoyance (YCA), environmental ASB (which includes dog fouling, fly-tipping and litter problems).

Anti-social behaviour is not new but it is recognised that the actions of a few, threaten the quality of life for the rest of the people in Angus. Instances of vandalism, fire setting, drunken behaviour and the playing of loud music have a negative impact on communities, causing unnecessary annoyance and distress. Without directed intervention, minor issues such as litter and dog fouling undermine local communities and may increase the sometimes inaccurate perception that they live in areas of high crime.

#### Evidence

- Anti-social Behaviour remains a high priority within Angus and at a national level. Recent Angus Council and Police Scotland community surveys indicate that the public share this concern.
- Vandalism levels within Angus, while still at significant levels, have fallen by a quarter since the publication of the last Strategic Assessment
- Deliberate secondary fires (e.g. rubbish/bins, derelict buildings etc.) in Angus have fallen significantly – over the past 5 years they have dropped by almost 50%. Youths are the biggest perpetrators of these fires, and more often than not, it's the most deprived areas of Angus that suffer the consequences.
- Complaints of anti-social Behaviour recorded by Angus Council are reduced between 2013/14 and 2014/15. However, figures from Police Scotland show there has been a sharp increase in the years 2015/16 and 2016/17. There are significant differences between the seven main towns
- Calls concerning young people engaging in anti-social behaviour are on the increase in Angus. Youth issues remain a significant area of concern to the residents of Angus.
- Levels of Environmental ASB (fly tipping, littering and dog fouling) are all decreasing within Angus.
- Angus Council – together with partner agencies – continue to take a proactive approach to Anti-social Behaviour based on education, prevention and enforcement.



## B. Gender Based Violence And Domestic Abuse

Gender Based Violence is primarily committed against women by men. It transcends boundaries of age, faith, sexual orientation and socio-economic status.

Equally Safe is the Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities' (COSLA) joint strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. It makes clear that violence against women can be defined as "actions which harm or cause suffering or indignity to women and children, where those carrying out the actions are mainly men and where women and children are predominantly the victims". Violence against women includes domestic abuse, as well as rape, incest, child sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual harassment, stalking and commercial sexual exploitation.

### Evidence

- Domestic violence costs the Scottish economy approximately £1.6 billion per year.
- Within Angus, incidents of domestic abuse recorded by Police Scotland increased by 16% in 2014/15. This continues an upward trend in reporting in recent years.
- Analysis suggests a link between domestic abuse and relative poverty with women living in poorer households more likely to be the victim of abuse within their relationship.
- Alcohol is a major contributory factor in domestic abuse and wider Gender Based Violence. Alcohol is a possible causal factor in almost half of all recorded domestic incidents in Angus.
- Sexually based crime is rising within Angus and in Scotland as a whole. A greater awareness of this type of crime and increased willingness amongst victims to report can account for these increases.
- Agencies within the Partnership are aware of the issues around prostitution, sexual exploitation (including FGM and honour based violence) and human trafficking. While there is no direct evidence of this type of criminality within Angus at this time, this is of growing concern at a national level.



## C. Home Safety

This theme includes a wide range of safety issues including unintentional injuries, fires in the home and improving the overall safety of our most vulnerable residents. The prevalence of slips, trips and falls forms a focus for the work of community safety partners within Angus, with an aim to reducing the numbers of emergency hospital admissions for this reason.

### Evidence

- The number of deaths by unintentional injury in Scotland rose in 2013 – the last full year available. Twenty-eight of these deaths occurred in Angus.
- Slips, trips and falls account for 64% of all hospital admissions in Scotland. Each attendance at A&E costs £2000.
- Older people are more likely to suffer a fall within the home and once an old person falls, they are doubly more likely to fall again. An ageing, active and independent living population within Angus will see levels of this type of injury remain high and place greater demand on services such as Health and Social Care.
- The number of accidental dwelling fire casualties in Angus reduced significantly in 2016/17 when compared to previous years – there were zero fire fatalities during 2016/17 and the overall rate of fire casualties in Angus is below the Scottish average.
- It is the most vulnerable people and communities in Angus who are at higher risk from fire in the home – the elderly account for almost half of all fire casualties, and fires in the home tend to occur more frequently in the most deprived areas of Angus.
- The risk profile of people more likely to suffer unintentional injuries in the home (e.g. older people) closely matches the risk profile of those who are most at risk from fire in the home.
- The Community Planning Partnership advocates the sharing of knowledge and information between services about the most vulnerable people in our communities. Partnership working will contribute to the reduction of the wide range of safety risks in the home and improved safety of our most vulnerable residents.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) strive to build additional capacity and contribute to reducing unintentional injuries by reducing unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS). These preventable false alarms a large drain on SFRS resources.





## D. Public Protection And Safety (Including Financial Harm And Acquisitive Crime)

### Evidence

- Levels of recorded housebreaking in Angus increased in 2016/17 - most significantly housebreakings to garages, sheds and other domestic outbuildings. Despite this increase, overall levels are still well below historical averages.
- Recorded incidents of shoplifting levels continue to fall with a further 11% drop in 2016/17 when compared to the previous year.
- Rural crime in Scotland is increasing with significant levels of incidents in Angus. These include theft of fuel, plant and machinery, livestock and scrap metal
- Levels of the most serious violent crime within Angus fell in 2016/17 for the first time since 2013/14 and remain well below Scottish averages
- Recorded minor violence also fell slightly in Angus during 2016/17. Alcohol remains an important factor in violent crime with strong links in Angus to violence, the consumption of alcohol and the night-time economies of the seven main towns.
- Younger males who are acquainted with each other are the most likely to commit and be the victims of violent crime. Violence by and between strangers is very rare in Angus.
- The Angus Adult Protection Committee (AAPC) oversees all aspects of Adult Protection in Angus. Early Screening Groups comprising of members of several agencies consider adult protection cases and agree appropriate response.
- Financial harm is a growing problem in Angus with its ageing population. Bogus callers and rogue traders target vulnerable groups and have succeeded in defrauding significant sums from Angus residents.
- A multi-agency Financial Abuse Support Team (FAST) exists in Angus to respond quickly to potential new cases of fraud against vulnerable adults.
- At the end of March 2014, there were 110 children on the Angus Child Protection Register – an increase on previous years.
- The Children’s Reporter Service continues as an option when circumstances are appropriate with referrals mainly from social work and Police Scotland.
- The number of child protection investigations in Angus rose by over 40% to 444 in 2013/14, reflecting increased awareness of child protection issues within partner agencies.
- Hate crime is rare in Angus. The Angus Hate Incident Multi Agency Panel (HIMAP) monitors reporting mechanisms and coordinates appropriate responses.



## E. Road Safety

Many organisations and agencies are involved in the promotion and delivery of road safety with the common goal to reduce the number and severity of road casualties on Scotland's roads and the ultimate vision of no fatalities along with a much reduced injury rate. Education, Enforcement, and Engineering are the three Es often associated with road safety improvements, which can be supplemented by Encouragement and Evaluation.

### Evidence

- The most recent Angus Community Safety Survey suggests an increase in levels of concern around road safety issues – particularly speeding and other anti-social driving.
- Road deaths are an obvious tragedy for the families involved. In addition, the cost of a fatal road accident in Scotland is £1.95 million, serious accidents £225,000 and minor accidents £22,500.
- The recent trend for fatal accident casualties in Angus remains downwards from 13 in 2007 to six in 2014. The number of serious non-fatal casualties in Angus also continues to fall.
- Police Scotland recorded over 3100 traffic offences on Angus roads during 2014/15 – over half of these were speeding offences.
- Within Angus, significant numbers of young drivers continue to drive in an anti-social and potentially dangerous manner. Enforcement under current legislation continues with 161 warnings and 32 seizures in Angus during the 2013/14 reporting year.
- A number of main arterial roads used by criminal networks pass through the Angus area. Police Scotland assisted by partner agencies such as Trading Standards continue to adopt a proactive approach to prevent the criminal use of the road network.

The Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) between Angus Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) and the Scottish Government sets out how we will work towards improving outcomes for the people of Angus in a way that reflects our local circumstances and priorities.



## 4.1 Themes Underpinning All These Priorities

As well as identifying priorities, the strategic assessment process has also identified cross-cutting community safety issues which impact across all areas of the business.

- Tackling Inequalities - this is also highlighted as priority within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.
- Drugs Misuse/Alcohol Misuse - The links between substance misuse and community safety are evident in a number of areas, from alcohol related crime and disorder, violent crime and youth substance misuse through to injury prevention, drug deaths and the use of novel psychoactive substances or NPS (previously known as "legal highs"). The forum will work with Angus Alcohol and Drug Partnership to explore opportunities for joint action, particularly through effective prevention and early intervention

## 6.0 Conclusion

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This high level Strategy seeks to draw together the priorities and approaches for Angus Safer Communities Partners. It highlights that Community Safety and Anti-social Behaviour cannot be addressed in isolation and that partners already contribute significantly to the safety of communities in Angus.

All partners have a role to play in addressing community safety issues both at a national and locality level, which will help to achieve our vision of Angus being a great place to live, work and visit.

# Appendix 1

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## Angus Safer Communities Forum – Trend Analysis

Reporting Period 2012 – 2017

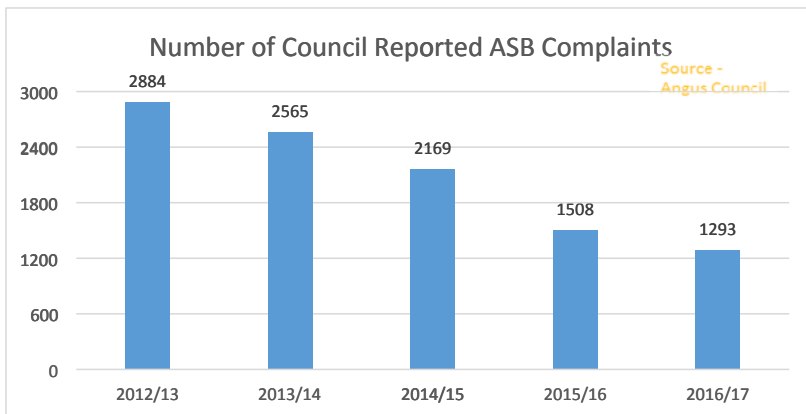
Angus Safer Communities Forum has produced this trend analysis, to complement the current strategic assessment and help to facilitate an intelligence-led approach to business. The trend analysis reflects on issues which have posed a threat to Community Safety in Angus. The strategic assessment gives more strategic direction for the forum by providing a framework for the formulation of suitable actions to address the priorities identified.

The process will assist in identifying areas for improvement, such as more prevention opportunities, better partnership working, enhanced community engagement as well as identifying where efficiency savings can be made.

The findings will also be used to inform regular tactical (operational) assessments to inform them of local priorities and alter focus as issues in an area change.

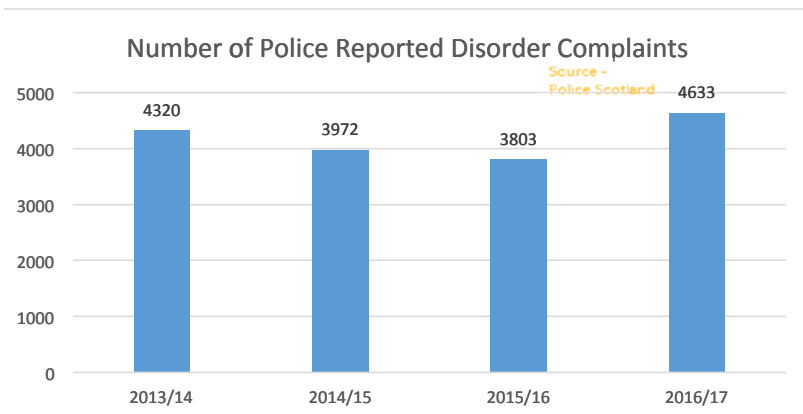
## Anti Social Behaviour (Asb)

### Number of Council Reported ASB Complaints



Council reported antisocial behaviour (ASB) complaints primarily relate to noise, neighbourhood complaints and disputes involving council tenants. The number of complaints received and investigated by council ASB investigators has reduced significantly in recent years – with a 55% reduction in the five year period between 2012/13 and 2016/17. There are a number of tactics and interventions available to Angus Council under ASB legislation when tackling unacceptable behaviour by council tenants and others.

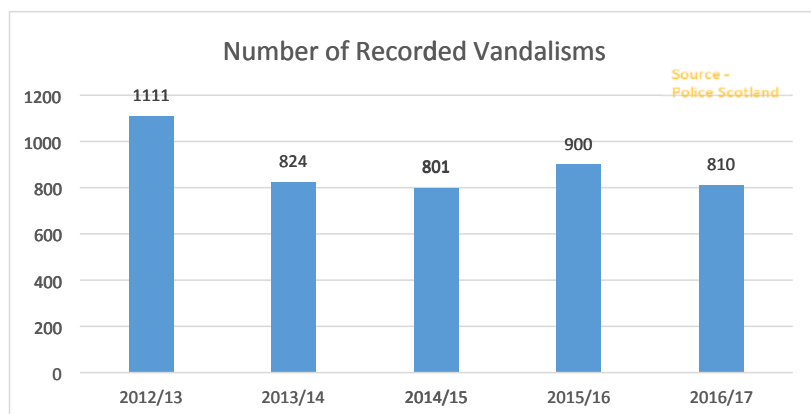
### Number of Police Reported Disorder Calls



The number of Police reported incidents of disorder within Angus communities increased significantly (22%) during 2016/17 compared to the previous year. During 2016/17, Angus Local Policing Area (LPA) reinforced its presence within local communities and now have dedicated locality Inspectors supported by sergeants and community officers. This, together with the further development of the Repeat Caller (RC) process, may explain part of the recent increase. Communities are encouraged and feel able to contact local officers and the RC process allows locally based officers to respond to – and solve – local issues as they develop.

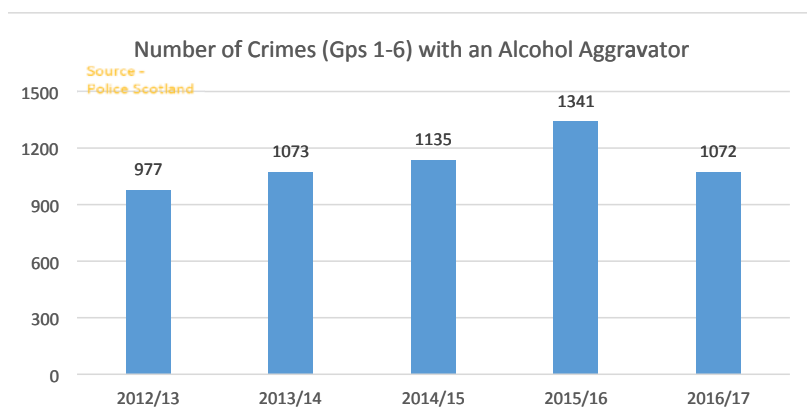


### Number of Recorded Vandalisms



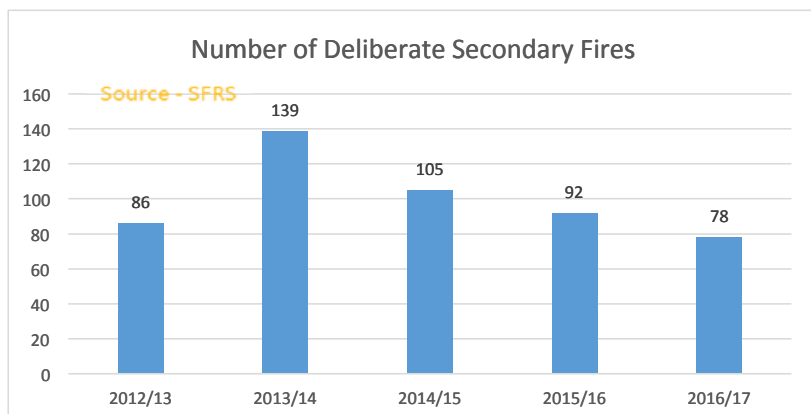
Vandalism is an important issue for communities across Scotland – including the people of Angus. It has a negative impact on the quality of the local environment and on the lives of those living within it. There are significant financial costs to repair damage – even before considering the cost of investigation and to the criminal justice system. While vandalism remains a significant volume crime issue, the number of recorded incidents during 2016/17 fell by 10% - 90 crimes – compared to the previous year. Latest figures continue the general downward trend in vandalism reporting over the five year period from 2012/13 onwards. Analysis shows that half of all reported vandalism in Angus takes place in public areas such as streets, car parks, open green spaces and other communal areas. Another quarter of all reports come from within private residences. Analysis shows that young people are responsible for a significant proportion of offences. In addition, analysis also points to a link between vandalism, alcohol consumption and the night-time economies of the seven main Angus towns.

### Number of Recorded Crimes (Groups 1-6) with an Alcohol Aggravator Marker



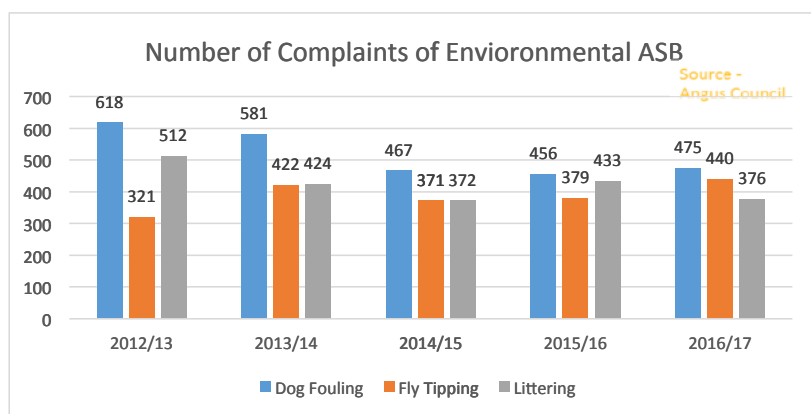
Police and other partners have long been aware of the relationship between excessive alcohol consumption and crime – particularly violence and related disorder. There is now a significant body of academic research examining the correlation between alcohol misuse and criminal behaviour. The figures shown above relate to the number of crimes where the attending police officer has identified alcohol as a contributory or aggravating factor in the crime. This could relate to the victim of the crime, to the offender, or to both. The number of these alcohol related crimes in Angus rose steadily between 2012 and 2016 - despite generally falling trends in overall crime. The latest full year figures for 2016/17 show a fall compared to 2015/16, but the total remains in line with recent historical levels. Previous analysis of alcohol related crime in Angus shows that younger men aged under 35 are responsible for half of all such offences – offending is far less common amongst females and older males.

### Number of Deliberate Secondary Fires



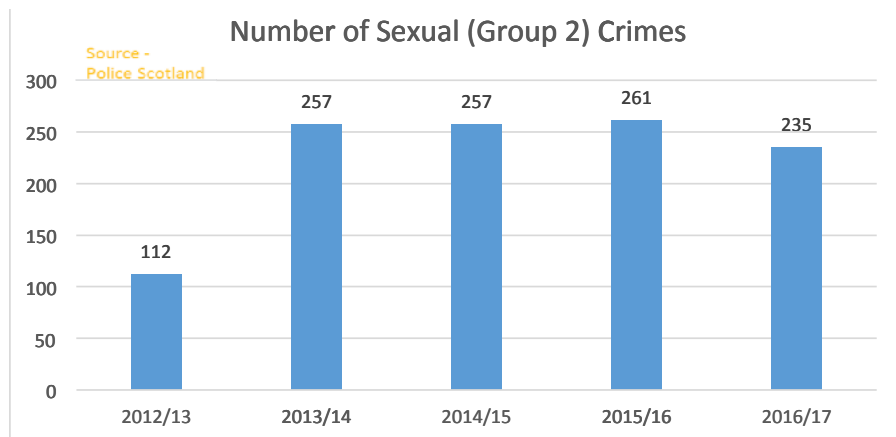
Analysis of all incidents attended by the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) within Angus, shows that approximately 1 in 12 are as a result of a deliberate fire. Further analysis indicates that almost three-quarters (70%) of all deliberate fires are secondary fires. These are commonly set deliberately to refuse bins, garden waste etc. Levels of deliberate secondary fires in Angus have been decreasing steadily in recent years, with population adjusted rates among the lowest of all Scottish local authorities.

### Number of Environmental ASB Complaints



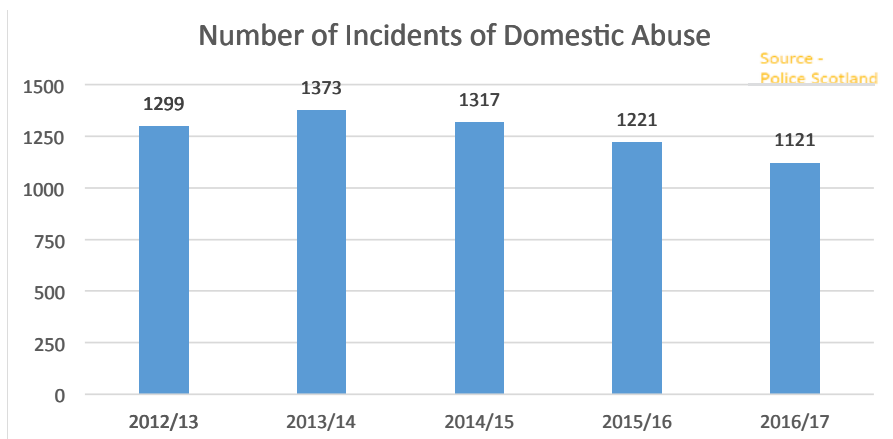
Environmental anti-social behaviour (ASB) covers littering, dog fouling and fly tipping. These issues consistently appear as high priority areas in Angus Council Community Safety Surveys and through other community engagement forums. Dog fouling in particular ranks highly in the list of public concerns. Littering and fly tipping result in a significant financial burden to local government, business and communities. There is also the negative impact on civic pride and amenity. Levels of environmental ASB have generally declined in recent years. Proactive work by Angus Council in tackling dog fouling contributed to a 23% reduction in complaints in the five year period ending in 2016/17. This activity comprises a combination of a prompt response to complaints, a proactive approach to clean-ups, enforcement in the form of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) when appropriate,

## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) Number of Sexual Related (Group 2) Crimes



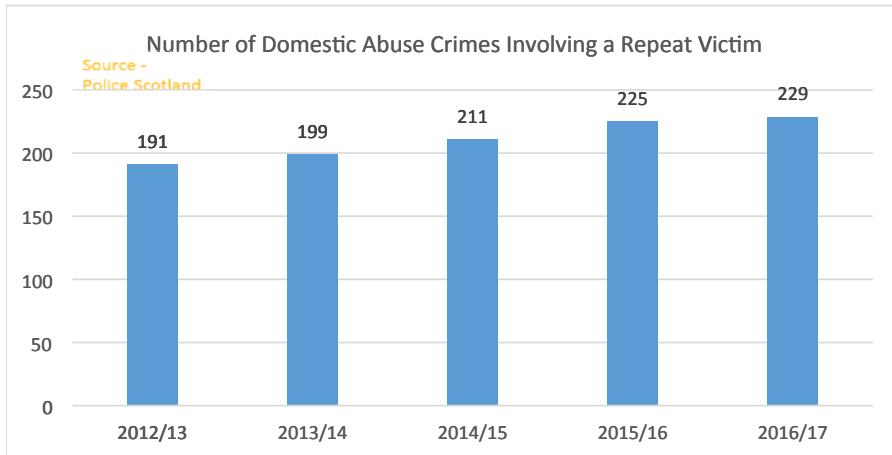
There has been a welcome 10% decrease in the number of reported sexual related crimes in Angus during 2016/17 compared to the previous year. This reduction, however, is in the context of significant increases in these types of offences over the last five years. Issues around sexual offences have been at the forefront of public attention in recent years, and recent increases in reported incidents coincided with heavily publicised cases involving celebrities and national institutions. Police Scotland has seen an increase in the number of historical offences reported as victims become more confident in coming forward. The increased use of technology and social media – and the introduction of new offences designed to combat its misuse – is likely to mean that levels of sexual related offences will remain high in the future.

## Number of Police Recorded Incidents of Domestic Abuse



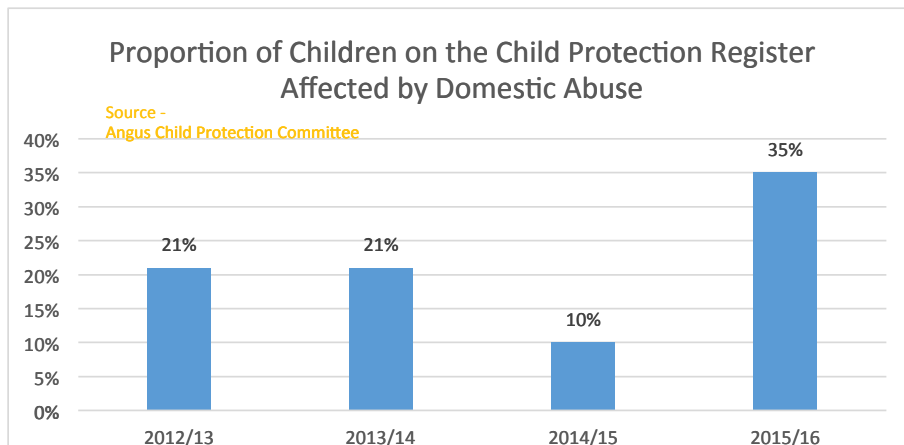
Domestic violence and other forms of abuse within the home is an unfortunate reality across Scotland including Angus. It remains a key priority area for Police Scotland, partners in local and national government and other key stakeholders. Domestic related offences account for a significant proportion of the overall crime levels in Angus – including violent crime. While there was an 8% year-on-year reduction in the total number of domestic incidents recorded by Police Scotland in Angus during 2016/17, overall levels remain high. While incidents of serious violent or sexual related domestic crime remain rare, domestic abuse carries the potential to escalate to the most serious types of violent crime.

### Number of Recorded Domestic Crimes of Violence with a Repeat Victim



The number of crimes of domestic abuse of violence involving a repeat victim has risen steadily over the last five years. Within Angus, there is an extensive network of agencies from within the statutory and voluntary sectors who continue to identify those victims at the greatest risk of domestic abuse, offer them support, and direct interventions to help prevent them becoming victims in the future. This activity is coordinated through the Angus Violence Against Women Partnership (AVAWP) – a multi-agency partnership dedicated to tackling all forms of violence and abuse within a domestic setting. The AVAWP is heavily involved in community work designed to raise awareness of the issues around domestic violence and promote a zero tolerance approach.

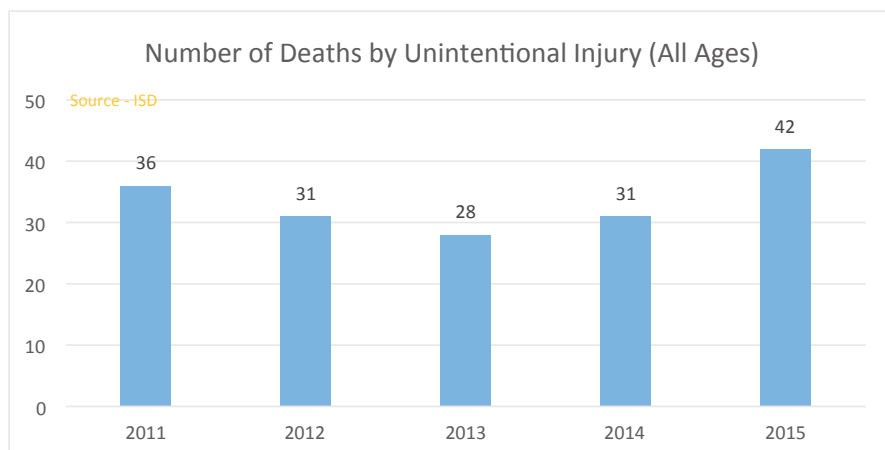
### Proportion of Children on Child Protection Register Affected by Domestic Abuse



There are a number of factors contributing to the placement of children within Angus onto the Child Protection Register. These include parental mental health, poverty and deprivation or family breakdown. Another significant factor is domestic abuse within the home. At the end of the 2015/16 reporting year, over one third (35%) of all children on the Child Protection Register had experience of living with domestic abuse within the family home. This proportion has increased significantly over recent years. Within the various partners and other agencies with responsibility for child protection, there is a focus on an effective and joint approach to supporting children affected by domestic abuse.

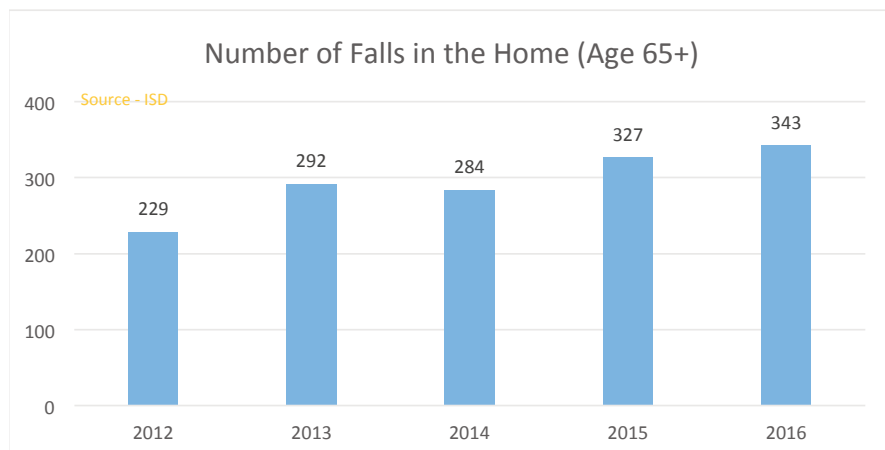
## HOME SAFETY (HS)

### Number of Deaths Caused by Unintentional Injury (All Ages)



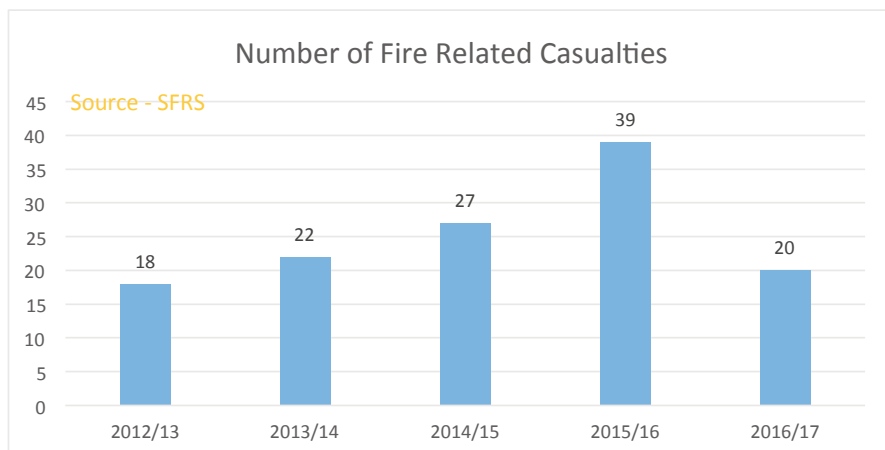
\*\*The term unintentional injury is preferred to 'accident' as the latter suggests these events are unpreventable or inevitable. The most recent data from 2015 shows a sharp increase in the number of deaths by unintentional injury in Angus (42) compared to the previous year (31) and recent historical trends. Accidental poisonings within the home (including drug overdoses) account for a significant proportion of the most recent year-on-year increase. Looking specifically at falls and trips within the home, there were five deaths recorded in 2015. This compares to five in 2014, three in 2013, one in 2012 and three in 2011. Of the 17 deaths as a result of a fall in the home during this five year period, 14 (82%) involved elderly persons aged over 65 – 12 of which were aged over 75.

### Number of Slips, Trips & Falls in the Home (Age 65+)



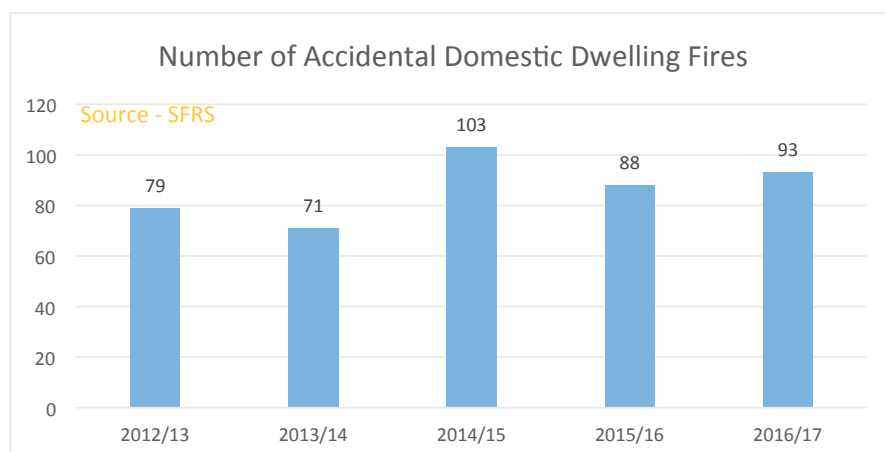
Trips and falls in the home account for significant levels of emergency hospital admissions within Angus. The prevention of unintentional injury as a result of trips and falls within the home is a main focus of the work of partners involved in community safety. The number of such incidents in Angus has increased steadily in recent years, with the most recent full year data from 2016 showing a 5% increase on the previous year and a 50% increase since 2012. Analysis shows that 25% of all unintentional injuries amongst working age adults occurred within the home. For older adults aged 65 and above, the figure is 60%. It is likely that this upward trend in trips and falls numbers will continue to rise as older members of Angus communities live longer and more active independent lives within their own homes.

### Number of Fire Related Fatalities & Other Casualties



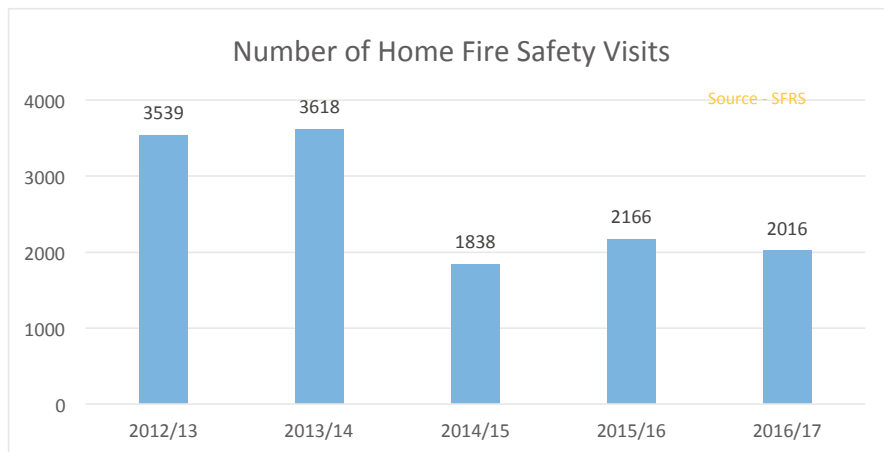
There was a significant fall in the number of fire casualties (20) in 2016/17 compared to the previous year 2015/16 (39). Analysis of fire casualties over the last five years shows that the majority (77%) of casualties are as a result of Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF). The population adjusted rate of fire casualties as a result of ADF in Angus remains below the Scottish average – and within the middle range of Scottish local authorities. There have been five fatalities in Angus as a consequence of ADF in the past five years. The main factor contributing to ADF resulting in casualties is cooking (62% of all incidents). Other factors identified as contributing to casualties are living alone, alcohol consumption, smoking, and mobility issues. Over 40% of all casualties as a result of a house fire were elderly.

### Number of Accidental Domestic Dwelling Fires (ADF)



The most recent fire data confirms an increase in the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF) from 88 in 2015/16 to 93 in 2016/17. Despite this increase – and an increase against five-year averages – the population adjusted rate in Angus remains below the Scottish average, and at the lower end compared to other Scottish local authorities. Analysis of ADF over the last five years identifies that cooking related fires account for half (53%) of all incidents. The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) assess ADF as low, medium or high severity. Over the most recent five-year period, the number of fires assessed as low severity has increased, with a reduction in the number of medium severity fires. High severity fires levels have remained stable. During the same five-year period, three-quarters (74%) of ADF were at properties with smoke or heat detection equipment. Early detection and warning given by properly installed and functioning detection equipment is a key factor in reducing the number of medium and high severity ADF.

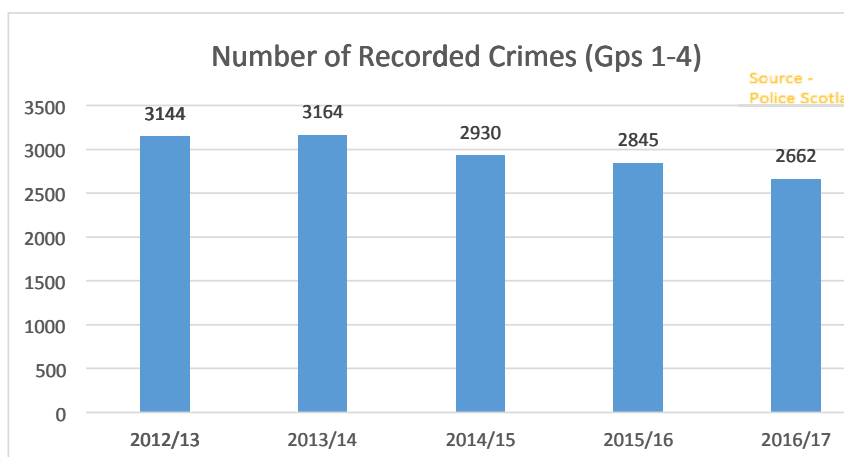
## Number of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV)



The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) continues to target fire safety advice at those members of the community at greatest risk from dwelling fires. An important aspect of this work is the Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV). In recent years, this work has become much more focussed at those at greatest risk, and local SFRS staff work closely with colleagues from partner agencies to maximise the opportunities for reducing fire levels and subsequent fire casualties. SFRs staff liaise with Angus Council Community Housing Teams, other social and private landlords and owner-occupiers to deliver education and advice on the importance of fire safety within the home.

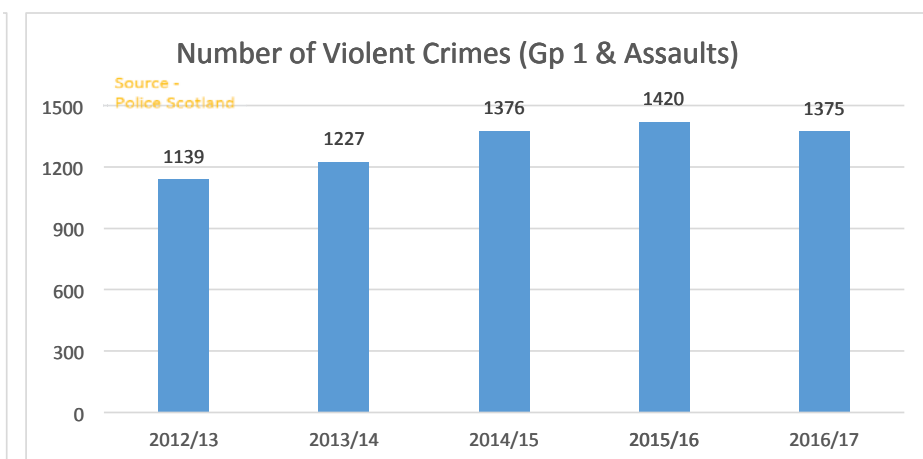
## PUBLIC PROTECTION & SAFETY (PPS)

### Number of Recorded Crimes (Groups 1-4)



Within Police Scotland, the four main crime groups comprise serious violent crime, sexual related crime, dishonesties and vandalism. In recent years, there has been a steady decrease in overall levels of these four crime groups. In 2016/17, reports fell by 6% compared to 2015/16, contributing to a 15% decrease over the past five year period. Again comparing 2016/17 with the previous year, there were reductions in all four groups. Despite these recent decreases, current levels of serious violent and sexual related crime remain above the five-year averages. These increases are more than offset by reductions in dishonesties and vandalisms.

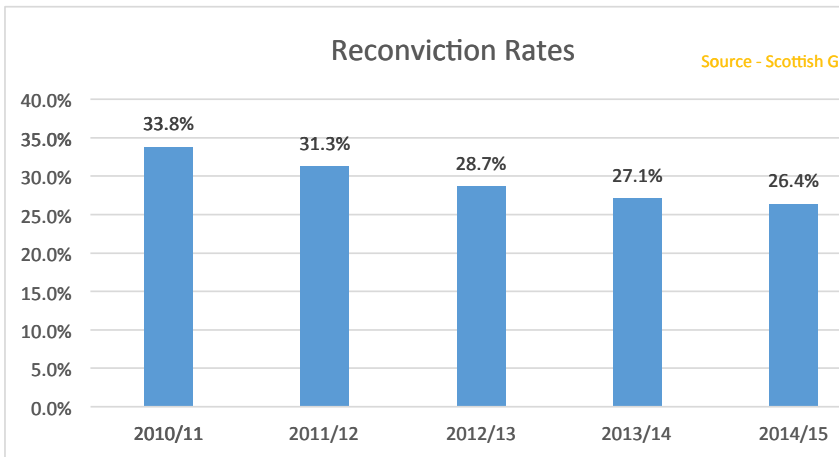
### Number of Recorded Violent Crimes (Group 1 & Minor Assaults)



Violent crime includes the most serious incidents of violence together with incidents of minor assault – those resulting in no significant permanent injury. People are understandably afraid of becoming the victim of violent crime, and the emotional, psychological and physical distress this can cause. Levels of these crimes had been on an upward curve between 2012 and 2016. There was a welcome fall in the most recent reporting year of 2016/17. Analysis of all violent crime in Angus over recent years shows that – in the vast majority of cases – the victim and offender know each other. This includes those crimes occurring within a domestic setting. Unprovoked or random assaults by a stranger are extremely rare. Alcohol is a contributory factor in a significant number of violent crimes, with many taking place in or near licensed premises.

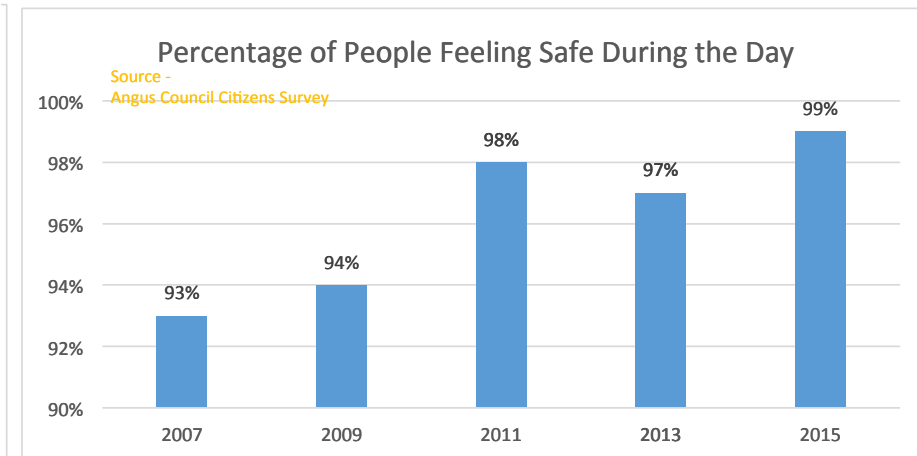


### Reconviction Rates



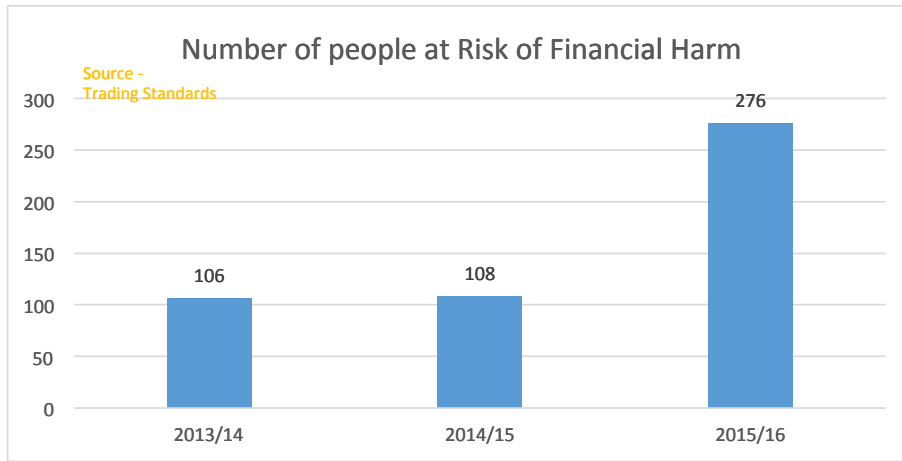
While not a definitive measure of offending and reoffending (recidivism), conviction and reconviction rates offer a proxy measure of reoffending rates. Reconviction rates refer to the percentage of released offenders subsequently convicted within a year of release. Within Angus, there has been a steady decrease in reconviction rates over recent years. Angus had previously experienced reconviction rates above the Scottish average. For those offenders released during 2014/15, reconviction rates are below the Scottish average. Angus has recently published a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan which has a focus on reducing reoffending (and further improving reconviction rates) by utilising effective community based alternatives to custody.

### Percentage of People Feeling Safe in the Community During the Day



Prior to recent reorganisation, the Safer Communities Forum utilised the Angus Council Citizens Survey to ascertain feelings of safety in local communities. One of the findings was that the vast majority of residents continue to feel that Angus is a safe place to live. As an example, 99% of respondents in the most recent 2015 survey stated they feel safe either walking alone or at home during the day.

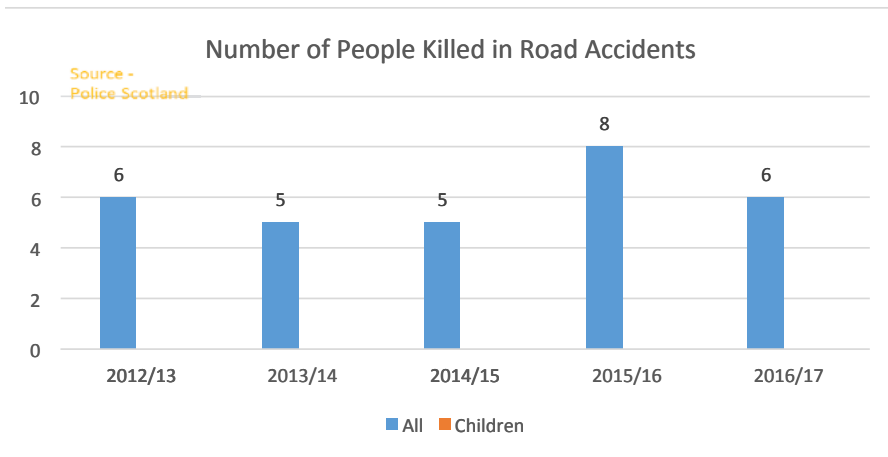
## Number of People at Risk of Scams & Financial Harm



As the figures above show, the number of cases of financial scams and other abuse investigated increased significantly from the beginning of 2015/16. This was expected and reflects a much greater emphasis on public awareness and reporting from this time. This proactivity created an environment within Angus where victims feel able to come forward to report financial loss, with the removal of any stigma or embarrassment linked to being a victim. Those who care for those at most at risk in our communities – such as the elderly – and those agencies who provide them with support, are also now empowered and encouraged to recognise the signs of potential financial abuse and raise the alarm.

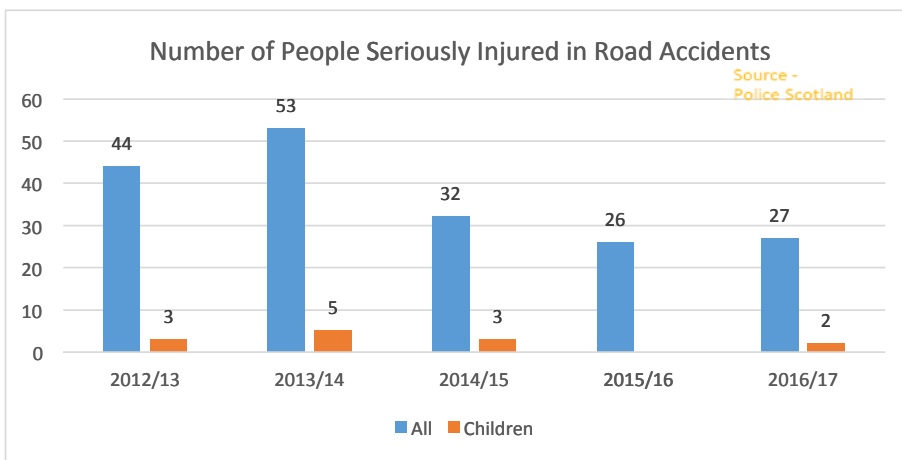
## ROAD SAFETY (RS)

### Number of People Killed in Road Accidents (All Ages & Children)



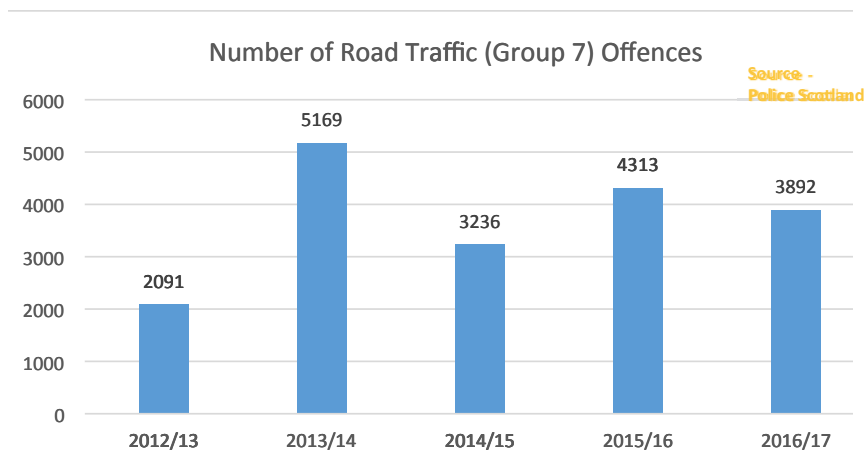
Not only does every fatality on the road network represent a tragedy for the families and friends of the victim, but also the other costs to the community and wider society as a whole are dramatic. Within Angus, the number of people killed each year has varied between five and eight in recent years. While any number of road deaths are too many, the small numbers since 2012/13 continue a welcome downward trend since 2007 when there were 13 fatalities.

### Number of People Seriously Injured in Road Accidents (All Ages & Children)



The number of road users seriously injured has also been on a downward trend in Angus over recent years. This reflects the strategic priority of keeping people safe on Angus roads. Locally based Angus officers continue to work closely with colleagues in dedicated divisional and national road traffic units.

### Number of Recorded Road Traffic Offences (Group 7)



Police Scotland remain committed to enforcing existing road traffic legislation designed to reduce road traffic accidents and casualties. There continues to be significant levels of proactivity – coordinated at both local and national levels - in support of this objective. This reflects the continued high volume of offences detected each year.