



# ANGUS COUNCIL

## Scrutiny and Audit Committee

Report by Chief Superintendent Graeme Murdoch  
(Quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017)



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## **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 Angus Council Scrutiny and Audit Committee. This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

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.

## Putting Victims At The Heart of What We Do

The overall number of reported domestic crimes within Angus continues to rise with a 6.6 % rise compared to the same period last year.

Police Scotland continue to work in partnership with Angus Violence Against Women Partnership and other partners to deliver benefits from Safe and Together training. Briefings are currently being delivered by trained champions and an elected member session is planned for the Protecting People Angus conference in March.

Safe and Together is just one preventative aspect to tackle Domestic Abuse which is contained in the government's strategy; Equally Safe. This strategy has been further supported by recent announcements on The Domestic Abuse Bill to cover aspects such as coercive control

An important piece of context is that a woman will on average be a victim of 22 crimes before she reports one to the police.

As a partnership and community, if we get this work right, there will be a continued rise in reported incidents including historical reports.

A similar rise in sexual crimes can also be anticipated and this is reflected in the 35.5 % increase in reported incidents; 248 for this period compared to 183 for the same period last year, an additional 65 victims.

People feeling safe in their homes continues to be a priority for Police Scotland and the local policing area. The total number of Theft by Housebreaking (including attempts) has increased slightly from 165 crimes last year to 167 crimes this reporting period. This breaks down to 63 dwelling houses and 104 non dwellings. A total of 103 crimes relate to the first two quarters of the year and the previous rise in rural dishonesties.

Officers continue to conduct proactive and preventative patrols to discourage and target offenders but also to provide reassurance to our communities.

The overall number of crimes of dishonesty in Angus has risen from 1036 last year to 1138 for this period. This is an increase of 102 crimes (+ 9.8 %). The single biggest contributor to this has been a rise in reported Theft by Shoplifting crimes. From 282 to 374; an increase of 92 crimes (+32.6%).

Despite the increase, overall levels are still below the 5 year average of 385.6.

Crime prevention work continues with retail premises led by our dedicated community officers. In addition; repeat perpetrators were actively targeted, some receiving specific support from partners to lift them out of their chaotic lifestyles.

## Tackling Crime and ASB

There has been a reduction in the overall crimes of violence reported in Angus.

This is also reflected in stats contained later in this report showing a downward direction for Total No of Group 1: Crimes of Violence and Serious Assault. This is accompanied by 5.2 % increase in the detection rate.

Common Assault figure show a slight increase of 0.7 %. A rise from 951 reported crimes last year to 958 for this period.

Within this overall figure, up to and including the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017; there has been a reduction (-1.3 %) in the overall number of members of the public being assaulted. This is positive as it continues the downward trend from previous years.

However, there has been a 33.3% increase in emergency service workers being assaulted in Angus in the course of their duties. 68 police officers have been assaulted since the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. This figure does not include officers struck accidentally by an arm or a leg during a struggle to arrest a person.

In accordance with the national announcement for officers to be specially trained in the use of Taser; 20 officers for Angus will be trained in its use.

The Festive period is routinely the busiest period of the year for a police officer. Considerable planning and effort was put into this year's festive safety campaign in Angus which produced positive results.

As part of the 6 week operation; running from late November 2017 to early January 2018; officers visited 212 licensed premises, 11 bookmakers, 7 filling stations and firework retailers. A variety of safety advice and festive literature was passed.

Activity included High profile patrols in our crowded and shopping areas; with specific targeted plain clothed patrols. This work supported intelligence led stop search activity. As shown later in this report, the positive detection rate for stop search in Angus is around 43.5 % for the year to date.

During the festive safety campaign 26 persons were stopped and searched and found to be in possession of controlled drugs. A total of 68 persons were arrested on warrant for a variety of offences.

Tackling the supply of controlled drugs in our communities and those who profit from it continues to be a key priority for Police Scotland and Angus Local Policing Area. The number of individuals dealt with by Police continues to increase and

reflects a consistent desire to achieve positive outcomes. An increase from 36 last year to 39 for this period (+ 8.3%).

The number of complaints of disorder has increased by 6.4 % over the reporting period. A total of 3773 incidents compared to 3545 for the similar period last year. Aligned to this there continues to be a notable increase in reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) over the last quarter.

Work with partners to produce an updated Community Safety and ASB strategy has concluded and this has been published. Work is ongoing with partners to produce an updated Youth Justice Strategy.

If left unchecked the underlying level of disorder and ASB will generate additional criminality; albeit initially at a minor level. There exists opportunities to address this and Police Scotland will continue to work with partners at an Angus and locality level to introduce successful interventions.

A good example of this type of work is the Mentors in Violence programme recently rolled out by pupils and staff at Brechin with support from Police Scotland. This followed on from specific training last year.

Community Officer continue to engage with local youths in an attempt to reduce incidences of vandalism. High profile patrols in 'hot spot' areas are regularly utilised as is a variety of disposal options for those responsible. The overall number of reported vandalism has continued to reduce by 2.2% from 634 crimes to 620 crimes.

## Protecting Vulnerable People

Angus Local Policing Area conducts considerable proactive and preventive work to support and protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

Officers continue to conduct welfare and reassurance checks with victims within a recognised safety plan. Preventative visits are also made with perpetrators to ensure bail conditions are being adhered to.

During the festive safety campaign, in the month of December, officers conducted 47 domestic bail visits; 21 to victims and 26 to perpetrators. In doing so perpetrators were arrested for offences.

Keeping a focus on this type of work helps prevent other offences and this is reflected in the reduction of Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences from 49 last year to 35 for this period. A reduction of -28.6%.

To protect the community an offender can be released from court with specific bail curfew conditions. There is a mature process in place to deal with and monitor these conditions and ensure they are being adhered to, these conditions can relate to a variety of different offences but usually when there is an element of risk to a person or the community. In November and December 2017; officers conducted 200 such visits and made 5 arrests.

The above activity is a good example of the type of work police officers are engaged in to protect the vulnerable and our communities.

In conjunction with partners; Police Scotland have conducted considerable work at Brambles Young Persons Unit Arbroath and Rossie Secure Unit, Montrose. These establishments give temporary homes to some of the most vulnerable young people in society. This concerted partnership effort has resulted in a significant drop in calls to the police and reports of our young person's going missing.

Police Scotland will continue to support partners in this area of work and an officer continues to be dedicated to providing support to Looked After Children and agencies involved in the young person's care.

The overall level of reported Hate Crime in Angus remains low with no specific pattern of offending. When reported these types of crimes are always treated as a priority. The detection rate remains high at 87.1 %.

Angus Local Policing Area remains well supported by detective officers from the Public Protection Unit, Offender Management Unit and Domestic Abuse Task force who are all based in Angus

## Maintaining Public Safety

Angus Officers continue to work with our colleagues in the Divisional Road Policing Unit (DRPU) and Trunk Road Policing Group (TRPG) to tackle road safety and associated crime.

There has been a 125 % increase in persons killed on the roads in Angus this year. An increase from four persons to nine persons losing their lives.

The number of persons seriously injured on our roads remains unchanged at 31. This is however a reduction on the previous quarters which had demonstrated an increase in this area.

The numbers of persons slightly injured has increased from 70 for the previous year to 91 for this period. A rise of 30%.

Thankfully, no children have died on our roads but there has been an overall increase of children seriously injured from 1 to 3. However, these were the same figures for the first two quarters of the year which demonstrates none have been injured in the last three months on our roads.

The collective road policing activity for the year is demonstrated in the table later in this report. The local policing area (LPA) and Division are stopping a significant amount of vehicles and the reductions demonstrated a positive change in driver behavior. The single biggest contributory factor to the increase in fatalities and injuries in Angus this year has been the speed of the driver's vehicle. There has been significant enforcement over the last year, which also reflects the communities concern.

Police Scotland continue to work in partnership to deliver preventive programs and educate drivers. Sergeant Willie Strachan was actively involved in this year's Safe Drive Stay Alive program to communities and schools. Sergeant Willie Strachan and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service worked with parents and loved ones of casualties to deliver impactive sessions.

DRPU are developing bespoke sessions to educate motor cyclists and drivers in an attempt to improve road safety.

LPA, DRPU and partners are currently planning a multi-agency operation in the Aberdeenshire, Angus and Perthshire areas.

Operation Golders will facilitate specific days of action in Angus between February and April. The purpose of the operation is to carry out high visibility patrols and road checks at various locations. To disrupt, deter and detect offences relating to all forms of vehicle-enabled criminality. To educate and enforce where applicable, all forms of anti-social vehicle use. Importantly to reduce casualties on Angus roads.



Figures relevant to this report

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Angus  
December 2017

Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour					
		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
1	Total No Group1: Crimes of Violence	80	84	4 fewer	-4.8%
2	Murder	0	0	None	-
3	Attempted Murder	2	1	1 more	100.0%
4	Culpable Homicide (common law)	0	0	None	-
5	Culpable Homicide (other)	1	1	Same number	0.0%
6	Serious Assault detection rate	81.8%	76.6%		5.2%
7	Serious Assault	44	47	3 fewer	-6.4%
8	Robbery detection rate	68.4%	68.8%		-0.4%
9	Robbery	19	16	3 more	18.8%
10	Common assault detection rate	71.6%	77.9%		-6.3%
11	Common assault	958	951	7 more	0.7%
12	Number of complaints regarding disorder	3,773	3,545	228 more	6.4%

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Angus  
December 2017

**Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour (continued)**

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
13	Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Reported to the Police	842	845		-0.4%
14	Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	650	610		6.6%
15	Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime being recorded	52.1%	49.1%		3.0%
16	Total crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents detection rate	66.5%	72.8%		-6.3%
17	Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	35	49		-28.6%
18	Ensure 95% of domestic abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24hrs)	83.3%	-		-
19	Hate Crime and offences detection rate	87.1%	93.3%		-6.2%

**Violence, Disorder & Antisocial Behaviour - Stop and Searches**

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017 Positive	Victims	% Change
20	Number of stop and searches conducted (total)	310	135		
21	Number of statutory stop and searches conducted	310	135		
22	Number of consensual stop and searches conducted	0	0		
23	Number of consensual stop and searches refused	0	-		
24	Number of seizures made	17	-		

On the 11th May 2017 Police Scotland adopted a new code of practice on the use of stop and search. At this time the use of non-statutory (Consensual) search ceased. The period covered by this report includes searches conducted prior to the introduction of the code. The table above provides information on consensual searches carried out before 11th May. Further information on Police Scotland's use of stop and search and on the code of practice is available on the Police Scotland Website.

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Angus  
December 2017

Additional Identified Local Priorities

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
25	Number of detections for drugs supply, drugs productions, drugs cultivation	39	36		8.3%
26	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts) detection rate	21.0%	26.1%		-5.1%
27	Theft by housebreaking (including attempts)	167	165	2 more	1.2%
28	Theft by shoplifting detection rate	78.1%	78.4%		-0.3%
29	Theft by shoplifting	374	282	92 more	32.6%
30	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief detection rate	30.2%	34.7%		-4.5
31	Vandalism & Malicious Mischief	620	634	14 fewer	-2.2%
32	Number of detections for Consuming Alcohol in a designated place (where appropriate byelaws exist)	4	2		100.0%

Public Protection

		Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
33	Number of Sexual Crimes	248	183	65 more	35.5%
34	Sexual Crimes detection rate	59.3%	65.6%		-6.3%
35	Rape detection rate	66.0%	62.2%		3.8%

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD - Angus  
December 2017

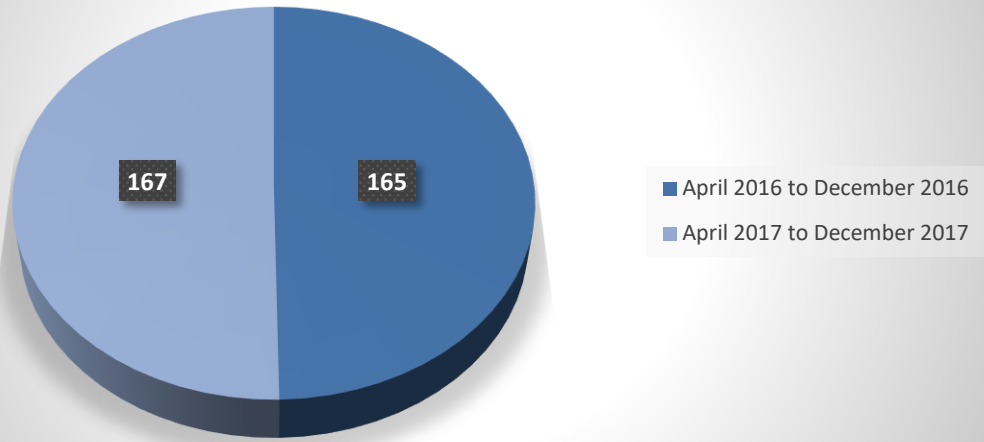
Road Traffic Casualty Statistics

	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
People Killed	9	4	5 more	125.0%
People Seriously injured	31	31	Same number	0.0%
People Slightly Injured	91	70	21 more	30.0%
(Context)				
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	None	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	3	1	2 more	200.0%

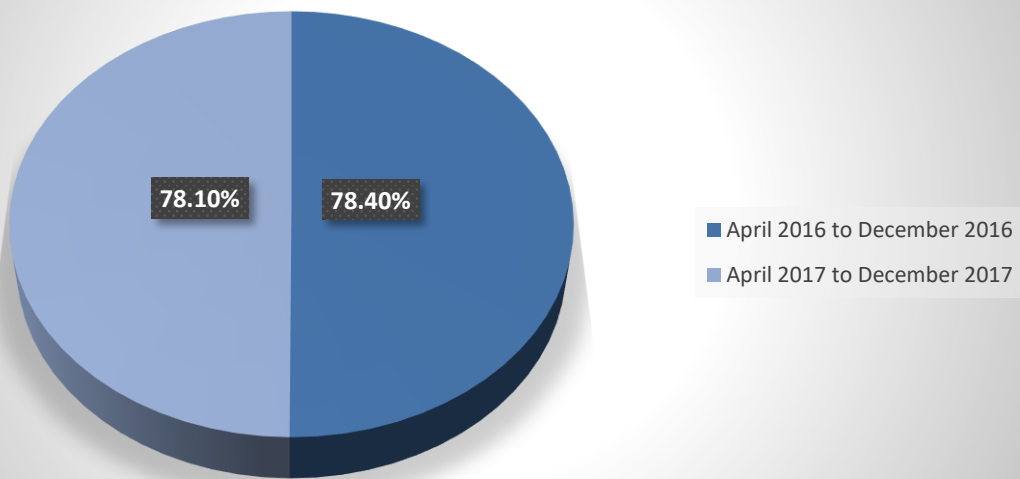
Road Safety & Road Crime

	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Apr 2016 - Dec 2016	Victims	% Change
36 Dangerous driving	53	58		-8.6%
37 Speeding	1,652	1,441		14.6%
38 Disqualified driving	30	37		-18.9%
39 Driving Licence	139	198		-29.8%
40 Insurance	312	349		-10.6%
41 Seat Belts	8	40		-80.0%
42 Mobile Phone	9	59		-84.7%

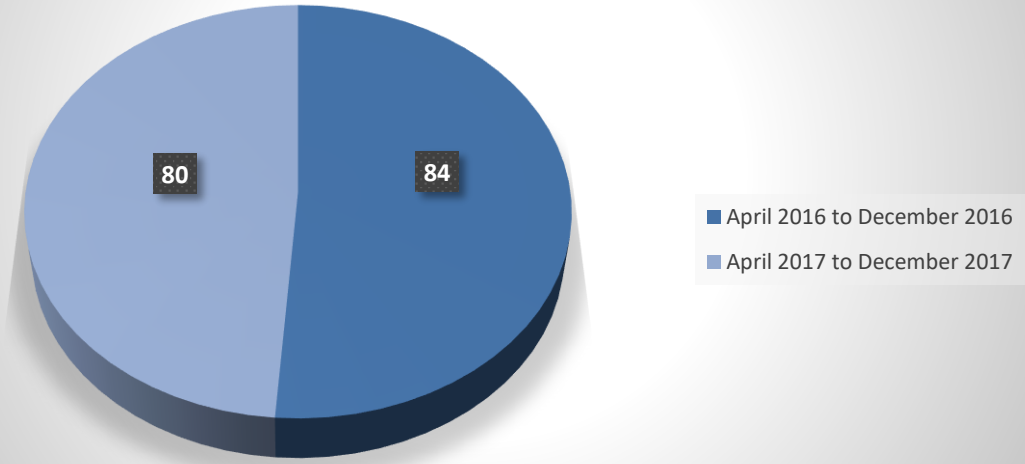
### Theft HB including Attempts



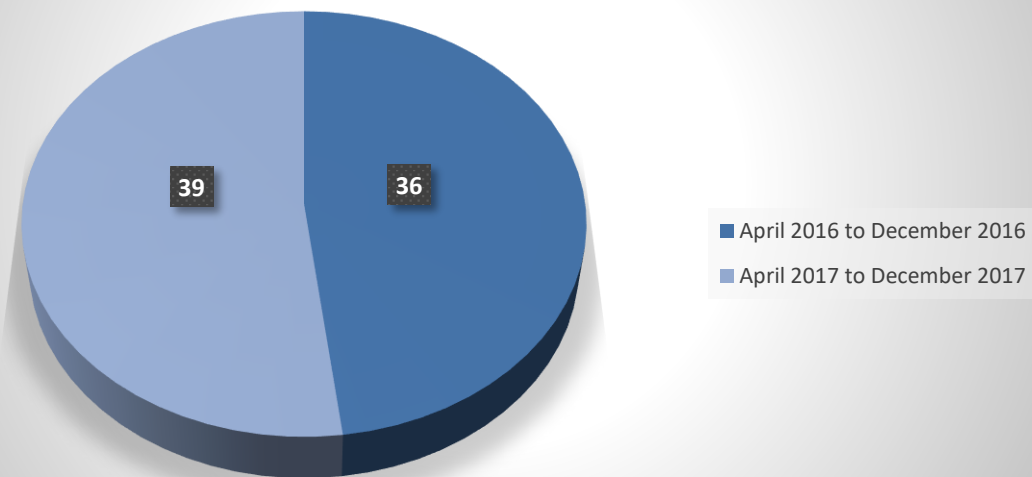
### Theft Shoplifting Detection Rate



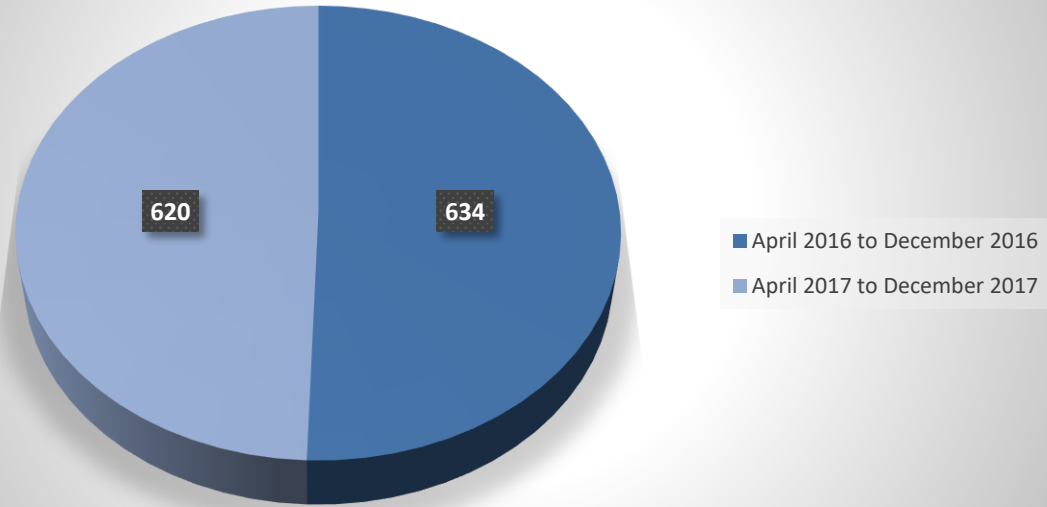
### Total number of Group 1 Crimes and Crimes of Violence



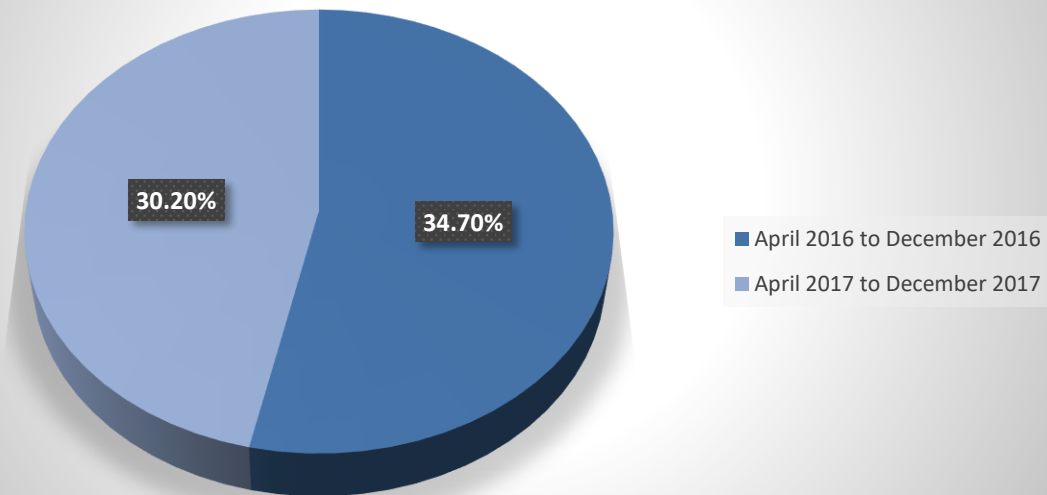
### Number of detections for Drug Supply, Production and Cultivation



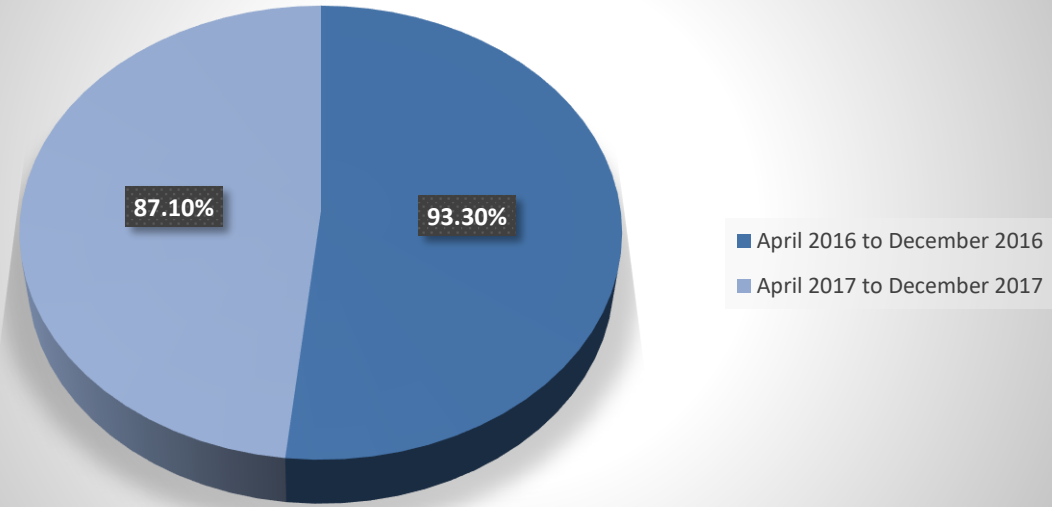
### Vandalism and Malicious Mischief



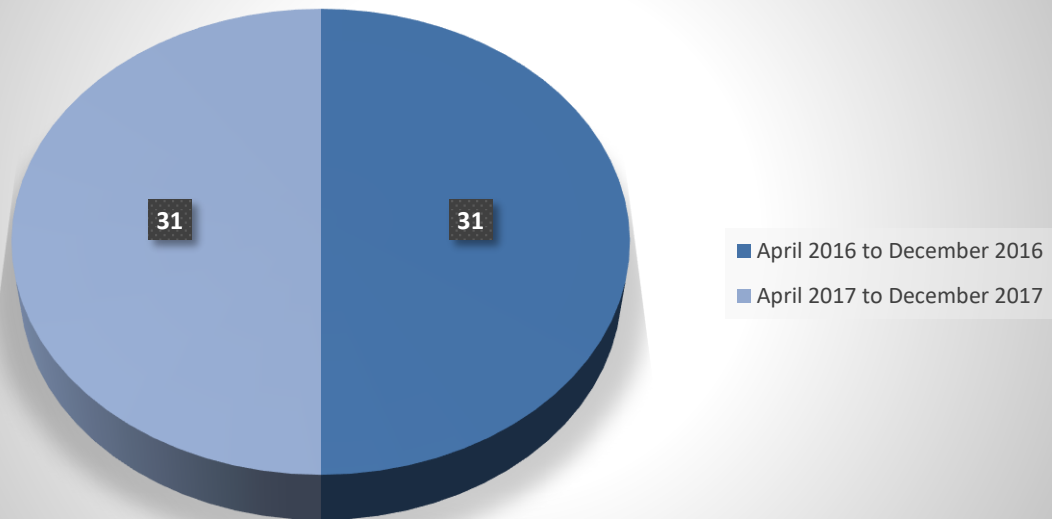
### Vandalism and Malicious Mischief detection rate



### Hate Crime and Offences detection rate

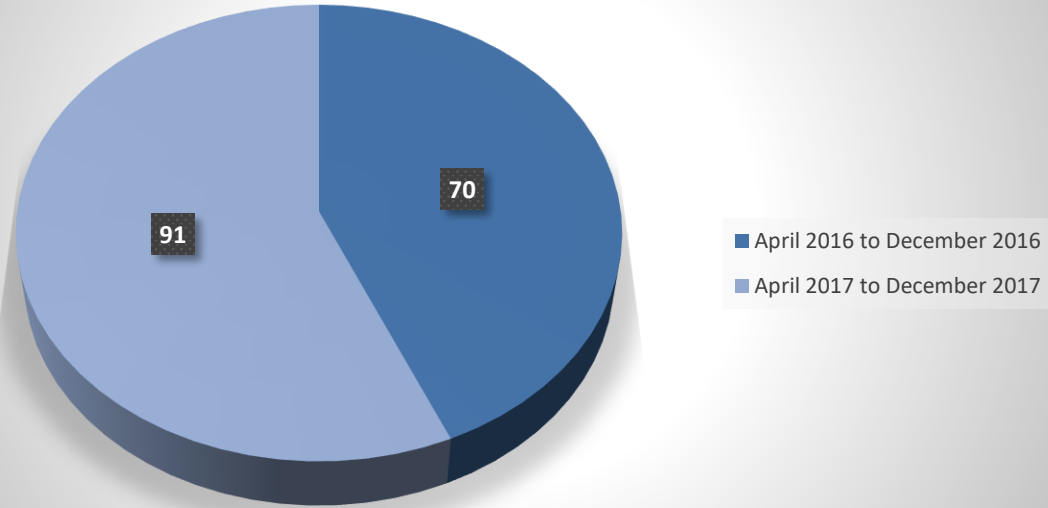


### RTC People seriously injured

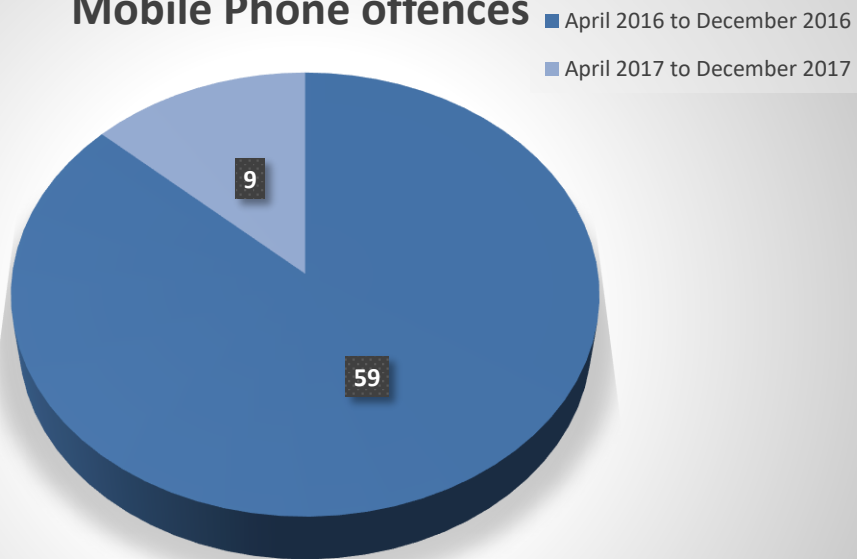


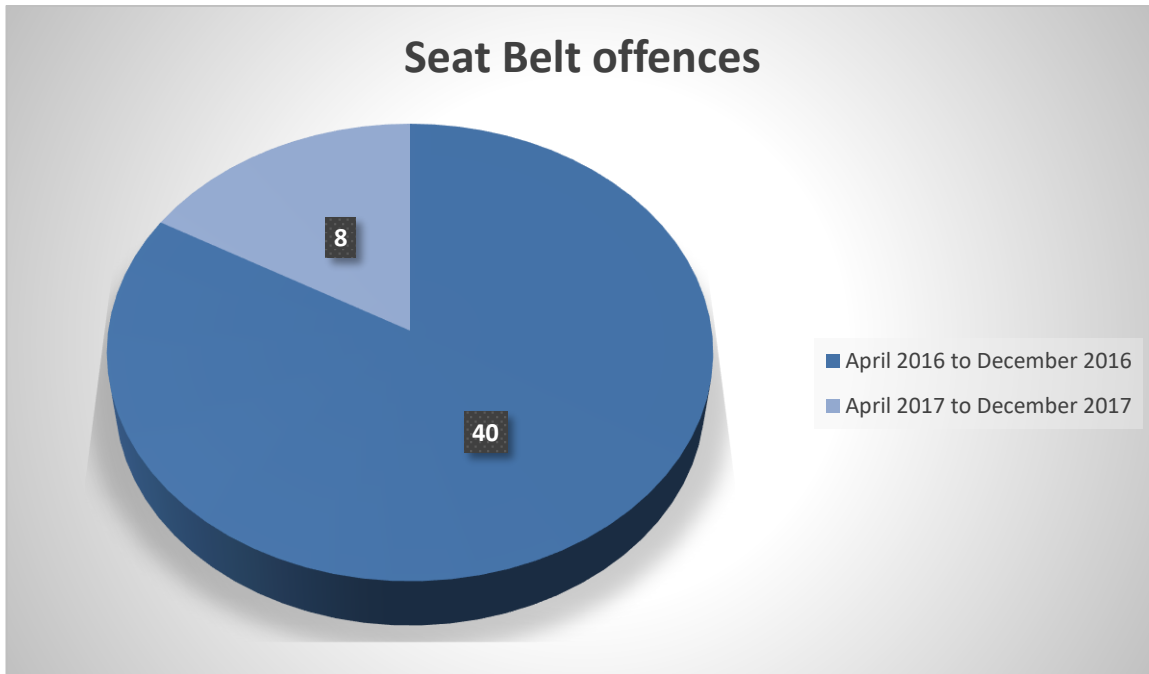


### RTC People Slightly Injured



### Mobile Phone offences





Contact Details

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