

# Performance Against Local Policing Plan 2023-2026



**POLICE**  
**SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe  
**POILEAS ALBA**

Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar Community Safety Board  
Wednesday 20 November 2024

Reporting Period - 01 April 2024 – 30 June 2024



Report by Chief Inspector Jane MacKenzie –  
Area Commander (Western Isles Area Command)



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# Introduction by the Area Commander

## Chief Inspector Jane MacKenzie

I present to you the Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar Community Safety Board Scrutiny Report, covering the reporting period 01 April 2024 to 30 June 2024. I hope the style of the report is continuing to provide you with the required breakdown of crime statistics for the Western Isles Area Command.

The interpretation of statistics continues to be a key part of what we do, identifying potential crime trends and ensuring I have the right officers in the right place to keep our communities safe. We do compare data on previous years, however it may be some years before we can accurately compare year on year data as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am always happy to discuss the data and provide some context around the statistics provided within the report.

We continue to see the impact of cost of living challenges on our communities, including those who have not felt such hardship before. My team are continuing to work with partners to protect the vulnerable people within our communities.

We continue to have a presence on the Western Isles roads, enforcing road traffic legislation, improving road safety and investigating road traffic collisions. You will note the increase in drink/drug driving offences over the period.

You will be aware concerns have been raised in relation to police visibility across the Western Isles. We are working to improve this by reviewing our patrol matrix to increase visibility and respond to concerns raised, particularly in the more rural areas.

We are committed to Keeping People Safe. Our priority is protection of those at risk of harm through prevention, early intervention and robust investigation of those who pose such a risk. Tackling the misuse of controlled substances throughout the Western Isles Area Command forms part of this

work. My officers will continue to proactively identify and target those offenders using and distributing these substances.

We are committed to working with our Partners in the public, private and third sectors to ensure our approach to Public Protection is focused, meaningful and collaborative.

This commitment allows us to continually improve the service and support provided to victims and their families, whilst working towards protecting those at risk of harm.

We continue to work with partners to address the community concerns in relation to anti-social behaviour. I am pleased to report that PC Steele, our Campus Officer, has been in post since August. Feedback is positive thus far.

Shoplifting offences have increased over the previous two years, but detection rates remain high. Other areas in the Division are experiencing similar increases in such crimes. We continue to try to work with premises to improve their security.

Our work tackling serious and organised crime continues, we continue to disrupt these individuals and working effectively with partners is key. We use these relationships to identify individuals that are vulnerable to exploitation, ensuring early and effective interventions are progressed and making the Western Isles inhospitable to serious and organised crime groups.

You may be aware that our previous Drugs Dog Bear has now retired. We are in the process of recruiting a new handler and sourcing a new dog, which we hope will be in place early 2025.

# Local Policing Priorities

The Local Policing Priorities for the N Division area are decided by data from our Strategic Assessment which details Threats and Risks, and also feedback from Local Authorities, Partners and residents in the Your Police survey.



**ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME**

Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads



**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, VIOLENCE AND DISORDER**

Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime



**ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending



**PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners



**SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME**

Reduce the harm caused by serious organised crime including cyber related crime



**TERRORISM AND PUBLIC ORDER**

Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness

# Western Isles: At a glance

## **Road Safety and Road Crime**

Overall, Road Crime offences have decreased by 5.1% (5.8 fewer offences) against the 5 Year Average and decreased by 32.3% (52 fewer offences) against the Last Year To Date (LYTD).

Offences in relation to Unlawful use of motor vehicles have decreased by 34.3% (14.6 fewer offences) against the 5 Year Average and decreased by 33.3% (14 fewer offences) against the LYTD.

Mobile Telephone offences have decreased by 16.7% (0.2 fewer offences) against the 5 Year Average and increased by one more offence against the LYTD.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour, Disorder and Violence (including Alcohol and Drugs Misuse)**

Offences in relation to Breach of the Peace have decreased by 63.0% (3.4 fewer crimes) against the 5 Year Average and has decreased by 33.3% (1 fewer crimes) against the LYTD.

Offences in relation to Assault have increased by 20.6% (5.8 more crimes) against the 5 Year Average and stayed the same against the LYTD.

## **Acquisitive Crime**

Offences in relation to Housebreaking (Dwelling House) have increased by 150.0% (1.8 more crimes) against the 5 Year Average and increased by 2 more offences against the LYTD.

Fraud offences have increased by 66.7% (3.6 more crimes) against the 5 Year Average and increased by 20.0% (2 more crimes) against the LYTD.

## **Protecting Vulnerable People**

Overall, Sexual Crime has decreased by 58.3% (9.6 fewer crimes) against the 5 Year Average and decreased by 33.3% (3 fewer crimes) against the LYTD.

Domestic related offences have decreased by 4.0% (0.6 fewer crimes) against the 5 Year Average and increased by 6.3% (1 more crime) against the LYTD.

Offences in relation to Hate Crime have increased by 42.9% (0.6 more crimes) against the 5 Year Average and increased by 2 more offences against the LYTD.

## **Serious and Organised Crime**

Offences in relation to Production, Manufacture or Cultivation of drugs have stayed the same (1 offence) against the 5 Year Average and increased by 1 more crimes against the LYTD.

## **Counter Terrorism & Domestic Extremism**

Police Constable Lisa Campbell, N Division's Local Counter Terrorism Officer stated:

***"Ongoing work with MP and MSPs in the Highland and Island area.***

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*CTLO continues to work with CT Intelligence, CT Security Advisors and the Prevent Delivery Unit to address any CT Matters in the Highland and Island area and also raise awareness on the CONTEST strategy”.*

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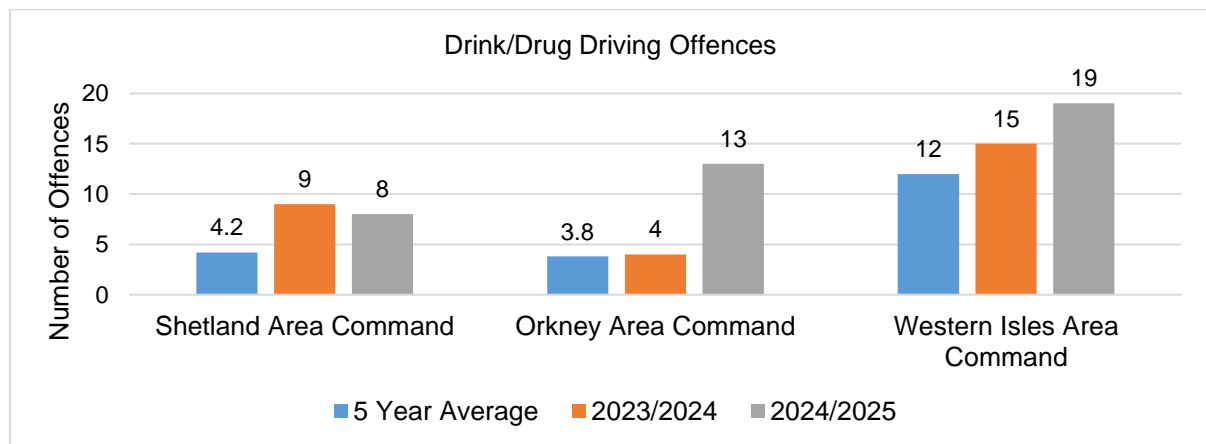
# Road Safety and Road Crime

**Intention - With Partners, enhance Road Safety across the Western Isles.**

**Objective – With Partners, deliver a Road Safety Strategy focusing on: Challenging driver behaviour; Education at the road side and elsewhere; Detection of offences linked to contributing factors of Fatal and Serious Road Traffic Collisions and collectively reducing potential harm.**

	5 Year Average	3 Year Average	YTD 2023/2024	YTD 2024/2025	YTD Variation	Detection Rate
Number of Fatalities - Road Traffic Collisions	0.2	0.3	1	0	1	-
Drink/Drug Driving Offences	12.0	13.0	15	19	4	86.7%
Speeding Offences	24.4	30.7	50	36	-14	100.0%

## 2023/2024 Drink/Drug Driving Offences -



**Operation CEDAR** - (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce) builds on established practices and will continue to focus on various agencies working in partnership to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured in the Western Isles.

Operation CEDAR involves proactive multi-agency enforcement operations on the roads, which sits alongside education activity aimed at improving driver behaviour of all ages. Partner agencies continue to work together to improve understanding of the factors which could contribute to improving road safety for everyone on the roads and together respond to these issues.

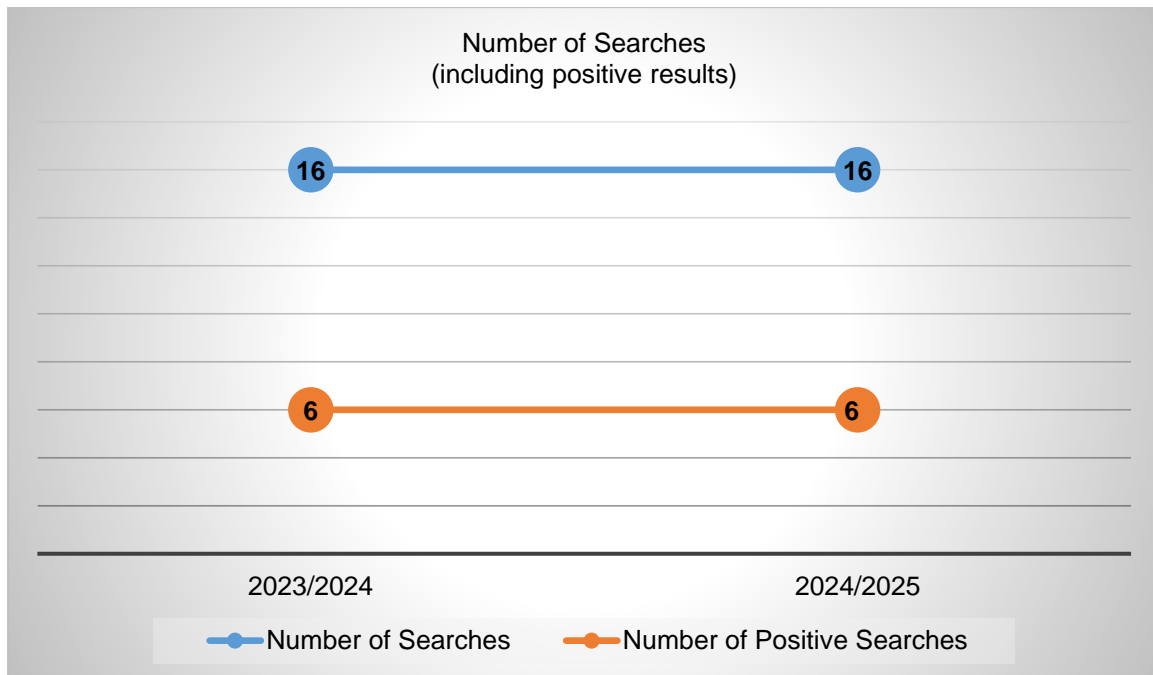
# Anti-Social Behaviour, Disorder and Violence (including Alcohol and Drug misuse)

**Intention – With Partners, better understand the causes to prevent and reduce instances of Anti-Social Behaviour, Disorder and Violence to enhance community safety across the Western Isles.**

**Objective – Work with Partners to share information, support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement Measures linked to harmful alcohol consumption; maintain robust procedures around licensed premises; support victims of violent crime by working with partners to improve service provision and prevent repeat victimisation.**

	5 Year Average	3 Year Average	YTD 2023/2024	YTD 2024/2025	YTD Variation	Detection Rate
Murder	0.0	0.0	0	0	-	-
Assault	28.2	33.3	34	34	-	85.3%
Serious Assault	2.2	3.2	1	3	2	200.0%
Drug (Possession) Offences	25.8	29.7	29	13	-16	86.2%

## **Stop and Search -**





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Positive Stop Search - A positive stop and search is when an item is recovered where possession of same implies criminality on the part of the individual being searched or any other; or potentially compromises the safety of that individual or another.

**No Knives, Better Lives** - No Knives, Better Lives (NKBL) is a national capacity-building programme that supports primary prevention work related to knife carrying in Scotland. In 2009, the NKBL National Delivery Team at YouthLink Scotland and the Scottish Government began supporting partners in 11 selected Local Authority areas to implement NKBL. The approach to prevention is informed by the principles and values of youth work and a public health approach to violence prevention. The focus is not just on what it is we do not want young people to do and how to stop them doing it, but also what we want young people to be able to do, how we support them to understand and navigate risk and to make positive life choices.

## Acquisitive Crime

**Intention – With Partners and Communities, prevent instances of acquisitive crime across the Western Isles.**

**Objective – With Partners, share information, support education, prevention, diversionary and enforcement activity linked to acquisitive crime; develop work with targets – recidivist offenders to reduce reoffending linked to acquisitive crime e.g. Persistent Offenders programme; enhance the use of all media platforms to raise awareness of local and national preventative initiatives.**

	5 Year Average	3 Year Average	YTD 2023/2024	YTD 2024/2025	YTD Variation	Detection Rate
Housebreaking (Total)	0.8	0.0	0	2	2	0.0%
Fraud	7.2	9.7	10	12	2	20.0%
Theft by Shoplifting	5.4	6.7	12	18	6	66.7%
Theft of a motor vehicle	3.0	3.0	6	2	-4	83.3%

### **Fraud** –

#### **Banking Protocol**

Following a number of incidents across the N Division area in respect of Frauds and Banking Protocol, work continues with various Banks within N Division to setup learning sessions between staff members to talk through Banking Protocol. This has allowed for a better understanding of the Police response, management of vulnerabilities and referrals/support available to victims.

This has and will continue to allow Bank staff to be aware as to the point in they feel that they can/should intervene.

# Protecting Vulnerable People

**Intention – Protect people at risk of harm.**

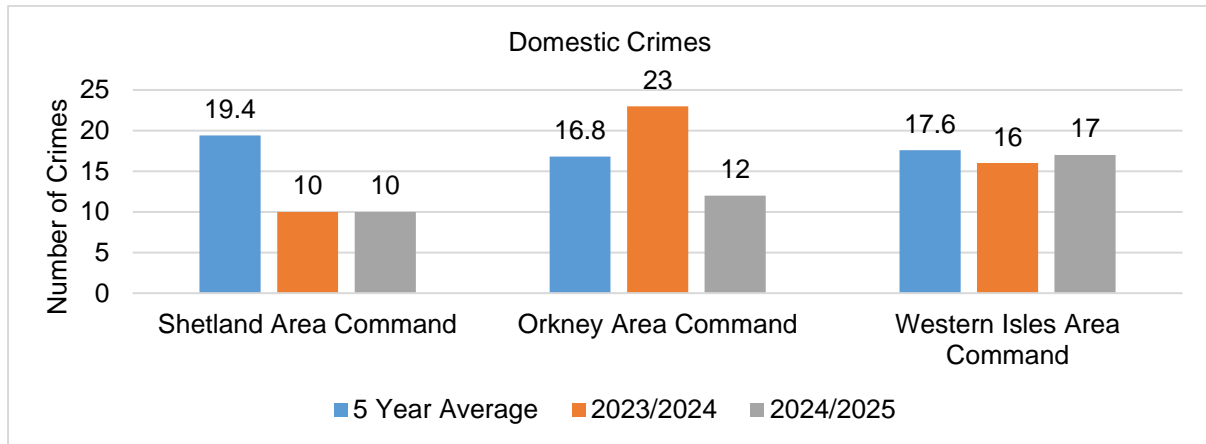
**Objective – With Partners we will focus on safeguarding communities; with Partners we will address emerging issues through Prevention and Intervention.**

	5 Year Average	3 Year Average	YTD 2023/2024	YTD 2024/2025	YTD Variation	Detection Rate
Sexual Crime	14.4	14.0	9	6	-3	55.6%
Domestic Crime	17.6	20.0	16	17	1	95.5%
Hate Crime	1.4	1.7	0	2	2	50.0%
Missing Persons*		7.6	11	4	-7	-

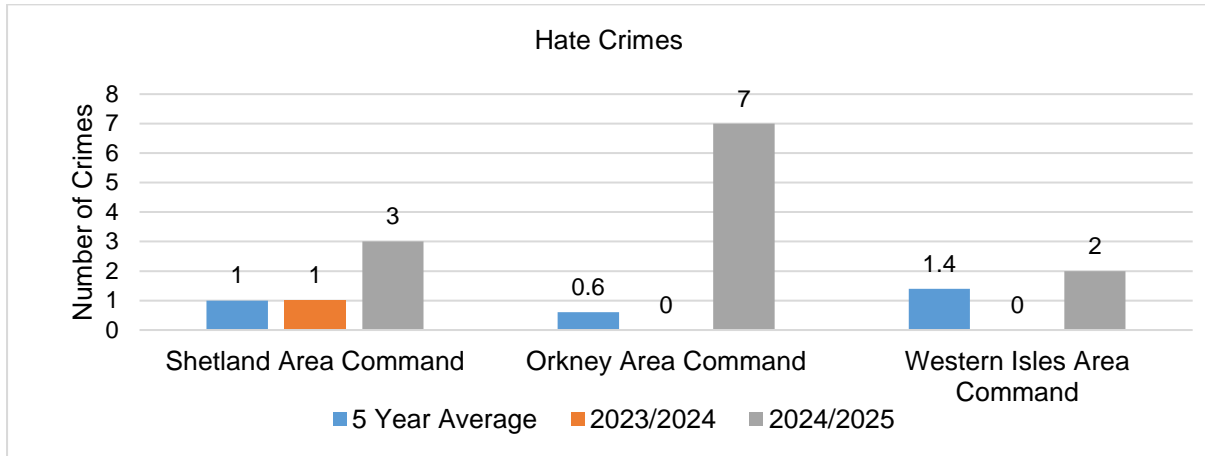
Domestic Crime – N Division continues to work with Partner Agencies in order to support victims of such crimes.

\* (Figures for Western Isles Area Command - Due to system configurations these figures are not available at multi-member ward level. Due to the implementation of the National Missing Persons Application in 2019, the 5 Year Average is not available).

## Domestic Crime within Western Isles Area Command –



**Hate Crime within Western Isles Area Command –**



**Hate Crime –**

Hate Crime incidents are reviewed on a daily basis by officers within N Division’s Partnerships Department with the victim being contacted and provided with contact details for Partner Agencies such as Victim Support Scotland. Every victim of a Hate Crime continue to be sent a Satisfaction Survey as to how they felt they were supported by N Division.

**Missing Persons –**

Police Scotland takes every report of a missing person seriously and investigates appropriately with access to local, regional and national specialist resources. Missing persons investigations are a core part of local Policing and it is local officers who undertake all investigations, supported by specialist colleagues where necessary. Further, each Division including, N Division has a dedicated Missing Person Co-ordinator who advises on operational and preventative approaches.

Missing Person Category	2023/2024	2024/2025	Variation
Adult	6	1	-5
Cared for Adult	1	0	-1
Care Experienced Young People	2	3	1
Child	2	0	-2
Absconder/Wanted	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-7</b>

Each Area Command has appointed a local Police liaison officer who maintains contact and liaison with the residential units in their respective area. This role has developed and regular contact has built a good relationship with residential unit(s). Where required, this officer also works in conjunction with the Missing Person Co-ordinator who similarly enjoys a good working relationship with residential units.

## Serious and Organised Crime

**Intention – With Partners, reduce the threat, risk and harm caused by Serious Organised Crime.**

**Objective – With Partners work to safeguard the Western Isles by taking all opportunities to prevent crime and make the Western Isles a hostile environment for Serious & Organised Crime Groups; to improve outcomes for individuals and communities and reduce offending through prevention, early intervention and diversion; in support of our Partners in the Local Authority and NHS via the Alcohol and Drug Partnership Strategy we will direct those who are substance dependant towards recovery through prevention, treatment and support services; with Partners work to reduce the instances of substance misuse in our communities.**

	5 Year Average	3 Year Average	YTD 2023/2024	YTD 2024/2025	YTD Variation	Detection Rate
Drug (Supply) Offences	14.	2.0	2	2	-	50.0%
Drug (Possession) Offences	25.8	29.7	29	13	-16	86.2%

# Counter Terrorism

**Intention – Support the delivery of the CONTEST strategy to reduce the threat posed by terrorism and domestic extremism.**

**Objective – Strengthen PREVENT work with Partners and institutions; with Partners, support individuals who are vulnerable to terrorism and violent extremism; strengthen PREVENT work in relation to the internet and Social Media; Effective Multi-agency planning in respect of Counter Terrorism is taking place; Develop our ability to respond effectively to any terrorist attack (with a specific focus on emerging high-risk threats, and specialist capabilities).**

WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) - The workshop covers issues such as crime, normal social processes that are used to influence and manipulate, case studies that cut across the spectrum of extremism, terrorist ideologies and factors which may contribute to an individual's susceptibility to a terrorist ideology.

In particular, it seeks to support them to recognise that using their existing expertise and professional judgement, they may be able to recognise potentially vulnerable individuals who may be susceptible to being persuaded by an extremist or terrorist ideology. Workshops delivered to partners across the Western Isles.

ACT Now delivered to schools across the Western Isles.

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Crime Bulletin Categories	Western Isles Area Command					
	2019 /20	2020 /21	2021 /22	2022 /23	2023 /24	2024 /25
<b>TOTAL CRIME &amp; OFFENCES</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>302</b>
<b>Group 1 - Non Sexual Crimes of Violence</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>42</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Culpable homicide (common law)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Culpable homicide (other)	0	1	0	0	0	0
Attempted murder	0	1	0	0	0	0
Serious Assault (incl. FGM, culpable & reckless conduct - causing injury)	2	2	1	5	1	3
Common Assault (of an emergency worker)	2	2	1	5	1	3
Common Assault	3	23	14	12	10	3
Robbery (including assault with intent to rob)	23	18	32	34	34	34
Stalking	2	0	2	3	2	0
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	1	2	1	1	0	1
Threats and extortion	0	0	1	0	1	0
Other group 1 crimes	0	0	2	0	1	1
<b>Group 2 - Sexual Offences</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
Rape	0	1	4	5	0	0
Attempted rape	0	0	2	0	0	0
Sexual assault	3	0	6	1	6	2
Crimes associated with Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indecent photos of children	0	2	4	1	0	1
Communicating indecently	1	11	0	0	2	0
Causing to view sexual activity or images	2	6	2	1	1	2
Threatening or Disclosure of intimate image*	0	1	0	1	0	0
Other Group 2 crimes	3	0	5	1	0	1
<b>Group 3 - Crimes of Dishonesty</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	2	2	0	0	0	2
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non-dwelling	0	0	1	0	0	0
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	1	1	0	2	1	0
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	0	1	0	0	0	0
Theft of a motor vehicle	3	3	2	1	6	2
Theft from a Motor Vehicle, Insecure etc	0	1	2	1	0	0
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	0	1	0	0	0	0
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	0	0	1	1	0	0
Common theft	3	8	6	20	12	8
Theft by shoplifting	5	2	3	5	12	18
Fraud	4	3	9	10	10	12
Other Group 3 crimes	1	3	1	1	2	0
<b>Group 4 - Damage and Reckless Behaviour</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>

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Fireraising	0	0	1	4	2	4
Vandalism (incl. reckless damage, etc.)	18	34	27	32	25	29
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Culpable & reckless conduct (not firearms)	1	0	0	0	4	1
Other Group 4 crimes	0	3	0	0	1	0
<b>Group 5 - Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>28</b>
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (not used in crime)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (not used in crime)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (not used in crime)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife (not used in crime)	0	1	2	1	1	1
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (used in criminal activity)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (used in criminal activity)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife NEC (used in criminal activity)	0	1	0	2	1	1
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	1	2	2	0	0	1
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	0	1	3	1	2	2
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Possession of drugs	16	24	19	41	29	13
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bail offences (other than absconding)	6	9	12	10	15	3
Other crimes against public justice	5	16	14	9	17	6
Other crimes against society	2	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Group 6 - Anti-Social Offences</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>
Breach of the Peace	16	3	4	1	3	2
Threatening or abusive behaviour	16	28	34	26	19	25
Hate aggravated conduct (incl. stirring up hatred)	0	0	1	1	0	0
Drunk and incapable	0	0	0	0	1	0
Consume alcohol in designated place (local by-laws)	0	1	0	1	0	0
Other alcohol related offences	0	0	1	1	1	0
Urinating	0	0	7	4	1	1
<b>Group 7 - Miscellaneous Offences</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>
Wildlife offences	0	0	1	1	4	2
Offences involved animals (not wildlife)	0	0	0	2	0	2
Community and public order offences	0	5	5	7	7	6
Environmental offences	0	4	0	0	0	2
Licensing offences	3	3	4	0	0	1
Other misc. offences	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Group 8 - Road Traffic Offences</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>109</b>



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Dangerous driving offences	3	4	5	2	5	7
Driving Carelessly	8	6	10	19	27	8
Driving under the influence	13	8	16	8	15	19
Speeding offences	7	23	33	9	50	36
Seat belt offences	2	0	0	3	3	0
Mobile phone offences	2	0	3	1	0	1
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	32	56	52	31	42	28
Vehicle defect offences	7	0	3	1	2	1
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	14	0	2	0	2	3
Road Traffic Offences (involving bicycle/tricycle)	0	0	0	2	0	0
Other Group 8 Offences	2	4	10	12	15	6

For additional detail, published crime data can also be accessed online via the following link:-  
[Crime data - Police Scotland](#)