



Policing Performance Committee

17 March 2026

Item 2.1: Quarterly Policing Performance Report – Q3 2025/26

Appendix: Appendix A - Police Scotland Quarter 3 YTD Performance Report: April to December 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Policing Performance Committee with an update in relation to Police Scotland’s Performance at the end of Quarter 3 2025/26.

This report is submitted as a standing agenda item.

**Recommendation
For Discussion**

Strategic Alignment

Strategic alignment	Police Scotland 2030 Vision / Annual Police Plan
Risk alignment	N/A
Prior governance	Continued quarterly performance reporting to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee.
Stakeholder engagement	N/A

Implications

Community		Data & Privacy		Environmental	
Equalities & Human Rights		Financial		Health, Safety & Wellbeing	
Legal		Workforce			

1 Report Detail

1.1 Background

- 1.2 Strategic planning arrangements for policing in Scotland are laid out in the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is responsible for developing a Strategic Police Plan for policing that reflects the Scottish Government's national outcomes, strategic police priorities and justice strategy.
- 1.3 Police Scotland is responsible for producing an Annual Police Plan (APP) that sets out the arrangements to deliver against the Strategic Police Plan.
- 1.4 As required by legislation, the SPA hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery against the strategic plan. This is done through scrutiny of Police Scotland's quarterly performance reports.
- 1.5 The Performance and Accountability Framework 2025/26 was introduced on 01 April 2025 by Police Scotland. This is the third report of this reporting cycle in support of this framework.

1.6 Further detail

- 1.7 Our 2030 Vision provides the service with a clear, aspirational direction of travel to shape the development of Police Scotland. The purpose of the 2030 Vision is not only to motivate our workforce to deliver, but also to support strategic decision making around service investment priorities and our portfolio of change.
- 1.8 Our 2030 Vision is for safer communities, less crime, supported victims and a thriving workforce with this report structured under each of these pillars. The 2030 Vision, along with the Chief Constable's priorities (Trust, Confidence and Performance), remain aligned to the following five Strategic Outcomes set out in the Joint Strategy for Policing: Public Safety and Wellbeing; Needs of Local Communities; Confidence in Policing; Working Environment; Sustainable and Adaptable Service.
- 1.9 We are using overarching, targeted Strategic Indicators to draw together a suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which provides scope to detail the qualitative aspects of performance and show how we are performing in these areas. Management Information (MI) and supporting evidence will be used to highlight exceptions within the data.
- 1.10 In line with Scottish Government reporting, data comparisons within this report are now made, where possible, against both Quarter 3 (April to December year-to-date vs previous year-to-date) and the

rolling 12 month period (January to December year-to-date vs previous year-to-date).

- 1.11 We continue to identify and draw out key insights, with these displayed at the beginning of the report. During Quarter 3 the following key insights have been identified and highlighted: the continued rise in rape crimes; the five year high volume of domestic abuse incidents and crimes; and the current volume of antisocial behaviour.
- 1.12 Examples of proactivity and/or preventative policing activity also continues to be highlighted, with the following of note during Quarter 3: Be Bright Be Seen; Festive Drink Drug Drive campaign; Retail Crime Task Force (RCTF); Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU); Engagement with Children and Young People; 16 Days of Activism; Drugs recovered; Enhancing Community Policing Model C Division; C3 Governance and Improvement; and Professional Standards organisational learning.
- 1.13 A full copy of the Police Scotland Quarter 3 YTD Performance Report: April to December 2025 is provided at Appendix A.
- 1.14 The Police Scotland Quarter 3 YTD Performance Report: April to December 2025 is presented for discussion with members of the Policing Performance Committee.

2 Strategic alignment detail

2.1 Strategic alignment to strategic police plan and other key enabling strategies

Strategic alignment	Police Scotland 2030 Vision / Annual Police Plan
---------------------	--

2.2 This report is a regular quarterly submission to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee with the report set up to align to the four pillars within the Police Scotland 2030 Vision.

2.3 Police Scotland is responsible for producing an Annual Police Plan (APP) that sets out the arrangements to deliver against the Strategic Police Plan. As required by legislation, the SPA hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery against the strategic plan. This is done through scrutiny of Police Scotland’s quarterly performance reports.

2.4 Alignment to risk register and risk appetite

Risk alignment	Not applicable
----------------	----------------

2.5 Prior governance

Prior governance	Continued quarterly performance reporting to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee
------------------	---

2.6 This report is a regular quarterly submission to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee, in accordance with the standing Terms of Reference for the committee.

2.7 Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement	Not applicable
------------------------	----------------

3 Implications detail

Community		Data & Privacy		Environmental	
Equalities & Human Rights		Financial		Health, Safety & Wellbeing	
Legal		Workforce			

- 3.1 There are no implications identified for the Police Scotland Quarter 3 YTD Performance Report: April to December 2025. Performance is however documented throughout the report in relation to communities, human rights, data, financial, workforce, environmental and health, safety & wellbeing.

Police Scotland

Quarter 3 Year to Date Performance

Report: April to December 2025





Contents

Deputy Chief Constable Foreword	3
Introduction	5
Executive Summary	7
Key Insight	10
Vision 2030: Safer Communities	20
Vision 2030: Less Crime	38
Vision 2030: Supported Victims	68
Vision 2030: Thriving Workforce	83
Appendix	95

This is the 2025/26 Quarter 3 performance report covering the period 01 April 2025 to 31 December 2025. All data is correct at the published date and was extracted at the start of January 2026. The data is extracted from Police Scotland internal systems which are dynamic and continuously updated as investigations progress.

This report contains the most up to date recorded crime data that was available at the start of January 2026 for Quarter 3 of the reporting year 2025/26.

Further detailed Police Scotland Management Information can be found here: <https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/>



Deputy Chief Constable Foreword

During the period of April to December 2025 Police Scotland has continued to prioritise protection of those who face the greatest threat, risk and harm, particularly in the implementation of our Violence Against Women and Girls strategy.

The report reflects a continued rise in reports of rape, with recorded rape crimes at the highest level since comparable figures began. Over half of rape crimes reported between April and December included a domestic element, and domestic abuse is at the highest level in five years.

Women and girls should be able to live their lives free from all forms of violence, abuse, harassment and exploitation. My hope is that higher levels of reporting indicate increased confidence in victims coming forward. We will continue to work alongside partners to focus on a trauma-informed approach from first point of contact.

In addition to crimes of sexual violence, the report reflects a rise in non-sexual violent crime, particularly common assaults, attempted murders and weapons offences. Notably, most violent crimes are being committed by adults. It is crucial we don't stigmatise our young people or build an atmosphere of fear.

However, as highlighted in our previous reports, the number of under 18s accused of attempted murder continues to be of concern. We care deeply about violence and how it can affect young people, and the report details significant work by the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit and our youth engagement team to deliver early intervention to safeguard children and young people.

Serious and organised crime and illegal drugs continue to blight our communities with a 15.8 per cent increase in supply of drugs crimes when compared to the same period of the previous year.

This report highlights proactive activity to disrupt serious organised crime including work which resulted in the seizure of almost £80 million worth of illegal drugs in 2025.

We also highlight work to tackle antisocial behaviour by Local Policing divisions who best understand the concerns of their communities. This is illustrated in work by the community action team in Aberdeen City to respond to reports of crime involving e-bikes, which led to the seizure of over £10,000 in cash and over £17,000 worth of illegal drugs.

Our Service Centre responded to an increase in 999 calls. During this period, we also experienced some delays to our contact services following a planned upgrade to our phone lines from an outdated analogue to modernised digital system.

As the public would expect and rightly demand emergency 999 calls were prioritised, which ensured a quick return to our target average speed of answer time of within 10 seconds.

Now the system is embedded, we are seeing benefits in providing more flexibility in contact handling and improvements in our call handling response. I would like to thank colleagues in our Contact, Command and Control and Digital divisions for their commitment and dedication to overcoming challenges and delivering an improved service to the public.

This report seeks to provide meaningful insights into how we are delivering on our Annual Police Plan and vision to achieve safer communities, less crime, supported victims, and a thriving workforce.



Alan Speirs KPM

**Deputy Chief Constable Professionalism
and Enabling Services**



Introduction

This is the third quarterly report of the 2025/26 performance cycle reporting based on our Performance and Accountability Framework for 2025/26. This year's Performance and Accountability Framework is set out to measure performance, progress and impact across all areas of Police Scotland's [2030 Vision](#).

Our 2030 vision provides the service with a clear, aspirational direction of travel to shape the development of Police Scotland. The purpose of the 2030 Vision is not only to motivate our workforce to deliver, but also to support strategic decision making around service investment priorities and our portfolio of change.

Our 2030 Vision is for safer communities, less crime, supported victims and a thriving workforce with this report structured under each of these pillars. The 2030 Vision, along with the Chief Constable's priorities (Trust, Confidence and Performance), remain aligned to the following five Strategic Outcomes set out in the Joint Strategy for Policing:

- **Public Safety and Wellbeing** – Threats to public safety are resolved by a proactive and responsive service;
- **Needs of Local Communities** – The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery;
- **Confidence in Policing** – The public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing;
- **Working Environment** – Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public;
- **Sustainable and Adaptable Service** – Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges.

Although reporting will be displayed against the 2030 Vision, this alignment ensures Police Scotland will continue to operate, evidence progression and contribute to the overarching outcomes.

We are using overarching, targeted Strategic Indicators to draw together a suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which provides scope to detail the qualitative aspects of performance and show how we are performing in these areas. Management Information (MI) and supporting evidence will be used to highlight exceptions within the data.

In line with Scottish Government reporting, data comparisons within this report are now made, where possible, against both Quarter 3 (year-to-date vs previous year-to-date) and the rolling 12 month period (year-to-date vs previous year-to-date). We will no longer include five-year mean comparisons in the quarterly performance report.

The 12 month timeframe will always encompass the most recent 12 month period. It is a dynamic, shifting period which will remove any short-term effects of seasonality in our reporting. Within this report, the rolling 12 month period will compare January to December YTD against January to December PYTD.

We continue to identify and draw out key insights, with these displayed at the beginning of the report. During Quarter 3 the following key insights have been identified and highlighted:

- Rape
- Domestic Abuse
- Antisocial Behaviour.

Examples of proactivity and/or preventative policing activity also continues to be highlighted, with the following of note during Quarter 3:

- Be Bright Be Seen
- Festive Drink Drug Drive campaign
- Retail Crime Task Force (RCTF)
- Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU)
- Engagement with Children and Young People
- 16 Days of Activism
- Drugs recovered
- Enhancing Community Policing Model C Division
- C3 Governance and Improvement
- PSD Organisational Learning.

Strong performance will show the steps we are taking to achieve the outcomes within the 2030 Vision. The Quarter 3 Performance Report illustrates how we are striving towards these outcomes through quantitative data analysis and qualitative supporting evidence.



Executive Summary

Figures in these tables are YTD (April to September 2025) unless otherwise stated. Comparisons in the second row are made against the same period last year.

Safer Communities

Suspected Drugs Related Deaths	Missing Persons Demand	Mental Health Related Incidents	CJ Volume of Cases Submitted	Stop and Search Compliance
850 DRDs	9,771 mispers	178,669 inc.	126,758 cases	99.0%
↓ 13.8%	↓ -15.1%	↓ -1.3%	↑ 12.9%	↑ 0.1% pts
Group 6 Antisocial Offences	Antisocial Behaviour & Disorder	Road Safety Fatalities on our roads	Group 8 Road Traffic Offences	Positive Drug Wipes & Safety Camera Dets
40,171 offences	195,994 ASB	119 people	96,351 offences	2,910 positive
↑ 7.5%	↓ -3.5%	↓ -0.8%	↑ 15.2%	↑ 19.1%
78.8% det rate	137,000 disorder	1 child	87.2% det rate	62,633 detections
↓ -1.1% pts	↓ -3.2%	↓ -50.0%	↓ -0.3% pts	↓ -1.0%

Less Crime

<p>Group 1 Non sexual crimes of violence</p> <p>57,374 crimes</p> <p>↑ 5.9%</p> <p>68.1% det rate</p> <p>↓ -0.8% pts</p>	<p>Group 2 Sexual Crimes</p> <p>12,267 crimes</p> <p>↑ 9.6%</p> <p>61.1% det rate</p> <p>↑ 2.7% pts</p>	<p>Group 3 Crimes of dishonesty</p> <p>87,998 crimes</p> <p>↑ 3.9%</p> <p>36.4% det rate</p> <p>↑ 1.2% pts</p>	<p>Group 4 Damage & reckless behaviour</p> <p>29,289 crimes</p> <p>↓ -2.7%</p> <p>32.4% det rate</p> <p>↑ 1.4% pts</p>	<p>Group 5 Crimes against society</p> <p>51,387 crimes</p> <p>↑ 7.9%</p> <p>90.9% det rate</p> <p>↓ -4.3% pts</p>
<p>Children and Young People Crimes</p> <p>21,713 crimes</p> <p>↓ -5.7%</p> <p>8.9% of crimes</p> <p>↓ -1.6% pts</p>	<p>Violence Against Women & Girls</p> <p>56,211 crimes</p> <p>↑ 7.4%</p> <p>26,412 domestic</p> <p>↑ 11.8%</p>	<p>Theft by Shoplifting</p> <p>39,256 crimes</p> <p>↑ 15.9%</p> <p>50.8% det rate</p> <p>↑ 1.8% pts</p>	<p>Hate Crime</p> <p>7,212 crimes</p> <p>↑ 5.8%</p> <p>64.2% det rate</p> <p>↓ -3.0% pts</p>	<p>Supply of drugs</p> <p>3,861 crimes</p> <p>↑ 15.8%</p> <p>87.8% det rate</p> <p>↓ -3.8% pts</p>

Supported Victims

User Experience Satisfaction	Your Police confidence in local policing	Your Police safety in local area	Your Care Cards (YCC) Acceptance	Victim Support Scotland (VSS) Referrals
70% (Q3)	46% (Q3)	78% (Q3)	58,403 accepted	7,342 accepted
↑ 3.0% pts	↓ -4.0% pts	↑ 2.0% pts	↓ -4.1%	↑ 0.5%
Volume of 999 calls received	999 calls average speed of answer	Volume of 101 calls received	Digital online enquires received	Complaints received relative to C3
619,754 calls	10 seconds	1,267,985 calls	286,462 online	228 complaints
↑ 7.2%	↑ 2 seconds	↓ -0.2%	↑ 5.8%	↑ 4.1%

Thriving Workforce

Assaults & Injuries officers/staff	Percentage of Working Days Lost (WDL)	Percentage turnover of officers/staff	PSD Complaints & Allegations	Financial Sustainability Underspends
5,792 assaults	7.8% officers	1.22% officers	4,453 complaints	Revenue budget
↑ 6.6%	↑ 0.5% pts	↑ 0.13% pts	↓ -17.3%	↓ -£3.2m
23.3% injured	7.6% staff	1.19% staff	8,206 allegations	Capital budget
↓ -1.5% pts	↑ 0.2 pts	↓ -0.26% pts	↓ -14.5%	↓ -£5.0m



Key Insight

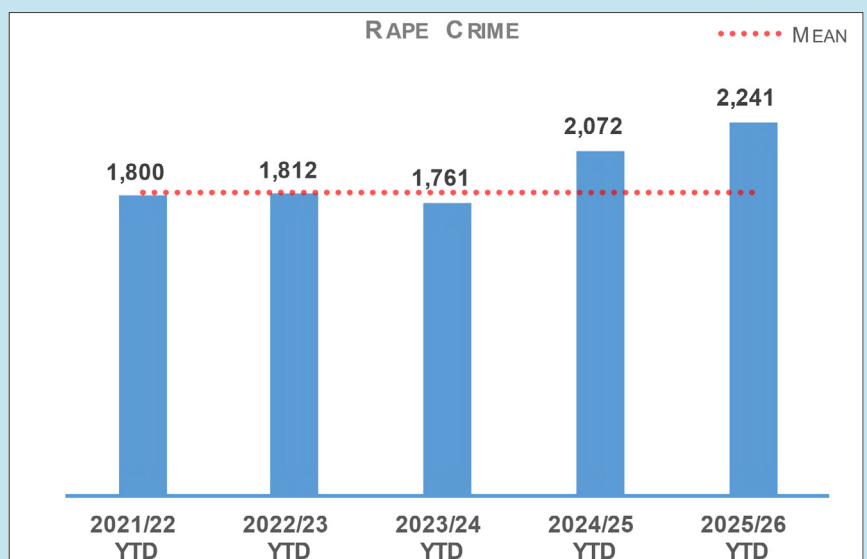
Key Insight – Rape

Rape crimes continue to rise, and recorded figures are at the highest level since comparable figures began.

Further analysis has been conducted for the period 01 April 2025 – 31 December 2025 (with comparisons to the same period in the previous years) and the detail is included below.

Rape is at the highest level of recording and accounts for almost one fifth of all reported sexual crimes

In Scotland, a total of 2,241 crimes of rape have been reported which is an increase of 169 crimes compared to the previous year. Rape accounts for over 18% of all Group 2; Sexual Crimes.



Over 70% of rapes were committed against females over the age of 16 years

Rape of a female over 16 accounts for 71.4% of all rape and is the only classification within rape to have a year on year increase. Rape of a female over 16 has increased from 1,027 crimes in 2020/21 to 1,601 crimes in 2025/26, an increase of 55.9%.

There have been 98 crimes of rape of a female under 13 recorded in 2025/26. This is an increase of 36.1% compared to 2024/25 and is the highest number of crimes recorded in the last three years.

Rape of a female 13 – 15, male 13 – 15 and male under 13 also note increases compared to the previous year, however the numbers recorded in 2025/26 are not the highest across all previous years.

Rape of a male over 16 and Rape (Common Law) have noted decreases compared to the previous year.

'Non Recent' rapes have increased 131 crimes

Recent crimes of rape are defined as being reported less than 365 days from the day the rape was committed. Non recent crimes of rape are therefore any reported 366 days or more from the day the rape was committed.

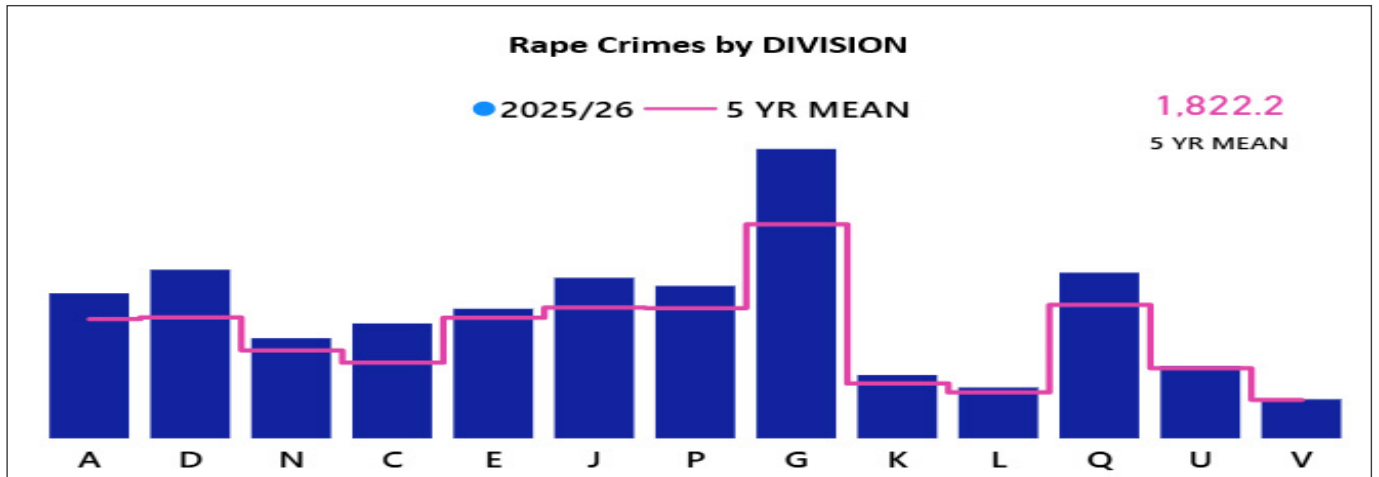
	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25		2025/26	
	No. of Crimes	Proportion	No. of Crimes	Proportion	No. of Crimes	Proportion	No. of Crimes	Proportion	No. of Crimes	Proportion
Non Recent	733	40.7%	670	37.0%	728	41.3%	805	38.9%	936	41.8%
Recent	1,067	59.3%	1,142	63.0%	1,033	58.7%	1,267	61.1%	1,305	58.2%

Recent rape crimes have increased by 2.9% (38 crimes) since 2024/25. Non recent crimes of rape have increased by 16.3% (131 crimes) since 2024/25.

Out of 2,241 crimes of rape, 57.9% (1,298 crimes) have been recorded with a domestic element. However, we anticipate the number of domestic rapes to be higher due to inconsistencies in recording.

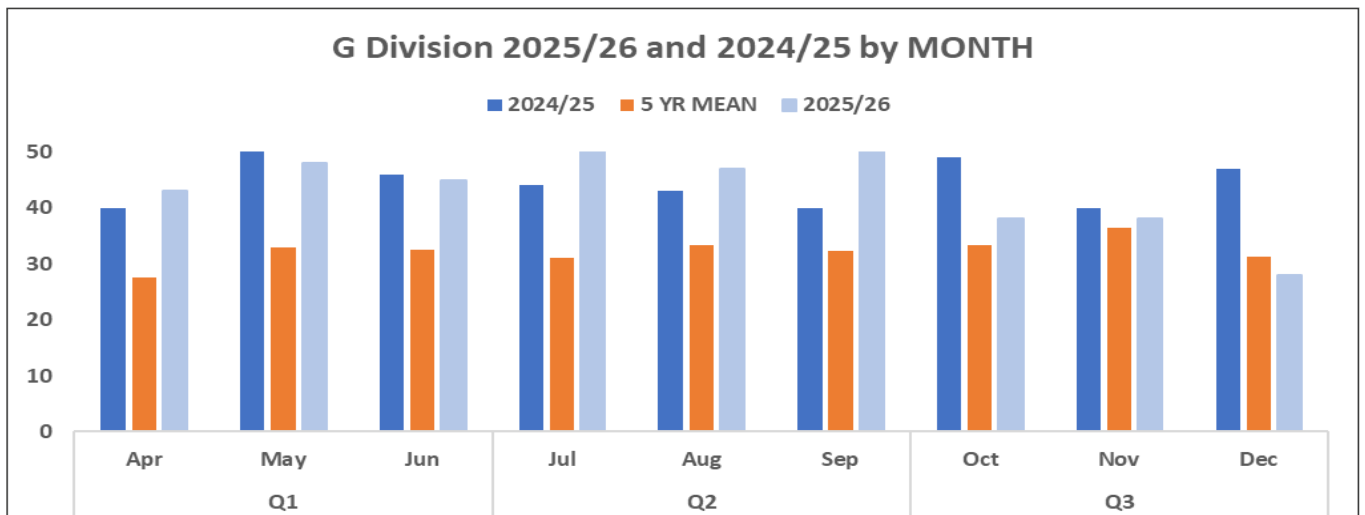
More than half of all rape crimes reported in Scotland have a domestic element

Greater Glasgow, Tayside and Lanarkshire Divisions have the highest volume of rapes across the Service



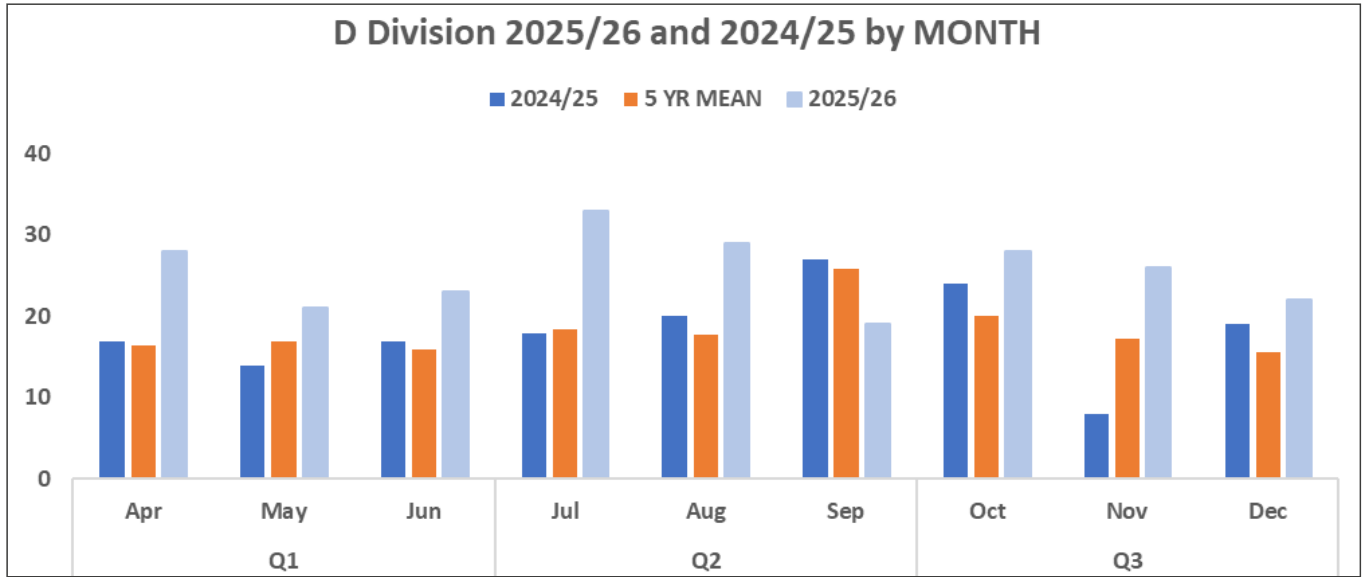
Across the 13 Divisions in the Force, eight have recorded an increase in rapes compared to the previous year. Greater Glasgow (G) Division (394 crimes), Tayside

(D) Division (230 crimes) and Lanarkshire (Q) Division (224 crimes) have the highest volume of rapes across the Force.

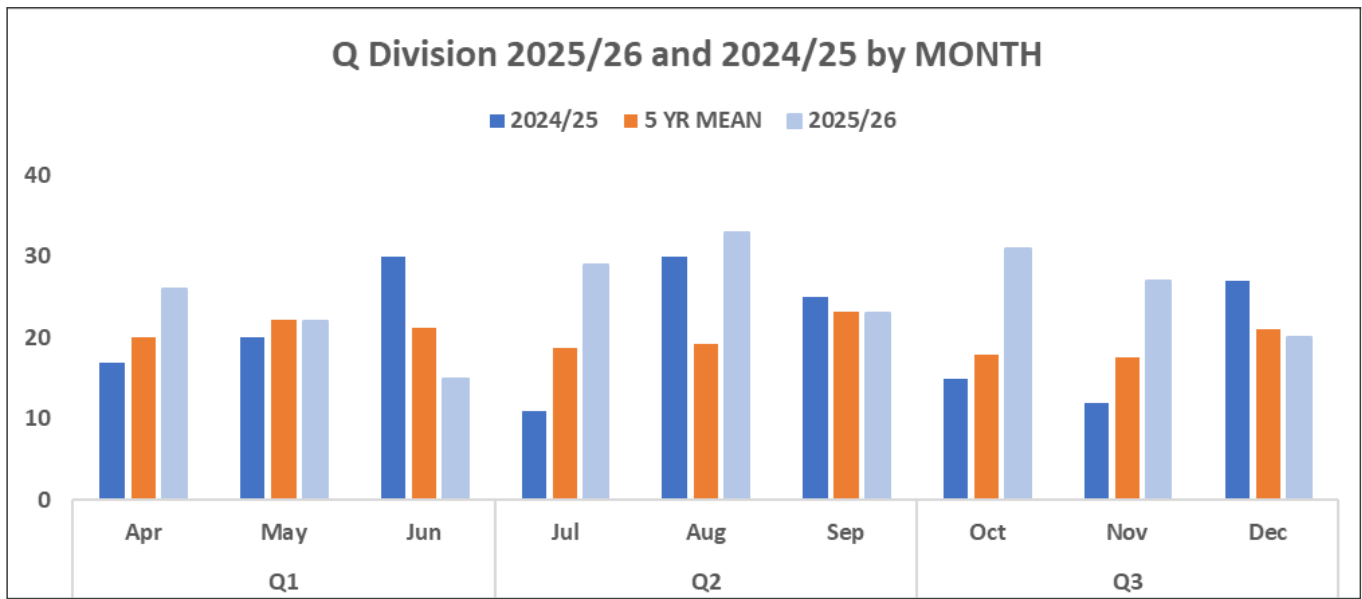


The number of rapes reported month on month in G Division have remained relatively consistent to last year, with an average of 44 crimes per month. However, in December there were 47 crimes in 2024/25 compared to 29 in 2025/26, a notable decrease compared to 2024/25.

Female over 16 is driving the increase in G division, with all other crime classifications are down compared to last year.



As can be seen in the chart, D Division have been consistently higher throughout Quarter 3 2025/26 compared to 2024/25. Female over 16 has the largest increase in D Division, with an increase of 47 crimes in 2025/26 compared to the same period in 2024/25.



The number of rapes reported month on month in Q Division is, on average higher than last year, with an average of 25 crimes per month in 2025/26, compared to 21 crimes per month in 2024/25. All crime classifications are up compared to last year. However, in December there were 27 crimes in 2024/25 compared to 19 in 2025/26, a notable decrease to 2024/25.

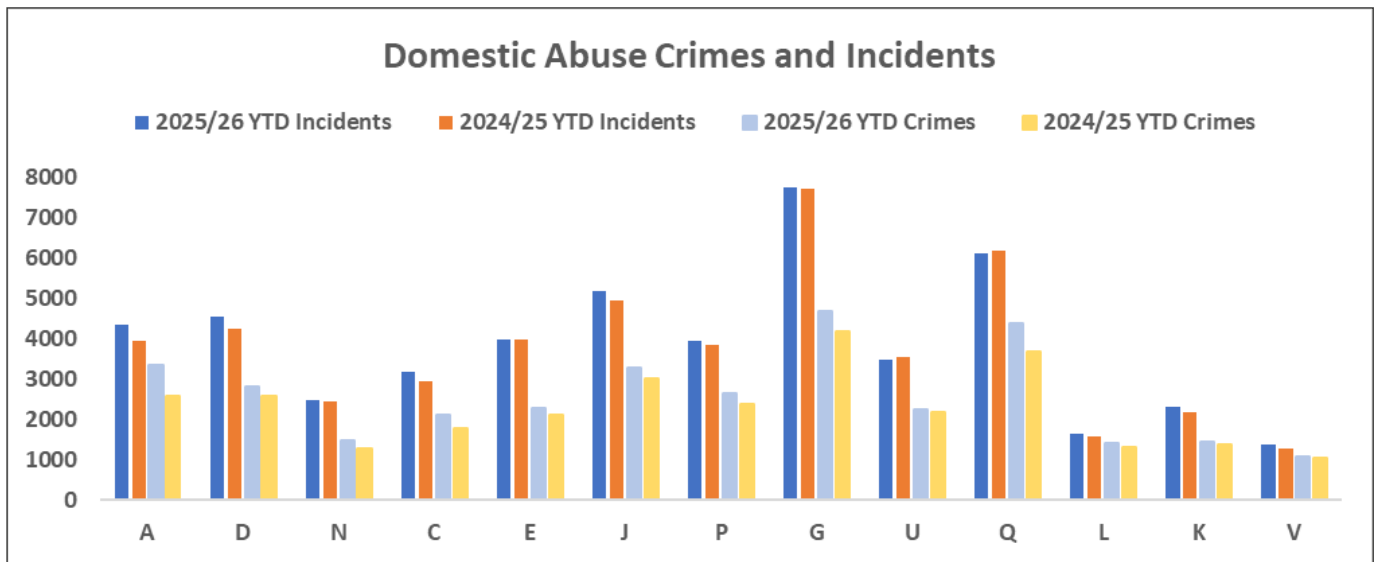
Key Insight – Domestic Abuse

Between April and December 2025 there were 50,316 Domestic Abuse incidents reported to Police Scotland. Of these incidents, 33,226 resulted in a crime being recorded. Overall, the number of incidents and crimes have both increased compared to 2024/25.

Domestic Abuse records its highest number of incidents and crimes in the last five years.

Domestic Abuse incidents have increased in 10 of the 13 divisions, with Edinburgh (E) division remaining the same, Ayrshire (U) division (down 1.4%) and Lanarkshire (Q) division (down 0.9%) decreasing on 2024/25. Domestic Abuse crimes have increased in all divisions.

The most notable increases recorded in North East (A) Division (up 22%), Forth Valley (C) Division (up 18%) and Lanarkshire (Q) Division (up 19%) when compared to last year.



The detection rate for Domestic Abuse is up in all divisions except for Renfrewshire & Inverclyde (K) division which is down by 0.4 percentage points against 2024/25.

The overall detection rate is 72.3%, up 6.9 percentage points compared to 2024/25.

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (DASA) crimes increased 23.9%

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (DASA) crimes have increased 23.9% overall compared to last year.

DASA of a female is up 22.2%, 392 more crimes and DASA of a male is up 50.5%, 56 more crimes.

Greater Glasgow (G) Division (121 crimes), and Lanarkshire (Q) Division (88 crimes) have the highest volume of DASA crimes across the Force. Compared to 2024/25, G Division has seen an increase of 52.0% for DASA of a female and an increase of 50.8% for DASA of a male. Similarly, Q Division has seen an increase of 37.8% for DASA of a female and an increase of 43.6% for DASA of a male.

#ChooseToStop

#ChooseToStop, a recent Police Scotland domestic abuse campaign, ran from 28 October to 09 December 2025. The aim: to drive early intervention and engagement through highlighting individuals' personal responsibility and the impact abusive behaviour has.

The campaign was targeting men as Scottish Government figures consistently show that in the last ten years, approximately 80% of all incidents reported to Police Scotland involve a male perpetrator.

#ChooseToStop signposted individuals to support services such as Respect Phonenumber, encouraging individuals to reflect on their behaviour and take action to stop if they have started to use abusive, controlling or coercive behaviour in their relationships. Respect Phonenumber has expert advisors that offer support to people across Scotland by listening and talking through a person's situation.

Helping individuals develop strategies to change harmful or abusive behaviour that can help them and their loved ones.

The campaign consisted of two video adverts, one depicting a male/female relationship and one depicting a male/male relationship. The adverts were developed in partnership with LGBTQI+ support groups due to the issue of underreporting within the LGBTQI+ community. These videos featured on social media channels and were supported by a number of partners.

This campaign was created to not only encourage a change in abusers' behaviour but to give those at risk of harm the confidence to report incidents to the police and trust incidents will be treated sensitively and investigated thoroughly.

Overall, the campaign delivered:

- over 14,500,000 impressions
- resulting in more than 663,000 engagements (likes, comments, shares)
- over 161,000 clicks

There were over 14,000 visits to the campaign webpage on the Respect website, an increase of 255% on last year's campaign, and there were over 23,500 visits to the Respect website as a whole. An increase of 165% on last year's campaign.

Our focus on tackling this crime remains a priority. Campaign planning for 2026/27 has started and will look to continue highlighting domestic abuse and influence behaviour change to young people.

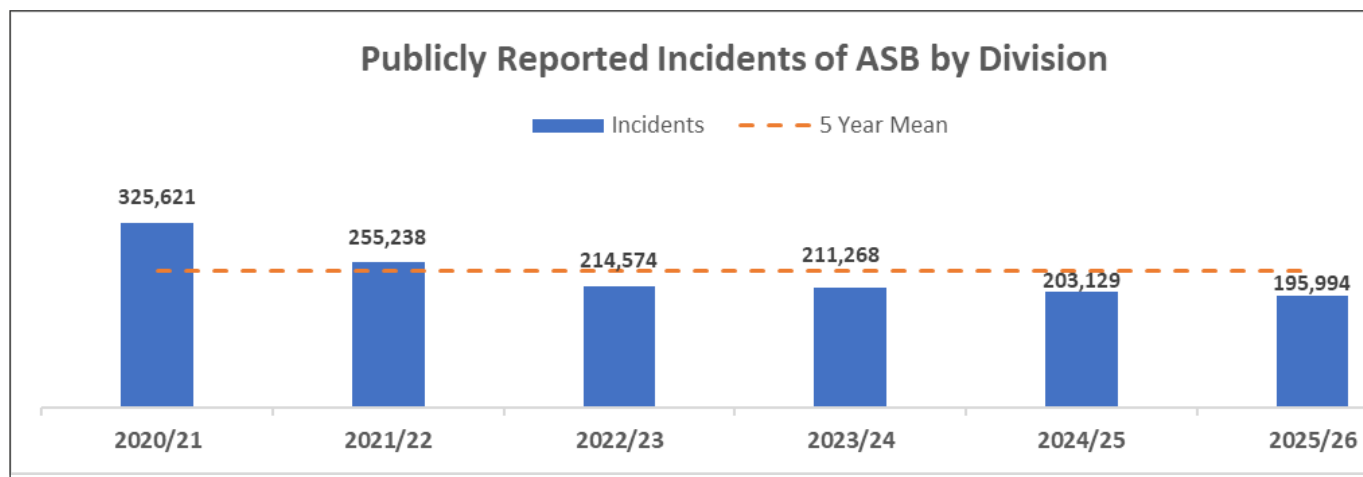
Key Insight – Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial Behaviour incidents continue to decrease

There were 195,994 incidents of antisocial behaviour reported to Police Scotland by the public during the period. Incident types included in this relate to disturbances, public nuisance, communications, noise, neighbour disputes, property damage and drinking in public.

Overall, the number of antisocial behaviour incidents (ASB) reported to Police Scotland by members of the public continues to decrease. Some incident types, however, have seen a small rise from last year, namely disturbances, communications incidents and neighbour disputes.

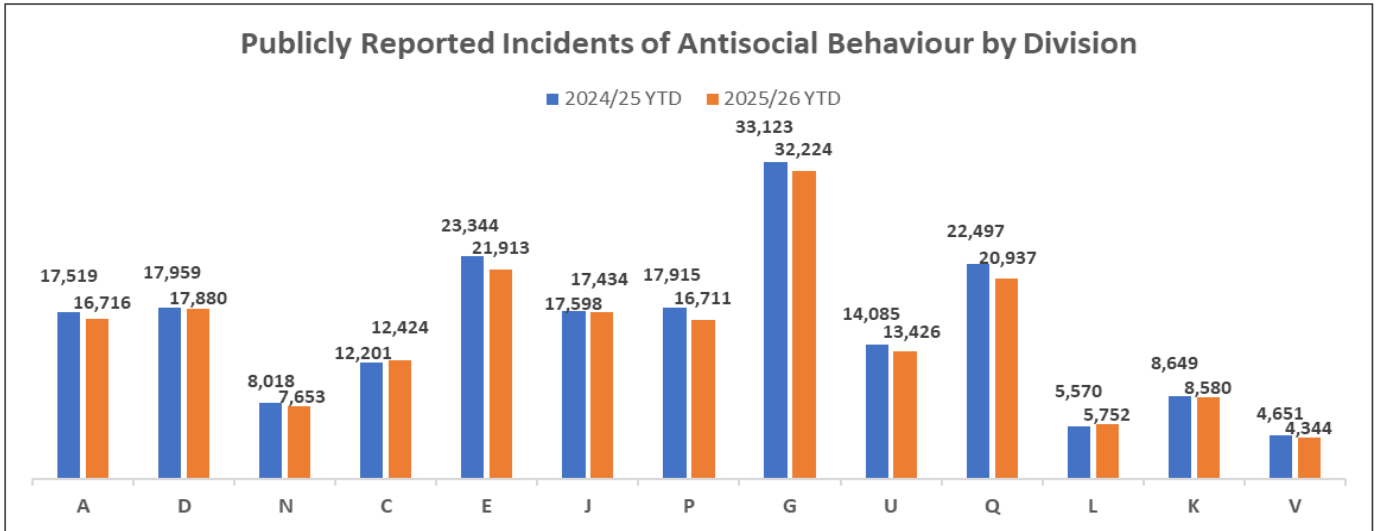
Most of these increases occurred earlier in the financial year with Quarter 3 seeing all incident types except for disturbance (up 2.1%) decreasing. Complaints regarding disorder have also continued to decrease as the year has progressed.



Antisocial Behaviour incidents down in majority of divisions

The majority of police divisions have seen a decrease in publicly reported incidents of antisocial behaviour when compared to last year, with Forth Valley and Argyll & West Dunbartonshire seeing very slight increases from last year.

Publicly Reported Incidents of Antisocial Behaviour by Division



Despite these reductions, the volume of antisocial behaviour across communities is still too high, and can have a profoundly negative impact on peoples’ lives. Whilst the number of incidents relating to ASB that are reported to Police Scotland by the public have been decreasing steadily in recent years, the level of antisocial behaviour suffered by people remains high, alongside the increase in the number of offences relating to ASB.

There have been 40,171 antisocial offences recorded during April to December 2025, the majority (83.5%) of which were threatening or abusive behaviour. The majority of offence types have increased when compared to the same period last year, but breach of the peace (up 42.9%), consuming alcohol in designated places (up 23.3%) and urinating in public (up 20.5%) have seen the largest increases.

There were 1,435 crimes of hate aggravated conduct (including stirring up hatred) which was the same number as last year.

Rise in volume of Group 6: Antisocial offences

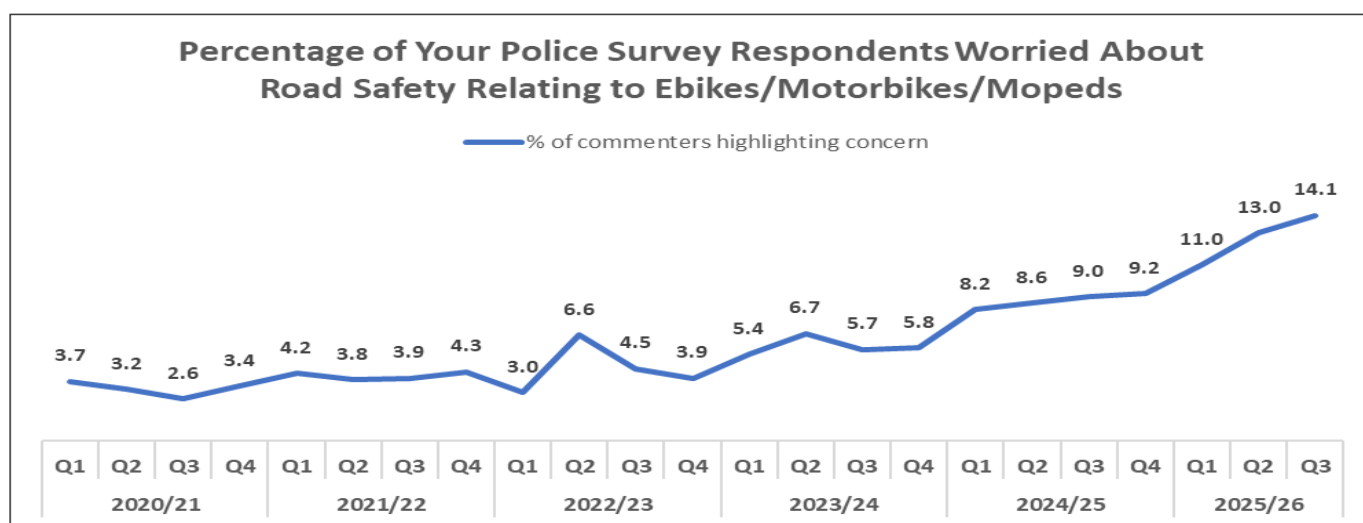
The volume of antisocial offences recorded by Police Scotland has increased when compared to the same period last year in every division except for Highlands & Islands and Ayrshire.

It is also important to recognise that not all ASB-related crime will be captured under the above crime types. There have been 24,809 vandalisms recorded year-to-date, a decrease of 4.0% from the same period last year.

There is also increasing public concern around the use of vehicles in antisocial behaviour, particularly off-road motorcycles and e-bikes. Where this reaches the level of a criminal offence, it is often more likely to be recorded as a road traffic offence than an antisocial offence, so will not be reflected in the figures above.

Data from the Your Police surveys since 2020 shows that people are increasingly worried about the uses of e-bikes/ motorbikes/mopeds in their communities,

with the percentage of respondents providing it as one of their concerns reaching 14.1% in the most recent quarter.



Success of Operation Armour in North East (A) Division

Work to tackle ASB is often led by divisions who best understand the concerns of their communities. In early 2025/26, North East Division’s Community Action Team (CAT) proactively deployed across Aberdeen City for Operation Armour in response to increasingly challenging issues involving the use of e-bikes affecting communities there.

By working closely with local and national resources, including OSD’s Drone Unit, intelligence was gathered, crime hotspots had increased patrols and known offenders were targeted.

Operation Armour led to the seizure of:

- 10x electric motorcycles
- 2x petrol motorcycles
- 6x electric scooters
- 1x van
- £10,000 in cash
- Approximately £5,400 of Cocaine
- Approximately £9,300 of ‘crack’ Cocaine
- Approximately £2,700 of Diamorphine
- Approximately £160 of Cannabis resin.

This made a significant impact, not only in terms of road safety, but also the anti-social behaviour and drug supply commonly associated with those using e-bikes.

- 19x individuals were charged with road traffic offences
- 18x individuals were charged with misuse of drugs offences
- 1x individual was charged with carrying a knife
- 1x individual was charged with theft of a motor vehicle which was recovered.

One month later, the CAT and officers from Roads Policing worked in partnership with Officers from the Home Office as it had been assessed that several individuals were working in the Aberdeen City illegally and were also making modifications to their pushbikes to make them go faster than the limits set by UK e-bike law.

Officers stopped various riders/e-bikes and carried out checks on the e-bikes by raising the rear wheel off the ground and using the throttle to accelerate the bike.

- If any e-bike is capable of using a throttle to propel it greater than 3.7mph then it is illegal
- If any e-bike is capable of speeds greater than 15.5mph without peddling, then it is an offence
- Electrically assisted pedal cycle (EAPC) regulations state that the rider must be peddling to achieve electrical assistance from the bikes motor however this must cut out at 15.5 mph. Any speeds attained after this come down to the rider peddling only.

As a result of this operation 15 electric pushbikes were seized by Police Scotland.

Police Scotland consider recommendations of Independent Working Group

The Independent Working Group on Anti-Social Behaviour published its report in February 2025. It made wide-ranging recommendations to shift Scotland's approach towards prevention, early intervention, multi-agency partnership and data-driven practice.

Following publication, Police Scotland, together with COSLA and Scottish Government, have been considering the report's recommendations and how to support local community safety and multiagency preventative work.

A formal Scottish Government response was provided in correspondence to the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee in December 2025 from the Minister for Victims and Community Safety.

Police Scotland are engaged with Scottish Government and partners as work progresses on the implementation and proposals as set out in the report's findings.



Vision 2030: Safer Communities

We work with partner organisations to prevent harm and reduce demand.

We use a proactive approach to deter and prevent criminality.

We are representative of the communities we serve.

KPI: Partner demand – Percentage of non-crime incidents

Suspected Drugs Related Deaths

Drugs	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of suspected drug related deaths	747	850	↑ 13.8%	1,059	1,150	↑ 8.6%
Number of naloxone administrations by police officers	158	253	↑ 60.1%	209	309	↑ 47.8%

Suspected drug related deaths have increased by 13.8%

The number of recorded suspected drug related deaths (DRD) has increased by 103 (13.8%) compared to the same period last year. The rolling 12 month figure is showing an increase of 91 (8.6%).

Public Health Scotland produce regular [Rapid Action Drug Alerts and Response \(RADAR\) reports](#) on the current drug-related indicators in order to inform action to prevent drug harm and deaths.

The latest report published was in [October](#) where contamination of drugs was reported as being both common and widespread.

Drugs were noted to continue to be adulterated with nitazene-type opioids and a new drug was highlighted, namely medetomidine (xylazine-type drug), which is used as an adulterant in heroin. The report also covers polysubstance use, cocaine, heroin, as well as benzodiazepines.

All Police Scotland frontline officers, up to the rank of inspector, continue to carry naloxone as part of their regular equipment.

Compared to the previous year, reporting by divisions has shown an increase of 95 (60.1%) incidents where naloxone was administered by officers and staff.

Naloxone incidents increase by 60.1% compared to previous year

Missing Persons Demand

9,771 missing persons investigations YTD

Missing Persons Demand	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of missing persons Investigations	11,507	9,771	↓ -15.1%	15,157	12,974	↓ -14.4%
Number of missing persons Initial PW-25 incidents	31,812	28,445	↓ -10.6%	41,717	37,572	↓ -9.9%
Number of missing persons missing previously	1,413	1,196	↓ -15.4%	1,823	1,572	↓ -13.8%

The number of missing person investigations in Quarter 3 has decreased by 699 (down 18.9%) compared to the same period last year and recorded a decrease from Quarter 2 2025/26 by 412 (down 12.6%).

Decreases were also noted from the YTD (down 15.1%) and the rolling 12 month YTD (down 14.4%).

The number of missing persons missing previously and the number of investigations with a mental health (MH) marker have all decreased compared to the same period last year.

Decreases in Children and Care Experienced Young Persons going missing

Missing Persons Demand	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of missing persons by type - child	4,169	3,485	↓ -16.4%	5,384	4,753	↓ -11.7%
Number of missing persons by type - care experienced young person	2,805	2,117	↓ -24.5%	3,682	2,760	↓ -25.0%

The notable decreases can be found when considering what 'type' of person goes missing. Care experienced young person (688 less, down 24.5%) have recorded significant decreases with child (682 less, down 16.4%) also recording large decreases compared to the same period last year.

Investigations involving children and care experienced young people in Quarter 3 have decreased from Quarter 2 by 16.8% (319 less) and have decreased by 25.3% (535 less) from the same period last year. Quarter 3 has recorded the lowest figures for the last three years to date for children and care experienced young people.

Although any reduction in missing reports is encouraging, it is important to understand the significant and continuing decreasing trend involving care experienced children.

Key areas of support are effective in ensuring support for this demographic however there is a requirement to ensure the level of service provision for this group, which carries a significant risk of harm, remains consistent and proportionate to the risks presented by partner services when reporting missing episodes.

The National Missing Person Unit have provided all divisional tactical leads detailed guidance in respect of expectations around the policing response to these missing reports.

Missing persons traced decreased increases

Missing Persons Demand	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of missing persons from NHS locations	1,015	957	↓ -5.7%	1,332	1,273	↓ -4.4%
Number of missing persons traced deceased	75	95	↑ 26.7%	108	117	↑ 8.3%
Number of missing persons with mental health marker	3,539	3,071	↓ -13.2%	5,277	4,657	↓ -11.7%

The number of missing persons traced deceased has increased by 20 from the PYTD (up 26.7%) and increased by nine from the rolling 12 month YTD (up 8.3%) as displayed in the previous table.

However, it is important to note that when measured against longitudinal data such as YTD 2023/24, and the five year mean, there is no notable increase in this time frame.

Divisions have been tasked with reviewing missing person investigations in their local area where the person is found deceased, to explore causations factors. The National Missing Person Unit will collate and, alongside national business areas, examine outcomes from this work to consider potential trends.

The National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland

The overall decrease in missing person numbers demonstrates the value of having a National Missing Persons Framework which sets out the shared objectives and commitments for all agencies who are engaged with prevention, response, support and protection for missing persons in Scotland.

The Framework delivers shared attitudes to definitions and risk and sets out clear expectations, roles, and responsibilities for partners and complements local prevention and intervention work already being undertaken.

In December 2025, Policing Together Division hosted an internal launch of the newly published version of the Framework.

Key attendees included local policing divisional leads and during the event attendees heard lived experiences from members of our communities who have been affected by missing persons episodes.

The event also heard examples of good practise within local authority partnerships and police, where the Framework has been embraced at a multi-agency level.

The event went onto consider observations from outside scrutiny, including HMICS, and internal review of multi-agency working practises. The event concluded with recommendations for local policing divisions to take away in respect of good governance processes and key multi agency working opportunities that should be considered in all areas of Scotland.

The National Missing Person Unit will ensure follow ups are undertaken in respect of implementing approaches detailed within the toolkit recommendations.

Mental Health

|| 178,669 Mental Health-related Incidents YTD

Mental Health-related Incidents	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of mental health-related incidents	181,070	178,669	↓ -1.3%

The number of mental health-related incidents recorded across Police Scotland during Quarter 3 has decreased by 2,962 (down 5.0%) compared to the same recording period last year.

Decreases have also been noted for YTD (2,401 fewer, down 1.3%). During Quarter 3 YTD, mental health-related incidents represented 18.0% of all incidents reported to Police Scotland which is an increase on last year for the same reporting period where 17.4% of all incidents were mental health-related.

Mental Health Taskforce

Police are regularly the first point of contact for people in mental health distress or crisis, and we have a crucial role in working with and supporting those who seek assistance.

Many of these contacts have a policing purpose such as an allegation of criminality or increased levels of risk, however, there are occasions where police are not best placed to meet those needs.

The Police & Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 sets out the general duties expected of a police constable such as the prevention and detection of crime, maintain order in our communities as well as our primary objective of protecting the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities.

The duty to protect life is reinforced by Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR).

The Police Scotland Mental Health Taskforce was created to reset the parameters of our contribution to a system-wide approach to mental health, working closely with partners to ensure people get the right support at the earliest opportunity whilst also enabling officers to focus more on core policing duties.

Mental Health Dashboard

Mental health-related incidents are recorded on the mental health dashboard. The mental health dashboard methodology counts incidents where specific mental health associated keywords or phrases are recorded within the comment text of the incident.

The definition of mental health-related incidents within this dataset is therefore broad and does not imply the strength or the extent of a mental health association.

It captures multiple incident types and can include domestic incidents, missing person incidents, neighbour disputes and disturbances amongst others, where mental health is an element within that incident.

Road Safety

Road Safety	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of people killed on our roads	120	119	↓ -0.8%	160	148	↓ -7.5%
Number of people seriously injured on our roads	1,555	1,220	↓ -21.5%	1,998	1,611	↓ -19.4%
Number of children killed on our roads	2	1	↓ -50.0%	4	1	↓ -75.0%
Number of children seriously injured on our roads	118	104	↓ -11.9%	162	143	↓ -11.7%

**Current YTD fatality statistics will be subject to revision/reduction once final cause of death is confirmed.*

|| Pedestrian fatalities decrease by 20%

The number of people killed on Scotland's roads decreased by one in the recording period compared to the previous year. In relation to the rolling 12 month period there was a decrease of 12 people killed.

A number of the current period fatalities are suspected medical deaths/deaths caused by another factor. These are subject to confirmation through the ongoing governance processes and as such the number of fatalities recorded may decrease.

Serious injuries on the roads have seen a significant decrease of 21.5% compared to the previous year, a figure which is similarly reflected in the rolling 12 month period with a 19.4% decrease.

The number of pedestrians killed has seen a decrease of six (down 20%) in the current period compared to last year. Through activities such as our Operation Dark Night campaign, which ran from 27 October to 09 November 2025, we aim to reduce the number of pedestrians killed on our roads each year.

The Dark Night campaign ran to coincide with a statistical peak previously noted in pedestrian collisions, particularly in built-up areas.

National enforcement took place on high active travel and other routes against risk taking behaviour including speeding. Eyesight tests were conducted whenever impaired eyesight was suspected.

Police Scotland officers detected 402 speeding offences. 156 eyesight tests were conducted with five drivers failing the roadside test and reported for the offence.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Be Bright Be Seen

In addition to the National Operation Dark Night Campaign, local policing divisions are continuing road safety work in relation to pedestrian and cyclist Vulnerable Road Users throughout the darker months such as the Be Bright Be Seen initiative that is taking place in Edinburgh in January.

This initiative includes partners such as Edinburgh City Council Road Safety Team and Lothian Buses.

The initiative centres around engagement with cyclists and pedestrians providing road safety advice alongside distribution of high visibility equipment.

A Scottish Government media campaign launched on 13 October 2025 showed one in five deaths on Scotland's roads is caused by speeding.

Police Scotland continues to meet its Road Safety Framework commitment to incorporate specific campaigns, initiatives and directed activity targeting the safety of Vulnerable Road Users (VRU) – including cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians.

In the current year all Fatal Five offences have observed an increase over the previous year, with speeding offences having increased by 26% (2,291 more). Similarly, comparing against the rolling 12 month figure, speeding offences have increased by 19.4% (2,315 more).

During the past quarter, campaign work has continued to be focused towards protecting VRUs and/or targeting motorists committing Fatal Five offences.

Our engage, educate, enforce approach has been enhanced by Corporate Communications and social media support for all campaigns during this period.

Criminal Justice

Reduction in number of times an arrested person is brought into police custody

CJ Arrested Persons Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Volume of cases submitted into Criminal Justice System	112,270	126,758	↑ 12.9%
Number of times arrested persons brought into custody	76,176	73,655	↓ -3.3%

As detailed in the Quarter 2 report, a change in process has been undertaken across the Force for quality assuring Standard Prosecution Reports (SPRs).

In advance of this change, there was a focus on reducing the backlog of SPRs with resources deployed to reduce this. The consequence of this is an increased number of SPRs submitted to COPFS over the reporting period.

This accounts for the significant increase in cases submitted into the criminal justice system. We are now seeing a slowing of this trend which is anticipated, and will likely set new normal parameters for the future of case reporting.

The reducing throughput trend continues for a fourth quarter. It is assessed that there is a combination of contributing factors which include the introduction of the Planned Voluntary Interview Pathway (PVIP) operating since November 2024.

PVIP sees some suspect interviews taking place without the need to convey suspects to a custody centre. PVIP has reportedly almost doubled within the reporting period in recent months.

It is assessed that the reduction in throughput is also being supported by greater use of Police Direct Measures which have risen significantly over the corresponding period.

Both PVIP and the use of Direct Measures reduces demand, not only on the wider criminal justice system but on police officers, and reduces the amount of time officers are abstracted from local communities.

Both these approaches prevent the need for officers to travel to custody centres and spend time in custody centres when dealing with low harm, low risk crimes and offences, allowing for a more proportionate approach.

11% reduction in the number of arrested persons held for court

CJ Arrested Persons Held for Court Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of arrested persons held for court	32,099	28,565	↓ -11.0%
Proportion of arrested persons held for court	42.1%	38.8%	↓ -3.4%
Number of arrested persons held for court in relation to a new case	19,977	16,918	↓ -15.3%
Proportion of arrested persons held for court in relation to a new case	31.5%	27.6%	↓ -3.9%

Reductions in the number and proportion of persons held for court and held in relation to new cases are holding steady for this financial year.

This is likely to have been impacted by an enhanced audit and compliance regime which has been implemented and Criminal Justice Services Division (CJSD) has also achieved targeted disposal inputs for custody sergeants with the assistance of Crown Office.

This supports a reduction in the percentage to court compared with the past three years, although has very slightly crept up this quarter.

The reduction in the number of people being arrested and held for court reflects a more proportionate approach for low harm, low risk criminality and aligns with the increased use of police undertakings, as highlighted below, which allows police to place conditions on people to manage threat and risk.

People arrested and charged with the most serious offences and who are considered to present a threat to public safety are kept in police custody in line with the Lord Advocate's Guidelines.

Increase in persons released on an undertaking and investigative liberation

CJ Arrested Persons Released Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of arrested persons released on an undertaking	17,998	20,414	↑ 13.4%
Proportion of arrested persons released on an undertaking	23.6%	27.7%	↑ 4.1%
Proportion of persons released on investigative liberation	5.8%	7.6%	↑ 1.7%

The rise in the number and proportion of individuals being released on undertaking has continued to Quarter 3 in line with the updated Lord Advocates Guidelines and the principles of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016.

There is also a small but still noteworthy rise in the percentage of those being released on investigative liberation. Both continue the positive trends from the first two quarters.

Fewer children are being brought into, and held in, police custody

CJ Children Arrested Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of Children Arrested and Accepted into Police Custody (not held overnight)	1,998	1,622	↓ -18.8%
Number of children arrested and held overnight	799	646	↓ -19.1%
Number of children held over 24 hours	157	113	↓ -28.0%

The number of children being brought into and kept in police custody continues to decline across all measures. This is a welcome and continuing trend which has been reasonably consistent of recent years and previous quarters.

CJSD continues to apply considerable scrutiny to children brought into and held in police custody and will continue to make efforts to work with partners to reduce the numbers coming in, as well as reduce the length of time they are held.

Suitable local authority provision would greatly assist in aiding this, as a number of those held overnight or longer than 24 hours are due to a lack of alternative safe/secure accommodation.

Slight drop in the number of arrested persons reporting alcohol and drug addiction issues

CJ Addiction Issues Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of persons arrested who have declared current or historic alcohol addiction issues	10,530	10,457	↓ -0.7%
Proportion of persons arrested who have declared current or historic alcohol addiction issues	13.6%	13.8%	↑ 0.2%
Number of persons arrested who have declared current or historic drug addiction issues	12,215	11,578	↓ -5.2%
Proportion of persons arrested who have declared current or historic drug addiction issues	15.8%	15.3%	↓ -0.5%

The proportion of individuals declaring current or historic alcohol or drug addiction remains relatively static.

The custody process is reliant on self-declaration and is therefore not considered to be a true representation of the challenges experienced by people coming through police custody.

Engagement continues with NHS colleagues to improve access to healthcare in police custody and work is ongoing to embed arrest referral support services, ensuring that those who need additional support, receive it.

51.8% increase in the number of Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Fixed Penalties issued

Police Direct Measures	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of ASB Fixed Penalties issued	1,536	2,332	↑ 51.8%
Number of Recorded Police Warnings issued	19,316	19,395	↑ 0.4%

ASB Fixed Penalties Notices have seen a significant rise. This follows the implementation of the revised Lord Advocates guidelines on police direct measures.

These guidelines provide officers more discretion to deal with low level offending at the closest point to the commission of the offence.

The circumstances in which a fixed penalty can be issued is embedded in statute and work remains ongoing with Scottish Government to introduce Section 38 Criminal Justice & Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 into the eligible offences category.

Police Scotland is also working with partners in Community Justice Scotland on a street referral and support model to divert those who are issued direct measures from re-offending.

The use of Direct Measures allows for a proportionate response to crimes and offences which are associated with less harm and risk. They are not used for serious crimes or offences or for repeat offenders.

Their use allows for resolution close to the point of the commission of the offence and provides an opportunity for swift intervention for first time offenders, in an effort to prevent further offending.

The issuing of Direct Measures is now a fully automated process, from their point of issue to the automated creation of a back-office crime report, reducing the demand on our front-line officers and negating the need to return to local stations to perform previous administrative report creation tasks therefore keeping them in local communities.

Direct Measures have also positively contributed to ensuring only more serious offences enter the criminal justice system reducing overall demand.

|| The number of accumulated productions continues to fall

CJ Productions Management Information	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of productions received	435,729	365,718	↓ -16.1%
Number of productions disposed	222,378	280,696	↑ 26.2%
Number of productions accumulated	213,351	85,022	↓ -60.1%
% of productions accumulated in terms of total received	49.0%	23.3%	↓ -25.7%

A decrease in productions received from the previous year can be attributed to the national rollout of Digital Evidence Sharing Capability (DESC).

National roll out concluded on 30 September 2025 and has resulted in a significant decrease in physical footage (phones, USBs, discs, etc) and certificates being lodged.

The increase in items disposed and subsequent decrease in items accumulated can be attributed to our national production disposal teams, dedicated to assisting Productions Management Officers (PMOs) via the disposal of case productions and assisting with processing the significant backlog of production release notes.

This helps to create much needed space in stores for the lodgement of new productions, numbers of which are still significantly higher than those disposed each month.

Disposal figures have also increased due to recent national drugs incineration runs and firearms/weapons destructions.

Drop in reported current or mental health issues in arrested persons

Mental Health Incidents	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of persons arrested who have declared current or historic Mental Health issues	32,733	31,729	↓ -3.1%
Proportion of persons arrested who have declared current or historic Mental Health issues	42.2%	41.9%	↓ -0.3%

The proportion of individuals declaring current or historic mental health issues remains static.

The custody process is reliant on self-declaration and is therefore not considered to be a true representation of the challenges experienced by people coming through police custody.

Engagement continues with NHS colleagues to improve access to healthcare in police custody and work is ongoing to embed arrest referral support services, ensuring that those who need additional support, receive it.

Slight fall in people seen by NHS persons in custody, however an increase in referrals made

External Force Requests	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change
Number of times people in custody seen one or more times by NHS partners within custody suites	7,693	7,283	↓ -5.3%
Number of persons in police custody who are referred to partners	671	860	↑ 28.2%

There has been a reduction in the number of times individuals in custody are seen by healthcare professionals. This reduction is likely to be impacted by the overall reduction in throughput rather than any significant change to practice.

For the most part these individuals are seen by nurses although doctors also play a role in medical provision.

Police Scotland Healthcare and Interventions (HC&I) team continues to work with both support service partners delivering our arrest referral pathways, and local authorities to ensure the smooth running of services in place.

This partnership work is maintained by having regular local group meetings to ensure issues can be raised and considered and best practice shared.

Due to decisions beyond the control of Police Scotland, two established pathways were withdrawn in December 2025, however recent work with Police Scotland's information assurance team to review the setting up of Information Sharing Agreements (ISAs) has resulted in three new services going live in local authority areas where gaps in provision existed.

In addition, there is one replacement service for one of the withdrawn services (namely Alternatives in West Dunbartonshire) likely arriving in early 2026.

Internal communications with CJSD frontline staff, and regular updates to and reviews of the divisional intranet site with training documents and support service leaflets has meant continued support to our cohort of champions. An inaugural national strategic level meeting to consider arrest referrals is scheduled during the Quarter 4 period.

KPI: Number of proactive crimes

Group 6 Crimes

|| Antisocial offences have increased by 7.5%

Group 6 Offences	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 6 Offences	37,372	40,171	↑ 7.5%	48,140	51,849	↑ 7.7%
Detection Rate of Group 6 Offences	79.9%	78.8%	↓ -1.1%	80.0%	79.2%	↓ -0.8%

|| Antisocial behaviour and disorder continue to decrease

Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of antisocial behaviour incidents reported by the public	203,129	195,994	↓ -3.5%	264,646	257,680	↓ -2.6%
Number of complaints regarding disorder	141,594	137,000	↓ -3.2%	183,826	179,298	↓ -2.5%

More information about antisocial offences and incidents of antisocial behaviour can be found in the Key Insights section of this report.

Stop and Search

99.0% of all stop and searches compliant with the Stop and Search Code of Practice

Stop and Search	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Stop Search Compliance Rate	98.9%	99.0%	↑ 0.1%	98.9%	99.1%	↑ 0.2%

Intelligence-led stop and search is a valuable and effective policing tactic that helps us keep people safe. Our approach is guided by the core principle that every person has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

We are committed to transparency and accountability, ensuring that our decisions are objective and intelligence-led grounds. By ensuring that every search is objective, intelligence-led and in line with the Code of Practice, we aim to build public confidence and demonstrate that this tactic is used fairly and proportionately.

Between October and December 2025, 9,379 stop and search records were audited, bringing the year-to-date audit figure to 30,329 stop and search records.

The auditing process involves the records being reviewed by line managers and thereafter quality control checked by the National Stop and Search Unit to ensure adherence to the Stop and Search Code of Practice which was introduced in May 2017.

625 records have been returned to local management for further details and are still awaiting responses.

Suitable guidance and learning is given with each returned record and feedback is regularly provided to local policing divisions in relation to any common issues when these are identified.

Of the remaining 29,704 records, 90.4% were deemed compliant with the Code of Practice and another 8.6% were compliant but required amendment to their details to ensure they were appropriately recorded. The total compliance rate for stop and search that have finished the audit process year-to-date was 99.0%.

285 (1.0%) records were deemed as not recordable under the code of practice or recorded in error and deleted from the database. The typical reasons for deletion include where a person is searched after being arrested, as a result of a duplicate record or where no physical search of a person has actually taken place.

It should be noted that the total number of records audited for compliance will be lower than the total number of searches raised during the period due to the timescales required to fully review all records.

Road Traffic Offences

Road Traffic Offences	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Positive Drug Wipes (Road Traffic)	2,444	2,910	↑ 19.1%	3,240	3,797	↑ 17.2%
Number of Group 8 (Road Traffic) Offences	83,669	96,351	↑ 15.2%	111,507	125,218	↑ 12.3%
Detection Rate of Group 8 (Road Traffic) Offences	87.5%	87.2%	↓ -0.3%	88.1%	87.5%	↓ -0.6%
Number of Safety Camera Unit Detections	63,267	62,633	↓ -1.0%	82,094	80,022	↓ -2.5%

Positive drug wipe results continue to increase

Positive drug wipes have continued to increase, with 466 (19.1%) more than the previous year, and an increase of 557 (17.2%) for the rolling 12 month figure.

It should be noted that not all positive drug wipes equate to a positive lab result or crime having occurred. A positive drug wipe provides an initial indication and grounds for a blood specimen being granted at a police station, which could prove negative at the lab.

The increase in the number of positive drug wipes has been due to more drug wipe testing kits being utilised as well as proactive work through our regular campaign work on Scotland's roads alongside partners.

Group 8 offences record an increase of 15.2%

Group 8 offences have increased compared to last year by 12,682 (15.2%). A similar increase is also reflected in the rolling 12 month period, with 13,711 (12.3%) more crimes recorded in the last twelve months compared to the same period before.

Large increases continue to be recorded for vehicle defect (2,318 more crimes, up 36.3%), speeding (2,291 more crimes, up 26%) and driving carelessly (1,393 more crimes, up 19.3%) offences which has contributed to the overall increase.

All Group 8 offences have recorded an increase over the previous year, partly attributed to greater proactivity in Local and Road Policing divisions.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Festive Drink Drug Drive campaign

The annual Festive Drink Drug Drive campaign ran from 01 December 2025 to 04 January 2026. This campaign sought to raise awareness of the risks associated with drink and drug driving and to tackle offending at a time where there is an increase in social events and school/public holidays due to festivities.

The campaign was primarily conducted through a combination of intelligence led high visibility patrols and road checks. Police Scotland Corporate Communications team worked closely with Road Safety Scotland to sustain media interest during the campaign in addition to Police Scotland social media users highlighting the campaign and notable detections.

959 drink and drug driving offences were recorded during this campaign. This equated to an average of 27 detections made by officers each day, compared to the same average of 27 detections each day recorded by the previous year's campaign.



Vision 2030: Less Crime

We use an evidence-based problem-solving approach to reduce crime.

We carry out thorough investigations to maximise detections.

We tackle repeat offenders.

We respond to threat, risk, harm and vulnerability by utilising available intelligence.

KPI: Number of crimes/detection rate (by crime group i.e. Non-sexual crimes of violence, Acquisitive crime, Crimes against Society etc.)

Detection Rates

The crime tables in this section include the detection rate and the percentage changes from previous year to date and the rolling 12 month period.

Processes around detection rates are multi-faceted and complex. They can be split into three broad headings: Demand; Organisational and Audit.

The following could be considered some of the influencing factors both in terms of time to detect, and capability to detect: increases in historical crimes; training; cyber-related crime; resourcing challenges; and evidential demand increase.

Group 1-5 Crimes

Overall violent crime up 5.1%, driven by increases in common assault and attempted murders

Overall Violent Crime	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of overall violent crimes	49,158	51,671	↑ 5.1%	64,040	66,955	↑ 4.6%
Detection rate of overall violent crimes	70.1%	69.1%	↓ -1.0%	70.1%	69.2%	↓ -0.9%

Overall violent crime includes the crime types of murder, culpable homicide (common law), attempted murder, serious assault, robbery and common assault.

The majority of violent crime is common assault, accounting for 92.3% of overall violent crime recorded by Police Scotland.

The West Region, particularly Greater Glasgow and Lanarkshire Divisions, continues to see the highest number of violent crimes recorded in Scotland, however, while higher numbers than usual have been seen across all regions, the largest percentage increases have occurred in the North, particularly North East Division (4,923 crimes, up 13.3% from PYTD), and the East, particularly Forth Valley (3,141 crimes, up 23.1% from PYTD) and Fife (3,748 crimes, up 13.2% from PYTD).

|| Homicides increased by two compared to previous year-to-date

Homicide Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of homicide crimes	34	36	↑ 5.9%	49	47	↓ -4.1%
Detection rate of homicide crimes	100.0%	105.6%	↑ 5.6%	98.0%	104.3%	↑ 6.3%

Homicide includes crimes of murder and culpable homicide (common law). There have been thirty six homicides recorded year-to-date and 47 over the last 12 months.

This is an increase of two crimes YTD but a decrease of two across the whole of 2025 compared to 2024.

The North Region has seen slightly higher homicide rates than last year, with Highland and Islands (2 crimes), North East (3 crimes) and Tayside (4 crimes) Divisions all recording one more homicide YTD compared to PYTD.

The majority of homicides this year continue to occur in private dwellings with links to deprivation.

Knives/sharp implements are the most common weapon type and drugs/alcohol feature as aggravators. In nearly all cases the victims know the perpetrator.

Police Scotland's homicide detection rate remains above 100% due to crimes recorded in the previous financial year being marked as detected during 2025/26.

|| Attempted murders up 39.9%

Attempted Murder Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 FYTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of attempted murder crimes	188	263	↑ 39.9%	248	329	↑ 32.7%
Detection rate of attempted murder crimes	96.8%	91.6%	↓ -5.2%	98.0%	91.5%	↓ -6.5%

Attempted murders have increased substantially this year, with all regions and the majority of divisions seeing substantial increases in crime numbers being recorded.

This increase has been even more prominent during the third quarter of 2025/26, particularly in the East Region where almost twice the usual number of attempted murder crimes have been recorded during the October to December period than usual.

Fife Division, which has seen 13 attempted murders recorded during the third quarter has seen a rise in domestic related crimes with seven occurring during October to December 2025 compared to only one in the same period last year. In total, the division has seen 12 domestic attempt murders YTD as well as three attempted murders linked to child abuse.

Fife Division has also seen four attempted murders in which a vehicle was used YTD. There were no such crimes recorded in the same period last year. Two of the crimes involving a vehicle being used were committed against police officers.

The Lothians & Scottish Borders has had 19 attempted murders recorded YTD, up from 13 in the same period last year. Ten of these 19 were recorded during the third quarter although one was a historic crime from 2011.

The nine attempted murders that took place in The Lothians & Scottish Borders between October and December were all unrelated. Six involved stabbing with a knife or bladed implement, two involved strangulation and one involved the use of a vehicle.

|| Serious assaults down 7.8%

Serious Assault Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of serious assault crimes	2,233	2,059	↓ -7.8%	2,971	2,723	↓ -8.3%
Detection rate of serious assault crimes	76.6%	76.1%	↓ -0.5%	76.6%	77.8%	↑ 1.2%

While serious assaults continue to be at their lowest level in recent years, the YTD decrease stems mostly from lower numbers of crimes between April and September.

The third quarter of 2025/26 saw 638 serious assaults recorded which was only 8 fewer crimes, a 1.2% reduction from the same period last year.

Of the 13 serious assaults of retail workers that have been recorded YTD, only one was during the third quarter. This was recorded in Greater Glasgow Division.

|| Robberies up 1.0% year-to-date but down 1.5% over 12 months

Robbery Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of robbery crimes	1,410	1,424	↑ 1.0%	1,846	1,819	↓ -1.5%
Detection rate of robbery crimes	75.5%	72.3%	↓ -3.2%	74.0%	73.1%	↓ -0.9%

Robbery numbers have been relatively consistent in recent years with a decrease from last year occurring across the East divisions being offset by higher crime numbers in the North and West Regions.

Long term, the Highlands and Islands and North East Divisions in the North have seen more crimes this year and last compared

to their usual levels, as has Argyll and West Dunbartonshire, Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Divisions in the West Region.

Due to decreases in the number of robbery crimes at the beginning of 2025, the rolling 12 month figure for robberies is down 1.5%.

Common assaults up 5.7%

Common Assault Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of common assault crimes	45,114	47,699	↑ 5.7%	58,924	61,787	↑ 4.9%
Detection rate of common assault crimes	69.4%	68.4%	↓ -1.0%	69.4%	68.5%	↓ -0.9%

Common assaults continue to account for the vast majority of violent crimes recorded in Scotland with 92.3% of overall violent crime so far in 2025/26 comprising of common assault.

Despite being relatively stable in numbers in recent years, 2025/26 has seen a steady rise in the number of these crimes being recorded compared to last year with Quarter 3 up 8.3% compared to the same period last year.

All divisions saw an increase in common assault during the Quarter 3 period except for Edinburgh (down 2.0%), Argyll & West Dunbartonshire (down 0.6%) and Dumfries & Galloway Divisions (down 0.5%).

The above figures include common assaults of emergency workers, of which there have been 6,417 crimes recorded YTD, an increase of 5.7% from last year and 9.0% against the five year mean.

Common assault of retailer workers is also included in the above total common assault figures. There have been 2,418 common assaults of retail workers YTD. This is an increase of 10.6% against the same period last year.

There is no five year mean available for this crime type due to it being introduced in August 2021, however the three year mean value for this period is 1,767.7 meaning that current YTD has seen a 36.8% increase in common assaults of retail workers against the three year mean.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Retail Crime Task Force (RCTF)

In early 2025, Police Scotland launched a dedicated unit to investigate, disrupt and improve the understanding of retail crime in Scotland. Aside from shoplifting offences, which makes up the bulk of retail crime, a notable degree of resourcing has been spent aiming to understand the implications and effects of violent crime directed at retail workers. Since April 2025 the RCTF have engaged in a wide variety of engagement activities with retailers to highlight that offences against retail workers will not be tolerated and should be reported to the police on all occasions.

This includes support to partner campaigns, including: -

- The Scottish Grocers' Federation: Media activity to mark four years of the Protection of Retail Workers legislation. This highlighted some new resources launched by the RCTF to support retail workers
- Support to the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers' annual campaign to highlight offences against retail workers
- Support to the NBCC Shopkind campaign
- Various other media and social media pieces have been carried out by the RCTF which have included messaging on retail worker offences, including a festive social media Campaign.

The RCTF have also carried out direct work to several major retailers, including presentations on conflict resolution. This has included messaging encouraging the reporting of these offences and our poster and leaflet being shared/displayed.

Weapons offences up 6.8%

Offensive Weapons	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of possession of offensive weapons crimes	8,680	9,271	↑ 6.8%	11,116	11,873	↑ 6.8%
Detection rate of possession of offensive weapons offences	78.7%	75.8%	↓ -2.9%	79.1%	75.7%	↓ -3.4%

Weapons offences continue to show an increase compared to last year, particularly offences involving a weapon being used in another crime. These accounted for 62.1% of the total weapons offences recorded YTD and saw an increase of 10.4% compared to the same period last year.

The remaining 37.1% of these offences related to the possession of weapons. These offences increased by 1.5% compared to last year.

While they account for a relatively small proportion of weapons offences, crimes involving corrosive substances continue to increase with 25 recorded YTD compared to 13 in the same period last year.

Nine of these crimes were recorded during Quarter 3. Most of these crimes relate to possession of the substance rather than their use in another crime and most of these crimes continue to occur in Greater Glasgow and Lanarkshire Divisions. As has been previously reported, the most common substance used in these offences is ammonia.

KPI: Number/proportion of under 18s accused of violent crimes

Violent Crimes

|| 10.2% reduction in violent crimes with under 18s accused

There have been 5,541 violent crimes recorded between April and December 2025 for which a person under the age of 18 has been accused. This is a decrease from the same period last year of 628 crimes, or 10.2%.

Some of these crimes involved multiple accused and, in total, 6,631 under 18s were accused of violent crimes over the nine-month period. This was a reduction of 12.2% versus PYTD. Under 18s accounted for 18.2% of all accused of violent crimes so far this year, a reduction from 20.5% in the same period last year.

The vast majority (93.8%) of violent crimes where someone under 18 is accused continues to be for common assaults. Year to date there have been 5,169 common assaults recorded where at least one accused under the age of 18 was identified.

This is a decrease of 568 crimes (down 9.9%) from the same period last year. The overall number of under 18s accused of common assaults also decreased from 6,866 under 18s last year to 6,069 under 18s this year. This is a reduction of 11.6%.

However, while under 18s only made up 16.7% of common assaults where an accused was identified, they accounted for 25.2% of common assaults against retail workers. Under 18s also only accounted for 9.6% of threatening or abusive behaviour offences, however when these were directed at retail workers, under 18s accounted for 14.2% of the offences.

There have also been 162 serious assaults for which 200 under 18s were accused – a reduction of 38.1% under 18s. Under 18s were involved in 11.1% of serious assaults where accused were identified YTD, down from 13.0% of serious assaults in the same period last year.

There have also been fewer robberies (181 crimes, down from 196) for which under 18s have been accused YTD.

As has been highlighted in the previous two reports for this financial year, however, the number of attempted murder crimes involving under 18s continues to be a serious concern.

Between April and December 2025 there have been 24 attempted murders recorded for which 31 under 18s are accused. The majority of under 18s accused of attempted murder are aged 16 and 17. The same period last year saw 11 crimes with 24 under 18s accused.

Quarter 3 of 2025/26 saw eight such crimes recorded, four in October, two in November and two in December. However, it is important to note that the majority of those accused of attempted murders are adults and the number of adults co-accused with under 18s for crimes of attempted murder has seen an increase.

While the number of attempted murders for which under 18s are accused has more than doubled compared to the same period last year, the overall proportion of those accused of attempted murder that are under 18 has only increased slightly, going from 9.8% of all accused last year to 10.5% of accused this year.

There were no homicides recorded during Quarter 3 where anyone under 18 has been accused. As such, the YTD figure for this remains at three homicides involving five under 18s, compared to three crimes involving three under 18s PYTD.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU)

The SVRU continue to coordinate and support a number of ongoing projects across the country which aim to contribute towards the prevention of violence. The work ranges across primary, secondary and tertiary prevention space and focuses on their priority areas of Children and Young People; Place Based Preventative Approach; Repeat Victims of Violence; Lived Experience and Thought Leadership.

It is widely recognised that violence prevention is more effective with the implementation of a whole system, multi-agency response at a local level – a key aspect of the public health approach. Adopting a collaborative response however can be complex and often challenging, where competing agendas exist between organisations. The Safe Horizon workshop sought to build a consensus of local challenges, promote a collaborative response to the issues identified and interrupt the cycle of violence.

Working in partnership alongside Public Health Scotland and members of the Scottish Prevention Hub, the SVRU facilitated the workshop that brought together local stakeholders in Aberdeen, on 27 November 2025.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU) continued

Members of key organisations such as third-sector, policing, health, education and transport and retail sectors attended to discuss violence affecting young people in the area and collaboratively discuss potential solutions.

It was acknowledged that dealing with complex issues that often drive violence, requires improved insight and building solutions from the ground up. National datasets may point to significant problems such as violence involving weapons or young people; however, it is local knowledge, partnership data sharing and intelligence that help to identify the most pressing problems. Engaging and building partnerships with statutory services, bespoke charities, and the private sector heavily contributes towards solutions and resources.

Funding has also been secured to work in tandem with The Spark Counselling and Mossend Primary School, to deliver a bespoke therapeutic counselling programme (over six weeks) for P4 children. The project is based upon The Spark Counselling's established "Understanding Me" programme, which is already being delivered in several North Lanarkshire schools.

This new programme, "Understanding Us", provides children with the emotional tools and confidence to engage positively with school, relationships and their wider community. However, for the first time, this pilot project will also deliver dedicated sessions for the parents/carers of the children undertaking the programme. This aims to empower parents/carers with the emotional insight and communication skills needed to support their child's development, strengthen family relationships and foster resilience and empathy at home.

As part of the project, a dedicated teacher's in-service day package will also be created. The overall approach will essentially provide a bespoke training programme for both the children and the key adults in their lives.

Additionally, the SVRU has been working closely with colleagues and partners across health, education, social work, housing and many other fields.

They champion lived experience as a valuable source of information and an impactful resource in developing responses, programs and support. Believing that co-production should not be an afterthought and instead, should be encouraged at every stage in developing projects and ideas, the SVRU have initiated an Advisory Board of Lived Experience (ABLE). The ABLE Board will ensure that all SVRU activities are fully informed and influenced by those who understand violence and trauma, either from their experience or that of the communities they are part of.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Engagement with Children and Young People

In late 2024, Police Scotland established a National Youth Engagement Team dedicated to working with children and young people to better understand the issues impacting them and their communities.

Early engagement identified violence as a key concern for children and young people. In response, the team has strengthened multi-agency collaboration on violence reduction initiatives, including Safe Horizons – a joint project with Police Scotland, Public Health Scotland, the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU), the Scottish Prevention Hub and local charities operating in areas most affected by violence, detailed above.

Throughout 2025, the Youth Engagement Team has facilitated in-person engagement sessions with more than 750 children and young people. This has created opportunities to share experiences and perspectives on issues affecting young peoples' safety and wellbeing and helps ensure our policy, practice and decision-making is better informed. Key areas of engagement included:

- **The Way We See It Project:** Delivered in partnership with the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU), this national engagement project worked in Aberdeen, Inverness, Fife, West Lothian, Edinburgh and Glasgow to hear children and young people's perceptions of violence, its impact on their lives, and the solutions they believe can make a positive difference to help prevent violence
- **Operation MOONBEAM:** The team delivered a series of workshops with 140 children and young people from across Edinburgh to explore their experiences of Bonfire Night in their community and what they would like to see to make this safer for everyone
- **Secure Care Project:** The Youth Engagement team worked intensively with a group of 14–17 year olds in a secure care setting who have been directly affected by violence. Through a youth-led approach, a co-produced digital resource has been created to communicate the realities, consequences and underlying drivers of violence
- **'Don't Be That Guy' 2026/27 Campaign:** The Youth Engagement team delivered targeted engagement with young people to explore attitudes towards masculinity, online influences, and the pressures facing boys and young men. This insight is informing the direction of the next iteration of the campaign, ensuring it is relevant, credible and effective in helping to reduce violence against women and girls.

KPI: Number of crimes/detection rate (by crime group i.e. Non-sexual crimes of violence, Acquisitive crime, Crimes against Society etc.) (continued)

Group 1 Non-sexual Crimes of Violence

|| Group 1 Non-Sexual Crimes of Violence up 5.9%

Group 1 Non-Sexual Crimes of Violence	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 1 crimes	54,167	57,374	↑ 5.9%	70,804	74,384	↑ 5.1%
Detection rate of Group 1 crimes	68.9%	68.1%	↓ -0.8%	68.9%	68.0%	↓ -0.9%

While overall violent crime, detailed above, accounted for 90.1% of all Group 1 crime (most of which is common assault) there continues to be other crime types under this crime group contributing to its increase.

793 stalking crimes have been recorded YTD, an increase of 15.1% from the same period last year and 14.3% against the previous rolling 12 months.

Domestic Abuse Scotland Act (DASA) crimes are at their highest levels since their introduction. 2,158 crimes against females represents a 22.2% increase from the same period last year, and the 167 DASA crimes against males is up 50.5% from last year. More details about domestic abuse crime can be found later in this report under the Group 2 Sexual Crimes update.

There have been 1,380 threats & extortion crimes recorded YTD, an increase of 5.7% from last year and 3.5% from the previous rolling 12 months.

Crimes of cruel and unnatural treatment of children, of which there were 565 recorded between April and December 2025, have decreased by 4.4% from last year however are up 0.3% against the previous rolling 12 months.

Group 2 Sexual Crimes

|| Group 2 crimes increase 9.6%

Group 2 Sexual Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 2 crimes	11,193	12,267	↑ 9.6%	14,580	16,029	↑ 9.9%
Detection rate of Group 2 crimes	58.4%	61.1%	↑ 2.7%	58.9%	59.4%	↑ 0.5%

Group 2 crimes continue to note high levels of reporting, up 9.6% on last year and 9.9% on the rolling 12 months.

The detection rate has also increased in the year to date, up 2.7 percentage points, and the rolling 12 month up 0.5 percentage points.

The increase in Group 2 sexual crime is driven by rape of a female over 16, communicating indecently, coercing a person into being present/looking at sexual activity; and taking, distribution, possession etc. of indecent photos of children (from Apr 2011).

|| Rape crimes increase 8.2%

Rape Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of rape crimes	2,072	2,241	↑ 8.2%	2,674	2,940	↑ 9.9%
Detection rate of rape crimes	53.8%	58.0%	↑ 4.2%	54.6%	56.0%	↑ 1.4%

Similar to reporting in previous quarters, rape crimes continue to increase, up 8.2% on the previous year, and notes an increase in the rolling 12 month figures.

Overall rape crime is driven by the increase in crimes involving females over 16 years, up by 9.8% (143 more crimes) compared to the previous year. Rape of a female under 13 years has increased by 36.1% (26 more crimes).

Smaller increases were noted for rape of a female 13-15 years (up 3.0%, 6 more crimes), rape of a male 13-15 years (up 100.0%, 6 more crimes) and rape of a male under 13 years (up 10.7%, 3 more crimes).

Non-recent rapes account for 41.8% of all rapes reported, this is an increase of 2.9 percentage points when compared to the previous year.

The detection rate for rape has increased by 4.2 percentage points compared to the same period last year.

|| Sexual assaults detection rate up 3.0%

Sexual Assault Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of sexual assault crimes	3,914	3,917	↑ 0.1%	5,012	5,201	↑ 3.8%
Detection rate of sexual assault crimes	56.8%	59.8%	↑ 3.0%	56.9%	57.5%	↑ 0.6%

Overall, sexual assault crimes have increased against both last year (up 0.1%) and the rolling 12 month period (up 3.8%).

|| Online child sexual abuse up by 279 crimes

Online Child Sexual Abuse Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of online child sexual abuse crimes	1,469	1,748	↑ 19.0%	2,066	2,248	↑ 8.8%
Detection rate of online child sexual abuse crimes	76.0%	73.6%	↓ -2.4%	74.4%	72.1%	↓ -2.3%

Online Child Sexual Abuse crimes have increased by 19.0% compared to the previous year and by 8.8% compared to the rolling 12 month period.

Taking, distribution, possession etc. of indecent photos of children (from Apr 2011) is the main driver for the increase in online child sexual abuse crimes, up 23.8% (138 more crimes) compared to the previous year.

Communicating indecently/cause see/hear indecent communications for male and female both 13-15 years and under 13 years have also noted increases against the previous year of 15.4% and 37.4% respectively.

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 crimes increased by 23.9% overall

Domestic Abuse	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of domestic abuse incidents	48,769	50,316	↑ 3.2%	63,981	66,515	↑ 4.0%
Number of domestic abuse crimes	29,656	33,226	↑ 12.0%	38,217	43,272	↑ 13.2%
Detection rate of domestic abuse crimes	65.4%	72.3%	↑ 6.9%	63.8%	71.4%	↑ 7.6%
Proportion of domestic abuse incidents resulting in a crime	39.5%	41.7%	↑ 2.2%	40.1%	41.3%	↑ 1.2%
Number of DASA (Domestic Abuse Scotland Act) crimes (of female)	1,766	2,158	↑ 22.2%	2,267	2,792	↑ 23.2%
Number of DASA (Domestic Abuse Scotland Act) crimes (of male)	111	167	↑ 50.5%	135	217	↑ 60.7%

During the reporting period, domestic abuse incidents and crimes have both increased against the previous year and the rolling 12 months.

The number of domestic abuse incidents has increased by 3.2% (1,547 more incidents) and domestic abuse crimes has increased by 12.0% (3,570 more crimes) when compared to the previous year.

The detection rate for domestic abuse crimes has increased by 6.9 percentage points compared to the previous year and by 7.6 percentage points compared to the rolling 12 month period.

The proportion of domestic abuse incidents resulting in a crime has increased in comparison to the previous year by 2.2 percentage points.

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (DASA) crimes have increased 23.9% overall with DASA of a female being the main driver for the rise (up 22.2%, 392 more crimes). DASA crimes over the rolling 12 month period has also increased, up by 25.3% overall.

Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland

The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) saw its ten year anniversary on 01 October 2025. Over the ten year period, in excess of 35,000 requests have been made regarding the background of a partner.

DSDAS is an important preventative tool in tackling domestic abuse. There was no formal way of an individual finding out if their partner had a previous history of abusive behaviour prior to the introduction of the DSDAS scheme. There was also no process to enable the police to proactively inform individuals if their partner posed a risk to them.

The launch of the DSDAS scheme has given people the Right to Ask and police the Power to Tell individuals at risk of domestic abuse about the history of their partner. They can then make an informed decision about their relationship. This has helped make significant changes and improvements to the Violence Against Women landscape.

DSDAS applications have increased by 11.2% compared to the previous year. Both Power to Tell and Right to Ask application types have increased, with Right to Ask increasing by 27.9% over the period.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – 16 Days of Activism

Police Scotland responds to a domestic abuse call every eight minutes. From January 2025 through to December 2025, more than 66,000 incidents were reported, of which 41.3% resulted in a crime being recorded.

Domestic abuse crimes increased by 12% in Scotland over the last 12 months with detection rates increasing by nearly 8%.

Police Scotland maintains year-round action against domestic abuse and our officers are determined to ensure women and girls live free from violence and abuse.

The 16 Days of Activism is an annual initiative focused on eliminating gender-based violence and takes place globally between 25 November and 10 December.

During this period in 2025, we arrested 500 perpetrators of domestic abuse and charged more than 380 individuals. These figures provide a snapshot of the volume of offending being tackled by Police Scotland's officers throughout the year.

|| 47% of all violence against women and girls (VAWG) crimes are domestic

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of VAWG crimes	52,336	56,211	↑ 7.4%
Number of VAWG crimes (Domestic)	23,633	26,412	↑ 11.8%
Proportion of VAWG crimes (Domestic)	45.2%	47.0%	↑ 1.8%

Between April to December of 2025/26, crimes of VAWG have increased by 7.4% compared to the previous year. The number of VAWG crimes with a domestic element has increased by 11.8% compared to the previous year.

Of all crimes committed against a female victim, 61.5% were violent in nature, a slight increase compared to the previous year.

This equates to an average of 204 crimes of violence being committed against a woman or girl in Scotland each day.

The most common VAWG crime types being committed year to date are common assault, threatening or abusive behaviour, and sexual assault.

Group 3 Crimes of Dishonesty

|| Crimes of Dishonesty up 3.9% YTD

Group 3 Crimes of Dishonesty	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 3 crimes	84,709	87,998	↑ 3.9%	110,927	113,729	↑ 2.5%
Detection rate of Group 3 crimes	35.2%	36.4%	↑ 1.2%	35.3%	36.3%	↑ 1.0%

Crimes of dishonesty have increased 3.9% compared to the same period last year, primarily driven by the rise in shoplifting offences. When shoplifting is excluded, the remaining crimes of dishonesty show a 4.1% decrease.

Shoplifting, fraud, and common theft crimes make up the largest proportion of crimes of dishonesty, collectively accounting for 78.0% of all Group 3 crimes YTD.

|| Fraud crimes up 0.8% YTD

Fraud Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of fraud crimes	11,283	11,368	↑ 0.8%	15,196	15,091	↓ -0.7%
Detection rate of fraud crimes	19.1%	17.5%	↓ -1.6%	19.0%	18.3%	↓ -0.7%

During the Quarter 3 period, fraud crimes increased 0.8% compared to the same period last year. Despite this rise, levels stabilised overall and are now 0.7% lower than the rolling 12 month period and 7.6% lower than the peak of 8,226 crimes recorded in 2022/23.

|| The Banking Protocol prevented over £1.9 million of fraud YTD

The Banking Protocol is a multi-agency initiative between law enforcement, banking institutions and Trading Standards. Its aim is to identify vulnerable victims at the earliest opportunity, who are in the process of being defrauded of funds from their bank accounts by unscrupulous criminals and to intervene to prevent these crimes.

If staff suspect customers are being coerced or the transaction is a result of fraud, the transaction is stopped, and police are contacted.

In terms of Quarter 3 of the reporting year 2025/26, the Banking Protocol recorded 286 incidents accounting for £676,159 of fraud being prevented.

This initiative continues to succeed in protecting the vulnerable victims of fraud and its success demonstrates the value of the public / private partnership model.

Since April 2025, there have been 883 incidents accounting for £1,942,391 of fraud prevented.

In a recent example during October, an individual attended the branch to withdraw £12,500 cash from his bank account having been driven there by persons in a van who were waiting outside to obtain the cash before any work had been carried out.

Bank staff believed individuals to be bogus workmen and incident was reported. A crime report and IVPD was raised.

|| Shoplifting crimes rise 15.9% YTD

Retail Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of shoplifting crimes	33,859	39,256	↑ 15.9%	43,758	50,300	↑ 15.0%
Number of crimes against retail workers	4,720	5,297	↑ 12.2%	6,124	6,829	↑ 11.5%
Detection rate of shoplifting crimes	49.0%	50.8%	↑ 1.8%	49.2%	50.4%	↑ 1.2%
Detection rate of crimes against retail workers	62.1%	60.9%	↓ -1.2%	62.5%	61.0%	↓ -1.5%

Shoplifting has continued to increase over recent years, remaining at an all-time high and now accounting for 44.6% of all Crimes of Dishonesty.

Common assault of a retail worker has increased 10.4% (228 crimes) compared to the same period last year and serious assault of a retail worker has increased from six crimes to 13 crimes.

Threatening or abusive behaviour of a retail worker continues to make up the majority of crimes against retail workers with 2,871 crimes in Quarter 3, a 13.5% increase on last year.

The detection rate for crimes against retail workers has decreased to 60.9% despite a 10.0% increase in detections.

|| RCTF expands into three additional divisions

During October 2025, the Retail Crime Taskforce (RCTF) expanded its presence in Edinburgh and Glasgow and established dedicated teams in three new Divisional Areas: North East, Tayside and Fife. This expansion was made possible by utilising the funding made available to Police Scotland by Scottish Government during the 2024/25 financial year.

Since their introduction, the new RCTF teams have undertaken a number of targeted days of action and have worked closely with retailers to address repeat offenders and stores most affected by retail crime.

The teams have also carried out proactive activity to disrupt organised retail crime, leading to the recovery of stolen property and a number of significant arrests.

Group 4 Damage and Reckless Behaviour

|| YTD decrease in Group 4 crimes driven by reduction in vandalism

Group 4 Damage and Reckless Behaviour	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 4 crimes	30,096	29,289	↓ -2.7%	39,294	37,962	↓ -3.4%
Detection rate of Group 4 crimes	30.9%	32.4%	↑ 1.5%	30.8%	32.2%	↑ 1.4%

The volume of Group 4 crimes have decreased by 807 crimes in the YTD compared to the previous year, a decrease of 2.7%.

There has also been a decrease in the rolling 12 month figures, with 1,332 fewer crimes than the corresponding 12 month period. Small percentage point increases are noted in the detection rates comparisons across both time periods.

The main factor is a drop in the number of vandalism crimes recorded (1,035 fewer crimes, down 4.0%) in the YTD comparison.

Regionally, vandalism is down considerably in both the North and West, however an increase is noted in the East. Reckless conduct (with firearms) has also recorded a slight decrease from PYTD (10 fewer crimes, down 45.5%).

Increases continue to be noted however in fireraising (162 more crimes, up 8.3%), primarily due to a combination of serious organised crime activity and youth antisocial behaviour.

Culpable and reckless conduct – not firearms (50 more crimes, up 2.3%) and other group 4 crimes (26 more crimes, up 39.4%) have also both slightly increased on PYTD.

Group 5 Crimes Against Society

|| Group 5 crimes up 7.9% on PYTD

Group 5 Crimes Against Society	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of Group 5 crimes	47,608	51,387	↑ 7.9%	62,000	66,428	↑ 7.1%
Detection rate of Group 5 crimes	95.3%	90.9%	↓ -4.4%	95.1%	91.5%	↓ -3.6%

Policing proactivity has a positive impact on the crime types within Group 5 crimes, with YTD increases noted in 12 of the 13 local policing divisions. All crime classifications show a total increase when compared to the PYTD.

The number of Group 5 crimes has increased by 3,779 compared to the PYTD (up 7.9%). There has also been an increase in the rolling 12 month figures, with 4,428 more crimes than the previous 12 month period (up 7.1%).

Drugs offences feature prominently amongst the main drivers for this increase, with total supply of drugs increasing by 528 crimes (up 15.8%).

Bail offences rose by 1,074 crimes (up 11.2%) whilst total possession of offensive weapons also increased by 591 crimes (up 6.8%). All three crime classifications also noted similar increases on the previous rolling 12 months.

Other crimes against public justice also note an increase of 1,295 more crimes (up 21.0%). This crime type is impacted by increased offending for failing to appear after bail to police; general attempts to defeat/pervert the course ends of justice; and resisting arrest.

|| 15.8% rise in supply of drugs crimes over both comparable periods

Supply of Drugs Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of supply of drugs crimes	3,333	3,861	↑ 15.8%	4,383	5,075	↑ 15.8%
Detection rate of supply of drugs crimes	91.6%	87.8%	↓ -3.8%	91.6%	87.4%	↓ -4.2%

Total supply of drugs crimes have increased by 528 crimes (up 15.8%) compared to the PYTD, with the rolling 12 month figures also showing an increase of 15.8%. The detection rate has seen decreases of 3.8 percentage points from PYTD and 4.2 percentage points from previous rolling 12 months.

Increases are noted across all three regions with North the most prominent (246 more crimes, up 35.2%), followed by West (226 more crimes, up 13.0%) and East (56 more crimes, up 6.3%).

|| Bail offending up 11.2% on PYTD

Bail Offences	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of bail offences	9,570	10,644	↑ 11.2%	12,679	13,741	↑ 8.4%
Detection rate of bail offences	96.4%	94.6%	↓ -1.8%	95.8%	95.2%	↓ -0.6%

Bail offences are up 11.2% on the previous YTD (1,074 more offences), whilst an 8.4% increase is noted in the rolling 12 month figures comparison (1,062 more offences). YTD, there have been 2,385 repeat offenders (up 2.2% on PYTD), with a reoffending rate of 49.2% and 522 new offenders.

Criminal Justice Services Division note that the following factors may have a bearing on the increase of bail offences being recorded:

- An increase in the number of offenders being released on undertaking will naturally lead to greater numbers of people in the community who are subject to bail conditions
- An increase in G4S electronically monitored bail reporting, with subsequent breaches occurring

- Efforts by the courts to remand fewer people in custody will lead to greater numbers in the community under court-imposed bail conditions

The YTD increase and the rolling 12 months increase are both replicated across all three regions with every division recording an increase in the rolling 12 months comparison.

Only four divisions have recorded a decrease compared to PYTD (North East and Highland & Islands in the North and Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway in the West). The other eight divisions all recorded an increase.

Hate Crime

|| Hate crimes on downward trend since August peak

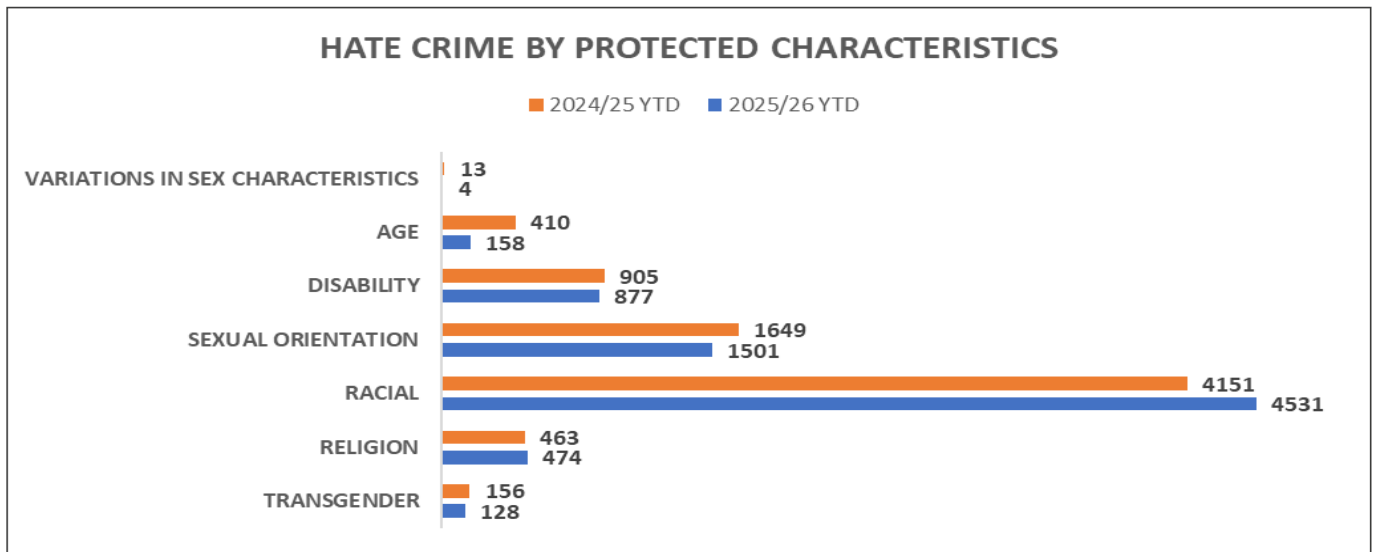
Hate Crimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of hate crimes	6,815	7,212	↑ 5.8%
Detection rate of hate crimes	67.2%	64.2%	↓ -3.0%

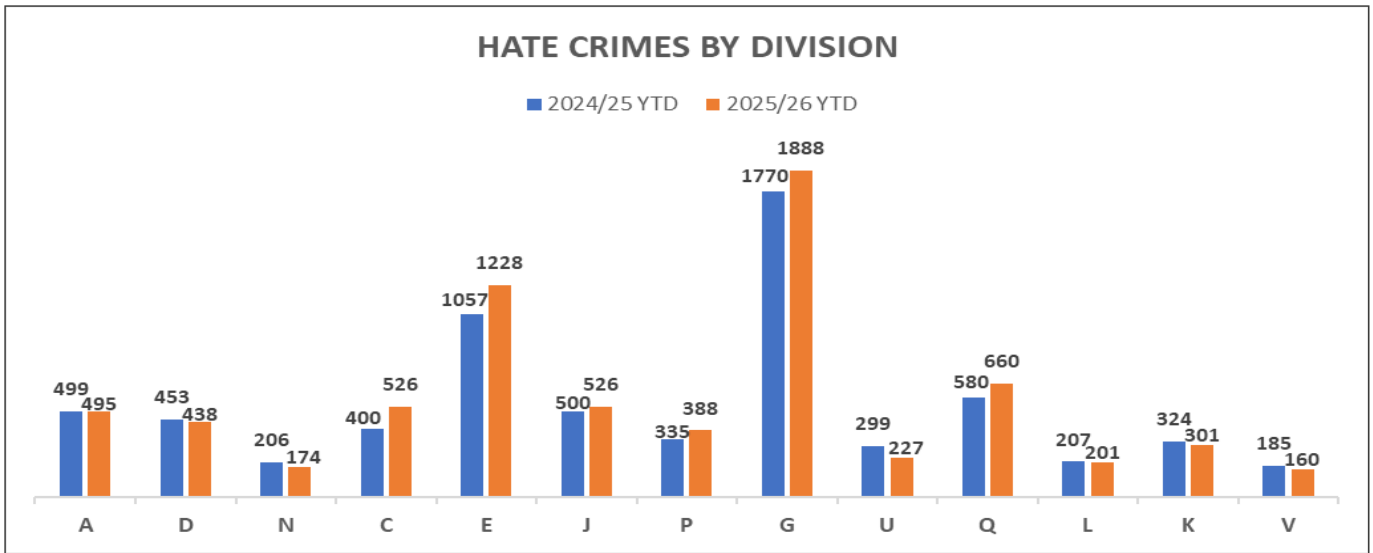
A total of 7,212 hate crimes have been recorded by Police Scotland in the current YTD. This is an increase of 5.8% (397 more crimes) from the same period last year.

Its important to note however that there were 501 fewer crimes (down 18.5%) in Quarter 3 compared to Quarter 2.

Crimes peaked in August when anti-immigration protests increased across the United Kingdom.

The most notable increase is hate crimes with a racial aggravator (up 9.2%, 380 more).





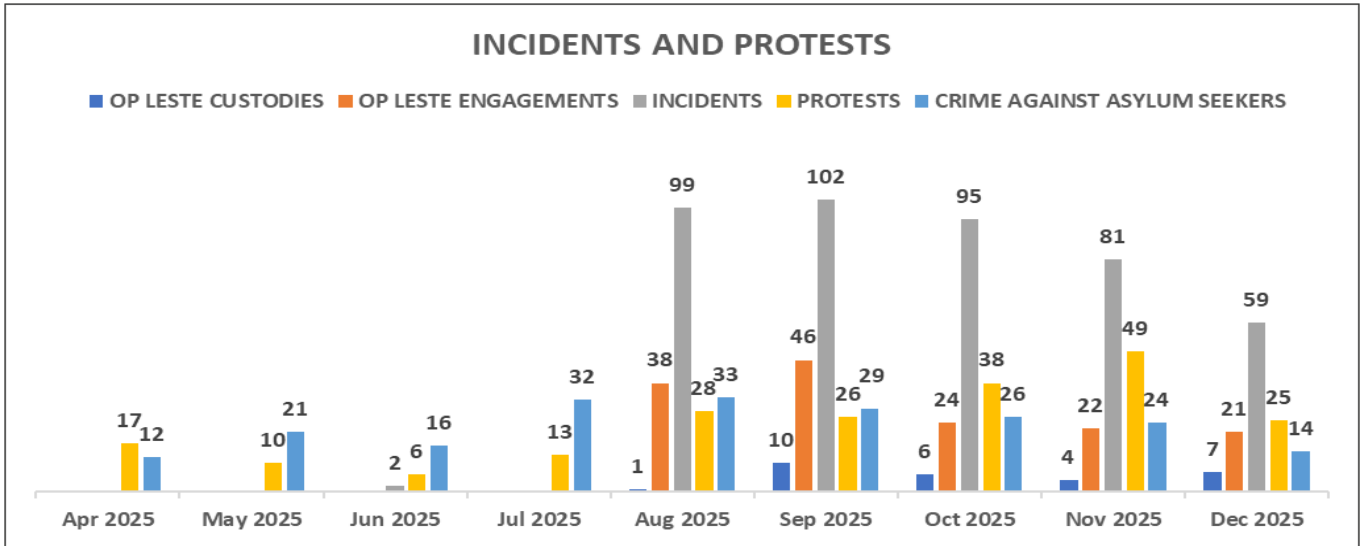
|| Hate Crimes at Asylum Seeker Accommodation

Year to date, there have been 43 hate crimes located at accommodation that house asylum seekers, 33 of which have been racially aggravated. 32 hate crimes in total and 26 racially aggravated crimes were reported at the end of Quarter 2.

The majority of protests have occurred in Forth Valley, North East, Tayside and Greater Glasgow divisions, however only Forth Valley and Greater Glasgow divisions are recording increases in hate crime.

It should be noted that crimes overall against asylum seekers (located at hotels) in January to June of 2025 were 103 but rose to 159 in July to December. (These crimes can include crimes unrelated to hate crime, e.g. theft).

Although there continues to be anti-immigration protests, the following graph illustrates that incidents and protests have reduced in recent months. Seasonal factors in part potentially contributing to reduced mobilisation.



Specialist resources have been deployed to support local policing and communities. Community relation specialists have worked closely with partners across various local communities to build community cohesion and defuse tensions.

Hate crime advisors have been deployed to protests across the country to ensure all incidents of hate are identified and dealt with appropriately.

In 2025 there have been 140 ground deployments of Hate Crime Advisors and 37 divisional enquiries, this is compared to 36 in 2024.

To support this increase in demand, there have been seven Hate Crime Advisor courses run across the country, doubling the cadre of available officers to over 100.

KPI: Number of cyber crimes

Cybercrime

|| Recorded cybercrime decreases 18.1% YTD

Cybercrimes	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of cybercrimes	10,796	8,845	↓ -18.1%
Number of fraud cybercrimes	4,883	3,284	↓ -32.7%
Number of sexual cybercrimes	2,220	1,950	↓ -12.2%

Cybercrime is a crime type, not a crime itself, therefore recording of these crimes relies on a 'Cyber' tag being applied to the relevant crimes on our crime system by officers and staff. As such, these figures are not official statistics.

There have been 8,845 crimes with a cybercrime marker applied over the Quarter 3 period. This is an 18.1% decrease from the same period last year. It is believed the decrease shown does not accurately reflect the current cybercrime picture or workload.

Work continues to improve the use of the cyber tag and accuracy of cybercrime recording.

Of the crimes with the marker applied, Fraud remains the most common with 3,284 cyber tagged crimes followed by Community and Public Order Offences (2,136 crimes) and Threats and Extortion (771 crimes).

Ransomware

Overall, the ransomware landscape remains active and increases in sophistication. Ransomware continues to pose a significant threat to businesses and organisations across Scotland. They continue to cause disruption to companies in several key industry areas including local government and retail.

During this reporting period, Police Scotland received 11 new reports of ransomware incidents. This is a decrease on the number of incidents reported during the previous quarter, however, the small number does not negate the significant impact on the victim company, their customers, suppliers and the wider community.

Ransomware groups continue to evolve and develop new strains and capabilities. Their tactics continue to develop and anecdotally threat actors morph into newly formed groups combining tactics, capabilities and tradecraft which continue to complicate internationally coordinated investigations.

Ransomware and network intrusion continue to be a critical cyber threat facing United Kingdom organisations. Cybersecurity remains a top priority for all organisations.

Cryptocurrency Tracking

The most prevalent cryptocurrency scams today are overwhelmingly driven by social engineering tactics and fraudulent investment scams.

Investment scams involving cryptocurrency continue to be a common threat to communities, with criminals actively using social media to advertise fraudulent investment platforms.

Police Scotland continues to develop its recently expanded cryptocurrency tracking capability, with several officers across the country receiving training in the use of specialist tools and techniques to trace the movement of cryptocurrency assets.

By analysing transaction patterns, these specialist investigators can identify suspects, uncover criminal networks, and potentially identify opportunities to seize illicit funds. During this reporting period, Police Scotland has supported 43 cryptocurrency tracking enquiries across the country.

KPI: Reoffending rate

Reoffending Rates

|| 1.2% reduction in Group 2 reoffending rates

Reoffending Rate	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	27.3%	27.7%	↑ 0.4%
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	27.1%	25.9%	↓ -1.2%
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	39.5%	40.1%	↑ 0.6%
Group 4: Damage and Reckless Behaviour	21.3%	20.8%	↓ -0.5%
Group 5: Crimes Against Society	34.8%	35.1%	↑ 0.3%

Group 2 and Group 4 crimes both note decreases in their percentage of reoffending at the end of Quarter 3 2025/26 compared to the same period in the previous year, with small increases noted under Group 1, Group 3 and Group 4 crimes. The reduction in Group 2 is driven by a drop in sexual assault reoffending, which has decreased from 22.5% PYTD to 20.4% in the YTD.

The largest percentage of reoffending continues to be within Group 3 crimes

(40.1%). Whilst this is down slightly on the previous quarter, it is now 0.6 percentage point above the same period last year.

The biggest contributory factor remains within theft by shoplifting with 48.9% reoffending recorded.

The increase under Group 1 crimes is influenced adversely by increased reoffending under common assault of an emergency worker (up from 22.2% to 23.8%).

8.6% reduction in offenders who have sexually reoffended

Reoffending	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of repeat offenders	35,252	35,493	↑ 0.7%
Proportion of crimes with youth offender	33.9%	29.3%	↓ -4.6%
Number of new offenders	-	80,886	-
Number of offenders who have sexually reoffended	959	877	↓ -8.6%

The number of repeat offenders has increased slightly from the PYTD (241 more, up 0.7%). The highest volume of repeat offenders is noted for threatening or abusive behaviour (5,040), followed by common assault (4,010) and theft by shoplifting (2,895). The proportion of crime with a youth offender has however dropped 4.6 percentage points.

There have been over 80,000 new offenders identified in the YTD with the largest

volume in unlawful use of motor vehicle (15,739), speeding offences (10,365) and common assault (8,140).

The volume of offenders who have sexually reoffended had dropped significantly from the PYTD (82 less, down 8.6%).

This is driven by a reduction in sexual assault reoffending (57 less, down 19.5%), rape reoffending (38 less, down 24.5%) and crimes associated with prostitution reoffending (11 less, down 78.6%).

KPI: Level of threat, harm and risk

Serious Organised Crime Groups

|| Record week for drug recoveries

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Almost £80 million worth of drugs recovered in 2025

In 2025, almost £80 million worth of illegal drugs were seized across the country as part of ongoing efforts to disrupt serious and organised crime.

In the period leading up to Christmas, drugs with a combined estimated value of almost £14 million were seized nationwide. This represented a record week for drug recoveries and demonstrates the impact of sustained proactive policing activity.

A number of significant recoveries were made during the year, including one of the largest cocaine seizures recorded in Scotland:

On 11 December 2025, officers [executed a warrant at a premises in Bellshill](#), leading to cocaine with an estimated street value of more than £8 million being recovered. Three men were arrested and charged in connection with the recovery. This was one of the most significant recoveries seen in Scotland.

On 12 December 2025 Police Scotland [executed a warrant at an address in Fraserburgh](#), where significant quantities of class A and B substances were recovered. The drugs included ecstasy, amphetamine and mephedrone, totalling £3.5 million. Two arrests were made at the address, with a further three more men arrested thereafter. This was one of the largest drug recoveries in the North East of Scotland.

|| Proceeds of Crime opportunities result in seizure of almost £9 million

Serious Organised Crime (SOC) Specialist Proceeds of Crime Unit identify and exploit Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) opportunities to assist in tracing assets derived from proceeds of crime.

During Quarter 3, 97 Restraints were submitted to Proceeds of Crime Unit, totalling £7,365,455.

There were a further 120 cash seizures totalling £571,607, four listed assets totalling £70,550 and two account freezing orders

totalling £85,273 which were all submitted to Civil Recovery.

The total POCA figure during Quarter 3 was £8,902,886, significantly disrupting serious and organised crime.

During Quarter 3, 40 confiscation orders were granted, depriving £909,330.20 of ill-gotten gains from criminals. Since April 2025, there have been 175 confiscation orders granted, depriving £3,925,764.89 of ill-gotten gains from criminals.



Vision 2030: Supported Victims

Users are satisfied with the service provided.

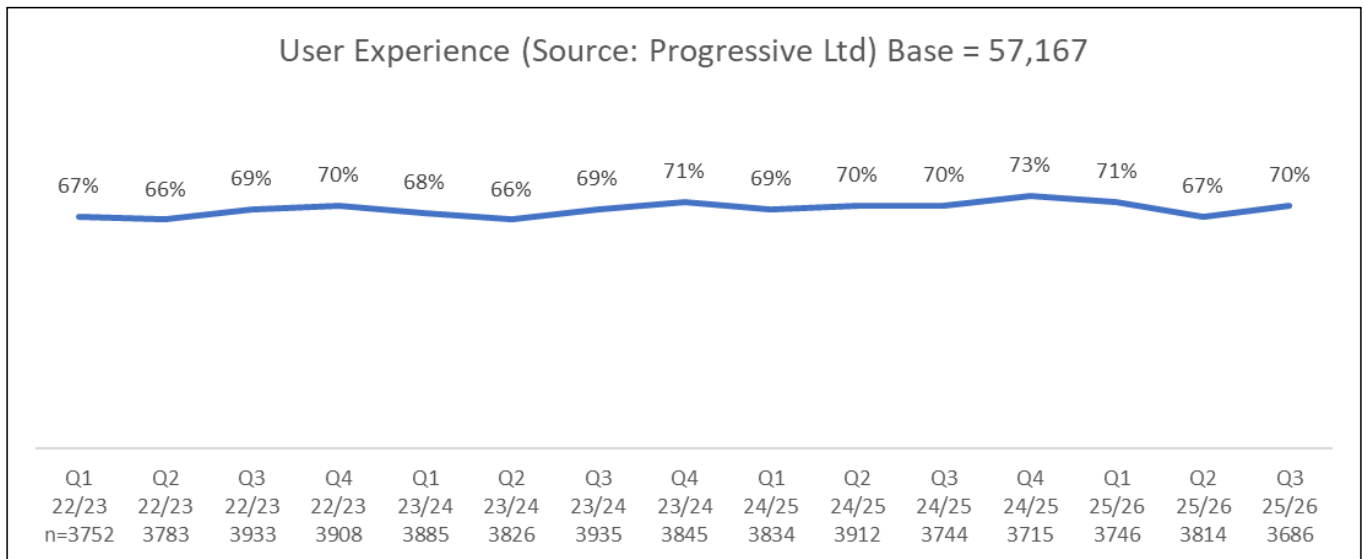
We provide safeguarding to victims through a trauma informed approach.

We respond to incidents and crimes proportionally.

KPI: User Experience question – Based on your overall experience, how satisfied are you with your police service?

User Experience: Survey Results

|| Overall satisfaction up 3% points from previous quarter



User experience measures satisfaction with contacting the police across critical elements in the end-to-end journey and is higher than in the previous quarter, stabilising to 70%.

Reported satisfaction has increased this quarter by three percentage points. Overall, 70% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience.

Our breakdown of the contact touchpoints demonstrates what is driving these levels of satisfaction. Ease of contact 70% (up one percentage point); Treatment by staff member during initial contact 83% (no change); Staff understanding what they needed 85% (up one percentage point); Police providing the appropriate response 63% (up two percentage points); Treatment by officers who attended the incident 81% (up one percentage point); and Being adequately informed about progress 47% (no change) when compared to Quarter 2 2025/26.

Ease of contact shows early signs of decline year-on-year. While the latest quarter records a one percentage point increase on the previous quarter, with 70% of respondents reporting it easy or very easy to contact us, overall performance remains below the same time last year. Year to date figures show ease of contact 5% lower compared with 2024/25.

This measure will continue to be monitored to assess contributing factors and whether this reflects a sustained trend or short-term variation in user experience.

Positive experiences are correlated most strongly with receiving an appropriate response, satisfaction with attending officers and feeling adequately informed about case progress.

Respondents who had a positive contact experience tell us this was because contact was 'easy' with quick answer times using 101/999; service advisors and attending officers taking the time to listen to and understand their needs, bringing empathy and compassion to interactions.

Work is ongoing to understand user experience since the Policing for our Communities Project was introduced in Forth Valley (C) Division.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – Enhancing Community Policing Model C Division

Following an extended review of local policing processes, the Enhancing Community Policing Model (ECPM) was introduced to enable a local policing model which enables prevention, proactivity and problem solving. A pilot was introduced in Forth Valley Division (C Division) in September 2025, with the intention of rolling this out nationally from February 2026.

As part of our routine User Experience Survey, we have been carrying out an oversampling exercise in C Division to measure the impact of the new model on user experiences. From March 2025, everyone who contacted the police within C Division was invited to take part in the survey.

The evidence so far suggests that C Division is maintaining a consistent level of user satisfaction between pre and post pilot introduction when comparing March to August 2025 with September to December 2025. Ease of contact (69% to 68%), treatment during initial contact (83% to 82%) and feeling understood by staff during initial contact (83% to 84%).

This is a slightly different trend to the other local policing Divisions which showed a dip in satisfaction. The fact that C Division did not show a similar dip over the same period might hint towards signs that the new model pilot is showing more resilience and working in the intended direction.

Comments relating to people's experiences during initial contact reveal some encouraging shifts in sentiment after the introduction of the pilot. Positive comments made in relation to the phone system increased and negative comments made in relation to the long wait times decreased.

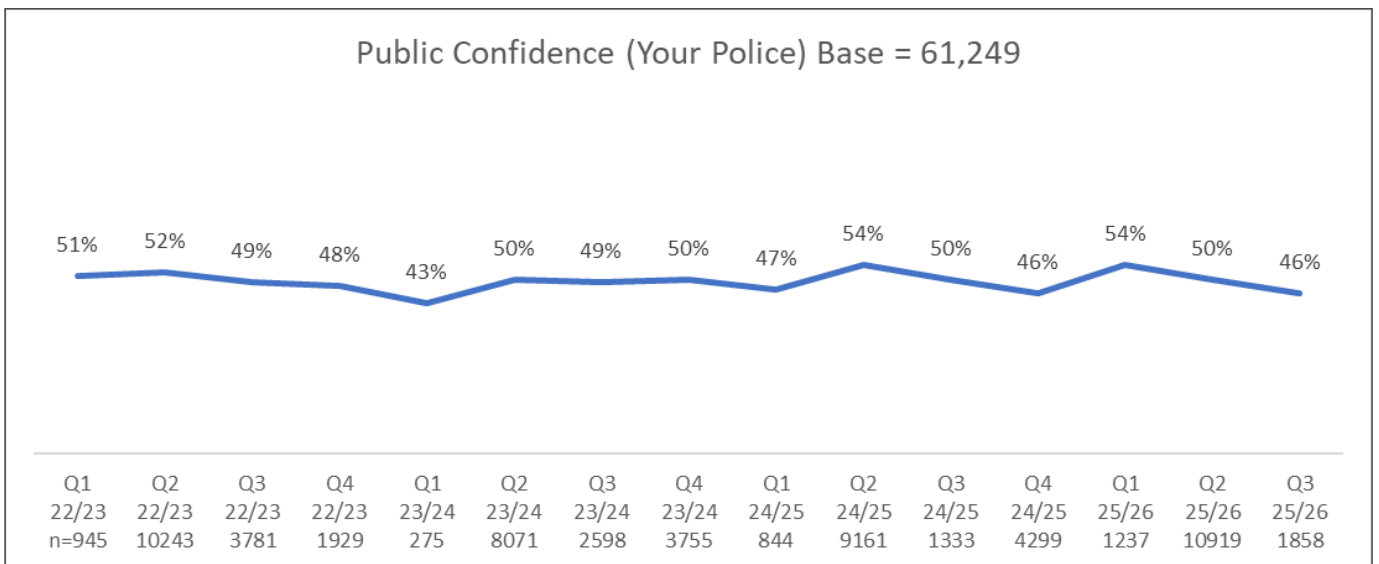
There was a notable decrease from pre-pilot to post-pilot in the volume of people suggesting improvements relating to outcomes (such as for their issue to be resolved or for more information/updates to be provided), suggesting that resolution was more effective.

Patterns show some positive signs that the model could be having the intended impact. However, it's important to note that patterns can fluctuate and it is too early to be certain whether there has been an improvement for C Division or whether other Local Policing Divisions are not doing as well as the previous period. A longer period of monitoring is recommended to understand if these positive patterns will continue. An academic evaluation of the model and the effect for communities will be starting in Quarter 4.

KPI: Your Police Question – % respondents that have confidence in local policing

Your Police: Survey Results

Public Confidence down 4% points from previous quarter



Public confidence is about our legitimacy and enables us to continue to police by consent. Quarter 3 saw a decrease in public confidence (down four percentage points) to 46%. We know that confidence is closely affected by how policing is perceived locally.

In Quarter 3, 77% (down three percentage point from the previous quarter) of our Your Police survey respondents reported feeling very safe or fairly safe in their area; 58% (down four percentage points) agreed that local police are friendly and approachable; and 19% (down five percentage points) agree local police listen to local concerns.

Pearson's correlation analysis in Quarter 3 shows public confidence is associated with further areas measured using our Your Police survey. There is a strong positive relationship between public confidence and respondents' perception of police doing a good job in their local area ($r = 0.816$).

The percentage of people thinking the police are doing a good job in their local area has decreased by seven percentage points since the last quarter, 29% to 22%. The percentage of people saying they are well informed about local police activities over the last 12 months has declined by two percentage points, from 14% to 12%.

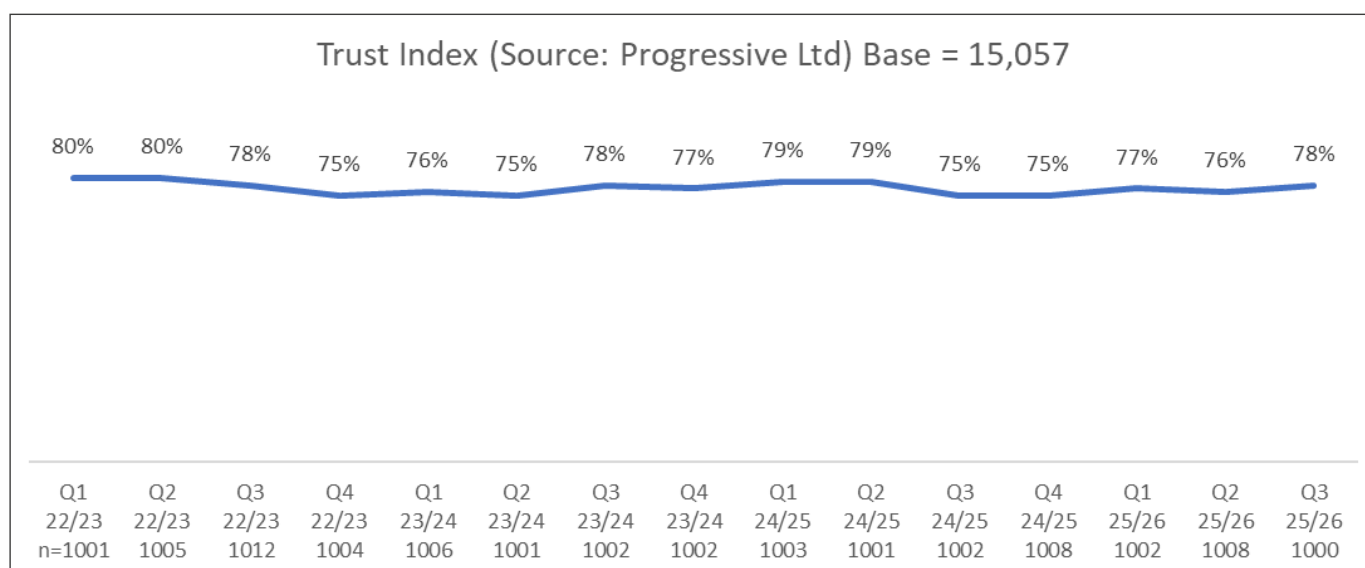
When respondents tell us why they have low confidence in their local police, they highlight a lack of visible or proactive local policing, concerns around lower-level crime not being addressed, and negative past experiences.

They want clearer communication about routine police activity in their area, and targeted patrols in known problem hot spots where issues or community concerns are seen to persist.

Over a third of respondents remain not certain about whether the police are addressing local concerns and how they are keeping people safe.

This highlights the importance of maintaining regular and visible communication about what Police Scotland is doing nationally and locally to respond to concerns from the public.

Trust index up 2% points from previous quarter



Public trust is about our brand and reputation, associated with organisational competence i.e. professionalism, responsiveness, reliability and knowledge.

Since 2022, Progressive runs a quarterly online quantitative survey using panel providers, Norstat and Pure Profile, to obtain a nationally representative sample of c. 1,000 people in Scotland.

The data has a margin of error of between +/- 0.62% and +/- 3.10% at the 95% confidence interval (market research industry standard).

Results have remained relatively stable, between 75%-80% since the Trust Index survey was introduced in June 2022. The score in December 2025 of 78% was broadly consistent with our last wave (September 2025).

This means that 78% of people surveyed (a statistically representative group of around 1,000 adults living in Scotland) had trust in Police Scotland.

Most people continue to feel Police Scotland upholds its core values, measured by the proportion of respondents who felt police uphold the values of Respect (69%), Human Rights (67%), Fairness (67%), and Integrity (69%).

Most people perceive Police Scotland to be professional, experienced and knowledgeable. This is clearly positive however our data suggests that people would have higher trust in their police service if we were perceived as professional, caring and empathetic and reliable.

Progressive undertook key driver analysis to determine which brand characteristics was most associated to trustworthiness – i.e., which characteristic is best at predicting whether someone feels Police Scotland is a trustworthy organisation.

All characteristics were entered into the model and the R-squared values determine the reliability of the trend and accuracy of the forecast. The closer to 1.0 (or 100%), the greater the correlation between the dependent (trust) and independent variable(s).

From this it was determined that how professional the public believe Police Scotland is remains the strongest determinant of trust in the police service. How caring/ empathetic and reliable the service is are the next strongest determinants.

These defining characteristics were developed from previous brand tracking research conducted by Progressive for NHS24. That research covered NHS24 customers' perceptions of several public sector 'brands', including Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and the Scottish Ambulance Service.

KPI: Percentage of repeat victims by male/female

Your Care Cards (YCC)

|| Over 58,000 Your Care Cards accepted in YTD

Your Care Cards Acceptance	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Yes - Accepted	60,906	58,403	↓ -4.1%
No - Offered and Declined	70,077	71,960	↑ 2.7%
No - Not Suitable	10,235	10,820	↑ 5.7%
No - Unable to Issue	7,929	7,814	↓ -1.5%
Other	0	1	-
Percentage of Your Care Cards Accepted	43.3%	42.0%	↓ -1.3%

Police Scotland recently updated the 'Your Care Card' (YCC) (formerly the Victim Care Card) to be more accessible and person centred. This was due to specific feedback during victim consultation which supported modernisation, rebranding and improved accessibility.

Police Scotland undertook a review of the language and layout of the VCC and consulted with victims' groups, which led to creation of the Your Care Card.

The card contains information and contact details for support services and links to the Victim's Code for Scotland and the Standards of Service for Victims and Witnesses.

It also includes a Quick Reference (QR) Code to access more information about support to victims or witnesses on the Police Scotland website.

Police Scotland now also offer the option to email the card directly to victims. Police Scotland continues to scope opportunities for further technical advancements to support officers in delivering a high-quality service to victims and witnesses of crime.

During the YTD, a total of 58,403 victims have accepted a Your Care Card. This is down 4.1% from the 60,906 accepted in the same period last year. In total, 42% of cards offered have been accepted (down 1.3 percentage points on PYTD) with almost 72,000 victims declining the offer.

KPI: Number of victims referred to partners

Victim Support Scotland (VSS)

Victim Support Scotland referrals up 0.5% on PYTD

Victim Support Scotland (VSS) Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Yes - Accepted	7,308	7,342	↑ 0.5%
No - Declined	178,365	167,491	↓ -6.1%
Percentage of Victim Support Scotland Referrals Accepted	4.1%	4.4%	↑ 0.3%

A total of 7,342 victims and witnesses have accepted a referral to Victim Support Scotland in the YTD, this is up 0.5% on those accepting a referral in the PYTD.

The percentage of victims and witnesses accepting a referral has also increased from PYTD (up 0.3 percentage points to 4.4%).

Over 167,000 people were offered a referral but declined.

These figures are only in relation to referrals made to Victim Support Scotland. Police Scotland also regularly refer to specialist support services (e.g. BRAKE, Women's Aid, ASSIST, Rape Crisis Scotland etc.) which do not currently form part of reported figures.

KPI: Number of contacts handled within service level agreements

Call Handling Data

|| 7.2% increase in volume of 999 calls received YTD

Call Handling 999 Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of 999 calls received	578,029	619,754	↑ 7.2%
Number of other emergency calls (partners) received	70,628	75,566	↑ 7.0%
Number of alarm calls received	20,513	19,559	↓ -4.7%
Average speed of answer for 999 calls - Police Scotland data (seconds)	8	10	↑ 25.0%
Average speed of answer for 999 calls - BT data (seconds)	11	12	↑ 9.1%

During the reporting period Police Scotland received a total of 1,982,864 calls, an increase of 2.2% when compared to the same period last year (up from 1,939,932 to 1,982,864). Of these calls, those routed via 999 increased by 7.2% when compared to the same period last year (up from 578,029 to 619,754).

The handling of 999 calls remains our highest priority. Police Scotland aim to achieve an average speed of answer for 999 calls within 10 seconds, a standard for all 44 Police Forces across Scotland, England and Wales. During the reporting period Police Scotland achieved an average answer time of 10 seconds which is two seconds slower than the same period last year.

UK figures, collated and published by the Home Office, measured Police Scotland's average speed of answer for 999 calls at 12 seconds. It is important to note that figures which the Home Office publish and report on do not include all calls received from BT to Police Scotland. Police Scotland's performance data published in this report includes all calls and will therefore differ from UK monthly 999 figures.

During the months of October, November and December, all 44 UK forces experienced decreases in 999 calls when compared to the previous quarter, with Police Scotland seeing a decrease of 11.5%. However, when compared to the same period last year, 31 of the 44 UK forces saw an increase, with Police Scotland experiencing the largest increase at 8.4%.

Police Scotland's Contact, Command and Control division experienced some delays to our contact services in late November and early December, in particular to our 101 non-emergency service, following a planned upgrade to our phone lines from an outdated analogue to modernised digital system which took place on Tuesday 25 November 2025.

The introduction of a digital system with new functionality represented significant change for colleagues across our service centres. This also came at a time of increased 999 emergency call demand when compared with 2024 (an increase of 10% in November and 15% in December).

As the public would expect and rightly demand, emergency 999 calls were prioritised which ensured a return to our target average speed of answer time of within 10 seconds during December 2025.

The longest wait time for an emergency 999 call response during the reporting period was 9 minutes and 35 seconds on Tuesday 09 December 2025 between 3am and 3.15am. Challenging periods of high demand were encountered as a result of high winds and heavy rain as the Met office implemented amber warnings for Scotland and Northern Ireland due to Storm Bram.

Given the concurrent demands on Forces across much of the UK at that time, there was limited availability to utilise the wider UK support network to answer 999 calls which resulted in the extended delay.

It was confirmed that there were no adverse outcomes as a result of this delay. This was also during the period of change following implementation of the new system.

With the new system now embedded, which brings together different contact types such as 999, 101 and digital forms of contact from the public into a single unified platform to provide more flexibility in contact handling and strengthen our system resilience, we are continuing to see improvements in our average speed of answer for 999 emergency calls (down from 14 seconds in November 2025 to nine seconds in December 2025). The new system will also enable capability to offer the public more ways to contact us in future.

C3 Division handles additional contacts such as incoming calls from other partner agencies, alarm calls and other forces, there have been 96,606 of these types of contact for this reporting period, representing an increase of 7.0% in emergency service partner calls and a decrease of 4.7% in total alarms calls when compared to 2024.

Emergency service partner calls are received via dedicated numbers from Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Ambulance Service, Mountain Rescue, Coast Guard, Mental Health Pathway (NHS 24), OmniCrash and Oil Industry Agency. The reason for such calls varies and each is dealt with by a Service Advisor in the most appropriate manner.

|| 101 calls answer time improving since new system embedded

Call Handling 101 Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Total number of 101 non-emergency calls received by Police Scotland	1,270,762	1,267,985	↓ -0.2%
Total number of 101 non-emergency calls received by Service Centre	1,234,592	1,189,210	↓ -3.7%
Other Force enquiries	0	1,481	-
Number of discontinued (abandoned) 101 non-emergency calls	273,068	348,974	↑ 27.8%
Percentage of discontinued (abandoned) 101 non-emergency calls	27%	36%	↑ 9%

The volume of 101 Non-Emergency calls received decreased by 0.2% (down from 1,270,762 to 1,267,985). Please note however, only partial data for 101- Option 2 calls is available covering 01 April to 25 November 2025. Data from 25 November to 31 December 2025 is being collated through a different system and not yet available.

The average answer time for 101 calls for quarter 3 was 8 minutes 55 seconds. This is an increase of 5 minutes and 44 seconds when compared to quarter 3 2024/2025. Of note it is the same Service Advisors who handle all 999/101 calls and "ContactUs" emails.

When there is a surge in 999 calls, we prioritise Service Advisors from Non-Emergency (101) calls and emails, as it is our aim to answer the 999 calls under 10 seconds. Therefore, there is a direct link between any increase in 999 volumes and the average speed of answer for 101 – non-emergency calls.

During this period, the 101 average answer time was impacted by the prioritisation of emergency 999 calls following the planned upgrade to a digital telephony system and resource abstractions to training in October and November 2025.

Similarly, now the new system is embedded for all public contact, the 101 average answer time has shown signs of improvement in the weeks following the reporting period and is now back in line with 2024/25 levels.

The 101 non-emergency discontinued rate increased by 9% (up from 27% to 36%) for this reporting period.

During periods of high demand, which was experienced during this reporting period, a recorded message informs callers of increased waiting times for answer, and they may choose to discontinue the call and contact 101 later or use the online "ContactUs" facility.

The number of enquires diverted from 101 during this reporting period increased by 42% (up from 30,996 to 43,959).

Our call volumes and trends continue to be monitored closely to ensure that we are prepared for any unexpected changes in demand and maintain average speed of answer times within targets.

|| Significant increase in demand from "ContactUs" emails

Digital / Contact Us Enquiries	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Total digital online enquiries	270,834	286,462	↑ 5.8%
Total number of Contactus received	250,415	273,449	↑ 9.2%
Number of Contactus emails received into Service Centre	151,922	154,392	↑ 1.6%
Number of Contactus forms received into Service Centre	98,493	119,057	↑ 20.9%
Number of Contactus enquiries diverted from 101	30,996	43,959	↑ 41.8%
Total number of online reports received	20,419	13,013	↓ -36.3%

The use of "ContactUs" emails has seen a significant increase in demand, different to the reduction in 101 non-emergency call volumes. Police Scotland received 273,449 emails in this reporting period; a 9.2% increase compared to the same period last year.

Emails are assessed the same way as calls using the Threat Harm Risk Investigation Vulnerability and Engagement (THRIVE) model. "ContactUs" emails and online reports for some crime types can also be completed online. Each one of these reports is assessed by a Service Advisor using the THRIVE assessment.

No change to percentage of call resolved by C3 or requiring police attendance

Incident Resolutions	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of referrals to the Mental Health Pathway	3,190	2,339	↓ -26.7%
Percentage of calls resolved by C3	58%	58%	→ 0%
Percentage of calls requiring police attendance	42%	42%	→ 0%

The number of referrals to the Mental Health Pathway in the YTD is only showing data up to 21 October 2025 for Quarter 3. This is due to system changes by NHS 24 (21 October 2025) and Police Scotland (24 November 2025).

The percentage of calls resolved by C3 (58%) and the percentage of calls requiring police attendance (42%) remain unchanged in the YTD from the same period last year.

Over 11,500 direct crime reports from the proportionate response to crime

Incident Resolutions - Direct Crime Reports	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of incidents resulting in a direct crime report	61,239	58,756	↓ -4.1%
Percentage of incidents resulting in a direct crime report	5%	5%	→ 0%
Proportionate response to crime - Number of direct crime reports	9,657	11,540	↑ 19.5%
Proportionate response to crime - Percentage of direct crime reports	16%	20%	↑ 4%

The number of incidents resulting in a direct report had dropped 4.1% from 61,239 to 58,756 in the YTD. In both comparable periods, this equates to 5% of incidents.

The number of direct crime reports from the proportionate response to crime is 11,540 at the end of Quarter 3.

Whilst this is an increase of 19.5% on the previous year it should be noted that the 2024/25 figures cover June to December 2024 only so not a full direct comparison.

20% of proportionate response to crime incidents have resulted in a direct crime report in the YTD (up 4 percentage points from previous year).

|| Notable successes from C3 Governance and Improvement support

Proactive/Preventative Policing – C3 Governance and improvement

C3 Governance and Improvement (G&I) have continued to support C3 operational business, in particular in relation to analytics and performance management with several notable successes.

Following the successful implementation of a new process for the Police Scotland Service Centre (PSSC), handling a subset of the dropped/abandoned 999 calls received, this innovation continues to find success with the latest figures published showing a growth to 37% of all dropped/abandoned 999 calls being resolved by the Service Centre.

With the introduction of STORM CKS/DTA as the new call handling and reporting system within the Service Centre, G&I have been integral in producing regular analytical products to support C3's Senior Leaders in managing the implementation of the new system while maintaining the expected high levels of service delivery to the public.

With regular demand, performance and bespoke analytical products, providing valuable data and commentary in relation to the Average Speed of Answer, Average Call Handling Time, Repeat Caller and Overall Demand, G&I have played an integral part in the success of the project and continue to support this work to ensure the Service Centre can effectively report performance going forward.

C3 G&I have successfully reviewed the Notable Incident process, implementing an enhanced framework to support practitioners and decision-makers ensuring risks are effectively managed, learning is optimised and opportunities to celebrate success captured.

Recent work also includes supporting the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots Law, and the Police Scotland response to several PIRC enquiries, along with the extensive work in support of the Operation Freshwater Public Enquiry.

|| 4.1% increase in complaints received relative to C3

C3 Complaints & Allegations Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Level of complaints received relative to C3s handling of 999/101 calls	219	228	↑ 4.1%
Complaint Allegations received relative to C3 - On Duty	206	243	↑ 18.0%
Complaint Allegations received relative to C3 - Quality of Service	90	90	→ 0.0%
Total Allegations Closed - Relative to C3	35	27	↓ -22.9%
Percentage of Upheld Total Allegations Closed - Relative to C3	17.1%	3.7%	↓ -13.4%

The volume of complaints against C3 Division has increased by 4.1% YTD, with a total of 228 received compared to 219 received PYTD. Decreases are visible in the North (35 cases, down 2.8%) and East (64 cases, down 17.9%). However, an increase was registered in the West (129 cases, up 22.9%).

In total, 74.6% of complaint cases received year-to-date for C3 Division were Frontline Resolved by the PSD National Complaints Assessment and Resolution Unit (NCARU). This rate rises to 75.0% when early and subsequent resolution by PSD or Specialist officers are included.

These figures demonstrate that most complaints against C3 Division during this period have been non-criminal and non-serious in nature, with a majority resolved through simple explanation, apology or assurance.

Irregularity in Procedure is assessed to be the primary driver of this increase, with 70 allegations received YTD, which represents a 52.2% increase (an additional 24 allegations).

This relates to allegation sub-types, specifically: Insufficient Enquiry carried out (10 more), 'Officer did not provide name or shoulder number' (seven more) and 'Other' (five more).

Incivility (169) remains the most common allegation type and is assessed to be another key influence linked to the increase in complaints received. This volume represents a 9.7% increase from the same period in 2024/25, accounting for an additional 15 allegations.



Vision 2030: Thriving Workforce

We prioritise wellbeing and keep our people safe, protected, and well-equipped.

We support our people to be confident leaders, innovative active contributors, and influencers.

We support our people to identify with and demonstrate Police Scotland values and have strong sense of belonging.

KPI: Our Culture: Absence Rate

Absence Data

|| Percentage of Working days lost slightly up on previous year

Absence & Wellbeing	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Working days lost (WDL) Police Officers	7.3%	7.8%	↑ 0.5%
Working days lost (WDL) Police Staff	7.4%	7.6%	↑ 0.2%
RRRD Balances (hrs)	33,293	22,794	↓ -31.5%

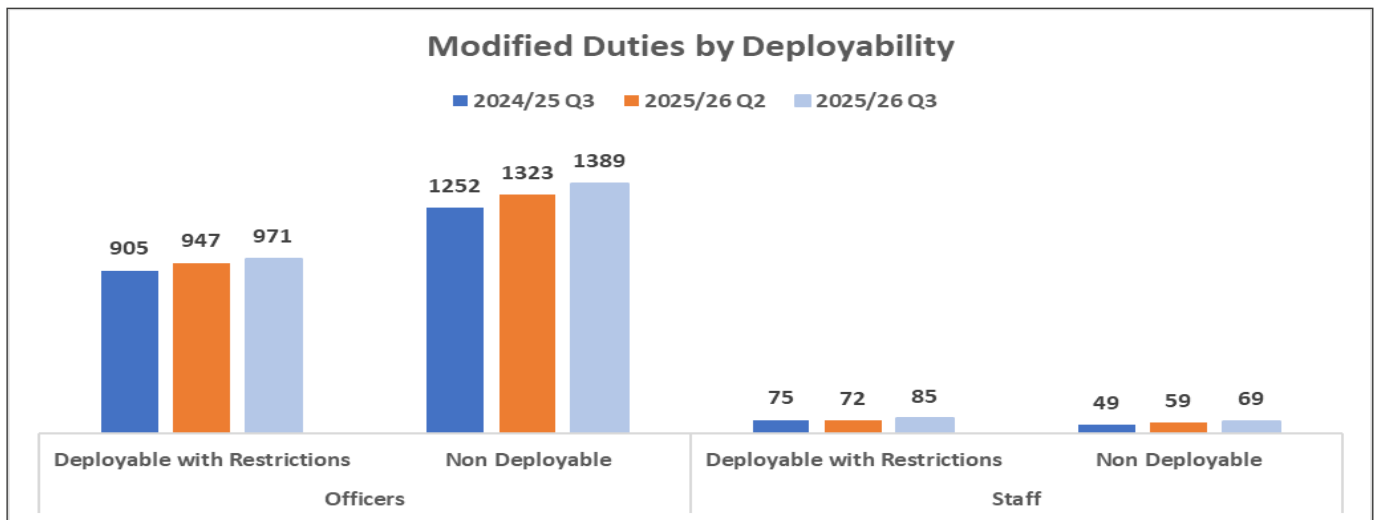
Percentage of WDL remains up on the previous year to date. An increase in Quarter 3 is typical when looking at previous year data, however this quarter represents the highest it has been when comparing to the previous two years which have both peaked at 7.3%.

For officers and staff this is largely attributed to a rise in short term respiratory absences, which is in line with a seasonal spike, both increasing by 0.7 percentage points. Police staff long term absences (LTA) continued to slowly increase from the beginning of the financial year, whereas officer LTA decreased slightly by 0.2 percentage points.

In Quarter 3, the top 3 reasons for WDL, for police officers were Psychological Disorders, Respiratory and Musculo-skeletal. For police staff it was Psychological Disorders, Respiratory and Miscellaneous.

RRRD banks have decreased in comparison to Quarter 2 (down 1%) and are down from the previous year to date (down 31.5%).

|| Supporting Officers on recuperative duties



In comparison to previous year to date the number of officers on modified duties have increased when comparing both deployable with restrictions and non-deployable officers (up 9.4%).

An Accelerated Leadership Pathway (ALP) Officer is now embedded and continues to focus on progressing the High-Level Action Plan presented to the SPA People Committee in August 2025.

This area of work links directly to the 2025/26 HR Strategic Work Plan activity to "Evolve the focus of the Duty Modifications Panel to enable increased capacity to the frontline.

Separately, an audit led by BDO is now underway focused on evaluating the processes (including occupational health interventions) supporting officers on recuperative duties to ensure everything possible is being done to support and enable them to return to full operational duties as soon as possible and within 12 months, minimising the number of officers who then require transitioning to longer term 'adjusted' duties (+12 months).

Supporting our workforce's wellbeing

Our health and wellbeing teams continue provide a suite of offerings to keep our people healthy and prevent ill-health and injury.

In Quarter 3 2025/26, our occupational health service:

- Received 1,330 management referrals (for reports/reviews of complex cases)
- The My OH portal is assisting line managers in the making and monitoring of referrals which enables them support their people appropriately.

Your Wellbeing Assessment (YWA)

- Your Wellbeing Assessment (YWA) is a confidential screening tool (an MOT, but for our mental health)
- The objective of the assessment is to, with consent, put in place support, advice and guidance before an individual may realise that they need it. The assessment is reviewed by a member of Optima Health's mental health team
- 962 officers and staff have completed the Your Wellbeing Assessment during the period of Feb-Sept 2025
- 26% (approx. 250) and 32% (approx. 308) identified within the red and amber categories respectively, a proactive approach was made to everyone.

Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)

- We are keen that officers and staff can receive the right support at the right time and are aware of and proactively engage with the avenues of support, with EAP being one of the main pathways
- There have been 433 contacts with EAP during this period, with 253 new officers and staff progressing through the pathway
- We have enhanced the support offering for officers and staff with EMDR and CBT available to those if deemed clinically appropriate
- 2085 clinical sessions have been delivered during this period
- Counselling interventions have led to positive improvements, with an improved average CORE-OM (clinical outcomes in routine evaluation – outcome measure) score identified.

KPI: Our Culture: % turnover by Police Officers/Staff

Turnover Data

|| Turnover of police officers and police staff remains stable

Workforce Planning Data	24/25 Q3	25/26 Q3	% Change
Percentage turnover of police officers (Voluntary, not including retirements and involuntary)	1.09%	1.22%	↑ 0.13%
Percentage turnover of police staff (Voluntary, not including retirements and involuntary)	1.45%	1.19%	↓ -0.26%

Police officer turnover has stayed relatively stable when compared to the same period last year. Police staff is showing a decrease as a number of voluntary redundancies were taken in Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 last year.

KPI: Our Culture: Number of Assaults on Police Officers/Staff

Assaults and Injuries Data

|| Assaults on police officers/staff up on both PYTD and Rolling 12 months

Assaults and Injuries Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of assaults on police officers/staff	5,435	5,792	↑ 6.6%	6,967	7,529	↑ 8.1%
Percentage of assaults leading to injury	24.8%	23.3%	↓ -1.5%	24.6%	23.6%	↓ -1.0%
Number of assault RIDDORS	45	29	↓ -35.6%	51	33	↓ -35.3%
Number of assault RIDDORS per 1k employment	3.4	2.1	↓ -38.2%	2.2	1.5	↓ -31.8%

A total of 5,792 assaults on police officers/staff have been recorded in the YTD. This is an increase of 357 assaults (up 6.6%) compared to the same period last year.

This equates to an average of around 21 assaults on officers/staff per day (down slightly from 22 in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2).

Nine of the 13 Local Policing Divisions have recorded an increase in their volume of assaults on police officers/staff compared to the PYTD. The biggest YTD increases in assaults were in Lanarkshire (213 more assaults, up 31.0%), followed by Fife (128 more assaults, up 36.8%) and Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Divisions (63 more assaults, up 25.3%).

Smaller increases were noted in North East, Tayside, Forth Valley, The Lothians and Scottish Borders, Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway Divisions with decreases recorded in Highland & Islands, Edinburgh, Greater Glasgow and Argyll & West Dunbartonshire Divisions.

The rolling 12 month figures show 7,529 assaults on police officers/staff from January to December 2025, an increase of 562 assaults (up 8.1%) on the same period in the previous year. This is also around 21 assaults per day on average.

Despite the increases in assaults, the YTD percentage of assaults leading to injury (23.3%) is down 1.5 percentage points compared to the previous YTD (24.8%) with a similar drop in the rolling 12 month comparison (down 1.0 percentage points).

The number of assault RIDDORS has also decreased from 45 PYTD to 29 YTD (16 fewer, down 35.6% on PYTD) and against the rolling 12 months from 51 to 33 (18 fewer, down 35.3% on previous rolling 12 months).

KPI: Our Culture: Financial Sustainability, Improved Fleet Efficiency and Reduction in Utilities Consumption

Maintaining a Balanced Budget / Financial Sustainability

The 2025/26 budget was approved by the Board at the Authority meeting held on 27 March 2025.

The budget report highlighted the key budgeting assumptions that are sensitive to change, and which could result in a material change to the 2025/26 budget. The overall financial position will continue to be monitored and reported throughout the year.

£3.2m YTD underspend against Revenue budget

The Quarter 3 net expenditure forecast shows an overall underspend against funding of £0.5m, consisting of net expenditure forecast over revenue budget by £2.4m funded by a contribution from revenue reform (£2.9m) to support unfunded pay award pressures.

The £0.5m overall net underspend relates to pay award inflation guarantee, where specific funding was received from Scottish Government of £5.5m against the final cost of £5.0m.

The Quarter 3 forecast includes various unfunded pressures, including pay award (£6.3m), ill-health pension costs (£3.4m), officer core overtime (£2.1m) and other officer costs (£3.2m).

Unfunded pressures have been managed through savings and budget reductions; namely underspends in police staff costs whilst we have been running slightly below the budgeted establishment (£4.7m), over-recovery of income (£3.7m), one-off benefits (£3.6m) and other reductions (£0.6m, net).

The forecast will be closely monitored alongside the financial threats and opportunities, with appropriate action to be taken if required.

At the end of December 2025 we are reporting a £3.2m year-to-date underspend against the approved budget.

Capital spend under approved budget by £5.0m

The capital forecast at Quarter 3 is £72.3m, £1.3m above the budget position of £71.0m. The forecast overspend is fully funded by additional capital receipts and other grants.

Capital delivery plans and forecasts have been updated by business areas to accurately reflect current timelines and spend profiles at Quarter 3 forecast.

The Quarter 3 capital forecast requires £6.5m of slippage to be achieved throughout the remaining part of the financial year.

Weekly forecasting to be implemented to monitor commitments alongside achievement of slippage, with recommendations to be made through Capital Investment Group where appropriate.

The year-to-date capital spend at December 2025 is under the approved budget by £5.0m.

Reform spend under approved budget by £1.2m

The reform forecast at Quarter 3 is £17.9m, £2.9m under funding position. This will be used to support unfunded pay award costs for 2025/26.

All slippage has been achieved with the focus now on delivering the Quarter 3 forecast.

Committed and uncommitted spend will continue to be monitored throughout the year.

The year-to-date reform spend at December 2025 is under the approved budget by £1.2m.

|| Slight reduction in mileage of electric vehicles

Fleet	25/26 Quarter 2	25/26 Quarter 3	% Change
Average age of fleet (in years)	3.91	4.00	↑ 2.3%
Proportion of vehicles that are ULEV	33.0%	33.0%	→ 0.0%
Total mileage of electric vehicles (green miles)	1,866,859	1,757,129	↓ -5.9%

Police Scotland is working towards implementing the move to an Ultra-Low Emission Fleet as part of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) approved Fleet Strategy. In Quarter 3 2025/26, 1,192 Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles (ULEV) vehicles make up 33% of Police Scotland's overall fleet. 47% of the unmarked fleet are ULEV.

The total recorded mileages of electric vehicles (green miles) during Quarter 3 2025/26 is 1,757,129 miles.

This is a slight reduction from Quarter 2 due to the holiday period and a technical issue with the telematics system which has now been resolved.

The current average fleet age for Police Scotland fleet is four years. This fluctuates from one day to the next as it is a live figure taking on the day, considering vehicles awaiting to be replaced and sold. This will reduce as new vehicles are introduced to the fleet and if the level of capital investment on the fleet is maintained in future years.

|| Utilities consumption continues to decrease on both periods

Consumption Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Gas consumption (kWh)	44,443,458	32,613,031	↓ -26.6%	70,641,102	56,991,629	↓ -19.3%
Electricity consumption (kWh)	35,465,700	35,200,810	↓ -0.7%	49,558,707	48,442,592	↓ -2.3%
Water consumption (m3)	198,769	185,863	↓ -6.5%	271,678	229,232	↓ -15.6%

Please note that we are still awaiting data for December 2025 for gas and water.

There will be a slightly longer delay than normal due to Christmas and New Year break.

Despite the absence of December data, gas consumption for 2025/26 is generally tracking below the previous year, month by month. This is likely due to the warm spring and summer experienced at the start of this year, thus reducing heat load. However, we will expect to see an increase in consumption for December and January due to the cold weather recently experienced across most of Scotland. We have included percentage changes above. However, this data will not be accurate until a full financial year data set has been completed.

As with gas, we continue to see a slight reduction in electricity consumption compared to both periods. As previously stated, this is likely due to continual implementation of energy efficiency measures and building disposal.

We also recognise that a portion of electricity savings in buildings has been offset by increased consumption due to Electric Vehicle (EV) operation.

We submitted our 12th Climate Change Report to the Scottish Government, where we reported a slight increase in our overall emissions. Whilst it is likely that we will not meet our target of 35% reduction by 2026 based on our 2019/20 baseline, we are satisfied that we have made good progress in reduction of scope 1 and 2 emissions relating to gas and electricity.

We have made good progress in finalising our draft sustainability strategy and are in the process of quantifying reduction targets and performance measures. In order to update our emissions baseline in line with Government guidance, we aim to include further scope 3 data including “well to tank” and supply chain emissions (where possible).

KPI: Our Culture: Percentage of days undertaken on training priorities

Learning, Training and Development Data

|| Over 30% of training time spent on priority and essential training

Learning, Training and Development Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
% of days undertaken on training priorities as essential for all officers/staff (not role-specific)	n/a	30.9%	-	n/a	31.8%	-
Percentage of training days lost	n/a	6.0%	-	n/a	2.1%	-

In Quarter 3, 30.9% of training time, was spent on training identified as 'priority and essential for all', comparable with the 12-month average of 31.8%.

Percentage of training days lost is 2,031 (6.0%) days lost, which is likely to reduce as training data is updated. The rolling 12 month figure 3,726 (2.08%) remaining broadly similar to previous quarter rolling 12 month figure of 4,451(2.5%).

KPI: Workforce Survey: Our organisation creates a safe environment and support systems for colleagues to raise concerns

Complaints and Allegations

Complaints & Allegations both down on PYTD and Rolling 12 months

Complaints & Allegations Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change	Rolling 12 mth PYTD	Rolling 12 mth YTD	% Change
Number of complaints from members of the public	5,387	4,453	↓ -17.3%	7,151	5,867	↓ -18.0%
Number of allegations from members of the public	9,601	8,206	↓ -14.5%	12,875	10,900	↓ -15.3%

The total number of complaints from members of the public, at the end of Quarter 3 2025/26, are down 17.3% (934 fewer) on the same period last year and down 18.0% (1,284 fewer) against the rolling 12 months period.

The total number of allegations from members of the public are down 14.5% (1,395 fewer) on the same period last year and down 15.3% (1,975 fewer) against the rolling 12 months period.

Small % point increases in complaints handled within statutory timescales and complaints concluded at front line resolution

Complaints & Allegations Handling Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Percentage of complaints handled within statutory timescales	8.6%	9.4%	↑ 0.8%
Percentage of complaints concluded at front line resolution	49.9%	51.5%	↑ 1.6%
Percentage of closed allegations which were upheld	16.1%	15.8%	↓ -0.3%

There were 531 non-criminal (not FLR) complaints closed, with 9.4% closed within the 56 day statutory timescale. This is 0.8 percentage points up on the same period in 2024/25.

A total of 2,293 complaints (51.5%) were frontline resolved (FLR), compared with 49.9% in PYTD (up 1.6 percentage points).

This includes early resolution and subsequent resolution by PSD/ Specialist officers.

In total, 2,553 allegations were attached to completed complaint investigations (criminal and non-criminal) with 15.8% upheld (down 0.3 percentage points on PYTD).

9.1% reduction in number of allegations considered by PIRC

Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC) Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Number of PIRC Complaint Handling Reviews (CHRs)	97	101	↑ 4.1%
Number of allegations considered by PIRC (CHRs)	373	339	↓ -9.1%
Percentage of these allegations assessed as handled to a reasonable standard	64.9%	50.1%	↓ -14.8%

The Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC) have submitted 101 Complaint Handling Reviews (CHRs) to

Police Scotland for consideration during this period (up 4.1% from PYTD).

This notionally equates to 2.3% of all complaints, however some of these complaints may have been received prior to the YTD reporting period.

Overall, 339 allegations were considered (down 9.1% from PYTD), from the 101 CHRs received from PIRC. 170 (50.1%) were assessed to have been handled to a reasonable standard, a 14.8 percentage point decrease from the same period in 2024/25. These CHRs included 157 recommendations.

14.7% increase in Statutory PIRC Referrals

Statutory PIRC Referral Reasons Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Armed Policing	89	91	↑ 2.2%
Crown Directed Criminality	6	8	↑ 33.3%
Death Following Police Contact	5	28	↑ 460.0%
Death in Police Custody	1	4	↑ 300.0%
Other - Serious Incident	0	0	-
Serious Injury Following Police Contact	35	54	↑ 54.3%
Serious Injury in Police Custody	44	31	↓ -29.5%
STO Taser	72	59	↓ -18.1%
Grand Total	252	275	↑ 9.1%

Statutory referrals to the PIRC facilitate independent and transparent scrutiny in relation to serious incidents involving the police. Police Scotland made 275 referrals to the PIRC in the YTD.

Of those, 35 resulted in an investigation (12.7%). This is an increase of 5.2% compared to the same period in 2024/25.

Allegations of On Duty Assault (breaches of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights), plus any associated criminal allegations, are now referred to the PIRC.

In total, 134 of these referrals were made during this period (down 51.6% from 2024/25), with 94 subject to PIRC investigation (70.1%).

As of 01 January 2026, 13 of these referrals are awaiting a decision from PIRC regarding possible investigation. The remaining 27 cases have been marked as no investigation by PIRC.

|| Misconduct / Gross Misconduct Investigations down 4.5% on PYTD

Preliminary Conduct Assessments Data	24/25 PYTD	25/26 YTD	% Change
Misconduct / Gross Misconduct Investigation	88	84	↓ -4.5%
Misconduct - No Investigation	173	210	↑ 21.4%
No Misconduct	57	34	↓ -40.4%
Grand Total	318	328	↑ 3.1%

There have been 328 preliminary conduct assessments undertaken YTD which is up 3.1% (10 more) on the same period last year.

84 assessments have required a misconduct/gross misconduct investigation, this is down 4.5% compared to the same period last year. The remaining assessments resulted in either misconduct – no investigation (210 assessments, up 21.4%) or no misconduct (34 assessments, down 40.4%).

|| Just under a quarter satisfied with response from Professional Standards

PSD have received 594 responses to their user satisfaction survey YTD, with 22.2% stating that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the response received from the Professional Standards Department regarding their complaint. This is down 6.7 percentage points from the same period last year.

The bulk of the free text comments received were geared towards experiences and perceptions of the complaints process, which is reflective chiefly of the questions asked in the survey, rather than a systematic focus on the circumstances which gave rise to the complaint.

Proactive/Preventative Policing – PSD Organisational Learning

In the last quarter, PSD has disseminated learning from a variety of incidents. The following learning outcome was of particular note and relates to a Serious Injury Following Police Contact referral to the PIRC.

Police Scotland are undertaking an assurance review to assess the end-to-end Warrant guidance process currently in place which will, upon completion, result in the production of an internal report outlining all recommendations and improvement opportunities.

Upon completion of the review, subsequent publishing of any report and agreement of a clear process around risk assessment, the Warrants National Guidance document will be updated and amended to include guidance around risk assessments for warrants.

It is anticipated the initial report will be published by March 2026.



Appendix

Crime and incident data is included within this report, illustrating where possible, the Quarter 3 YTD comparison (April to December) and the rolling 12 months comparison (January to December) in the year-to-date vs previous year-to-date.

When comparing numbers in the tables the % change column is calculating the % change from previous year. When comparing percentages the % change column is calculating the % point change from previous year.

All Data is classed as Management Information and is not considered official statistics. All data is sourced from Police Scotland internal systems. Disaggregated data is available in [Police Scotland Management Information publication.](#)

Notes:

- **Homicide** crimes include the crime types murder and culpable homicide (common law).
- Recent crimes of **rape** are defined as being reported less than 365 days from the day committed. Non-Recent crimes of rape are therefore any reported 366 days or more from the day the crime was committed.
- Crimes of **violence against women and girls** refers to any female victim of a Group 1, Group 2, threatening and abusive behaviour crime or any other crime with a domestic element.
- **DASA of a female** and **DASA of a male** crimes refers to crimes under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018. These crimes are a small part of the overall domestic abuse crimes.
- Victim Support Scotland (VSS) referrals: The number of accepted referrals is taken from our daily referral record and is the most accurate number of referrals sent to VSS. The number of declined referrals is taken from our 'VSS Summary Report V3' dashboard.
- The complete Quarter 3 **utilities (gas, electricity and water)** data is not yet available and so we have provided information based on April to November 2025 of Financial Year 2025/26 with a comparison over the same time period in the previous year. Considering this, all figures provided should be taken as indicative, until the Quarter 3 data set is complete.

