



Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership
Annual Report 2008-09

FOREWORD

The Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership is committed to making Perth & Kinross a safe place for people to live, work and visit. The Perth & Kinross Community Safety Strategy 2007-12 has a vision of -

“a Perth and Kinross where everyone can play a part in building safe and strong communities in which people enjoy a high quality of life. Our area will be prosperous and safe, with inclusive communities within which individuals feel safe and protected.”

Perth and Kinross, generally, is a prosperous community where residents enjoy a high quality of life. However, it has to be recognised that there are pockets of deprivation, isolation and inequality that exist for communities and population groups in both our urban and rural areas. In these areas residents often don't experience the same high quality of life, and don't feel they have strong and safe communities where they feel included, safe and protected. These areas remain a priority for the Partnership.

This annual report highlights some successful initiatives, projects and services which are making significant inroads towards fulfilling this vision. However the increasing negative impact of alcohol on individuals and communities is of significant concern and this also remains a priority area for the Partnership.

The Partnership is committed to not only sustaining good work which already making a difference for our communities but also finding ways to improve and innovate. There is a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention.

My thanks go to the many people who have contributed to the successes in this report, Perth and Kinross Council Services, Tayside Police, NHS Tayside, Tayside Fire & Rescue, the Voluntary Sector and Communities themselves. Only by working together have these been possible.

Councillor Willie Robertson
Chair
Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership

PERTH & KINROSS COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2007-12

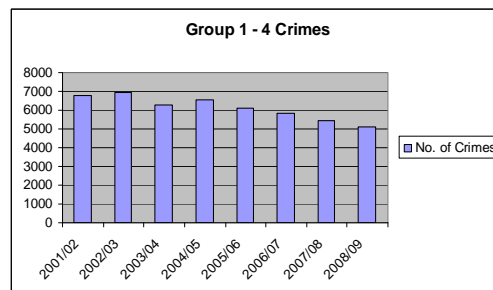
The Perth & Kinross Community Safety Strategy was published in August 2007. To deliver the aims of the strategy an action plan was developed which was split into 11 separate parts:

Adult Crime
Adult Support and Protection
Antisocial Behaviour
Child Protection
Domestic Abuse
Fire Safety
Home Safety
Racist Incidents
Road Safety
Water Safety
Youth Justice

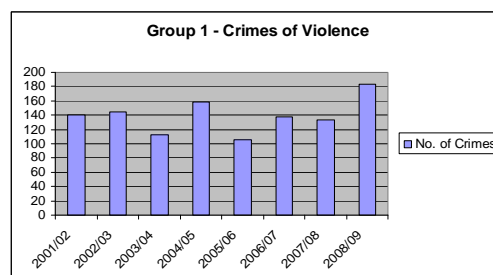
This report indicates some of the progress being made in these areas.

ADULT CRIME

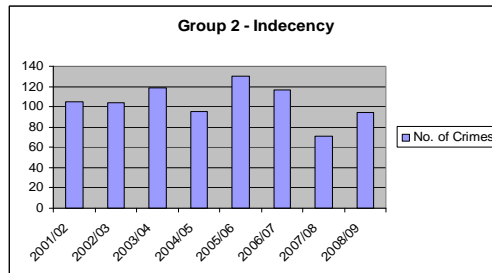
Reported crime within Perth & Kinross reduced from 5445 crimes in 2007/08 to 5098 in 2008/09 (- 6%) This follows on from a 6.9% reduction the year before.



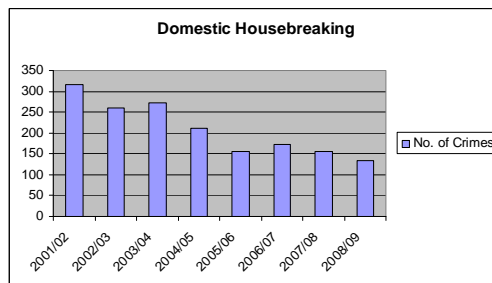
The number of **serious and violent crimes** increased from 134 to 184. (+ 37%)
The detection rate for these crimes was 89% which was identical to the previous years result.



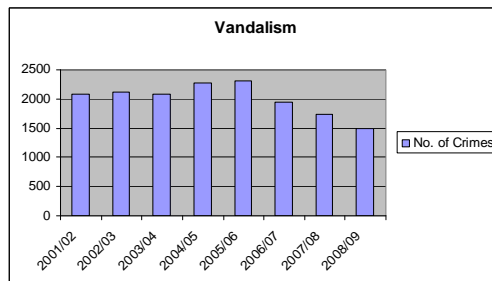
Crimes of **indecenty** increased from 71 to 94 (+ 32%) The previous year had show a 39% reduction.



Domestic housebreaking reduced from 156 to 134 (-14%).



Vandalism reduced from 1729 to 1500 (-13%)



(All figures Tayside Police)

In 2007/08 the overall crime rate per head of population in Perth & Kinross was the **8th lowest** in Scotland in comparison to other local authority areas. (Figures Scottish Government)

Partnership Working



Operation Resolute was carried out by Tayside Police between February and May 2009. They based their Community Task Force (CTF) in the Blairgowrie Section. This unit consists of 7 officers who are available to augment and support existing Divisional Officers. Their remit was to reduce crime, antisocial behaviour and the fear of crime and to improve the quality of life for communities.

Partnership working was quickly established utilising the existing Multi Agency tasking group, chaired by Police and meeting at Blairgowrie police Office. The regular monthly meetings were increased to fortnightly. A fortnightly Tactical Assessment was compiled by the Community Analyst which was the focus of discussion. Each participating agency contributed further items for discussion and at the conclusion of each meeting, actions were identified. Early in the project, all Local Councillors were briefed on the operation and invited to contribute requests for action.

As the operation progressed, the CTF also worked in partnership with Customs and Excise and the Water Bailiffs whilst visiting the Strathmore Centre for Youth Dialogue as one of the means by which to engage with young people. In Rattray, the CTF worked alongside and in support of Community Wardens in tackling antisocial behaviour. Surgeries using the mobile office were held in Blairgowrie, Rattray, Alyth and Coupar Angus at which members of the community were afforded the opportunity of discussing matters that they wished the CTF to address.

A key part of the operation was to patrol the areas thought to be frequented by young people drinking alcohol. Despite regular visits, although young people were encountered, a relatively low volume of alcohol was recovered. This was supported by a very low rate of complaints of youth drinking or associated annoyance calls.

Much work was done on road checks, breath testing, document checks and challenging anti social driving standards. 100 fixed penalty notices, 99 warnings, 5 vehicle seizures and 4 arrests for drunk driving have contributed to making our roads safer.

A local survey was carried out asking people about their knowledge of the CTF and their impressions of the effectiveness of the operation. The overall response was very positive with a good knowledge of their presence and a favourable impression on their achievements.

Criminal Information Sharing Scheme (PACE) scheme now includes over 100 city centre business members who now share photographs and radio messages of persistent city centre criminals and intelligence. In June 2007 PACE was awarded the SAFER SHOPPING AWARD 2007 for excellence in crime reduction practice and partnership working. Perth was the 2nd city in Scotland to achieve this prestigious award. In April 2009 Perth was again awarded the SAFER SHOPPING AWARD 2009 for continuous excellence. PACE is now being developed to include outwith city centre premises with crime or anti-social behaviour issues. The scheme has served civil exclusion orders on over 30 persons banning them from entering PACE member premises for a period of 6 months.

Pubwatch/ Radiolink - the scheme now has 14 member premises and has increased its membership by 25% over the past year. Pubs also tune into the daytime radiolink scheme and several apprehensions related to shop crime have stemmed from this. Street Pastors and Taxi Marshals also carry radios and link in to the scheme.

Pubwatch now has 33 member premises and meetings were arranged last year covering on going issues and links with Perth and Kinross Licensing Board and Tayside Police. In partnership with Tayside Police it is developing a criminal photograph sharing scheme to ban persons with serious anti-social behaviour tendencies from all pubs.

Best Bar None Award winners have increased by over 50% in number over the last 3 years. It now has 17 award winners within Perth city centre of which 3 are gold winners. Also all last year's entrants achieved a higher score in relation to the criteria which proves they are safer premises. The scheme also highlighted issues that licensees would need to gain knowledge on for their business plans under the new Licensing Act.

Childsafe Initiative has been initiated in partnership with Tayside Police, Childwatch Charity, Education Services and PKAVS. A safety booklet has been designed to help local businesses, parents and carers, and children under the age of 8 years who become temporarily separated while shopping within Perth city centre. Businesses are provided with till point cards with best practice guidelines and every school and nursery in Perth and Kinross has been issued with a Childsafe booklet.

Crimestoppers - an initiative to allow Polish, Czech and Russian people living within Perth and Kinross to report criminal information anonymously through Crimestoppers was developed. Crimestoppers cards have been produced in various languages and distributed through various networks.

A **Joint Strategy for the Development of Addiction Services** has been developed. It sets out a local plan for essential changes and improvements to a range of services for those citizens whose lives are adversely affected by alcohol or drugs

A **'Scamnesty' Campaign** was carried out. Every year an estimated three million people fall victim to mass marketed scams such as bogus lotteries, deceptive prize draws and sweepstakes, fake psychics, get-rich-quick schemes and miracle health cures. Many of these scams are sent through the post, as well as by email or over the phone, and target the elderly and vulnerable. However, OFT research suggests that less than 5 per cent of victims report the scam to the authorities. As part of 'Scams Awareness Month' during February 2009, the UK Government in partnership with over 50 local authority Trading Standards Services including Perth & Kinross, asked members of the public to collect any potential scam mailings they have recently received and drop them into designated 'Scamnesty' bins or boxes at local libraries and other public areas across the country. The designated bins were promoted locally by Trading Standards Services with the theme 'Drop in and drop them in it'. Scam mailings collected from the 'Scamnesty' bins provide crucial intelligence to

Trading Standards Services and the OFT, to help to inform future investigations, and prevent others from being scammed.

ADULT SUPPORT AND PROTECTION

Most adults and older people with mental illness, physical or learning disabilities or other special needs manage to live their lives comfortably and securely, either independently or with assistance from caring relatives, friends, neighbours, professionals or volunteers. However, for a small number, dependence on others may lead to abuse, exploitation, conflict, mistreatment or neglect. All agencies have an essential role to play in ensuring that vulnerable adults are protected from abuse, mistreatment or neglect. To achieve this requires a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the organisations and agencies involved directly and indirectly in caring for vulnerable adults. Good communication, co-operation and liaison between agencies are essential as are clear procedures, which promote the interests of vulnerable adults, their families and care givers.

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 introduced a number of duties for councils to improve and create new ways of providing services for adults at risk of harm. Work is ongoing to implement these in Perth & Kinross, including training for all agencies involved on the impact of the new legislation. In Perth & Kinross the Council, Tayside Police and NHS Tayside are working together to tackle this issue consistently.

One of the duties introduced by the act has been the need for local authorities and their partner agencies to form Adult Protection Committees under an independent convener. The Perth & Kinross Adult Protection Committee met for the first time on Friday, 10 July. A short leaflet offering advice for staff on how to respond to suspicions or reports of harm has been developed.

From the 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 there have been 90 cases reported to the Police with the 'Adult at Risk' marker

Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

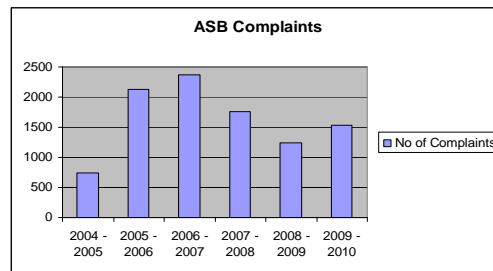
- A Tayside wide Vulnerable Adults Protocol has been developed by a multi-agency group. This provides a framework to ensure that there is common practice across all agencies. The guidelines are supported by joint training
- There is operational guidance for Adult Support and Protection to confirm to staff what local action should be taken when abuse is suspected and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all those involved.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

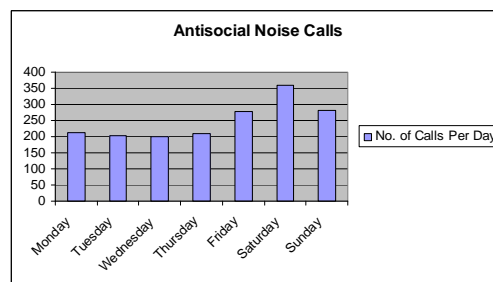
The Anti Social Investigations Team continues to evolve in their stance against antisocial behaviour. The introduction of a new database has allowed for better recording and analysis of the types of complaints being received and during the year over 1600 requests were made to the team. Youth related antisocial behaviour continues to be one of the major concerns in communities and approximately 660 complaints were received. Serious antisocial behaviour such as threats and intimidation resulted in 214 complaints being received and the team were also notified of 180 incidents of drug related antisocial behaviour.

Feedback from communities has provided positive comments on the work being carried out by both Investigators and Community Wardens and a recent survey by Perth and Kinross Tenants and Residents Associations highlighted that the vast majority of residents who responded to the survey are satisfied with the Council's response to antisocial behaviour.

Community Wardens are the eye and ears of communities and have worked in the housing estate of Letham and Hillyland, Perth since 2004. The success of this initiative has resulted in similar services being introduced in September 2008 to Muirton and North Muirton, Perth and Rattray, Blairgowrie. It has been acknowledged by residents that the presence of Community Wardens provide reassurance and outlet to their concerns.



The Perth & Kinross Antisocial Noise Team recorded 1742 incidents of antisocial noise in 2008/09.

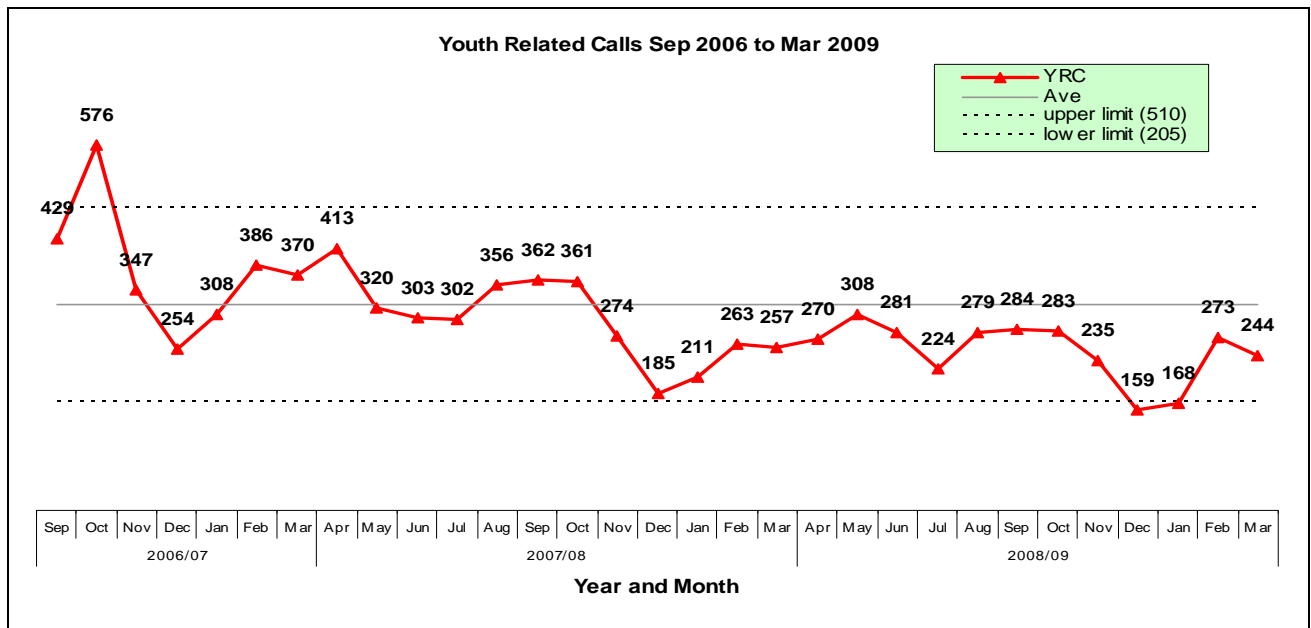


From the 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 the Noise Team have issued 46 Warning Notices, and 5 Fixed Penalty Notices. 1940 noise related calls were dealt with by the noise team and environmental services.

From the 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 Tayside Police have issued 1189 ASB Fixed Penalty Notices relating to Drunk & Incapable, Breach of the Peace, Alcohol in Public Places, Noise Nuisance, Urinating and Vandalism. For 2007/2008, 1112 were issued.

There is a significant decrease in youth causing annoyance (YCA) compared to last year. This year so far there has been 3,008 YCA calls. The majority of calls relate to general annoyance, street gathering, underage drinking and throwing objects.

A significant number of calls have been recorded which relate to youths being in an area, where there has been cause for concern by their mere presence, but where there has been no evidence of Anti Social Behaviour.



Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

- A fortnightly tasking & coordination meeting in relation to antisocial behaviour which looks at the issues across Perth & Kinross and directs resources accordingly.
- Local tasking & coordination meetings have been established in Muirton and Blairgowrie
- The mobile sports pitch has been deployed with youth workers in 18 areas and attracted 1153 young people. The ability to move the sports pitch around and locate it where 'hot spots' for antisocial behaviour have been identified as a diversion scheme has proved to be very successful. For example working with Tayside Fire and Rescue Services leading up to November 5th 2007 the number of youth nuisance calls to the Fire Service from those areas where the court was used was reduced to nil.
- Greater number of Police cycle patrols through the increased number of regular Police Officers and Special Constables who have been trained in their use
- P4 is a partnership project between Perth & Kinross Council and NCH to provide an outreach and dispersed tenancy support to families referred due to antisocial behaviour. The project offers a range of interventions to suit the needs of families supported within the project.
- Increased use of the Perth & Kinross Mediation Service
- The Perth & Kinross Criminal Justice Service and City Centre Management has developed a project that has offenders on community service orders cleaning up graffiti and ply posting in Perth City Centre at no cost to local businesses or residents.

Street Pastors

Trained Street Pastors presently patrol the city centre in teams and communicate with vulnerable persons and other members of the public. They arrange the safety of the vulnerable persons traced and remove them from the streets (inform relatives, taxi etc). They will uplift any potential weapons, such as bottles and glasses, from the streets. They are present at areas where a heavy volume of night revellers will congregate and interact with them and are a friendly uniformed presence. They also carry a radio which allows them to be in contact with police and CCTV room staff. They have also attended minor incidents as

instructed by police control room staff as per an agreed protocol between them. Perth street pastors were launched in March 2008 and volunteers patrol Perth city centre on a Friday and Saturday nights between 2100 – 0400hrs.

Taxi Marshalls

Two years ago a CCTV survey was carried out of the main taxi rank in Mill Street, Perth, situated in Murray Street. It revealed that people in the queue could wait for up to ½ hour for a taxi when local night clubs had closed. This delay meant that noise levels in the area were high well into the early hours of the morning and disputes often occurred. Enquiries with taxi drivers revealed that some were reluctant to use the rank as it was felt to be unsafe in the early hours of the morning. It often required having Police resources deployed in the area. A Taxi Marshall scheme was implemented for the festive season 2007/08 and was universally praised. This was repeated for the festive season 2008/09. Two taxi Marshalls were employed from a reputable security company to facilitate the orderly and safe working of the queue. They were on duty every Friday & Saturday night from 5th December 2008 until 4th January 2009 and on Christmas eve and Hogmanay. They worked between 2300 and 0400 hours.

CHILD PROTECTION

“Better Outcomes for Children and Young People in Perth and Kinross” has been the clear statement of intent emanating from the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership. This has been actively promoted through two annual conferences and a series of seminars which highlighted that partnerships, structures and operational mechanisms, such as integrated team meetings at school level and locally integrated planning groups, were essential elements in the drive for better outcomes.

This series of meetings enabled discussion of the main priorities of the Integrated Children’s Services Plan. They also enhanced a shared awareness of the professionals and agencies working in the local area and provided an opportunity for local service providers to contribute to the future planning of integrated services.

Such future planning will also include the recommendations made in the HMle Joint Inspection of Child Protection Services which was published on 11 June 2009. Perth and Kinross were awarded one excellent, ten very goods and seven goods in the various categories which was a very powerful endorsement of the child protection work that occurs daily across the local authority.

These efforts collectively have contributed towards the number of children on the child protection register per 1000 children, aged 0-15, remaining lower than the Scottish average at a rate of 2.4 compared to the national figure of 3.1.

Areas of improvement have been achieved in respect of the following:

- Over 1000 practitioners have benefited from a variety of child protection training opportunities over this last year
- Inter-Agency Protocols in respect of Information Sharing, Guidance for Working with Young People who are Sexually Active and Initial Referral Discussions Protocols have all been adopted as best practice
- A Communications Strategy 2008-2011 and a Training Improvement Plan 2009-2010 have also been approved by the Committee.

One particular initiative which deserves particular mention is the roll out of Child Internet Safety Training of Trainers programme. This has equipped over 300 practitioners to deliver the 'Thinkuknow' training [Child Exploitation – On-Line Protection (CE-OP)] to the entire school population across the local authority in the session 2009-2010.

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Domestic Abuse continues to be an important issue nationally and within Perth & Kinross. 916 domestic abuse incidents were reported to Tayside Police in 2007-08 (2006-07 921 incidents). The WRSAC (Women's Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre) in Perth supported 16 women. Perthshire Women's Aid support on average 5 women and 6 children every month, who are the victims of domestic abuse. This is in addition to the informal enquiries they receive. The National Domestic Abuse Helpline received around 200 calls from residents of Perth & Kinross (figures from respective agencies)

INCIDENCE & PREVALANCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN PERTH & KINROSS

There were 1037 crimes recorded with the 'domestic' aggravator reported between 01/04/08 to 31/03/09. This is an increase compared to 2007/08 where 1007 crimes were recorded. Breach of the Peace accounted for 53% of reported domestic incidents, while Petty Assault accounted for 28%.

Currently there is little evidence of street prostitution within Perth & Kinross, however, there have been reports of off-street prostitution. In 2008, there were incidents involving prostitution & brothel keeping and there is evidence of human trafficking.

There remains a lack of local knowledge relating to the incidence and prevalence of the wider forms of violence and Perth & Kinross Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women Forum aims to work with relevant partners over the next two years to establish a fuller understanding of the nature and extent of these issues within the Perth & Kinross area.

www.pkdomesticabuse.co.uk This website went live in November 2007 and was updated in November 2008 to include a section looking at Children & young people. The website is being updated to take account of the wider Violence Against Women agenda. It offers a range of support & information on domestic abuse, rape/sexual assault, commercial sexual exploitation (human trafficking, prostitution) forced marriage and honour crimes, FGM (female genital mutilation).

EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS

16 Days of Action 2008 (25th November – 10th December.)

Rape Crisis Scotland Campaign Exhibition: "This is not an invitation to rape me" AK Bell Library. The poster exhibition was a follow on from the National Campaign organised by Rape Crisis Scotland earlier in the year. The exhibition aimed to challenge the myths and misconceptions that continue to be perpetuated about rape & sexual assault. The poster exhibition included factual information and encouraged people to leave comments.

Women's Personal Safety workshops: WRASAC (P&K) ran workshops in AK Bell Library, The Web Project in Milnathort and YWCA in Coupar Angus.

Raising the issues through drama: 2 short plays were performed at Perth AK Bell Library: Jackie's Story: a play about one woman's experiences of domestic abuse and His4: a play about homelessness, violence against women.

Domestic Abuse Seminar: How it limits the human rights of women: Speaker Lily Greenan (Manager, Scottish Women's Aid)

White Ribbon Campaign: St Johnstone Football Club once again supported this campaign within Perth & Kinross, a picture and article appeared in the local Perthshire Advertiser newspaper. Tayside Fire and Rescue also supported that campaign with a picture & article appearing in the Courier newspaper.







OTHER ACTIVITIES

Newsletter – “Break The Silence”: The Forum distributed 1500 copies of the Autumn/winter 2008 newsletter and the spring/summer 2009 newsletter. Copies of the newsletter are distributed via email & hard copy to schools, nurseries, general practitioner, Health Visitors, District Nurses, Solicitors, Procurator Fiscal Service, Council staff, Councillors and the Voluntary sector.



6,000 **Good Practice Guidelines** booklets and 12,000 leaflets distributed
Tayside Training Consortium delivered basic awareness training to 91 staff across Perth & Kinross

Domestic Abuse Care & Repair Initiative: To date 15 women have accessed the initiative which aims to improve the safety of women by carrying out home security improvements which will reduce the likelihood of accessing the property by force. The Community Safety Partnership provided financial support for the scheme.

<p>PERTSHIRE CARE & REPAIR DOMESTIC ABUSE INITIATIVE</p> <p>Agency: _____ Contact Name: _____ Tel No: _____ Client's Name: _____ Client's Address: _____ _____ Postcode: _____ Tel No: _____ Work Required: _____ _____</p> <p>DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998 <i>The information you provide on this form will only be used for purposes in connection with the Domestic Abuse Initiative. By signing this form, you agree to your personal information being used for these purposes. All information you provide will be held in secure manual and computerised files. You may ask to see a copy of the information about you held in these files.</i></p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Please fill in the details above and send to: PERTSHIRE CARE & REPAIR 5 SOUTH ST JOHN'S PLACE PERTH PH1 5SU Tel: 01738 474810 Fax: 01738 441060 E-mail: carerepair@perthha.co.uk www.perthshircareandrepair.org.uk</p>	<p>PERTSHIRE CARE & REPAIR DOMESTIC ABUSE INITIATIVE</p> <p>The Domestic Abuse Initiative is funded by:</p>  <p>Perthshire Care & Repair is FUNDED BY</p>  <p>MANAGED BY</p>  <p>The Care & Repair Project is managed by Perthshire Housing Association and funded by Perth & Kinross Council. <small>Perthshire Housing Association is registered with Companies House (and has Charitable Status Reg. No. 087224 Registered in the Individuals and Partners Directory Reg. No. 214) 0 (0)</small> <small>Charity Number: SC 017089</small></p>	<p>Perthshire Care & Repair</p> <p>&</p> <p>Perth & Kinross Domestic Abuse Forum</p>  <p>Working together across Perth & Kinross</p>
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Library Bookmarks: The Forum Coordinator worked with AK Bell Library staff to produce joint bookmarks which were distributed by the library throughout the 16 days of action.

Court Mandated Perpetrator Programme: Action for Children has appointed Women & Family safety workers (2 part-time, funded until March 2011). The workers will provide partner support to women whose partners are attending Court mandated perpetrator programmes run across Tayside.

Scottish Prison Service: Perth Prison: The forum is working in partnership with staff members at Perth Prison who are developing a workplace policy on domestic abuse.

Tayside Criminal Justice Authority: In March this year the TCJA organised a stakeholder's event to identify the role of criminal justice partners in relation to domestic abuse. A working group involving COPFS has been established to develop multi-agency protocols.

Tayside NHS CEL group: this group has been established to take forward the Scottish Government CEL 41 directive which places an expectation on NHS boards across Scotland to implement Routine Enquiry of abuse across key NHS settings.

The Tayside Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women Training Consortium: This group aims to work in partnership across Tayside to develop, monitor and evaluate service specific & multi-agency training in relation to domestic abuse/gender based violence. The consortium has appointed a Training Development Worker. (funded until 2011). The consortium will be developing a comprehensive training programme including basic awareness and specialist training focussing on the violence against women agenda.

Through the Eyes of a Child: Sandra Paton (South Ayrshire Women's Aid) delivered training sessions focussing on the impact of domestic abuse on children & young people.

FIRE SAFETY

From the 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 Tayside Fire & Rescue attended the following call outs within Perth & Kinross:

Fires

FDR1	229
Secondary	229
Deliberate	211
Malicious Calls	30
Fire fatalities	1
Fire Related Casualties	29

RTC

RTC's attended	123
RTC Casualties	70
RTC fatalities	3

Water Incidents

Water rescues	11
Water casualties	2

In the same period, the following prevention/diversion activities were carried out.

Prevention/Diversion Activities

Home Fire safety visits	1050
Youth Diversion/Engagement activities (Young Firefighter Courses, Firefighter for a day, Fire College, Driving Ambition, Safe Drive Stay Alive etc.)	128
Adult Prevention talks/Demos	38

HOME SAFETY

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) every year in the UK almost 4,000 people die in accidents in the home and 2.7 million turn up at accident and emergency.⁴¹

In Perth & Kinross during 2007/08 there were a total of 1731 hospital admissions as a result of unintentional injury 658 occurred in the home and 969 occurred out-with the home. The most vulnerable group are the over 65's and more women than men. There were a total of 981 injuries caused by falls, 490 were within the home and 491 out-with the home. Again the most vulnerable age group are the over 65's.⁴²

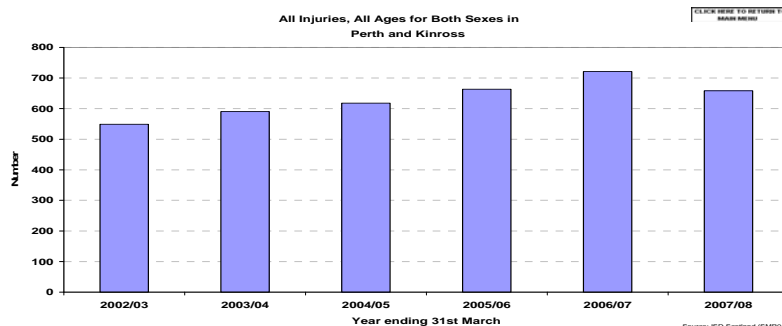
The level of home accidents within the area is concerning and recent data shows that the number of people in Perth & Kinross over the age of 65 requiring hospital admission as a result of home accidents is 61% higher than the Scottish average.⁴³

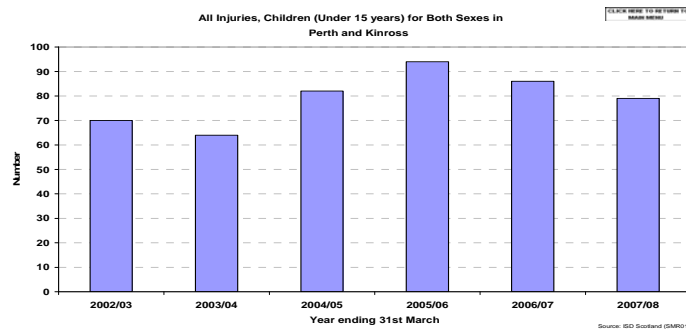
With the elderly population in Perth & Kinross projected to increase significantly over the next 20 years, from 26,803 adults over the age of 65 in 2005, to over 40,019 by 2024, the number of home related accidents may well rise accordingly.

As the needs of this group increase services to the elderly provided by the Council, NHS Tayside and the voluntary sector are going to be placed under significant pressure. This is particularly true for services for those aimed at the over 80 age group which are the most resource intensive.

With these objectives and historical data in mind, Tayside Fire and Rescue have led this project, with extra funding from Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership. Developing the 'Home Safety Unit', using one of Tayside Fire and Rescue's existing fleet of demountable units, our aim is to provide an educational and instructional resource that can be used throughout Perth & Kinross. It can be transported via a prime mover, to a location from where it can be accessed by local groups.

In 2007/08 1,731 people attended at Accident & Emergency in Perth & Kinross to receive treatment for an injury. (Reduction of 8.7% on 2006/07 figures). 38% of these injuries occurred in the home, the most common cause being a fall – 50% of which occurred in the home. There has also been a significant reduction (16% since 2005/06) in home injuries to children. (source Scottish Government)





Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

- Home Safety Officer carried out 180 visits to vulnerable people. He fitted 97 smoke alarms, carried out 59 small repairs and issued 9 Datalink bottles. He referred 102 people to other agencies for assistance.
- Electric blanket testing was again carried out and a total of 434 blankets were tested. 179 (41%) of these blankets were found to be old and unsafe and were disposed of. A lower proportion of blankets tested this year were found to be unsafe – in 2005/2006 47% of blankets were found to be unsafe.
- Safe Taysiders is a major safety awareness raising event organised annually by Tayside Police for local school children. Targeting the critical Primary 7 audience before transition to secondary school, Safe Taysiders is a true multi agency event, involving statutory, commercial and voluntary partners at every stage from planning to execution. In 2009 one thousand local school children from 76 primary schools participated in the 9 'sets' all focused on personal and community safety.
- Datalink Emergency Bottle Scheme – These bottles continue to be in demand and distributed throughout Perth and Kinross with another 500 recently being purchased. They are invaluable for people who have a medical condition or feel vulnerable within their own homes. The bottle contains essential personal information, which is stored in the fridge in case of an emergency, the emergency services are fully aware of the scheme

Perth and Kinross Falls Service - Falls are a big issue as they represent the most frequent and serious type of accident in the over 65 age group causing significant physical and psychological distress. More than 30 per cent of people over 65 and 50 per cent of over 80s will fall each year. Whilst falls affect us more as get older, they are not an inevitable part of growing old, there is always a reason as to why someone is falling, this needs to be identified and further investigation carried out to prevent further falls. Within Perth and Kinross there is a dedicated Falls Service developed to manage falls in older people. This involves joint partnership across health, social, private and voluntary care settings, and we are aiming to improve outcomes for older people who fall by ensuring a competent and knowledgeable workforce, enabling early identification of fallers, the implementation of appropriate management and referral pathways and appropriately targeted interventions. There are five Falls Clinics established across Perth and Kinross to ensure fallers can be assessed by a specialised multi-disciplinary falls team and receive appropriate treatment to reduce the risk of further falls. Much work is also being done around raising awareness with the public and also staff caring for the elderly of the many risk factors for falling and strategies that can be adopted to reduce this risk.

Electric Blanket Testing

This year, rather than commit some £5000 to testing electric blankets for one week only, the money has been spent on purchasing specialist testing equipment and training the Home

safety Officer to be able to carry out these specialist tests himself. This allows us a greater freedom to test blankets at various locations throughout the year. This will represent better value because the human resource implication of a blanket testing week was difficult to maintain. A more sustainable programme of testing can now be maintained and it will suit our communities better, as testing can now be done across the region as opposed to specific centres.

Home Safety Unit

Tayside Fire and Rescue have led this project, with additional funding from the Community Safety Partnership. Developing the 'Home Safety Unit', using one of Tayside Fire and Rescue's existing fleet of demountable units, the aim was to provide an educational and instructional resource that can be used throughout Perth & Kinross. It can be transported via a prime mover, to a location from where it can be accessed by local groups.



The Unit is built to replicate a domestic environment, and is equipped with simulated, but realistic hazards, ranging from home fire safety issues, slip and trip hazards, general home safety, child safety and crime prevention issues.



The Unit comprises of small bedroom, bathroom, living room, and kitchen areas, each with common hazards relevant to that area. In addition, there are fitted, a wide range of "Telecare" products, as used by Perth & Kinross Community Alarms Team. These are all based on wireless technology, and are designed to help to keep a vulnerable person safer within their own home environment. To help deliver the safety messages, an inbuilt IT system comprising of a computer, projector and "Smart Board" are all installed. It is envisaged that the Unit will be accessible to a broad range of groups, but initially concentrating on groups of people that might be considered particularly vulnerable for a whole variety of reasons.

RACIST INCIDENTS

The Partnership remains committed to promoting race equality and tackling racism and discrimination in Perth & Kinross. Figures from Tayside Police indicate that 88 racial incidents have been reported between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009. This is a slight increase from last year's figure of 86 crimes.

58 were reported as Racially Aggravated Conduct and 25 (43%) of these were alcohol related. The detection rate for this type of crime remains high at over 80%. Perth & Kinross has the third highest number of migrant workers in Scotland.

Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

Community Engagement Advisory Group

Convened by Tayside Police and Perth & Kinross Council this group will work at a local level to help improve the quality of services by addressing concerns, barriers and issues that may affect people where age, gender, disability, race, religion, or sexual orientation may be a factor. The group will meet twice a year but additional meetings can be convened as required to respond to concerns from members, or particular incidents or circumstances.

Show Racism the Red Card

The *Show Racism the Red Card* billboard jointly sponsored by the Community Safety Partnership and the local branch of UNISON continues to feature in a prominent pitch-side location at McDiarmid Park since it was launched in December 2007

The *Show Racism the Red Card* posters of St. Johnstone F.C. for season 2008/09 were once again jointly sponsored by the Community Safety Partnership and the local branch of UNISON. These were distributed widely across Perth & Kinross including an annual match-day distribution by volunteers to fans at a St. Johnstone game during the Show Racism Fortnight of Action in October. Posters can also be seen in Perth & Kinross at schools, libraries, housing and community care establishments and retail outlets. Posters were also used at a number of youth football coaching initiatives and young football supporters events at St. Johnstone.



Housing and Community Care organised their third annual football match for mental health service users during the *Show Racism the Red Card* Fortnight of Action in October. This match takes place with the youth football players of St. Johnstone and is done in conjunction with the mental health anti-stigma *SeeMe* campaign as the Mental Health and Wellbeing week coincides with the *Show Racism the Red Card* Fortnight of Action.

Education and coaching workshops were provided to 6 primary schools within Perth City area as part of the pilot partnership arrangement. Educational resources and materials are

provided by *Show Racism the Red Card* (DVDs; teaching pack; posters and 'red card' wristbands) and following a classroom session, pupils are given some fun football coaching. 2 workshops were initially carried out by a former professional footballer who now works as a *Show Racism the Red Card* coach and the remainder were carried out by a St. Johnstone F.C. community coach after receiving the necessary training from *Show Racism the Red Card*. A total of 192 Primary 6 and 7 children attended the workshops and the table below shows the full breakdown of schools and numbers attending.

2 'stadium events' were held at McDiarmid Park with players from St. Johnstone F.C. and members of the *Show Racism the Red Card* campaign team. These events take the form of an introductory education session; showing of the *Show Racism the Red Card* DVD; a Questions and Answers Session for Panel members (which included high-profile St. Johnstone F.C. players). Both events also allowed time for autograph sessions with the full St. Johnstone F.C. first-team squad which proved extremely popular. One event was held for 60 young adult learners from Perth College's Social and Vocational Studies programme whilst the second was held for 45 pupils from Our Lady's and Letham Primary Schools who did not attend the workshops within schools.

In recognition of the partnership work with *Show Racism the Red Card* David McPhee of Housing of Community Care was invited to give a presentation at a high-profile launch of the campaign's new Scottish DVD at Hampden Park in February this year.

ROAD SAFETY

Tayside Police figures show that there has been a significant reduction in the number of fatal or injury road traffic casualties.

	2007/08	2008/09	
Total collisions	1713	1652	- 3.6%
Persons Killed	15	10	- 33.3%
Persons Seriously Injured	109	106	- 2.8%
Persons slightly injured	380	343	- 9.7%

Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

- Pass Plus /Bike Plus – 180 young drivers took part in the Pass Plus scheme and 7 motor cyclists took part in the Bike Plus Scheme.
- 307 in car safety checks were carried out by the Police Road Safety Officer to ensure the proper fitting of child seats
- Work is taking place to increase the present 55% uptake for the Children's Traffic Club
- 1080 young people accessed bicycle training

S5/6 - Safe Drive Stay Alive



Safe Drive Stay Alive is a theatre based production which explores the circumstances that can lead to a road traffic collision and the subsequent consequences. Based around a DVD the storyline tells of the events leading up to 3 young people being involved in a road traffic collision. At various stages the DVD stops and various speakers go on stage to tell how an RTC impacts on their life, both professionally and personally. These speakers include a police officer, an ambulance paramedic, a Firefighter, an A&E Doctor or Nurse, a parent who has lost a child in an RTC and a person who has become a wheelchair user after an RTC.

The target audience is young people between the ages of 16-18 years, encompassing those who may be considering learning to drive or have recently passed their driving test. The event is meant to be an emotionally hard hitting road safety message, targeting a particularly vulnerable group of car users, as almost 30% of fatal road collisions involve 17-25 year olds.

Safe Drive Stay Alive is a partnership based initiative with the main players being Tayside Fire and Rescue supported by Tayside Police, Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Tayside. 1105 S5/6 pupils from Perth & Kinross secondary schools attended one of three performances which were held in Perth at Bells Sports Centre during December 2008.

- A significant number of migrant workers from central and eastern Europe have come to reside and work in Perth & Kinross over the past few years. Tayside Police have had occasions where the drivers of vehicles from these countries have had little or no knowledge of the traffic laws that apply in the United Kingdom. In many cases these workers have come from countries where the traffic laws are very different and may not be as rigorously enforced. A road safety card has been developed that is mainly visual with little text which gives basic information in respect of the laws that apply here. It was initially printed in Polish (largest migrant group) with the option to translate it into other languages if required. 1000 cards were produced and distributed
- Junior Road Safety Officers have been appointed in 67 of the Perth & Kinross Primary schools. These are older pupils who, after training, take on the responsibility of promoting road safety within the school
- Recently the Falls Service Manager and an older adult have embarked on a series of interactive falls awareness sessions with Stagecoach Bus Company. These give the bus drivers insight into falls, their causes and the physical and psychological impact a fall can have on an older adult and some key messages emerge for the bus drivers to take on board but also for us to alert the public to. In June fliers and posters were produced on "tips to reduce falls risk on the bus" and these were available in public areas and all Stagecoach buses.

WATER SAFETY

Perth & Kinross has a large number of rivers, waterways and lochs and whilst they offer a great source of fun and recreation they can also prove dangerous to users, especially if alcohol is involved. Tragically over the past few years a number of people have died in the River Tay in Perth and alcohol is strongly suspected to have been a factor in these incidents.

Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

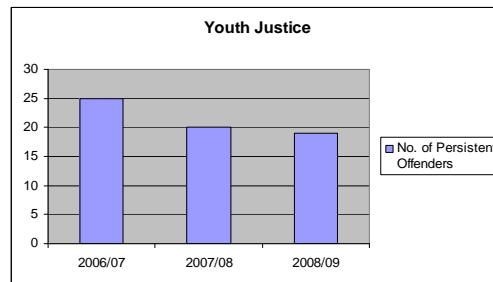
- In collaboration with the SafeTay charity there was a poster/beer mat campaign in Perth City Centre Pubs and clubs to raise awareness of the dangers of mixing alcohol and swimming
- Special alarms have been fitted to two Lifebelt Holders located along the River Tay in Perth. The lifebelt holders have been linked to three CCTV cameras located near the Queen's Bridge. When the holders are opened this alerts the CCTV cameras to move to their pre-set location, (lifebelt holders) and alert the Police control room to either someone in danger in the river or to the misuse of equipment. Safe-Tay initially developed the initiative over a six-month period, and subsequently worked in partnership with Perth & Kinross Council, Tayside Police and Tayside Fire and Rescue to take it forward. The charity raised the money to connect the lifesaving equipment to the CCTV network through a series of fundraising events. Additional throwlines were supplied by the Council.



YOUTH JUSTICE

2008/09 saw a significant reduction in the number of youth related calls across Perth & Kinross – from 3,607 in 2007/08 to 3,008 during 08/09. This reduction follows the rolling out of the Community Warden programme from Letham to other regeneration areas, as well as the change in the pattern of policing across the authority, with the deployment of community based Crime Reduction Officers during 07/08.

Similarly, there has been a continued decrease in the number of persistent young offenders (PYO), although the rate of reduction has slowed down:



The Youth Justice Team continues to provide support to young people involved in offending behaviour between the ages of 12 – 21. Close liaison is maintained with colleagues in both the Children’s Services teams and those from Criminal Justice teams to ensure that the intervention is appropriate to the needs of the young person and any other factors affecting their domestic, educational or employment circumstances.

A significant part of the Youth Justice Team’s intervention has been the continued success of the activity/issue based programmes organised for young people during the summer and October holiday periods. Each programme contains a mixture of outdoor activities and issue/theme based discussion groups, designed to address particular issues affecting the participants in the respective groups. The programmes complement the interventions undertaken during the rest of the year and provide an opportunity to provide additional targeted support when required.

As in previous years, the Local Action Fund (LAF) has been used to provide financial support to community based diversionary activity. This has ranged from the ‘Streetsports’ programme to other localised forms of activity such as N. Perth Youth Theatre. Community organisations – such as Muirton Park Community Support Network and Alyth Youth Partnership – also received financial support to organise activities for young people. In addition, the LAF was used to supplement provision organised by staff in the Youth Justice Team, New Community School at Goodlyburn as well as Youth Services staff.

Examples of the measures that have been put in place are –

- Youth Antisocial Behaviour and Offending (YASBO) Panel - this is a multi-agency group which reviews cases involving higher tariff young offenders to ensure that there is suitable and effective coordination in the way that their cases are handled.
- Youth Justice Team – this team works with the highest tariff young offenders in an effort to reduce their offending patterns. They bridge the gap between children’s social work and adult criminal justice and provide a continuity of service for the most challenging of young offenders.
- Youth Justice Assessor – this post has been developed by Tayside Police. Each report alleging a crime by a child is assessed and the most appropriate intervention is determined. This has resulted in 438 cases being diverted from the Children’s Reporter to other interventions and allows the Reporter to concentrate on more serious cases. It also allows interventions to be made quickly.

FIReS Tayside Fire and Rescue personnel carried out the FIReS programme with 21 young people throughout 08-09. FIReS which stand for: **Firesetters Intervention and Re-Education Scheme** is a programme where young people who have either started setting

fires or are showing signs of doing so are helped to understand the consequences of their actions. This is a very effective method of dealing with what can be disturbing behaviour with potentially serious consequences.

PROJECT NAME – Thrillseekers Youth Diversion Project

This project has been run in Blairgowrie for over 6 years on Friday nights during the school term. It regularly attracts 40-60 young people and has had a significant impact on the number of youth related calls received by the Police when it is in operation.

PROJECT NAME – Army Cadet Force – OUTREACH Project

In 2005 this local project called “Young Achievers” started working with the 11-12 age groups when pupils make the transition from Primary School to Secondary School. Traditionally this is a time when poor behaviour and increasing criminal activity can occur. The partnership organisations are Tayside Police, The Black Watch Army Cadet Force, Alyth, Coupar Angus and Rattray Primary School. The project aims to help vulnerable and socially disengaged young people become responsible citizens by using adventurous and challenging activities to raise their self-esteem, build confidence and broaden their perspective on what they can achieve with their lives. Participants are selected for the project by teaching staff in conjunction with the police community officer. The project aims to guide and help these young people realise that there is another ‘route’ they can take and that with encouragement and determination they can achieve targets that they believed were once unobtainable. The 2009 course intends to have 66 young people participate in it.

Congratulations!



Community Safety Watch Manager Dave Black won the national Youthlink Agencies and Partnership Organisation Youth Worker of the Year Award 2009.

On Monday 2nd March 2009 at a special dinner held at Dunblane Hydro Community Safety Watch Manager Dave Black won the national Youthlink Agencies and Partnership Organisation Youth Worker of the Year Award 2009. This award is for a member of a partner agency who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to using youth work methods in work with young people in their chosen field. The recipient can be drawn from a wide range of agencies and organisations in Health, Community Safety, Regeneration, Community Planning, Youth Justice, Employability or Education.

Dave Black, Community Safety Officer for Tayside Fire and Rescue Service, has worked in partnership with the council youth services for the past five years. His support, understanding and desire to make use of youth work methods in engaging young people in fire safety is great example to his colleagues in the fire and rescue services across the country. He has been instrumental in the development of a successful fireworks campaign and is part of the partnership that supports the street sports initiative.

On receiving the award, Dave had the following message:

"If you can see past the media picture of a youth being a hoodie wearing, alcohol drinking, knife wielding monster, you will see a person, not just a caricature. Working with that person, helped by professional youth workers, is the best way to meet any of the challenges that our community has. I always try to remember that most of our ills are caused by adults!"