

Acquisitive crime

Acquisitive crime is when the offender derives material gain from the crime, such as theft, fraud and robbery. It is a high volume crime group accounting for just under half of all recorded crimes in Scotland.

Your View Counts

Respondents to our public consultation survey identified theft of property and housebreaking among the top five local policing priorities.

www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

Impact

Instances of doorstep crime and fraud, particularly online fraud, are continuing to increase. These types of crimes can have a significant impact on victims, communities and the wider economy.

Tackling **acquisitive crime** is a national priority for Police Scotland and we will work with our partners to address the concerns of communities. In 2018/19 we will:

Commitment	Prevention and Protection	Communities	Knowledge and Innovation
<p>Prevent acquisitive crime and reduce the harm it causes.</p>	<p>Through our national Acquisitive Crime Tactical Board, we will collate, develop and share intelligence across Police Scotland and with external partners. This will inform our response to local and national issues and ensure potential partners are identified and engaged in the delivery of advice and support.</p> <p>We will use specialist national resources to support local officers and communities to address local issues, such as tackling housebreaking. This combined approach has been successful across Scotland.</p>	<p>We will develop collaborative approaches with partners and communities, through our local policing divisions, to raise awareness and share intelligence / information relating to emerging acquisitive crime trends. We will also use this collaborative approach to deliver best practice and reduce harm.</p> <p>We will continue to raise public awareness through campaigns to prevent housebreaking.</p>	<p>We will deliver awareness packages to operational officers to aid in the identification of the key drivers of acquisitive crime.</p> <p>Within Police Scotland, we will continue to deliver workshops to provide staff with up to date information and share good practice within local divisions regarding housebreaking.</p>

<p>Develop our nationwide approach to prevent doorstep crime and the harm it causes.</p>	<p>There are two main types of doorstep crime; 'bogus callers' who exploit vulnerable people within their own homes to steal cash/valuables or carry out fraudulent schemes; and 'rogue traders' who cold call at homes and over charge for unnecessary work, damage property deliberately and use intimidating behaviour to extort money. Perpetrators are often travelling criminals or members of SOCGs. Victims are often reluctant to report crimes, either through embarrassment, or fear of losing their independence and in some cases are unaware they are a victim.</p> <p>Prevention is key to reducing the impact of doorstep crime. We will work with a wide range of partners to identify best practice and also deliver a national multi-agency initiative to tackle the crime ('Operation Monarda').</p>	<p>We will work with communities to raise awareness of doorstep crime, and its impact, by developing a communication plan, using both traditional approaches and modern communication methods.</p> <p>This will incorporate prevention messages, practical advice and support targeted at those most vulnerable and also those who can intervene to protect potential victims.</p>	<p>We will capture and progress our use of intelligence relating to doorstep crime in order to inform prevention and enforcement activities.</p>
<p>Work with partners to tackle online fraud and protect individuals and businesses from this threat.</p>	<p>The complexity of cyber enabled fraud poses a significant challenge and we will work in partnership to effectively tackle it. In particular we will work with the Scottish Business Resilience Centre to target online fraud and protect individuals and businesses.</p>	<p>We will work together, across a variety of internal functions and disciplines, to raise awareness of the problem of fraud. Through our collective expertise, we will encourage potential victims to take simple steps to secure themselves online.</p>	<p>We will equip officers with the necessary skills to recognise the drivers of economic crime and submit intelligence accordingly. This will enable us to collaborate with private sector and academia to develop our understanding of emerging threats from fraud</p>

			and theft. We will work with partners to develop effective methods to communicate those risks, share good practice and protect our communities.
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