ANNUAL REPORT
2021 - 2022

Royal Gibraltar POLICE

Delivering a Safer Gibraltar through Excellence in Policing

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1 Gibraltar Police Authority

This report assesses how the RGP has delivered and performed against the demands outlined in the Annual Policing Plan for the year 2021-2022.

The Annual Policing Plan is produced to ensure that the RGP continues to work towards improving the service it provides to the community it serves. The last Annual Policing Plan identified six key priorities as objectives for the year in review, namely:

1. A Safer Gibraltar

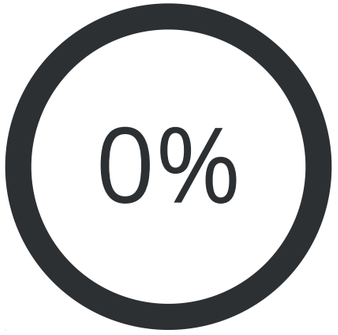
2. Working for Our Community

3. Safeguarding Our Vulnerable

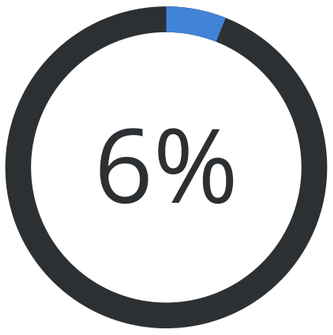
4. Reducing the Harm Caused by Drugs

5. Reducing Financial & Acquisitive Crime

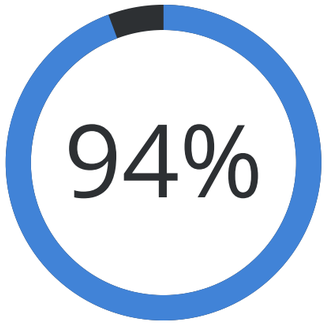
6. Transforming & Improving Our Service



Not Achieved



Work Ongoing



Achieved

It is with great pleasure that I present this Annual Policing Report for the year 2021/2022.

First of all, I should like to commend the whole of the Police Service for its commitment and expended effort to meet the recommendations highlighted by HMIC&FRS, not only in its inspection report of 2020 but also those of the earlier, 2016 report. Quite apart from these areas for development, the Force has also self-identified internal governance procedures in need of re-vamping and have adjusted these in-line with good, modern practice.

A further review of the Service from HMIC&FRS in April will serve as an objective measure of success and will as well, no doubt, point the way to further organisational development and improvement - this will always be on-going as is only right for it to be.

Again, readers will notice that statistically, crime rates have gone up, but I have to reiterate Commissioner Ullger's words that this is a reflection of a more enhanced method of recording crime, adopted as advocated by HMIC&FRS. The Commissioner provides a concise explanation in his own foreword so I shall not go into detail here. In any case, the Annual Report itself is self-explanatory.

There are, of course, the inevitable constraints which continue to impinge on policing in small communities such as Gibraltar, especially the lack of available real-estate for policing purposes.

In this respect, the RGP will continue to work with government towards the allocation of improved premises, which, hopefully, will also include improved IT systems and updated technological infrastructure. This year also saw the Commissioner of Police, Richard Ullger, sign the Armed Forces Covenant pledging the Royal Gibraltar Police to treat service personnel and their families in Gibraltar with fairness and respect, something which in the past had never been formalised. The Covenant should go a long way towards better understanding, co-operation. Above all, the covenant provides a framework in which to foster, even further, the climate of mutual respect that is currently evident.

The Authority is happy to note that the RGP has also further consolidated its work with victims of crime and has committed to further engage with victims of crime in a short satisfaction survey, quite apart from the normal face-face contact with investigating officers. This initiative should contribute further data on Service quality from members of the public.

This year also saw Andrew Munday, the British Overseas Territories Police Advisor visiting New Mole House. Although he is familiar with Gibraltar and Commissioner Ullger keeps fluid contact with Mr Munday, he visited Gibraltar to see at first-hand the challenges and demands facing the RGP and the environment in which it operates. Mr Munday was also provided with an update on the progress of the HMIC&FRS recommendations and on the organisation's preparedness for critical incidents.

Mr Munday has been extremely supportive of our Commissioner of Police and the Service and the Authority is extremely pleased to note that he has been extremely influential in facilitating links between the RGP and subject matter experts from other jurisdictions further consolidating the Police Service as a 'learning organisation'.

Dr Joseph Britto
Chair
Gibraltar Police Authority

2 Commissioner of Police

The Annual Report covering the policing year 2021/2 will, in part, evidence some of the reform the Royal Gibraltar Police has undergone, pursuant to its journey to implement the recommendations and areas for improvement made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Service [HMICFRS] in April 2020. This reform process has allowed us to become better at what we do, will better protect the organisation and has prepared us to police Gibraltar with a greater emphasis on '*Delivering a Safer Gibraltar through Excellence in Policing*'.

To achieve this, the entire workforce has committed itself to being part of this change, and I am extremely grateful to them for forming part of this journey. The RGP now eagerly awaits the results of the latest HMICFRS inspection in April 2022, and stands ready to make the necessary adjustments in order to improve our standards and service delivery.

Having reviewed our reported crime figures, it is palpable that crime has gone up, but this is by no means an indication that Gibraltar is less safe than what it was during the previous year. I must reiterate that this can be attributed to our HMICFRS inspection, whereby we now record crime very differently to how we used to, and consequently this has inflated some of the crime reporting data for the past year.

For example, whereas in the past we would record one crime for multiple victims, we now record a crime for each victim. So, if for instance we talk about an assault committed by 1 person against 5 other people in a single incident, there will now be 5 crimes recorded instead of the previous single crime. By understanding this, the public will have a better appreciation of the numbers involved. In the past, we have attended incidents, particularly those linked to Anti-Social Behaviour or pursuits at sea where no enforcement action was taken, and failed to record these incidents effectively. Consequently, the current new method of recording these incidents and attendances will undoubtedly raise crime reporting numbers.

Our detection rate is slightly lower than that of the previous year, however, this is largely attributable to the fact that this year's report has been completed much earlier than last year's, with several investigations in respect of crimes committed in the last policing year still ongoing, and individuals have as yet not been charged, a new measure for detection. I am confident that the detection rate will increase marginally, and this is reflected later in this report. Notwithstanding all of this, there have been some excellent examples of diligently conducted investigations, arrests and prosecutions, and for this I am indebted to our people.

Richard ULLGER , OTM, MSc.

On the 9th July 2020, Mr Ullger was appointed as Commissioner of Police following the retirement of the previous Commissioner.

Richard Ullger joined the Royal Gibraltar Police in June 1988. and has undertaken a range of policing roles across frontline (Operations), specialist policing (Crime & Protective Services) as well as in support/administration (Professionalism) divisions.

In 2009, Mr Ullger was awarded a Master of Science degree in Police Leadership and Management by the University of Leicester, and in 2013, he graduated with the 252nd Session of the FBI's National Academy. In 2015, he graduated from the United Kingdom College of Policing's Strategic Command Course.

Commissioner Ullger is a member of the UK National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), the British Overseas
Territories Chiefs and Commissioners of Police Council, and is currently the Chair of the Small Islands (Policing) Forum

ARMED FORCES COVENANT

2021/2 has been another challenging year for us all, and our organisation has worked hard to build our resilience and further professionalise our people.

Our recruitment process has been reviewed so that we employ people who already hold values that are akin to our Code of Ethics, and our training has been delivered in a manner that ensures we remain cognisant of the needs of the organisation.

Our Commanders have completed leadership training and core strategic training in a number of police disciplines, including Public Order Public Safety and Armed Policing, both being niche policing capabilities requiring expertise and accreditation. I am also conscious that the public are keen to see more officers on our streets, and we are doing our utmost to be visible and police with our intelligence led ethos.

We have become better at understanding our demand, but we are also committed to protect our vulnerable and provide the best possible service to victims of crime. To achieve this, there is a lot of important unseen policing taking place, and it is imperative that I reiterate the importance of us continuing to mitigate threats and risks with real purpose and outcomes.

Finally, the RGP have been and continue to prepare for the outcome of the ongoing political negotiations between the United Kingdom and the European Union over Gibraltar's future relationship with the EU, in relation to the movement of people and goods.

Whatever the outcome of these negotiations, there will be diverse challenges and risks to mitigate, and with effective planning and preparation, and working alongside partners, we stand ready to support Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar.

3 Policing Priorities 21-22: Overview

The priorities that underpin the Annual Policing Plan (APP) for 2021-22, part of the wider Gibraltar 3 year policing plan for the period 2021-2024, were set in consultation with the Royal Gibraltar Police. Together with the RGP, we assessed the various risks and threats affecting Gibraltar and then considered the level of harm each presented and the likelihood and impact of these occurring. These priorities were reassessed at the end of the last policing year (31st March 2022) in conjunction with the results of our annual public consultation survey and a number of RGP threat and risk assessments, to ensure our priorities remained accurate and relevant for the coming year. The Policing Plan draws heavily on the experiences of the public and victims of crime during our engagement and consultation survey. The plan aims to put those views and interests at the heart of policing, and set out the main priorities for action over the following policing year, reflecting upon what the public have told us needs to happen to increase their feelings of safety as well as reduce their fear of crime.

A Safer Gibraltar

The RGP will continue working with local, regional and international partners to identify and monitor national security threats, whilst strengthening their engagement with the community. Through this, the RGP will strive to provide a secure and resilient Gibraltar, by protecting our people, economy and infrastructure.

158
Project Servator Deployments at points of entry, leisure areas & crowded spaces

1176
Hours of firearms training delivered

Working For Our Community

The RGP will continue to engage with the community and various stakeholders and partners, to better understand their policing needs. In partnership, the RGP will continue its work to address concerns such as anti-social behaviour, road safety and cyber-bullying.

211
Disruptive Patrols carried out by Op. Trojan

81
People arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drink/Drugs

Safeguarding Our Vulnerable

The RGP will ensure a strategic and coordinated distribution of responsibilities amongst key partner agencies, in order to identify and support those who are most vulnerable in our society. The RGP will do their utmost to reduce the harm caused by Domestic Abuse, taking positive action and working with key stakeholders to identify new ways with which to protect our children and those vulnerable to harm.

83
Mental Health Interactions

155
Arrests for offences related to Domestic Abuse

Reducing the Harm Caused by Drugs

Drug related crime continues to be a significant concern for the public. The RGP will continually review its strategies to combat this issue through effective enforcement, education and awareness programmes alongside partners. The RGP will strive to detect and deter those who wish to engage in the misuse and illicit supply of controlled drugs, including those undertaking ancillary activities such as refuelling vessels used in drugs trafficking or other logistical support.

£13m
Drugs Seized in 2021/22

10,215 Litres
Fuel Seized by the RGP as part of its efforts to disrupt the logistical supply to drugs trafficking vessels by organised crime groups.

Reducing Financial & Acquisitive Crime

The RGP will continue to work towards strengthening its capability to disrupt, prevent and robustly investigate financial & acquisitive crime, including cyber-enabled acquisitive crime, targetting those responsible for Domestic Burglaries.

7
Average number of cyber enabled financial crimes (per month)

47%
Burglary Detection Rate

Transforming & Improving Our Service

The RGP are committed to implementing a wide range of organisational change projects, in line with the roadmap for 'Delivering a Safer Gibraltar, through Excellence in Policing'. As the RGP encounter new and sometimes unprecedented policing challenges, it will continue to seek support from partners and stakeholders in order to work collaboratively to improve policing services provided to the public.

17
New officers recruited to meet the composition of the establishment

94%
HMICFRS Recommendation Tasks Completed

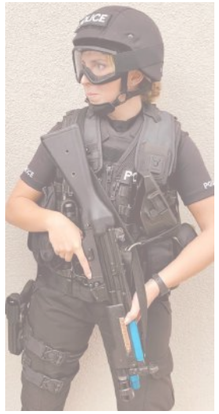
Policing Priorities 21-22: Insight

A Safer Gibraltar

Objectives & Activities

- Supporting the Gibraltar Contingency Council (GCC) to develop Gibraltar's capability and capacity in line with the priorities of the National Risk Register (NRR) by mitigating risks through deliverable projects and operations.
- Proactive deployment of armed resources.
- Deploying Project Servator officers trained to deter, detect and disrupt terrorism as well as other criminal activity, while providing a reassuring presence for members of our community and visitors to Gibraltar.
- Improving our communication network with UK Counter Terrorism (CT) Partners and other foreign law enforcement agencies and security services, outlining a framework for Military Aid to the Civil Authorities (MACA) in the event of a terrorist incident.
- Working with key strategic partners in strengthening our borders, providing protective measures and solutions in securing critical national infrastructure and most importantly offer protection to the people from harm.

150 Firearms Licenses Processed



Outcomes

- The RGP Counter Terrorism Security Advisor (CTSA) continues to survey a number of sites linked to critical national infrastructure, assessing vulnerabilities and providing recommendations to assist in mitigating against the risk of harm. CTSA has also delivered a number of awareness presentations on issues related to counter-terrorism.
- Operation Avalon provides 24/7 Armed Policing patrol coverage of key locations across Gibraltar; 1098 such patrols were undertaken with the support of the Gibraltar Defence Police.
- Specially trained Project Servator officers completed 158 deployments at various locations across Gibraltar to deter criminality during the last policing year. During these unpredictable deployments, officers engaged with 1364 individuals including residents, business owners, staff and visitors. Deployments comprised high-visibility teams with a range of assets such as plain clothes officers, and working alongside several agency partners. 11 individuals were arrested during these deployments for a range of offences.
- The RGP continue to enjoy operational relationships with their Spanish counterparts in the areas of cross-border daily policing issues and intelligence exchanges related to counter terrorism and serious and organised crime. Similar operational relationships are in place with a number of US agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). Interpol Gibraltar exchanges information almost daily with counterparts worldwide on a range of issues. In relation to general policing, the RGP collaborates regularly with a number of UK police forces, particularly on specialist training, with the National Crime Agency in matters related to Serious and Organised Crime, and in relation to National Security, the RGP continue to progress a number of projects with partners across the UK Counter Terrorism Policing network and intelligence services community.
- The RGP have continued to work closely with the Borders and Coastguard Agency (BCA) and other local partners such as British Forces Gibraltar in the area of border security and immigration. RGP officers have undertaken 118 enquiries as part of Ports-Policing work designed to identify, assess and mitigate potential threats to Gibraltar, together with 636 security and vetting-related enquiries.
- Several RGP Command Team officers have this year undertaken a number of specialist courses in the areas of Armed Policing and Public Order Public Safety alongside UK counterparts, gaining accreditation in the roles of Gold (Strategic) Silver (Tactical) and Bronze (Operational) Commanders.

5 Policing Priorities 21-22: Insight

Working For Our Community

Objectives & Activities

<u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u>

- Engaging with community groups and partners to identify and address the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) concerns of individuals and groups.
- Making best use of available tools, including ASB Orders (ASBOs), to deal with incidents of ASB.

<u>Roads Safety</u>

- Conducting awareness campaigns to promote safer driving, educate road users to deter them from contravening traffic laws, preventing them from placing themselves and other road users at risk.
- Proactively targeting offenders who use the roads to cause danger to themselves and other road users by adopting a zero tolerance approach to offences such as Drink/Drug Driving, Dangerous Driving and Exceeding the Speed Limit.

<u>Cyber Safety</u>

- Working closely with partner agencies and stakeholders, including schools, to support those who are victims of cyber-bullying.

Outcomes

<u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u>

- Anti-Social Behaviour can upset the quality of life in any community, particularly one as densely populated as Gibraltar. Our latest public consultation survey highlighted ASB as a continuing concern for the public.
- The RGP received 450 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) complaints during the last policing year, primarily dealt with by Response Teams at the initial stage. In a number of cases, referrals were made to the Community Policing Team , which in turn engaged relevant partners such as the Department of Education, Care Agency, Ministry of Housing and parents, as part of a combined approach to identify causes, deal with perpetrators and achieve viable and lasting solutions.
- Alongside other demand, the RGP have employed a range of resources and pursued activity to address the root causes of ASB offences. Operation Trojan for example, is a focused strategy led by the Community Policing Team to educate people around the impact of their behaviour. Officers will also engage with the community to identify hotspots and types of ASB occurring. Armed with this information, the team will undertake intelligence-led deployments using both plain clothes officers in support of uniformed officers providing a reassuring presence.

<u>Roads Safety</u>

- Disappointingly, and notwithstanding various enforcement tactics employed by the RGP, the last policing year saw another rise in the enforcement of road traffic offences. Of particular note are the 919 speeding offences recorded, 511 instances involving drivers/riders using a mobile device, and 41 individuals reported for Dangerous Driving. Each of these categories experienced an increase from 2020/21. Linked to this rise is the number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) on our roads, which this year has seen one RTC resulting in a fatality, and a car driver charged with Causing Death by Dangerous Driving.
- In a recent parliamentary session, Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar announced that an initiative supported and championed by the RGP, namely, the introduction of a penalty points system for driving licences, together with increased fines, will be implemented imminently. The GPA is hopeful that the introduction of this measure will act as an effective deterrent and remove dangerous and inconsiderate motorists from our roads.

<u>Cyber Safety</u>

- Cybercrime as an increasing concern for the public, thus the RGP will continue to engage school children around cyber-bullying and other online threats, and increase cyber awareness amongst Gibraltar businesses and wider community.

6 Policing Priorities 21-22: Insight

Safeguarding Our Vulnerable

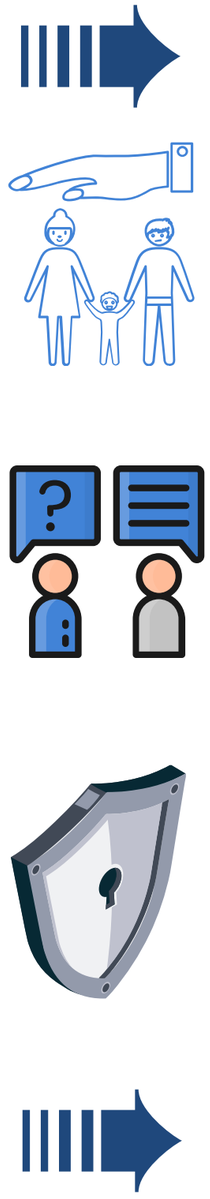
Objectives & Activities

Domestic Abuse

- Continuing to police incidents of domestic violence and abuse in accordance with HM Government of Gibraltar strategy.
- Continuing to train and develop frontline professionals to recognise the signs of domestic abuse, how to respond, and where to obtain further assistance.
- Bringing those who cause physical, emotional or psychological harm to justice.
- Improving approaches to tackling domestic abuse through interventions aimed at changing behaviour and reducing repeat victimisation.

Protecting the Vulnerable

- Engaging with the Department of Education, the Youth Service and parents to promote awareness of the risks and dangers of online child sexual exploitation.
- Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) to reduce the risk of re-offending by violent and sexual offenders.
- Targeted enforcement activities to reduce the selling of alcohol to minors.



Outcomes

Domestic Abuse

- The RGP have increased their efforts in dealing with Domestic Abuse, improving the training delivered to first-responders, supervisors and Command Team, enhancing existing partnership working and by providing a dedicated specialist resource to investigate serious cases of domestic abuse.
- The RGP takes violence against women and girls (VAWG) very seriously. They have listened to the concerns of the public, in relation to Safer Spaces. With over 300 responses to their Female Safety Survey in November 2021, the majority of respondents said that they felt safer in Gibraltar than in the UK and Spain. The RGP will continue to work with other government agencies to ensure that the high level of public confidence is maintained.
- The RGP received 536 reports related to domestic abuse, of which 311 reports disclosed criminal offences leading to 155 individuals being arrested. With an average of 3 repeat victims each month, the Victim Support Team continue to offer bespoke advice to all victims of crime to help reduce repeat victimisation. RGP officers have continued assisting offenders of crime in an attempt to alter behaviours and divert from away from reoffending.
- We are hopeful that the success observed in the UK in protecting victims of Domestic Abuse through the use of Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders will soon also be experienced in Gibraltar, once Gibraltar's new Domestic Abuse Bill is enacted and provides the RGP with additional tools which to support victims of this type of crime. On average, each month, the RGP make more than 50 referrals to the Care Agency in relation to vulnerable adults and children, along with victims of domestic abuse .
- The RGP's detection rate for offences related to Domestic Abuse offences in the last policing year stood at 35%, slightly below the 36% detection rate from the previous year, in what are notoriously under-reported offences.

Protecting the Vulnerable

- Partnership collaboration is key in terms of protecting the most vulnerable in our society. Sharing information and providing a combined support service is the best way to effectively support people. Both the Domestic Abuse Team and the Safeguarding Team make regular referrals to the Care Agency.
- The Care Agency will themselves request information packages from the RGP Force Intelligence Unit, to assist them in fully evaluating the individuals they are trying to support.
- Out of 83 public interactions related to mental health, RGP officers detained 15 individuals under the Mental Health Act, to enable timely assessment and protection for each individual.

7 Policing Priorities 21-22: Insight

Reducing The Harm Caused By Drugs

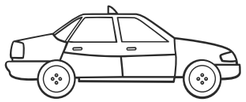
Objectives & Activities

Drug Trafficking

- Continuing to target those involved in the supply of drugs and those with intent to cause harm to our society.
- Working closely with Law Enforcement Agencies and other key stakeholders, supporting relevant parts of HMGoG Drug Strategy to better deal with the social blight associated with the illicit supply of controlled drugs.

Drug Misuse

- Continuing to liaise with partner agencies and stakeholders to support HM Government of Gibraltar's drive to address issues related to drug misuse.
- Having a co-ordinated approach to the problem of drug misuse with key stakeholders, including programs to educate and deter drug misuse.
- Proactively targeting those engaged in drug related crime



Outcomes

Drug Trafficking

- One noticeable trend observed during the COVID pandemic was the significant reduction in the trafficking of illegal drugs across all traditional routes. This was principally due to strict lockdowns enforced across most countries, in particular North Africa. With the easing of covid19 restrictions, the policing year April 2021 - March 2022 saw the RGP seize a total of 75g of Class A Drugs, more than 2.6 Tonnes of Class B drugs, and half a kilo of Class C Drugs with a combined street value of over £13 million.

- The past year has seen the RGP Drug Squad increase its collaboration with the HM Customs Flexible Anti-Smuggling Team (FAST), sharing expertise and resources in order to undertake an increased number of intelligence-led operations.

Drugs Misuse

- The 184 drug misuse offences recorded in the past year closely resemble the preceding year, with detection rates remaining consistently high in this area. The RGP enjoy a reasonable understanding of the local drugs market, and operate in partnership with a range of local, regional and international partners to tackle the supply of illicit drugs.

- Education continues to play a key part in the RGP's efforts, and this is led by the Community Policing Team and their engagement with local schools and youth services, supported by the wider RGP in identifying vulnerable individuals and signposting to available support services.

Reducing Financial & Acquisitive Crime

Objectives & Activities

Financial Crime

- Proactively and robustly investigate financial crimes, including the facilitation and funding of terrorist activity, money laundering across all typologies and fraud related offences.
- Reclaiming criminals' unlawful benefit of crime through seizures and confiscations.
- Improving financial crime detection rates by addressing the recommendations made by MoneyVal.

Domestic Burglary

- Combatting acquisitive crime, with a focus on targeting those responsible for committing Domestic Burglaries.
- Continuing to provide support for victims of burglary, particularly those who are vulnerable, and prevent them being re-targeted and becoming repeat victims.

Cyber-enabled Acquisitive Crime

- Enhancing understanding of complex, new and changing crime types, including cyber-enabled acquisitive crime.

Outcomes

Financial Crime

- The complex nature of fraud-related and money laundering investigations often means that such cases are not completed within one policing year. Last year, RGP Economic Crime Unit (ECU) officers were responsible for an average of 25 live investigations, none of which had reached prosecution stage at the time of compiling this report. ECU Detectives also completed a number of specialist courses in the areas of financial investigation, intelligence and confiscation, supported a number of cross-border money laundering investigations and processed a significant number of requests for Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) from various jurisdictions.
- This year saw ECU officers seize 2 high value vessels in connection with separate money laundering investigations, however, these cases remain sub-judice.
- The European Investigation Order (**EIO**) introduced several years ago aimed to modernise and speed up cooperation between jurisdictions, introducing a single comprehensive instrument based on Mutual Recognition. The revocation of this mechanism as a result of BREXIT has negatively affected ECU operability, and an alternative mechanism may/may not materialise once UK-EU negotiations conclude

Domestic Burglary

- Our most recent public consultation survey saw most respondents stating they still felt safe in Gibraltar.
- The marked increase in reports of Burglary can in part be attributed to the RGP's improved and consistent crime recording practices aligned to those of UK, as previously recommended by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary. This includes police now always believing a victim of crime (unless there is verifiable information to the contrary), and a crime always recorded whether or not a complainant wishes to proceed with a prosecution or not.
- The RGP continue to offer crime prevention advice aimed at reducing the number of occurrences, through direct recommending of protective security measures and public information campaigns throughout traditional and social media.

Cyber-enabled Acquisitive Crime

- Cyber enabled acquisitive crimes often transcend borders, making detection and prosecution extremely challenging; victims of such crimes lost over £2million last year, out of the overall losses of £3.9m from all financial crime reported.
- The RGP continue to place strong emphasis on community education and awareness through monthly campaigns with partners "Get Safe Online" and signposting businesses to workshops organised by the Gibraltar Financial Intelligence Unit (GFIU)

9 Policing Priorities 21-22: Insight

Transforming & Improving Our Service

Objectives & Activities

- Implementing the recommendations set out in the 2019/20 HMICFRS report, developing a learning culture that is underpinned by the Code of Ethics and working closely with the Gibraltar Police Federation (GPF) to address issues raised by the workforce.
- Developing their leadership and wellbeing capacity by providing strong visible leadership, embracing difference in their people and building on the ethos of diversity and inclusion.
- Recruiting diverse, able individuals who promote differences, training them to the best available approved standards and retaining their skills and expertise for a career in public service through forward thinking leadership.
- Reviewing and adapting their policing response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Building and developing operational co-operation in the new post BREXIT environment.
- Working in partnership with key stakeholders to develop support networks allowing for greater resilience in the face of emerging and developing threats

HMICFRS

GPF Gibraltar Police Federation

Force Management Statement

Outcomes

- The 21/22 policing year saw the RGP continuing to address the recommendations and Areas for Improvement (AFIs) made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS), in their 2020 report outlining the findings of their October 2019 inspection. The RGP roadmap created to address the HMICFRS report involved creating a series of tasks associated with each of the HMICFRS recommendations and AFIs, appointing Strategic Risk Owners and Task Owners, and tracking progress by way of monthly performance update meetings where updates were provided, with the GPA invited to participate.
- HMICFRS returned to Gibraltar in April 2022 to review the RGP's progress and participate in meetings with individual officers across all ranks, police staff, departments, the Gibraltar Police Federation and most of the RGP's Gibraltar-based partners. Their report is due to be published shortly.
- The 2022 Gibraltar Police Federation (GPF) staff survey has led to action points being identified and implemented in order to address issues highlighted. This work will be carried out collaboratively by both RGP and GPF, and we as an authority will be supporting this process. The various ongoing workstreams arising from the HMICFRS 2020 report and GPF staff survey will assist in improving staff retention rates and overall working conditions for staff, in particular, by providing development opportunities through the provision of leadership training, to inspire everyone to challenge themselves to succeed and thrive in their individual careers.
- Last year, the GPA were keen to understand how the public felt the RGP had performed during the covid pandemic. Through direct engagement, we have noted that the RGP were largely seen in a very positive light throughout this unprecedented and challenging period. Through the British policing strategy of Engage, Educate, Encourage and Enforce, the RGP adapted well to a new and evolving threat and were able to effectively manage the range of new and regularly changing civil contingencies legislation.
- As Gibraltar continues to navigate its departure from the EU, the RGP continues to explore new policing methods and maintain and develop law enforcement partnerships, in order to continue its operational activity until such time as the ongoing negotiations between the U K and EU are concluded. The RGP continues to progress a number of policing partnership workstreams, arising from the Commissioner of Police's membership of the UK National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), UK National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC), the British Overseas Territories Chiefs and Commissioners of Police Council , and the Small Islands Forum, which Commissioner Ullger currently chairs.
- 2022 has seen the RGP progress work towards completing its first-ever Force Management Statement (FMS). The FMS is produced annually by every UK police force to assess and explain its demand for the foreseeable future, the performance, condition, composition, capacity, capability, serviceability and security of supply of the workforce, and the extent to which current assets will be able to meet expected future demand. The FMS also describes how the force will change and improve its workforce, policies, practices and other assets to cope with future demand, the effect changes are expected to have, the effect of any residual risk of service failure and the money the force expects to have to achieve all this. The GPA looks forward to receiving the RGP FMS shortly.

Project Servator

Teams of Project Servator officers have continued deploying across Gibraltar in a variety of guises, as has been the case since this project was launched in Gibraltar on the 1st June 2018. Additional officers will be receiving specialist training in this policing tactic in April and October 2022, and a number of Gibraltar Defence Police officers have been invited to participate. RGP deployments are supported from time to time by other RGP assets as well as by those of the Gibraltar Defence Police, after some of its officers benefitted from undertaking this training alongside their RGP counterparts. This specialist policing tactic features as one of several Key Performance Indicators under the policing plan's priority of "A Safer Gibraltar."

Range of assets

Working together, Servator teams “pop-up” at various locations in various guises, with a range of visible and less visible assets, working alongside other RGP units and in some cases alongside agencies such as the Gibraltar Defence Police, Borders & Coastguard Agency, HM Customs, Gibraltar Air Terminal Management and private security organisations, amongst others. Officers engage staff and businesses to explain what they do, building a network of vigilance and raising awareness of how to report suspicious activity. The tactic is used by many police forces in the UK and more recently in Australia, and has been successful in gathering intelligence that has assisted UK Counter Terrorism Units in investigating and preventing acts of terror. It has also resulted in arrests for a multitude of offences, ranging from persons with outstanding court warrants and drugs supply and possession, to persons carrying offensive weapons, amongst others.

Keeping Gibraltar Safe

Everyone has a vital role to play in keeping Gibraltar safe by reporting anything that doesn’t feel right, for example, an unattended item or someone acting suspiciously in a particular area. Be alert NOT alarmed, trust your instinct and report your concerns immediately to a police officer or a member of staff. depending on where you are. Suspicious activity is anything that seems out place, unusual or doesn’t seem to fit in with day-to-day life.

RGP Senior Officer with responsibility for Project Servator, Chief Inspector Paul Chipolina, explained: “Project Servator is a policing tactic designed to disrupt a range of criminal activity, including terrorism, whilst reassuring the public.

“This is now very much business as usual for us, and deployments are not in response to any specific threat. The public should not be alarmed if they come across one of these very visible deployments. The approach relies on deployments that are highly visible and unpredictable, intelligence-led and proactive, and can happen anywhere across Gibraltar’s points of entry, busy junctions, business and leisure areas and other crowded spaces across Gibraltar.

“Project Servator is different to normal policing, as officers involved have received specialist training provided by UK partners to spot the tell-tale signs that someone may be carrying out hostile reconnaissance, namely, information gathering that helps plan or prepare the commission of crime. Deployments are designed to make environments as uncomfortable as possible for terrorists or criminals to plan or carry out their activities, and aims to increase their fear of detection.

PROJECT SERVATOR
TOGETHER, WE’VE GOT IT COVERED

More information can be found on the RGP website: https://www.police.gi/information/counter-terrorism/project-servator

Safeguarding Our Vulnerable

Victim Personal Statements

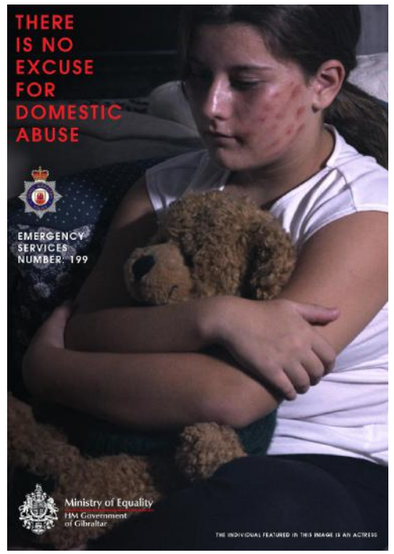
Crime affects people in different ways, including emotionally, physically, financially and psychologically. A victim can often feel removed from the criminal justice process, however, a Victim Personal Statement (VPS) provides a victim with an opportunity to explain the impact of the crime in their own words.

A VPS helps the court gain an understanding of this impact, and, just as importantly, can also allow the offender to hear directly about the implications of their actions. It is the victim's way of telling the court about the crime they have suffered and can be referred to when a sentence is being determined.

The quality of victim personal statements used by the RGP in two recent cases at the Supreme Court led the trial judge to highlight the importance and impact of a VPS at the time of sentencing.

Restraining Orders

The RGP's recently constituted Domestic Abuse Team have made a number of applications for Restraining Orders to protect victims of crime in some of the more serious investigations it has dealt with. The RGP is able to apply for Restraining Orders upon successful conviction or even when a defendant is acquitted. Whilst this measure affords victims an additional level of protection once the criminal justice process is complete, the GPA is hopeful that improved Domestic Abuse legislation that is due to be published imminently, will afford even greater support to victims.



Secondment to States of Jersey Police

In February 2022, Detective Inspector Cavallo Soane from the RGP Public Protection Unit (PPU) travelled to Jersey at the invitation of the States of Jersey Police (SoJP) Chief Officer, as part of a best practice exchange between both police forces. The RGP PPU investigates crimes involving the most vulnerable members of society. During his visit, DI Soane was able to view Jersey systems and procedures, discuss resources, and meet with some of the partner agencies who support SoJP in providing a multi-agency approach to tackling complex issues that arise while safeguarding adults and children.

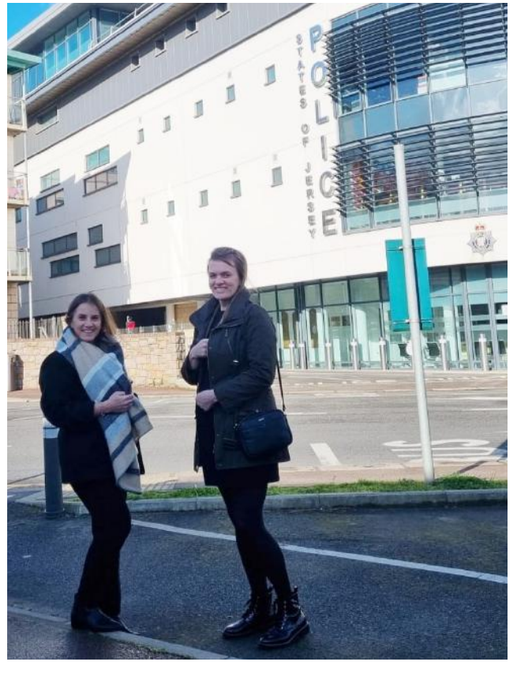
In March 2022, PCs Jane Malcolm and Natalie Atkinson visited Jersey to complete the Specialist Child Abuse Investigation Development Programme, a UK designed scheme designed to enhance the professional skills of officers with responsibility for investigating child abuse offences and dealing with victims.

Victims of Crime Survey

The Royal Gibraltar Police continues looks at ways in which to improve the service it provides the community, in particular, its contact with victims of crime. This past year, the RGP Victim Support Team (VST) launched a new 'Victims of Crime Survey,' where those who have been victims of crime in Gibraltar are asked for their feedback.

This feedback will allow the RGP to establish where they are meeting the public's expectations and will also highlight any particular areas where the RGP might need to improve and/or develop its procedures.

Once an investigation has been completed, or approaching the end of the process, the RGP will ask victims of crime to complete a short satisfaction survey. This survey will be sent individually to each person who has reported a crime.



VICTIM SUPPORT TEAM

137

Victim Surveys Completed Feb21 - Oct-21

The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and is easily accessible by scanning the QR code below

VS VICTIM SUPPORT

1655 victims of crime were supported by the RGP Victim Support Team between April 2021- March 2022

Working For Our Community

Abandoned Vehicles

In response to concerns expressed by the public, recommendations were made to amend the 2011 traffic regulations and these came into force in January 2022. Since then, the RGP have undertaken derelict vehicle removals from a number of hotspots across Gibraltar. Any vehicle suspected to have been abandoned will have a notice affixed to it notifying the owner of the intention to take the vehicle into custody. If parked dangerously or causes an obstruction, the notice will allow only 24 hours before the vehicle is removed, reduced from the traditional 7 day period. If a vehicle is removed but is assessed not appropriate for destruction, a final public notice will be issued in local media. Should the vehicle not be claimed in the subsequent 7-day period, it will then be destroyed.

Prior to these new arrangements, two separate notice periods were needed, followed by a 21-day waiting period before a vehicle could be destroyed.

120 escorts provided by RGP to oversized vehicles/abnormal loads on our roads

The RGP continue removing vehicles that lie derelict or are suspected to have been abandoned, in order to free up parking spaces. Abandoning a vehicle attracts a penalty of £200.00, reduced to £100.00 if paid within two weeks. There is also a £60.00 tow truck fee and a daily compound storage fee of £15.00.

The RGP will remove unroadworthy/derelict vehicles at no cost to the owner, and this can be arranged by completing a form on the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Department website or by contacting the RGP Roads Policing Unit on roadspolicing@royalgib.police.gi.
There is no need to abandon a vehicle and incur financial penalty.

Community Policing

It is often said that neighbourhood policing is the bedrock of British policing. In Gibraltar, a team of hardworking community police officers strive to make life better and safer for everyone in Gibraltar. These officers are often the familiar, friendly face of the RGP and work closely with community leaders, schoolteachers and HMGoG agencies, often using "outside the box" thinking to address community issues before they fester into crimes.

Whilst working predominantly in uniform, they also work in unmarked vehicles in plain clothes at all hours of the day and night, targeting a range of anti-social behaviour, including drug consumption, driving offences and thefts in hotspots identified through intelligence .

"Community policing does exactly what it says on the tin," says Sergeant Calum Bruce, who has headed the CPT for the past two years. "We wear a lot of hats, but basically we have three roles. We have the School Liaison Officers, Community Policing and Operation Trojan officers – the latter deal with antisocial behaviour. We also cover beach patrol duties during the summer.

"We wanted to develop the CPT because most of the contact that people have with the police is either during an emergency situation or under negative circumstances – and that's not the relationship we really wanted with the community. One of the things we have been doing to change this is building relationships between the younger generation and our officers. We do that by going into schools regularly and speaking to different age groups about issues that affect them – such as bullying, drugs, mental welfare and other pertinent topics."

PS Bruce adds that by having good and open relationships with young people, they also gather a lot of useful intelligence, such as crime hotspots, drug trends and harmful activities that youngsters may have seen on the Internet and start copying. On occasions, when teachers have raised the issue of drugs being brought into schools, the CPT have also teamed up with HM Customs and Gibraltar Defence Police drug detection dogs, to act as a deterrent.

PS Bruce said: "Going forward, we are always trying to think of new initiatives to engage with the community, because they're going to dictate what they want and what they deem to be the issues. But key to this is the support of the community at the end of the day. For us, it's building that rapport and trust, and that, ultimately, is the bigger picture in community policing."

188 engagement talks delivered by RGP officers across in local schools

Commissioner of Police attends RGP School Forum

In May 2021, Commissioner of Police Richard Ullger joined officers from the RGP's Community Policing Team at Bayside School to discuss issues affecting youngsters in Gibraltar. Students were invited to the hour-long forum, where they were encouraged to speak openly about a range of topics, including anti-social behaviour, drug taking and personal safety.
RGP Community Policing Team officers had been delivering weekly talks in schools over recent months, however, this was the first time they had been joined by the Commissioner.

These sessions are aimed at helping to break down barriers between police and younger generations, whilst at the same time obtaining feedback on a number of issues affecting Gibraltar's youth.

One issue debated at length by students aged 14 to 17 was how drugs affected youngsters, and whether they thought that decriminalising drugs would help society or not. Richard Ullger, said: "I was very impressed by the maturity of the pupils and how they articulated themselves.

"We've received some good feedback and a lot of interesting ideas have been discussed. This is a useful way for the younger generation to meet our officers face to face and see that we are approachable and keen to listen to what they have to say."

PS Calum Bruce, who chaired the meeting alongside PCs Nicholas Ramagge and Tanya Reddy, added: "In our meetings with students, they have regularly made the point that they take their lead from the role models and adults around them, and that their development is influenced by the attitudes they encounter. Therefore we, as adults, need to set the correct examples for them to follow."

The GPA encourages the RGP to continue organising meetings such as these with students of all ages across all local schools and youth clubs.

Schools, Community Engagement & Partnerships

£22m of Drugs Seized

In the period January to December 2021, the RGP seized drugs with a street value of approximately £22m drugs, as well as over 4,000lt of fuel intended for use by organised crime groups in the refuelling of vessels used in drugs trafficking.

The largest seizures included 1.3 tonnes of cannabis valued at approximately £6.5m following a high speed pursuit at sea which resulted in the drugs trafficking vessel running aground at Eastern Beach. Arising from this operation and ensuing intelligence exchanges with the Spanish Guardia Civil, a number of operations in the Campo de Gibraltar area resulted in further seizures of drugs valued at approximately £7.5m. Also in January 2021, an operation led by the RGP Drug Squad and supported by GDP and HM Customs led to the seizure of £2m of high purity cocaine concealed in a parasite container attached to the hull of a merchant vessel that was visiting Gibraltar to take bunkers.

In March 2021, RGP Drug Squad officers, again supported by HM Customs and GDP, seized 3 bales of cannabis resin valued at approximately £450,000.00 following a search of areas surrounding Eastern Beach. The largest seizure of drugs came in August 2021, following the high speed pursuit of a rigid-hulled inflatable boat (RHIB) off the western side of Gibraltar. With the assistance of HM Customs vessel HMC Searcher, four individuals were arrested and a total of 65 bales were recovered. These bales contained approximately 2.6 tonnes of cannabis, with a street value of approximately £13 million.

Commissioner of Police Richard Ullger said, “The fight against drugs is one of the RGP’s top priorities and I am extremely pleased with the results we achieved last year. Much of this success came as a result of the excellent support we received from our partner law enforcement agencies – both within Gibraltar and across the border. Early in 2021, we were delighted when Parliament amended the Petroleum Act to tighten laws on the storage, transportation and possession of petrol.

Recent experience has shown that fuel stored in containers is often used to refuel drug trafficking launches, but, whatever its purposes, it can also pose a fire risk to vehicles and residential properties. Everyone in our community can be assured that, in 2022/23, we will continue to target those involved in all aspects of drug-related crime.”

RGP Money Laundering Investigation Unit

This RGP specialist unit rarely makes the news headlines, however, it is one of the RGP's busiest departments and has helped recover millions of pounds from organised crime over the past few years. Working closely with their Fraud Squad colleagues, the two teams form the RGP's Economic Crime Unit (ECU). For as long as drugs continue to be trafficked across the Strait of Gibraltar, criminals will seek to launder the proceeds of their crime. Gibraltar's National Risk Assessment on money laundering highlights foreign organised crime gangs laundering their proceeds of criminal conduct in Gibraltar as one of its top risks, thus money laundering is a threat and the ECU and other local agencies are responsible for disrupting or detecting this activity. Money Laundering is not just about individuals acquiring the proceeds of criminal conduct, such as cash, a presidential or commercial property, a high-value watch or vessel. It is also about the individuals who assist those acquiring criminal property to retain said property.

The MLIU consider intelligence received from law enforcement agencies in other jurisdictions and from local agencies such as the Gibraltar Financial Intelligence Unit (GFIU), who themselves receive "Suspicious Activity Reports" from financial entities such as banks, online gaming companies and businesses trading in high value goods. The MLIU can also receive intelligence from arrests conducted by other RGP units such as the Drug Squad. In one case, Drug Squad detectives arrested a local drug dealer in connection with a small amount of cocaine. A subsequent investigation identified approximately £100,000 in defendant's bank account, and, following the suspect's conviction in relation to the drugs, a confiscation investigation into the defendant's lifestyle over recent years led to the eventual seizure and forfeiture of said monies.

The MLIU was established in 2016 to help enforce Gibraltar's new Proceeds of Crime Act. This in turn allows Gibraltar to show MoneyVal (a European body that monitors a country's ability to stop money laundering and the financing of terrorism) that positive action is taken in these areas of policing. MoneyVal evaluations consider a jurisdiction's legislation, law enforcement capability and supervisory authorities, as well as their individual and collective efforts to stop money laundering. Cross-border cooperation is an important aspect of the MLIU's efforts in combatting money laundering activity, principally because of Gibraltar's geographical location within one of the world's largest cannabis trafficking routes between north Africa and Spain as the gateway to the European cannabis market.

The organised crime groups involved in drugs trafficking in this region rarely operate from Gibraltar, and Spanish authorities will usually share any organised crime intelligence that may relate to money laundering activity within Gibraltar. Criminals are well aware that committing crimes in one jurisdiction and laundering the proceeds on another makes it harder for authorities to target the proceeds of crime, as evidence gathering and legal processes are often a challenge.

The RGP enjoy solid operational relationships with their Spanish counterparts, particularly in the field of serious and organised crime, where a number of recent and ongoing money laundering investigations have materialised and/or progressed successfully precisely because of the close working relationships between officers in both jurisdictions. Moving forward, the GPA supports the RGP's aspiration for a larger, better equipped and more effective ECU, with more expertise brought into the unit in the form of a dedicated legal counsel, data analysts and accountants.

One particular type of online scam targeting Gibraltar in the past year was that of Romance Fraud, and the RGP acted quickly in raising awareness through their own social media platforms and traditional media. Romance Fraud is a scam that involves people being duped into sending money to criminals, who go to great lengths to gain a victim's trust and persuade them that they are in a genuine relationship.

The fraudsters use basic language to manipulate, persuade and exploit vulnerable individuals, so that requests for money do not raise alarm bells.

These requests might be highly emotive, such as criminals claiming they need money for emergency medical care, or to pay for transport costs to visit the victim if they are overseas. Scammers will sometimes offer investment opportunities to the victim. They will often build a relationship with their victims over time, with the aim of extracting money from vulnerable individuals. In its awareness campaign, the RGP recommends six simple steps which may help prevent someone becoming a victim of fraud:

1. Don't share personal details.
2. Don't send or receive money to/from individuals unknown to you.
3. Use only trusted dating websites.
4. Never share personal contact details.
5. Think twice before using your webcam.
6. Trust your instincts.

CYBER EVENT FOR BUSINESSES

In May 2021, the RGP's Detective Chief Inspector Paul Chipolina was invited to participate in a networking and panel discussion event for local businesses, organised by the Gibraltar-Israel Chamber of Commerce. The event focused on technological advances and cyber threats arising from the covid19 pandemic, and saw a panel of public & private sector speakers discuss the advantages and disadvantages of working from home, e-learning, e-Government and cybercrime trends experienced in across Gibraltar, prior to, during and post covid.

GET SAFE ONLINE .org

Transforming & Improving Our Service

"Deaf Liaison Officers & Deaf Awareness Training"

In September 2021, the RGP appointed a number of Deaf Awareness Liaison officers, The RGP's intention is that with greater understanding, the police can provide a better experience for members of the public who suffer from hearing loss or difficulty. With the recent publication of the British Sign Language Act 2022, a new responsibility and duty has been placed on all relevant authorities, including the RGP. Fortunately, the RGP were already well-placed with the work they had been conducting with partner charity "Gibraltar Hearing Issues & Tinnitus Association" (GHITA). Deaf Awareness Training took place in June 2021, in which RGP officers were taught how to be more aware of people who are either deaf or have impaired hearing.

During the training, RGP officers learned the importance of non-verbal means of communication, as well as practicing some of the basics of the Finger Spelling Alphabet.

Edgar Triay of GHITA added: “The RGP can be proud to see itself as a progressive and inclusive organisation. A role model for all other essential services, forces and agencies to follow. Today for the first time, the local deaf and hard of hearing community feels understood and cared for by the RGP. For many years GHITA has been advocating for better accessibility to services for the deaf and hard of hearing. The road has not been easy for both sides, but no more. This initiative is a bridge of friendship and partnership between the deaf and hard of hearing community and the RGP to make Gibraltar a better place for everyone."

College of Policing

Post Incident Manager Course

In November 2021, RGP Inspector Stephen Riley qualified as a Post Incident Manager after completing a five-day a course at the UK's College of Policing. Insp Riley is now the latest officer qualified to deal with incidents involving a death or serious injury, where there has been an interaction with police officers or staff – in line with UK police forces.

Inspector Stephen Riley, said: “It was a very good and insightful course, but hard work. It centres a lot on the welfare of the officers involved, which I liked, and we as an organisation need to get this right from the start.

“We had a number of serious incidents last year involving some of our officers, and with what I have learnt on this course, I believe the force is in a better position to manage and assist officers in similar circumstances.

The implementation of post-incident procedures and associated logistics is something we will start to look into.”

"A year on, Commissioner Ullger continues to drive change"

Just over a year since his appointment, Mr Ullger is confident that the force has made solid progress implementing recommendations made in the most recent HMICFRS Report, released in 2020. Having put in place a new framework of policies alongside restructuring departments to focus on key areas of both frontline policing and back room support, the challenge now is to turn theory into practice. Mr Ullger, from the outset, has aimed to move the organisation away from a blame culture to one of a nurtured learning environment. The Commissioner stated "This will take some time and we still need to do a lot more, but there is a vision. We now better understand our demands and, through risk assessments, which of these are most important." A Corporate Services team lead by a Chief Inspector is at the hub of the change to ensure Internal Service Delivery. The RGP has instilled governance processes to ensure that there are policies and strategies in place to be able to deal with issues within the organisation. By keeping regular track of performance, they can measure success and identify issues at the earliest opportunity. By having these policy and procedural documents in place, officers know what they should be doing and what the direction of the Force is. This will ensure that the RGP as a whole are working towards the common goals set out every year in the Policing Plan.

Having embedded a Code of Ethics for Policing within the organisation, the RGP will ramp up its Counter Corruption capability to mitigate the risks posed to officers due to their unique position of power within the community. "Whether we like it or not our officers can be vulnerable. What we needed to ensure is that we had policies and procedures in place to protect the organisation and its officers," the Commissioner stated. The RGP have introduced a range of measures to address the challenges of ensuring they have the resources they need, at a time when Gibraltar's economy has been hard hit by the pandemic, and against a backdrop of the "digitalisation of crime," as technology takes up an ever-prominent role in society. By strengthening cooperation with partner agencies, the RGP will be able to focus on its core functions, rather than on work that is not properly theirs. To this end, the RGP will continue to support the public and respond to incidents, but will step away from roles such as providing security for large events. During the planning stage, specialist advice and guidance will be offered to organisers so that they can run their event in the safest manner for everyone involved.

Dignity at Work (DAWN) deliver lectures on bullying

In 2021, RGP officers participated in a number of training sessions delivered by representatives of the local charity Dignity at Work (DAWN). The training served to raise awareness amongst all ranks about what type of behaviour constitutes bullying, and the steps a victim can take if subjected to bullying within the workplace. The three-hour sessions were organised following the results of the latest staff survey organised by the Gibraltar Police Federation, where a number of officers reported having experienced bullying in the workplace. Victor Gonzalez from DAWN stated: “The issue of bullying happens everywhere, not only in the RGP – it’s a human phenomenon. We are here to make sure people are aware of what bullying is and how they can deal with it.”

For his part, the Commissioner of Police Richard Ullger, said: “As a Command Team, we’ve been committed to root out any form of bullying in the organisation, and have worked closely with the Gibraltar Police Federation to address the issue, working in partnership with DAWN. We have adopted processes that provide clarity when someone wishes to make a complaint. We have also embedded a ‘bullying at work’ policy into those processes.

“We also recently commissioned leadership training throughout the rank and file, focusing on leadership and wellbeing, but also changing the culture of the organisation by promoting difference, through a 5 year Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Strategy.".

Mental Health Awareness Week 10th -16th May 2021

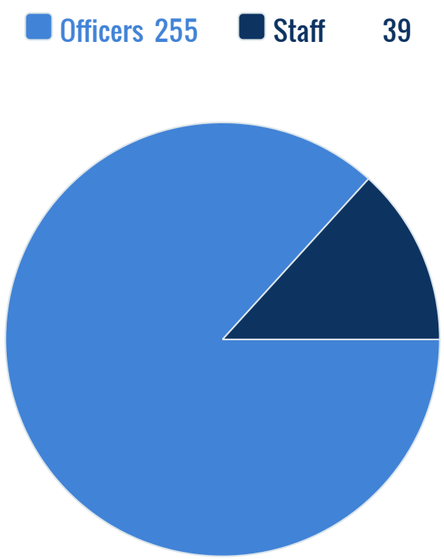
The RGP organised a number of events to mark Mental Health Awareness Week.
Organised by the RGP’s "Wellbeing Champions," a team of specially trained officers and civilian staff who support those with mental health issues, the events aimed to raise awareness and challenge the stigma of mental health in the force, with officers and civilian police staff all encouraged to take part in the events, which included meditation, workshops and lectures. One of the events, a workshop on "Mindfulness" was delivered by a member of the RGP's civilian police staff, whilst PC Sharon Berini, a qualified neurolinguistics programming practitioner, organised a training day for the RGP's Wellbeing Champions. The training day was supported by a number of guest speakers, including HM Government of Gibraltar Senior Wellbeing Officers and the the Gibraltar Health Authority's Mental Health Team. There was also a session aimed at reminding everyone of the ways in which a colleague could be referred to specialist help.

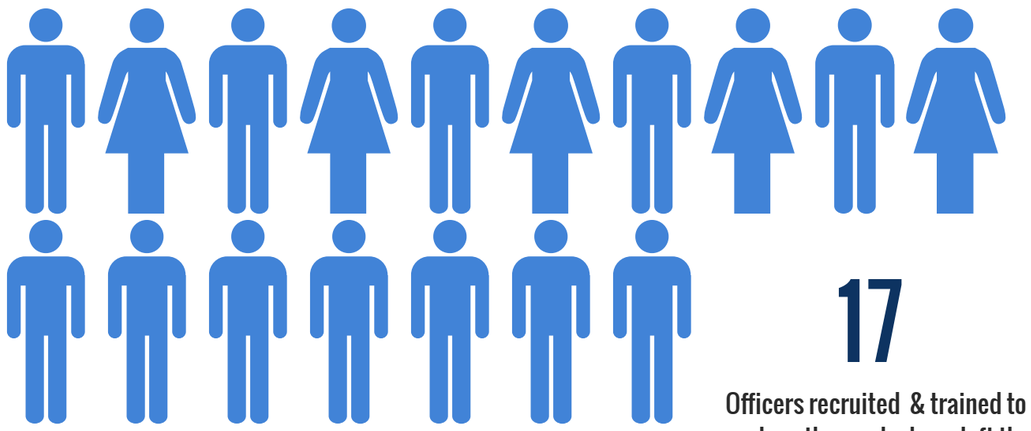
DCI Thomas Tunbridge, who leads the RGP Wellbeing Champions said: “Now more than ever, mental health is an issue that we need to be on top of in the RGP. With these events, we are taking proactive steps to look after the wellbeing of our fellow officers and staff. We’ve had some great speakers and we hope that all of these events will help our colleagues in some way. “I’m grateful to PC Sharon Berini and for the support of the Wellbeing Matters Committee.” As this year’s Mental Health Awareness Week focuses on the benefits of connecting with nature, the Wellbeing Champions are now aiming to transform a disused area of New Mole House where staff can enjoy their refreshment breaks.
A spokesperson for the RGP, who are partnered with, and fundraise for GibSams, added that anyone who is struggling with their mental health can contact the local charity on 116 123. All calls are free and confidential. For more information visit www.gibsams.gi.

Resources

The last policing year saw the RGP recruit 17 police officers to meet the composition of the RGP's establishment. This intake commenced training in January 2022 and officers joined their respective operational teams in July 2022. The RGP continues to be supported by an existing team of 39 civilian Police Staff, who perform a diverse range of administrative tasks. At the end of the 2021/22 policing year (31/03/2022), out of the 255 officers, 146 were deployed to frontline uniformed roles.

TOTAL RGP COMPLIMENT 2021/22

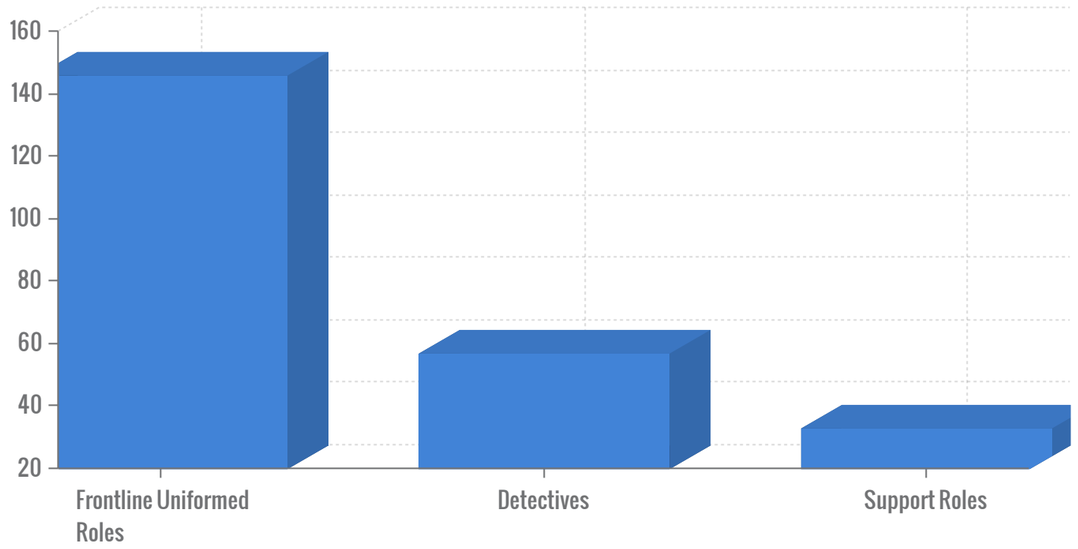




17

Officers recruited & trained to replace those who have left the RGP on retirement, transfer or for other reasons.

Officer Roles Constable to Inspector



RGP Finance

The RGP generates income for services provided outside of ordinary responsibilities. This includes fees paid for providing police traffic escorts for dangerous loads or large vehicles if road closures are required, as well as for the policing of planned events such as football matches organised by the Gibraltar Football Association or individual clubs. The number of such restrictions/events in place due to the pandemic saw a dramatic drop during the last policing year. This year, £1m of the generated income came from the sale of a Police Patrol Vessel, which was deemed surplus to requirements following the completion of a Strategic Demand Assessment.

The RGP does not have a devolved budget as is the case with all UK police forces, therefore, any funds received by the RGP for policing services or asset seizures/confiscations are credited back to the HM Government of Gibraltar's central fund. Whilst the RGP derive no direct benefit from providing these additional policing services, requests for additional funding are submitted to HMGoG for consideration as required. In line with the HMICFRS recommendations published in 2020, the GPA and RGP are open to more modern funding arrangements, in line with UK practice, whereby a proportion of savings and revenue generated can be linked back to the RGP's funding mechanism. It should be noted however, that the GPA has yet to make formal representations to HM Government of Gibraltar in this respect.

£1,385,992.26
overtime expenditure in 2020/21

—

£868,842.74
overtime expenditure in 2021/22

=

Efficiency saving from previous year

£517,149.52

Policing Expenditure 2021-22 (excludes salaries)

Area of Expenditure	Amount Spent	% of Budget
Pension contributions	£960,516.64	5.52%
Investigation Expenses	£358,986.20	2.06%
Telecommunications	£236,784.46	1.35%
Marine Boats and Fuel	£209,120.05	1.20%
Equipment and Uniform	£174,877.76	1.00%
Training and Conferences	£145,997.76	0.84%
COVID-19 Expenses	£73,891.11	0.42%
Other expenses	£65,118.38	0.37%
Computer and Office Equipment Expenses	£22,576.36	0.12%
Printing and Stationary	£22,115.96	0.12%
CCTV	£3,961.53	0.02%

2279
FIXED PENALTY NOTICES ISSUED FOR TRAFFIC OFFENCES

GENERATED

£489,900

£75,855.52
income was generated through the provision of Special Policing Services in 2021/22

Total Income Generated in 2021/22: £1,994,703.52

Crime & Enforcement Data

ALL CRIME		
2020/21	2021/22	% CHANGE
2884	3199	↑10%
DETECTED	DETECTED	RATE
1189	1115	35%**

"Detected" crimes are those that have been 'cleared up' by the police. Not every case where the police know, or think they know, who committed a crime can be counted as "detected" and some crimes are counted as "detected" when the victim might view the case as far from resolved. For any crime to be counted as "detected" sufficient evidence must be available for police to claim that a) a recordable crime was committed and recorded b) a suspect was identified and made aware that they will be recorded as being responsible for committing that crime; and c) the offender was either charged, summonsed, cautioned, warned or received a penalty notice.

Crimes may also be deemed to have been detected without action being taken if the offender has died or a decision has been taken not to prosecute the offender. Finally, some of the crimes displayed below and "not detected" will still be under investigation at the time of compiling this report.

BURGLARY (RESIDENTIAL)	BURGLARY (NON-RESIDENTIAL)	ALL OTHER THEFT OFFENCES	CRIMINAL DAMAGE	ARSON	DRUG POSSESSION	DRUG SUPPLY	ROBBERY
2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
19	61	243	255	15	151	31	4
2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
36	79	437	314	10	148	25	4
DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED
33%	44%	25%	20%	0%	76%	60%	50%

The 35% detection rate illustrated above in red is a snapshot in time, namely, at the point the data represented in this report was collated. This rate is likely to increase by a further 2%-3%, as a number of live investigations that extended beyond the end of the policing year are completed.

MURDER/ MANSLAUGHTER	ALL SEXUAL OFFENCES	POSSESSION OF WEAPONS	ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	CAUSING NOISE OFFENCES	PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	STALKING & HARRASSMENT	FIREARMS OFFENCES
2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
0	48	28	137	345	344	31	7
2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
0	81	35	160	235	302	54	4
DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED
N/A	21%	69%	69%	32%	27%	16%	50%

21 Crime & Enforcement Data

The Crime Recording Standards ensure that all alleged crimes are initially recorded, until such a time as they can be investigated and a determination made as to whether or not, on the balance of probabilities, the offence likely occurred.

There is a presumption that the reporting person will be believed and the crime recorded based on what is disclosed. On occasions, following investigation, it may be the case that it is determined that a crime has not been committed based on evidence obtained or more careful consideration of appropriate offences. The RGP will continue to record every crime reported regardless of whether the victim wishes further police action to be taken. This has provided a truer picture of crime being committed in Gibraltar and has inevitably raised the crime rate from previous years, having an impact on detections.

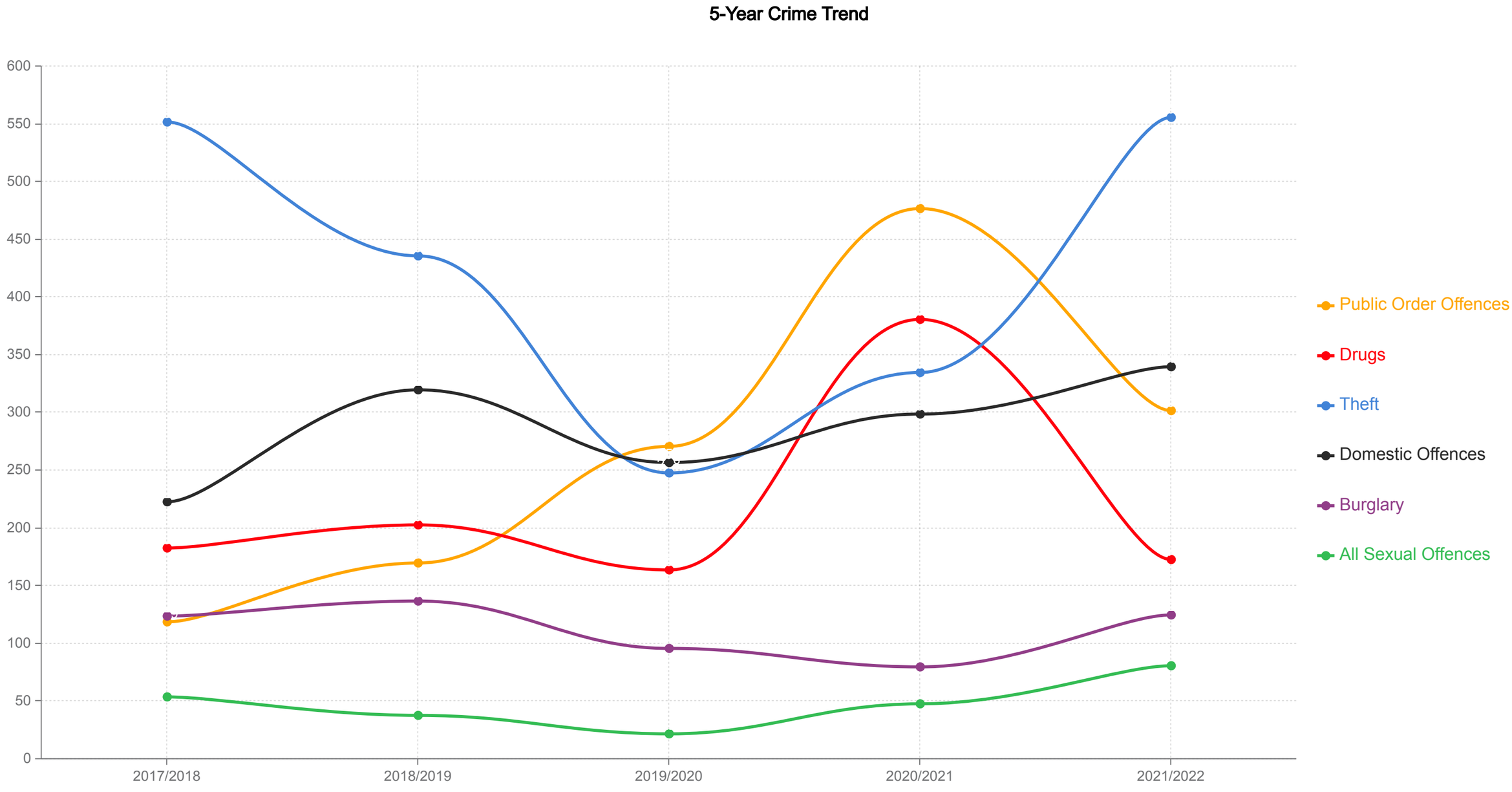
As crimes continue to be recorded in a consistent manner, we can see a smaller rise in the number of crimes reported compared to last year. Much of this increase is attributable to increasing public confidence in reporting crimes to the RGP, including via the new online reporting portal, improved ethical recording practices in line with UK Counting Rules and an improved system for auditing of crime records introduced by the RGP Crime Desk.

Good quality statistical data gives us a higher confidence when making decisions about priorities for the RGP. This ensures that the resources available are allocated to the highest risk areas and we are aware of the demands which are placed on the RGP.

ASSAULTS	POLICE RELATED OFFENCES	CRUELTY TO YOUNG PERSONS	PROCEEDS OF CRIME OFFENCES	IMMIGRATION OFFENCES	TOBACCO OFFENCES	FUEL TRANSPORT/ STORAGE	Non-Gibraltarian Found in Gibraltar
2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
381	131	1	2	59	15	N/A	31
2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
522	102	2	13	60	4	9	55
DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED
32%	71%	100%	31%	97%	0%	44%	98%

VEHICLE INTERFERENCE	TAKING A CONVEYANCE	ACQUISITVE CYBERCRIME	FRAUD OFFENCES	THEFT FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	THEFT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	DOMESTIC INCIDENTS (NO OFFENCE DISCLOSED)	DOMESTIC RELATED OFFENCES
2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
23	18	73	96	35	16	310	299
2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
41	25	13	129	68	47	243	340
DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED	DETECTED
10%	24%	15%	22%	8%	26%	N/A	33%

Crime & Enforcement Data



23 Roads Policing

Op DriveSafe

Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar, with the support of the RGP, is preparing for the introduction of a system of Penalty Points and increased fines for motorists committing road traffic offences. Together with RGP proposals for greater vehicle seizure powers, and stricter legislation targetting uninsured drivers, these measures aim to assist in reducing the incidence of poor driving, thus contributing towards making Gibraltar's roads safer.

This year has seen another rise in the number of individuals arrested for driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs. Together with the increases observed in drivers reported for speeding and dangerous driving, the level of danger that these drivers are placing themselves and others in is totally unacceptable. In the RGPs quest for a safer Gibraltar, the enforcement of road traffic offences alongside awareness and education initiatives in partnership with local partners remain an essential area of work.

The RGP will de deploying the use of roadside drug tests that will enable them to test for the presence of drugs in drivers they suspect of driving whilst under the influence. With the number of drivers found in possession of controlled drugs when dealt with by RGP officers for other offences, it is likely that they were driving whilst under the influence of the drugs they have been found in possession of, thus making the original offence they may have been stopped for all the more serious.

DRIVESAFE
WORKING TO MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER

TYPE OF COLLISION	2020/21	2021/22
ALL COLLISIONS	68	200
FATAL	0	1
SERIOUS INJURY	2	4
MINOR INJURY	36	62
EXTENSIVE DAMAGE	17	15
MINOR DAMAGE	44	62
HIT AND RUN	15	56

Offence	2020/21	2021/22
DUI & Other Drink Driving Offences	68	81
Careless Driving/Riding	17	15
Dangerous Driving/Riding	34	41
Speeding	892	919
Using Mobile Phone Whilst Driving	427	511
Not Wearing Seatbelt While Driving	231	171
Other Traffic Offences	1718	812
TOTAL	3387	2550

24 Case Highlights

insights into some of the investigations undertaken by the RGP during the policing year under review

Drink Driver banned & fined for drugs

In October 2021, a local man was disqualified from driving for a period of 17months and fined £400.00 for drink driving. In addition, he was sentenced to 180 hours of unpaid work for Possession of a Class A Drug (cocaine), with no separate penalty imposed for Possession of a Class A Drug (MDMA).

The sentencing followed an incident in April 2021, when Response Team officers observed a motorcycle being ridden erratically in the areas of Waterport roundabout and Corral Road. As the rider reached the parking area adjacent to Ocean restaurant, he almost collided with the concrete parking slabs. After being challenged by officers, the male rider blew 73ug at a roadside breath test, following which he was arrested on suspicion of driving with alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit. The male attempted to dispose of drugs in his possession but was prevented from doing so, in consequence of which he was additionally arrested on suspicion of being in Possession of Class A Drugs.

Burglary & Interfering with Motor Vehicles.

In December 2021, a local man was sentenced to 48 weeks imprisonment after pleading guilty in 3 separate cases involving 4 counts of Burglary and charges relating to interfering with 7 motor-vehicles.

In the first case, police responded to a call from a member of the public regarding a male tampering with parked cars by Harbour Views and Westview Park. Officers searched the area of Waterport Place and found him concealed on a roof top close to a window he had broken.

In the second case, RGP officers investigating burglaries in 3 separate business premises at Queensway Quay marina identified the defendant throughout CCTV.

In the third case, the male was arrested in November 2021, following a Burglary at the Bayside Sports Complex, in which he was identified through CCTV enquiries.

Suspended prison sentence & fine for thief

In February 2022 a Spanish national was sentenced to 10 weeks imprisonment, suspended for 1 year, and fined £1,000.00, after pleading guilty to four counts of theft from motor vehicles. His accomplice had earlier also pleaded guilty to the same offences, but failed to appear in court for his sentencing and a warrant for his arrest was issued.

In January 2022, a member of the public reported two men appearing to be tampering with vehicles in Vineyards Estate. They were then seen to leave the area in a Spanish-registered vehicle, which was later stopped in the area of British Lines Road as it was about to leave Gibraltar, by Gibraltar Defence Officers who were patrolling the area.

A search of their vehicle identified a number of suspected stolen items, including the logbook and ignition key of a motorcycle that had been stolen from Naval Hospital Hill that same morning. Following their arrests, RGP detectives from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) established that both defendants had used mobile phones to sell items stolen in Gibraltar, such as motorcycle helmets, to third parties in Spain.

Local retailer found guilty of failing to conduct due diligence

As part of an investigation by the RGP Money Laundering Investigation Unit (MLIU), various high-value Rolex watches were seized during searches of various residential properties. Enquires conducted by the MLIU revealed that some of these watches had been purchased from a local retailer in Main Street, with one of the watches purchased for €29,000 in cash.

In November 2021, the retail establishment's Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO) was convicted by the Magistrates' Court of failing to conduct proper due diligence in relation to this purchase, and was fined £8,000. The offence relates to requirements set out in the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) to prevent money laundering. The Money Laundering Reporting Officer was found not to have conducted sufficient due diligence to confirm the identity of the person handing over the cash or the source of those funds.

Detective Chief Inspector Tunbridge of the RGP's Economic Crime Unit said, 'The Proceeds of Crime Act not only makes money laundering an offence; it also places legal obligations on people selling high value goods and accepting cash for those purchases.

"POCA also places obligations on companies to train their staff to understand what money laundering is, in what circumstances their suspicions of money laundering could be raised, and what they must do in these situations. In addition, they are required to appoint someone to be their Money Laundering Reporting Officer.

Businesses cannot just accept cash in the belief that it is not their problem where the money comes from. In law, it is their responsibility to carry out enough due diligence to satisfy themselves that the funds are not derived from criminal activity.

Prosecutions will be brought against those that do not fulfil their obligations.'

Case Highlights

insights into some of the investigations undertaken by the RGP during the policing year under review

Man imprisoned for child sex offences

A local man was sentenced to 15 months imprisonment at the Supreme Court after pleading guilty to three counts of sexual communication with a child and five counts of distribution of indecent images of children.

The offences took place between 2018 and 2020, when two victims of the sexual communication were under the age of 13. The RGP launched an investigation in May 2020 after receiving a report from the father of one of the two victims, with detectives from the RGP's Safeguarding Team arresting the defendant initially on suspicion of sexual communication with a child.

A search warrant executed at the defendant's residence in May 2020 resulted in the seizure of numerous media storage devices, which, when forensically examined by the RGP, led detectives to discover he had distributed numerous images of child pornography, ranging from Category A, the most serious, to Category C images.

Detective Sergeant Jo Ullger from the RGP Safeguarding Team, said: "I'm content with the outcome of the investigation, as this type of crime cannot be tolerated. The community can rest assured that the images seized had no local connection. I am satisfied that the victims' families finally have closure."

A hearing for an application for a Sexual Offenders Prevention Order was adjourned to a later date.

Man imprisoned for drug offences

In December 2021 a local man was sentenced to three years and seven months imprisonment by the Supreme Court in relation to drugs offences. The male had been arrested following a RGP Drug Squad operation.

The Drug Squad officers, supported by a Drug Detection dog, searched various parts of a residential property and located approximately 605 grams of cannabis resin valued at approximately £3,250.00

A search of the defendant's car revealed several wrappers of cocaine weighing 9.99 grams, with a street value of £600.00.

Although denying the drugs belonged to him, subsequent forensic examination in the UK identified the defendant's DNA on both the cannabis and cocaine seized.

The male later appeared before the court and the matter was referred to the Supreme Court, where he pleaded not guilty, but was subsequently found guilty of all charges.

He was sentenced to three years and seven months for the cocaine offences and 27 weeks for the cannabis offences, with the two sentences running concurrently.

3-year prison sentence for Domestic Abuse

In October 2021, after pleading guilty to four counts of Common Assault and one count of False Imprisonment in relation to his former partner, a man was sentenced to three years imprisonment at the Supreme Court. The incident dated back to May 2021, when the man struck his former partner hard on her right ear with a bottle whilst travelling onboard a bus, knowing this would cause her pain as a result of surgery she had had on her ears as a child.

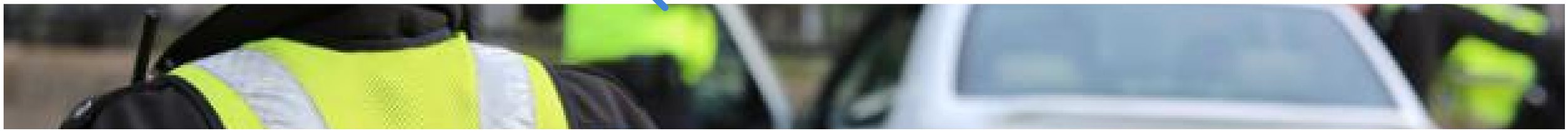
Upon their return home, the man subjected the victim to a prolonged series of assaults, during which he punched her, attempted to bend her front teeth inwards and choked her for several minutes, with the victim stating she thought she was going to die. As a result, the victim received bruising to her neck and multiple areas of her body. Following a neighbour's call to Police, Response Team officers attended and arrested the male.

Sergeant Paul Clarke of the RGP Domestic Abuse Team (DAT), said: "Domestic abuse is totally unacceptable in any shape or form. This sentence today gives the victim closure and proves that we take domestic abuse seriously. Domestic abuse can have a significant psychological and emotional effect on the victim in both the short term, and for a considerable time going forward. Bruises heal, but the psychological effects continue long after. Our recently established Domestic Abuse Team is on hand to tackle perpetrators and provide long term support to victims of domestic abuse. It is essential that as many people as possible have access to support to ensure the right measures are being taken to keep them and their families safe."

The RGP's DAT is staffed by specially trained officers who act as a single point of contact to help victims with safety planning, access to counselling and practical help, as well as supporting them through the criminal justice process.

Case Highlights

insights into some of the investigations undertaken by the RGP during the policing year under review



Prison for Animal Cruelty

In April 2021, a local man was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment at the Magistrates' Court, after being found guilty of the offence of Cruelty to Animals.

In October 2019, the defendant had taken his dead German Shepherd to the Gibraltar Veterinary Clinic, however, due to the animal's extreme state of neglect, an Animal Welfare Officer reported the matter to the Royal Gibraltar Police, following which the dog's owner was arrested and later charged for Cruelty to Animals.

Following a hearing in April 2021, Stipendiary Magistrate found the defendant guilty after rejecting his version of events, namely, that the dog had suddenly deteriorated in health over a weekend.

Expert witnesses described how the dog had been ill-treated and neglected to such an extent, that it would have gone through “extreme suffering” before it died. They also described that this was the worst case of neglect and cruelty that the Veterinary Clinic had seen in 32 years. One expert witness described the dog as looking like images seen in concentration camps during the Second World War.

Stipendiary Magistrate Mr Pitto, said: “He watched as his dog suffered. He blamed others, but it was up to him to allow this to happen. This is one of the worst cases of this type of neglect this court has seen.”

A spokesman for the RGP, said: “This was an appalling case of mistreatment and cruelty. We will always take action against anyone who neglects an animal in their care.”

Carer sentenced to 4 Years in prison

In September 2021 a Spanish national was sentenced to four years imprisonment after pleading guilty to one count of theft and one count of burglary. The charges related to incidents which took place on unknown dates between the 26th August 2019 and 1st July 2020, whilst the defendant was employed by the family of a 90yr old female who required constant care.

In July 2020, the family employing the defendant noticed that several high value items of jewellery had gone missing, following which the matter was reported to the RGP and an extensive investigation launched by the RGP's Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

In March 2021, following the results of DNA analysis received from UK, the defendant was arrested, interviewed and charged with the theft of jewellery valued at approximately £100,000, and one count of burglary in relation jewellery valued at approximately £30,000.00, which had been stolen from another family residential property located within the same building as the apartment where the defendant had been employed at.

The defendant later pleaded guilty during her first appearance at the Supreme Court. Although RGP detectives were able to trace most of the jewellery as having been sold by the defendant across several pawn shops in La Linea and Algeciras, for a total of €7,000.00, said items had already been sold on, and, as result, police were unable to recover these. At the Supreme Court, the defendant was sentenced to 2 years and 5 months for the count of theft, and 1 year and 7 months for Burglary, with both sentences to be served consecutively.

Commissioner of Police Richard Ullger later awarded commendations to Detective Chief Inspector Paul Chipolina and CID Detective Constables David Chambers, Joseph Given and Louise Goldwin, for their efforts in bringing the offender to justice following an extensive investigation.

Supreme Court orders confiscation of £1.7m

In September 2021, the Supreme Court granted an order in civil proceedings for the confiscation of over £1.7 million in cash, seized by the RGP as part of a money laundering investigation.

The order was the culmination of a protracted investigation conducted by the RGP’s Money Laundering Investigation Unit following a robbery at a tobacco wholesaler in 2016. A further £450,000 was also ordered to be paid by the respondents, to cover the costs of forensic accountants that had been contracted by the RGP to assist with the investigation.

The funds were confiscated by the court and dealt with by an official receiver appointed by the court, with said funds transferred to HM Government of Gibraltar.

A spokesperson for the RGP stated that this was a great result and a vindication of the MLIU's hard work and dedication over a number of years. The spokesperson added that the RGP, with the support from the Office of Criminal Prosecution and Litigation, will use all available powers to remove the proceeds of crime from persons involved in criminality, whether through criminal or civil courts.

27 Case Highlights

insights into some of the investigations undertaken by the RGP during the policing year under review

Gibraltar's first ASBO issued for loud music

In October 2021, a local man was handed an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) by the Magistrates' Court, after continuingly playing loud music at his home. This ASBO was only the second of its kind to be granted by a court in Gibraltar.

The case followed repeated complaints from neighbours, who contacted the RGP regarding the defendant playing music excessively loud in the evenings and early hours of the morning. In just six months alone, the individual in question was reported by the RGP for playing loud music on 6 occasions, with numerous more anonymous complaints received from members of the public.

The ASBO means the defendant will be subject to restrictions for a period of six months, preventing him from acting in an anti-social manner to the annoyance of other people residing close to his home. Should he breach the conditions of the ASBO, he will be arrested and brought before the courts. An ASBO is an order granted by a court to stop a person from behaving in certain ways or doing certain things.

The RGP's Community Policing Team are considering further ASBO applications before the courts, in respect of individuals who make people's lives a misery in the community. This measure will assist the RGP to act against any individual who repeatedly causes anxiety to those who live around them. The RGP are also now working more closely with the Housing Department, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in early 2021. This MoU enables both parties to identify and evidence complaints against individuals and prepare ASBO applications.

The RGP need the support of the community in reporting anti-social behaviour, in particular, through the supply of impact statements, to enable the RGP to take action against such selfish individuals.

4yr prison sentence for Robbery

In February 2022, a local man was sentenced at the Supreme Court to four years imprisonment for his part in a €1.5 million robbery in Gibraltar, after having been found guilty of Robbery and Conspiracy to Rob in April 2021.

The sentence was the culmination of extensive police enquiries, the analysis and presentation of forensic and DNA evidence, and international police cooperation. The defendant had initially been arrested in June 2017, just days after 1.5 million euros in cash was stolen by a number of individuals, who had first assaulted staff by tying their hands behind their backs and placing tie-wraps around their legs.

Following his arrest and charge, the man was granted bail by the court and absconded from Gibraltar. A European Arrest Warrant issued by the Gibraltar Supreme Court led to the defendant being arrested by Spain's Policia Nacional at the Port of Tarifa, in October 2019. In November 2019, Spanish officers extradited him to Gibraltar, where he was handed over to RGP officers at the land border.

At the conclusion of a two-week trial in April 2021, a jury returned unanimous verdicts of guilty against the defendant.

Prior to his sentencing, two other men had been imprisoned by the Supreme Court for their own part in this robbery.

2 fraudsters arrested at Gibraltar Airport

Two British nationals, a male and a female, who were alleged to have attempted to defraud several Gibraltar businesses out of high-value goods totaling more than £30,000, were in the departure lounge of Gibraltar International Airport in January 2022 when they were arrested by RGP Response Team officers on suspicion of fraud by false representation.

Their arrests followed a report from a business in Main Street regarding the purchase of high-value goods using fraudulent credit cards.

A subsequent investigation by detectives from the RGP's Economic Crime Unit found that a number of other businesses in Gibraltar had also been targeted in recent weeks with the use of fraudulent credit cards.

The male was charged with being in possession of articles for the use in fraud, namely, various debit cards, and fraud by false representation. The female was charged with two counts of fraud by false representation.

At the Magistrates' Court, once all offences had been taken into consideration across a number of court appearances, the male was sentenced to a total of 6.5 months imprisonment and the female to 5 months imprisonment.

28 Stop & Search

"Being stopped and searched does NOT mean you are being arrested"

A Royal Gibraltar Police officer can stop and question a member of the public at any time, depending on a number of circumstances.

A police officer has powers to stop and search someone if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the person is carrying:

- Illegal drugs
- A weapon
- Stolen property
- Something which could be used to commit a crime, such as a crowbar

A member of the public can be stopped and searched without reasonable grounds only if this has been approved by a senior police officer. This can happen if it is suspected that:

- Serious violence could take place (in an event/location)
- He/she is carrying a weapon or has used one
- He/she is in a specific location or area

Stop and question: Police Powers
A police officer might stop someone and ask:

- For their name
- Why they are in a particular area
- Where they are going

Month	2020/21	2021/22
April	22	75
May	17	50
June	64	71
July	43	26
August	41	25
September	52	14
October	49	24
November	22	27
December	22	24
January	51	37
February	93	33
March	46	25
Total	**521**	431
Arrests	41	39

Through renewed training and greater accountability, police officers are now searching fewer people whilst arresting just as many. This means the RGP are focusing their time in a more targetted, intelligence-led manner.

Before someone is searched, the RGP officer must provide/explain:

- His/her name
- What the officer expects to find, e.g. Drugs
- The reason for the search – perhaps because something might be hidden
- Why they are legally allowed to search the person
- That the person is entitled to a copy of the record of search, and, if not possible immediately, how this can be supplied later.

Removing clothing: Police Powers

A police officer may ask for a coat, jacket or gloves to be removed as part of a search.

A police officer can ask for other clothes and anything being worn for religious reasons (e.g. a veil or turban) to be removed, and if they do, the person must be taken somewhere out of public view.

If an officer wishes to remove more than a coat, jacket and gloves, they must be of the same gender as the person being searched.

International Women's Day

In March 2022, the Royal Gibraltar Police celebrated International Women's Day. The United Nations first commemorated International Women's Day forty-five years ago in 1977. The day is now globally marked by governments, NGOs and private entities. The celebration of the day has played a hugely important role in recognising and profiling women's achievements as well as becoming a central rallying point to garner and build support for women's rights.

Organised by the chair of the RGP Women in Policing forum, PS DE SANTOS, Minister for Equality the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP was invited to join this year's celebrations, with support and solidarity shown by staff from across all branches of the organisation.

RGP Staff Awards

Commissioner of Police Richard Ullger presented the 2021 annual staff awards at New Mole House Police Headquarters.

The Gavin Clinton Constable of the Year award

The Gavin Clinton Constable of the Year Award was presented to PC Alex Povedano, who was described by Superintendent Nolan Romero as "a hard working officer who is highly professional and always demonstrates high standards of integrity. He is an experienced Command & Dispatch officer and, during the last year, has developed his role and provided new controllers with the necessary training to enable them to carry out their duties in the most effective way. He has also enhanced some of the IT systems which are in place to support the Control Room."

The Support Staff Employee of the Year Award

The Support Staff Employee of the Year award was presented to Mr Keiron Dawson, who has served as a Marine Mechanic for over 8 years.

He was described by his senior management as follows: "Keiron has been a fully committed and hardworking member of the Marine Section Team and has carried out and performed his duties in an exemplary manner throughout the years that he has undertaken his role. Upon the retirement of the last Fleet Manager, Keiron stepped up to the challenge and has played a vital and instrumental part in the maintenance and repairs of all RGP vessels, and has also assisted his colleagues at the Marine Section without any hesitation whenever it has been required of him. This has not gone unnoticed. He is a very valued member of the RGP Marine Section Team and this award is an acknowledgement of his efforts and dedication."

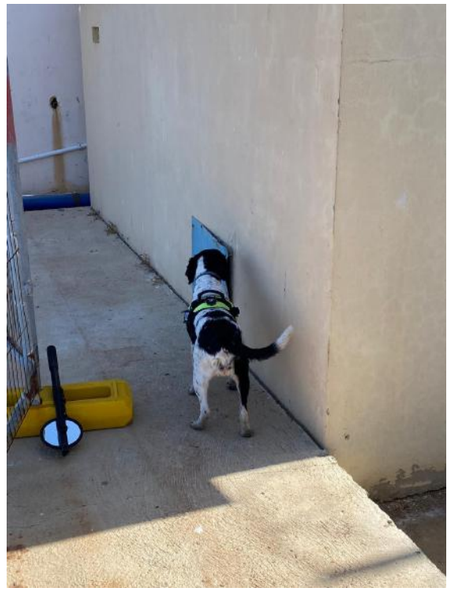
Commissioner Richard Ullger said:

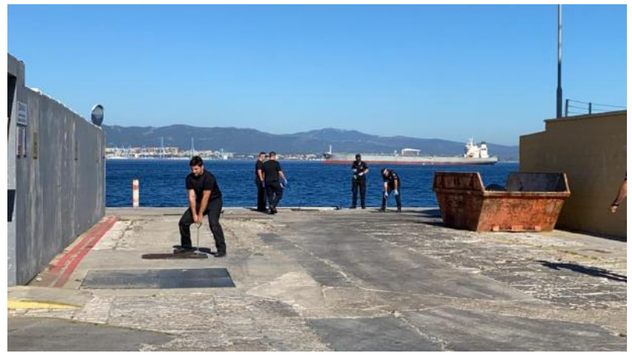
'It is never easy to single out just two members of our hard-working team and this has been another extra-ordinary year of policing during a pandemic.
But, no matter what difficulties they faced, this year's two recipients are both well-deserving of their awards and I am delighted to recognise their contribution to the work of the RGP.'

HMS Prince of Wales visits Gibraltar

In July 2021, HMS Prince of Wales, the 2nd of the Royal Navy's 65,000 tonne aircraft carriers, completed her first overseas port visit with a short stop in Gibraltar.

The visit was another example of the type of large scale demand placed on a police force the size of the RGP. Most police forces of a similar size to that of the RGP would not be required to manage an operation of this type. Policing and security activity included initial searches of the area, ensuring the safety of all visitors and site users and providing additional area security for visiting personnel entering and leaving the port area. Some of this activity was undertaken with the support of the Gibraltar Defence Police and British Forces Gibraltar.





First female officer promoted to Inspector

May 2021 was a significant date in the RGP's history, when Detective Sergeant Deborah Jones became the RGP's first female officer to attain the rank of Inspector.

Inspector Jones joined the RGP 20 years ago. Her aim, both then and now, is to help people. She commenced her RGP career by joining an operational Response Team, during which time she performed various roles and qualified as an Authorised Firearms Officer. She participated in a number of operations with the Drug Squad and Criminal Investigation Department, before joining the Police Support (Public Order) Unit and the All Arms Search Team. She later acquired skills as a Specialist Child Abuse Investigator, working within the Neighbourhood Policing Unit and developing a multi-agency approach as well as assisting in the creation of the RGP Safeguarding Team. She was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2009 and managed the Neighbourhood and High Visibility Unit. She undertook the roles of Custody, Patrolling and Crown Sergeant within one of the Response Teams, during which time she successfully completed an intense Initial Tactical Firearms Commander Course.

In October 2020, she transferred from the Operations Division to the Crime & Protective Services Division, where she took over the management of the Safeguarding Team as a Detective Sergeant, in which role she was serving at the time of her promotion.

Youngsters visit the RGP

In August 2021, as part of the RGP's ongoing Community Engagement Strategy, a number of local children were invited to tour the RGP Roads Policing Unit. They were able to explore vehicles used to respond to emergency incidents, try on and discover some of the safety equipment used by officers in their day to day business, and, most importantly, have fun and ask questions from Police Constables Nicholas Ramagge and Tanya Reddy.

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