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POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD WEDNESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2023

A BLENDED MEETING of the POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST BOSWELLS AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS on WEDNESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2023 at 2.00 PM

All attendees, including members of the public, should note that the public business in this meeting will be livestreamed and video recorded and that recording will be available thereafter for public view for 180 days

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,

21 June 2023

BUSINESS		
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Order of Business	
3.	Declaration of Interest	
4.	Minutes and Matters Arising (Pages 3 - 8) Consider Minute of Meeting held on 16 March 2023. (Copy attached.)	5 mins
5.	Progress Reports/Updates on Service Matters	
	(a) Police Scotland (Pages 9 - 42) (i) Update on Service and Operational Matters. (ii) Performance Report. (Copy attached.) Superintendent Vincent Fisher	30 mins
	(b) Scottish Fire and Rescue (Pages 43 - 58) (i) Update on Service and Operation Matters (ii) Local Plan Performance Report. (Copy attached.) (iii) Prevention & Protection Activities, Quarter 4. (Copy attached.) Area Commander Hilary Sangster, Local Senior	30 mins

	Officer (LSO)	
6.	Safer Communities Update and Key Activities (Pages 59 - 74) Consider report by Group Manager – Safer Communities and Homelessness. (Copy attached.)	20 mins
7.	Hospital @ Home Project Update by Margaret Simpson MBE and Cathy Wilson (NHS Borders).	10 mins
8.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated	
9.	Any Other Items the Chairman Decides are Urgent	
10.	Dates of Future Meetings Wednesday, 13 December 2023 Wednesday, 5 June 2024	2 mins

NOTES

1. **Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.**
2. **Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.**

Membership of Committee:- Councillors J. Pirone (Chair), J. Anderson, A. Orr, N. Richards, E. Small, H. Steel, Mr J Ayling - NHS Borders, Ms M Simpson - Voluntary Sector and Mr H Walti - Business Sector

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD**

MINUTES of Meeting of the POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD held in COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST BOSWELLS and Via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 16 March 2023 at 9.30 am

Present:- Councillors J. Pirone (Chairman), J. Anderson, A. Orr, N. Richards, E. Small, H. Steel, Mr James Ayling - NHS Borders and Ms M Simpson - Voluntary Sector.

In Attendance:- Chief Inspector Vincent Fisher, Area Commander Hilary Sangster, Local Senior Officer (LSO) Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders (MELSB), Group Commander Keith Langley, Station Commander Wes Robertson (Prevention & Protection), Group Manager – Safer Communities and Homelessness, Participation Officer (C. Malster), Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall).

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair varied the order of business as shown on the agenda and the Minute reflects the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

1. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 14 December 2022. The Chairman expressed thanks to Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for their exemplary work during the recent case of a child who had gone missing. The public had provided laudable assistance to the emergency services, and their efforts had helped, not hindered matters.

DECISION

APPROVED the Minute

2. PROGRESS REPORTS/UPDATES ON SERVICE MATTERS - POLICE SCOTLAND

- 1.1 There had been circulated copies of reports by Police Scotland as a supplement to the agenda. Chief Inspector Vinnie Fisher explained that crime had fallen by 2.61% across the board. However, a few aspects of crime had increased, notably crimes of violence, hate crime and cyber enabled crimes. Forty-nine recruits had started at the Scottish Police College in November, fourteen of whom joined the Lothians & Scottish Borders Division on 1 March, the highest such intake for a number of years. The Core Operating System (COS) had been launched, and would provide a single crime reporting and case management platform for Police Scotland. The new system had replaced the legacy systems that had been in place since the inception of Police Scotland, and was expected to increase the speed of data analysis, and provide improved confidence in the accuracy of figures and data.
- 1.2 Chief Inspector Fisher presented the Quarter 3 Police Scotland report and highlighted that as a result of the missing person coordinator being on a leave of absence there was a lack of validated missing person incidents during Q2. The staff member had returned to work, and it was hoped that would allow the inclusion of the relevant, up to date, missing person figures in the Quarter 4 report. There had been 896 incidents of domestic abuse reported, an increase of 2.26% compared to the five year average. A 16% increase had

been seen nationally. The detection rate in the Borders was 68.73%, compared to 64% nationally. Chief Inspector Fisher stressed that the increased number of incidents did not mean that the level of criminality had increased, but that zero tolerance measures and work to increase the confidence of victims to report crime had led to a higher degree of crimes being reported. The majority of reported hate crimes did not include an element of physical violence. 14% of hate crime incidents involved the police as victims. As with all crime, it remained challenging to secure the necessary corroborating evidence to secure hate crime convictions. Whilst the overall rate of sexual crimes had remained almost static at 0.21% compared to the five year average, rape and attempted rape had increased by 11.94%. Chief Inspector Fisher explained that a proactive approach to investigating historical crimes, and work to instil confidence in victims to report crimes, had led to the increases. The Oakleaf forensic medical suite at the Borders General Hospital had opened, which would provide support to rape victims, and allow appropriate forensic evidence to be gathered and stored until such time as the victim was confident to report the crime to police. Crimes of drug supply, production and cultivation had increased by 2.36% compared to the five year average. Laboratory testing was required to confirm that a crime had taken place where drugs in instances where drugs were seized. Where the test was negative for drugs then no crime had occurred and would be reflected as such in the statistics. Crimes of violence had increased by 47.54% on the five year average, which equated to an increase of 40.6 crimes. Chief Inspector Fisher highlighted that a number of offences under the Domestic Abuse Scotland Act and crimes such as sextortion, which were relatively new offences, had contributed to the increase. Sextortion offences posed a unique challenges to Police Scotland due to their cross border and digital nature. There had been a 60% increase in robbery, an increase of 6 compared to the five year average. There was no pattern to the robberies in terms of time, date or location, however they did appear to be opportunistic and potentially drug related. 75% of the robberies were committed by a people known to the complainer. Common assaults had increased by 22.5% compared to the five year average, 42% of which occurred in private spaces. Domestic assaults accounted for 29% of all common assaults, of which 17% were non-recent. In response to a question regarding whether the increase in the number of robberies were related to drug or cost of living factors, Chief Inspector Fisher explained that both of those elements could have contributed. The amount of crack cocaine, which had a shorter duration of effect, being detected in the region had increased also increased. That higher turnaround meant that a higher quantity of drugs could be being used, further driving acquisitive crime. Work to tackle drug offences, including the use and supply of crack cocaine, was ongoing and involved a suite of tactical options.

- 1.3 The number of anti-social behaviour incidents had decreased by 20.94% compared to the five year average, a decrease of 693.8 incidents. Fire-raising was an exception, which had increased by 51.72%. Chief Inspector Fisher attributed the rise to 3 main protagonists whom had been charged with multiple instances of fire-raising. Acquisitive crimes of dishonesty had decreased by 2.85% compared to the five year average. Frauds had increased by 46% compared to the five year average. Similar increases had also been seen nationally. All housebreaking crimes had decreased by 17.83% compared to the five year average. Offences of housebreakings ranged from crude, low-value incidents to higher value, sophisticated crimes. The number of fatal road casualties had increased by 83% compared to the five year average. Long term Scottish Government Figures continued to show a steady decline in road casualties over the past decade. Regarding serious and organised crime, Operation Jabiru had been launched in October 2022 targeting criminals operating within the region. Firearms, over £18k in cash, and luxury goods in excess of £50k had been seized. Chief Inspector Fisher explained that he could not provide further context to the number of complaints received, as the procedure had been centralised. Attendees welcomed the report and thanked Chief Inspector Fisher for providing additional context to the statistical information.

DECISION

AGREED to note the Report.

3. **THE LOTHIAN AND SCOTTISH BORDERS POLICING PLAN**

There had been circulated copies of the 2023-2026 Local Police Plan for the Lothians & Scottish Borders Policing Division as an additional item for consideration. The Plan explained that Police Scotland's goal was to improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland. Under the Police and Fire Reform Act (Scotland) 2012, the Divisional Commander was required to put in place a Local Police Plan to stipulate how resources would be allocated and used to fulfil that purpose. Members highlighted that the Plan built on positive relationships between key stakeholders across the region and pulled together key information into one document for the public. Chief Inspector Fisher explained that the Plan provided the framework and means by which Police Scotland could measure its performance, and that specific local details would be reported on at a local level. In response to a question regarding proposed emphasis on joint work with the NHS to capture underreported violence, and how much of an issue that was, Chief Inspector Fisher explained that the NHS had the potential to play a key role in capturing extra data on hate crime, violence and sextortion.

DECISION

AGREED to endorse the 2023-2026 Local Policing Plan for the Lothians & Scottish Borders Policing Division.

4. **PROGRESS REPORTS/UPDATES ON SERVICE MATTERS - SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

- 4.1 There had been circulated copies of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service performance report 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022. Area Commander Hilary Sangster was in attendance at the meeting and provided an update on national matters. A national pay deal had been reached which would avoid potential strike action. The Scottish Borders was served by thirteen on call stations and two whole time stations. The on call firefighters which served in the region did an exemplary job of balancing primary employment, family life and their on call firefighter duties. Recruitment of on call volunteers continued across the region, and was serving the purpose of increasing appliance availability and allowing staff to work where they were most needed. The use of the Bank Hours initiative had allowed SFRS to access appliances for over 3800 hours.
- 4.2 Group Commander Keith Langley presented the performance report and explained that Scottish Fire and Rescue Service had responded to 1391 incidents in the Scottish Borders, an increase of 132 incidents compared to the same period of the previous year. That included 55 accidental dwelling fires, 198 accidental fires, 301 special service incidents and 59 road traffic collisions. False alarms accounted for 56% of the emergency calls. The change to the unwanted fire alarm response, planned for 2023, was expected to derive down the number of false alarms that crews attended. That would allow more training and community safety initiatives to be undertaken. SFRS measured how well its priorities were met using 7 key indicators: all accidental dwelling fires, all accidental dwelling fire casualties, all deliberate fires, non domestic fires, special service – road traffic collision casualties, special service- non RTC casualties and false alarms. The report indicated that all deliberate fires and non-domestic fires were rated as red on the Red, Amber, Green rating scale. All other performance indicators were green. Operational staff continued to undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training. Group Commander Langley highlighted that as part of the Local Plan it was important for staff to focus on individual specialisms once a month. The training team had undertaken excellent work and the aforementioned focus had been working well.
- 4.3 SFRS had set a national target of a 10% reduction in accidental dwelling fires over a three year rolling period. There had been 54 dwelling fires recovered compared to 58 over the same period in the previous year. The decrease was a positive sign that efforts to reduce dwelling fires was having an impact. There were 3 deliberate dwelling fires reported. Cooking appliances accounted for 21 dwelling fires, with 3 due to negligent use of

equipment and 2 due to faulty fuel supplies. Analysis highlighted that 22 of the incidents involved adults 18 to 64 years old, and 21 were 65+. Following all domestic fires, the Post Domestic Incident Response would be carried out, and work was ongoing with partners to identify persons at risk. The report highlighted that fire SFRS aimed to reduce fire casualties in the Scottish Borders year on year by 5% over a three year rolling period. There had been 10 casualties in the reporting period, a reduction from 11 in the previous year's equivalent period. There had been one fatality at an incident, which was subject to confirmation that it was a fire death. Of the 4 incidents, 4 members of the public attended hospital with slight injuries, 6 received treatment on scene and SFRS provided oxygen on 7 occasions to injured persons. SFRS continued to carry out seasonal action plans to educate the public regarding dangers, risk and safety measures. Where trends were identified work would take place with partners to mitigate risks. There had been 108 incidents of all deliberate fires in the reporting period. A large increase from the previous year, but below the high of 122 in 2019/2020. There had been 3 deliberate dwelling fires compared to 3 for the same reporting period of the previous year. 2 were by the property owner. Secondary fires involving refuse, grass or derelict buildings accounted for 64 of the recorded fires. Car fires accounted for 5 of the fires, and 3 were dwelling fires. There had been 37 incidents of non-domestic fires in the reporting period, a small increase from the previous year and slightly above average compared to previous years. Non domestic fires typically involved agricultural, industrial or educational buildings. 25 of the 37 incidents were accidental, with 12 caused by adults. Nine incidents were caused by equipment overheating, four were due to faulty fuel supplies, two were negligent use of equipment and seven was deliberate. SFRS had attended 59 RTC's in the reporting period. Operational action was undertaken on 20 occasions to rescue casualties. 25 people were injured, and seven lost their lives. Whilst Police Scotland were responsible for determining the cause of RTC's, SFRS had a significant role to play in preventing RTC's. There had been 62 special service non RTC casualties during the reporting period. 15 injuries appeared to be serious and required hospital treatment. SFRS had attended 69 effecting entry incidents in the Scottish Borders in the reporting period.

- 3.1 There had been 784 fire calls that were classed as unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) during the reporting period. On average SFRS sent 9 firefighters and 2 fire appliances to every UFAS call out. 64,000 productive hours were lost every year to UFAS, an equivalent cost of £3.5million. 186 calls were due to false alarms with good intent, 61 were malicious calls, and 17 were caused by human behaviour. 104 calls were due to faulty equipment, 103 due to cooking and 59 were accidental. 38 calls were due to staff testing their equipment, and could have been prevented by appropriate procedures and following correct practice.
- 3.2 The Chair thanked SFRS for their full and detailed report. In response to a question regarding high numbers of UFAs and malicious calls, Station Commander Wes Robertson explained that calls were challenged by operations control when they were received, and that training was provided to ensure that staff challenged whether calls were genuine where appropriate. Work was ongoing to ensure that those likely to make malicious calls were targeted, with outreach events being delivered at schools and other such facilities. In response to a question regarding grass fires and wildfires, Group Commander Langley explained that whilst the numbers of incidents had increased overall land management by land owners and farmers was good. Risk assessments were undertaken and education for the general public was ongoing. SFRS hoped to emulate the partnership work which had been undertaken in Northumberland, where a successful user group had been set up which shared information amongst key stakeholders. Members highlighted that Community Councils had the potential to act as a key resource for the dissemination of information and education opportunities. The positive work of SFRS staff undertaking free fire checks in the community was highlighted, in particular follow up call-backs.

DECISION

AGREED to note the Report.

5. SAFER COMMUNITIES UPDATE AND KEY ACTIVITIES

- 3.3 There had been circulated copies of the Quarterly Performance Report by the Group Manager- Safer Communities and Homelessness which covered the period 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022. The Group Manager – Safer Communities and Homeless, Mr Graham Jones, presented the report and provided an update on Safer Communities activity, highlighting that a feasibility study into a new CCTV system across the major towns of the region had been discussed within SBC. The Safer Communities team would be involved in the process. Whilst Homelessness Services had been brought into the Safer Communities Team, work was ongoing to ensure that an end-to-end system was in place to fully support individuals. System migration was ongoing to ensure that the necessary anti-social behaviour management information system was part of the corporate IT systems, which would provide staff with better information and promote connections with other services. Regarding Domestic Abuse services, final accreditation from Leading Lights was expected, with submissions made, and with answers provided to follow up questions. Translations of leaflets and other information into Ukrainian and Russian had been produced to help provide support to Ukrainian refugees who may experience domestic abuse. Where required interpreters could be engaged to help refugee's access support and services. Members thanked Mr Jones for the update and highlighted that excellent work had been taking place across his team to tackle domestic abuse issues and ensure that Ukrainian refugees were welcomed and provided safe living conditions. Mr Jones explained that weekly assessments of the DAAS service were undertaken, and regular conversations were held with Police Scotland to ensure that victims of domestic abuse were supported, provided safety and given the confidence to report crimes. In response to a question regarding support for victims of crime throughout the court process, Mr Jones agreed that no victim should be withdrawing from the process due to a lack of support, explained that the Scottish Government had provided funding for court advocacy arrangements, and highlighted that within the Safer Communities Team there were now 4 accredited advocates able to provide support to victims of domestic abuse. Mr Jones undertook to discuss further publicity of the full range of support available to people going through the court process with the DAAS Service Manager.
- 3.4 The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to Police Scotland in 2022/23 to date was 896. That represented a 7.2% decrease compared to the same period of the previous year. The number of referrals to Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) service in 2022/23 was 277, 86 referrals lower than the previous year. Repeat referrals to the DAAS service stood at 28.6%, an improvement compared to the rate of 30% in the corresponding reporting period of the previous year. The number of clients contacted within the agreed timescale was 96.3%, considerably higher than the 80% baseline. There had been a decrease of 16.9% in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents, a decrease of 704 fewer incidents recorded. The number of Group 1-5 recorded crimes and offences had decreased by 7.1%, a reduction of 200 fewer victims. The number of new cases accepted at the Anti-Social Behaviour Core Group by partners in 2022/23 was 1110, 32 cases lower than the equivalent period in the previous year. 64 fewer monitoring cases were closed in 2022/23 compared to the corresponding period in 2021/22, a decrease of 38%. The anti-social behaviour unit has been reviewing the interventions format to further improve case closure, and re-wording formal letters to emphasise the consequences for non-engagement. The number of early interventions made by ASB partners had decreased by 7.8%. Efforts were being made to increase capacity to mediate in cases, a key component of early interventions. 285 fewer people were being monitored for anti-social behaviour compared to the same period in 2021/22, a decrease of 22.9%. The number of referrals to the mediation service for 2022/23 was 16. 90% of referrals were unable to be progressed in 2022/23. The reason why a referral cannot be progressed was recorded, which would allow analysis of the reasons behind referrals not progressing. Mr Jones explained that in terms of mediation, if one party did not participate then no mediation meeting would be possible.

DECISION

AGREED to note the update.

6. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Members agreed to amend the meeting schedule of the Board to take into account the work of the Police CAT and data lag inherent to the reporting periods. The Quarter 4, June 2023 meeting would take place as planned, followed by a biannual meeting schedule which consisted of meetings in December and June.

DECISION

AGREED to amend the meeting schedule to meet biannually, with meetings taking place mid-year and end of year.

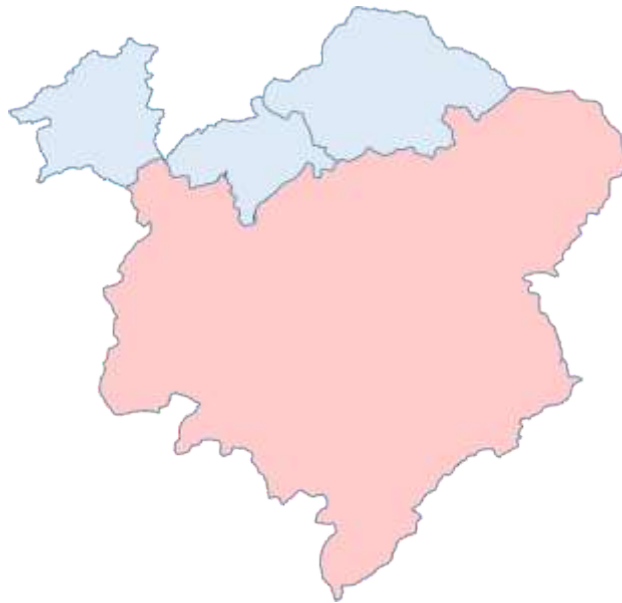
The meeting concluded at 11.15 am

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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Quarter 4 – 2022/2023

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. This report has been generated to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents and the management of crime enquiries, there is likely to be differences between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. It would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in this report as official statistics.

OFFICIAL



Our Vision

Sustained excellence in service and protection.

Our Purpose

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

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Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities

Your local policing priorities across THE LOTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS



Police Scotland Strategic outcomes

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service
- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery
- Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing
- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public
- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges



Introduction

Crimes and offences are grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes. The Scottish Government defines these categories, as follows;

- Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence
- Group 2 – Sexual Crimes
- Group 3 – Crimes of Dishonesty
- Group 4 – Fire-raising, Malicious Mischief etc.
- Group 5 – Other (Pro-activity) Crimes
- Group 6 – Miscellaneous Offences
- Group 7 - Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles

Police Scotland publishes management information on an annual and quarterly basis by local authority and police division, as well as at a national level. These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency. Police Scotland publishes all of these reports on the 'Our Performance' section of the Police Scotland website. The reports can be accessed here:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

The Scottish Borders Policing Plan uses the following Police performance indicators, and these have been mirrored in the Scrutiny Report to maintain parity of understanding:

1. Protecting the most vulnerable people;
2. Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour;
3. Reducing acquisitive Crime;
4. Improving road safety;
5. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime.

All figures quoted in this report are for the period April 2022 to March 2023 and are compared against the five year average. Where figures are quoted on rate per 10,000 population, these are based on Scottish Borders's population of **115,510 in 2019** (Scottish Government figures, published April 2020).

Scottish Borders Performance Summary

Reporting Period: 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023
(Compared to the 5 year average)

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 3,429

Crime Decrease: 3.2%

Protecting the most vulnerable people

Reducing violence and antisocial behaviour

Domestic Bail Offences

Domestic Crime Detection rate

Serious Assault

Robbery

20.6%

-6%

-5.6%

79.7%



61 (10.4 more)

64.8%

51 (3 less)

23 (10.2 more)

Reducing acquisitive crime

Improving road safety

Serious organised crime

All Housebreaking Detection rate

All Housebreaking

Road Traffic Casualties (compared to LYTD)

Drug supply

-14.2%

-20.3%

-18.98%

13.3%



16.9%

166 (42.2 less)

128 (30 less)

68 (8 more)

Executive Summary

The following report provides a summary of the policing performance during the 2022/2023 fiscal year. As recently agreed by the Police, Fire & Community Justice Scrutiny Board, we will now move from quarterly reports and meetings to bi-annual, which will better reflect the speed of change in terms of crime, crime trends and road casualties.

While I welcome the continuation of the steady downward trend in overall criminality, there are some areas of business that buck those trends, predominantly those that are cyber related and facilitated. The importance of tackling crime in the digital world is reflected in our recently published Local Police Plan and I would like to thank all those who responded to our consultation and who assisted us in shaping local policing for you and your communities in the years ahead.

While that consultation has now drawn to a close, we remain committed to listening to your views to ensure our service is as community led as is possible. Maintaining the bond which exists between policing and the public we serve is vital to our mission to keep communities safe and protected from harm. One of the ways we measure public confidence is by listening to the views of the public, mainly through our national online Your Police survey and our independent survey of those who have contacted us and used our services.

We are therefore pleased to let you know that Your Police 2023-24 is now live on our Engagement Hub. Police Scotland invites anyone living in Scotland to take part and I would particularly welcome the views of those who make up the communities of the Scottish Borders.

Survey link: [Your Police 2023-2024 - Police Scotland - Citizen Space](#)

In other matters, you will no doubt have seen, or at least be aware of, the statement issued to press by our Chief Constable on 25 May in which he clearly stated that institutional racism, sexism, misogyny and discrimination exist within Police Scotland. I think it important to re-emphasise at a local level that this statement does not mean we think our police officers and staff are racist or sexist, but publicly acknowledging these institutional issues exist is essential to our absolute commitment to championing equality and becoming an anti-racist Service. It is also critical to our determination to lead wider change in society.

Other national news that will have an effect locally is the introduction of new offensive weapons legislation, which became active during quarter 4.

Part 4 of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 commenced on the 27th of March 2023. The 2019 Act amends and updates the definition of a flick knife to ensure modern designs are also prohibited. It also prohibits the possession in private of dangerous and offensive weapons to which the [Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959](#) and the 1988 Act apply. Officers exercised this new piece of legislation in April 2023 whilst executing a Misuse of Drugs Warrant. Officers not only seized a quantity of illegal drugs but they seized a Zombie Knife contrary to this amended legislation. I hope as more offences like these are detected, more weapons are seized and more people prosecuted, that we will see a reduction in violent crime.

CI Vincent Fisher – Local Area Commander for the Scottish Borders

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Missing Persons
<p>The Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division and the communities of Scottish Borders recognise that protecting people, particularly those considered vulnerable, is a policing priority. Within the remit of protecting people is the work and investigations carried out to trace people who are reported missing. To put the scale of this work into context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police Scotland, on an annual basis undertake over 22,000 investigations into missing people;• In the Lothians and Scottish Borders Division this equates to the following;<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 2017 / 2018 – 2390 missing person investigations;• Year 2018 / 2019 – 2581 missing person investigations;• Year 2019 / 2020 – 1786 missing person investigations.• Year 2020 / 2021 – 1468 missing person investigations. <p>The overall recorded number of missing people in the Scottish Borders has increased from 290 last year to date to 297 this year to date, a 2.4% increase. The number of missing looked after children has increased by 131% (from 16 to 37). The number of persons going missing from an NHS premise has decreased from 56 last year to date to 36 this year to date, a decrease of 36%.</p> <p>Recognising the vulnerability associated with missing people, particularly those that are young or suffering from mental health challenges, Police Scotland has adopted a rigorous investigation structure and management approach to incidents involving missing people.</p> <p>From Monday, 29 May, 2023 Police Scotland’s 13 territorial divisions began utilising the Philomena Protocol. This is an award-winning scheme aimed at ensuring officers are better equipped to find children and young people sooner whenever they are reported missing.</p> <p>The Philomena Protocol, which is named after the patron saint of babies, infants and youths, was the first introduced by Durham Constabulary and we hope to quickly realise the same benefits they did in protecting children and young people from harm.</p> <p>The protocol is primarily targeted towards children and young people living in care facilities and with foster families and encourages carers, staff, families and friends to compile a standardised form of useful information which can be used in the event a child or young person goes missing.</p> <p>The type of information on the form will include interests, places of significance, friends and trusted people. These details will be used to ensure police can establish the whereabouts of a missing child more quickly. The Philomena Protocol has been developed following the success and learning from the Herbert Protocol, an initiative to support adults who are at risk of going missing.</p>	

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Domestic Abuse Incidents
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	5yr Average	April 2022- March 2023	% Change
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	1156.2	1231	6.47
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	684.8	844	23.25
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	42.85	44.84	1.99
Total crimes and offences detection rate	70.80	64.81	-5.99
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	50.6	61	20.55

This year to date there have been 1231 incidents of Domestic Abuse. This is a 6.5% increase compared to the 5 year average but a 4% decrease when compared to last year. The detection rate is down 5.9% when compared to the 5 year average and 9% when compared to last year. The national detection rate is 64.6% and the national conversion rate 41.4%; the Borders rates being higher by 0.2% and 3.4% respectively.

While the rise in reports of domestic offending may understandably give rise to concern, it is important to understand that this may not reflect an increase in domestic offending per se. We and our partners have for many years promoted the reporting of domestic abuse, either directly or via third parties, and the confidence victims, their families and friends now have to report domestic offending, is encouraging. We routinely see types of incidents reported now, that we simply wouldn't ten or twenty years ago. We see every report of domestic abuse as an opportunity to intervene, support and protect victims from harm.

To that end, every incident reported is subject to intense, intrusive scrutiny by a range of trained officers. This ensures a robust and consistent approach to tackling domestic abuse on every occasion. We continue to work closely with support and advocacy services and prompt referral through our concern hub allows support and engagement to take place at the earliest opportunity.

Our Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) review all domestic incidents reported to police. In many instances they carry out extensive, protracted enquires identifying and approaching previous partners, in some cases unearthing further victims and further non-recent criminality that would otherwise have gone unreported, to present the best possible case to the Procurator Fiscal. Demand in terms of DSDAS (Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland) continues to rise allowing us to inform those in a relationship of their partner's previous domestic offending. The enthusiasm with which all partners have embraced this relatively new legislation is hugely encouraging and while in other areas of Scotland, the referrals are primarily police generated, the Borders sees referrals coming in from a number of partner agencies.

Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meetings were introduced nationally in 2013 to ensure perpetrators of domestic abuse 'receive a robust and effective response'. The aim of MATAC is to effectively tackle offending by those perpetrators who present the greatest risk of harm in order to achieve positive outcomes for victims and their families. Five MATAC referrals were submitted this year in the Scottish Borders.

We will seek remands or bail conditions where appropriate and proactively check bail conditions are being adhered to. We have detected 61 bail offences this year to date, a rise of 20.6% when compared to the five year average, this is testament to our commitment to tackling the scourge of domestic abuse and keeping people safe. A Borders Court was the first in Scotland to impose electronic bail, which involves electronically tagging the perpetrator to ensure they either stay within their address during curfew hours, or stay away from other specific addresses. It naturally follows too, that with this new measure in place, more bail offences are being detected.

I currently lead on Theme 4 within the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership work plan (the Borders is a good place to grow up, live in and enjoy a full life) and one of the four outcomes under that theme is that fewer people experience domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders. I am currently working with partners to ensure everyone within the Borders who has a public interface, knows what to look for and how to report concerns around domestic abuse.

In January our Crime Prevention Officer visited a number of business including Border Buses, Borders College and the Transport Interchange. During the visit the businesses were provided with Domestic Abuse Campaign posters to display across their businesses. Further to the visit to Borders College a drop-in surgery was held there in March to raise awareness around Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime.

On Thursday 16 March 2023 Police Scotland's Strategy to tackle violence against women and girls was presented to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee. Based on wide-ranging and unprecedented engagement with the general public, women and girls, survivors of violence, key partners, academics and experts, the Strategy builds on the Service's commitment to improve and future-proof its response.

Proposals within the Strategy include:

- Tackling and diverting incel culture, through education
- Expanding the use of sexual offences liaison officer (SOLO) led visually recorded interviews (VRI)
- Delivery of trauma-informed training to all police officers and staff

Police Scotland are committed to creating a society where women and girls live free from violence, abuse, exploitation and harassment. Our role is crucial, but policing alone cannot stop violence against women and girls. Our strategy outlines the actions we will take as a service, together with our partners. We will continue to engage, to work with our partners, to improve our response and to drive the change needed to end violence against women and girls.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Hate Crime
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Scottish Borders			
	5 year average	April 2022 - March 2023	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000
Hate Incidents*	98.8	124	10.74
Hate Crimes	83.6	120	10.39
Hate Crime Detection Rate	74.64	64.17	

* For the purpose of reporting management information all Hate Incident figures include all incidents where a hate crime has been reported as well as all Hate Incidents where a crime has not been reported.

Official Hate Crime statistics include all crime types with a hate crime aggravator added. The aggravators being;

- Disability, Race, Religion or belief, Sexual Orientation, Transgender Identity

A hate crime is “any crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group”.

Like domestic abuse, hate crime has historically been underreported, and significant effort over the years has gone into encouraging more people to come forward. It is encouraging to see more people are prepared to do so, perhaps assisted by our online and third-party reporting mechanisms, and the increases we’ve seen are perhaps more indicative of this willingness, rather than a sign of deterioration in offending behaviour.

Hate Crime in the Scottish Borders is up 44% when compared to the 5 year average, nationally we have seen a decrease of 6% compared to the 5 year average. The Scottish Borders detection rate for Hate Crime is 64% which is higher than the national detection rate of 63%.

Very few hate crimes result in damage to property or physical injury to the person. This year-to-date assaults have accounted for only 9% of all hate crimes. Most hate crimes, around 87% YTD, involve derogatory comments. Irrespective of how hate behaviours manifest themselves we recognise the harm it causes individuals, families, groups and communities. We are committed to encouraging respectful, tolerant interactions where everyone involved feels respected and valued.

While it is recognised that detection rates have fallen the quality of the enquiries conducted, and the care and attention victims receive has not deteriorated. The challenge remains that allegations of any sort of criminality require identification of an accused and corroborative evidence if they are to be progressed through the courts, and there are instances where such identification is not possible or the evidence simply does not exist, notwithstanding our best efforts to find it. All reports of hate crime are monitored and reviewed by the Deputy Area Commander.

A report published by the Scottish Government in January identified that 1 in 4 hate crimes in 2020-2021 involved a victim that was a police officer. 17% of hate crimes in the Scottish Borders during 2022-2023 were committed against police officers. These usually occur when dealing with unruly arrested persons. We understand that in heated situations such as this, people are inclined to say things with the express intention of causing maximum offence, but we cannot simply accept this as being part of the job.

Our robust stance on hate crime serves to educate offenders and other members of the public on what is, and more importantly, what is not acceptable in a modern, respectable society.

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A proportion of hate crimes and incidents are perpetrated by children, and our schools officers continue in their efforts to educate children to be more respectful and tolerant and to understand the damage their words and actions can do, particularly when directed towards particular social groups. We have delivered a number of Hate Crime inputs and others designed to counter the glamorisation of violence.

In February of this year a LGBTQ outreach program started in Eyemouth High School, the School Link Officer has been visiting the schools LGBTQ+ group to hear their concerns about the recent anti-trans culture conflict in the media and build relationships with a community that historically has poor relations with the Police. Further they were asked to help with planning for a Hate Crime awareness week of action within the School so the content and messaging best reflected the views and experience of one of the primarily affected communities.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Sexual Crimes (Group 2)
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Crime Type	5 Year average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
Group 2	246.8	253	2.51%	21.9	58.50%
Rape & Attempt Rape	49.6	52	4.84%	4.5	69.23%
Indecent/Sexual Assault	97.6	93	-4.71%	8.05	59.14%
Other Group 2	99.6	108	8.43%	9.35	52.78%

Tackling the types of criminality that pose the greatest threat and risk is, and will always be, a priority for officers in the Scottish Borders. We endeavour to instil confidence in victims of sexual crime to report incidents, providing assurance we will be sensitive, thorough, and professional in our investigations. We undertake to work with partners to provide victims with the best support possible, to be resolute in our pursuit of perpetrators and manage offenders closely to minimise the risk of further offending or harm.

At the end of quarter 4 Sexual Crime in the Scottish Borders shows an increase of 2.5% this year-to-date when compared to the five year average. Comparing this year to last, reports of sexual crime are down by 24.7% (from 336 last year to 253 this year, a reduction of 83 crimes).

The detection rate is down 3.9% when compared to the 5 year average and 0.6% when compared to last year to date.

The majority of the increases in reported sexual crime over the last five years can be attributed to non-contact, cyber enabled offending, and includes the taking and sharing of indecent images. Some of these offences are connected to incidents of sextortion that we will discuss in more detail under the violent crime section. We have also seen a more recent spike in cases of voyeurism, with ten reported in the last year. This compares to a five year average of 3.6.

18% of all Group 2 crimes are also domestic crimes, as discussed earlier in this report every domestic incidents is subject to intense scrutiny to ensure a robust and consistent approach to tackling domestic abuse.

Like Domestic Abuse Investigations, in many instances extensive protracted enquires are carried out, in some cases unearthing non-recent criminality that would otherwise have gone unreported. This assists in presenting the best possible case to the Procurator Fiscal. We saw such an example in January this year, where after 8 months of extensive enquiries, a 64 year old male was charged with 5 sexual offences which spanned from 1998 to 2013. These offences were committed against 2 separate female victims. A report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

This type of non-recent sexual crime accounted for 26% of group 2 criminality this year, and can often date back even further than the case described above. This too is indicative of a societal change where victims are more inclined to talk about and disclose their experiences. Regardless of when the reported crimes were actually committed, our investigations remain thorough and our approach, sensitive and supportive.

The investigation of sexual crime, alongside the management of offenders and support of victims is achieved through close partnership working. The support offered to victims of Sexual Crime by partner agencies is essential and we continue to refer victims to these organisations.

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Police Scotland remain committed to preventative activity, building on the success of the award winning #GetHelporGetCaught online grooming campaign with a new campaign for 2023. Our continued intention is to convey to perpetrators / potential offenders that grooming children for sexual purposes is not acceptable whether online or otherwise, and that they will be caught. This continued phase includes targeted platform activity and aims to achieve greater reach within the health sector. This will be supported by our future Image Based Sexual Abuse Campaign.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Drug Supply, Production & Cultivation
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Drugs Supply	5 year average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation	60	68	13.33%	5.89	80.88%

Tackling substance misuse remains a priority and local policing teams continue to respond to intelligence in relation to drug misuse. Detections in relation to Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation are up 13.3% when compared to the 5 year average and 62% compared to the previous year. These rises are attributable in no small part to the work of Operation Jabiru; launched in the Scottish Borders during Q3. An update on this operation can be found under the Organised Crime Section.

Drug supply offences always require some form of laboratory work to confirm the substances concerned are controlled. The laboratory faced significant challenges during the pandemic, which coincided with a significant upgrade and refurbishment. This has led to extended lead times for analysis, which we continue to experience, and it may be several months before crimes of this type can finally be marked as solved. Where laboratory analysis returns a negative result, the matter would be no-crimed. Policing activity to disrupt and detect drug production and supply, like that undertaken by Operation Jabiru, continues as a priority.

To ensure Police Scotland remain focused on Tackling Substance Misuse the following activities take place;

- Daily Briefings are circulated to all Response and Community Officers to keep them up-to-date with recent intelligence.
- Uniformed officers engage with members of the Community to gain intelligence re illegal drug activity.
- Intelligence is tasked out for further development to make it actionable.
- We work with our partners in the Alcohol and Drug Partnership to ensure we have the most up-to-date information to circulate to our officers regarding drug trends in our area.
- Our Schools Officers maintain regular contact with our schools to ensure we are aware of any concerns regarding drug activity amongst our youths.
- Our Antisocial Behaviour Unit monitor all reported incidents and collate data on areas where it is suspected drug activity is taking place, this informs patrol matrix tasking for officers.
- We participate in the Drug Deaths Review group which considers learning points for all agencies involved.
- We participate in the Non-Fatal Overdose group which ensures support is offered immediately.
- We use Social Media to encourage reporting of Criminal Behaviour through 101, 999 or Crimestoppers.

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During Q3 Operation Jabiru was launched in the Scottish Borders an update on this operation can be found under the Organised Crime Section.

Police Scotland's roll-out of Naloxone to operational officers in The Lothians and Scottish Borders has been completed. Pouches containing two intra-nasal Naloxone sprays, plus casualty information cards have been distributed for the first time to all constables, sergeants and inspectors, numbering around 630 in the division. Naloxone is an emergency first aid treatment for use in a potentially life-threatening overdose situation. It works by reversing the respiratory suppression caused by opioids/opiates and can buy the casualty critical minutes until ambulance clinicians arrive on scene.

Officers complete an online training course before receiving the first aid equipment, which is worn alongside their standard issue equipment as they go about their duties.

Police Scotland officers already undertake in-depth first aid training, and the carriage and administration of Naloxone is an extension of their first aid skills. Drug misuse can have a devastating effect on individuals, families and entire communities. By working alongside partner agencies, I very much hope the carriage of Naloxone by our officers helps to save lives and positively change attitudes.

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Crimes of Violence (Group 1)
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Crime Type	5 year average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
Group 1	116.4	175	50.34%	15.15	57.14%
Serious Assault	54	51	-5.56%	4.42	88.24%
Robbery	12.8	23	79.69%	1.99	52.17%
Common Assault	907.8	1110	22.27%	96.1	65.05%

*Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

Reducing violence is another policing priority for both the Scottish Borders and the wider Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division. We recognise the impact violence has on our communities and work collectively to reduce this.

There has been a 50.34% increase in violent crime in the Scottish Borders compared to the five year average, equating to an increase of 59 crimes. When this year’s figures are compared to the last year to date there has been a 10.8% increase. The detection rate for overall violent crime is 57.1%, a decrease of 15.4% when compared to the 5 year average and 3% when compared to last year.

The increase in violent crime is mainly attributed to the following crimes when compared to the 5 year average:

- The 147% increase in reports of threats and extortion which equates to an actual increase of 25.6 crimes.
- DASA (Domestic Abuse Scotland Act), offences which were not introduced until April 2019. As such there is insufficient data for a 5 year average, however there is an increase of 41.7% (10 crimes) when compared to LYTD (from 24 to 34).
- There has been an 80% increase in Robbery and Assaults with Intent to Rob (from 12.8 to 23).

As referenced in earlier reports, threats and extortion, and in particular ‘Sextortion’, account for a significant proportion of Group 1 offending and is the greatest single contributor to the percentage rises we continue to experience here in the Borders when comparing to the 5 year average.

Sextortion involves the threat of sharing sexual information, images or clips to extort money from people, whether images actually exist or not. These crimes are often perpetrated overseas and are challenging to detect. If we extract this type of criminality from our detection rate calculations, our solvency rises from 57% to 70%.

We can see a change in the trend at the end of quarter 4, with a 4.4% reduction in threats and extortion when compared to the last year to date.

As mentioned above there has been an increase of 10.2 Robberies at the end of quarter 4 when compared to the five year average. There is no discernible pattern to these Robberies in terms of time, date or location although most seem opportunistic in nature and potentially drug related. 65% of the aforementioned Robberies were committed by people that were known to the complainer. Few involved the use of weapons and a number could be described as dubious, potentially linked to the cost of living crisis.

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Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Reducing Antisocial Behaviour				
Indicator	5 Year Average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
Antisocial Behaviour Incidents	5915.6	4556	-22.98		
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)	787.8	663	-15.84%	57.4	27.00%
Fire-raising	36.8	54	46.74%	4.67	53.70%
Breach of the Peace and S38 CJ&L(S)A 2010	878.2	842	-4.12%	72.89	75.42%

The number of Anti-Social behaviour incidents has decreased by 22.98% % this year-to-date when compared to the 5 year average. This is a total reduction of 1359.6 incidents and is reflective of the exceptionally high demand we saw during periods of Covid restriction, artificially inflating the five year average.

Overall, Group 4 Crimes have reduced by 11.8% when compared to the five year average, a decrease of 101 crimes. A proportion of the reported breaches of the peace and S38 CJ&L(S) Act offences will have a domestic element to them, and Police officers and staff too will be victims in some cases.

There were a further 10 fire raisings reported during quarter 4 although there is no discernible pattern in terms of time or place, or commonality in terms of victim. There were a further 2 crimes in Jedburgh, 1 has been detected the 2nd remains unsolved. These are not believed to be linked.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit monitors incidents of an Anti-Social nature, ensuring repeat locations and perpetrators are identified early, intervention opportunities are explored in full, and where required, enforcement activity undertaken. This work is carried out in partnership with the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit at Scottish Borders Council. Antisocial Behaviour Patrols form part of our daily patrol matrix as well as our weekend plans and targeted patrols are carried out by response and community officers at peak times for ASB in hotspot areas.

We understand ASB can have a negative and distressing impact on the lives of residents across the Scottish Borders. Whilst our response officers continue to respond and act on calls received, our Community Policing Team, CAT and School Officers continue with projects which positively impact on ASB across our area. Below are some examples of this work carried out during quarter 4.

Youth ASB patrols continued in areas identified through intelligence and analysis to be hotspots for anti-social behaviour. Current taskings include Peebles – School Brae, Haylodge and Old Town; Galashiels – Transport Interchange and TD1 Youth Club; Hawick – Kenilworth Avenue and Burnfoot Primary School. In total 56 youth warning letters were issued this year to date. SBCAT officers continued with attention in the area of Monynut Woods, Duns regarding the ongoing issue of off-road bikes.

During Q4 mobile CCTV cameras were deployed in hotspot areas in Kelso and Selkirk. These camera's are deployed in the hope of deterring any future instances of anti-social behaviour and providing evidence to support charges in the event criminal behaviour does take place. We are currently working with SBC to procure more mobile CCTV cameras that use the latest technology.

Our schools officers continue to work in partnership to engage with pupils and deliver inputs. During quarter 4 we delivered inputs regarding Drugs, Alcohol and being responsible in the community, Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying, Anti-Social Behaviour, Stranger Danger, Keeping yourself safe and the role of a police officer.

In addition whilst working with Earlston Primary School, the local SLO co-ordinated a positive team working programme, using cycle maintenance and cycling safety as a gateway subject to good team working. PC Harper together with Mr Muir, the additional needs assistant, completed the team building programme over numerous weeks, addressing a small number of pupils often failing to make positive choices in class and within their peer groups; whereby the pupils completed problem solving tasks and off road team cycling challenges. The group reduced their disruptive behaviour, gained useful communication skills and their Head Teacher considered the programme helpful towards classroom learning.

Our youth engagement officer has been working in Peebles to develop a number of programmes aimed at engaging with youths, developing better relationships and reducing ASB and other associated criminal behaviour. This program has included;

- Peebles Youth Voice Group which has been formed in an attempt to tackle youth disorder in Peebles, they are working on various things including building a shelter in Victoria Park so young people have a designated space to spend time
- Eastgate Theatre teen events, this includes a music concert on 10th June and a cinema night also planned, as well as a family fun day on 24th May which has been designed by young people themselves
- Teen gym sessions at The Gytes which hopefully shall be running by summer
- Costa teen evenings which have sadly now stopped but ran successfully for a number of months and were well attended with good engagement with our officers attending also
- Monthly Hub at Peebles High School organised by social work and police, involving other partners, local businesses etc. to help provide young people with an awareness of services that are there to assist them.

One of our Community Sergeants has been working with the RNLI to establish a Partnership Approach to Water Safety Group for the Scottish Borders. PAWs groups have existed in other areas in Scotland, however a Scottish Borders group has recently been created. PAWs is a multiagency approach to improving water safety that combines the knowledge and experience of organisations that can understand and manage risks in and around water. The three key stages are prevention, improved incident response and review. The group meet quarterly to discuss their joint approach to these areas

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Dishonesty (Group 3)
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5 Year Average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 Per 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
1400	1350	-3.57%	116.87	26.89%

Given the wide range of ‘acquisitive crimes’ this priority is covered in 2 sections within this report:

- Dishonesty (covered in this section);
- Housebreaking (covered in the next).

YTD 2022/2023 overall Group 3 crimes have decreased by 50 crimes (-3.57%) when compared to the five year average (This overall figure incorporates housebreaking crimes). This goes against the national figure which shows a 4% rise in housebreaking, our detection rate is 1.39% above the national detection rate of 25.5%.

When comparing TYTD with the five year average the largest increase has been in frauds, where there has been an increase of 50.6% which equates to an actual increase of 96.8 crimes. When comparing TYTD with LYTD however there has been a 10% reduction in frauds.

The increase in fraud continues to be mirrored nationally. 57% of frauds in the Scottish Borders relate to Cybercrimes and as mentioned earlier, these crimes require complex and often lengthy, technical enquiries. These crimes, often perpetrated by suspects overseas, are simply more difficult to detect. As society as a whole becomes more digitised, the opportunity for such offending increases

During Q4 our community policing team and SBCAT officers have continued with prevention activities aimed at reducing acquisitive crime. SBCAT have conducted over 1000 hours of mobile and foot patrols, as well as 171 static road checks. These tactics assist in preventing, deterring and detecting acquisitive crime.

As previously cited tackling the crime and the root causes of criminal behaviour is not something we can do on our own. We continue to work with partners across a multitude of agencies. In Q4 a meeting was held with Northumbria Police who gave an input into the Rural Crime Volunteers initiative where vetted members of the public provide eyes and ears on the ground during planned operations in their local area.

Officers also met with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland promoting the Scottish Government funded Alert system. Subsequently 5 officers have been trained as Alert administrators.

Several enquiries have been received on the setting up of No Cold Calling Zones across the Scottish Borders. Surveys have been distribute and are currently awaiting their response before being implemented.

Promotion of Bike Theft awareness has been carried out in the Peebles/Glentress area with visits to numerous retailer and hotels promoting Bike Register security marking, Bike security and awareness of thieves operating in the area.

One rapidly emerging crime trend involves the theft of high value GPS equipment from tractors. While this has been ongoing elsewhere in the country, and even the division, for some time, it has only recently emerged as an issue in the Scottish Borders. These thefts are committed by organised criminal gangs and I would encourage farmers and their staff to take steps to remove or secure these items when not in use. Our community policing

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team are happy to assist with crime prevention advice. NFU Mutual have paid out £500k in insurance claims for such thefts between Jan and April 2023 and over £1.5 million worth of GPS equipment has been stolen since Jan 2023!

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Housebreaking
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Crime Type	5 Year Average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change	April 2022 - March 2023 10,000 population	April 2022 - March 2023 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	83	66	-20.48%	5.71	15.15%
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	46.8	51	8.97%	4.42	11.76%
Other (Business) HB	78.4	49	-37.50%	4.24	24.49%
All HB	208.2	166	-20.27%	14.37	16.87%

All housebreaking (including attempts) crimes have decreased by 20.27% when compared to the 5 year average.

Housebreakings differ in their nature; from the low-value, crude and locally perpetrated, often committed by individuals to fund drug habits, to higher value, sophisticated crimes, committed by organised gangs from across the country.

Investigations in relation to the housebreakings committed by organised crime groups are more complex and protracted and it can be the case that crimes will remain undetected for a period of time while sufficient evidence is gathered from a number of scenes and sources which result in a number of related crimes all being detected at once.

This was the case in March when a motor vehicle was stolen during a theft housebreaking in Lauder. After extensive enquiries a 20 year old male from Edinburgh was charged with this housebreaking and a further 17 offences which had been committed over the past 2 years across the Scottish Borders, Edinburgh and Glasgow. A report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal and the male is currently fully committed.

There is evidence to suggest separate organised crime groups are working more collaboratively and employing technology such as drones to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their criminal enterprises. We too work closely with colleagues in other local policing areas, and indeed from forces in the north of England, to ensure all intelligence is gathered and assessed, and that our response to such criminality is as cohesive and effective as possible.

We continue to push the prevention message, encouraging businesses and homeowners to implement security measures to protect their property from thieves and to improve the chances of their property being recovered in the event they do fall victim.

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Improving road safety	Road Casualties
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	April 2021 - March 2022	April 2022 - March 2023	Change
Fatal	8	12	50%
Serious	62	48	-23%
Slight	88	65	-26%
Total	158	128	-18.98%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	3	2	-33%

	5 Year Average	April 2022 - March 2023	Change
Dangerous driving	46.6	47	0.86%
Speeding	254.2	65	-74.43%
Disqualified driving	17.6	10	-43.18%
Driving Licence	117	59	-49.57%
Insurance	278.2	189	-32.06%
Seat Belts	23.8	24	0.84%
Mobile Phone	33.8	33	-2.37%
Drink/Drug Driving Detections	96.4	114	18.26%

Tragically one further fatal occurred during Q4, bringing our year-end total to 12. This mirrors the national upward trend detailed in the Key Reported Casualties Scotland 2022 report published on 24th May by Transport Scotland. As identified in the report this recent upward trend is in contrast to the longer-term downward trend we've seen over many years. Indeed, since 2000 the number of people killed on our roads has decreased by 47%. The full findings of this report can be read at the below link.

[Key Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2022 \(transport.gov.scot\)](https://transport.gov.scot)

Similar to the aforementioned report the Scottish Borders, with the exception of fatalities, has seen an overall reduction in the number of casualties. Serious injuries and slight injuries have reduced by 23% and 26% respectively when comparing this year to date with last year to date.

We continue to promote and encourage drivers young and old to undertake additional training through the Drivewise initiative. This can be accessed by calling 01896 757575.

In 2019, Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988 was implemented in Scotland, bringing us in line with England and Wales. While Section 4 of the same act makes it an offence to drive while 'unfit' through drink or drugs, this new legislation removes the burden of proof in terms of a driver's fitness. Seventeen drugs, each with a legal concentration in blood are specified in regulation and drivers are initially detected by way of a roadside drug

wipe. They are thereafter arrested and conveyed to a police station where bloods are taken and submitted for laboratory analysis. This offence is included in the drink / drug drive detection rates, and given it didn't exist prior to October 2019, has had a bearing on our percentage increase against the five year average.

The prevalence of dash cams has assisted us in securing evidence against more drivers who drive dangerously. Work on a national 'Dash cam Portal' project has slowed while further work is undertaken to integrate it with a larger and wider storage and transmission of electronic evidence project.

The table below illustrates how many safety camera sites were visited during last year and this quarter, how many deployment hours there were, and how many detections were made. It should be noted that the primary purpose of the Safety Camera Unit is to positively influence driver behaviour. The fewer offences detected, the greater the impact the safety camera is having on that particular stretch of road. The most effective camera sites are those where no offences are detected, indicating full compliance with the speed limits. The establishment of a Safety Camera Unit base in the Scottish Borders has improved operational effectiveness here.

Safety Camera Site Visits						
	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23		2021-22	2022-23
Visits	33	59	50		106	142
Enforcement hours	104.7	145.0	132.2		258	382
Activations	1	97	92		13	190
Activations per Enforcement Area	0.0	0.7	0.7		0.7	0.5

Road safety remains a key priority for us in the Scottish Borders and patrolling of the roads continues to form part of our daily tasking.

As mentioned earlier during Q4 SBCAT conducted a total of 171 static road checks and 1080 hours of mobile patrols. Whilst carrying out tasking SBCAT arrested a male for drink driving, resisting arrest and police assault. The male was banned from driving for 3 years and given 100 hours community service.


SBCAT were also tasked with tackling issues with young drivers. Officers attended a gathering to ensure safety. During the gathering 2 tickets were issued for no MOT and Dangerous Driving.

Our Community Policing Teams have continue to focus on road safety during Q4, they have carried out a number of different events over the 3 month period including;

- A road safety input with pupils at Jedburgh Grammar Campus.
- Junior Road Safety Officers, inputs training and speed checks were carried out in locations across the Scottish Borders.
- Our pop up police officer has been deployed in both Gattonside and Lauder.
- A new driver road safety input was delivered to S5 pupils at Galashiels Academy.
- A winter static road check was carried out to educate vehicles with obscured windscreens due to being frozen.

The Force has updated its policy on Community Speedwatch and we are now content to proceed with a number of pilots here in the Scottish Borders. I will provide further updates on progress in due course.

We also now participate in the national Older Drivers' Forum with a view to identifying tactics and best practise that could be adopted here.

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime	Tackling Serious & Organised Crime
<p>Officers from Police Scotland’s Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism teams, together with local Operation Jabiru officers, have recovered drugs worth more than £670,000 as part of action targeting the supply of drugs in the Scottish Borders.</p> <p>As a result of this joint operation seven men and three women were arrested between Wednesday, 5 April and Thursday, 20 April. They have all been charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal for offences relating to the supply of controlled drugs.</p> <p>On Thursday, 20 April a 35-year-old man was arrested and charged in connection with offences, including being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs, directing serious organised crime and money laundering offences. He was held in custody to appear at Selkirk Sheriff Court.</p> <p>This operation has resulted in the seizure of significant quantities of money and controlled drugs, including 4.5kg of cocaine and 5.5kg of heroin with a total value in excess of £670,000.</p> <p>Detective Chief Superintendent Stuart Houston, head of the Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Unit, said: “This has been a significant operation, aimed at disrupting the illegal supply of drugs in the Scottish Borders and associated organised crime.</p> <p>“We will continue to investigate those who profit from, and care nothing for, the misery that drugs bring to individuals, their families and communities.</p> <p>“Activity such as this is a good example of how specialist national units work closely with local policing colleagues to ensure action is taken to address criminal activity and support our local communities.”</p> <p>Chief Superintendent Catriona Paton, Divisional Commander for The Lothians and Scottish Borders, said: “This targeted operation demonstrates our commitment to ridding our streets of drugs. This is built on effective intelligence gathering and the help and support of the local community, who rightly do not tolerate the supply of drugs in their neighbourhoods.</p> <p>“I am grateful for the ongoing support policing has from our communities in the Borders and for the sustained support we have from our national colleagues, enabling the positive outcome we have seen in this case.</p> <p>“I would continue to appeal to anyone with information or concerns about the supply of illegal drugs to contact police immediately on the non-emergency number 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”</p> <p> The National Threat Level is SUBSTANTIAL.</p> <p>The UK National Threat Level has been lowered to SUBSTANTIAL meaning an attack is likely.</p>	

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The Covid 19 pandemic, and subsequent lockdowns, served to highlight the risk of online grooming and radicalisation of young and vulnerable people who were being home-schooled and spending more time online than normal.

The focus of both Police and The Lothians and Scottish Borders Contest Group has been to raise awareness of the Prevent strand of the CONTEST Strategy. This has been achieved through hosting online sessions for School Campus Officers and partner agencies providing information regarding the National Prevent Referral Form and promoting websites such as www.actearly.uk and www.ltai.info

We appreciate that explaining terrorism and extremism to young people can be difficult. Counter Terrorism Policing has provided information and guidance per the link below to educate at home or in school.

<https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/advice-for-young-people>

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Complaints	Executive Summary			
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April 2022 – March 2023				
	Number of Complaints about the Police		Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	
Complaints received about the Police	136		49.39	
	On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
Total Allegations Recorded	143	-	77	220

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the Scottish Borders area command as at 31st March 2023.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the Allegation Category and Type. As can be seen there has been a 2.3% increase in the overall number of Complaints about the Police when comparing LYTD and YTD.

Allegation Category and Type	LYTD	YTD	% change
On Duty - TOTAL	109	143	31.2%
Off Duty - TOTAL	1	0	-100.0%
Other	1	0	-100%
Assault	7	4	-42.9%
Corrupt Practice	0	1	-
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	1	0.0%
Excessive Force	8	9	12.5%
Incivility	28	37	32.1%
Irregularity in Procedure	50	74	48.0%
Neglect of Duty	0	2	-
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	7	2	-71.4%
Other - Criminal	1	0	-100.0%
Other - Non Criminal	5	3	-40.0%
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	2	9	350.0%
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	0	1	x
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	105	77	-26.7%
Policy/Procedure	23	20	-13.0%
Service Delivery	24	20	-16.7%
Service Outcome	58	37	-36.2%
Grand Total	215	220	2.3%

Scottish Borders CAT team – Q4 Update

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT continued with their winter safety campaign through January, carrying out road checks in various places in the Borders, 24 traffic tickets have been issued at static road checks throughout quarter 4.

Anti-social driving issues were also addressed in Galashiels, with one male being given a fixed penalty ticket for careless driving and another two people being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a number of offences including no MOT & insurance.

Hand-held speed detection was carried out outside schools and where there is a recognised casualty profile, and we are liaising with partners with a view to piloting a Community Speedwatch scheme in the future. Speeding issues were also addressed in smaller villages such as Skirling and Birgham.

PARKING TICKETS – SBCAT have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. 78 parking tickets were issued during quarter 4.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME –SBCAT continue to carry out static road checks in rural areas at all times of day to deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 143 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in quarter 4. SBCAT officers are also following up positive lines of enquiry into the theft of a vehicle from Blythe Bridge. SBCAT are also continuing to develop our relationship with neighbouring forces to address cross border crime and travelling criminals.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – During quarter 4, 16 drug search warrants were carried out, with 10 of them providing positive results.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant. During quarter 4, SBCAT traced and arrested a total of 9 people, one being a male who had been wanted for some time. They were also proactive in enforcing persons released on bail curfews, with 20 bail curfew checks carried out in January alone.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot Industrial Estate and in Peebles to address concerns at these locations. Two youths were issued warning letters for throwing snowballs at members of the public at the Transport Interchange in Galashiels. We have also been liaising with partners to address ongoing youth issues reported there. In Peebles we are working with Community Officers and local partners to address youth issues. We also carry out regular Licensed Premises checks and are progressing enquiries in relation to the theft of alcohol by children in Newtown St Boswells.

Appendix

Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division	5 Year Average	2022/23 Q4	Per 10,000 Q4 2022/23	Detection Rates 2022/23
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	606	838	16.82	57.64
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	3	1	0.02	100.00
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0.6	1	0.02	100.00
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	3.8	5	0.1	100.00
Attempted murder	16.8	20	0.4	95.00
Serious assault	258.6	265	5.32	77.74
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	95	85	1.71	60.00
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	160	3.21	71.88
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	8	0.16	50.00
Domestic Abuse (Total)	N/A	168	3.37	70.83
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	63.4	56	1.12	105.36
Threats and extortion	61	200	4.01	3.00
Other group 1 crimes	39.6	37	0.74	43.24
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	1082.6	1121	22.5	48.53
Rape	193.2	213	4.28	57.28
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	7.4	15	0.3	53.33
<i>Rape and attempted rape - Total</i>	200.6	228	4.58	57.02
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	17.2	4	0.08	50.00
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	301.2	328	6.58	46.65
Lewd & libidinous practices*	95.2	72	1.45	41.67
<i>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</i>	413.6	404	8.11	45.79
<i>Prostitution related crime - Total*</i>	0.8	0	0	-
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	54.8	58	1.16	82.76
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	93.4	104	2.09	51.92
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	39.4	18	0.36	44.44
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	30	33	0.66	33.33
Public indecency (common law)	9.8	10	0.2	70.00
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	156.2	176	3.53	35.23
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	19	13	0.26	76.92
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	65	77	1.55	37.66
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	0	-
<i>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</i>	467.6	489	9.82	46.83
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	8667.6	8020	160.99	23.93
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	387	357	7.17	19.05
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	344.4	264	5.3	14.02
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	377	257	5.16	36.19
<i>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</i>	1108.4	878	17.62	22.55

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Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	216.2	133	2.67	6.02
Theft of a motor vehicle	443.8	425	8.53	34.12
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	532.4	283	5.68	7.77
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	35.2	34	0.68	11.76
<i>Motor vehicle crime - Total</i>	1227.6	875	17.56	20.46
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	145	128	2.57	19.53
Common theft	2332	2526	50.71	15.36
Theft by shoplifting	2347.4	1856	37.26	45.47
Fraud	928.2	1346	27.02	11.96
Other Group 3 Crimes	579	411	8.25	30.17
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	4126	3867	77.63	24.41
Fireraising	222.4	281	5.64	26.69
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	3659.4	3311	66.46	22.86
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	5.4	3	0.06	66.67
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	228.6	266	5.34	40.60
Other Group 4 Crimes	10.2	6	0.12	33.33
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	4199.2	3767	75.62	94.03
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	142.2	149	2.99	91.28
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	153.6	154	3.09	87.66
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	123.8	146	2.93	71.23
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	74.6	76	1.53	61.84
<i>Total offensive/bladed weapons</i>	494.2	525	10.54	80.38
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	69	36	0.72	91.67
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	221.8	200	4.01	79.50
Bringing drugs into prison	19.6	9	0.18	66.67
<i>Supply of drugs - Total</i>	310.4	245	4.92	80.82
Possession of drugs	1811.4	1369	27.48	100.51
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	10.8	13	0.26	46.15
<i>Total drugs crimes</i>	2132.6	1627	32.66	97.11
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1.2	1	0.02	100.00
Bail offences (other than absconding)	817.2	929	18.65	95.37
Other Group 5 crimes	754	685	13.75	95.33
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	9765.4	9966	200.06	65.23
Common Assault	4020.8	4738	95.11	57.13
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	411	394	7.91	99.24
<i>Common Assault - Total</i>	4431.8	5132	103.02	60.37
Breach of the Peace	169.2	59	1.18	101.69
Threatening & abusive behaviour	3509.6	3207	64.38	72.62
Stalking	101.8	78	1.57	71.79
<i>BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</i>	3780.6	3344	67.13	73.12
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	128.6	77	1.55	92.21
Drunk and incapable	46.8	20	0.4	100.00
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	40.4	12	0.24	100.00
Other alcohol related offences*	40.8	27	0.54	103.70

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<i>Drunkness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</i>	128	59	1.18	101.69
Wildlife offences*	38.8	32	0.64	115.63
Other Group 6 offences	1257.6	1322	26.54	59.76
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	6965.8	7437	149.29	82.26
Dangerous driving offences	243.8	239	4.8	79.50
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	536	585	11.74	98.63
Speeding offences	583.2	329	6.6	98.48
Driving while disqualified	119	84	1.69	96.43
Driving without a licence	548	416	8.35	97.36
Failure to insure against third party risks	1408.4	1171	23.51	99.15
Seat belt offences	119.4	145	2.91	98.62
Mobile phone offences	163.4	199	3.99	96.98
Driving Carelessly	574.4	705	14.15	86.67
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	121.8	573	11.5	97.73
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	711.2	842	16.9	99.76
Other Group 7 offences	1837.2	2149	43.14	48.07

Scottish Borders Recorded Crime Overview

Scottish Borders	5 Year Average	2022/23 Q4	Per 10,000 Q4 2022/23	Detection Rates 2022/23
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	116.4	175	15.15	57.14
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	1	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0	1	0.09	100
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	1	3	0.26	100
Attempted murder	3.4	3	0.26	100
Serious assault	54	51	4.42	88.24
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	12.8	23	1.99	52.17
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	34	2.94	73.53
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	0	-	-
Domestic Abuse (Total)	N/A	34	2.94	73.53
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	10.6	9	0.78	77.78
Threats and extortion	17.4	43	3.72	6.98
Other group 1 crimes	5	8	0.69	12.5
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	246.8	253	21.9	58.5
Rape	48.4	50	4.33	68
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	1.2	2	0.17	100
Rape and attempted rape - Total	49.6	52	4.5	69.23
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	2.8	1	0.09	0
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	72.8	83	7.19	60.24
Lewd & libidinous practices*	22	9	0.78	55.56
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	97.6	93	8.05	59.14
Prostitution related crime - Total*	0	0	-	-
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	15	19	1.64	89.47
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	20.8	21	1.82	61.9
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	7.4	4	0.35	25
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	3	5	0.43	20
Public indecency (common law)	2.4	3	0.26	66.67
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	30.6	37	3.2	40.54
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	5.8	3	0.26	66.67
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	14.6	16	1.39	37.5
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	-	-
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	99.6	108	9.35	52.78
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	1400	1350	116.87	26.89
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	83	66	5.71	15.15
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	46.8	51	4.42	11.76
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	78.4	49	4.24	24.49
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	208.2	166	14.37	16.87
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	39.6	23	1.99	8.7
Theft of a motor vehicle	61.6	50	4.33	60

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Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	59	46	3.98	13.04
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	5.2	8	0.69	25
Motor vehicle crime - Total	165.4	127	10.99	31.5
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	32.2	29	2.51	10.34
Common theft	422.4	387	33.5	19.12
Theft by shoplifting	292.8	289	25.02	53.98
Fraud	191.2	288	24.93	12.15
Other Group 3 Crimes	87.8	64	5.54	42.19
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	860.4	759	65.71	30.96
Fireraising	36.8	54	4.67	53.7
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	787.8	663	57.4	27
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	2	1	0.09	100
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	33.2	40	3.46	62.5
Other Group 4 Crimes	0.6	1	0.09	100
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	919.6	892	77.22	95.85
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	21.6	17	1.47	105.88
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	32.2	21	1.82	100
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	21	20	1.73	90
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	10.8	14	1.21	85.71
Total offensive/bladed weapons	85.6	72	6.23	95.83
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	11.2	6	0.52	83.33
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	48.8	62	5.37	80.65
Bringing drugs into prison	0	0	-	-
Supply of drugs - Total	60	68	5.89	80.88
Possession of drugs	422.6	401	34.72	100
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	3	0	-	-
Total drugs crimes	485.6	469	40.6	97.23
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0	1	0.09	100
Bail offences (other than absconding)	181.4	178	15.41	93.82
Other Group 5 crimes	167	172	14.89	94.19
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	2169.6	2314	200.33	69.71
Common Assault	810.6	1009	87.35	61.74
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	97.2	101	8.74	98.02
Common Assault - Total	907.8	1110	96.1	65.05
Breach of the Peace	56.4	13	1.13	100
Threatening & abusive behaviour	795.6	806	69.78	75.19
Stalking	26.2	23	1.99	69.57
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	878.2	842	72.89	75.42
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	19.4	10	0.87	100
Drunk and incapable	19.8	11	0.95	100
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	0	0	-	-
Other alcohol related offences*	10.2	5	0.43	100
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	30	16	1.39	100
Wildlife offences*	17.6	18	1.56	150

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Other Group 6 offences	316.6	318	27.53	63.84
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	1619	1771	153.32	85.88
Dangerous driving offences	46.6	47	4.07	87.23
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	96.4	114	9.87	100.88
Speeding offences	254.2	65	5.63	96.92
Driving while disqualified	17.6	10	0.87	90
Driving without a licence	117	59	5.11	94.92
Failure to insure against third party risks	278.2	189	16.36	101.59
Seat belt offences	23.8	24	2.08	100
Mobile phone offences	33.8	33	2.86	100
Driving Carelessly	165.2	196	16.97	87.24
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	46.6	362	31.34	96.96
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	199.4	235	20.34	100.43
Other Group 7 offences	340.2	437	37.83	52.63



**LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT
SCOTTISH BORDERS**



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Year to Date Report, 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness. The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.

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Introduction

The priorities contained within the Local Fire & Rescue Plan and our strategies for Service Delivery are clearly aligned to the Community Planning Structure, which supports the delivery of Community Planning Partnership priorities & activities in the Scottish Borders. The priorities in the Local Fire & Rescue Plan also contribute towards Scottish Government National Outcomes.

This report gives information on operational activity within the reporting period and the steps we will take, through our partnership prevention activity, to address any increase or trend identified.

The Scottish Borders is served by thirteen On Call (previously retained) stations & two wholetime stations, therefore the vast majority of the Firefighters within the Borders work the On Call duty system. Our On Call firefighters work tirelessly to protect their local & surrounding communities, often balancing responding to emergencies via a pager with their primary employment & family commitments.

An on going internal challenge, across Scotland and MELSB, is recruitment of On Call staff. This was identified early in LSO Sangster introduction to the area & identified as a top priority for Group & Station Commanders. To target this we created a local recruitment team, focussing our efforts where the need is greatest and this approach allowed us to recruit 21 new staff in the reporting period, a record for a twelve month period. Unfortunately this allowed staff who were considering retirement at stations to retire, as they were being replaced, so the impact of this work has been limited over the the reporting period. It is expected this retirement profile will ease and the continued effort will result in greater staffing levels.

In the last year we introduced the Bank Hours initiative, as discussed at previous committees. This initiative allows us to locate On Call volunteers to remote work locations. In the first twelve months of the Bank Hours initiative we have, in the Scottish Borders, created over 5500hrs of appliance availability, created extra income for staff & attended over 150 operational incidents that would not have been possible prior to the initiatives introduction. Both projects serve the purpose of increasing appliance availability across the LSO and Scottish Borders area.

The Borders has the support of three On Call Support Watch Commanders (OCSWC). The purpose of creating these post across Scotland, 54 in total, was to bring additional resource to support appliance availability, a more locally focussed recruitment campaign, support pre-employment engagement programme, which invites candidates into the station environment for up to 12 weeks prior to their selection tests. (This helps candidates to understand the role & the level of commitment required to become an on call firefighter)

Locally we have already seen performance improvements against KPIs such as gathering Operational Intelligence, supporting Community Safety events, recruitment campaigns, maintaining appliance availability and assisting in the delivery of training by the OCSWC cadre.

LSO Sangster campaigned for & supported the secondment of a Borders swift water rescue instructor to the MELSB local training team to support local and East Service Delivery Area (ESDA) wide water and flood training. The secondment allows us to plan and deliver training in the coming years and have successfully delivered flood training to Peebles and provide maintenance training to Galashiels, Hawick & Newcastleton On Call stations who are flood response trained.

Musselburgh, Lauder and Coldstream stations, identified as Wildfire Tier 2 and 3 stations, have received their wildfire PPE and the training delivery plan is to start soon. This will deliver a step change in how SFRS tackle wildfire focussing on prevention through partnership, reducing the impact on the environment, the public and staff across Scotland.

SFRS has launched a Strategic Service Review Programme. The purpose of the review is to identify how we need to change as a Service to achieve the outcomes set out in our Strategic Plan and our Operations Strategy, as well as resolving the financial challenges we face over the next four years. There are three workstreams - Corporate Services, Service Delivery and Asset Management. In relation to Service Delivery for year one it has been agreed the temporary removal of ten appliances from across Scotland (Scottish Borders not affected), reduction of height appliances across Scotland from 26 to 16 and dual crewing for fire and water rescue at Polmadie Station, Glasgow.

From 1 July 2023, we will stop attending automatic fire alarm (AFA) call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities - unless a fire has been confirmed. Dutyholders with responsibility for workplace premises should safely investigate a fire alarm before calling 999, as our control room operators will now be asking for confirmation of an actual fire, or signs of fire, before sending the nearest resource. This change does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings who will continue to get an emergency response.

This follows the SFRS public consultation in 2021 and is estimated to greatly reduce unnecessary call outs in order to free up our firefighters to attend real emergencies and to allow them to do more community safety prevention work.

Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 7 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Mar					RAG rating
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	YTD
All accidental dwelling fires	92	96	77	75	70	●
All accidental dwelling fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	16	23	13	12	16	◆
All deliberate fires	149	134	127	98	117	◆
Non domestic fires	42	41	41	39	40	▲
Special Service - RTC casualties	61	49	24	48	38	●
Special Service - Non RTC casualties	41	45	28	38	42	◆
False Alarm - UFAs	521	458	448	518	538	●

RAG rating - KEY

◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

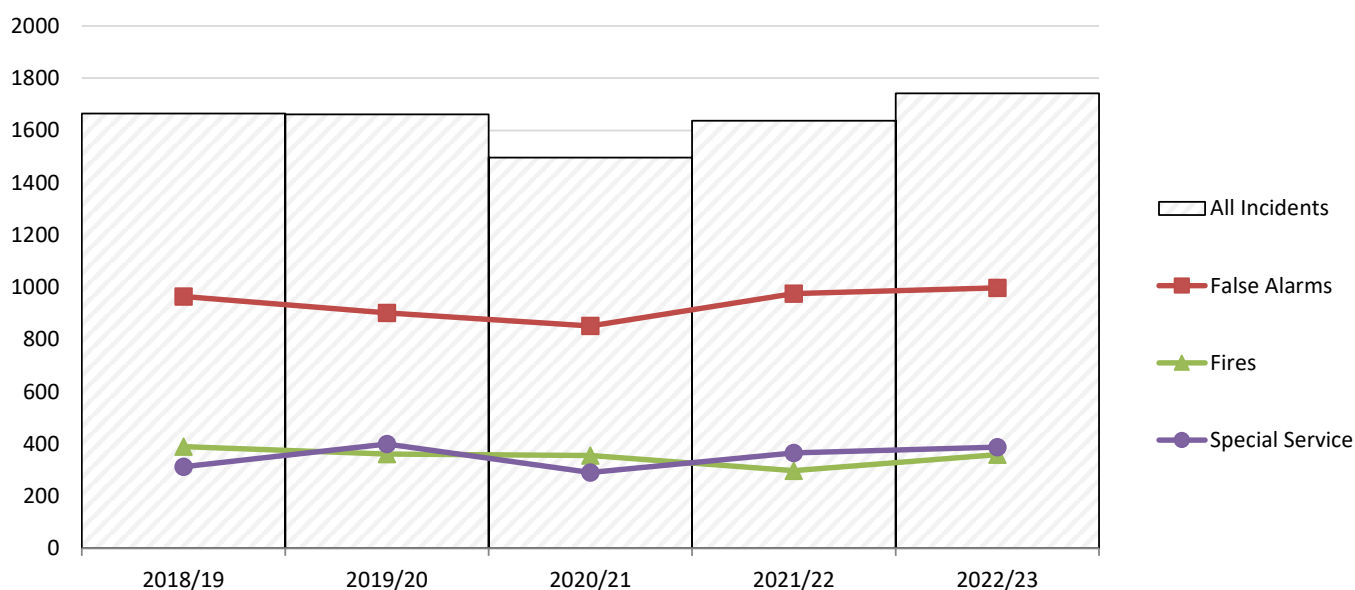
Note

0

Incident Overview

During the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 SFRS responded to 1749 incidents in the Scottish Borders. This included 70 accidental dwelling fires, 241 accidental fires and 390 special service incidents. False alarms accounted for 58% of our emergency calls. The change to UFAS response will drive down the number of false alarm that crews attend and create time and opportunity for more training and community safety initiatives.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within Scottish Borders council over the last 5 fiscal years



<p>Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities</p>
<p>Local Risk Management and Preparedness</p>
<p>The service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.</p> <p>We said we would;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train our staff to deal with our local risks • Gather and analyse risk information • Work with partners to mitigate risk • Deal with major events
<p><u>Train our staff to deal with our local risks</u></p>
<p>Our Operational staff continue to undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training. During 2022/23 all firefighters in the Scottish Borders will participate in the Training for Operational Competence programme. Core skills including pumps, ladders, breathing apparatus, RTC and incident command continue to be practiced and assessed on a monthly basis. This combined with basic training for new recruits working towards red, amber and green assessments means our staff continually refresh skills and learn new techniques. To support On Call stations and Mgmt teams each ssstation has a dedicated training aofficer and wholetime watch at Galashiels and Hawick are responsible for planning and delivering quarterly exercises for an identified On Call station.</p>
<p><u>Gather and analyse risk information</u></p>
<p>Our Operational staff continue to gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence (OI) which is used in our preparations to resolve incidents. At the current time we hold over 250 OI documents on premises within the LSO area. We conduct post incident debriefs using a structured debrief process to identify any lessons that can be learned to enhance our preparedness and response to any incident.</p>
<p><u>Work with partners to mitigate risks</u></p>
<p>We continue to be an active member of the Lothian & Borders Local Resilience partnership. We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders to ensure any issues highlighted by operational crews during incidents or HFSV are passed to the appropriate partner agency for joint action with our Community Action Team. We are an active CPP partner working with colleagues on the new Action Plan. We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders to ensure emergency risks are mitigated and that known events are planned and managed in a collaborative approach.</p>
<p><u>Deal with major events</u></p>
<p>During the reporting period no major events were declared. We continue to be an active member of the emergency planning process, Safety Advisory Group (SAG), Scottish Borders Resilience Group etc for up coming major events such as Jim Clark rally and the UCI cycling event at Glentress. This work helps to build relationships so that when we respond to emergencies we work in a familiar practiced collaborative manner to ensure the safe effective conclusion of any incident with partners.</p>

Reduction of 'All accidental dwelling fires'

Dwelling fires can have devastating effects on our communities. The reduction of dwelling fires, accidental or deliberate, continues to be a priority for the SFRS in the Scottish Borders. We adopt a targeted approach whilst sharing information with partners in order to drive down the risk of fire within our local communities with an emphasis on those who are particularly vulnerable through age, isolation or addiction.

Results

SFRS has set a national target of 10% reduction, over a three-year rolling period. There have been 70 dwelling fires recorded compared to 75 for the same period last year. It is pleasing to see this figure decrease year on year, from a high of 96. I am pleased to report there were only 5 deliberate dwelling fire, this figure is static but we continue to work to drive this figure down.

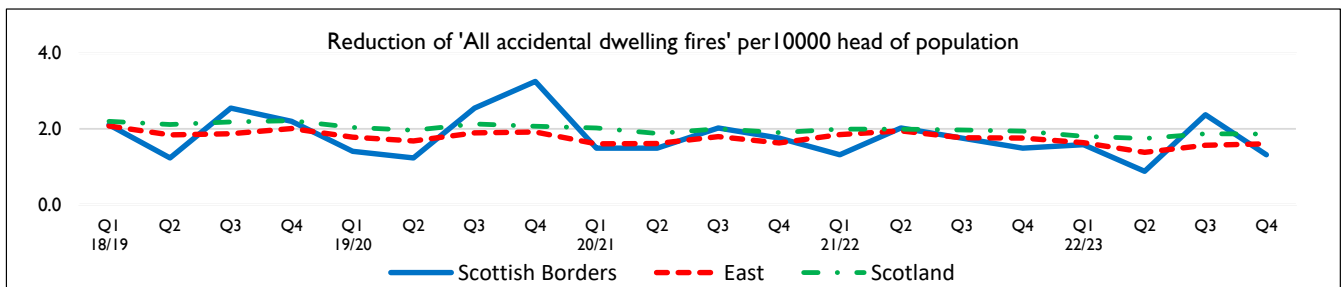
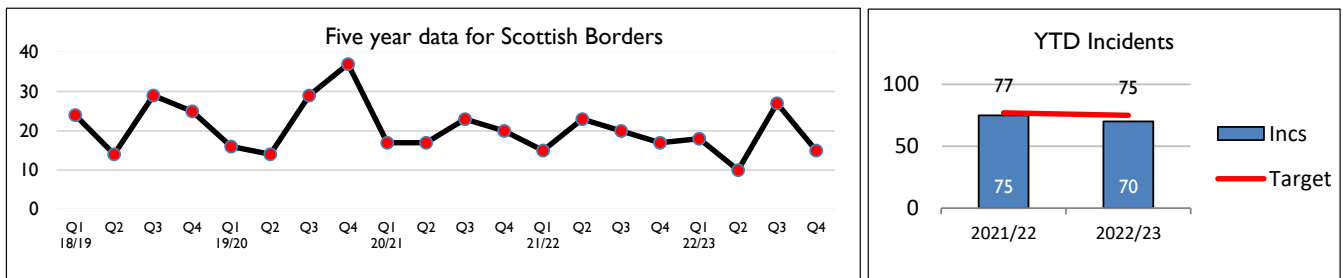
Reasons

Cooking appliances accounted for 27 of these dwelling fires with 5 due to negligent use of equipment and 2 partitionable to faulty fuel supplies. Analysis highlights 30 of these incidents involved adults 18 to 64 years old and 24 in 65+ age group. This proves that our a targeted approach to drive down the risk of fire, with an emphasis on those who are particularly vulnerable through age and isolation is correct.

Actions

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) conduct Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) following all domestic fires. Evidence proves that the home owner, and surrounding neighbours, are more likely to accept fire safety guidance and advice when an event occurs within their local area.

We work closely with partners to identify persons at risk from fire, this often requires cross agency or joint home safety visits organised and completed by our Community Action Teams and partners.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 6	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	92	96	77	75	70	
Tweeddale West	7	8	6	4	8	
Tweeddale East	3	7	5	3	3	
Galashiels & District	10	18	22	7	12	
Selkirkshire	9	10	9	10	4	
Leaderdale & Melrose	10	6	4	5	8	
Mid Berwickshire	13	12	3	8	9	
East Berwickshire	9	7	6	10	4	
Kelso & District	13	6	4	9	9	
Jedburgh & District	6	5	5	3	5	
Hawick & Denholm	6	11	3	9	3	
Hawick & Hermitage	6	11	10	7	5	

Reduction of 'All accidental dwelling fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities but also their success in operational response activity in saving life.

Results

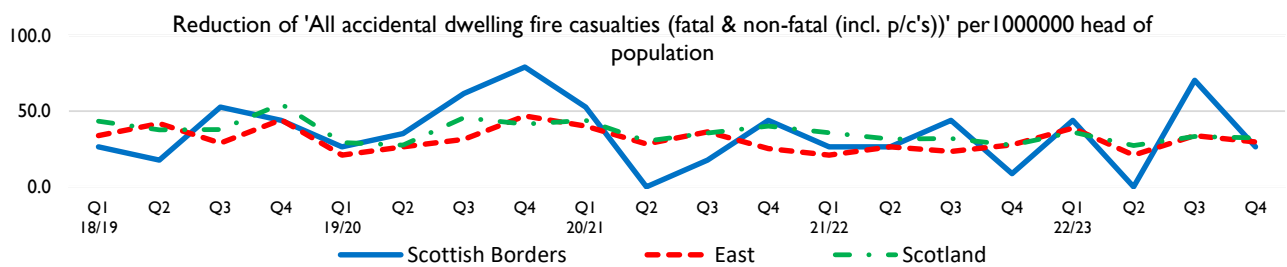
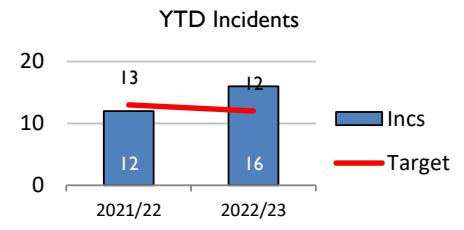
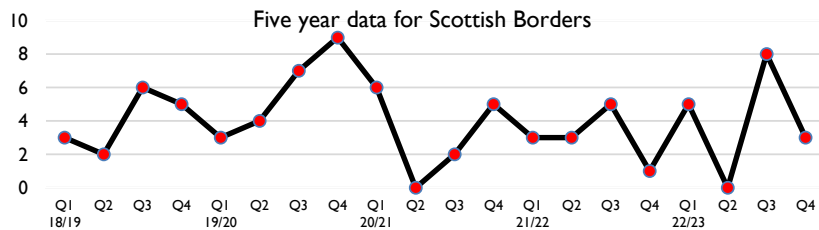
We aim to reduce fire casualties in the Scottish Borders year on year with a SFRS target of reducing fire casualties by 5% per year over a three-year rolling period. There has been 16 casualty in the reporting period to date, an increase from last year's report of 12 in the same period.

Reasons

In the last 12 months 1 person lost their life, 4 went to hospital with injuries that appeared slight. 3 people required a precautionary check from Scottish Ambulance Service and 8 received first aid from SFRS staff on scene.

Actions

SFRS carry out seasonal thematic action plans with the purpose of warning and educating the public regarding dangers, risk and safety measures. Where trends or patterns are identified SFRS will work with community partners to mitigate the risk of reoccurrence. Where necessary SFRS offer and provide a one to one service for young fire setters.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - I	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	16	23	13	12	16	
Tweeddale West	1	3	2	0	0	
Tweeddale East	0	0	1	0	1	
Galashiels & District	1	4	3	5	0	
Selkirkshire	1	3	2	0	1	
Leaderdale & Melrose	2	0	2	1	4	
Mid Berwickshire	3	3	0	0	1	
East Berwickshire	2	0	0	0	1	
Kelso & District	4	2	0	3	5	
Jedburgh & District	2	5	1	1	1	
Hawick & Denholm	0	0	0	1	0	
Hawick & Hermitage	0	3	2	1	2	

Reduction of 'All deliberate fires'

Reduction of deliberate fire setting continues to be a priority for SFRS in the Scottish Borders. Deliberate fires of this nature typically involve grassland, refuse or derelict buildings. With the impact of Climate Change already being apparent its important we educate people on the risk and environmental impact of grass and wildfire, which is evident across the Country this year. Evidence shows that there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and anti-social behaviour as well as the climate.

Results

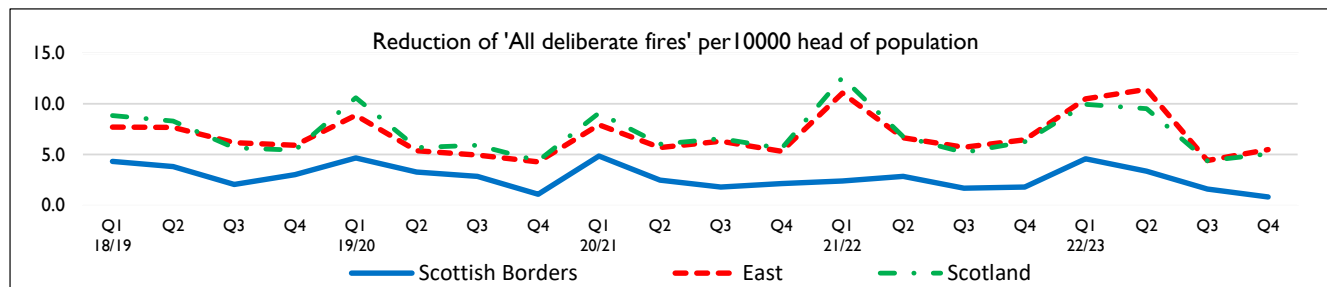
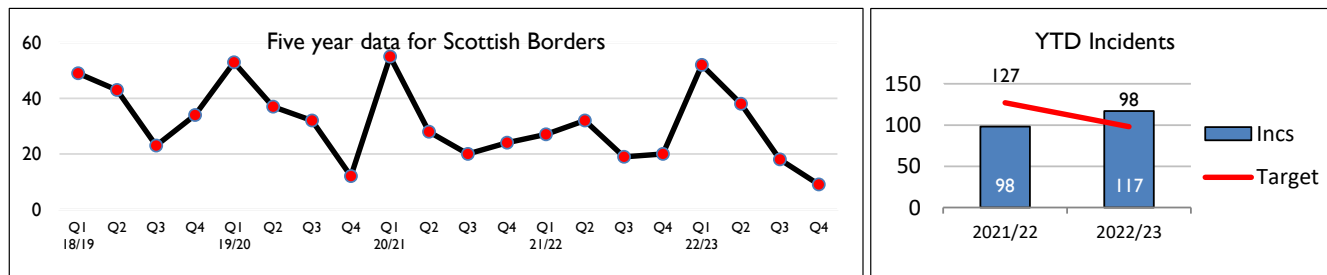
There have been 117 incidents of this nature in the reporting period, an increase from last year, but below average with previous years before Covid and associated lockdowns.

Reasons

Secondary fires involving refuse and grass accounted for 58% of all deliberate fires. There are no trends or specific areas to identify other than small clusters in short time periods that we work with partners to address and resolve.

Actions

SFRS carry out seasonal thematic action plans with the purpose of warning and educating the public regarding dangers, risk and safety measures. To address the risk of climate change SFRS have identified MELSB to support their Wildfire Strategy. Coldstream and Lauder stations will become Tier 2 Wildfire stations, supporting Musselburgh which will be a Tier 3 station. This will bring greater skill, knowledge, equipment and partnership working to our area to enhance our future prevention and response to these types of fire. The strategy should be fully embedded and operational within three years.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 11	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	149	134	127	98	117	
Tweeddale West	9	9	13	9	12	
Tweeddale East	14	9	11	6	5	
Galashiels & District	35	20	21	7	14	
Selkirkshire	8	7	4	8	9	
Leaderdale & Melrose	8	10	8	3	10	
Mid Berwickshire	8	15	9	9	7	
East Berwickshire	17	11	7	11	13	
Kelso & District	19	7	12	7	2	
Jedburgh & District	6	7	3	10	11	
Hawick & Denholm	19	11	24	16	26	
Hawick & Hermitage	10	8	15	12	8	

Reduction of 'Non domestic fires'

In the Borders non domestic fires typically involve agricultural, industrial, educational etc buildings. Evidence shows that there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and anti-social behaviour as well as non domestic fires.

Results

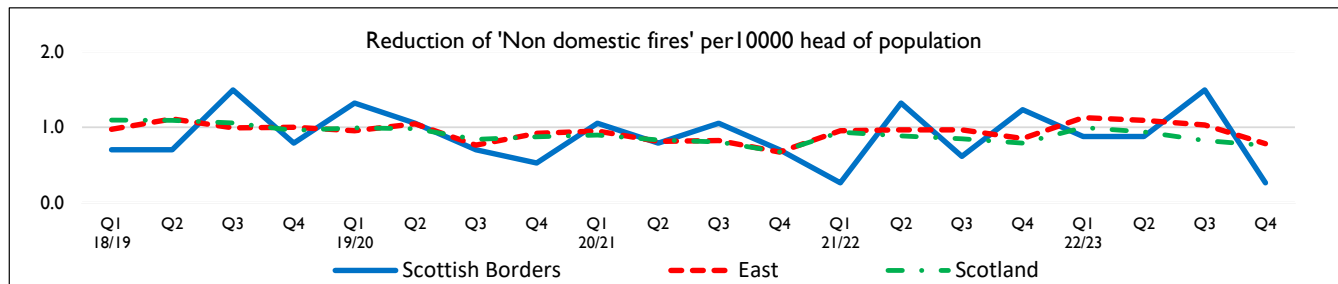
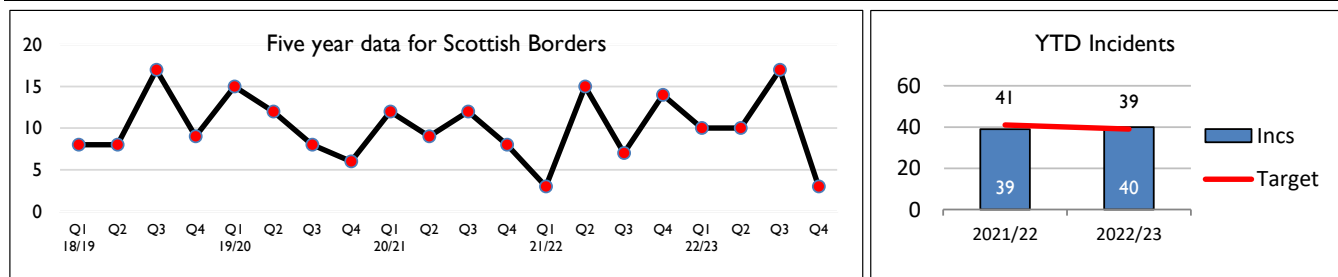
There have been 40 incidents of this nature in the reporting period, a small increase from last year, but average with previous years before Covid and associated lockdowns.

Reasons

The vast majority of these incidents, 28, were accidental with 12 caused by adults. 9 were caused by equipment overheating, 8 were deliberate, 4 were due faulty fuel supplies and 1 was negligent use of equipment.

Actions

SFRS carry out Post Fire Audits of any premises that has a fire that falls under the Fire Scotland Act. Our fire safety protection officers (FSPO) work with duty holders to ensure compliance with all regulations, to educate on their responsibilities and to support businesses growth and continuity.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 4	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	42	41	41	39	40	
Tweeddale West	1	3	5	6	6	
Tweeddale East	4	3	0	4	3	
Galashiels & District	9	2	7	8	2	
Selkirkshire	2	3	7	3	3	
Leaderdale & Melrose	3	7	2	0	3	
Mid Berwickshire	3	6	5	4	1	
East Berwickshire	3	3	2	3	5	
Kelso & District	8	5	5	1	3	
Jedburgh & District	7	6	4	4	6	
Hawick & Denholm	1	3	1	4	6	
Hawick & Hermitage	1	0	3	2	2	

Reduction of 'Special Service - RTC casualties'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, education and intervention is a key part in our Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) activity as well as an operational response. SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stake holders in order to reduce the amount of RTCs, and therefore casualties, that occur in the Scottish Borders.

Results

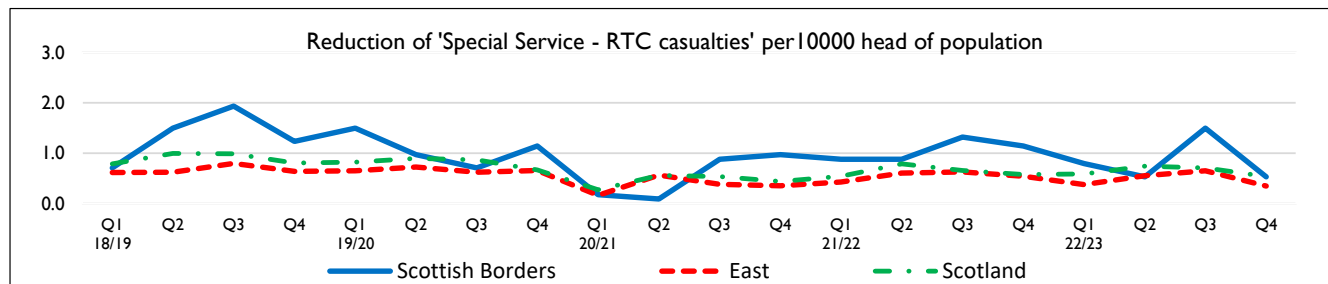
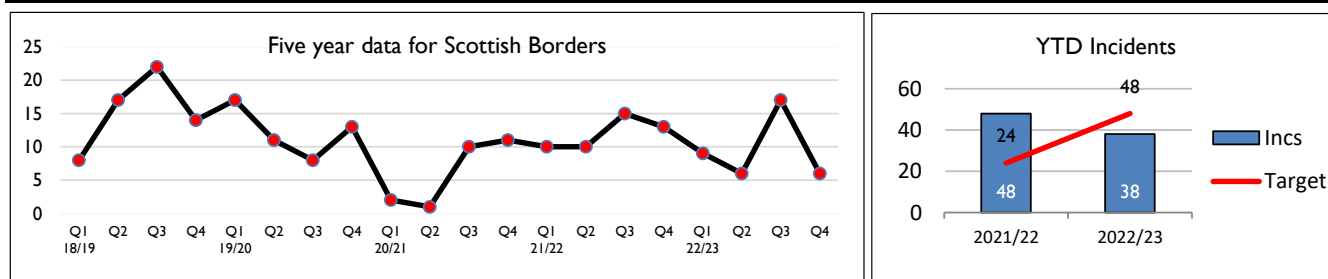
SFRS attended 78 RTC's in the reporting period with the vast majority, 67, involving cars. SFRS took operational action on 21 occasions to rescue casualties. In this period 40 people were injured and tragically 8 people lost their lives.

Reasons

Police Scotland are responsible for determining the cause of RTC's however, SFRS significant role to play in preventing RTC's. SFRS respond to RTC's whenever it is confirmed persons are within the vehicle, regardless if they are trapped or not. This means that although we are mobilised in many instances only limited intervention is required on most occasions.

Actions

CAT members and operational crews participate regularly in partnership initiatives that target high risk groups with the specific aim of highlighting the potential severity and far reaching consequences of RTC's. Within MELSB we have focussed Scottish Borders stations on water and road safety campaigns throughout the spring, summer and autumn as this is a recognised known risk within the local area.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 3	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	61	49	24	48	38	
Tweeddale West	8	5	1	7	1	
Tweeddale East	4	6	2	1	0	
Galashiels & District	7	6	2	9	5	
Selkirkshire	3	0	2	3	3	
Leaderdale & Melrose	5	4	6	10	8	
Mid Berwickshire	13	2	5	3	0	
East Berwickshire	5	7	2	3	7	
Kelso & District	0	7	1	2	3	
Jedburgh & District	8	7	2	8	6	
Hawick & Denholm	4	4	0	1	3	
Hawick & Hermitage	4	1	1	1	2	

Reduction of 'Special Service - Non RTC casualties'

The figures within the table pertain to all non-fire and RTC related casualties and represent the diverse nature of incidents SFRS attend in the Scottish Borders other than fire related or UFAS. As the traditional role of the fire and rescue service evolves and expands, SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders in order to reduce the number of casualties from events such as flooding, bariatric and medical emergencies.

Results

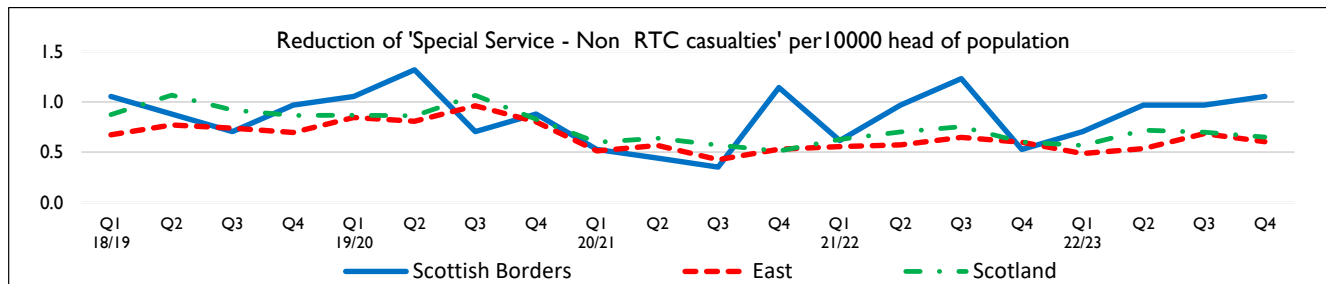
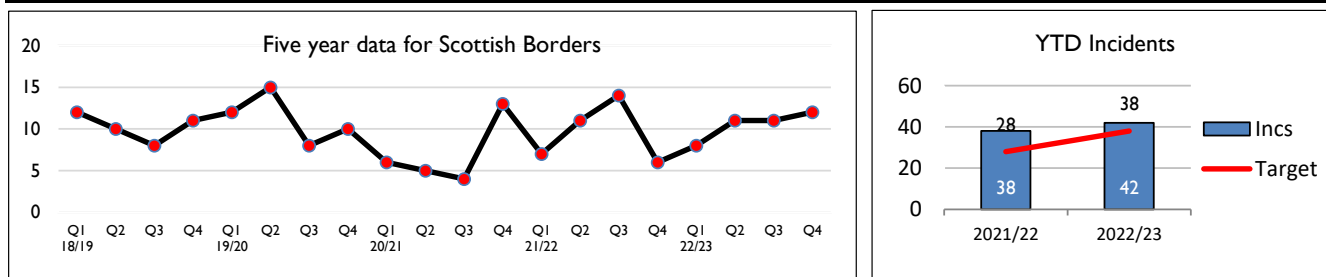
There have been 390 special service incidents during the reporting period, 312 were not RTC related. 95 of these incidents involved SFRS forcing entry for partner agencies, where the vast majority of people were treated on scene by SAS. We assisted other agencies on 39 occasions, attended 9 medical incidents as closest blue light service and attended 6 attempted suicide where fortunately no injuries occurred.

Reasons

The amount of "non-traditional" incidents SFRS mobilise to has increased markedly over the last few years. These include assisting our colleagues in Police Scotland, and primarily Scottish Ambulance Service, with effecting entry for emergency medical response and persons who have fallen in the home. This reporting period SFRS attended 95 effecting entry incidents in the Scottish Borders. Traditional special service response includes suicide attempt at height (6), flooding (65), hazardous material response (8) and rescues from height.

Actions

CAT members and operational crews participate regularly in partnership initiatives that target high risk groups with the specific aim of highlighting the potential severity and far reaching consequences of RTC's. SFRS crews provide, on request, CPR and defibrillator training to local communities. By training local communities in CPR those suffering an out of hospital cardiac arrest have a better chance of survival due to early intervention. Within MELSB we have focussed Scottish Borders stations on water and road safety campaigns throughout the spring, summer and in to autumn, as this is known to be a risk within the local area.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 4	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	41	45	28	38	42	
Tweeddale West	3	3	1	0	3	
Tweeddale East	2	0	1	1	5	
Galashiels & District	6	6	7	2	4	
Selkirkshire	4	6	1	6	4	
Leaderdale & Melrose	5	0	0	3	1	
Mid Berwickshire	1	4	4	5	7	
East Berwickshire	1	3	2	4	2	
Kelso & District	7	4	4	3	2	
Jedburgh & District	4	7	3	4	4	
Hawick & Denholm	Page 53	4	3	4	5	
Hawick & Hermitage	1	8	2	6	5	

Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAs'

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that fire alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency. The SFRS are committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce UFAS. Planned for July 1st 2023 SFRS will introduce new procedures and mobilisation to UFAS which will reduce the burden on crews and create capacity for community safety and training opportunities.

Results

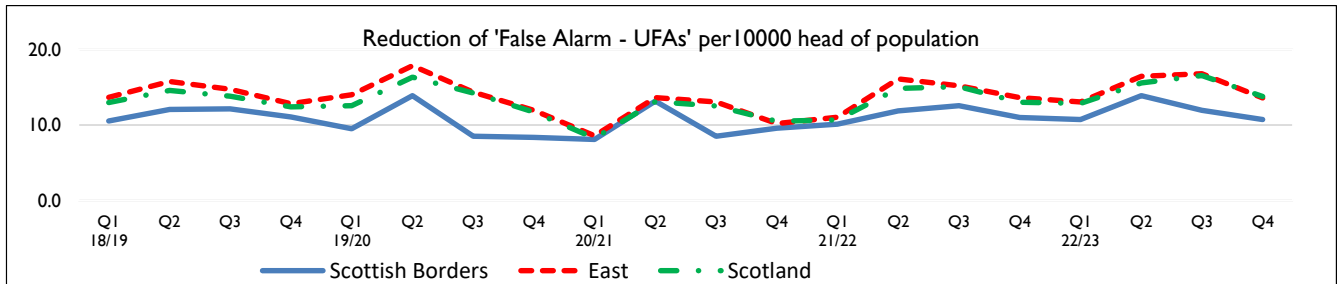
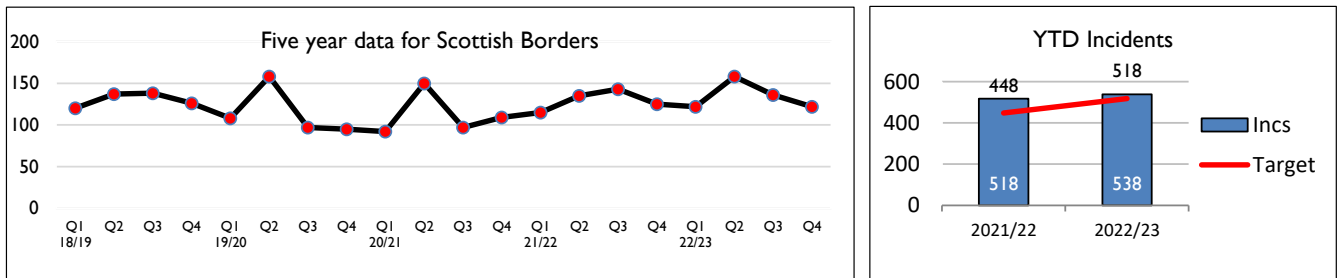
There have been 538 fire calls that were classed as UFAS in the Scottish Borders during the reporting period. On average SFRS send nine firefighters and two fire appliances to every UFAS call out. It takes around 15 minutes for firefighters to investigate the cause, from the appliance leaving the station to the cause of the alarm being identified. This means every year SFRS lose over 64,000 productive hours. To put this in to context, that's the equivalent cost of £3.5 million. This causes significant disruption to our training, fire safety and community safety work but crucially, while firefighters are investigating the cause of the alarm, they cannot attend real emergencies.

Reasons

128 UFAS were caused by faulty equipment and 42 caused by apparatus. 53 of these calls were caused by staff testing the alarm, these could have been prevented by staff knowing their own procedure and practices within their workplace. 108 occurred in education establishments, 30 in medical establishments and 25 in care homes.

Actions

We continue to proactively monitor UFAS activity and our Fire Safety Protection Officers (FSPO) work closely with identified premises to reduce the instance of these events. This work includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions to prevent future UFAS. Although our response to UFAS will change in July 2023 our FSPO staff will continue to support, advise and educate duty holders on their responsibilities.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 49	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	521	458	448	518	538	
Tweeddale West	57	62	66	54	98	
Tweeddale East	42	26	23	28	27	
Galashiels & District	73	58	63	100	79	
Selkirkshire	50	44	38	45	37	
Leaderdale & Melrose	69	62	60	101	87	
Mid Berwickshire	42	30	21	38	25	
East Berwickshire	24	23	31	34	32	
Kelso & District	56	39	58	32	52	
Jedburgh & District	29	29	26	26	27	
Hawick & Denholm	44	42	45	40	25	
Hawick & Hermitage	35	43	17	20	49	

Scottish Borders Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 4: 1st January – 31st March 2023

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is the enforcing authority for the Fire Scotland Act 2005 and Fire Safety Regulations 2006. The act applies to specific non-domestic premises and requires duty holders to comply with relevant aspects of the Act and Regulations. SFRS responsibilities as the enforcing authority are captured within an Enforcement Framework. The Framework identifies and assigns priority to premises type with those premises deemed as higher risk given priority for auditing purposes. Premise providing sleeping accommodation such as hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels receive an annual audit. Other premises that are subject to audit but deemed lower risk will be visited every three or five years. Within Scottish Borders we have two (2) Officers who plan and carry out these duties. The Officers are also available to provide Fire Safety advice, consulting with partners such as Local Authority Building control functions and the wider public with Fire Scotland Act 2005 responsibilities.

SC BORDERS AUDITS 22/23	JANUARY- MARCH	YTD
	60	161

Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households to provide fire safety advice and smoke alarms, the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. Requests for HFSVs are generated in several ways, including self-referral, SFRS partners referring and visits carried out after SFRS have attended a domestic fire incident. This is known as Post Domestic Incident Response (**PDIR**), offering a HFSV to the properties and occupants impacted directly by the fire and the wider neighbourhood area.

When a HFSV is generated, the risk within the property is calculated by asking the occupant a number of specific questions. The outcome will be either, High, Medium or Low risk. This outcome determines priority in relation to carrying out the visit and the frequency for future re-visits. The table below highlights the number of visits carried out in Scottish Borders for this reporting period.

SCOTTISH BORDERS	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTALS	YTD
Ward					
East Berwickshire	4	2	0	6	37
Galashiels & District	16	4	8	28	147
Hawick & Denholm	6	8	4	18	100
Hawick & Hermitage	10	21	16	47	183
Jedburgh & District	9	10	6	25	70
Kelso & District	11	2	3	16	48
Leaderdale & Melrose	4	9	6	19	74
Mid Berwickshire	7	3	2	12	36
Selkirkshire	4	7	5	16	45
Tweeddale East	10	11	10	31	72
Tweeddale West	10	3	0	13	45
TOTALS	30	84	94	229	857

Home Fire Safety Referrals

The table below details how HFSVs were generated.

	Q4	YTD
Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR)	60	
Berwickshire Housing	2	
Waverley Housing	7	
DAAS	8	
MARAC	1	
NHS	1	
Self-referral	83	
SB Cares	2	
SB Social Care	17	
Total	181	556

Partnership Working/Youth Engagement

We recently delivered a Youth Engagement Fireskills course at Peebles Fire Station. Twelve (12) pupils from Peebles High School attended. This was very successful with positive feedback gained from participants and Teachers from the School. Topics covered included, Water Safety, Fire related anti-social behaviour, CPR and practical skills sessions.

Our activities in relation to Water and Road Safety continue with Partner support. As we approach warmer weather, more focus will be given to risk of associated with water, with the Community Action Team (CAT) planning the delivery of talks to Schools and other groups across the Scottish Borders.

Safeguarding

During this period our teams continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support. Partner agencies have also requested a number of Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits through Police concern reports or direct requests from social services. We continue to support partner agencies with Fire risk reduction and referral pathway training.

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Our Local Community Action Team have also been involved with delivery and promotion of the following initiatives during the reporting period;

- Safety at Home
- Cooking Safety
- Fire & Alcohol
- Grass & Wildland Fires

The Local CAT attends various multi-agency forums within Scottish Borders. This includes Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC).

Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

As reported previously, SFRS introduce changes to the way we respond to the above incident type from 1st July 2023. Full information can be accessed using the link below.



[Scottish Fire & Rescue Service: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals \(UFAS\) \(firescotland.gov.uk\)](https://firescotland.gov.uk)



Quarterly Performance Report

May 2023

Period Covered: 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

“Making the Scottish Borders a safer place to live, work and visit”

Key: Green – Performance Improved, Amber – Performance Reduced < 15%, Red – Performance Reduced >15

Strategic Priority – Through effective partnership working fewer people experience antisocial behaviour (ASB)

Performance Context

In 2022/23 to date there has been a decrease in group 1-5 crime of 6.6% when compared to 2021/22. This represents 244 fewer victims, which is positive.

In 2022/23 to date there has been a decrease in antisocial behaviour incidents of 16.1% when compared to 2021/22 for the same time period which is encouraging.

In 2022/23 to date there has been a 42.9% decrease in people being monitored for antisocial behaviour, which is good news. The number of early interventions undertaken by ASB partners decreased by 11.6% when compared to 2021/22 for the same time period.

The new mediation service is in place and performance reporting commenced from quarter 1 of 2022/23. Early signs are positive for the service. Data gathering for the mediation service for 2022/23 has been used to establish a performance baseline from which targets can be set for 2023/24 onwards.

Key Successes

All ASB/Mediation Data has now been migrated onto the new MOSAIC database system and this has generated wider communication about clients with keyworkers that are involved from Social Work. This is a Positive step that was not foreseen.

Key Issues

There is still some work required to develop the reporting mechanism for the ASBU within MOSAIC, this work continues with regular updates still ongoing. Archiving data from the old database will take a considerable effort by the team but the goal is to have it completed by the end of the year.

Key Activities

Developing the report mechanism within MOSAIC and archiving data and continuing to develop and tweak the new database as issues arise.

Strategic Priority – Through effective partnership working fewer adults and children experience Gender Based Violence

Performance Context

The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to Police Scotland in 2022/23 was 1231. This is 50 incidents (3.9%) lower than 2021/22.

The number of referrals to Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) service in 2022/23 was 392. This is 70 referrals (15.2%) lower than 2021/22. Repeat referrals to the DAAS service in 2022/23 were 31.9%, slightly higher than the target of 30% but improved upon 2021/22. The number of clients contacted within agreed timescales was significantly higher than the 80% baseline and stands at 96.4%.

Key Successes

DAAS will undergo the Leading Lights re-assessment on 2nd August 2023, with another case file audit of cases from April to July and a review of refreshed/new policies on Clinical Supervision, Case Reviews, Screening and MARAC file management.

There is a need for DAAS to ensure it undertakes continuous development and a Stakeholder Survey is being developed for launch in late June to ensure that DAAS has feedback from referring agencies and can work to maintain a proactive, effective service in Scottish Borders.

The database provider has agreed to develop a MARAC function for the DAAS database which will increase the level of case management and reporting for all MARAC cases. DAAS maintain the lead on managing MARAC in Scottish Borders. The MARAC Annual Report 2022/23 is now available and can be shared with members of the Scrutiny Board.

DAAS are now working from the Public Protection Unit in Langlee.

Key Issues

There is a significant increase in the number of clients who need face to face support, which means IDAAs are required to travel and spend increased time in risk assessing and safety planning with more complex cases.

Domestic Abuse awareness raising activity is planned for the next three months, working with partner agencies e.g. Police Scotland to support communities to “reach in” and feel more confident in reporting and knowing what to do if they have a concern.

Key Activities

DAAS are developing a toolkit to support partner agencies to work with clients with learning difficulties who are experiencing domestic abuse. There is a nationally available tool and DAAS are working to localise the context.

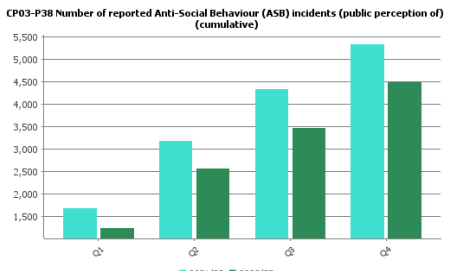


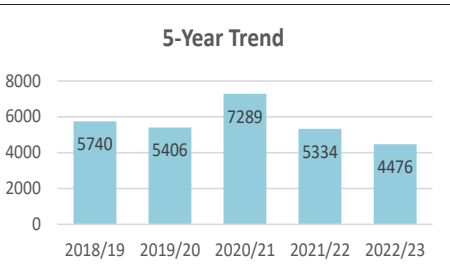
DAAS are supporting engagement with local businesses and will attend the Wellbeing Week with Farne Salmon as part of Police Scotland’s Domestic Abuse awareness raising activity.

Training and workforce development is a key part of the DAAS activity. Sessions are planned on risk assessment, domestic abuse awareness for Health Visitors, Addiction services. This enables DAAS to support effective referral pathways.

CEDAR has concluded the first group of 2023, and the feedback from mothers and children has been overwhelmingly positive. Further groups are planned for Sept to Dec 2023, and there has been an increase in the number of people being trained as volunteer co-facilitators.

Safer Communities Team

Traffic Light: Red 2 Amber 3 Green 8 Data Only 5

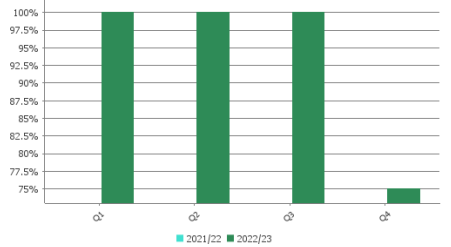


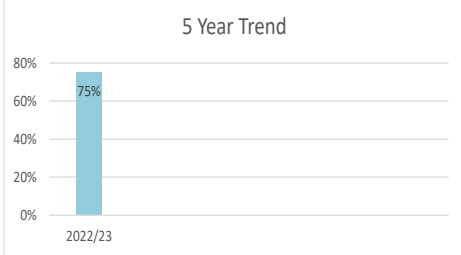
PI Short Name	Performance Data Trend Chart	Traffic Light Icon	Long Term Trend	Current Value	Current Target	Notes & History Note	5 Year Trend																											
<p>Number of reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents (public perception of) (cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P38 Number of reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents (public perception of) (cumulative)</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P38 Number of reported Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents (public perception of) (cumulative)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>~1,600</td> <td>~1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>~3,200</td> <td>~2,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>~4,300</td> <td>~3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>~5,300</td> <td>~4,500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	2021/22	2022/23	1	~1,600	~1,000	2	~3,200	~2,600	3	~4,300	~3,500	4	~5,300	~4,500			<p>4,476</p>	<p>5,337</p>	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>A 16.1% decrease in incidents in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22. This equates to 861 fewer incidents recorded.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The decrease in reported ASB incidents in 2022/23 is positive.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>Through a multi-agency partnership we continue to intervene at the earliest opportunity to reports of antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>The Police Scotland Community Action Teams (CAT), which are funded by Scottish Borders Council, respond to community issues regarding antisocial behaviour with significant success.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Incidents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>5740</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>5406</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>7289</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>5334</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>4476</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Incidents	2018/19	5740	2019/20	5406	2020/21	7289	2021/22	5334	2022/23	4476
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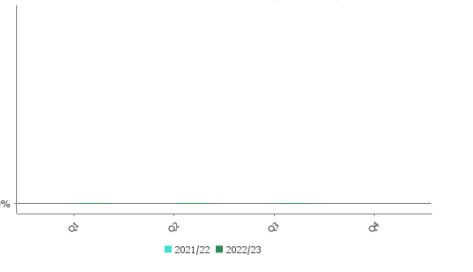


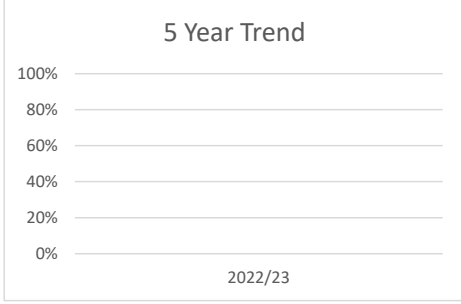
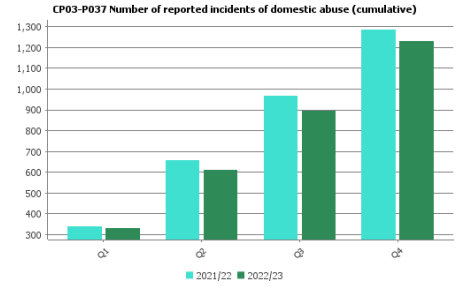


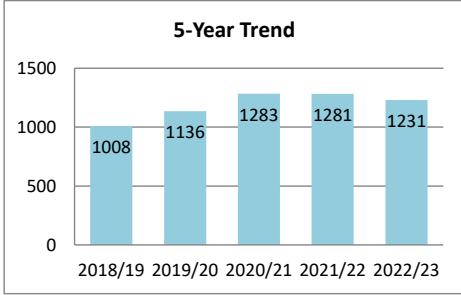
PI Short Name	Performance Data Trend Chart	Traffic Light Icon	Long Term Trend	Current Value	Current Target	Notes & History Note	5 Year Trend																														
Number of Group 1-5 recorded crimes and offences (cumulative)	<p>CP03-P039 Number of Group 1-5 recorded crimes and offences (cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>~1,100</td> <td>~1,050</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>~2,000</td> <td>~1,850</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>~2,800</td> <td>~2,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>~3,600</td> <td>~3,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>3,429</td> <td>3,673</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22	2022/23	2018/19	~1,100	~1,050	2019/20	~2,000	~1,850	2020/21	~2,800	~2,600	2021/22	~3,600	~3,400	2022/23	3,429	3,673			3,429	3,673	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>A 6.6% decrease in group 1-5 crimes in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22, which equates to 244 fewer victims.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The reduction in group 1-5 crimes is positive news.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>The levels of crimes and antisocial behaviour incidents are constantly monitored Police Scotland and partner agencies intervene early to address issues identified.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>3704</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>3516</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>3467</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>3673</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>3429</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value	2018/19	3704	2019/20	3516	2020/21	3467	2021/22	3673	2022/23	3429
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The number of new cases accepted at the Antisocial Behaviour Core Group by partners (Cumulative)	<p>CP03-P177 The number of new cases accepted at the Antisocial Behaviour Core Group by partners (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>~55</td> <td>~45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>~115</td> <td>~85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>~145</td> <td>~115</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>~175</td> <td>~135</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>127</td> <td>170</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22	2022/23	2018/19	~55	~45	2019/20	~115	~85	2020/21	~145	~115	2021/22	~175	~135	2022/23	127	170			127	170	<p>Where we are Currently</p> <p>The number of new cases accepted at the antisocial behaviour core group in 2022/23 is 127. This is 43 cases (25.3%) lower than 2021/22.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The number of new antisocial behaviour cases has decreased from 2021/22 levels, which is positive.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>The Antisocial Behaviour Unit are reviewing formal warning formats to further increase effectiveness.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>167</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>107</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>181</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>127</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value	2018/19	167	2019/20	107	2020/21	181	2021/22	170	2022/23	127
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The number of monitoring cases closed (Cumulative)	<p>CP03-P179 The number of monitoring cases closed (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P179 Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>60</td> <td>35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>125</td> <td>65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>165</td> <td>105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>210</td> <td>115</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	2021/22	2022/23	1	60	35	2	125	65	3	165	105	4	210	115			120	210	<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>90 fewer monitoring cases closed in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22, which equates to a 42.9% decrease.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>Fewer cases being opened means there are fewer cases to close so it would be expected that the number of closures would be lower.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>The antisocial behaviour unit are reviewing the interventions format to hopefully further improve case closures. It will be achieved by rewording formal letters to make it clearer what the consequences could be for non-engagement.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>168</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>149</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>169</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>120</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value	2018/19	168	2019/20	149	2020/21	169	2021/22	210	2022/23	120
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Number of early Interventions made by ASB Partners (cumulative)	<p>CP03-P118 Number of early Interventions made by ASB Partners (cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P118 Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>200</td> <td>220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>450</td> <td>380</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>550</td> <td>500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>850</td> <td>750</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	2021/22	2022/23	1	200	220	2	450	380	3	550	500	4	850	750			734	830	<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>A decrease of 96 interventions in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22, which equates to an 11.6% decrease.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>Early intervention is key and it continues to be the focus throughout the partnership.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>Efforts are being made to increase capacity to mediate in cases, a key early intervention.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>899</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>804</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>898</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>830</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>734</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value	2018/19	899	2019/20	804	2020/21	898	2021/22	830	2022/23	734
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Number of persons being monitored for antisocial behaviour (cumulative)	<p>CP03-P119 Number of persons being monitored for antisocial behaviour (cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>500</td> <td>300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>950</td> <td>700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>1200</td> <td>950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>1550</td> <td>1250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>1271</td> <td>1271</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22	2022/23	2018/19	500	300	2019/20	950	700	2020/21	1200	950	2021/22	1550	1250	2022/23	1271	1271			1,271	1,620	<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>349 fewer people monitored for antisocial behaviour in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22, which equates to a 21.5% decrease, which is positive.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The decrease in persons being monitored is a further indication of the increase in and success of early interventions.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>We are continuously looking at what other agencies do or what diversions can be implemented.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>1561</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>1636</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>1645</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>1620</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>1271</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Value	2018/19	1561	2019/20	1636	2020/21	1645	2021/22	1620	2022/23	1271
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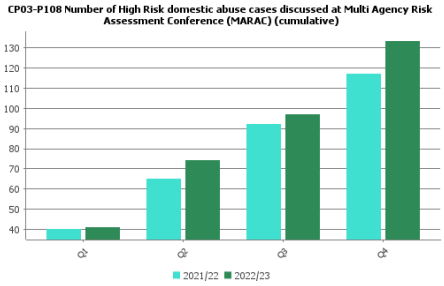


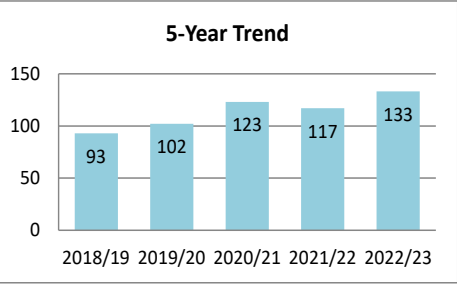
PI Short Name	Performance Data Trend Chart	Traffic Light Icon	Long Term Trend	Current Value	Current Target	Notes & History Note	5 Year Trend										
<p>The % of referrals to the mediation service that could not be progressed (Cumulative)</p> <p>Page 67</p>	<p>CP03-P176b The percentage of referrals into the Mediation Service that could not be progressed (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P176b Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>81.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>83.3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2021/22	81.7%	2022/23	83.3%			83.3%		<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>83.3% (20 of 24 referrals) were unable to be progressed in 2022/23.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>All ASB officers and designated staff from partner agencies have been trained in mediation and the service is now accepting and progressing referrals.</p> <p>Although the number of cases that did not progress to mediation is high a number of issues were resolved by mediation officers making contact with the complaints, negating the need for a full mediation intervention.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>The reason why a referral cannot be progressed is recorded and this will allow for analysis of the reasons with a view to addressing any issues.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>83.3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2022/23	83.3%
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<p>The % of referrals to the mediation service that were progressed but no agreement was reached (Cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P176c The percentage of referrals into the Mediation Service that were progressed but no agreement was reached (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P176c Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2021/22	0%	2022/23	25%			25%		<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>Of the 4 cases in 2022/23 that were subject to a mediation intervention 1 case was unable to reach an agreement. This is a positive start for the service.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>All ASB officers and designated staff from partner agencies have</p>	<p>5 Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2022/23	25%
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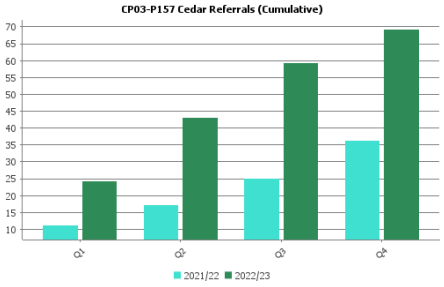


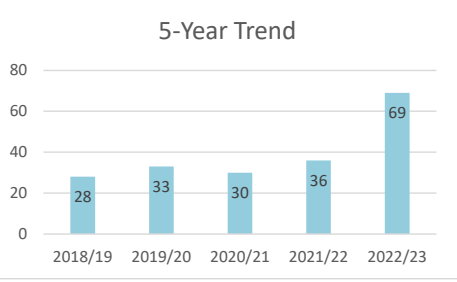
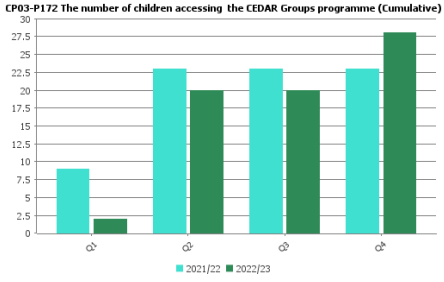


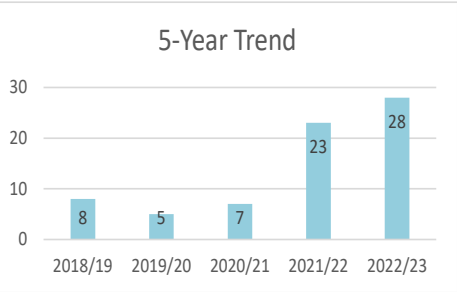
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						<p>been trained in mediation and the service is now accepting and progressing referrals.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>The reason why a case has not reached agreement will be recorded and this will allow for analysis of the reasons with a view to addressing any issues.</p>																				
<p>Page 68</p> <p>The % of referrals to the mediation service that were progressed and agreement was reached (Cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P121b The percentage of referrals into the Mediation Service that were progressed and agreement was reached (Cumulative)</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P121b Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Point 1</th> <th>Point 2</th> <th>Point 3</th> <th>Point 4</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>100%</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Point 1	Point 2	Point 3	Point 4	2021/22	100%	100%	100%	100%	2022/23	100%	100%	100%	75%			75%		<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>Of the 4 cases in 2022/23 that were subject to a mediation intervention 3 cases (75%) were able to reach an agreement. This is a positive start for the service.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>All ASB officers and designated staff from partner agencies have been trained in mediation and the service is now accepting and progressing referrals.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>The reason why a case could not reach agreement will be recorded and this will allow for analysis of the reasons with a view to addressing any issues and increasing the success rate for the service.</p>	<p>5 Year Trend</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>5 Year Trend Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage	2022/23	75%
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<p>The % of clients satisfied with the mediation intervention on exit from the service (Cumulative)</p> <p>Page 69</p>	<p>CP03-P121c The percentage of individuals who were satisfied with the Mediation Intervention on exit from the service (Cumulative)</p> 			0%		<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>The new mediation service has only just started to progress cases and client satisfaction surveys need to be issued for closed cases.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>All ASB officers and designated staff from partner agencies have been trained in mediation and the service is now accepting and progressing referrals.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>Satisfaction surveys for completed cases will be sent to each party involved in the mediation to get their views on the effectiveness of the service. Responses received will be analysed with a view to identifying any potential service improvements.</p>	<p>5 Year Trend</p> 
<p>Number of reported incidents of domestic abuse (cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P037 Number of reported incidents of domestic abuse (cumulative)</p> 			1,231	1,281	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>50 fewer incidents reported in 2022/23 when compared to 2021/22, which equates to a 3.9% decrease.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>There remain concerns that domestic abuse is underreported.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>There is increased scrutiny of the number of domestic abuse</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> 

PI Short Name	Performance Data Trend Chart	Traffic Light Icon	Long Term Trend	Current Value	Current Target	Notes & History Note	5 Year Trend																											
						incidents that are recorded for the Scottish Borders and the related number of referrals to the DAAS Service with regular updates provided to Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Council Management Team.																												
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 70</p> <p>Number of Referrals To SBC Domestic Abuse Service (DAAS) (Cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P158 Number of Referrals To SBC Domestic Abuse Service (DAAS) (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P158 Number of Referrals To SBC Domestic Abuse Service (DAAS) (Cumulative)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Quarter</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q1</td> <td>~120</td> <td>~100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2</td> <td>~250</td> <td>~180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3</td> <td>~360</td> <td>~270</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4</td> <td>~460</td> <td>~392</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Quarter	2021/22	2022/23	Q1	~120	~100	Q2	~250	~180	Q3	~360	~270	Q4	~460	~392			392	462	<p>Where We Are Currently</p> <p>392 referrals into DAAS (Adults) in 2022/23, which is 70 fewer referrals when compared to 2021/22 and equates to a 15.2% decrease.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The reduction in referrals to DAAS in 2022/23 is of concern and is being closely monitored. In quarter 3 and quarter 4 of 2022/23 the referrals numbers have been increasing.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>The DAAS Service Manager continues to monitor weekly referrals in relation to number and source of referral. Active engagement with partner agencies is intended to increase and reinforce the referral pathways. There are plans to engage with Police Scotland's Domestic Abuse Champions to assist with key messaging around domestic abuse and the agreed referral processes in Scottish Borders.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Referrals</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>762</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>693</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>453</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>462</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>392</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Referrals	2018/19	762	2019/20	693	2020/21	453	2021/22	462	2022/23	392
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Percentage of clients supported by DAAS (Adults) that are re-referred to DAAS within 12 months of case closure (Cumulative)	<p>CP03-P170 Percentage of clients supported by DAAS (Adults) that are re-referred to DAAS within 12 months of case closure (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22 (%)</th> <th>2022/23 (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q1</td> <td>31.0</td> <td>27.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2</td> <td>28.5</td> <td>25.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3</td> <td>27.0</td> <td>28.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4</td> <td>33.0</td> <td>32.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22 (%)	2022/23 (%)	Q1	31.0	27.0	Q2	28.5	25.0	Q3	27.0	28.5	Q4	33.0	32.0			31.9%	30%	<p>Where we are currently</p> <p>An increase of 1.9 percentage points in the percentage of DAAS clients that are repeat clients within 12 months of case closure, against a baseline target of 30%.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>Repeat referrals were slightly worse than target in 2022/23 but were better than 2021/22 performance.</p> <p>What we are doing</p> <p>Detailed analysis of the repeat cases will be undertaken to identify any potential areas for further improvement.</p> <p>Regular meetings are planned to discuss cases where there have been multiple repeat referrals to assess if further measures can be taken or signposting to other services is needed.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>25.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>33.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>32.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>31.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage (%)	2018/19	25.2%	2019/20	33.9%	2020/21	32.6%	2021/22	33%	2022/23	31.9%
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Percentage of first referrals (Adults) to Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) contacted within agreed Timescales	<p>CP03-P247 Percentage of first referrals (Adults) to Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support (DAAS) contacted within agreed Timescales</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22 (%)</th> <th>2022/23 (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q1</td> <td>94.0</td> <td>97.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2</td> <td>92.5</td> <td>96.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3</td> <td>93.0</td> <td>96.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4</td> <td>93.0</td> <td>96.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22 (%)	2022/23 (%)	Q1	94.0	97.5	Q2	92.5	96.0	Q3	93.0	96.5	Q4	93.0	96.5			96.4%	80%	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>96.4% of clients contacted within the agreed timescale against a baseline target of 80% between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023.</p> <p>Contact targets are 24 hours for Self and Police Scotland first referrals to the service and 48 hours for other agency first referrals to the service.</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Percentage (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>72.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>86.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>80.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>92.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>96.4%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Percentage (%)	2018/19	72.4%	2019/20	86.1%	2020/21	80.6%	2021/22	92.8%	2022/23	96.4%
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						<p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>Contact targets have been exceeded for the year. This is in part due to DAAS maintaining a full staffing complement and also being able to continue providing a telephone based response.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>Clients who are first referrals to the service are being contacted within agreed timescales where possible. DAAS can account for the reason for delayed contact from a weekly report.</p>																												
<p>Page 72</p> <p>Number of High Risk domestic abuse cases discussed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) (cumulative)</p>	<p>CP03-P108 Number of High Risk domestic abuse cases discussed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) (cumulative)</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>CP03-P108 Number of High Risk domestic abuse cases discussed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) (cumulative)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>~40</td> <td>~45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>~65</td> <td>~75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>~90</td> <td>~95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>~115</td> <td>~130</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2021/22	2022/23	1	~40	~45	2	~65	~75	3	~90	~95	4	~115	~130			133	117	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>133 referrals to MARAC in 2022/23, which is 16 referrals (13.7%) higher than 2021/22.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>MARAC has successfully moved to a full day meeting from January 2023. All partners are committed to planning attendance for a full day. Referral numbers will determine the length of the meeting but it is expected that this will improve attendance and reduce the pressure on agencies to service the MARAC process</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>The impact of the new MARAC full day meeting will continue to be</p>	<p>5-Year Trend</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>5-Year Trend</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Referrals</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>102</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>123</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>117</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>133</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Referrals	2018/19	93	2019/20	102	2020/21	123	2021/22	117	2022/23	133
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Cedar Referrals (Cumulative)	 <p>CP03-P157 Cedar Referrals (Cumulative)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>2021/22</th> <th>2022/23</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>10</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>18</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>25</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>38</td> <td>69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	2021/22	2022/23	1	10	25	2	18	45	3	25	60	4	38	69			69	36	<p>Where We Are</p> <p>69 referrals to CEDAR in 2022/23 compared to 36 referrals in 2021/22, which is a 33 referral, 91.7% increase.</p> <p>Our Successes/Our Issues</p> <p>The latest CEDAR group started in March 2023.</p> <p>EYDAR group cannot currently run as there is no crèche support for the programme.</p> <p>What We Are Doing</p> <p>The CEDAR coordinator has delivered a 1 to 1 session with a young person for 4 weeks when the group programme wasn't running.</p>	 <p>5-Year Trend</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Referrals</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018/19</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Referrals	2018/19	28	2019/20	33	2020/21	30	2021/22	36	2022/23	69
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