



Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum

Tuesday 15th November 2016

Report from
Inspector Carol Wood

Multi Member Ward Plans

Consultation with residents has allowed us to prepare priority plans based on local concerns. The combined Ward plan Priorities are:

- ❑ **Drug Dealing and Misuse**
- ❑ **Road Safety**
- ❑ **Violent Crime**
- ❑ **Antisocial Behaviour**

Drug Dealing and Misuse

We have, through intelligence gathered, carried out operations against people and premises involved in drug dealing and misuse, and where appropriate reported them to the Procurator Fiscal. We increased patrols in 'hot spot' areas, where people were identified as being involved in the misuse of illegal drugs. We continue to deliver inputs at schools, highlighting the dangers of drug misuse.

We will remain visible in the community to develop intelligence on people who deal in and use controlled drugs. We will continue to work with our partners, combining education and enforcement strategies. During the reporting period (October):

- Two 16 year old males were found in possession of a class B drug whilst on a trip to Newcastleton outward bound centre (from England).
- A 26 year old male was reported for the possession of class B drug following a search in Hawick police station after reporting a separate matter.
- A 19 year old male was charged and reported for possession of a class B drug after being arrested on a separate matter.
- A search warrant was executed at an address in Burnfoot, where what were believed to be prohibited substances were seized. These have been sent for analysis prior to any charges being libelled.

- A 33 year old male was found in possession of a Class B drug after being stopped and searched in Slitrig Bank. A report has been submitted in relation to this.
- We continue to receive intelligence from the public in relation to drug matters whether that is persons being in possession or persons dealing drugs and we would encourage this. Completely anonymous information can be left on Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Road Safety

Speeding/Inconsiderate Driving

We have trained Community officers in the use of speed guns. They have used these to detect drivers for speeding whilst deterring other forms of anti social driving. Also within the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum footprint, the Camera Safety van can frequently be found at various locations. To find out where the camera safety vehicle will be located go to www.lbsafetycameras.co.uk

Officers patrol in identified locations and carry out periodic road checks to positively influence driver behaviour. We will continue to educate drivers at every opportunity.

This includes younger drivers, who use their vehicles to travel to meeting points to meet with friends and other car enthusiasts. Officers pay particular attention to these drivers and the vehicles and thorough examinations are conducted of their vehicles to ensure compliance with road vehicle construction and use regulations.

In certain circumstances, motor vehicles can be seized by Police where there is evidence that the vehicle is being driven carelessly, or off road.

It is essential that all complaints about driving behaviour are notified to the police via 101 at the time. Every call is graded by call takers and allocated accordingly, so while officers may be unavailable to attend at the time if they are committed to a higher priority incident, they will be able to note statements to pursue offences.

This is particularly relevant where a motor vehicle is used on a road in such manner as to cause any excessive noise, which could have been avoided by the exercise of reasonable care on the part of the driver.

Drink Driving Offences

Drink driving continues to be an issue in the Scottish Borders. Our message is very simple, if you are intending driving, do not drink. We would encourage the public to report all drink drivers either directly to the police on 101 or if you wish to report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Parking and Road Traffic Issues

Vehicles have received parking tickets in the thirty minute zone in Hawick High Street as well as in North Bridge Street and O'Connell Street. Various items of intelligence have been provided by the public in relation to continued breaches of double yellow lines, speeding motorists, inappropriate driving. There have been various discussions on parking between Police and local elected members. The message is we will continue to give illegal parking attention whenever possible. However I would also ask members of the public not to park in prohibited areas or remain longer than they should in timed zones.

- A 28 year old male was charged with dangerous driving following an incident where he carried out a dangerous overtaking manoeuvre on the A698 heading towards Denholm. He has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- A 48 year old male was also charged with dangerous driving as a result of similar circumstances, this time on the A7 heading to Hawick from Selkirk. A report on what took place has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.
- A 30 year old male had his vehicle seized and was reported for various road traffic offences after being stopped by officers on patrol.
- A 29 year old male was charged for driving with no insurance, resulting in his vehicle being seized.
- Following the report of an accident on 15th October 2016, a 62 year old was charged with Careless Driving. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal on the circumstances.
- A 17 year old female has been charged with various driving offences after taking a vehicle without the owners permission.

Violent Crime

We continue to work in close partnership with licensed premises and their staff to tackle issues of drunkenness and disorderly behaviour to reduce these types of incidents.

We will continue to focus our patrols, targeting areas where violent crime has been reported and robustly deal with any person involved in this behaviour.

There were no robberies or serious assaults reported in Hawick during October.

- Following an incident during the early hours of 26th October, 2016, a 57 year old male was arrested after threatening paramedics with violence and then causing a disturbance within the hospital. He was kept in custody for appearance at court.

Antisocial Behaviour

We have carried out high visibility patrols with the aim of reducing disorder and delivering high levels of public reassurance. We have worked with partners to deal with unruly residents and taken proactive measures to combat their behaviour.

We will continue to work in partnership with local housing associations to target those who persistently behave in an antisocial manner. We will make best use of Antisocial Behaviour Orders and the ASB team in our area.

There is currently an issue predominantly on Saturday nights within the Howegate area where a large group of youths are gathering, some under the influence of alcohol, and they are causing issues through their behaviour. Targeted patrols are being undertaken and dialogue between Police and partners in ongoing on how best to prevent this type of behaviour.

Throughout October there were eight official police warnings given for anti social behaviour.

Of note during October, an 11 year old was charged with culpable and reckless conduct after throwing a stone and smashing a bus window as it travelled through Burnfoot.

Other issues

Theft

Unfortunately another theft occurred in October at a building supply company in the Burnfoot Industrial Estate. Enquiries are ongoing into this and advice has been given to the business on how to improve their security.

Rural Crime

Following an incident on 7th October 2016, a female was charged with failing to have control of her dog after it attacked sheep in a field at Troweknowes Farm, Hawick. This resulted in three sheep having to be destroyed.

Your View Counts – Public Consultation

Just a reminder that Police Scotland's public consultation process is now online and open all year.

It's a very simple process that should only take a few moments of your time but will shape the way that policing is coordinated across Scotland and in your local community.

We will keep you updated on our quarterly results. The consultation will be a completely transparent process as it's all about your priorities.

The link for the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8LMB9WX>

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this report please feel free to contact me.

PI Carol Wood
Community Inspector South
Scottish Borders
'J' Division
Police Scotland

Hawick Police Station
Tel 01450 375051
Email Carol.wood@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.scotland.police.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland
Twitter: twitter@BordersPolice.com

Police Scotland Non Emergency number 101