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POLICE
SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe

Cheviot Area Forum

7 December 2016

**Report from
Inspector Carol Wood
Inspector John Scott**

This report will update the **Cheviot Area Forum** on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period 1st September to 30th November 2016.

The Ward Plan Priorities for each area:

Jedburgh and District Ward

Drugs Dealing & Misuse

Official stop and search figures will be reported to the Police and Fire Scrutiny Board.

During the reporting period, three individuals were charged with possessing controlled substances.

Just after midnight on 16/9/16, a 40 year old male was found in charge of a vehicle, which he had crashed on the Kelso to Maxton road. The male had consumed alcohol and was also found to be in possession of a controlled substance. He was charged with various road traffic offences and was kept in police custody for appearance the following day.

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. 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

Tragically a fatal accident occurred on the evening of Saturday 19 November 2016 on the A698 at Knowesouth. There were two vehicles involved and the driver of one of the vehicles sustained fatal injuries. Full traffic collision investigation was carried in an effort to establish the cause of this accident and that information is still being analysed. Discussions are ongoing between Police and Scottish Borders Council to explore whether any road improvements could be introduced at this location.

During the reporting period a number of road checks have been carried out. This resulted in one driver being given a warning for the anti social use of a vehicle in Jedburgh.

A number of drivers have been charged with various road traffic offences following incidents or accidents over the last three months:

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One person was charged with drink driving (in addition to the male who crashed vehicle as mentioned above).

Five people have been charged with careless driving. One of these incidents involved a vehicle striking a motorbike and the motorcyclist sustaining a number of broken bones from which he should make a full recovery.

On 13/10/16 the driver of a Peter Hogg bus lost control of this when he had passengers on board, travelled down Canongate, swerving as it went, hit a wall and another vehicle then continued to travel towards Duck Row Bridge where it became partially impaled on the bridge parapet, almost landing in the Jed Water. Extensive examination of the vehicle and inquiries were carried out, resulting in the driver being charged with dangerous driving. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Five people have been detected and charged for driving without insurance and other driving related documentation offences.

Anti Social Behaviour

A number of individuals have been charged with causing a breach of the peace. These incidents are isolated and there is no pattern to them.

We continue to engage with those responsible for any antisocial behaviour in the ward area and there are a number of ongoing matters being dealt with at present in Jedburgh. These are being addressed through partnership with the Anti Social Behaviour Unit and relevant Landlords.

Rural Crime

On 7/9/16, a fire was reported at West Mains Farm, Ancrum. This resulted in three large haystacks and a tractor being totally destroyed. These items had a significant monetary value. This was only a week after a fire had been reported at the same farm, where a combine harvester and hay were destroyed. Extensive enquiries have been ongoing into both these incidents and are continuing.

Kelso and District Ward

Dishonesty

On the 29th October a business premises in Station Yard, Kelso was forcibly entered overnight and a quantity of cash was stolen, enquiries are on going in relation to this incident.

Road Safety

Drink Driving Offences

There have been 3 instances of drink driving in the Kelso area in the reporting period, we continue to receive calls from the public in relation to this and will always act on these calls. This will form a key part of the local festive initiative and officers will be carrying out road checks the morning after Christmas parties, the simple message is if in doubt do not risk driving.

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Officers continue to patrol Kelso town centre and will enforce parking offences during the festive initiative.

Drug Dealing and Misuse Of Drugs

There have been no drugs offences in the Kelso are in the reporting period.

We are always seeking information from the community, if you have any suspicions either report this at a local police station, call 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

All information will be treated confidentially and we will always act on the information.

Antisocial Behaviour

Of particular concern was an incident of attempted murder that occurred on the 25th October in Inchmyre estate in Kelso. This incident required a large number of officers to gather the evidence available. The officers working on the enquiry recognised the significant support from the community who reported key information to us. A local man was arrested and has been remanded in custody pending court proceedings.

Another incident reported to the police on the 30th October resulted in a man being seriously assaulted in the Square, Kelso. A man was arrested and appeared at court in relation to this incident.

Anyone who is the victim of antisocial behaviour, should report this at the time of the incident to the police or if it is an ongoing issue, this can be reported to the Antisocial Behaviour Unit helpline on **0800 028 5711**.

Festive Campaign

As you know, the festive period is a busy time for all communities with an increase in social events, shopping and family gatherings. This increase in activity results in higher alcohol consumption, gatherings of diverse groups at social functions, higher volumes of people within licensed premises, and increased traffic on the roads at a time when inclement weather conditions can prove hazardous.

Historically the Police see an increase in incidents and crimes over the festive period. Specifically, figures relating to violence and domestic abuse peak and there is a rise in overall disorder and road traffic offences. Often these incidents present a significant risk to the safety of members of the public and emergency responders.

In response to this, Police Scotland has put in place a detailed plan to focus on key areas as described, with a greater emphasis on Keeping People Safe. The plan for Lothians and Scottish Borders (J Division) is tailored to our local area and this feeds into the overarching National initiative.

In addition to dedicated police resources for this year's campaign, we would also like to highlight an information page on the Police Scotland website for the public which has a number of Keeping Safe messages:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/festive-safety/>

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Your View Counts – Public Consultation

We continue to ask communities to contribute to the Your View Counts consultation. We want to hear from all sections of the community including minority groups and young people (aged 13-16). Your views matter and can shape the future priorities of the police in the area.

The online consultation is open all year which allows you to take part when it suits you but also gives the flexibility of being able to re-submit the consultation if your priorities change.

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

Remember - Applying for Air Weapon Certificate?

From 31 December 2016, it will be an offence to use, possess, purchase or acquire an air weapon in Scotland, without holding an air weapon certificate. However if you are an existing firearm or shotgun certificate holder after this date, you will still be able to use and possess air weapons, until your firearm or shotgun certificate expires.

The deadline for air weapon applications being processed before the new laws are introduced on 31 December 2016, has now passed. Detailed information on what to do if you have not already applied for this licence are on the Police Scotland website

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/airweapons/>

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