



## Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum

Tuesday 13 December 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 patrol areas where it has been identified people involved in the misuse of illegal drugs gather. We continue to deliver inputs at schools, highlighting the dangers of drug misuse.

We continue to be 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 of November:

- Two males found in possession of a class B drug have been dealt with and reported accordingly.
- A 43 year old female was reported for the possession of class B drug following a drugs house search in Crumhaugh Road, Hawick.
- A 19 year old male was arrested for an offence and once in custody was found in possession of a quantity of tablets. It is suspected these tablets are of a Class C prohibited substance and once analysed, the relevant charges will be preferred against the male.
- 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

Community officers continue to give attention to areas where we have received complaints of speeding or inconsiderate driving. We continue to link in with Scottish Borders Council in obtaining data for areas of complaint and where appropriate have discussions on road improvements. The camera safety vehicle continues to make an appearance in the Teviot and Liddesdale area. To find out where the camera safety vehicle will be located go to [www.lbsafetycameras.co.uk](http://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. We also communicate with young drivers who 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.

### Festive Drink Driving

Whilst Police Scotland continually gives attention to drivers and their behaviour, the National Festive Drink Driving campaign is underway. There will be an increase in road checks throughout the day and night in a bid to deter drink driving and detect those who continue to drive under the influence with complete disregard to their own and other road user's safety. It will also be an opportunity for officers to give advice to motorists to ensure their vehicle is ready for winter driving conditions.

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.

- Tragically a fatal accident occurred on the evening of Saturday 19 November 2016 on the A698 at Knowesouth. Whilst this is out with the Teviot and Liddesdale ward, the male who sustained the fatal injuries was from Hawick

and well known in the town. A full traffic collision investigation was carried in an effort to establish the cause of this accident. Information gleaned from this will have a bearing on any future discussions on actions needing to be taken at this location.

- A 26 year old male was charged with dangerous driving, no insurance and other document offences after officers observed his driving whilst they were out on foot patrol during early hours of 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The male has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- Following a disturbance in Burnfoot on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016, a 33 year old male was detected for driving without insurance and without supervision as a provisional licence holder. A report on what took place has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.
- A 26 year old male had his vehicle seized and was reported for no insurance after being stopped by officers on patrol in Hawick.
- A 24 year old female was charged for driving with no insurance and other driving offences, resulting in her vehicle being seized.
- Whilst on patrol on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016, officers had cause to stop a vehicle. The driver of the vehicle, a 27 year old male, was found to be disqualified and was arrested. He was charged with various road traffic offences and was also found in possession of controlled substances. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal on the circumstances.
- There were two fixed penalty tickets issued for the use of a mobile phone whilst driving and one for speeding during November.

### **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 reported in Hawick during November however there were two serious assaults.

- During the early hours of 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, officers dealt with a disturbance involving a number of males in North Bridge Street. Enquiries established a 33 year old male sustained facial injuries and required hospital treatment for these. Four males have been charged with this assault and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016 a call was received from a male saying he had been assaulted whilst walking on the Waverley Walk in Hawick. The male sustained facial injuries. Inquiries are ongoing into this incident.

### **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.

Police are continuing to give attention to the Howegate area at weekends and at other areas where youth problems have been reported. Partners are involved in supporting officers and looking at interventions longer term that can target and deter those involved.

Throughout November there were eight official police warnings given for anti social behaviour and two fixed penalty tickets issued.

### **Other issues**

#### **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.

#### **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>

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](mailto:Carol.wood@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

Website: [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland](http://www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland)

Twitter: [twitter@BordersPolice.com](https://twitter.com/BordersPolice.com)

Police Scotland Non Emergency number 101