



**Teviot & Liddesdale Area Locality
Committee**

Tuesday 20th June 2017

**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:

- Throughout May, four separate males have been charged with possession of a controlled substance after being searched by officers. The males were aged 16-29 and were all from the Hawick area.
- During the late evening of 26th May 2017, officers were called to an incident regarding a dispute between males in Earl Street, Hawick. Officers attended where they found a 39 year old male in possession of a metal pole. The male was searched for other items and was found in possession of a controlled substance and also an uncapped needle, which he failed to disclose to officers. The male was charged with possession of these items as well a culpable and reckless conduct.
- 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 when duties permit. 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

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.

Parking and Road Traffic Issues

We continue to issue parking tickets and warn drivers for parking longer than they should or breaching yellow line restrictions throughout the town. We will continue to give illegal parking attention whenever possible. However I would continue to ask members of the public not to park in prohibited areas or remain longer than they should in timed zones.

- During late evening of 10th May 2017, officers on patrol in Denholm observed a caravan being towed by a car and there were no lights showing to the rear. Officers stopped the vehicle and checked the occupants. The driver was found to be 19 years old and he did not have the correct driving authorisation for towing a vehicle, neither did his passenger. Both were charged with various driving offences and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- On 21st May 2017, a 50 year old man crashed his friends vehicle into a barrier at Sandbed roundabout. Officers attended and the male was found to be driving without insurance. He was charged accordingly with this offence, as was the vehicle owner.
- During the early hours of 28th May 2017, officers were called to a domestic disturbance in Eildon Road, Hawick, where the perpetrator had made off in his vehicle. Officers attended and located the male, who was subsequently arrested for failing a roadside breath test. The male was taken to Hawick police station and after procedures were completed, he was charged with drink driving as well as a breach of the peace. He was kept in custody for his appearance at court.
- A number of road checks were carried out during the month. This resulted in fixed penalty tickets being issued for speeding, failing to wear a seatbelt and one vehicle was seized under anti social behaviour legislation.

There is presently a Drivewise Project being run in partnership with the emergency services, The Institute Of Advanced Motorists, Scottish Borders Council along with John Cleland and Volvo UK in support of this project. All schools across the Borders are sending their young people to get a driving experience at the Charterhall airfield. They are mostly aged 14-17.

This project has been really well received by those participating and has allowed road safety messages to be delivered to these young people, along with a positive experience of learning to drive. We continue to have the young persons and older

peoples driving programmes running, which are sponsored so there is no cost to those participating.

I would encourage members of community councils to promote this across their areas.

If you would like further information, Drivewise Borders have their own website at

<http://www.drivewiseborders.co.uk/index.html>

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 was one serious assault reported in Hawick during May.

- A 14 year old male was visiting a relative in Hawick when he was assaulted in the Burnfoot area by four youths aged 13 and 14. The victim sustained a fractured bone in his face. The four youths were charged with the assault and have been reported through the youth justice system.
- During the afternoon of 18th May 2017 a witness observed a male entering a property in Fisher Avenue, Hawick. Knowing the occupant was not at home, the witness contacted Police. Officers attended and detained the 19 year old male as he attempted to leave the area. The male was charged with housebreaking as well as being in possession of drugs and he was also found in possession of a knife when searched by officers. The male was detained in custody for appearance at court.

Antisocial Behaviour

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

Police are continuing to give attention to areas where youths congregate and we receive complaints about their behaviour. Police and Partners continue to work together in tackling youth issues and look at longer term interventions that can target and deter those involved.

Throughout May there was one fixed penalty ticket issued as well as eight recorded police warnings given for anti social behaviour.

Other issues

Hawick Common Riding

Common Riding is over for another year and thankfully the Cornet was delivered Safe Out and Safe In again. In the main, events ran smoothly and without issue.

However, Hawick Mair on Common Riding Friday was a different matter. As you are probably aware we dealt with a number of young people under the influence of alcohol and with a number of incidents of disorder. Older members of the public also caused us some issues, again alcohol playing a part in their behaviour.

A full debrief will be held with the Common Riding committee and learning points and areas for improvement for next year's event will be discussed.

Not all the youths were from Hawick but a number of them had traveled from other areas as well.

National Counter Terrorism Week

Last week was National Counter Terrorism Awareness week. Although this has now passed, I would like to highlight this across all of our communities.

Police Scotland, through our Counter Terrorism Security Advisors and in liaison with the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO), has been busy working with those who run or are responsible for crowded places and large scale events in order to keep people safe. This included Hawick Common Riding and focus will be maintained on local events throughout the summer months.

The current threat from International Terrorism to the United Kingdom is at SEVERE. This means that an attack is highly likely and we should all remain alert but don't be alarmed. When threat levels were at CRITICAL a couple of weeks ago, there was an increase in numbers and visibility of Police at events.

We will act on information from the public who report suspicious people or behaviour and provide a proportionate response to the information that is given to us.

I would encourage everyone to remain alert and vigilant and, "If you suspect it, report it" by contacting Police Scotland directly by calling 101. In an emergency dial 999 or report through the anti-terrorist hotline 0800 789 321.

Vigilant behaviour by staff and the public can disrupt attack planning.

If there is an attack the 'Stay Safe' principles (Run Hide Tell) give some simple actions to consider at an incident and the information that armed officers may need in the event of a weapons or firearms attack.

There are full details of all of the ways to plan for an incident and how to prepare businesses to be alert to suspicious behaviour on the Police Scotland website at www.scotland.police.uk

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

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