



Teviot & Liddesdale Locality Committee

Tuesday 19th September 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 the following were of note:

- On 24th August a 44 year old female was arrested and whilst being processed at Hawick police station, she was found in possession of a Class C drug. She was reported accordingly for this offence.

Over the last two weeks a number of addresses have been searched under drugs warrants. Further information will be provided on this in next month's report.

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 with them and Elected Members 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

I would encourage members of the public to call in when they observe vehicles being driven in an anti social manner or there are concerns regarding driver behaviour.

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.

- About 1530hrs on Monday 7th August a number of calls were made from the public regarding the manner in which a vehicle was being driven in Denholm. Officers attended and found the 39 year old driver under the influence of alcohol and with her two young children in the vehicle. The driver was subsequently charged with drink driving and additional offences due to having her children in the vehicle with her. She was released from custody with a specified court date.
- As a result of road checks carried out in the ward areas, five fixed penalty tickets were issued for speeding offences.

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.

During the period under consideration there were two serious assaults reported.

- Following the report of an assault at an address in Wellfield Road on 5th August, a 29 year old female was arrested and charged with serious assault. The complainer sustained a deep laceration to his face and although not life threatening, may leave him permanently scarred. The accused was kept in custody for her court appearance.
- During the early hours of Wednesday 20th August, it is alleged that three males entered an address in Minto Place in Hawick and assaulted the 53 year old occupant. He sustained a number of cuts, bruises and broken fingers and was treated in hospital for these injuries. Enquiries are continuing into this incident to identify those responsible.

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.

- During the month of August eight recorded police warnings were issued for anti social behaviour as well as one fixed penalty notice.

Other issues

Business housebreakings have continued to be reported in the town, with one break-in and two attempted break-ins recorded during August. All business housebreakings are investigated by our CID officers and thorough enquiries are carried out into these. A number of investigations are ongoing.

If any business owner would like crime prevention advice on measures they may be able to take to secure their property then we would be happy to arrange that. Requests can be emailed direct to me or to the Community Officer email box.

One Punch

Police Scotland are presently running the 'One Punch' campaign as part of the Safe Summer – Action Against Violence campaign, aimed to reduce the number of violent incidents and improve the safety and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

During recent public surveys, violent crime was ranked as a key concern, placing it as one of Police Scotland's top priorities. As such, the One Punch Can Ruin Two Lives campaign has been introduced to raise awareness of the consequences that one punch can have on two people's lives.

"One punch can kill and could result in facing a jail sentence. We want people to enjoy their nights out but at the same time to drink responsibly and consider how much alcohol they are consuming and the effect it has on their decision making and judgement."

More details are on the Police Scotland website.

Special Constable Recruitment

In August an information event was held at Eildon Mill, Tweedbank, encouraging members of the public to consider volunteering with the Police as a Special Constable. This was very successful and well attended and is part of long term plan to recruit more Special Constable officers. More information is available on the website along with all of the information you need to apply. We presently have a number of officers volunteering alongside their full time colleagues, they are an important and valued support in delivering first class services in the area.

Student Safety Campaign

As half a million students in Scotland start to settle into University and College life, with thousands leaving home for the first time, they are entering an exciting period of their lives. Police Scotland has been delivering vital safety advice to students at Freshers' Weeks around the country as part of the Student Safety Campaign, which was launched on 5 September.

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The campaign provides tips on how to enjoy student life while avoiding potential dangers and covers advice on home and property security, Online Safety, Party Safety, Identity Safety, Water Safety and Illicit Trade. Students are encouraged to think about how secure their accommodation is and gives useful tips on how best to prevent their home being targeted by thieves.

Students are also being reminded to record details of all valuables, such as laptops, phones etc which can be logged into immobilise.com, so if they do experience a theft and the police recover the items, they can be returned to the owner.

With social media being a large part of a student's life, there's useful advice reminding students that "what goes online stays online" and not to leave themselves open to criminal charges or vulnerable to blackmail.

Sometimes the image of student life is of continuous partying, so guidance is given that when socialising stay safe by sticking with friends, don't leave drinks unattended and always tell friends where you are going if you're leaving.

Full details of this campaign can be found on the Police Scotland website.

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

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