



**POLICE**  
**SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe  
**POILEAS ALBA**

# Scrutiny Report

1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018



## Scottish Borders

The data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents there may be minor amendments between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. The extraction date from recording systems can also differ so it would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in the report as official statistics.

Data contained in this report should only be used to identify trends as figures are likely to change over time.



## INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide a summary and brief assessment of performance in the Scottish Borders Command Area for the Quarter 1 period of 01/04/2017 – 31/03/2018.

The report references the themes from Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnerships Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the aligned priorities within the Local Policing Plan for the Scottish Borders, namely:-

- Domestic Abuse
- Road Safety
- Violent Crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Drug and Alcohol Misuse
- Protecting People
- Acquisitive Crime

All data is sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and is correct as of 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2018

# DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic Abuse Incidents	2016/17	2017/18	Change
	969	1080	+ 12%



Police and partner agencies actively encourage victims of domestic abuse to report incidents to police. The rise in domestic abuse incidents demonstrates our success in increasing victim's confidence in reporting to police.

Proportion of Domestic Abuse Incidents which become Domestic Abuse Crimes	2016/17	2017/18	Change
	47.8%	42.4%	- 5%



Early intervention is key to reducing the risk of future criminal acts, being able to assist and signpost victims to relevant services when reporting non-criminal incidents increases the victim's safety and reduces their risk of being a victim of crime.

## Domestic Abuse – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We continue to work with our partner agencies to reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse in the Scottish Borders.

We are achieving this by:



Robustly investigating and reviewing every domestic incident that is reported to police to ensure offenders are reported to the Procurator Fiscal for any crimes committed.

Referring or signposting every person who reports an incident of domestic abuse or a sexual crime to the most appropriate support agency.

Working with our partners through the MAPPA, MARAC, MATAC and DAAS processes ensuring that there is a victim centred approach and a focus on intelligence led activity on repeat offenders.

Proactively checking all domestic abuse offenders are adhering to bail conditions and prioritising pursuance of any offender breaching their conditions.

## ROAD SAFETY

### Road Casualties



	2016/17	2017/18	Change
Fatal	10	9	- 10%
Serious	67	59	- 12%
Slight	234	200	- 15%
KSI	77	68	- 12%
Children KSI	4	2	- 50%

This decrease in casualties across every classification is a testament to the multiagency prevention work that has been carried out in the Scottish Borders over the last 12 months.

### Road Safety – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes

1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We continue to work on reducing road accidents and casualties within the Scottish Borders through prevention and influencing road user behaviour.

We are achieving this by:

Continuing with our commitment to working in partnership to deliver and developing Drivewise Borders. We have influenced over 700 children's attitude towards driving before they have started driving on our roads. 200 new drivers behaviour has been influenced through successfully completing their advanced driver's course. Inputs have been delivered across the Scottish Borders to 100 older drivers, improving their confidence and influencing their driver behaviour. This coming year will see the first programme for motorcyclists in the Scottish Borders.



Carrying out static and rolling road checks, using the opportunity to influence driver behaviour and provide a visible presence on both main arterial routes and local roads. We regularly use hand held radar to combat speeding particularly on routes leading into main population centres.

Targeted patrolling of schools and surrounding streets to promote safer routes to school, enforce parking and speeding restrictions at core times.

Working in partnership with the timber industry to enforce haulage requirements and associated regulations, thereby influencing the behaviour of haulage drivers.

Targeted patrols of our arterial routes to engage with local and visiting motorcyclist to provide advice and guidance to positively influence their driver behaviour, this campaign began in March and will continue throughout the summer months.

Working in partnership with Scottish Borders Council to address concerns surrounding road safety including complaints and engineering.

# VIOLENT CRIME

2016/17	2017/18	Change
4.2	4.6	+ 10%

Serious Assault (Group 1) crime rate per 10,000 population



The 10% rise equates to an actual rise of 5 crimes over a 12 month (0.4 crimes per month). Over the same 12 month period there has been a 15% decrease in violent crime as whole (all group 1 crimes).

## Violent Crime – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes

1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We continue to work on reducing the harm caused by violent crime within private and public areas of our community and reduce the impact of serious and organised crime.

We are achieving this by:

Working with our licensed premises to reduce alcohol related violence. We are achieving this through visits to premises as well initiatives such as Best Bar None. This year was the most successful year so far for Best Bar None, 23 premises successfully achieved an award demonstrating their commitment to implementing policies and practices which increase the safety of their customers.



Rolling out the Crimestoppers ‘No Knives, Better Lives’ programme for youths.

Continuing with our weekend plans which target problem areas across our night time economy reducing the risk of public space violence.

Working in partnership through our MATAC process to ensure we target any criminal behaviour conducted by our violent offenders and we reduce repeat offending by our violent offenders.

Working with the education department the Slide input was delivered to students in Hawick High School. The Slide programme highlights the dangerous of Serious and Organised Crime and how the choices they make in life can impact on themselves, their families and the wider community.

## ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

### Anti-social Behaviour Incidents per 10,000 population

2016/17	2017/18	Change
453	494	+ 9%



This rise in anti-social behaviour is reflected across all categories apart from disturbances. The most significant increase can be seen in relation to antisocial communications. This rise reflects the increase and ease in which technology can be used for communicating through texts and apps.

### Racially Aggravated Conduct per 10,000 population

2016/17	2017/18	Change
594	582	- 2%



The slight reduction in racially aggravated incidents is a positive reflection on the work being carried by the police and partner agencies in supporting the most vulnerable in our community.

### Anti-social Behaviour – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes

1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We are working to reduce the instances of harm caused by anti-social behaviour within our community and highlight how it impacts on the wider community.

We are achieving this by:

Carrying out dedicated patrols of youth gathering points, deterring anti-social behaviour, vandalism and underage drinking.



Continuing to work with partners including Scottish Borders Council, Victim Support and all registered social landlords to reduce the impact on victims of anti-social behaviour and target repeat offenders. Over this time period 29 persons have been identified for ASB intervention through police analysis of ASB incidents.

Carrying out a multiagency site visit to deal with a planning issue relating to scaffolding which was causing antisocial behaviour. We have also carried out Multi Agency Environmental Visual Audits in relation to ASB in TESCO, The Interchange and Gala Park in Galashiels.

Training police and Registered Social Landlord staff on the collation and recording of ASB data and cases.

# DRUG AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

## Drug and Substance Misuse

We are working to reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse within the community and educate people about the impact that serious and organised crime groups have on drug misuse

We are achieving this by:

Working in partnership to introduce the 'Don't Buy It, Don't Supply It' campaign. The campaign aims to promote responsibility amongst adults who may feel pressured into buying or supplying alcohol for a young person, reduce alcohol related harm, and to reduce the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour by under 18s under the influence of alcohol. The campaign will be highlighted at all local events over the upcoming months.

Participating in training with the Scottish Drugs Forum to encourage awareness and promotion in our communities.



Participating in the multi-agency Drug Death Intervention meeting. This is a pilot being carried out in the Borders, which will look at individuals who are DNA for various addiction services in the Borders. The meeting will look to gather the entire picture surrounding the individuals, to gauge threat risk and harm and ascertain what interventions can be carried out.

Continuing to ensure we signpost or refer individuals who would benefit from the assistance of drug or substance misuse services. All children found to be using drugs or alcohol are offered the support of Action for children.

Continuing intelligence led targeting of our crime groups through the application and enforcement of misuse of drugs search warrants. These searches allow us to remove illegal drugs from our communities, signpost/refer addicts to the relevant support services, and disrupt the behaviour of our crime groups.

Continuing to work and visit our licensed premises and robustly enforce any identified offences. We continue to raise specific concerns with the licencing board when necessary.

## PROTECTING PEOPLE

### Missing Person Incidents

2016/17

2017/18

Change

594

582

- 2%



The slight reduction in missing persons is a positive reflection on the work being carried by the police and partner agencies in supporting the most vulnerable in our community.

### Protecting People – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes

1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We are working to reduce the harm and instances of harm to persons ‘at risk’ within our local community by education, enforcement and signposting and collaboration.

We are achieving this by:

Continuing to work in schools delivering regular inputs to all students on a wide range of topics including acceptable behaviour in the community as well as anti-social behaviour and personal safety.

Supporting national campaigns such as Safer Internet Day. As part of the campaign internet safety inputs were delivered to over 1300 students and advice sessions were offered for parents in a number of schools.



Working in partnership with sporting clubs to promote PVG disclosures for child protection in support following high profile national cases in the media.

Assisting with the delivery of multi-agency child and adult protection training to partner and 3rd sector agencies. This training assists colleagues in ensuring the early identification of relevant cases and ensures they have the knowledge to implement the appropriate procedures.

Working in partnership to implement an Arrest Referral Scheme for female offenders in the Scottish Borders to “ReConnect – Scottish Borders Women’s Service”. The aims of the Arrest Referral scheme are to provide early and effective intervention opportunity for adult females who have been arrested, to reduce women’s involvement with statutory criminal justice services and improve their lives. This scheme is not a diversion from prosecution; it is a way for providing a pathway into supportive services for the individual who wants assistance.

We have started rolling out Distress Brief Intervention training to all frontline officers.

## ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Housebreaking and Theft (Group 3) crime rate per 10,000 population	2016/17	2017/18	Change
	117	129	+ 10%



There has been a 10% increase in the number of group 3 crimes, this equates to 12 additional crimes a month for the whole of the Scottish Borders. We will continue to work with our communities focusing on prevention to reduce acquisitive crime.

### Acquisitive Crime – Achieving Priorities and Outcomes

1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We are working to reduce the harm caused to individuals within the Scottish Borders and the financial loss to the wider community, with prevention playing a hugely important role.

We are achieving this by:

Conducting road checks on our main arterial routes to detect, disrupt and deter criminals travelling into our area.

Providing as much crime prevention advice as possible through face to face meetings, social media and road shows. If there are crime trends emerging we warn the public allowing them to be as informed as possible to help prevent them becoming a victim of crime.

Conducting crime prevention surveys on properties across the Scottish Borders.



Working in partnership with Architects to ensure that new Social Housing and public buildings are designed in such a way that they prevent or reduce the risk of crime.

Delivering training to managers and staff in SB Cares on how to identify individuals who may be vulnerable to bogus callers, what advice they could provide and where they can signpost their clients to.

Utilising our antisocial behaviour process to identify individuals who may benefit from the nominated neighbour scheme and further prevention advice re bogus callers in partnership with trading standards.

Delivering restorative justice warnings to youths with a view to resolving issues before they escalate and to prevent criminality.

Conduct station visits which target children who are on the fringes of offending or part of the Offence Resolution Programme as well as raising awareness of how the police can help children. Feedback on these visits is positive and has curbed behavioural issues.

## DEMAND & ANALYSIS

<b>Incidents Reported</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>29307</b>	<b>31473</b>	<b>+ 7%</b>

This increase in reporting incidents demonstrates that the public still have the confidence to report incidents to the police. This increase in incidents places an increased demand on the resources available across the Scottish Borders. We have previously mentioned the increase in Antisocial Behaviour incidents but we have also seen a rise in incidents related to crimes and transport related matters.

<b>Crimes Reported</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>3047</b>	<b>3448</b>	<b>+ 13%</b>

This increase in reporting is not across all groups of crimes. As mentioned earlier in the report we have seen a reduction in the number of Group 1 crimes (Violent Crime). However we have also seen a reduction in Group 6 and Group 7 (driving offences) offences.