



POLICE
SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Scrutiny Report

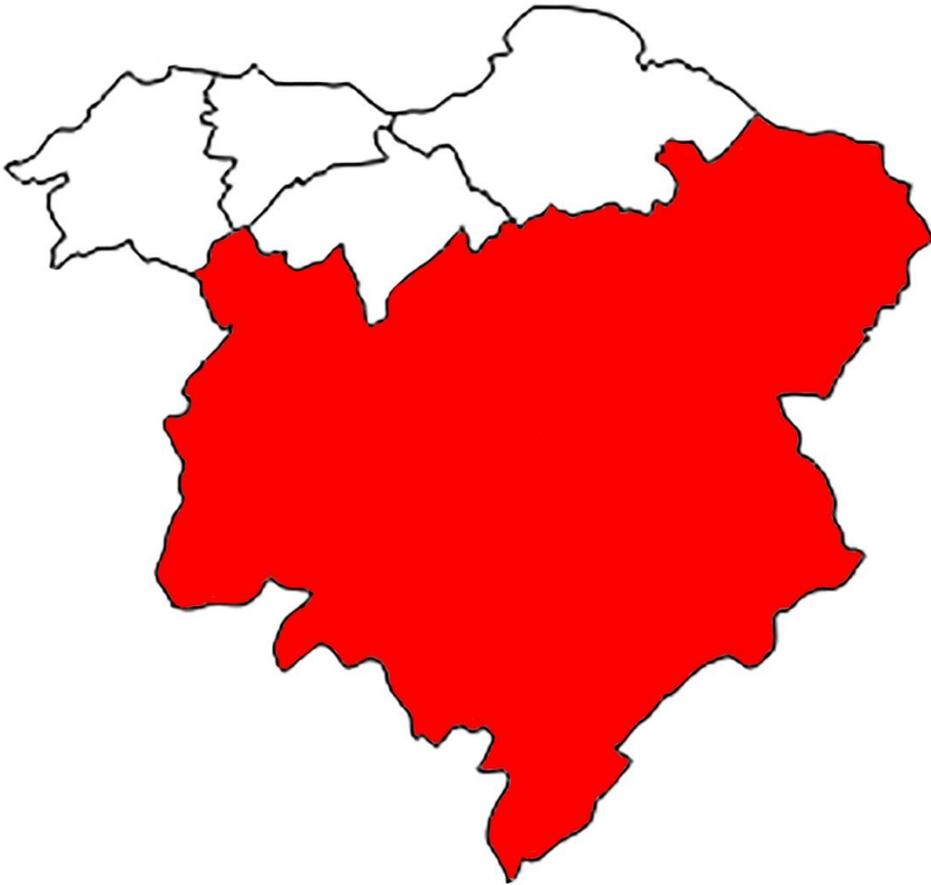
1st October, 2018 – 31st December, 2018
Q3



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 3 period of 01/04/2018 – 31/12/2018.

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 17th January 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Domestic Abuse

2017/18	2018/19	Change
826	744	-9.9%



This pleasing reduction in domestic abuse incidents positively reflects on the work being carried out by police and partner agencies in the Scottish Borders in tackling the perpetrators of domestic abuse. This has resulted in 82 fewer people being subjected to domestic abuse.

This positive picture is also reflected in the number of domestic abuse incidents which become crimes with an 8.7% reduction from last year to date.

Significant changes in legislation next year will see the introduction of psychological offences, so and increase in recorded incidents and crime can be expected.

Road Safety



	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Fatal	7	10	+ 42.9%
Serious	49	52	+ 6.1%
Slight	160	122	- 23.8%
KSI	56	62	+10.7%

Whilst there has been an increase in the number of people killed and seriously injured in the Scottish Borders it is positive to see 23.8% decrease in slight injuries. 40% of the fatal accidents involved motorcyclists visiting the Scottish Borders.

Violent Crime (Serious Assaults per 10,000 population)

2017/18	2018/19	Change
3.5	2.6	- 25.7%



A positive start to this year with a 25% decrease in serious assaults. This has resulted in 10 fewer people being subject to a serious assault in the Scottish Borders.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Antisocial Behaviour per 10,000 population

2017/18	2018/19	Change
394	385	-2.3%



Antisocial behaviour remains a priority for police in the Scottish Borders this decrease in all antisocial behaviour incidents is as a direct result of work carried out by our Community Action Team and Community Beat Officers.

Drug and Alcohol Misuse

2017/18	2018/19	Change
53	69	+30.2%



A proactive and intelligence led approach by the Scottish Borders Community Action Team has seen a significant rise in detections for drug related offences. I am confident this will continue to rise as the year progresses.

In relation to alcohol misuse we continue to work with our partners to carry out regular licensed premises checks engaging with staff to ensure compliance with licensing regulations

Protecting People (Missing Persons)

2017/18	2018/19	Change
430	522	+21.4%



The increase in the number of missing persons highlights the impact that these resource intensive incidents place upon police. The majority of these reported had a vulnerability of some kind with mental health related issues the most prevalent. A large proportion of those people missing are from small number of establishments.

Work continues with our partners to ensure that the residents of the Scottish Borders are protected against Bogus Callers, Frauds and Scams which are becoming more and more relevant and are aimed at the most vulnerable in our community.

Acquisitive Crime - Housebreaking Crimes crime rate per 10,000

2017/18	2018/19	Change
17.0	15.2	-10.6%



This 10.6% decrease positively reflects the work the police and the community have been doing to increase security and deter criminals. As a result 21 fewer premises have been broken into in the Scottish Borders compared to last year to date. The detection rate for Housebreaking in the Scottish Borders is 20.6%.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Domestic Abuse



In conjunction with our domestic abuse investigation unit high tariff offenders are identified and managed through the multi agency MATAAC process with victims being identified and supported through the MARAC process.

Proactive bail checks being robustly enforced on a daily basis.

Use of the Scottish Borders Police Facebook and Twitter accounts during the targeted periods to highlight Domestic Abuse as a crime and provide details on how to report it.

Preparation for new legislation around controlling and coercive behaviour is ongoing with police in the Scottish Borders being trained.

Road Safety



Taking cognisance of the increase of road casualties over the last year we are committed to working with our partners to reduce road accidents.

The arrival of two new mobile camera units operated by our camera safety partnership will allow for enhanced coverage in the Scottish Borders.

Structured patrol matrix for local road policing resources identified at casualty hotspots.

Maintaining our commitment to the award winning Drivewise Borders which recently won the accolade of Best Community Road Safety award by Brake.

We are working in partnership with councillors, SBC officials, Transport Scotland, Amey and residents, utilising measures such as speed checks and road engineering to reduce the risk in areas that have been identified as problematic.

The introduction of Community Speed Watch within the Scottish Borders, allows appropriately trained members of the community to carry out speed checks in their own areas.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Violent Crime



Detailed night time dispersal plans to reduce alcohol related violence.

Carrying out intelligence led stop and searches targeting individuals believed to be carrying weapons.

Licensed premises checks, focusing on early intervention, preventing violence and disorder, particularly during the festive period where 123 licensed premises visits were carried out.

Reassurance patrols are being carried out by the Community Action Team with reassurance patrols in the Scottish Borders community in the aftermath of any violence and disorder.

Antisocial Behaviour



After a successful trial, re deployable “CCTV” cameras are being deployed to assist with tackling ASB and crime.

The Community Action Team continue to work with the local authority to tackle ASB issues through engagement, patrolling and enforcement.

The Youth Community Officers continue to work in partnership to deter youth ASB focussing this quarter on issues that arise during the holidays and events such as school dances.

Police and SBC have been working in partnership to implement the anti-social behaviour process which successfully targets prolific offenders.

Robustly investigate allegations of hate crime, providing support to victims and reporting offenders seeking appropriate bail conditions.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Drugs and Alcohol Misuse



The Best Bar None program continues ensuring our licensed premises are safe places to socialise. During the festive period 123 licensed premises checks were carried out by local officers to ensure compliance with licensing regulations.

During the festive period police have worked in partnership with licenced premises to distribute anti drink-spiking devices within premises whilst engaging with patrons.

Police have worked with the local authority to task the Community Action Team with regard to drug related issues, assisting in the execution of drugs warrants. There has been a significant increase in drug enforcement over the last quarter with the Community Action Team taking a leading role in this regard.

Protecting People



Police continue to host multi-agency discussions at Child Protection Case Conferences, Adult Protection Case Conferences and through Adult Protection Inter Agency Referrals in order to protect both children and adults at risk of significant harm. Information sharing is a key part of this process.

The Distress Brief Intervention Scheme pilot continues in partnership with NHS Borders and SAMH. This scheme has been positively received and has provided additional support for residents in the Scottish Borders.

Repeat victims of bogus callers are visited by Community Officers providing advice and referring them on to relevant agencies where required.

Social Media is utilised to highlight issues such as scams to help protect people. Information on a BT scam reached over 48,023 people.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Acquisitive Crime



Conduct road checks on our main arterial routes and vulnerable sites to detect, disrupt and deter travelling criminals.

Utilise the Community Action Team to be a visible and physical deterrent to criminals whilst providing community reassurance patrols following a report.

Carry out foot patrols during the festive period in high footfall areas to deter shoplifting.

A dedicated roads policing vehicle is being tasked with targeted patrols to deter and detect persons carrying out acquisitive crime.

PREVENTION & ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of Events, Operations & Activity from 1st October – 31st December

Drugs Supply – This quarter saw the conclusion of a highly successful intelligence led operation targeting known individuals in the Galashiels area who were concerned in the supply of controlled drugs. 12 search warrants were executed at various locations resulting in 16 people being reported.

Best Bar None – Through some excellent engagement from community officers, licensing and the Safer Communities Team we have 19 premises on board this year.

Road Safety – The award winning Drivewise continues, the under 17s event at Charterhall has been awarded an SQA qualification and will hopefully be delivered as a trial to Gala Academy student this year. A new programme focussing on motorcyclist safety aimed at reducing the fatalities in relation to this road user group.

Antisocial Behaviour – Multiagency training in conjunction with ASBU and Registered Social Landlords providing guidance to increase understanding of the process and highlight good working practices.