



"Keeping People Safe"

Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum – January 2014 Police Report

Inspector Carol Wood

Detailed below is an update on performance, activities and issues across the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum ward areas for the period up to 31 December 2014.

Performance in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area

Crimes Groups 1 to 5 (Ref: Measuring Our Performance)						
Area	This year to date			Last year to date		
	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol
Teviot & Liddesdale Ward (December)	489	252	51.53%	488	310	63.52%
Scottish Borders (YTD)	2376	1236	52.02%	2470	1430	57.89%

Reported crime is on a par with what it was at this point last year. Whilst it is disappointing to see the drop in solvency rate, there has been a drop in the reports of serious and minor assaults and sexual crimes, coupled with an increase in the number of people being detected for the supply and production of drugs throughout the Forum area so far this year. As I have said previously, these figures fluctuate daily and should only be used as a guide

The combined Ward Plan Priorities are:

Anti Social Behaviour – Groups of Youths and Dog Fouling

- There are currently 29 individuals at various stages of the anti social behaviour process. We continually work with partners in Housing and various departments at Scottish Borders Council to deal with these people.
- During December there were nine Anti Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Tickets issued.

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Tackling Substance Misuse – Underage Drinking

- A number of searches were carried out in December, which resulted in a number of recoveries of alcohol and one of drugs.

Rural Theft

- Late on 09/12/14, a cattle lorry was found abandoned on the Bonchester to Hawick road. The ignition was found damaged and a quad bike was found on the back. It was established that the vehicle and quad had been stolen from a secure yard near Kirkton. A positive line of enquiry is progressing.
- Between 9th and 10th December, a secure farm shed was broken into in the Newcastleton area. Thieves have then stolen three quad bikes to the value of £12000. It would appear these have been loaded onto a vehicle before being taken away. Enquiries are continuing into this theft.
- Pro-active visits to itinerant scrap metal dealers continue as well as liaison with a number of partners to ensure premises are being run appropriately. We maintain liaison with neighbouring forces, sharing information to assist in tackling rural crimes, particularly in relation to travelling criminals.
- Police, NFU and Crimestoppers have put a new information leaflet together. This will be delivered to every farm in the Scottish Borders over the next few months. This covers a range of issues relating to rural theft and should assist in preventing crime affecting these communities. Police Scotland will also be utilised the Scottish Borders Council SB Alert scheme to pass information and appeals from now on. Anyone in the Borders can sign up to this at www.sbalert.co.uk and we would encourage everyone to do so.

Making Our Roads Safer – Speeding and Inconsiderate Driving

- There were a significant amount of road checks carried out in both ward areas during the reporting period due to the festive and winter driving campaigns. One ticket was issued for the use of a mobile phone and one driver given a warning for the anti social use of a motor vehicle. There were no drivers in the Teviot and Liddesdale area detected for driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs during December.
- On 28/12/14 a moped rider failed to stop for police in the Burnfoot area. This resulted in two persons being charged with a number of road traffic offences and two mopeds being seized.

Other Incidents of Note during December 2014

A large fire occurred within the stables and outbuilding at Spital Tower, Denholm. This resulted in extensive damage and the total loss of property, to the value of several hundred thousand pounds. Enquiries have established this fire was not suspicious.

On 03/12/14 a male currently on an anti social behaviour order was spoken to by officers on the High Street. The officers searched the male and he was found in possession of a large kitchen knife. He was arrested, charged and kept in custody to appear at court.

During the early hours of 04/12/14, officers attended an alarm activation to the premises of Superdrug, High Street, Hawick and discovered the shop had been forcibly entered and various items stolen. On the same night there was also an attempt to enter Yeomans Outdoor Leisure. Enquiries so far have led to the search of two residential properties under warrant and enquiries are progressing.

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Operation Archerfish was a pro-active operation carried by Police within the Borders area during December. Several warrants were executed within Hawick during that time and individuals reported to the procurator fiscal. As part of the operation, officers stopped a vehicle close to the Carter Bar, which was believed to be heading to Hawick. A search of the vehicle recovered drugs with a street value of £9000. A male appeared at court from police custody in relation to this.

There has been a delay in uploading the updated ward plans however these should appear on the Police Scotland website in the next few weeks (links below).

Policing Plans

Your Multi Member Ward plans can be accessed via the Police Scotland website through the following links:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/scottish-borders/hawick-and-denholm/>

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/scottish-borders/hawick-and-hermitage/>

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

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