

Scrutiny Report September 2015

Scottish Borders



The data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

There may be minor amendments between the information in this report and the final statistics – for example: due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, road crashes or incidents. It would not therefore be accurate or appropriate to refer to, quote or use the data in this report as official statistics.

(figures that relate to Scottish Borders as a whole and the combined data for all Scottish Borders wards can show disparity due to date extraction and should be used to show trend only)

Abbreviations used: LYTD = Last year to date TYTD = This Year to Date

Priority 1 – Protecting People

Indicator - Increase the number of Adult at Risk Referrals made to partner agencies

Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

Year to date referrals for 2015/16 are showing a slight increase on 2014/15 figures, 3 more referrals made which equates to 0.5% difference.

Reasons

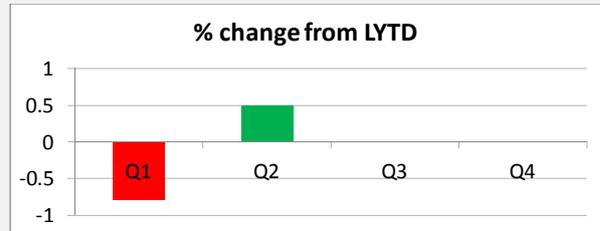
Similar performance to last year at this point therefore the continued awareness raising among officers to identify vulnerabilities and raise adult concern referrals is proving effective.

What are we doing

- The Vulnerable Persons Database (VPD) was implemented in March 2014 and is now fully established making it easier to raise a referral for adults.
- A new process is in place whereby those at risk from fire (e.g. due to age, ill health, alcohol) will be referred to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Indicator - Increase the number of Adult at Risk Referrals made to partner agencies

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	620	617	3



Priority 1 – Protecting People

Indicator - Ensure 95% of Domestic Abuse Initial Checks are conducted within 24 hours

Target - 95%

Current situation

A small increase in performance on the same time last year, and 2.5% better than target.

Reasons

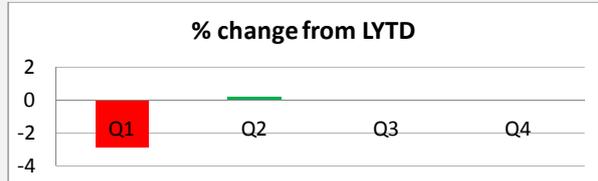
Supervisors and officers are fully aware of the importance of these checks and a disciplined process is in place between the courts and the police.

What are we doing

- Thorough compliance processes are in place.
- Pro-active Domestic Abuse bail checks are undertaken.

Indicator - Ensure 95% of Domestic Abuse Initial Checks are conducted within 24 hours

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
96.6	96.9	97.5	97.3	0.2



Priority 2 – Reducing Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Indicator - Reduce the levels of common assaults
Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

A 3.4% increase in common assaults in the year to date compared to the same time period in 2014/15. This equates to 3 more victims than at the same point last year.

Reasons

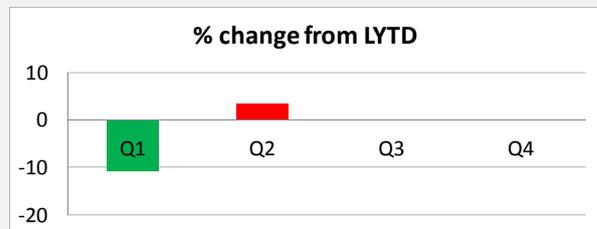
Close liaison with licensees of local festivals and promoting responsible drinking has had a positive impact and helped keep the level of assaults at a similar rate to last year.

What are we doing

- "Best Bar None" has been launched in the Scottish Borders which encourages licensed premises to adopt recognised best practice in and around premises.
- Monitoring bail conditions of known offenders
- Officer development through Campaign Against Violence (CAV).

Indicator - Reduce the levels of common assaults

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	2069	378	375	3



Priority 2 - Reducing Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Indicator - Reduce the number of antisocial behaviour incidents
Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

A 9% reduction (258 incidents) in the year to date when compared to the same time period last year.

Reasons

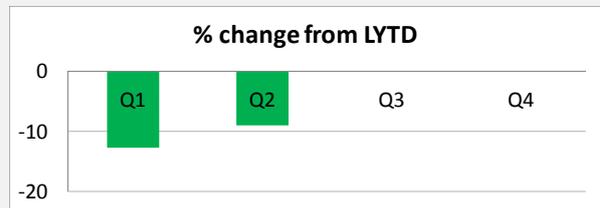
Scottish Borders continues to take a proactive multi-agency approach to combatting antisocial behaviour through early identification of potential issues and targeted interventions with individuals.

What are we doing

- We will continue to target individuals and locations to try and further reduce instances of antisocial behaviour through early intervention of hotspot locations leading to party house letters and formal ASB interventions.
- Expansion of diversionary projects (e.g. Rural Urban Training Scheme) gives challenging young people a positive experience and recognised skills.

Indicator - Reduce the number of antisocial behaviour incidents

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	13692	2619	2877	-258



Priority 2 – Reducing Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
Indicator - Increase the reporting of hate crime
Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

A significant increase in the number of recorded victims of hate crime in the year to date.

Reasons

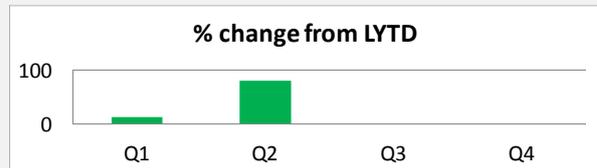
Race related hate crime continues to be the most frequent type of hate crime recorded. This quarter there have been 23 reported racial crimes with 1 repeat victims reporting 2 offences. The large increase in hate crime reporting in the second quarter could be down to the increased awareness and willingness to report hate crime as a result of the Hate Crime month in August 2015.

What are we doing

- We will continue to increase the confidence in reporting this type of crime with our minority groups throughout the Scottish Borders.
- A Hate Crime Month took place in August 2015 to raise awareness of hate crime and provide signposting to ways to report.
- Development of the Keep Safe scheme with an initial focus on learning disability.
- Migrant worker engagement events are planned.

Indicator: Increase the reporting of hate crime

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	58	32	26



Priority 3 - Tackling Substance Misuse
Indicator - Increase the proportion of positive stop and searches for drugs
Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

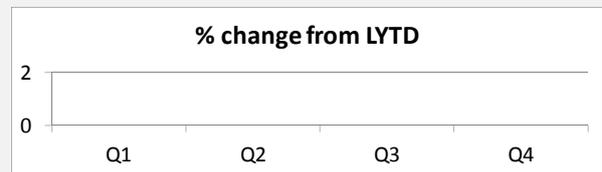
Police Scotland is undergoing a test phase on a new stop and search database that went online on 1 June 2015. Validation and testing of the data is still ongoing and data collected will appear in later reports.

Reasons

What are we doing

Indicator - Increase the proportion of positive stop and searches for drugs

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



Priority 3 - Tackling Substance Misuse
Indicator - Increase the number of licensed premise visits
Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

A 26.5% decrease in the number of visits to licensed premises, which equates to 293 fewer visits.

Reasons

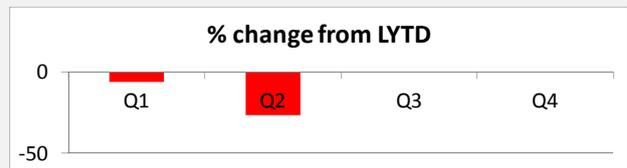
- On a positive note we have no problematic premises which would incur regular visits due to the excellent working relationship between Police, the trade and partner agencies.
- The premises visits continue to go down as officers are not tasked to make visits as it is no longer a requirement.

What are we doing

- Continuing to develop working relationships with the trade and partner agencies to improve premises management.

Indicator - Increase the number of licensed premise visits

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	811	1104	-293



Priority 4 - Making our Roads Safer
Indicator - Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads
Target - Decrease from LYTD

Current situation

A 15.6% reduction (5 fewer casualties) in the year to date. The number of people killed in the year to date is 5, which is 2 more fatalities than at the same point last year. The number of serious injuries is reduced by 7. There were 2 children seriously injured on the roads in the second quarter.

Reasons

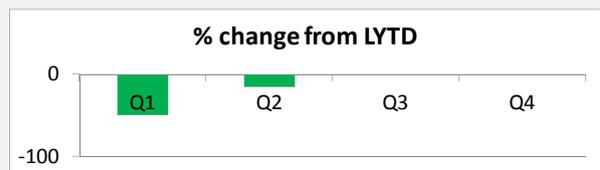
Two further fatalities on Scottish Borders roads in the second quarter of 2015/16.

What are we doing

- A young driver training programme “Skill for Life” is currently being rolled out. The programme aims to create positive driving behaviour in young people.
- Continuing programme of school age events including Countryside Day, Crucial crew, Safe T and Driving into the Future.
- Supporting Junior Road Safety Officers via an annual conference and ongoing school work.

Indicator - Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	101	43	48	5



Priority 5 - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime
Indicator - Increase the number of cash seizures through POCA
Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

A promising start with cash seizures exceeding the value seized at the same point last year.

Reasons

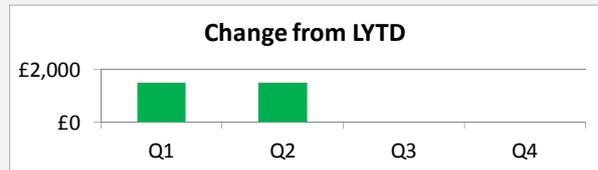
No further seizures in quarter 2.

What are we doing

Police Scotland continue efforts to identify and assess the scale and impact of serious organised crime, and to manage the threat posed by those Serious Organised Crime Groups (SOCGs) involved in the Scottish Borders.

Indicator - Increase the number of cash seizures through POCA

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	£30,174	£2,898	£1,398	£1,500



Priority 5 - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime
Indicator - Increase the number of assets referred for restraint through POCA
Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

No further assets referred for restraint in quarter 2.

Reasons

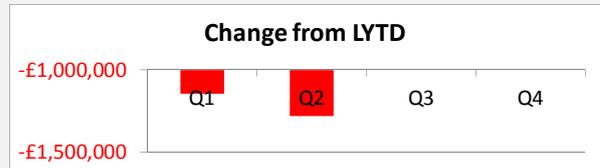
In early 2014/15 there was a significant asset referral made and it will be challenging to match this total in the current year.

What are we doing

Police Scotland continue efforts to identify and assess the scale and impact of serious organised crime, and to manage the threat posed by those Serious Organised Crime Groups (SOCGs) involved in the Scottish Borders.

Indicator - Increase the number of assets referred for restraint through POCA

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	£1,403,482	£105,025	£1,385,177	£1,280,152



Priority 5 - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime
Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for drug supply
Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

It is positive to see there is a 33.3 % increase in the detections for drug supply, with 36 detected offences for drug supply for the year to date

Reasons

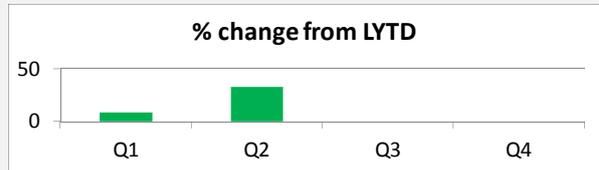
Ongoing proactive tactics continue to be implemented in the Borders to deter, disrupt and detect SOCG activity. These activities continue to achieve very positive results, particularly with regards to drug supply. Work is continually ongoing in this area.

What are we doing

- Divisional Intelligence Unit officers are aligned to the Scottish Borders
- The intelligence led approach adopted in the Scottish Borders is producing positive results.

Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for drug supply

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	192	36	27	9



Priority 6 - Tackling Acquisitive Crime
Indicator - Reduce the number of housebreakings to dwelling houses
Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

A decrease in the number of housebreaking to dwellings has led to 13 fewer victims of this type of crime in the year to date when compared to the same time period in 2014/15.

Reasons

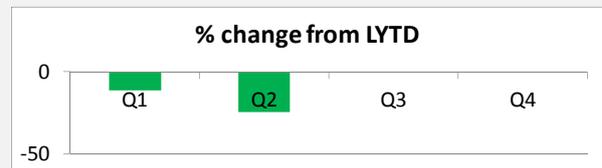
We continue to raise awareness of the need for home security and to actively pursue a programme of prevention activities.

What are we doing

- Successful funding bid which will result in 200 farms being visited and receiving Crime Prevention and Fire Safety advice.
- Funding is being sought for a housebreaking prevention road show.
- Farm walk and talk events are also taking place to provide practical crime prevention and fire safety advice at a working farm.
- Crime prevention advice offered to all victims.

Indicator - Reduce the number of housebreakings to dwelling houses

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	285	40	53	13



Priority 6 - Tackling Acquisitive Crime
Indicator - Reduce the number of thefts of motor vehicles
Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

A 23.5% reduction in theft of motor vehicles in the year to date which equates to 8 fewer victims of this type of crime.

Reasons

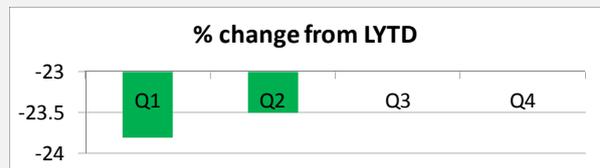
We continue to raise awareness of the need for vehicle security.

What are we doing

Funding is being sought for a housebreaking prevention road show which will also cover motor vehicle theft.

Indicator - Reduce the number of thefts of motor vehicles

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	239	26	34	8



Overall Crime

Indicator - Increase the Group 1-5 Detection Rate
Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

A 1.7% increase in detection rate in the year to date compared to the same time period in 2014, which is positive.

Reasons

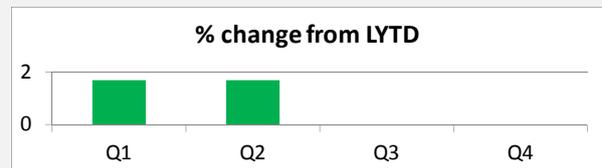
Vandalism and malicious mischief still have lower detection rates than other crime groups but the detection rate for this type of crime improved in the first quarter by 4.1% and has contributed to the overall improvement in performance.

What are we doing

A continued drive and focus on priorities.

Indicator - Increase the Group 1-5 detection rate

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	44.7	53.6	51.9	1.7



Public Confidence - Number of complaints against the Police : YTD 2015

Number of complaints Scottish Borders	54	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - Borders	37.9
Number of complaints J Division	244	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - J Division	43.3

	On duty	off duty	Quality of service allegations	Total Number of allegations
Total allegations recorded	47	0	12	59