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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Quarter 2 – 2022/2023

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. This report has been generated to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents and the management of crime enquiries, there is likely to be differences between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. It would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in this report as official statistics. There are backlogs in processing recorded crimes in E and J Divisions. This is particularly impacting data for September and October 2022. Please use caution when comparing current data for these Divisions with last year and the 5-year average.

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Our Vision

Sustained excellence in service and protection.

Our Purpose

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

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Lothians and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities

Your local policing priorities across THE LOTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS

Our vision
Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland

Our values
Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Human Rights

Our purpose
Working in partnership for the safety and wellbeing of communities in the Lothians & Scottish Borders

| Protecting the most vulnerable people | Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour | Reducing acquisitive crime | Improving road safety | Tackling serious & organised crime |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Protect vulnerable people to prevent abuse, neglect & exploitation.</p> <p>Implement a delivery model supporting a Violence Against Women & Girls Prevention Strategy.</p> <p>Implement the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.</p> <p>Proactively target domestic abuse offenders.</p> <p>Develop partnership approaches to improve public confidence to report incidents of harm & abuse.</p> | <p>Work collaboratively to identify and target violent offenders.</p> <p>Increase awareness of the impact of violence & antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Work in partnerships to reduce alcohol related criminality.</p> <p>Collaborate to capture the under reporting of violence & explore preventative approaches (i.e. Navigator).</p> <p>Develop night time economy plans with licensed premises & promote participation in 'Best Bar None'.</p> | <p>Focus on domestic housebreaking.</p> <p>Raise awareness of current crime trends & prevention tactics.</p> <p>Tackle emerging acquisitive crime patterns to identify & target prolific offenders.</p> <p>Work to prevent acquisitive crime.</p> <p>In partnership, maximise support for victims of acquisitive crime.</p> <p>Work with Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC).</p> <p>Use Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to deliver crime prevention information.</p> | <p>Collaborate on the engineering of the roads through our communities to improve road safety.</p> <p>Detect offenders who disregard road traffic laws & endanger others.</p> <p>Support partnership driver education programmes.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the consequences of speeding, not wearing a seat belt, drink or drug driving & using a mobile phone while driving.</p> | <p>Work to divert people from becoming involved in serious & organised crime & using its products (drugs, counterfeit good etc).</p> <p>Use social media to raise awareness and educate about human trafficking.</p> <p>Work to prosecute those involved in serious organised crime, including online, 'cuckooing' & 'county lines'.</p> <p>Maximise the disruption of serious organised crime groups.</p> <p>Target the production, cultivation & supply of illegal drugs.</p> |

Police Scotland Strategic outcomes

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service
- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery
- Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing
- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public
- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

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POLICE SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Introduction

Crimes and offences are grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes. The Scottish Government defines these categories, as follows;

- Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence
- Group 2 – Sexual Crimes
- Group 3 – Crimes of Dishonesty
- Group 4 – Fire-raising, Malicious Mischief etc.
- Group 5 – Other (Pro-activity) Crimes
- Group 6 – Miscellaneous Offences
- Group 7 - Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles

Police Scotland publishes management information on an annual and quarterly basis by local authority and police division, as well as at a national level. These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency. Police Scotland publishes all of these reports on the 'Our Performance' section of the Police Scotland website. The reports can be accessed here:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

The Scottish Borders Policing Plan uses the following Police performance indicators, and these have been mirrored in the Scrutiny Report to maintain parity of understanding:

1. Protecting the most vulnerable people;
2. Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour;
3. Reducing acquisitive Crime;
4. Improving road safety;
5. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime.

All figures quoted in this report are for the period April 2022 to September 2022 and are compared against the five year average, unless otherwise stated. Where figures are quoted on rate per 10,000 population, these are based on Scottish Borders's population of **115,510 in 2019** (Scottish Government figures, published April 2020).

Reporting Period: April 2022 – September 2022

Total Crime: (Group 1-5) 1824

Crime Increase 0.4%

| Protecting the most Vulnerable People | | Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Domestic Bail Offences | Domestic Crime Detection Rate | Common Assault | Robbery |
| 12.5% | - 7.5% | 20.4% | 40.6% |
|  |  |  |  |
| 27 (3 more) | Q1 – 65.8% | 553 (93.6 more) | 9 (2.6 more) |
| Reducing Acquisitive Crime | | Improving Road Safety | Serious Organised Crime |
| All Housebreaking Detection rate | All Housebreaking | Road Traffic Casualties | Drug supply |
| -15.5% | -22.4 % | -29.6%* | 29.4% |
|  |  |  |  |
| Q1 14.6% | 82 (23.6 less) | 62 (26 less)* | 37 (8.4 more) |

* Last year to date comparison not 5 year average comparison

Scottish Borders Performance Summary

Executive Summary

Quarter 2 was marked in greater part by the death of her late majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. While the majority of officers within the Scottish Borders remained deployed locally to manage business as usual, a number of those with specialisms were drafted into Edinburgh, and some even to London, to assist with the considerable policing operation in support of the late Queen's funeral arrangements. Years in the planning, this was a resounding success, and the professionalism and dignity displayed by Police Scotland officers during the operation was evident to the eyes of the world who were watching throughout.

Another event, with considerable relevance for policing, was the publication of the UK Government's autumn financial statement. While out with this reporting period, I think it important to share now the views of our Chief Constable concerning the funding challenges we face going forward.

The Resource Spending Review (RSR) published by the Scottish Government on 31 May 2022 set out the high-level parameters for resource spending to 2026-27. The RSR indicated that the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and the Police Service of Scotland should plan for a flat-cash settlement over the period of the RSR. The United Kingdom Office of National Statistics estimates that the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose to 11.1% in October.

Our initial analysis shows that for policing in Scotland to operate within a flat-cash funding allocation, savings of between £200 m and £300 m are required over the period, an average of between £50 m and £75 m per annum, in order to accommodate pay awards and absorb non-pay inflationary pressure.

The RSR calls for a reset across public services with an enhanced focus on delivering savings through innovation; efficiency; improvement in procurement; collaboration; and reducing the public sector workforce. Policing in Scotland has reset, already progressing much of the reform now being asked of the public sector as a whole and in doing so returned £200 m annually to the public purse. This level of reform cannot be made again.

Pay represents 86% of policing in Scotland's revenue budget. Further, significant, savings can only be delivered through a pay-freeze or by funding cost of living pay awards by reducing the size of the workforce. By way of illustration, a 1% pay rise across the organisation would cost approximately £11 m. £11 m is the annual cost of employing 225 officers or staff.

If the 5% pay award of 2022-23 was replicated in 2023-24, this would represent an additional £55 m of inflationary pressure which would require a reduction of 1,125 full time equivalent officers and staff members. Over the period of RSR, up to 2026-27, repeated 5% awards would require indicatively accumulated savings of £222 m, the equivalent of an average 4,500 headcount reduction based on current salaries.

Additionally, further significant reductions in the number of police buildings would be required in order to save on utilities, non-domestic rates and maintenance costs. Since reform, policing has reduced its building estate by around a third, or 155 buildings. An indicative assessment suggests a further 20% reduction in the estate footprint could be achieved – roughly equivalent to 18 buildings the size of London Road Police Station in Glasgow.

Our Chief Constable Sir Iain Livingstone QPM and the Chair of the SPA Martyn Evans have expressed their concern at the impact the RSR would have on service delivery. The implications for community policing; operational effectiveness; our ability to police major events and demonstrations fairly and safely; and to protect people from existing and emerging threats are significant.

Police Scotland and the SPA underlined these concerns in a written submission to the Criminal Justice Committee. You can read the full submission [here](#).

Converse to the financial landscape, criminality and police business more generally has remained far steadier throughout Quarter 2. The long term crime trends continue as I have previously reported, and much of the narrative within this report is the same as the last. The general theme is that crime in general is in steady decline, although there are a number of areas of business that buck this trend; most notably Domestic, Violent and Sexual crime. These trends are replicated at national level and are largely indicative of more internet enabled crime and a greater confidence and willingness among victims to come forward and report concerns.

Road casualties too have been in steady decline over many years, particularly among serious and slight injury collisions, albeit fatalities are dropping at a slightly slower rate. All this in the face of increasing volumes of road traffic which would normally signal an increase in casualty numbers.

Another trend that continues, and which may indeed accelerate as the cost of living crisis begins to bite, is the proportion of calls we receive and deal with that involve no criminal component. Indeed, only around 2 in 10 calls involve criminality, with a greater proportion involving concern for vulnerable people. We are likely to see increased vulnerability and poverty in the coming years which can manifest in an increased role for public services, including policing. We keep such trends under close review to ensure we continue to be responsive to community needs. Within all we face, we in policing continue to do so with the consent and support of our communities which is why maintaining their trust and confidence is so important and not something we take for granted

In terms of more specific performance, you'll note too the caveat on the front page of this report around the lag that often exists when processing statistics and the figures quoted throughout very much represent a moment in time. We carry a significant proportion of work in progress, and those crimes cannot be categories as solved or otherwise until such time as the enquiry is complete. As I have said before, particularly where laboratory work is required, lead times can be long.

Comparisons with five year averages were introduced in the last two years in an effort to provide clearer evidence of our performance, removing the complications of Covid in our normal year on year comparisons. Now Covid has passed, it may be the five year average comparisons are having the opposite effect to that originally intended, as they include two years heavily influenced by the pandemic. This will be reviewed for future reports.

Quarter 2 also saw continued high demand in terms of our support for the multiplicity of events that take place in the Borders each summer and planning has already begun around next year's calendar of events.

| Protecting the most vulnerable people. | Missing Persons |
|---|-----------------|
| <p>The Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division and the communities of Scottish Borders recognise that protecting people, particularly those considered vulnerable, is a policing priority. Within the remit of protecting people is the work and investigations carried out to trace people who are reported missing. To put the scale of this work into context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police Scotland, on an annual basis undertake over 22,000 investigations into missing people;• In the Lothians and Scottish Borders Division this equates to the following;<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 2017 / 2018 – 2390 missing person investigations;• Year 2018 / 2019 – 2581 missing person investigations;• Year 2019 / 2020 – 1786 missing person investigations.• Year 2020 / 2021 – 1468 missing person investigations.• Year 2021 / 2022 – 1565 missing person investigations. <p>Recognising the vulnerability associated with missing people, particularly those that are young or suffering from mental health challenges, Police Scotland has adopted a rigorous investigation structure and management approach to incidents involving missing people.</p> <p>Owing to staff absence, validated figures in terms of missing person incidents recorded during Q2 are unavailable, although it is clear incidents involving missing adults, cared for adults and children are all in decline. This is excellent news and evidences that the various protocols introduced in recent years are having a positive effect. Where we have seen a rise this quarter is among looked after children. This is attributable to a small number of children who go missing on multiple occasions and we work closely with our partners to ensure care arrangements are appropriate and that all reasonable steps are taken to reduce the likelihood of them going missing again. Some children are accommodated within the Scottish Borders, although are managed by local authorities in other parts of the country.</p> <p>Of note, one high risk missing person enquiry conducted in Q2 was particularly complex and protracted. This required a small team, drawn from local resources, albeit supported by colleagues in national divisions, who were dedicated solely to this enquiry until such time as the person was found.</p> | |

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Protecting the most vulnerable people. | Domestic Abuse Incidents |
|---|---------------------------------|

| | 5yr Average | Q2 2022/23 | % Change |
|---|-------------|------------|----------|
| Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents | 595.8 | 610 | 2.4 |
| Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents | 337.4 | 400 | 18.6 |
| Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime | 41.3 | 45.3 | 4.0 |
| Total crimes and offences detection rate | 73.3% | 65.8% | -7.5 |
| Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences | 24 | 27 | 12.5 |

This year to date 610 incidents of domestic abuse have been reported in the Scottish Borders, this is an increase of 2.4% on the 5 year average. The detection rate, at the time of writing, has since risen to 68.4% and is expected to climb further as enquiries complete.

While the rise in reports of domestic offending may understandably give rise to concern, it is important to understand that this may not reflect an increase in domestic offending per se. We and our partners have for many years promoted the reporting of domestic abuse, either directly or via third parties, and the confidence victims, their families and friends now have to report domestic offending, is encouraging. We routinely see types of incidents reported now, that we simply wouldn't ten or twenty years ago. We see every report of domestic abuse as an opportunity to intervene, support and protect victims from harm.

To that end, every incident reported is subject to intense, intrusive scrutiny by a range of trained officers. This ensures a robust and consistent approach to tackling domestic abuse on every occasion. We continue to work closely with support and advocacy services and prompt referral through our concern hub allows support and engagement to take place at the earliest opportunity.

Our Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) review all domestic incidents which are reported to police. In many instances they carry out extensive protracted enquires identifying and approaching previous partners, in some cases unearthing non-recent criminality that would otherwise have gone unreported, to present the best possible case to the Procurator Fiscal. During quarter 2 the DAIU charged a 28 year old male with 6 domestic offences against an ex-partner. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meetings were introduced nationally in 2013 to ensure perpetrators of domestic abuse 'receive a robust and effective response'. The aim of MATAC is to effectively tackle offending by those perpetrators who present the greatest risk of harm in order to achieve positive outcomes for victims and their families. During quarter 2 there were 2 MATAC referral's in the Scottish Borders, 5 in total this year to date.

We will seek remands or bail conditions where appropriate and proactively check bail conditions are being adhered to. We have detected 27 bail offences this year to date, a rise of 12.5% when compared to the five year average, this is testament to our commitment to tackling the scourge of domestic abuse and keeping people safe. A Borders Court was the first in Scotland to impose electronic bail, which involves electronically tagging the perpetrator to ensure they either stay within their address during curfew hours, or stay away from particular addresses. It naturally follows, that with this new measure in place, more bail offences are being detected.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Protecting the most vulnerable people. | Hate Crime |
|---|-------------------|

| | 5 year average | Q2 2022/23 | Q2 Per 10,000 |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Hate Incidents | 47.2 | 71 | 6.2 |
| Hate Crimes * | 40.2 | 71 | 6.2 |
| Hate Crime Detection Rate | 76.1% | 60.6% | |

Official Hate Crime statistics include all crime types with a hate crime aggravator added. The aggravators being;

- Disability, Race, Religion or belief, Sexual Orientation, Transgender Identity

A hate crime is “any crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group”.

For further information on Hate Crime you can visit the Police Scotland website via the following link:

[Hate crime - Police Scotland](#)

Like domestic abuse, hate crime has historically been underreported, and significant effort over the years has gone into encouraging more people to come forward. It is encouraging to see more people are prepared to do so, perhaps assisted by our online and third-party reporting mechanisms, and the increases we’ve seen are perhaps more indicative of this willingness, rather than a sign of deterioration in offending behaviour.

Very few hate crimes result in damage to property or physical injury to the person. This year-to-date assaults have accounted for only 9% of all hate crimes. Most hate crimes, around 89% YTD, involve derogatory comments. Irrespective of how hate behaviours manifest themselves we recognise the harm it causes individuals, families, groups and communities. We are committed to encouraging respectful, tolerant interactions where everyone involved feels respected and valued.

While it is recognised that detection rates have fallen (albeit they have risen again slightly as at time of writing), the quality of the enquiries conducted, and the care and attention victims receive has not deteriorated. The challenge remains that allegations of any sort of criminality require corroborative evidence if they are to be progressed through the courts, and there are instances where such evidence does not exist, notwithstanding our best efforts to find it. All reports of hate crime are monitored and reviewed by the Deputy Area Commander.

As police officers we continue to find ourselves victim to around 10% of hate crimes, usually when dealing with unruly arrested persons. We understand that in heated situations such as this, people are inclined to say things with the express intention of causing maximum offence, but we cannot simply accept this as being part of the job.

Our robust stance on hate crime serves to educate offenders and other members of the public on what is, and more importantly, what is not acceptable in a modern, respectable society.

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Protecting the most vulnerable people. | Sexual Crimes (Group 2) |
|---|------------------------------------|

| Crime Type | 5 Year average | Q2 2022/23 | Change | YTD Per 10,000 population | Q2 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Group 2 | 121.2 | 133 | 9.7% | 11.5 | 63.9% |
| Rape & Attempt Rape | 23.2 | 32 | 37.9% | 2.8 | 62.5% |
| Indecent/Sexual Assault | 46.8 | 44 | -6.0% | 3.8 | 72.7% |
| Other Group 2 | 51.2 | 57 | 11.3% | 4.9 | 57.9% |

Tackling the types of criminality that pose the greatest threat and risk is, and will always be, a priority for officers in the Scottish Borders. We endeavour to instil confidence in victims of sexual crime to report incidents, providing assurance we will be sensitive, thorough, and professional in our investigations. We undertake to work with partners to provide victims with the best support possible, to be resolute in our pursuit of perpetrators and manage offenders closely to minimise the risk of further offending or harm.

Sexual Crime in the Scottish Borders shows an increase of 9.7% this year-to-date when compared to the five year average and this is predominantly due to increases in reports of Rape and Attempted Rape. Comparing this year to last, reports of rape and attempted rape are up two from last year to 32 this. An enquiry in relation to one particular male perpetrator, proactively established a number of other crimes and victims, and a proportion of the increase in reports of rape and attempted rape can be attributed to this single enquiry.

Further comparison to last year's figures show group 2 crimes overall are down 23.1%. This is mainly linked to a reduction in reports of Indecent/Sexual Assault.

The detection rate is down 1.8% when compared to the 5 year average but up 7.8% when compared to last year to date.

21% of all Group 2 crimes are domestic crimes, as discussed earlier in this report every domestic incidents is subject to intense scrutiny to ensure a robust and consistent approach to tackling domestic abuse.

70% of all Group 2 crimes occur within a private residence.

It is also important to understand that a proportion of sexual crime is non-recent (32% TYTD), and can often date back many years or even decades. This too is indicative of a societal change where victims are more inclined to talk about and disclose their experiences. Regardless of when the reported crimes were actually committed, our investigations remain thorough and our approach, sensitive and supportive.

In August this year a 71 year old male was charged with 6 sexual offences. These offences were committed between 2012 and 2019. The first offence was reported to us during 2021 and following another protracted enquiry, five further offences were identified.

The investigation of sexual crime, alongside the management of offenders and support of victims is achieved through close partnership working. The support offered to victims of Sexual Crime by partner agencies is essential and we continue to refer victims to these organisations.

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|---|--|
| Protecting the most vulnerable people. | Drug Supply, Production & Cultivation |
|---|--|

| Drugs Supply | 5 year average | Q2 2022/23 | Change | YTD Per 10,000 population | Q2 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation | 28.6 | 37 | 29.4 | 3.2 | 59.5% |

Tackling substance misuse remains a priority and local policing teams continue to respond to intelligence in relation to drug misuse. Detections in relation to Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation are up 29% when compared to the 5 year average.

Drug supply offences always require some form of laboratory work to confirm the substances concerned. The laboratory have faced significant challenges throughout the pandemic, which coincided with a significant upgrade and refurbishment. This has led to extended lead times for analysis and it may be several months before crimes of this type can finally be marked as solved, however policing activity to disrupt and detect such crimes continues as a priority.

To ensure Police Scotland remain focused on Tackling Substance Misuse the following activities take place;

- Daily Briefings are circulated to all Response and Community Officers to keep them up-to-date with recent intelligence.
- Uniformed officers engage with members of the Community to gain intelligence re illegal drug activity.
- Intelligence is tasked out for further development to make it actionable.
- We work with our partners in the Alcohol and Drug Partnership to ensure we have the most up-to-date information to circulate to our officers regarding drug trends in our area.
- Our Schools Officers maintain regular contact with our schools to ensure we are aware of any concerns regarding drug activity amongst our youths.
- Our Antisocial Behaviour Unit monitor all reported incidents and collate data on areas where it is suspected drug activity is taking place, this informs patrol matrix tasking for officers.
- We participate in the Drug Deaths Review group which considers learning points for all agencies involved.
- We participate in the Non-Fatal Overdose group which ensures support is offered immediately after an incident.
- We use Social Media to encourage reporting of Criminal Behaviour through 101, 999 or Crimestoppers.

In July a joint operation was carried out between SBCAT and CID whereby a warrant was executed at a commercial premises on the outskirts of Hawick. A Cannabis cultivation on an industrial scale was recovered with an estimated value in the region of £1 million. Two males have been reported in relation to this recovery.

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SBCAT officers also searched separate properties in Kelso, seizing Heroin valued at £250.00 from one address and Cannabis valued of £200.00 at the other.

In addition to these warrant executions, officers during pro-active patrols have completed 9 positive stop searches in Hawick, Galashiels, Kelso and Newtown St Boswells with personal amounts of Class B and C controlled drugs recovered and persons reported.

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour | Crimes of Violence (Group 1) |
|---|-------------------------------------|

| Crime Type | 5 year average | Q1 2022/23 | Change | YTD Per 10,000 population | Q1 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Group 1 | 58.4 | 76 | 30.14% | 6.58 | 57.9% |
| Serious Assault | 25.4 | 24 | -5.51% | 2.08 | 83.3% |
| Robbery | 6.4 | 9 | 40.6% | 0.78 | 66.7% |
| Common Assault | 459.4 | 553 | 20.4% | 47.87 | 63.7% |

*Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

Reducing violence is another policing priority for both the Scottish Borders and the wider Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division. We recognise the impact violence has on our communities and work collectively to reduce this.

There has been a 30% increase in violent crime in the Scottish Borders compared to the five year average, equating to an increase of 17.6 crimes. There has been a 12.6% decrease when compared to LYTD. The detection rate for overall violent crime is 57.9%, a decrease of 15.1% when compared to the 5 year average.

The increase in violent crime is mainly attributed to the following crimes when compared to the 5 year average:

- The 67% increase in reports of threats and extortion which equates to an actual increase of 6 crimes.
- DASA (Domestic Abuse Scotland Act), offences which were not introduced until April 2019. As such there is insufficient data for a 5 year average, however there is an increase of 33% (8 crimes) when compared to LYTD (from 12 to 16).

As referenced in earlier reports, and as can clearly be seen above, threats and extortion, and in particular 'Sextortion', accounts for a significant proportion of Group 1 offending and is the greatest single contributor to the percentage rises we continue to experience both here in the Borders and nationally.

Sextortion involves the threat of sharing sexual information, images or clips to extort money from people, whether images actually exist or not. These crimes are often perpetrated overseas and are challenging to detect. If we extract this type of criminality from our detection rate calculations, our solvency rises from 58% to 69%.

Our messaging remains the same, sometimes the people you meet online are not who they say they are. We want people to be aware of the risks and stay safe online and if there has been an incident, to have the confidence to report it to police. Every report will be treated seriously, handled in a sensitive manner, and victims will be treated with respect.

Common Assaults in the Scottish Borders have increased by 20.4% against the five year average, the detection rate being 64% this year to date. Approximately 50% of common assaults were recorded as taking place in private spaces, the remaining 50% taking place in public spaces. Domestic Assaults account for around a third of all common assaults. The vast majority of all common assaults with a domestic marker took place in private space. About 31% of domestic assaults were non-recent.

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| Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour | Reducing Antisocial Behaviour |
|---|--------------------------------------|

| Indicator | 5 Year Average | 2022-23 Q1 | Change | TYTD Per 10,000 population | Q1 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|--|----------------|------------|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Antisocial Behaviour Incidents | 3255.8 | 2562 | -21.3% | | |
| Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief) | 415.6 | 349 | -16.0% | 30.2 | 24.9% |
| Fire-raising | 17.6 | 31 | 76.1% | 2.7 | 51.6% |
| Breach of the Peace and S38 CJ&L(S) A 2010 | 471.2 | 448 | -4.9% | 38.8 | 73.7% |

The number of Anti-Social behaviour incidents has decreased by 21.3 % this year-to-date when compared to the 5 year average. This is a total reduction of 693.8 incidents and is reflective of the exceptionally high demand we saw during periods of Covid restriction, artificially inflating the five year average.

Overall, Group 4 Crimes have reduced by 11.3% when compared to the five year average, a decrease of 51 crimes. A proportion of the reported breaches of the peace and S38 CJ&L(S) Act offences will have a domestic element to them, and Police officers and staff too will be victims in some cases.

You'll note however the upturn in fire-raising, by some 13 incidents when compared to the five year average. A proportion of these were connected to a series of bin fires in Peebles, which ultimately led to the significant damage caused to the swimming pool. This series of fires have been detected following extensive enquiries and public support. While many others can be attributed to mischief making or misadventure (some involve discarded cigarettes, aerosol cans, vape batteries, park benches etc.), a proportion are more sinister and have links to feuds and disagreements. These types of incident have mostly occurred in Hawick.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit monitors incidents of an Anti-Social nature, ensuring repeat locations and perpetrators are identified early, intervention opportunities are explored in full, and where required, enforcement activity undertaken. This work is carried out in partnership with the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit at Scottish Borders Council. Antisocial Behaviour Patrols form part of our daily patrol matrix as well as our weekend plans and targeted patrols are carried out by response and community officers at peak times for ASB in hotspot areas.

Significant work has been carried out in Peebles this quarter to tackle youth disorder. This work has been carried out in partnership with the ASBU, Social Work and Peebles High School. As a result of the work 2 youths who were responsible for a large proportion of the disorder are being supported by the Vulnerable Young Person process.

On the 12th and 13th of July our youth engagement and community policing team, teamed up with the British Army Youth Development Team to run a programme for youngsters designed to develop life skills to help improve their futures. Activities included bridge building, code breaking, jungle maps, paint balling, assault course and riot shield runs. The day was also supported by Community Learning and Development, School/Home Link workers and Morrison's kindly donated lunch.

Our Community Policing Team from Eyemouth attended the RNLI lifeboat day along with our partner emergency services. This was great opportunity for the community to engage with our team, see some of our equipment and discuss any ongoing issues they have.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Reducing Acquisitive Crime | Dishonesty (group 3) | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|

| 5 Year Average | Q1 2022/23 | Change | YTD Per 10,000 population | Q1 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|----------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 710.4 | 756 | 6.42% | 65.45 | 25.13% |

Given the wide range of ‘acquisitive crimes’ this priority is covered in 2 sections within this report:

- Dishonesty (covered in this section);
- Housebreaking (covered in the next).

YTD 2022/2023 overall Group 3 crimes have increased by 45.6 crimes(6.42%) when compared to the five year average (This overall figure incorporates housebreaking crimes).

The largest increase has been seen in frauds, where there has been an increase of 76.7% which equates to an actual increase of 63.8 crimes.

The increase in fraud is mirrored nationally. 55.1% of frauds in the Scottish Borders relate to Cybercrimes and as mentioned earlier, these crimes require complex and often lengthy, technical enquiries. These crimes, often perpetrated by suspects overseas, are simply more difficult to detect. As society as a whole becomes more digitised, the opportunity for such offending increases.

We still however continue to receive reports of ‘conventional’ frauds, and these require a more conventional investigative approach. During Q2 a 50 year old man was charged for fraudulently obtaining £6000 to carry out maintenance work that he failing to do. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

We recognised the significant impact bogus workman incidents, like the aforementioned, have on our communities. We continue to roll out our ‘no cold calling zones’ with a new zone being set up in Eddleston. We are also in the process of implementing zones in Bowden and Newtown St Boswells. In addition victims of phone/internet/doorstep crimes are provided with an incident follow up information pack containing advice intended to prevent repeat victimisation. This pack now includes a copy of the “Little Book of Big Scams” which covers a huge variety of common scams. The link to the book can be found here [Little Book of Big Scams – Cyber Scotland](#).

Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) exhibited at the Border Union Show in July and the Kelso Ram Sales in September highlighting the latest rural crime prevention advice. The partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year. We continued to distribute free wireless perimeter security alarms and crime prevention advice to farmers and rural business.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Reducing Acquisitive Crime | Housebreaking |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|

| Crime Type | 5 Year Average | Q2 2022/23 | Change | YTD Per 10,000 population | Q2 2022/23 Detection Rate |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dwelling HB | 44 | 33 | -25.0% | 2.9 | 9.1% |
| Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB | 22.8 | 27 | 18.4% | 2.3 | 11.1% |
| Other (Business) HB | 38.8 | 22 | -43.3% | 1.9 | 27.3% |
| All HB | 105.6 | 82 | -22.4% | 7.1 | 14.6% |

All housebreaking (including attempts) crimes have decreased by 22.4% when compared to the 5 year average.

Housebreakings differ in their nature; from the low-value, crude and locally perpetrated, often committed by individuals to fund drug habits, to higher value, sophisticated crimes, committed by organised gangs from across the country.

Investigations in relation to the housebreakings committed by organised crime groups are more complex and protracted and it can be the case that crimes will remain undetected for a period of time while sufficient evidence is gathered from a number of scenes and sources which result in a number of related crimes all being detected at once. There is evidence to suggest separate organised crime groups are working more collaboratively and employing technology such as drones to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their criminal enterprises.

On Saturday 8th of January 2022 a garage in Peebles was broken into and off road bike was stolen. After extensive enquires an 18 year old male was charged with the offence in August. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal. We have more recently made a number of other important arrests and hope to have positive news to report to you in that regard in Q3

We too work closely with colleagues in other local policing areas, and indeed from forces in the north of England, to ensure all intelligence is gathered and assessed, and that our response to such criminality is as cohesive and effective as possible. On Wednesday 29 September officers from Police Scotland and Northumbria Police delivered Operation Winterberry, a joint initiative to tackle rural crime perpetrated by travelling and organised crime groups. A total of 147 vehicles were stopped during the operation. One vehicle was uplifted and one driver was reported in connection with road traffic offences. 2 drivers were issued with warnings and several other motorists were provided with information and advice. Further checks, under the banner of Operation Checkpoint are planned for the coming months. This will see us collaborate with colleagues from Dumfries and Galloway, Northumbria, Cumbria and Cleveland; all supported by specialist resources from across the various forces. We are also exploring the introduction of Rural Crime Volunteers, an initiative first piloted in Northumbria, which will enhance our intelligence gathering capability and ability to detect and deter travelling criminals committing rural crime.

We continue to push the prevention message, encouraging businesses and homeowners to take security measures to protect their property from thieves and to improve the chances of their property being recovered in the event they do fall victim.

Secure By Design work was carried out in partnership with developers and architects including a new social housing developments in Duns, Chirnside and Galashiels.

OFFICIAL

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|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Improving road safety | Road Casualties |
|------------------------------|------------------------|

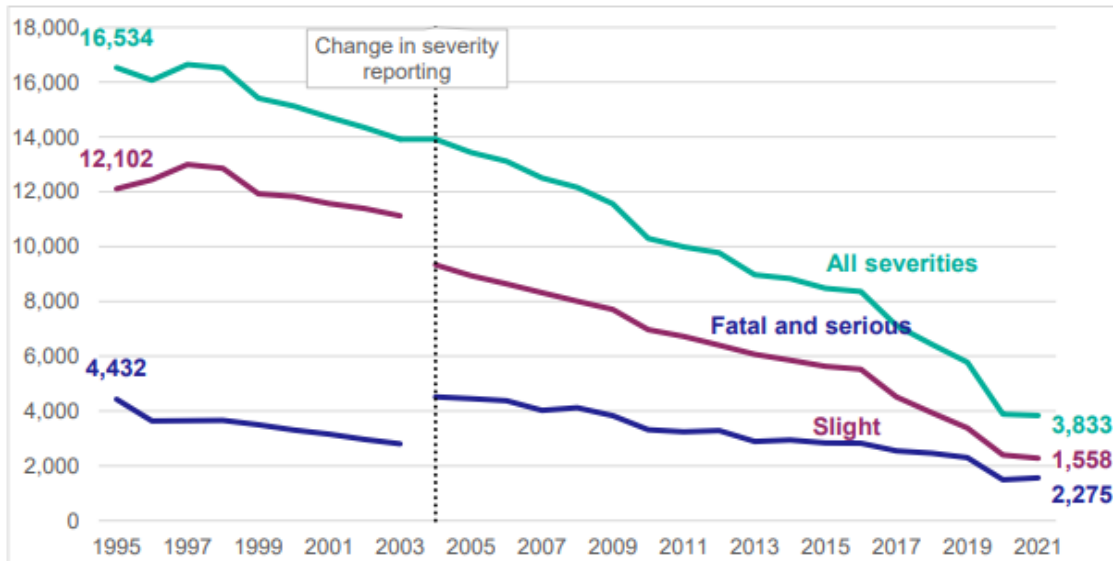
| | Q2 2021/22 | Q2 2022/23 | Change |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Fatal | 5 | 5 | 0% |
| Serious | 36 | 24 | -33% |
| Slight | 47 | 33 | -30% |
| Total | 88 | 62 | -29.6% |
| Children (aged<16) Killed | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured | 36 | 24 | -33% |

| | 5 Year Average | Q2 2022/23 | Change |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Dangerous driving | 23.4 | 31 | 32.5% |
| Speeding | 162.8 | 26 | -84.0% |
| Disqualified driving | 10.8 | 7 | -35.2% |
| Driving Licence | 62.8 | 30 | -52.2% |
| Insurance | 145.0 | 96.0 | -33.8% |
| Seat Belts | 14.4 | 16.0 | 11.1% |
| Mobile Phones | 20.8 | 15 | -27.9% |
| Drink/Drug Driving Detections | 48.4 | 69 | 42.6% |

Since our last quarterly report the Scottish Government has published its latest casualty statistics (2021). A link to the report itself can be found below, but I have also included an extract from the report at Figure 1 which shows the decline of road casualties since 1995.

[Key Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2021 \(transport.gov.scot\)](https://transport.gov.scot)

Figure 1: Number of reported injury road accidents broken down by severity, 1999 – 2021.



Note for Figure 1: Due to changes in the way casualty severity is recorded, figures for the number of serious and slight accidents are not comparable with years prior to 2004.

It's important to note that these falls in casualty numbers have been recorded against a paradoxical upward trend in traffic numbers and vehicle miles covered. Full details can be found within the report itself.

While tragically five people died in fatal collisions on Borders roads this year to date, this is unchanged from the same period last year, and the falling numbers in terms of slight and serious injury is otherwise encouraging. Serious injuries and slight injuries have reduced by a third when comparing Q2 of this year to Q2 of last. This is significant.

We continue to promote and encourage drivers young and old to undertake additional training through the Drivewise initiative. This can be accessed by calling 01896 757575.

In 2019, Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988 was implemented in Scotland, bringing us in line with England and Wales. While Section 4 of the same act makes it an offence to drive while 'unfit' through drink or drugs, this new legislation removes the burden of proof in terms of a driver's fitness. Seventeen drugs, each with a legal concentration in blood are specified in regulation and drivers are initially detected by way of a roadside drug wipe. They are thereafter arrested and conveyed to a police station where bloods are taken and submitted for laboratory analysis. This offence is included in the drink / drug drive detection rates, and given it didn't exist prior to October 2019, has had a bearing on our percentage increase against the five year average.

The prevalence of dash cams has assisted us in securing evidence against more drivers who drive dangerously. Work on a national 'Dash cam Portal' project has slowed while further work is undertaken to integrate it with a larger and wider storage and transmission of electronic evidence project.


The table below illustrates how many safety camera sites were visited during last year and this quarter, how many deployment hours there were, and how many detections were made. It should be noted that the primary purpose of the Safety Camera Unit is to positively influence driver behaviour. The fewer offences detected, the greater the impact the safety camera is having on that particular stretch of road. The most effective camera

sites are those where no offences are detected, indicating full compliance with the speed limits. The establishment of a Safety Camera Unit base in the Scottish Borders has improved operational effectiveness here.

| Safety Camera Site Visits | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|---------|---------|
| | Jul-22 | Aug-22 | Sep-22 | | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
| Visits | 24 | 35 | 45 | | 151 | 104 |
| Enforcement hours | 59 | 90.5 | 117.4 | | 337 | 267 |
| Activations | 59 | 57 | 93 | | 553 | 209 |
| Activations per Enforcement Area | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.8 | | 1.5 | 0.8 |

Road safety remains a key priority for us in the Scottish Borders and patrolling of the roads continues to form part of our daily tasking. As detailed earlier in the report through Operation Winterberry, this activity also contributes to our efforts to tackle acquisitive and serious and organised crime through transportation of controlled drugs and other commodity.

Operation Dogma took place on the 24th and 25th of September with unmarked motorcyclists patrolling popular routes with camera equipped motorcycles. This involved monitoring all road users, but there was a focus on motorcyclists with the aim of reducing injuries and deaths among this particular group who are over represented in our casualty statistics.

| Tackling Serious & Organised Crime | Tackling Serious & Organised Crime |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <p>Police in the Scottish Borders continue to target those involved in serious and organised crime. While it may be difficult to believe such groups operate in the Scottish Borders, they do, and many instances of lower lever criminality; violence, drug misuse or acquisitive crime, can be linked back to them.</p> <p>We continue to tackle these groups at a local level through the gathering and development of intelligence, proactive stop and searches, and through the execution of search warrants and execution of powers under the proceeds of crime act. We also receive support from national divisions to assist in tackling the wider criminal network and to disrupt the flow of drugs and other criminal commodities into the Scottish Borders.</p> <p>Over the last year we have re-established a multi-agency quarterly meeting, chaired by the Detective Superintendent and attended by leads from across the 4 Local Authorities in J Division. This has enhanced communication between agencies, facilitated sharing of best practice and improved understanding of SOC threats.</p> <p>We continue to encourage members of the public to report any concerns regarding drug dealing, or organised criminality in their communities, either directly to us or anonymously through Crimestoppers. We also continue to work with partner agencies to assist their staff in identifying signs of vulnerable people falling prey to organised crime groups and to establishing reporting mechanisms to alert us.</p> <p><u>Threat Level</u></p> <p> The National Threat Level is SUBSTANTIAL.</p> <p>The UK National Threat Level has been lowered to SUBSTANTIAL meaning an attack is likely.</p> <p>The Covid 19 pandemic has highlighted the risk of online grooming and radicalisation of young and vulnerable people during lockdown with pupils being home-schooled and spending more time online than normal.</p> <p>The focus of both Police and The Lothians and Scottish Borders Contest Group has been to raise awareness of the Prevent strand of the CONTEST Strategy. This has been achieved through hosting online sessions for School Campus Officers and partner agencies providing information regarding the National Prevent Referral Form and promoting websites such as www.actearly.uk and www.ltai.info</p> <p><u>We appreciate that explaining terrorism and extremism to young people can be difficult. Counter Terrorism Policing has provided information and guidance per the link below to educate at home or in school.</u></p> <p>https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/advice-for-young-people/</p> | |

OFFICIAL

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|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Complaints | Executive Summary |
|-------------------|--------------------------|

| April 2022 – June 2022 | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | Number of Complaints about the Police | | Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents | |
| Complaints received about the Police | 71 | | 50.3 | |
| | On Duty Allegations | Off Duty Allegations | Quality of Service Allegations | Total Number of Allegations |
| Total Allegations Recorded | 68 | - | 36 | 104 |

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police received in relation to the Scottish Borders area command as at 30th September 2022.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the allegation category and type. As can be seen there has been a 6.8% decrease in the overall number of Complaints about the Police when comparing LYTD and YTD.

| Area | Allegation Category and Type | LYTD | YTD | % change |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Scottish Borders Council | On Duty - TOTAL | 71 | 68 | -4.2% |
| | Off Duty - TOTAL | 1 | 0 | -100.0% |
| | Other | 1 | 0 | -100% |
| | Assault | 3 | 1 | -66.7% |
| | Discriminatory Behaviour | 1 | 0 | -100.0% |
| | Excessive Force | 7 | 4 | -42.9% |
| | Incivility | 16 | 11 | -31.3% |
| | Irregularity in Procedure | 32 | 43 | 34.4% |
| | Neglect of Duty | 0 | 1 | X |
| | Oppressive Conduct/Harassment | 7 | 0 | -100.0% |
| | Other – Criminal | 1 | 0 | -100.0% |
| | Other - Non Criminal | 4 | 1 | -75.0% |
| | Traffic Irregularity/Offence | 0 | 7 | x |

Scottish Borders CAT team – Q2 Update

The SB CAT Strategic Oversight Group, comprising around a third of elected members in the Borders along with representatives of SBC and Police, continues to direct CAT tasking. Decisions are based on sound analytical evidence of ASB and other community issues relevant to the Local Policing Plan and Community Partnership Plan. SBCAT's routine work focuses on regular complaints around illegal parking, speeding within towns and villages, youth disorder, in addition to foot and mobile patrols.

The work of SB CAT permeates every priority within this report, and the excellent work they have done during Q2 in terms of the drugs seizures in Kelso, the recovery of the large scale Cannabis cultivation near Hawick and the numerous lower level drug recoveries has already been referenced.

The following highlights some of the other significant work done during Q2.

In July officers in Peebles paraded at Peebles Police Station to find the tyres of all the Police vehicles parked outside the station had been slashed, rendering them unusable for a significant period of time. Through diligent enquiries and excellent local knowledge, officers were able to identify the male, apprehend him on an outstanding warrant and report him for the damage to the police vehicles.

SBCAT officers attended Border Union Show with our partners to promote prevention opportunities and to receive information and concerns from members of the rural community.

SBCAT were tasked with resolving the risky behaviour of youths entering the derelict former Borders College building in Galashiels. Engagement with Eildon Housing resulted in the implementation of improved security at the site, proactive patrols were carried out in the area, engagement was carried out with local residents and youth warning letters were distributed. No reports of youths on the site have been received for over 6 weeks.

In August officers assisted CID colleagues in dealing with two males from England involved in County Lines activity in Hawick. During executions of warrants both males were apprehended by SCBAT officers. Subsequently arrested and charged with being concerned in supply in controlled drugs. Thereafter arrested by English colleagues and taken back over the border for offences under investigation in England.

In September officers worked alongside colleagues from Northumbria and Dumfries and Galloway in relation to the cross border Operation Winterberry, as previously described.

Appendix

Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

| Lothian and Scottish Borders Division | 5 Year Average | 2022/23 Q2 | Per 10,000 Q2 2022/23 | Detection Rates 2022/23 |
|---|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE | 301.4 | 391 | 7.85 | 58.06 |
| Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law) | 1.6 | 1 | 0.02 | 100.00 |
| Culpable homicide (at common law) | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1) | 1.6 | 2 | 0.04 | 100.00 |
| Attempted murder | 8.4 | 11 | 0.22 | 90.91 |
| Serious assault | 133.8 | 133 | 2.67 | 72.93 |
| Robbery and assault with intent to rob | 43.8 | 38 | 0.76 | 76.32 |
| Domestic Abuse (of female) | N/A | 73 | 1.47 | 69.86 |
| Domestic Abuse (of male) | N/A | 4 | 0.08 | 50.00 |
| Domestic Abuse (Total) | N/A | 77 | 1.55 | 68.83 |
| Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children | 38.6 | 29 | 0.58 | 79.31 |
| Threats and extortion | 26 | 76 | 1.53 | 6.58 |
| Other group 1 crimes | 19.2 | 24 | 0.48 | 29.17 |
| GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES | 554.4 | 516 | 10.36 | 52.13 |
| Rape | 100.6 | 96 | 1.93 | 56.25 |
| Assault w/i to rape or ravish | 3.4 | 9 | 0.18 | 55.56 |
| <i>Rape and attempted rape - Total</i> | 104 | 105 | 2.11 | 56.19 |
| Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)* | 7.4 | 1 | 0.02 | 200.00 |
| Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)* | 158.2 | 149 | 2.99 | 53.69 |
| Lewd & libidinous practices* | 51.6 | 31 | 0.62 | 19.35 |
| <i>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</i> | 217.2 | 181 | 3.63 | 48.62 |
| <i>Prostitution related crime - Total*</i> | 0.4 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children | 26.4 | 32 | 0.64 | 100.00 |
| Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)* | 44.8 | 47 | 0.94 | 61.70 |
| Communications Act 2003 (sexual) | 19.8 | 7 | 0.14 | 28.57 |
| Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)* | 18.4 | 17 | 0.34 | 52.94 |
| Public indecency (common law) | 7 | 5 | 0.1 | 100.00 |
| Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)* | 77.4 | 73 | 1.47 | 38.36 |
| Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)* | 9.2 | 8 | 0.16 | 37.50 |
| Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image* | 29.8 | 41 | 0.82 | 34.15 |
| Other Group 2 crimes | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| <i>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</i> | 232.8 | 230 | 4.62 | 53.04 |
| GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY | 4379.6 | 4086 | 82.02 | 23.23 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house | 190 | 138 | 2.77 | 15.94 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling | 167.4 | 149 | 2.99 | 16.11 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises | 191.4 | 118 | 2.37 | 43.22 |
| <i>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</i> | 548.8 | 405 | 8.13 | 23.95 |

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| Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle | 110.4 | 81 | 1.63 | 7.41 |
| Theft of a motor vehicle | 224.6 | 199 | 3.99 | 33.67 |
| Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.) | 290.8 | 147 | 2.95 | 10.88 |
| Attempt theft of motor vehicle | 19 | 14 | 0.28 | 21.43 |
| <i>Motor vehicle crime - Total</i> | 644.8 | 441 | 8.85 | 20.86 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle | 67.4 | 67 | 1.34 | 10.45 |
| Common theft | 1192.6 | 1300 | 26.1 | 16.15 |
| Theft by shoplifting | 1166.6 | 948 | 19.03 | 41.46 |
| Fraud | 431.2 | 688 | 13.81 | 12.06 |
| Other Group 3 Crimes | 328.2 | 237 | 4.76 | 28.27 |
| GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc. | 2110.6 | 2004 | 40.23 | 22.75 |
| Fireraising | 125.8 | 146 | 2.93 | 20.55 |
| Vandalism (including malicious mischief) | 1870 | 1728 | 34.69 | 21.12 |
| Reckless conduct (with firearms) | 3.4 | 2 | 0.04 | 50.00 |
| Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms) | 106 | 124 | 2.49 | 48.39 |
| Other Group 4 Crimes | 5.4 | 4 | 0.08 | 0.00 |
| GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES | 2174.6 | 1960 | 39.34 | 89.80 |
| Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction) | 78.4 | 93 | 1.87 | 92.47 |
| Handling bladed/pointed instrument | 76.8 | 87 | 1.75 | 88.51 |
| Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)* | 69.8 | 55 | 1.1 | 65.45 |
| Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)* | 43.4 | 30 | 0.6 | 56.67 |
| <i>Total offensive/bladed weapons</i> | 268.4 | 265 | 5.32 | 81.51 |
| Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs | 38 | 23 | 0.46 | 82.61 |
| Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent) | 112.4 | 120 | 2.41 | 62.50 |
| Bringing drugs into prison | 11 | 6 | 0.12 | 83.33 |
| <i>Supply of drugs - Total</i> | 161.4 | 149 | 2.99 | 66.44 |
| Possession of drugs | 928.8 | 746 | 14.98 | 95.71 |
| Other drugs offences (incl. importation) | 7.2 | 9 | 0.18 | 55.56 |
| <i>Total drugs crimes</i> | 1097.4 | 904 | 18.15 | 90.49 |
| Offences relating to serious and organised crime | 1 | 1 | 0.02 | 100.00 |
| Bail offences (other than absconding) | 424 | 440 | 8.83 | 90.00 |
| Other Group 5 crimes | 383.8 | 350 | 7.03 | 94.00 |
| GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES | 5086.4 | 5090 | 102.18 | 64.58 |
| Common Assault | 2054.4 | 2336 | 46.89 | 55.39 |
| Common Assault (of emergency workers) | 208.4 | 197 | 3.95 | 103.05 |
| <i>Common Assault - Total</i> | 2262.8 | 2533 | 50.85 | 59.10 |
| Breach of the Peace | 98.8 | 34 | 0.68 | 102.94 |
| Threatening & abusive behaviour | 1883.4 | 1722 | 34.57 | 69.22 |
| Stalking | 50.6 | 37 | 0.74 | 78.38 |
| <i>BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</i> | 2032.8 | 1793 | 35.99 | 70.05 |
| Racially aggravated harassment/conduct* | 71.4 | 29 | 0.58 | 100.00 |
| Drunk and incapable | 25.8 | 12 | 0.24 | 100.00 |
| Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law | 26.6 | 10 | 0.2 | 90.00 |
| Other alcohol related offences* | 18 | 17 | 0.34 | 105.88 |

OFFICIAL

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| <i>Drunkness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</i> | 70.4 | 39 | 0.78 | 100.00 |
| Wildlife offences* | 19.6 | 31 | 0.62 | 203.23 |
| Other Group 6 offences | 629.4 | 665 | 13.35 | 60.60 |
| GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES | 3636.2 | 3607 | 72.41 | 80.93 |
| Dangerous driving offences | 129.2 | 131 | 2.63 | 74.05 |
| Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen | 270 | 326 | 6.54 | 92.33 |
| Speeding offences | 364.8 | 139 | 2.79 | 100.00 |
| Driving while disqualified | 64 | 44 | 0.88 | 90.91 |
| Driving without a licence | 299 | 232 | 4.66 | 97.84 |
| Failure to insure against third party risks | 732 | 623 | 12.51 | 99.84 |
| Seat belt offences | 71.8 | 57 | 1.14 | 100.00 |
| Mobile phone offences | 93.2 | 78 | 1.57 | 100.00 |
| Driving Carelessly | 298.2 | 353 | 7.09 | 84.42 |
| Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings) | 65.2 | 185 | 3.71 | 94.59 |
| Using a motor vehicle without test certificate | 339.6 | 463 | 9.29 | 100.00 |
| Other Group 7 offences | 909.2 | 976 | 19.59 | 43.24 |

Scottish Borders Recorded Crime Overview

| Scottish Borders | 5 Year Average | 2022/23 Q2 | Per 10,000 Q2 2022/23 | Detection Rates 2022/23 |
|---|----------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE | 58.4 | 76 | 6.58 | 57.89 |
| Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law) | 0.8 | 0 | - | - |
| Culpable homicide (at common law) | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1) | 0.6 | 2 | 0.17 | 100 |
| Attempted murder | 1.4 | 1 | 0.09 | 100 |
| Serious assault | 25.4 | 24 | 2.08 | 83.33 |
| Robbery and assault with intent to rob | 6.4 | 9 | 0.78 | 66.67 |
| Domestic Abuse (of female) | N/A | 16 | 1.39 | 62.5 |
| Domestic Abuse (of male) | N/A | 0 | - | - |
| Domestic Abuse (Total) | N/A | 16 | 1.39 | 62.5 |
| Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children | 6.4 | 5 | 0.43 | 60 |
| Threats and extortion | 9 | 15 | 1.3 | 13.33 |
| Other group 1 crimes | 2.6 | 4 | 0.35 | 0 |
| GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES | 121.2 | 133 | 11.51 | 63.91 |
| Rape | 22.6 | 30 | 2.6 | 60 |
| Assault w/i to rape or ravish | 0.6 | 2 | 0.17 | 100 |
| Rape and attempted rape - Total | 23.2 | 32 | 2.77 | 62.5 |
| Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)* | 0.8 | 0 | - | - |
| Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)* | 35.6 | 39 | 3.38 | 82.05 |
| Lewd & libidinous practices* | 10.4 | 5 | 0.43 | 0 |
| Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total | 46.8 | 44 | 3.81 | 72.73 |
| Prostitution related crime - Total* | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children | 7.2 | 9 | 0.78 | 111.11 |
| Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)* | 10.6 | 9 | 0.78 | 77.78 |
| Communications Act 2003 (sexual) | 3.4 | 2 | 0.17 | 50 |
| Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)* | 1.4 | 3 | 0.26 | 33.33 |
| Public indecency (common law) | 1.2 | 0 | - | - |
| Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)* | 16.6 | 22 | 1.9 | 40.91 |
| Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)* | 3 | 1 | 0.09 | 100 |
| Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image* | 7.8 | 11 | 0.95 | 27.27 |
| Other Group 2 crimes | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| Other Group 2 crimes - Total | 51.2 | 57 | 4.93 | 57.89 |
| GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY | 710.4 | 756 | 65.45 | 25.13 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house | 44 | 33 | 2.86 | 9.09 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling | 22.8 | 27 | 2.34 | 11.11 |
| Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises | 38.8 | 22 | 1.9 | 27.27 |
| Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total | 105.6 | 82 | 7.1 | 14.63 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle | 18.6 | 19 | 1.64 | 5.26 |
| Theft of a motor vehicle | 32.6 | 28 | 2.42 | 35.71 |

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| Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.) | 33.4 | 32 | 2.77 | 15.63 |
| Attempt theft of motor vehicle | 3.4 | 5 | 0.43 | 20 |
| Motor vehicle crime - Total | 88 | 84 | 7.27 | 20.24 |
| Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle | 15 | 19 | 1.64 | 0 |
| Common theft | 223.4 | 234 | 20.26 | 18.8 |
| Theft by shoplifting | 144.6 | 149 | 12.9 | 51.01 |
| Fraud | 83.2 | 147 | 12.73 | 11.56 |
| Other Group 3 Crimes | 50.6 | 41 | 3.55 | 58.54 |
| GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc. | 450 | 399 | 34.54 | 28.82 |
| Fireraising | 17.6 | 31 | 2.68 | 51.61 |
| Vandalism (including malicious mischief) | 415.6 | 349 | 30.21 | 24.93 |
| Reckless conduct (with firearms) | 1.2 | 1 | 0.09 | 0 |
| Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms) | 15.2 | 17 | 1.47 | 70.59 |
| Other Group 4 Crimes | 0.4 | 1 | 0.09 | 0 |
| GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES | 476 | 460 | 39.82 | 93.04 |
| Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction) | 14.6 | 14 | 1.21 | 114.29 |
| Handling bladed/pointed instrument | 17.4 | 14 | 1.21 | 100 |
| Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)* | 12.4 | 8 | 0.69 | 75 |
| Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)* | 6.6 | 8 | 0.69 | 100 |
| Total offensive/bladed weapons | 51 | 44 | 3.81 | 100 |
| Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs | 6.4 | 6 | 0.52 | 66.67 |
| Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent) | 22.2 | 31 | 2.68 | 58.06 |
| Bringing drugs into prison | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| Supply of drugs - Total | 28.6 | 37 | 3.2 | 59.46 |
| Possession of drugs | 217.2 | 217 | 18.79 | 96.31 |
| Other drugs offences (incl. importation) | 2.2 | 0 | - | - |
| Total drugs crimes | 248 | 254 | 21.99 | 90.94 |
| Offences relating to serious and organised crime | 0 | 1 | 0.09 | 100 |
| Bail offences (other than absconding) | 91.8 | 77 | 6.67 | 94.81 |
| Other Group 5 crimes | 85.2 | 84 | 7.27 | 94.05 |
| GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES | 1121.2 | 1203 | 104.15 | 71.24 |
| Common Assault | 410.6 | 500 | 43.29 | 60 |
| Common Assault (of emergency workers) | 48.8 | 53 | 4.59 | 98.11 |
| Common Assault - Total | 459.4 | 553 | 47.87 | 63.65 |
| Breach of the Peace | 33.4 | 7 | 0.61 | 100 |
| Threatening & abusive behaviour | 424.2 | 430 | 37.23 | 72.79 |
| Stalking | 13.6 | 11 | 0.95 | 90.91 |
| BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total | 471.2 | 448 | 38.78 | 73.66 |
| Racially aggravated harassment/conduct* | 9.4 | 3 | 0.26 | 100 |
| Drunk and incapable | 11.8 | 7 | 0.61 | 100 |
| Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| Other alcohol related offences* | 3 | 1 | 0.09 | 100 |
| Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL) | 14.8 | 8 | 0.69 | 100 |
| Wildlife offences* | 10.6 | 27 | 2.34 | 207.41 |

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| Other Group 6 offences | 155.8 | 164 | 14.2 | 65.85 |
| GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES | 857.8 | 874 | 75.66 | 83.3 |
| Dangerous driving offences | 23.4 | 31 | 2.68 | 80.65 |
| Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen | 48.4 | 69 | 5.97 | 89.86 |
| Speeding offences | 162.8 | 26 | 2.25 | 100 |
| Driving while disqualified | 10.8 | 7 | 0.61 | 85.71 |
| Driving without a licence | 62.8 | 30 | 2.6 | 100 |
| Failure to insure against third party risks | 145 | 96 | 8.31 | 101.04 |
| Seat belt offences | 14.4 | 16 | 1.39 | 100 |
| Mobile phone offences | 20.8 | 15 | 1.3 | 100 |
| Driving Carelessly | 90.2 | 114 | 9.87 | 82.46 |
| Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings) | 23.4 | 121 | 10.48 | 91.74 |
| Using a motor vehicle without test certificate | 92 | 127 | 10.99 | 100.79 |
| Other Group 7 offences | 163.8 | 222 | 19.22 | 53.15 |