

Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum – 19 January 2016
Police Report

Inspector Carol Wood

This report focuses on what work is being undertaken in addressing the ward priorities. The report will also detail what activities are being planning both locally and nationally.

The combined Ward Plan Priorities are:

Drug Dealing and Misuse

Stop and search data will be provided at the local scrutiny board.

- A number of stop/searches were carried out in December. Four individuals have been reported for possession of drugs.
- Two house searches were carried out under misuse of drugs warrants. Amphetamine and cannabis were recovered in one of these and a male was charged with possession and drug supply offences. In a separate house search, a male was charged with possession of drugs after cannabis was recovered.

Road Safety

- Community officers carried out 16 road checks during December, however a good deal more were carried out by response officers due to the festive and road safety campaigns (unable to establish exact number of these).
- One conditional offer was issued for failing to wear a seatbelt and one warning was given to a driver for the anti social use of a vehicle. A number of advisory warnings were given to drivers for speeding.
- Following an accident just after midnight on Saturday 12th December, which had the potential for serious injuries being sustained, a 17 year old male was charged with careless driving after losing control of his vehicle and crashing into an electricity transformer just outside Denholm. The electricity supply to Denholm was cut off because of this. The accident was completely down to driver error.
- A 33 year old male was charged with a number of driving offences, including drink driving, after it was reported he had taken a vehicle without the owner's permission from an address in Hawick.
- In a separate incident, a 33 year old was found to be drunk in charge of a vehicle by an officer who was out on foot patrol in Newcastleton. As well as

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this offence, the male was charged with various other road traffic offences and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Violent Crime

- There were no reports of serious assaults or robberies during December.

Anti Social Behaviour

- We continue to monitor closely all anti-social behaviour incidents and a number of individuals are at various stages of the process. We work in partnership with Scottish Borders Council and Registered Social Landlords in dealing with those people who cause a nuisance for their neighbours and in the wider community.
- During December there were five anti social behaviour fixed penalty tickets issued.

Other Incidents of Note

Following a break-in to Johnston's of Elgin on 10th December 2015, a 39 year old male was identified through enquiries and charged with this. A number of high-value items stolen were recovered.

On 22nd December 2015, a Hawick couple reported that they had monies stolen from their house over a period of a few weeks. The couple had given employment to a male to carry out some gardening work and they had allowed him access to their house, which he had exploited. A 28 year old male was identified, charged and appeared at court. Following his court appearance, the male received a six month custodial sentence.

Operation Snowflake

The festive period saw an increase in the number of foot patrols and road checks carried out during December. Overall there were not the same levels of violence or drunken disorder that can be associated with this time of year. Revellers were sensible and enjoyed the festive celebrations. This continued through the New Year, where there was very little disorder and few calls to the Police.

Officers on foot caught shoplifters as well as deterring others and parking was enforced vigorously. As you will note, we also caught two people driving under the influence of alcohol, despite the messages and education that has been delivered over the years.

The weather continues to cause issues for the local community, whether it has been through flooding or the recent snowfall that caused chaos in the Town. Officers have been very much involved in assisting the community alongside other partners in dealing with the problems these have brought.

A draft of the Annual Policing Plan consultation document has been forwarded to all elected members and community council chairpersons for their comments. It has been requested that any responses are returned by 27th January 2016 to policingplan@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

In the next few months, community officers will continue to carry out patrols to deter youth anti social behaviour in various parts of the town. There is also a joint initiative planned with roads policing officers to give attention to areas where concerns have been raised regarding various road traffic matters.

Your updated 2015-2016 Multi Member Ward plans can be found on the Police Scotland website and can be accessed via the following links:

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<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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