

Scrutiny Report December 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 an 11% increase on 2014/15 figures, 100 more referrals made, which is positive.

Reasons

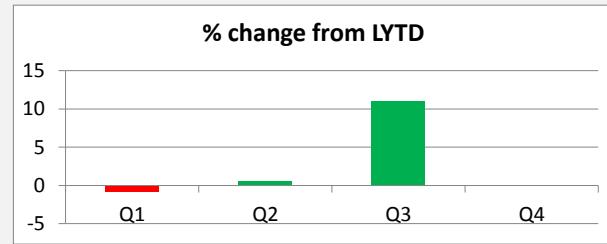
Improved performance on last year at this point therefore the continued raising of awareness among officers to identify vulnerabilities and submit adult concern referrals is proving effective.

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.
- There is greater scrutiny of referrals through the Police daily Tactical, Tasking and Co-ordination Group (TTACG).

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	1009	909	100



Priority 1 – Protecting People
Indicator - Ensure 95% of Domestic Abuse Initial Checks are conducted within 24 hours
Target - 95%

Current situation

Similar performance to the same period last year, and 2.3% better than target.

Reasons

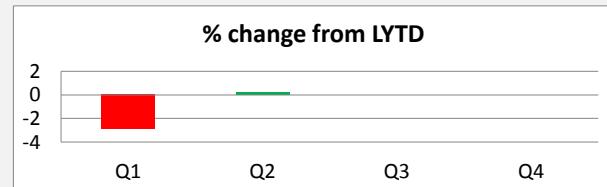
Supervisors and officers are fully aware of the importance of these checks and a disciplined process is in place between the Courts and Police allowing issues to be discussed at the daily TTACG.

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
N/A	N/A	97.3	97.3	0



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

Current situation

A 5.1% increase in Common Assaults reported TYTD compared to the same period last year. This equates to 28 more victims compared to last year.

Reasons

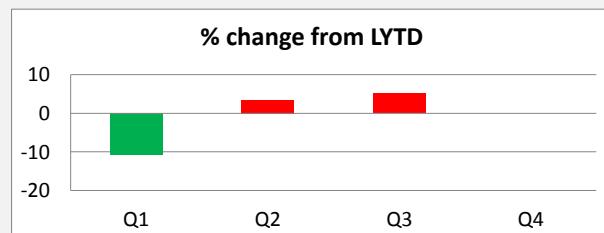
Responsible drinking has played a part along with focused patrols in town centres and work with licensees. The recent increase in assaults will be monitored.

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. Final premises assessments are currently being carried out.
- Monitoring bail conditions of known offenders
- Officer deployment through Campaign Against Violence (CAV).
- Over the festive period focused patrols were carried out and a safety campaign through local media was conducted.

Indicator - Reduce the levels of common assaults

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	3188	581	553	28



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

Current situation

A 7.7% reduction (311 fewer incidents) this year to date when compared to the same period last year.

Reasons

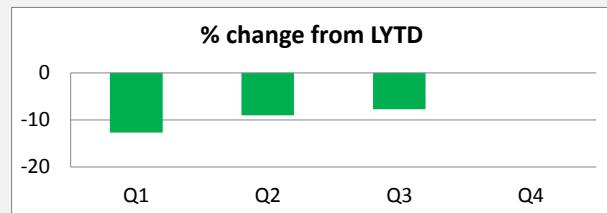
The Scottish Borders continues to take a proactive multi-agency approach to combatting antisocial behaviour through early identification of potential issues and targeted interventions with individuals.

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) provides challenged young people with a positive experience and recognised skills.
- Hotspot identification is currently being undertaken.

Indicator - Reduce the number of antisocial behaviour incidents

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	19917	3715	4026	-311



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 this year to date has been largely due to the spike in offences occurring in Quarter 2.

Reasons

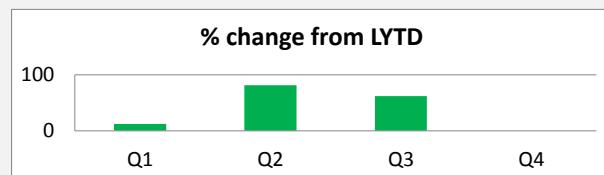
Race related hate crime continues to be the most frequent type of hate crime recorded. This quarter there have been 8 reported racial crimes with 1 repeat victim reporting 2 offences. There were 3 reported offences relating to religious belief with 1 victim reporting 2 offences. There were also 2 reported offences relating to sexual orientation from the same complainant.

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 continuing.

Indicator: Increase the reporting of hate crime

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	68	42	26



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

Current situation

During the period 01/06/2015 to 03/01/2016, officers in the Scottish Borders conducted a total of 249 stop and searches, of which 57 proved positive (22.9%). Unfortunately due to current reporting methods, further breakdown of stop and search activity into individual categories is impossible, therefore the number of searches conducted under the Misuse of Drugs Act cannot be reported.

Reasons

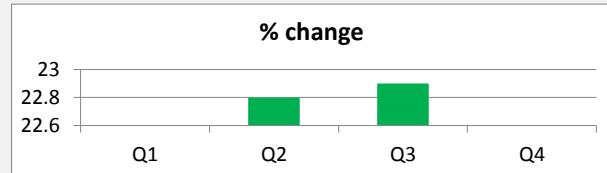
An enhanced version of the National Stop & Search Database commenced on 1st June 2015. The enhanced database brought significant changes to the process of data capture and the methodology for recording data. No previous year to date figures are provided as it has been previously acknowledged this data is not 100% accurate, therefore comparisons will provide misleading results or invalid conclusions.

What are we doing

We are continuing to ensure we target the right people at the right time in the right places with intelligence led policing and also encouraging the public to use crimestoppers to provide information confidentially.

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	22.9	N/A	N/A



Priority 3 - Tackling Substance Misuse

Indicator - Increase the number of licensed premise visits

Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

A 21.8% decrease in the number of visits to licensed premises, which equates to 342 fewer visits.

Reasons

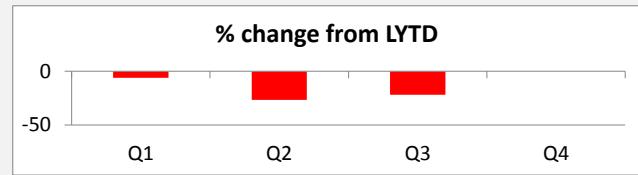
- On a positive note we have no problematic premises which would incur regular visits due to the excellent working relationship between Police, the trade and partner agencies.
- The premises visits continue to go down as officers are not tasked to make visits as it is no longer a requirement.

What are we doing

- Continuing to develop working relationships with the trade and partner agencies to improve premises management.
- All licensed premises are scrutinised to identify any necessary interventions.

Indicator -Increase the number of licensed premise visits

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	N/A	1230	1572	-342



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 1.6% reduction (1 fewer casualty) in the year to date. The number of people killed this year to date is 6, which is 1 fewer fatality than the same period last year. The number of serious injuries is unchanged compared to last year.

Reasons

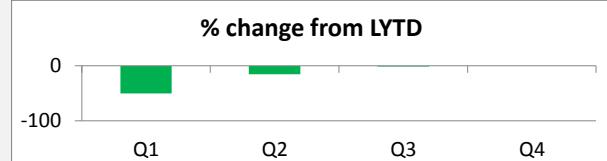
1 further fatality on Scottish Borders roads in the third quarter of 2015/16. There was 1 child seriously injured on the roads in the third quarter, bringing the total for the year to date to 3.

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.
- Road Safety awareness raising for older drivers is currently being planned.

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	170	63	64	-1



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

Current situation

Cash seizures are currently lower than the value seized at the same point last year.

Reasons

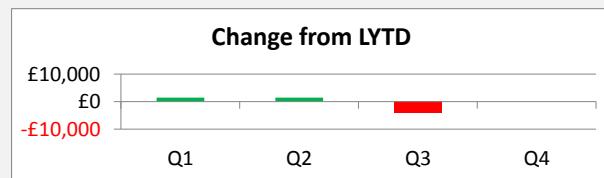
No further seizures in Quarter 3.

What are we doing

Police Scotland continues in its 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) operating 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	£45,746	£2,898	£7,058	-£4,160



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

Current situation

£92,965 in assets referred for restraint in Quarter 3.

Reasons

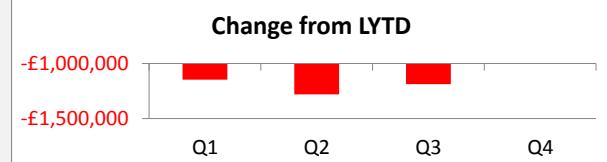
In early 2014/15 there was a significant asset referral made and as a result it will prove challenging to match this total in the current year.

What are we doing

Police Scotland continues 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) operating 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	£1,934,601	£197,990	£1,385,177	£1,187,187



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 encouraging to see an 11.8% increase in the number of detections for drug supply, with 57 offences detected this year to date.

Reasons

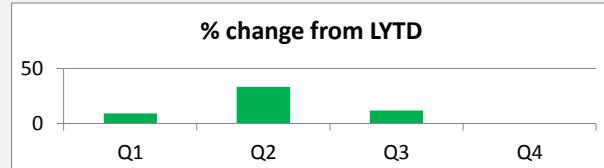
Ongoing proactive tactics continue to be implemented in the Borders to deter, disrupt and detect SOCG activity. These activities continue to achieve very positive results, particularly with regards to drug supply. Work is continually ongoing in this area.

What are we doing

- Divisional Intelligence Unit officers are aligned to the Scottish Borders
- There is a focus on actionable intelligence in relation to drug supply at the TTACG.

Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for drug supply

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	310	57	51	6



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 10 fewer victims of this type of crime this year to date when compared to the same period in 2014/15.

Reasons

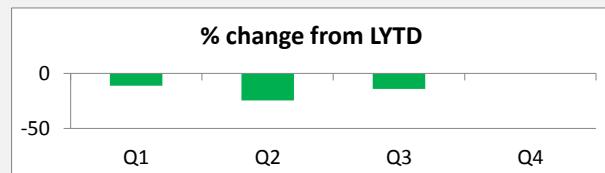
We continue to raise awareness of the need for home security and to actively pursue a programme of prevention activities.

What are we doing

- Successful funding bid which will result in 200 farms being visited and them receiving Crime Prevention and Fire Safety advice.
- 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.
- Currently investigating the potential for property marking schemes for a whole (small) settlement.

Indicator - Reduce the number of housebreakings to dwelling houses

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	412	61	71	-10



Priority 6 - Tackling Acquisitive Crime

Indicator - Reduce the number of thefts of motor vehicles

Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

A 2.1% reduction in theft of motor vehicles this year to date which equates to 1 fewer victim of this type of crime.

Reasons

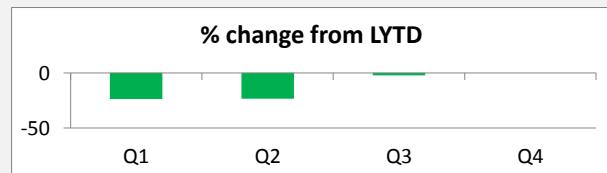
We continue to raise awareness of the need for vehicle security.

What are we doing

Currently investigating the potential for property marking schemes specifically linked to commercial vehicles.

Indicator - Reduce the number of thefts of motor vehicles

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	358	26	34	8



Overall Crime

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

Current situation

A 3.9 percentage point increase in detection rate this year to date compared to the same period last year, which is positive.

Reasons

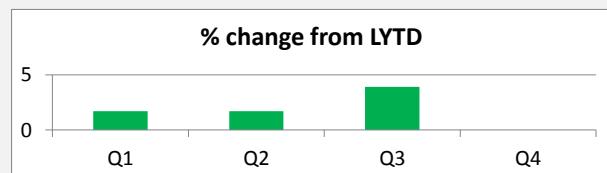
Vandalism and malicious mischief still have the lowest detection rates than any other crime groups, however the detection rate for this type of crime has improved this year, contributing to an overall improvement in performance.

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	44.4	55.9	52	3.9



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

Number of complaints Scottish Borders	84	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - Borders	39.6	
Number of complaints J Division	352	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - J Division	34.8	
Total allegations recorded	77	Off duty	Quality of Service allegations	Total Number of allegations