

Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum – 19 April 2016
Police Report

Inspector Carol Wood

This report focuses on the work that is being undertaken in addressing the ward priorities. The report will also detail what activities are being planned 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.

- On 18th March 2016 a number of houses in Hawick were searched as part of an ongoing operation into the supply and possession of drugs in the Borders. Five houses were searched in Hawick, which recovered a quantity of various drugs. Five people were charged with drugs offences relating to these recoveries. Cannabis cultivations were also discovered at two of the addresses searched. This activity underlines the commitment of Police Scotland to target drugs and those who distribute them in the community in the Borders. One of the reasons we are successful in tackling drugs issues is through the assistance and intelligence provided by our communities. We would encourage this to continue through using Crimestoppers which is a free phone number and is completely confidential (0800 555 111).
- Following a routine stop/search a 20 year old male was found in possession of a controlled substance. He has been reported to the Fiscal for this offence.

Road Safety

- There were six road checks carried out by officers in March 2016.
- One conditional offer was issued for speeding and a warning was administered for the anti social use of a vehicle.
- Throughout March, four different drivers were charged with driving without insurance and a number of other related driving offences. All of these vehicles were seized and the individuals reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- Following the reporting of an accident near to Homebase on 13th March, a 25 year old female was found to have been driving under the influence of alcohol. She was arrested and charged with drink driving as well as documentation offences.

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Violent Crime

- On 3rd March 2016, an incident occurred within a property in Millport, Hawick where a male was severely assaulted and robbed. As a result of enquiries a 29 year old male was charged with these offences and appeared from custody on 7th March 2016.
- Following police attendance at a disturbance in Elm Court on 23rd March, a 61 year old male was arrested for possessing an offensive weapon (ornamental sword) and for committing a breach of the peace. No-one was injured in the incident. The male was kept in custody and appeared at court the following day.
- During the early hours of 6th March, an altercation occurred on the High Street between two women. As a result one of these women was seriously assaulted, sustaining a broken arm. A 25 year old female was charged with this offence and has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

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 March one fixed penalty ticket was issued and four recorded police warnings were administered.

Other Incidents/Information

Following an incident that was reported to Police on 28th February where two males had been struck with an air gun, two 14 year old youths have been charged with reckless discharge of a firearm for this incident. A report on the circumstances has been sent to the Childrens Reporter. Thankfully the victims sustained only minor injuries in this incident. The Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 comes into effect on 1st July 2016 at which time the public will begin to apply for licences. Enforcement for this act will commence on 1st January 2017. This legislation will tighten up on processes and be similar to current firearms legislation. These new procedures should assist in reckless incidents reducing and introducing stricter controls for the possession of air weapons and dealing with offences that occur.

The new public survey entitled 'Your View Counts' was launched on 7 April. Information on this can be found on the Police Scotland website. The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete. I would encourage all members of the public to participate in this, as it will help inform policing priorities throughout the country for the year ahead. The web address is www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

Your current Multi Member Ward plans can be found on the Police Scotland website and can be accessed via the following links:

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

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

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

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