

# Scrutiny Report March 2016

## 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**

Referrals for 2015/16 are showing a 9.4% increase on 2014/15 figures. 113 more referrals made, which is positive.

**Reasons**

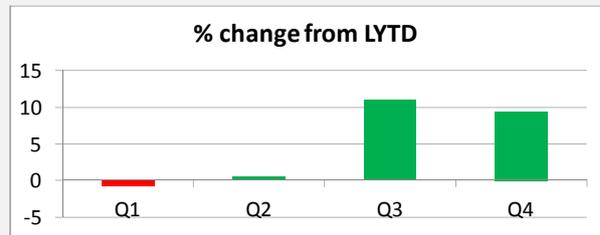
Improved performance on last year therefore the continued raising of awareness among officers to identify vulnerabilities and submit adult concern referrals is proving effective.

**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	1317	1204	113



**Priority 1 – Protecting People**

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

**Target - 95%**

**Current situation**

Slightly worse performance compared to last year but 1.8% better than target.

**Reasons**

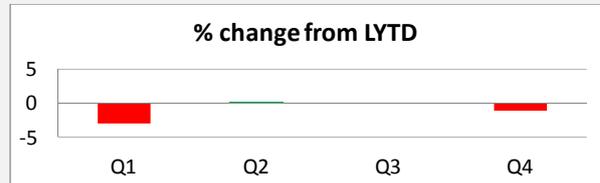
Supervisors and officers are fully aware of the importance of these checks and a disciplined process is in place between the Courts and Police allowing issues to be discussed at the daily TTACG.

**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	96.8	97.9	-1.1



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

**Current situation**

A 7.7% increase in Common Assaults reported in 2015/16 when compared to 2014/15. This equates to 55 more victims.

**Reasons**

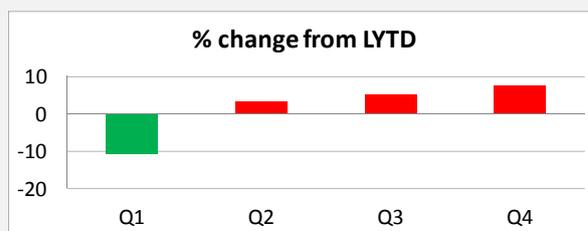
The recent increase in assaults can in part be attributed to incidents in the towns centres in the main towns in Scottish Borders. Analysis of these type of incidents has been undertaken and focused patrols and work with licensees is being undertaken.

**What are we doing**

- "Best Bar None" has been launched in the Scottish Borders and encourages licensed premises to adopt recognised best practice in and around premises. Final premises assessments were carried out and an awards ceremony was held in March 2016.
- Monitoring bail conditions of known offenders
- Officer deployment through Campaign Against Violence (CAV).

**Indicator - Reduce the levels of common assaults**

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	4112	773	718	55



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

**Current situation**

A 7.9% reduction (402 fewer incidents) in 2015/16 when compared to 2014/15, which is positive.

**Reasons**

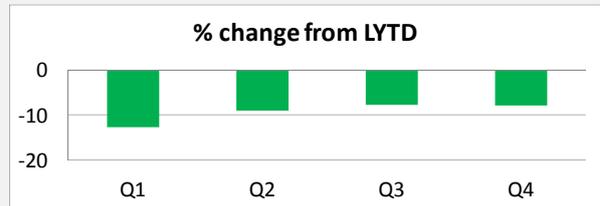
The Scottish Borders continues to take a proactive multi-agency approach to combatting antisocial behaviour through early identification of potential issues and targeted interventions with individuals.

**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.

**Indicator - Reduce the number of antisocial behaviour incidents**

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	26163	4711	5113	-402



**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**

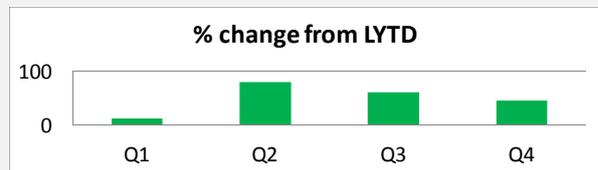
Race related hate crime continues to be the most frequent type of hate crime recorded. This quarter there have been 10 reported racial crimes. There were 2 reported offences relating to religious belief. There were also 2 reported offences relating to sexual orientation.

**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.
- 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	82	56	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 31/03/2016, officers in the Scottish Borders conducted a total of 322 stop and searches, of which 77 proved positive (23.9%). 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**

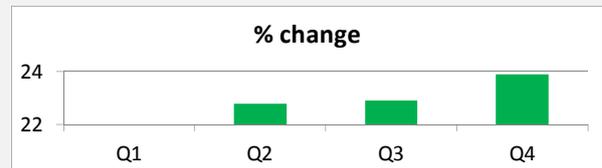
An enhanced version of the National Stop & Search Database commenced on 1st June 2015. The enhanced database brought significant changes to the process of data capture and the methodology for recording data. No previous year to date figures are provided as it has been previously acknowledged this data 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	23.9	N/A	N/A



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

**Current situation**

A 28.6% decrease in the number of visits to licensed premises, which equates to 602 fewer visits.

**Reasons**

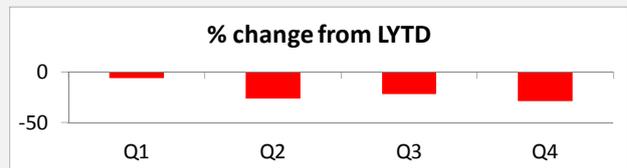
- Premises visits continue to go down as we have no problematic premises which would require regular visits.
- There is also an excellent working relationship between Police, the trade and partner agencies.

**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	1500	2102	-602



**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**

An 11.6% increase (8 more casualties) in 2015/16 when compared to 2014/15. The number of people killed this year is 8, which is 1 more fatality than last year. The number of serious injuries has also increased compared to last year.

**Reasons**

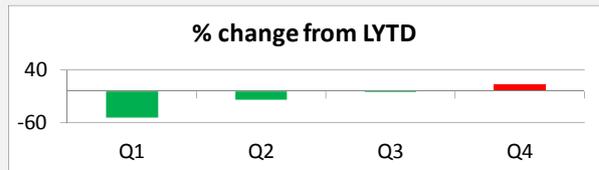
2 further fatalities on Scottish Borders roads in the fourth quarter of 2015/16. There were also 4 children seriously injured on the roads in the fourth quarter, bringing the total for the year to 7.

**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	212	77	69	8



**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 lower than the value seized in 2014/15.

**Reasons**

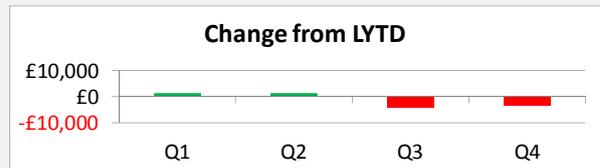
No further seizures in Quarter 4.

**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	£62,728	£3,914	£7,058	-£3,144



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

**Current situation**

No further assets referred for restraint in Quarter 4.

**Reasons**

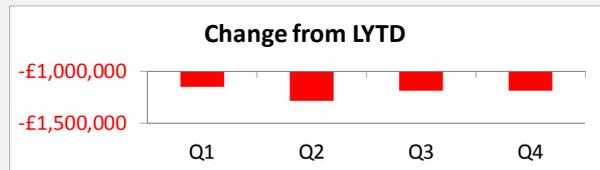
In early 2014/15 there was a significant asset referral made and as a result it was not possible to match this total in 2015/16.

**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	£200,932	£1,385,177	£1,184,245



**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 6.7% increase in the number of detections for drug supply, with 64 offences detected in 2015/16.

**Reasons**

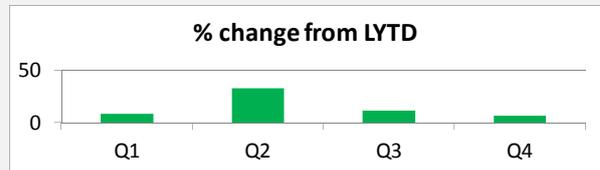
Ongoing proactive tactics continue to be implemented in the Borders to deter, disrupt and detect SOCG activity. These activities continue to achieve very positive results, particularly with regards to drug supply. Work is continually ongoing in this area.

**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	64	60	4



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

**Reasons**

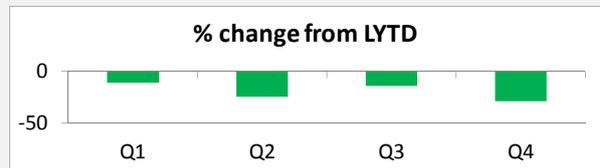
We continue to raise awareness of the need for home security and to actively pursue a programme of prevention activities.

**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.

**Indicator - Reduce the number of housebreakings to dwelling houses**

Force TYTD	Division TYTD	SB TYTD	SB LYTD	SB Change
N/A	412	72	101	-29



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

**Current situation**

A 12.9% reduction in theft of motor vehicles this year to date which equates to 8 fewer victim of this type of crime.

**Reasons**

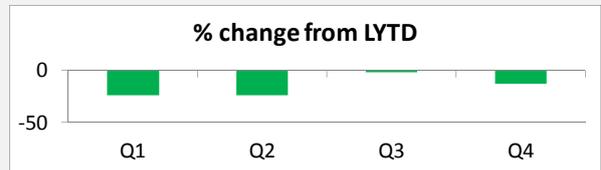
We continue to raise awareness of the need for vehicle security.

**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	54	62	8



## Overall Crime

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

### Current situation

A 4.6 percentage point increase in detection rate in 2015/16 compared to the same period last year, which is positive.

### Reasons

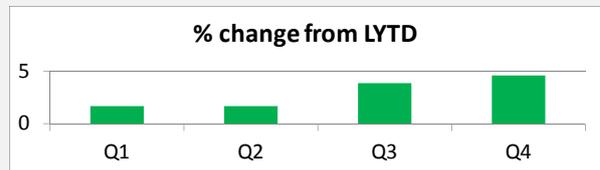
Vandalism and malicious mischief still have the lowest detection rates than any other crime groups, however the detection rate for this type of crime has improved this year, contributing to an overall improvement in performance.

### 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	44.7	55.7	51.1	4.6



**Public Confidence - Number of complaints against the Police : YTD 2015/16**

Number of complaints Scottish Borders	121	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - Borders	43.7
Number of complaints J Division	478	Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents - J Division	35.8

	On duty	Off duty	Quality of Service allegations	Total Number of allegations
Total allegations recorded	104	0	35	139