Notice of Meeting and Agenda



Police and Fire and Rescue Board

Venue: Virtual Meeting,

[Venue Address]

Date: Monday, 09 November 2020

Time: 11:00

Executive Director: Place

Contact:

Clerk Name: Verona MacDonald Clerk Telephone:0131 271 3161

Clerk Email: verona.macdonald@midlothian.gov.uk

Further Information:

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

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Police and Fire and Rescue Board

Date	Time	Venue
31 August 2020	11.00 am	Council Chambers, Midlothian
-		House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith

Present:

Councillor Curran (Chair)	Councillor McCall		
Councillor Muirhead	Councillor Parry		

In attendance:

Midlothian Council	
Derek Oliver, Chief Officer Place	Verona MacDonald, Democratic
	Services Team Leader
Police Scotland	
Chief Superintendent John McKenzie	Chief Inspector Arron Clinkscales
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	
Stephen Gourlay, Area Commander	Roy Bradley, Station Commander

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Munro and Smaill.

2. Order of Business

The Chair advised the order of business was as per the agenda circulated.

3. Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were intimated.

4. Minute of Previous Meeting

The Minute of Meeting of 17 February 2020 was unanimously approved and the Chair was authorised to sign it as a correct record.

Public Reports 5.

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:		
5.1.1 and 5.1.2	Fire and Rescue Service – Scrutiny Report Quarter 4 2019 – 2020 and Scrutiny Report Quarter 1 2020 - 2021	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service		
Outline of report and summary of discussion				
Stephen Gourlay by way of an update advised of a few matters worthy of noting:-				

- (i) He introduced Roy Bradley and advised he would cover the quarterly reports. He provided some information by way of Roy's background;
- (ii) Scottish pay deal offer was rejected by ballot which means now back into the national negotiations with a 2% offer this year;
- (iii) Unprecedented changes to business processes due to the pandemic which although challenging, did not affect the ability to provide an emergency response in Midlothian;
- (iv) He mentioned the sad news about the death of a young serving officer who died as a result of an accident:
- Midlothian will be the subject of an inspection from HM Inspectorate (v) which will take place over the next couple of months with the report being available in time for the next Board meeting if not the one thereafter.

Roy Bradley then spoke to the terms of the guarter 4 report for 2019-20 and the quarter 1 report for 2020-21. He highlighted 2 errors - Page 10 of the document pack, third paragraph, third sentence should read 18 not 16 and Page 15 of the document pack, second paragraph, second sentence should read 2 not 3 separate fire incidents.

Councillor Parry wondered about the increase to 23 accidental dwelling fires in Midlothian West and whether there was a particular reason for this. Her question was answered by Mr Gourlay who advised that there was no particular pattern to residential fires and the figure does fluctuate. Whereas it has been difficult to do much by way of analysis due to restrictions caused by the pandemic, officers were now looking into this.

Councillor McCall enquired as to what the Covid effect had been and gave examples of perhaps less road traffic incidents but more dwelling fires since people have been in their homes more. She noted the spike in Penicuik and Dalkeith for accidental dwelling fires. In response, Mr Gourlay advised that across the country there had been a number of tragic fatal fires where alcohol had played a part. However, across Midlothian the figure had come down dramatically in comparison to regional and national statistics. He advised home fire safety visits were now able to re-commence after additional training and PPE had been provided to officers and they will concentrate on areas of identified need.

The Chair asked whether the figure of 5 out of 18 dwellings without working smoke alarms equated to homes with alarms fitted but not working. Mr Gourlay advised that it is a combination of them not working or not being fitted. He advised premises previously attended by officers do have smoke alarms fitted at that time. Page 4 of 76

Decision

The Board noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:	
5.1.3	Local Community Fire and Rescue Plan Review 2020	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	
Outline of	report and summary of discussion		
be in place the last place purpose. Midlothian	Gourlay advised the Police and Fire Reform leging to meet the needs of the local community. He lan were designed to be future proof and consider He was therefore seeking approval to take forwing plan.	advised the priorities in ered still to be fit for	
Decision			
The Board approved the terms of the draft plan.			

Report No.	Report Title	Presented by:		
5.2.1	Police Scotland Midlothian Area Command Quarter 1 report 2020 - 2021	Police Scotland		
Outling of ron	Outling of report and summary of discussion			

Chief Superintendent McKenzie addressed the Board and welcomed the opportunity to get back to meetings. He summarised matters of relevance being - Covid-19; A68; Chief Constable's Pledge on assaults to emergency workers and additional information added to scrutiny report. He provided further detail with regard to each as follows:-

- (i) Covid-19 – Since lockdown on 23 March the response by the Police had changed with calls being graded and attended only when deemed necessary. Enquiries and statements had been made remotely and there had been an increased use of technology which he did not wish to lose going forward. He thanked Derek Oliver for assistance with licensed premises and confirmed they will continue to be monitored. He mentioned the Force Reserve Unit had been "stood-up" at the beginning of the pandemic and assistance can be sought from the Unit if and when required. He advised that in relation to crime statistics this year cannot be compared to others and when Chief Inspector Clinkscales addressed the quarterly report, he would touch on the 56% increase in anti-social behaviour reports which are a direct result of perceived social distancing breaches;
- (ii) A68 – He touched on the impact following the diversion of traffic to the B6368. He understood embankment repairs had taken place and he anticipated Transport Scotland announcing a predicted date of opening of the A68 and this information would be passed onto Members when known:
- (iii) Chief Constable's pledge on emergency worker assaults – the pledge was to highlight the issue of the impact of violence on emergency workers and he asked the Board to consider supporting it. He advised additional training had been arranged for Police officers and pointed out the increase in Quarter 1 – up from 20% to 27%. He advised there had been one hundred percent solvency of these crimes and the Police will continue to give this area the priority required.

(iv) Additional Information added to Scrutiny report – He noted the addition of complaints data and advised this will develop over time. He further noted there had been an increase in complaints during the pandemic against Midlothian based officers. The reason for these was because people had not agreed with the way officers had dealt with reports.

Thereafter, the Chair advised the Board was happy to endorse the Chief Constable's pledge.

Questions were then put by Councillor Parry who asked about anti-social behaviour and in particular the perception that gatherings of young people are bad; an increase in complaints regarding inappropriate parking in housing estates and the national rise in commercial digital sexual exploitation and racial abuse where the message appears to be people should keep themselves safe as opposed to people should not be racist.

John Mckenzie responded. With regard to gatherings of young people he suggested this fell into the category of reduced public tolerance and gave other examples. He advised the Police will always engage and encourage with enforcement being a last resort. He accepted parking had become a problem and again this involved trying to explain and encourage in relation to road safety. He confirmed he is aware of the significant increase in commercial digital sexual exploitation and would be happy to circulate a briefing paper to Board Members after the meeting. With regard to racist abuse, he advised whereas he did not wish to go into specifics of the recent high profile case, safety planning is put into place for individuals and officers are determined to reduce abuse and hate crime in Midlothian.

Councillor Muirhead wondered whether calls related to Covid-19 and recorded under anti-social behaviour were removed from the figures before the Board. Mr Mckenzie advised the examples he provided were included in the figures which showed an increase of 56% however analysis undertaken would provide more accurate data. He offered to check the security marking on analysis carried out and if possible share with Board Members.

Councillor McCall remarked about the number of complaints she receives relating to the non-wearing of face coverings on public transport and in shops. She asked what reassurance can be given to the public. Mr Mckenzie advised there needed to be a balance because going forward officers had to continue to have a good relationship with the public. He suggested the responsibility is 3 fold – person, supplier of the service and the Police. Derek Oliver advised Environmental Health and Trading Standards officers had been out engaging with businesses in conjunction with the Police and had found a general acceptance in the sector for the provisions of the legislation. The Chair advised he had concerns about a couple of shops in Danderhall and Dalkeith and was aware some shop workers had been told not to challenge customers not wearing a face covering.

The Chair then commented Board Members had not been afforded the opportunity to scrutinise the Quarter 4 results and asked for the report to be circulated to Members to allow them to consider and raise any issues with the Chief Inspector either before the next meeting or at it. Chief Inspector Clinkscales undertook to do this and then addressed the terms of the Quarter 1 2020-2021 report. He advised the #Kindness Midlothian campaign had helped considerably and partnership working with Derek Oliver and his staff had been positive. He advised it was a high priority to tackle drug supply and recently the

Head Teacher at Newbattle High School had agreed to fund the link officer post for another 2 years. He advised when the road network was quiet, officers took the opportunity to stop and speak to people to get an idea about what was going on which led to positive intelligence gathering. He mentioned the figure for looked after children absconding was still not good but noted positive discussions had taken place which should lead to a reduction. He summarised by noting many of the challenges officers face are from travelling criminals but these individuals had found it more difficult to operate during lockdown. He noted the decrease in reports of hate crime but wondered whether this may increase as a result of the recent high profile case.

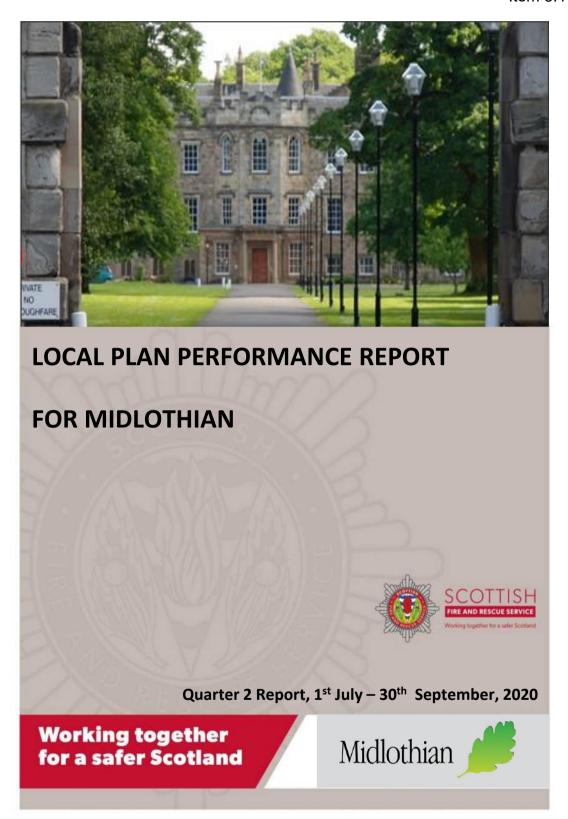
The Chair enquired whether the Police could provide figures relating to hate crime incidents in Council buildings and Chief Inspector Clinkscales undertook to have a look at this and provide a response to the Chair. Councillor Parry advised she was receiving almost daily reports about stolen bikes and night time garden prowlers. She further mentioned Kirkhill Lodge being booked for events which have turned out to be raves. In response, Mr Clinkscales noted issues around Kennington Avenue which MCAT are now dealing with. He also advised he intends visiting Kirkhill Lodge to check what bookings they have and will provide an update to members thereafter. Councillor McCall enquired about wildlife offences (mentioned on Page 65 of the document pack) and wondered whether they related to Gladhouse Reservoir. Mr Clinkscales advised there had been quite a few meetings over the last few weeks and officers using quad bikes were now on patrol in the area. He advised the land was owned by Scottish Water and therefore was primarily an issue for them but given the level of camping and resultant scaring of wildlife, the Police had committed to patrols. Chief Superintendent Mckenzie made a comparison to the challenge going forward for police officers in Scotland whereby their powers were restricted to the issue of a £60 fixed penalty whereas in England and Wales fines of £10,000 can be issued to the organisers of large gatherings such as raves.

Decision

The Board noted the content of the report.

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.2.2	Local Policing Priorities – Verbal Update	Chief Superintendent Mckenzie
Outline of	report and summary of discussion	
Fire Refo advised the He thank	perintendent Mckenzie briefly outlined the require rm (Scotland) legislation which provided for a loc his had been circulated and comments received hed the Chair feedback and advised the plan will be f by Scottish Borders Council	cal Police plan. He thereon from the Chair.
The Boar	d noted the summary provided	

The meeting terminated at 12.46 pm



DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness.

The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.

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Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within the Midlothian for Quarter 2 of 2020-21 (1st July – 30th September 2020) including information on the year to date.

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services. This vision supported by 16 National Outcomes, which demonstrate commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable growth. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes for Midlothian by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the area.

The national priorities for the SFRS are set out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland. The SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-2022 outlines how the SFRS will deliver against these priorities and the outcomes against which this delivery can be measured.

The priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Midlothian 2018 contribute towards the priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan.

The aims of the local Fire & Rescue Service in Midlothian are to reduce fire deaths and to reduce injuries from fire and other emergencies in the community. We aim to achieve this by working in partnership, being pro-active and targeting our prevention and protection activities to where they are required, based on evidence.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Midlothian 2018 identifies the following five objectives as the main focus for service delivery locally:

Local Priorities:

- As part of a Community Partnership approach, we will make people safer in their homes.
- We will promote Community Resilience whilst contributing to improved outcomes for people involved in non-fire emergencies.
- Together with our Community Partners, we will contribute to making roads in East Lothian safer.
- As part of a Community Partnership, we will challenge anti-social behaviour.
- In partnership, we will aim to reduce the occurrence and impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Area Commander Stephen Gourlay

Local Senior Officer for Midlothian, East Lothian and the Scottish Borders.

stephen.gourlay@firescotland.gov.uk

Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 6 key indicators, depicted below

		Apr to (& incl.) Sep			RAG rating	
Key performance indicator	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	YTD
All accidental dwelling fires	36	33	21	34	24	
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	10	12	10	3	6	•
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	195	272	154	166	126	
Special Service - RTCs	23	20	16	16	5	
Special Service Casualties - All	34	33	19	26	15	
False Alarm - UFAs	187	163	190	199	138	

RA	G rating - KEY	
•	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

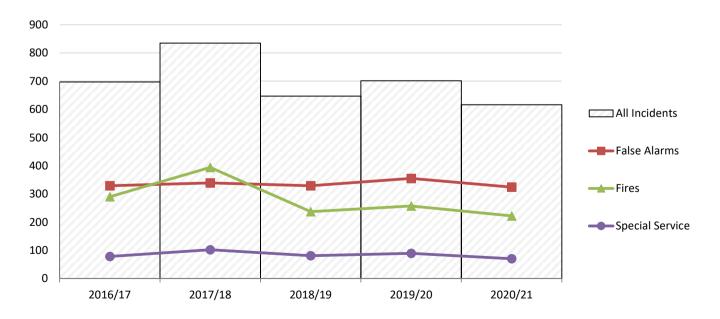
Note

Quarterly comparison RAG Rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods. Year to Date RAG Rating = the cumulative total of all quarterly performance in current year compared to cumulative total of all quarterly performance in previous year.

Incident Overview

Year to date (1st April 2020 – 30th September 2020), the SFRS, responded to 616 incidents in Midlothian, which is a reduction of 85 incidents compared with the same reporting period last year.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within Midlothian council over the last 5 fiscal years



Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities
Local Risk Management and Preparedness
The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.
We said we would:
train our staff to deal with our local risks gather and analyse risk information
• work with partners to mitigate risks
deal with major events
Train our staff to deal with our local risks
All of our operational staff undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training.
Gather and analyse risk information
All of our operational staff gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence, used in our preparations to resolve incidents. We conduct Post Incident Debriefs to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events. We use Urgent Operational Intelligence Briefings to inform our operational staff of any safety critical information.
TYOIR With partiters to mitigate risks
We continue to be an active member of the East Local Resilience Partnership. We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency event risks are mitigated.
Deal with major events
There were no major fire events or significant emergency events in this reporting period.

Reduction of 'All accidental dwelling fires'

Accidental dwelling fires can have devastating effects on our community. The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in their homes. We share information with partners to make sure that the right people get the right information they need, particularly those who are vulnerable due to age, isolation or addiction. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires contributes to The Single Midlothian Plan.

Results

We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires in Midlothian by contributing towards the SFRS target of 10% reduction per year, over a three-year rolling period. During this quarter, we responded to 14 Accidental Dwelling Fires, which is an reduction of 3 incidents from the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population shows Midlothian well below the Scottish and East Service Delivery Area trend line.

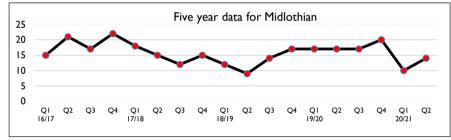
Reasons

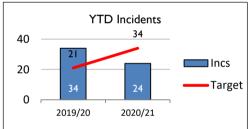
Of the 14 accidental dwelling fires attended, 9 (64%) occurred in single occupancy households, 3 occurred in self contained sheltered housing and 2 occurred in tenement/flat dwellings. The main cause of fire reported is cooking. All 14 fires were limited to the first item ignited and/or confined to the room where the fire started and therefore, relatively minor in nature. It is clear from this evidence to continue to target those mostly at risk in single occupancy households and to ensure those properties have working smoke detection.

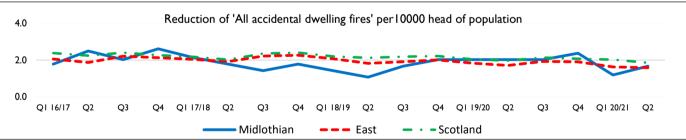
All 14 dwellings had smoke alarms fitted.

Actions

During this reporting period, 110 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out within Midlothian. The Coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on our ability to safely carry out community engagement activities. Front line crews have carried out a restricted level of 'Post Domestic Incident Response' in line with our Policy, which provides a framework to ensure that engagement activity is completed in a structured and appropriate manner following incidents. Appendix 1 'Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities' provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 4	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	36	33	21	34	24	\
Penicuik	6	7	0	2	7	
Bonnyrigg	6	6	2	4	I	
Dalkeith	9	5	5	6	9	
Midlothian West	8	4	7	9	5	
Midlothian East	2	7	4	8	0	/
Midlothian South	5	4	3	5	2	

Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities, but also their success in response activity in saving lives.

Results

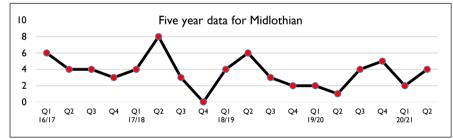
We aim to reduce fire casualties in Midlothian each year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. In this reporting period, there were no fatal fire casualties. The SFRS dealt with 4 non-fatal fire casualties due to fire within four seperate fire incidents. The year to date trend shows a slight increase from 3 to 6 for the same YTD period in 2019/20. The long-term trend based upon casualties/1,000,000 population shows that we are slightly above the Scottish and East Service Delivery area averages.

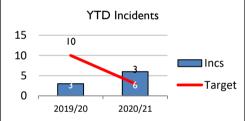
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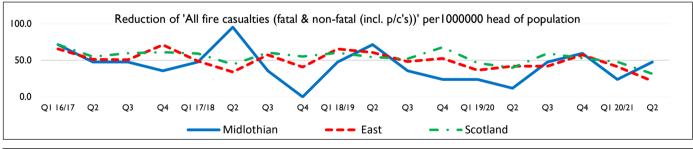
Historically Midlothian has had low numbers of casualties from fires and although the numbers remain low the trend has taken a turn in the wrong direction and this will be actioned and monitored in future performance.

Actions

During this reporting period, 110 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out. In addition, we continue to work with our partners, particularly Midlothian Council, Social work and NHS to target those most vulnerable and at risk from fire. (The Coronavirus Pandemic has impacted on our ability to perform our normal prevention and protection activities with the local community.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - I	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	10	12	10	3	6	
Penicuik	2	2	2	0	2	
Bonnyrigg	2	0	I	I	0	
Dalkeith	I	2	2	I	2	
Midlothian West	3	0	I	0	I	\
Midlothian East	2	I	4	I	0	\ \
Midlothian South	0	7	0	0	Ī	

Reduction of 'All deliberate fires excl. dwellings'

Historically deliberate fire setting has not been a significant problem for the SFRS in Midlothian, however recent years have shown a distinct increase in this activity and there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. In the main, deliberate fires are secondary fires categorised into refuse/bins, grassland or derelict buildings incidents. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan.

Results

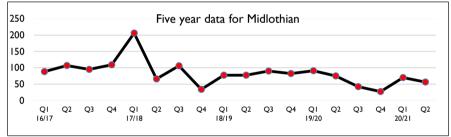
There were 56 deliberate fires within the reporting period, which is an significant reduction of 19 fires when compared to the same quarter period last year. Midlothian is currently performing in line with the trend line for East of Scotland and Scotland averages.

Reasons

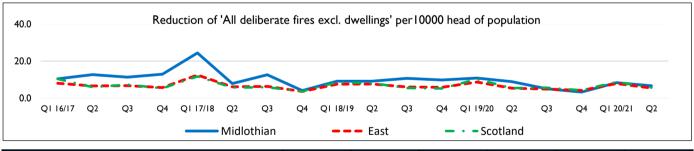
Of the 56 deliberate fire incidents, I was in a commercial property, 31 (55%) incidents were 'deliberate secondary fires' mainly involving waste or scrubland, wood or crop. II (20%) incidents involved refuse/bins including wheelie bins and the remaining I3 incidents were miscellaneous other secondary fires types.

Actions

SFRS continues to work with partner agencies attending the weekly TACG meetings and provision of monthly tactical assessments by the Midlothian Partnership Analyst. Emerging patterns continue to be monitored and prevention activities were planned for those locations. Various on-going preventative activities have been undertaken throughout the year targeting the issue of deliberate fireraising. This includes various youth engagement events, Stair Aware activity, visits to schools and other partnership work.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 21	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	195	272	154	166	126	
Penicuik	6	41	8	8	12	
Bonnyrigg	16	21	14	23	22	\ \
Dalkeith	31	51	38	35	24	
Midlothian West	50	46	20	22	19	
Midlothian East	46	61	38	57	31	\
Midlothian South	46	52	36	21	18	

Reduction of 'Special Service - RTCs'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan, number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.

Results

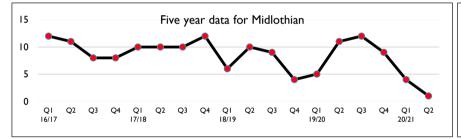
We attended I Road Traffic Collisions during this period; a reduction of 10 from same quarter reporting period last year. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is currently performing well below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend.

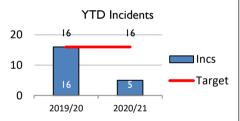
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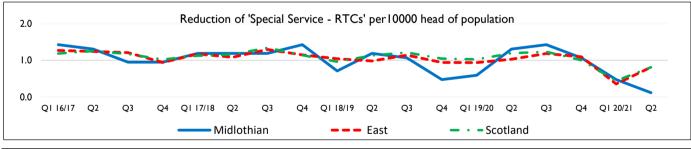
The SFRS only attend those RTC's they are requested to attend this number does not reflect the total number within Midlothian.

Actions

The SFRS is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities. The Coronavirus pandemic has impacted on the delivery of Tomorrow's Driver programme targeting young people and this is no longer being delivered at this time.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - I	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	23	20	16	16	5	
Penicuik	4	3	2	6	2	\\
Bonnyrigg	3	I	0	0	0	
Dalkeith	4	4	7	I	0	
Midlothian West	4	5	2	I	I	
Midlothian East	5	3	5	7	I	
Midlothian South	3	4	0	I	I	

Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan.

Results

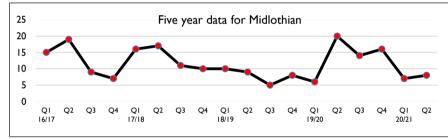
We attended special service incident types in the last quarter with a total of 8 casualties (2 fatal and 6 non-fatal casualties). This is a reduction of 12 special service casualties in comparison to the same reporting period last year. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is slightly below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend.

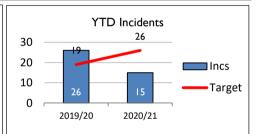
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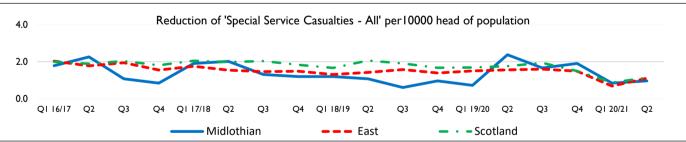
During this period there was a total of 8 Special Service casualties (2 fatal and 6 non fatal). Effecting entry incidents accounted for 4 casualties (1 fatal and 3 non fatal). I fatal casualty recovered from water and 3 non-fatal casualties in response to a medical assistance/assisting other emergency services incident types.

Actions

The SFRS in Midlothian will continue to respond to the communities needs in terms of other non-fire emergencies with the overall objective of reducing casualty and fatality rates within Midlothian.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 3	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	34	33	19	26	15	
Penicuik	5	7	4	6	4	∼
Bonnyrigg	2	2	0	4	I	~
Dalkeith	10	4	5	2	4	\
Midlothian West	5	5	6	I	3	
Midlothian East	7	12	3	12	3	^
Midlothian South	5	3	I	Ī	0	

Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAs'

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be connected with faulty or defective alarm equipment. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Results

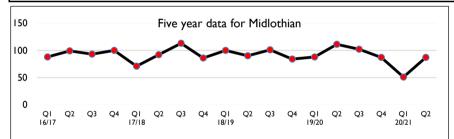
SFRS attended 87 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents during this reporting period, which is an reduction of 24 for the same quarter reporting period last year. Midlothian trend line is performing below that of Scotland and the East delivery area.

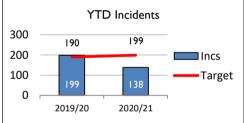
Reasons

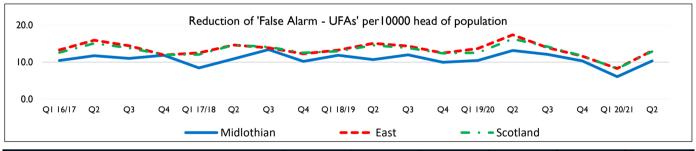
Of the 87 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal incidents we attended, 95% were caused by system and human errors (Testing, faults, cooking/burnt toast, aerosols etc.), 3% were malicious and 2% were good intent calls.

Actions

We continue to monitor Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals calls and our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers work closely with premises to reduce further incidents. This includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions in order to prevent future Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents. In Midlothian, we are currently engaging with various premises giving advice to prevent further occurrences.







YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 23	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
Midlothian	187	163	190	199	138	(
Penicuik	27	9	16	21	22	
Bonnyrigg	30	24	30	33	17	\
Dalkeith	41	28	33	29	13	\
Midlothian West	52	52	58	64	46	
Midlothian East	19	25	27	32	23	
Midlothian South	18	25	26	20	17	

Appendix 1

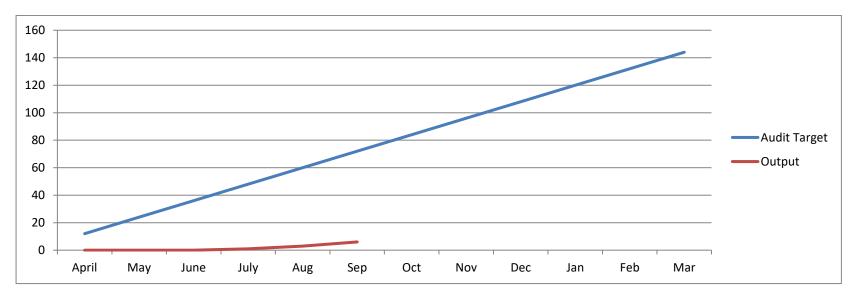
Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 2: 1st July- 30th September 2020

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The figures represent the audit workloads delivered by the Midlothian Fire Safety Enforcement Officer (FSEO). Following the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Enforcement Framework, local deployment ensures compliance for relevant premises in terms of the Fire Scotland Act (2005) and associated Fire Safety Regulations. In line with the SFRS enforcement framework all of the area high risk sleeping premises receive an annual audit and this includes hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels. Coronavirus lockdown restrictions continued to impact our audit programme during this period with a reduced number audits carried out. A remote audit process has been produced to assist with delivery of our responsibilities. When appropriate, advice is provided by telephone to support duty holders with compliance and to ensure the risk of fire is managed robustly. Our FSE team continue to carry audits of regulated premises that have experienced a fire incident.

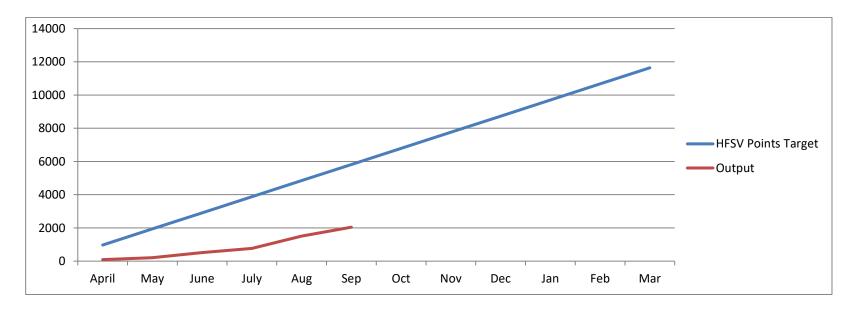
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	144
Completed:	0	0	0	1	3	6							



Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households and providing fire safety advice and smoke alarms the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. To target the highest risk households across Midlothian a points allocation based on risk and associated target has been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have had to introduce interim measures which included providing this service to high risk individuals only. As a consequence, the number of HFSVs delivered reduced dramatically during this period. A total of 110 HFSVs were delivered in Midlothian in during this period.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	970	1940	2910	3880	4850	5820	6790	7760	8730	9700	10670	11640	11640
Completed	92	212	516	768	1512	2044							



Total visits delivered by ward area 2020/21 YTD:

The following table gives a good indication of the coverage across Midlothian where the SFRS delivers Home Fire Safety Visits.

Ward Area	Visits delivered in Q1 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q2 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q3 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q4 2020/21
Bonnyrigg	9	17		
Dalkeith	6	25		
Midlothian East	5	18		
Midlothian South	8	25		
Midlothian West	3	13		
Penicuik	7	12		
TOTAL	38	110		

Partnership Working

Youth Engagement

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, our usual Youth engagement programmes have not been delivered. We have however, maintained contact with many partner groups, providing advice via social media and delivering thematic information such as summer safety and deliberate fire-setting. An example is the continued work with the YSK project with meetings facilitated by Skype and Teams applications.

Safeguarding

During this period our teams continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support. This has resulted in **5** referrals being processed to Social Services. The LALO continues to provide information relevant to Fire Safety at the monthly Multi Agency Risk Conference (MARAC) and support vulnerable people.

HFSV Referrals and advice

Whilst we continue to receive referrals from partner agencies, the numbers have also reduced. SFRS have provided all partners with specific guidance to support the identification and referral of those deemed at greatest risk of fire within the home. Our current HFSV campaign focuses on a particular high-risk group and is titled "MAKE THE CALL" See page 7

Our HSFV referral systems are monitored on a daily to ensure that high risk households are contacted within 24 hours as per our policy. All referrals are risk rated with a HFSV carried out or advice provided and recorded for a visit at a later date, when safe to do so.

When a HFSV is not carried out, households are offered advice on the following topics;

- Cooking and Kitchen Safety;
- Electrical and Heating Safety;
- Smoking and Candle Safety;
- Smoke and Heat Alarms;
- Night Time Routine and Fire Escape Plan.

Partner agencies have also requested **11** Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits through Police concern reports or direct requests from social services. This particular type of visit is provided for those individuals who are exposed to a very high risk of fire within the home and may result in additional measures such as telecare or the provision of fire-retardant bedding being recommended.

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Given the impact of the Coronavirus and the necessity to introduce new working practices, this has resulted in less opportunities to deliver face to face services as detailed in previous sections of this report.

We have managed to maintain contact with partners via modern technology systems, whilst also ensuring that those individuals requiring urgent assistance, such as a Home Fire Safety Visit, safeguarding or fires-setter's concerns are addressed.

Although the current circumstances have reduced our ability to deliver/offer all our services, we continue to work with partners on a regular basis, providing advice and reassurance, whilst also planning and considering innovative methods to achieve our goals and objectives.

Bonfire Period

Planning has also commenced to ensure that we are prepared to deal with Bonfire night and the period leading to this. With the potential for less or no organised events this year could result in SFRS becoming busier than normal with incidents involving unsupervised bonfires and anti-social deliberate fire-setting increasing

Normally we would visit all Midlothian Schools to provide bonfire/firework safety talks, however, as you will appreciate this has not been an option this year. We have therefore provided all Schools with safety literature and a locally produced presentation which can be delivered by teachers.

Home Fire Safety; New Standards 2021

This period has seen us prepare staff for the introduction of the new smoke detection standards which were originally to be invoked as of 1st February 2020. The new standard means that all domestic household must have a combination of smoke/heat detection that is inter-linked. The system can be hardwired or wireless (Bluetooth).

Alarms required to meet the standard:

One smoke alarm installed in the room most frequently used for general daytime living purposes

- One smoke alarm in every circulation space on each storey, such as hallways and landings
- · One heat alarm installed in every kitchen

All alarms should be ceiling mounted and interlinked. There is also a requirement for carbon monoxide detectors to be fitted where there is a carbon-fuelled appliance (such as boilers, fires (including open fires), heaters and stoves) or a flue.

At the time of preparing this report, training continues with all operational staff and members of our Community Action Team involved. Local Authorities, Housing Associations and private Landlords are responsible for ensuring the new standards are met. Scottish Government have a dedicated web page to support compliance www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-in-scottish-homes/.

We continue to support Midlothian Community Planning, Public Protection and Community Justice agendas, participating and having a presence at all levels of governance and delivery.

Although the current circumstances have reduced our ability to deliver/offer all our services, we continue to work with partners on a regular basis, providing advice and reassurance, whilst also planning and considering innovative methods to achieve our goals and objectives.





Midlothian Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel Quarter 2 – 2020/2021

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.



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.

OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS

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OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities



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 Midlothian 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 2020 to September 2020 and are compared against the same reporting period from the previous year. Where figures are quoted on rate per 10,000 population, these are based on Midlothian's population of **92,460 in 2019** (Scottish Government figures, published April 2020).

Midlothian Performance Summary

Midlothian Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: April - September

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 1,668 Crime Decrease: -22.0%

Protecting the most vulnerable people



Grp2 Detection rate UP 11.3%



Bail offences 31.4%



Rape Detection rate DOWN 5.5%



Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour





54 (24 less)

Serious Assault Detection Rate



Q2 - 100%

Antisocial Behaviour Incidents 23.5 %



3,735 (711 more)

Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children



8 (20 less)

Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children Detection Rate



100%

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Crimes of Dishonesty -27.9%



707 (273 fewer)

All Housebreaking -36.1 %



OFFICIA

Improving road safety

Road Traffic Casualties -42.3%



(30 fewer)

Executive Summary

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, weekly meetings with Midlothian Council Chief Officer - Place, Derek Oliver were initiated where various issues are discussed and actioned accordingly between Police, Midlothian Council and key stakeholders. This strategy continues to be extremely effective to date.

The majority of Midlothian residents are continuing to adhere to COVID19 guidelines. COVID19 calls are still being received and a comparison between the months of August'20 and September'20 shows that we received a total of 66 COVID-19 related calls in September'20 which is a 153.85% increase compared to August'20.

During August, CPT and Licensing officers have continued with our strategy of close partnership working alongside Midlothian Council to engage and support Licensed Premises ensuring they follow current Social Distancing guidance. This action included tasking and co-ordination via a pro-active patrol matrix included within Midlothian's weekend plan to frequently visit premises and monitor adherence to the emergency legislation.

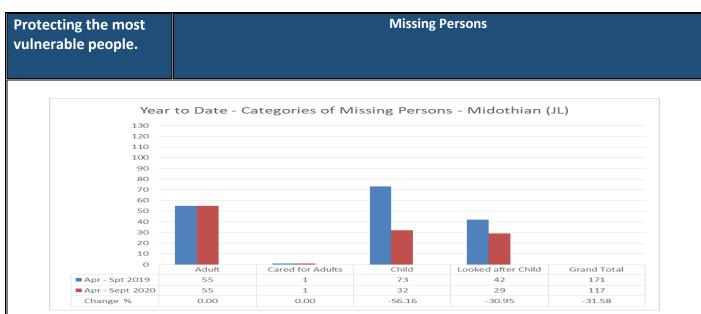
By doing so, individual breaches of guidance were identified during August at specific premises including the 'Woodburn Miners Club' and 'The Buccleuch'. Police officers from J Division's Licensing Department, Midlothian Community Policing Team and local authority Environmental Health officers promptly arranged meetings with the relevant licensee's to highlight these breaches and support staff to put effective solutions in place. This also pro-actively addressed concerns highlighted by Midlothian Council's Chief Executive regarding social distancing measures at these venues. Over the following weeks police resources were successfully focused on these venues to further ensure compliance prior to the recent Central Belt lockdown.

At the end of August, a concerning incident was identified regarding a residence near Gorebridge which had been rented to facilitate a large gathering involving between 200 - 300 people attending from all over the UK. This was swiftly dealt with by Midlothian CAT officers together with CID and charges have been libelled against 2 individuals who organised this gathering. This approach is another example of the effective partnership working between Police and Midlothian Council. Anyone attempting to hold such an event or any party in clear breach of the law, should be aware they will be met with by a robust response.

Following increased reports of speeding within the Dalhousie Road, Eskbank, and Lasswade Road, Eskbank, Dalkeith, areas, additional Roads Policing and Speed Camera Van patrols have been arranged to mitigate this problem and reassure local residents.

Fly tipping seems to have decreased as a result of the refuse collection point at Stobhill opening but this is still an area of concern as it blights our landscape. I am pleased to report that persons have been report to the Procurator Fiscal in terms of fly tipping in the Penicuik and Pathhead areas and have been charged under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Midlothian Community Action Team and the Community Policing Teams continue to deal with Anti-Social Behaviour and their continued focus will be to work with the communities and disrupt this behaviour going forward.



The Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division and the communities of Midlothian 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:

- 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;
 - Year 2017 / 2018 2390 missing person investigations;
 - Year 2018 / 2019 2581 missing person investigations;
 - Year 2019 / 2020 1786 missing person investigations.

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.

Work has been undertaken in respect of engaging with children identified as repeatedly being reported missing which has led to several partnership meetings being convened to support these children. Input has also been provided to establishments for looked after children, resulting in a reduction in reported incidents involving such children and ensured support for them.

Significant input was provided in respect of one looked after adult who had been reported missing multiple times. Through this work risk, not only to this adult but members of the public, was identified and multi-agency discussions were progressed. This led to more robust management of the male resulting in a decrease in reports and risk presented.

During Q2 the co-ordinated use of specialist resources and local police officers in the search for several High Risk missing people resulted in them being found alive.

Over the lifetime of the 2020-2023 Lothians & Scottish Borders Local Police Plan it is our intention to implement a number of protocols which will assist with missing person enquiries. These include the nationally recognised Herbert Protocol which encourages carers, family and friends to provide and put together useful information that can then be used in the event of a vulnerable person going missing. The scheme is designed to help those caring for someone

with dementia and is named after George Herbert, a War veteran of the Normandy landings, who had dementia and sadly died while he was 'missing' on his way to his childhood home.
The Lothians & Scottish Borders Division is working with partners to develop and implement a similar protocol for children with autism.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Domestic Abuse Incidents

	Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	% Change
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	641	610	-4.84%
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	328	314	-4.27%
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	37.90	36.20	-1.7%
Total crimes and offences detection rate	70.40	83.40	13.0%
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	48	33	-31.25%

Incidents recorded in Midlothian have seen a decrease in Q2. Overall YTD incidents have decreased 4.84%.

On review of domestic abuse incidents, there has been a **decrease of 31 incidents (610) in Q2 2020/21** compared with Q2 2019/20 (641).

This YTD Midlothian has seen a reduction by 14 crimes which is an improving picture.

Midlothian's detection rate for Domestic crimes and offences sits at 83.4%, which is a 10.2% improvement of the previous year's Q1 rate of 73.2%

Protecting the most	Racially
vulnerable people.	Aggravated
	Conduct

Midlothian						
Q2 2019/20 Q2 2020/21 Q2 Per 10,000						
Hate Incidents	49	32	3.46			
Hate Crimes	44	22	2.38			
Hate Crime						
Detection	85.70%	65.20%				
Rate						

Hate Incidents

Hate Incidents has also seen a **decrease by 17** incidents, which related to a **reduction by 34.69%** compared to the same quarter last year.

Hate Crimes

There has been a **decrease in 22** instances of recorded Hate Crimes, equivalent to **a 50% decrease** in this crime type.

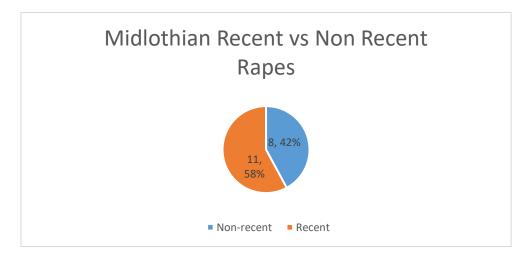
The detection rate for Hate Crime currently sits at 65.20% which is a reduction of 20.5% on last year. The Area Control Room (ACR) sits at Bilston in Midlothian and 13% of the Hate Crime recorded is wholly attributable regarding calls received to the ACR which could be for anywhere in Scotland.

Hate Crime is reviewed on a daily basis by the Deputy LAC in conjunction with the Vulnerable Person Database. A recent audit confirmed that Midlothian were 100% complaint with Scottish Crime Recording Standards.

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

Q2	Q2	Change	YTD Per 10,000
2019/20	2020/21		population
118	112	-5.08%	12.64

Crime Type	Q2 201 9/20	Q2 2020/21	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2020/21 Detection Rate
Group 2	118	112	-5.08%	12.64	73.21%
Rape & Attempt Rape	23	19	-17.39%	2.14	68.42%
Indecent/Se xual Assault	56	33	-41.07%	3.72	96.97%
Other Group 2	38	60	57.89%	6.77	61.67%



There has been a 5.08% reduction in in Sexual Crime (Group 2) comparing this YTD with the same period LYTD.

- Reports of Rape have reduced 17.39% (4 crimes) when compared to the same period last year.
- Reports of Indecent and Sexual Assault are down from 56 to 33, a 41.07% reduction.
- There has been an **increase of 22 in other Group 2 crimes** which includes communicating indecently, communications act together with threatening/disclosure of intimate images.

Group 2 **Detection Rate is 73.21% which is an increase of 11.37%** compared to same period last year. Rape detection year to date is 68.4% which is a decrease of 5.5% on comparison to same period last year

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

Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change	5-year average
23	41	78.26%	32.2

The above figures refer to Drug Supply charges and reflect a **78.26% increase in recorded incidents**. This increase reflects the pro-active actions of Midlothian officers who continue to prioritise tackling substance misuse throughout the Midlothian area.

This work also reflects our focus on the Local Policing Plan priorities of Protecting the most Vulnerable People and Tackling Serious and Organised Crime.

This increase also demonstrates our strong partnership working with local community groups and the public and our intelligence led policing model.

When comparing with Q2 2019/20 with Q2 2020/21, a reduction in total drug crimes is observed from 296 down to 217.

The current detection rate is 96.31.

In Q2, Midlothian still sees a rise in the quantities of drugs recovered due to the proactive nature of all officers and MCAT. A significant cannabis cultivation was uncovered with drugs to the value of £30,000 recovered.

(Please refer to Midlothian Community Action Team Report for further details)

mes of Violence
(Group 1)

Crime Type	Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2020/21 Detection Rate
Group 1	78	54	-30.77%	6.09	98.15%
Serious Assault	31	20	-35.48%	2.26	100.00%
Robbery	6	10	66.67%	1.13	80.00%
Common Assault	443	388	-12.42%	43.79	75.52%

^{*}Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

In terms of Violent Crime, there has been a significant reduction in Group 1 crimes, resulting in a **30.77% decrease** compared to the same period last year.

This YTD, across Midlothian, there has been a **35.48% decrease in Serious Assaults** when compared to the same period LYTD. This equates to a **decrease of 11 crimes**.

Robbery has seen an increase of 66.7%, from 6 to 10 instances, year of year. This is attributable to 1 male who was re homed from London to Dalkeith where he committed 3 similar crimes. He was subsequently arrested and now has a bail condition not to enter Dalkeith.

The number of Common Assaults has **reduced by 12.42%** (comparing YTD against LYTD), 388 from 443 instances, a **reduction of 55 crimes**. (This also includes assaults on Emergency Workers). The **detection rate currently sits at 75.5%**, an increase of **9.8%** on last year.

The Domestic Abuse Scotland Act (came into force on 01st April 2019) is recorded as a Group 1 crime and Midlothian has seen a reduction of 1 instance compared to last year (Q2 2019/20 - 7, Q2 2020/21 - 6. The detection rate for this crime type currently sits at **116.7% compared to 42.9%** last year.

Reducing Violence	Reducing
and Antisocial	Antisocial
Behaviour	Behaviour

Indicator	2019-20 Q2	2020-21 Q2	Change
Antisocial Behaviour Incidents (per 10,000 population)	3,024	3,735	23.51%
Number of complaints regarding disorder	2114	2795	32.20%

Anti-Social Behaviour

There has been a significant **increase (23.51%)** in the number of Antisocial Behaviour Incidents reported in Q2 2019/20 when compared with Q2 2019/20. This equates to an **increase of 711 recorded complaints**. This can be attributed to the volume of calls under the Covid banner, Operation Talla. From the total incidents of 3735, Covid related incidents account for 607 of this total.

Disorder Complaints

Within Q2 2020/21 there has also been an increase (32.20%) in the number of complaints regarding Disorder, in comparison with Q2 2019/20. This equates to an increase of 681 recorded complaints.

Please refer to the Midlothian Community Action Team report which details the activity undertaken (via Youth Engagement) to tackle the rise in both these crime types.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Dishonesty (group 3)

Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population
980	707	-27.86%	79.79

Dishonesty (which is covered in this section) Housebreaking (which is covered on the next page).

The total number of Group 3 Crimes of Dishonesty (incorporating figures for various offences including Housebreaking, Theft motor vehicle, Theft from a motor vehicle, Theft shoplifting, and Fraud) has decreased by 273 (-27.8%) when compared to last year's reporting period.

It is however acknowledged that Group 3 refers to opportunistic crimes, whereby the Covid-19 Lockdown has impacted positively, as a result of Midlothian communities remaining within their households and the enforced reduction in community mobility.

Further breakdown of the data provided in the table above yields the following:

- There continues to be a **significant reduction** in a number of dishonesty crimes, namely, Housebreaking **(-48)**, Common theft **(-100)** and Theft Shoplifting **(-69)**;
- Fraud has witnessed an increase 6 more victims when compared to the same reporting period last year, although this is well below the UK average, and reflects a recent increase in such online offences due to the Covid-19 Lockdown;
- Motor vehicle crime has reduced by 37.2% or 45 fewer victims, when compared to the same reporting period last year;
- The overall Group 3 detection rate sits at 45.69% at the end of Q2 2020/21. This is an increase from 32.1% compared to the previous year.

Reducing	Housebreaking
Acquisitive Crime	

Crime Type	Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2020/21 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	44	18	-59.09%	2.03	44.44%
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	54	38	-29.63%	4.29	7.89%
Other (Business) HB	35	29	-17.14%	3.27	41.38%
All HB	133	85	-36.09%	9.59	27.06%

There has been a **decrease of 36.09%** in overall Housebreakings (including attempts) compare to the previous year.

Dwelling Housebreakings

This crime type has reduced by 59.1% year or year, a reduction of 26 crimes.

The current solvency sits at 44.4%. This is an increase from the previous year of 12.6%.

Non Dwelling

This has decreased 29.6% year on year, a reduction of 16 crimes.

Other Premises

This has decreased by 17.1% year on year, a reduction of 6 crimes.

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

	Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change
Fatal	0	0	-
Serious	19	9	-53%
Slight	52	32	-38%

	Q2 2019/20	Q2 2020/21	Change
Dangerous driving	25	23	42.90%
Speeding	0	0	-
Disqualified driving	20	16	60.00%
Driving Licence	46	61	151.50%
Insurance	130	176	98.10%
Seat Belts	0	0	-
Mobile Phone	0	0	-
Drink/Drug Driving Detections	47	70	48.94%

J Division and Midlothian continue to support National Roads Safety campaigns, and have further plans mapped through to the end of the reporting year. The National Summer Drink Drive Campaign ran between 27th of June and 10th of July 2020. This was an intelligence led campaign in which 1 in 28 drivers stopped in Scotland were detected for drink/drive offences.

There has been a significant decrease across all 3 categories of accidents (fatal, serious and slight injury). Road checks continue to form part of our daily tasking in Midlothian.

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime

In November 2019 the National Terror Threat Level was reduced from SEVERE meaning an attack is highly likely, to SUBSTANTIAL meaning an attack is likely.

Response Policing officers in Midlothian have received CT training ACT for Policing – Your Vital Role. This is a campaign to raise awareness of the vital role front line officers play in spotting the signs of attack planning and radicalisation of individuals.

Midlothian continue to work closely with partner agencies to actively target "County Lines" nominals that use Midlothian as a base to distribute drugs throughout our community.

Significant recoveries of crack cocaine, heroin and cannabis have been seized this YTD.

Complaints	Executive Summary

April 2020 – September 2020				
	Number of Complaints about the Police		Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	
Complaints received about the Police	60		38.9	
	On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
Total Allegations Recorded	56	0	26	82

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the Midlothian area command as at 30th September 2020.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the Allegation Category and Type. As can be seen there has been a very limited increase (+1) in the overall number of Complaints about the Police when comparing LYTD and YTD.

Area	Allegation Category and Type	LYTD	YTD	% change
Midlothian	On Duty - TOTAL	63	56	-11.1%
Council	Assault	7	3	-57.1%
	Discriminatory Behaviour	1	3	200.0%
	Excessive Force	6	4	-33.3%
	Incivility	16	19	18.8%
	Irregularity in Procedure	27	24	-11.1%
	Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	1	2	100.0%
	Other - Non Criminal	2	1	-50.0%
	Traffic Irregularity/Offence	2	0	-100.0%
	Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	1	0	-100.0%
	Quality Of Service - TOTAL	15	26	73.3%
	Policy/Procedure	0	2	X
	Service Delivery	5	6	20.0%
	Service Outcome	10	18	80.0%

The Midlothian area command received 11 COVID-19 related complaints about the police YTD, with the key theme being 'lack of police action as regards the enforcement of COVID-19 guidelines'.
Lessons Learnt
Police Scotland are continuously looking to learn from public feedback, particularly when a complaint is made about the police. The following as some of the learning outcomes from complaints made about the police in The Lothians & Scottish Borders within the YTD period:
 Conflicting information between the Direct Measures SOP and the Recorded Police Warning ticket book, as regards the colour copy given to offenders. Policy Support and CJSD informed, advised of the need to review this information;
 Possible gap in SPELS training identified as regards recognising and addressing hypoglaecemia. National SPELS co-ordinator informed of this, for consideration;
 Two pieces of corrective advice given to individual officers (one relating to crime file management; the other relating to flaws in an enquiry and its final disposal).

Midlothian CAT team - Q2 Update

VISION & ACTIVITIES

Vision

Impact positively on life quality within the communities of Midlothian by reducing all types of antisocial behaviour through prevention, disruption and enforcement.

PLEASE NOTE – This quarter's report has been limited due to the ongoing effect of COVID-19 and relevant legislation. MCAT officers have also assisting their colleagues in various areas not covered in this report.

More specific details under each heading can be found in the monthly reports already submitted.

Activities

1. High Visibility Patrolling: the provision of community support and reassurance by undertaking high visibility vehicle, foot and cycle patrols focusing on identified antisocial behaviour issues.

MCAT officers have carried out a wide range of patrols. This has included to target areas with existing or emerging issues, and sees them carried out in vehicles, on foot and on quad bikes. In excess of 600 hours of patrols are carried out each month, responding to local needs. The volume of patrols have continued albeit their focus has changed due to the changes in people's movements.

Events have generally been cancelled due to COVID19, and the methods of interaction with the public have continued to evolve throughout the quarter, as some areas of work have returned to normal.

2. Recidivist Offenders: intelligence led focus on individuals known to engage in antisocial behaviour, drugs use/supply and persistent alcohol abuse, with specific attention being given to persons subject to ASBOs and judicial bails (including curfews).

All opportunities are taken to challenge recidivist offenders, often historically responsible for a large number of offences.

Bail curfew checks have continued and have continued to increase through the quarter overall. In total 589 checks were carried out with a compliance rate of 97%, continuing to show how effective they can be to curtail criminal behavior.

Warrants for arrest have started to be issued by the courts once more, hence the increased activity in this area.

Where there is a legislated reason, MCAT officers search individuals for controlled substances, stolen property, and weapons, progressing these to house searches if the circumstances allow. The vast bulk of these searches are for controlled substances with 41% of such searches having been positive.

House searches under warrant have continued and have been successful in recovering drugs, cash and weapons. A number of reports have been submitted and details are in the monthly reports. These searches do rely on a steady flow of intelligence from the community, as well as proactivity by the team.

Bail Curfew Check COMPLIANT	572	
Ban Garlow Gricok Golin Eli arti	012	

Bail Curfew Check FAILED	17
Arrest on warrant	25
Search Person MDA Positive	30
Search Person MDA Negative	43
Search Property MDA Positive	10
Search Property MDA Negative	6
Search Weapons Positive	0
Search Weapons Negative	2
Search Stolen Property Positive	5
Search Stolen Property Negative	0

3. Youth Engagement: actively engage with youths and foster a positive image of the police and their local communities. Act as primary first responders to youth calls, disrupt antisocial behaviour and enforce appropriate legislation firmly but fairly. Maximise alcohol seizures. Engage with partners and CBO colleagues to identify appropriate support and diversionary activities.

Youth issues have begun to return to their normal levels and alcohol is regularly a feature in any antisocial behaviour. Events regularly attract young people so in their absence groups have been more spread across the area, although hotspot locations continue to feature.

Generally these groups have dispersed without issue. In particular several incidents related to groups having gatherings with a camp fire and similar, before abandoning their alcohol as police attended.

Youth Calls Attended	126
Alcohol Seizures	12
Children At Risk VPDs Submitted	13

4. Licensed Premises: monitor licensed premises activity and act as first responders to antisocial behaviour related incidents whenever possible.

Licensed premises have been closed in the conventional sense, with a few offering takeaway services.	As a
result visits have been limited although opportunities to attend licensed premises have been taken to co	nfirm
adherence with COVID19 legislation.	

LP Visit Public House	17
LP Visit Off Sales	0

5. Support Partners & Colleagues: engage with community partners to work together towards the vision and promote joint patrolling. Support divisional colleagues by acting as first responders to antisocial behaviour related incidents that are occurring in real time whenever possible. Instigate and contribute to operations and initiatives linked to the core vision.

There has been little work in this area as agencies have cut back their deployments, and used home working where possible. In the last month issues emerged around traffic control upon the local recycling centre reopening.

Joint Activity NHS/SAS	0
Joint Activity Local Council	0
Joint Activity SFRS	4
Joint Activity Public Event	2

6. Road Safety: tackle antisocial vehicle use, giving specific attention to inconsiderate vehicle use on the Midlothian road network and the illegal use of off-road motorcycles. Maximise the appropriate use of ASBO warnings and vehicle seizures.

With less requirement to be involved in some of the other areas of work, MCAT officers have been able to increase their interaction with road users and this has yielded some strong results. In particular a number of vehicles have been seized, and, disappointingly, ten motorists have been dealt with for being unfit through either drink or drugs.

Static Road Checks	0
Fixed Penalty Tickets (RTA only)	8
Section 165 Seizures	9
Breath Tests Negative (pass)	71
Breath Tests Positive (fail)	10
ASBO Seizures	0

Local Policing Plan Commitments

Local Policing Plan Commitments-	Protecting the most vulnerable people		
	Summary of Activity undertaken towards Commitment	Planned activity towards Commitment (next 3 to 6 months)	
Work with partners to ensure the "Herbert Protocol" is implemented to help trace people with dementia who go missing	 Protocol awareness within Midlothian Care Homes. Details of any persons fitting criteria held by each care home. There is no database held by PSOS. Details are maintained with National Missing Persons Database. 	 Continuous process with any repeat patterns being addressed and subject of referral and escalation via Public Protection Unit. This process is well established 	
 Work with Mid and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership and other partners to educate young people about substance misuse 	 Local Area Commander (LAC) sits on the MELDAP Board. 	 MELDAP funding to be used for CJP activity in co-ordination with identified areas 	
 Support "Choices for Life" programme to educate young people on the online safety and dealing with peer pressure 	 CID officer identified as SPOC for MELDAP and to liaise over any identified patterns such as drugs related deaths and any specific local spike in dangerous drugs. 	 New Officer to be recruited and confirmed in position. 	
	 Newbattle YCO position being progressed with and four applicant will be interviewed by Head Teacher & LAC week commencing 12th October 2020. 	Engagement and roll out of inputs	
	Funding has been secured for a 2 year period.		
 With partners, actively engage with young people across Midlothian youth forums to improve personal safety 	 "Young Cop" inputs in Primary Schools being progressed with Pilot planned for Woodburn. Due to COVID19 restrictions this was pended. Inputs 5 based on "Junior Cop" programme. 	 Community Policing Team (CPT) actioned 	

Continues to be ongoing project as we engage further with schools.	
 Liaison with Edinburgh College re inputs to 16- 18 year olds studying transition courses (School to Full Time employment) Engage with youth forums within Midlothian 	 Correspondence has been sent out to confirm how many active forums are currently in existence. Engagement will follow. Local Area Commanders Support Unit (LACSU) continue on a an ad hoc basis input messages regarding Water Safety, ASB, Alcohol, Wildlife Crime. Further training of officers required within CPT.
Utilise Social Media SPOC/MID LACSU to push messages on social media platforms	

Local Policing Plan Commitments-	Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour		
	Summary of Activity undertaken towards Commitment	Planned activity towards Commitment (next 3 to 6 months)	
 Targeted use of the funded Midlothian Community Action Teams to hotspot areas, as identified through partnership meetings and analysis of information 	 Achieved via continuous review of ongoing incident and community engagement at various levels. Hotspot areas identified through analysis included in weekend plan. 	Continued reporting of monthly and quarterly reports to elected members.	
	 MCAT work in conjunction with Midlothian Council Environmental Health due to disbandment of Community Safety Teams within Council 	 Violence and ASB reviewed on a weekly basis and tasks received and actioned from Chief Officer, PLACE, Mid Council 	
	 MCAT tasked directly with Intelligence from DIU 	 Drugs Warrants executed on an ongoing basis. 	
	 Joint Funding bid between Mid Council & Police for mobile CCTV cameras with ANPR. Initial bid £10k for 1 Camera 	 Funding approved. 1 unit ordered with a further 2 to be paid for by Mid Council. All units to be used by Police. 	
	 Social Media shared with partners and vice versa for maximum publicity/prevention. 		
 Promote preventative programmes in schools including "No Knives, Better Lives" and "Fearless" 			
	 SLO's to further engage with delivery of programmes. 	Continuous process as schools have re- opened	

"Fearless" Crimestoppers for children	MVP (Mentors against Violence) were
programme.	initially trained i.e. older school kids,
	however they moved on and new MVP's
	have not been identified. SLO's are currently
	engaging with high schools to promote this
	programme and identify new MVP to be
	trained. MVP dedicated training took place
	on Monday 18th June and Tuesday 19th
	June at Strathesk PS, Penicuik. All Midlothian
	schools were represented (expect Dalkeith HS due to restructure not suitable at this
	time) with various guidance and support
	staff from each school in attendance along
	with external agencies Ed Psych, Police,
	Youth Workers etc. I.
	 MVP playbook and process explained. Next
	part of the process is that schools will now
	discuss with senior management, identify
	senior pupils (S5 & S6) they are then trained
	by staff, they in turn will then lead of presenting at least 6 topics to S1/S2 pupils,
	supported by trained staff/youth workers
	etc.
	 This is often the stumbling block as the
	timing for this training is late, they will not
	be able to put in place until at least October
	possibly even later. MVP staff will attend
	and support schools were necessary if
	required.

Introduce the "Junior Cop" programme with schools building positive relationships with children	'Young Cop' inputs in Primary Schools being progressed with Pilot planned for Woodburn. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this was pended. Inputs 5 based on "Junior Cop" programme. Continues to be ongoing project as we engage further with schools.	 From a Police perspective, we will support and, if appropriate, attend to assist mentors on key Police Scotland messages/topics. Materials included in MVP playbook are very good and as YCO we can utilise these in our current roles for many other applications. Plan is to expand this input to other Midlothian primary schools. The initial plan was to trial this at Woodburn Primary before rolling out other schools however the timeline can be recovered with the plan being adapted to roll out the input without a trial. CPT are confident there will be interested from other primary schools. COVID-19 restrictions is current challenge to progressing meantime.
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Local Policing Plan Commitments-	Reducing Acquisitive Crime			
	Summary of Activity undertaken towards Commitment	Planned activity towards Commitment (next 3 to 6 months)		
With partners, explore options for diversionary programmes for recidivist offenders	 Newbattle School Officer and Hamish McLean (now retired) worked with three different groups at Newbattle High School. One group consisted of vulnerable females, another with troublesome 1st year pupils and another with a collection of males who had found themselves excluded and were getting into trouble in the community. These groups are particularly open to exploitation from OCG recruitment. The group work was carried out over a period of 8 weeks. Each week a different subject was covered e.g. drugs, consent, and violence. This led on from the intervention work conducted by Hamish within HMP. The head teacher was keen to add some money to helping support Hamish coming back into the school, however that was being discussed just before COVID-19 commenced. Further work to be done in the school and the SMT and guidance teachers are very supportive and enthusiastic about the work that had already been done and she is sure they would like to see Hamish return. 	School Officer has been appointed and will commence within next 10 to 14 days.		

Continue to promote "Neighbourhood Watch", "Rural Watch" and associated public alert systems	 Liaise with 'RUTS', Y2k & Bill Russell Foundation regarding forth coming inputs post COVID19. 	 Meeting held with National Farmers Union (20 plus attendees) re RW just before COVID-19 restrictions put in place.
	Each CBO has a quarterly Neighbourhood Watch meeting and additional AGM where they attend as PSOS SPOC. Aside from this there is continuous engagement via email (Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, Rural Watch) both circulate frequent emails to Midlothian Communities highlighting key issues and crime prevention advice. However further engagement required to be made with these organisations to clarify whether PSOS can be provided access to send out alerts via their infrastructure.	NW Meeting were cancelled due to COVID-19 but are now being considered over Zoom & M Teams platforms.
Promote and continues "Shut out Scammers" initiative across Midlothian	 MCAT have an ongoing enquiry with MLC Trading Standards regarding the sale of items via a closed Facebook Group in Bonnyrigg. The group is operated by Kimberley Fraser to sell various items as significantly discounted values suggesting they are counterfeit. Meeting was held to formulate a plan of action regarding the counterfeit goods. Evidential screenshots of the items for sale have been obtained by John Watt, who advised that he further intended on contact with the female who is giving him the information and try and get more intel and more screenshots. 	This is an ongoing process which Midlothian LACSU support via social media posts to raise initiative/awareness.

•	 Pro Active work undertaken with Mid Council Building Standards & Trading Standards regarding bogus workmen operating in Dalkeith area 	•	Joint press joint workin identified preventative	ng betw going	een MCAT forward		•
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Local Policing Plan Commitments-	Improving road safety			
	Summary of Activity undertaken towards Commitment	Planned activity towards Commitment (next 3 to 6 months)		
Deliver education through the introduction of "Tomorrows Drivers" and continuation of "Young Drivers" programmes	Tomorrow's Drivers used to be led by MLC but concluded when the ASB team were disbanded. At this time PS Lindsay assumed ownership of the programme and along with key partners (SFRS, SPOKES, Roads Policing) tour schools within Midlothian providing this input to 6th year students. The next input is planned for November 2020 and it is hoped that the input will expand to include outside speakers including Medic 1.	Event organised from November 2020 but due to COVID-19 this is being reviewed.		
	 'Young Drivers' is an input delivered to 2 Scots troops based at Glencorse Barracks, Penicuik and is designed to be given in the weeks following a deployment when. This is a 1 day course provided in partnership with SFRS, Camera Safety Dept. and covers legislation, drink / driver presentations, and Driving experiences. 	Key partners to be contacted regarding spend and equipment to be purchased.		
Continue "Close Pass" initiative targeting and educating motorists and cyclists due to increased road use.	 Drive Wise was included in Midlothian's recent funding bid – and secured £1,500. CI Clinkscales to progress awarding money (consider Social Media opportunities re this). PS Lindsay to liaise with partners re this funding and clarify when Drive Wise will be restarted post COVID-19. 	 Continue to liaise with our colleagues in RP. Further event to be scheduled in next 2 months 		

•	Undertake speeding initiative to support
	community concerns in relation to road
	safety

- Roads Policing have lead on this cycle awareness input, they normally request CPT assistance. RP officers deploy on bicycles with go pro's etc. and identify any person's driving in a dangerous manner re cyclists. This info is passed via radio to CPT officers further down the road who stop identified vehicles and the driver is shown footage from go -pro and thereafter provided suitable advice regarding how to improve their driving to increase safety of other road users. PS Lindsay to liaise with RP regarding future dates.
- Camera Safety Unit have agreed to deploy at Dalhousie Road but not Eskbank Road. This will be covered by CBO hand held radar checks.

Hand held radar checks included in daily and

weekend tasking's.

- RP completed recent checks in Dalkeith (Pc Worrall RPT) and Lasswade Road by PC Pendreich (CPT). This has been added to the local weekend plan and resourced by CPT Officers when they are not abstracted to RPT. Ongoing - patrols are completed to address any local complaints received a / when received.
 - LAC contacted Camera Safety Unit for feasibility study on Eskbank Road and Dalhousie Road which have been highlighted by local community, councillors and MSP
 - place.
- Penicuik Road, Roslin subject to complaints of speeding especially due to large number of residential houses recently built in area.
- Liaise with Mid Council re speed survey to be conducted in area.

RP have agreed to do speed checks for the

and any preventative measure to be put in

next 4 weeks to establish extent of problem

Local Policing Plan Commitments-	Tackling Serious and	d Organised Crime
	Summary of Activity undertaken towards Commitment	Planned activity towards Commitment (next 3 to 6 months)
 Continue to identify vulnerable persons exploited by organised criminals making use of cuckooing and county lines and utilising legislation and enforcement to detect offenders 	 Midlothian Community Action group (MCAT) and Divisional Intelligence Unit (DIU) developing intelligence led model whereby MCAT and CPT are allocated intelligence packages to develop through to enforcement 	 Work with MIDPARC to ensure a coordinated approach and tasking's re Days of Action and prevention. Promote and identify issues for disruption of
Tackle rural crimes commonly	/ reporting of offences.Participate in National Day of Action	OCG's through the use of POCA legislation and partnership work with Mid Council.
associated with organised crimes groups, such as hare coursing, fly tipping, rural theft, off road bikes and poaching through the Midlothian	Raise awareness through Social Media platforms	
 Partnership Against Rural Crime Continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify and protect vulnerable and exploited workers from organised crime groups, ensuring all legislative opportunities are explored. 	 Ongoing engagement with Midlothian Partners against Rural Crime umbrella organisation co-ordinating PSOS, SEPA, Network Rail, MLC, SFRS, Landowners response. 	 Further days of action scheduled for Feb and April 2021.
legislative opportunities are explored.	 Hare coursing day of action completed on 13th September with intelligence gained. 	 Briefing to be reviewed as fit for purpose going forward.
	 CPT Officers and Wildlife Crime Officer participate in monthly meetings. Further supported by Weekend Plan where Quad bike 	Executive action days to be continued

patrols are tasked out. Furthermore specifically tasked patrols are carried out in March - May targeting 'sheep worrying' during lambing season and then again in November when hill sheep are brought down to lower pastures for the winter.	
 Raise awareness with partners through 	
Midlothian Partners Against Rural Crime	

Appendix

Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division	2019/20 Q2	2020/21 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2020/21	Detection Rates 2020/21
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	302	332	6.66	80.72
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	2	-	-	x
Culpable homicide (at common law)	-	-	-	х
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	3	1	0.02	200.00
Attempted murder	9	7	0.14	100.00
Serious assault	141	133	2.67	84.96
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	46	51	1.02	70.59
Domestic Abuse (of female)	31	52	1.04	84.62
Domestic Abuse (of male)	-	1	0.02	100.00
Domestic Abuse (Total)	31	53	1.06	84.91
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	50	35	0.70	100.00
Threats and extortion	7	28	0.56	35.71
Other group 1 crimes	13	24	0.48	83.33
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	558	598	12.00	61.37
Rape	111	85	1.71	67.06
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	4	2	0.04	150.00
Rape and attempted rape - Total	115	87	1.75	68.97
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	10	3	0.06	33.33
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	169	156	3.13	69.23
Lewd & libidinous practices*	70	51	1.02	45.10
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	249	210	4.22	62.86
Prostitution related crime - Total*	1	-	-	х
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	23	34	0.68	88.24
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	26	57	1.14	59.65
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	21	34	0.68	41.18
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	23	23	0.46	60.87
Public indecency (common law)	3	5	0.10	80.00
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	66	93	1.87	46.24
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	8	8	0.16	112.50
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	23	47	0.94	57.45
Other Group 2 crimes	-	-	-	х
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	193	301	6.04	58.14
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	4752	3842	77.12	37.01
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	221	119	2.39	36.97
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	157	128	2.57	12.50
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	166	149	2.99	45.64
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	544	396	7.95	32.32

Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	129	80	1.61	27.50
Theft of a motor vehicle	244	228	4.58	56.14
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	374	215	4.32	26.05
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	18	12	0.24	33.33
Motor vehicle crime - Total	765	535	10.74	39.25
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	72	48	0.96	14.58
Common theft	1361	1012	20.31	22.83
Theft by shoplifting	1257	923	18.53	60.13
Fraud	407	549	11.02	21.13
Other Group 3 Crimes	346	379	7.61	46.17
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	2124	1849	37.12	29.80
Fireraising	120	104	2.09	16.35
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	1908	1632	32.76	28.13
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	2	5	0.10	20.00
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	88	101	2.03	71.29
Other Group 4 Crimes	6	7	0.14	28.57
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	2215	2400	48.18	90.21
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	84	95	1.91	97.89
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	80	84	1.69	96.43
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	81	65	1.30	93.85
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	36	38	0.76	78.95
Total offensive/bladed weapons	281	282	5.66	93.97
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	32	36	0.72	94.44
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	111	110	2.21	81.82
Bringing drugs into prison	11	33	0.66	9.09
Supply of drugs - Total	154	179	3.59	70.95
Possession of drugs	1052	934	18.75	88.01
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	9	8	0.16	0.00
Total drugs crimes	1215	1121	22.50	84.66
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	4	1	0.02	100.00
Bail offences (other than absconding)	349	561	11.26	94.12
Other Group 5 crimes	366	435	8.73	97.01
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	5001	5251	105.41	72.42
Common Assault	2030	2036	40.87	64.93
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	209	220	4.42	97.73
Common Assault - Total	2239	2256	45.29	68.13
Breach of the Peace	80	64	1.28	92.19
Threatening & abusive behaviour	1830	2035	40.85	78.77
Stalking	44	73	1.47	82.19
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	1954	2172	43.60	79.28
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	77	73	1.47	89.04
Drunk and incapable	27	19	0.38	105.26
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	23	26	0.52	100.00
Other alcohol related offences*	26	17	0.34	100.00

Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	76	62	1.24	101.61
Wildlife offences*	20	25	0.50	60.00
Other Group 6 offences	635	663	13.31	60.48
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	3125	3322	66.69	86.75
Dangerous driving offences	118	143	2.87	85.31
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	268	274	5.50	82.48
Speeding offences	212	229	4.60	99.56
Driving while disqualified	68	66	1.32	104.55
Driving without a licence	241	350	7.03	98.00
Failure to insure against third party risks	674	961	19.29	99.48
Seat belt offences	41	34	0.68	97.06
Mobile phone offences	45	37	0.74	100.00
Driving Carelessly	282	285	5.72	87.72
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	42	30	0.60	100.00
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	343	170	3.41	101.76
Other Group 7 offences	791	743	14.91	55.85

Midlothian Recorded Crime Overview

Midlothian	2019/20 Q2	2020/21 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2020/21	Detection Rates 2020/21
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	78	54	6.09	98.15
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	-	-	-	x
Culpable homicide (at common law)	-	-	-	х
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	1	-	-	x
Attempted murder	-	-	-	x
Serious assault	31	20	2.26	100.00
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	6	10	1.13	80.00
Domestic Abuse (of female)	7	6	0.68	116.67
Domestic Abuse (of male)	-	-	-	х
Domestic Abuse (Total)	7	6	0.68	116.67
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	28	8	0.90	100.00
Threats and extortion	2	6	0.68	83.33
Other group 1 crimes	3	4	0.45	100.00
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	118	112	12.64	73.21
Rape	23	19	2.14	68.42
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	•	-	-	х
Rape and attempted rape - Total	23	19	2.14	68.42
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	4	1	0.11	0.00
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	34	25	2.82	92.00
Lewd & libidinous practices*	18	7	0.79	128.57
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	56	33	3.72	96.97
Prostitution related crime - Total*	1	-	-	x
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	8	10	1.13	100.00
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	5	10	1.13	40.00
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	6	6	0.68	50.00
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	5	7	0.79	57.14
Public indecency (common law)	-	-	-	х
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	12	15	1.69	46.67
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	1	3	0.34	133.33
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	2	9	1.02	55.56
Other Group 2 crimes	-	-	-	x
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	38	60	6.77	61.67
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	980	707	79.79	45.69
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	44	18	2.03	44.44
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	54	38	4.29	7.89
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	35	29	3.27	41.38
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	133	85	9.59	27.06
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	18	12	1.35	8.33
Theft of a motor vehicle	36	43	4.85	58.14

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Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	65	21	2.37	14.29
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	2	-	-	x
Motor vehicle crime - Total	121	76	8.58	38.16
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	19	6	0.68	0.00
Common theft	246	146	16.48	31.51
Theft by shoplifting	321	252	28.44	66.27
Fraud	70	76	8.58	35.53
Other Group 3 Crimes	70	66	7.45	46.97
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	434	317	35.77	28.08
Fireraising	16	19	2.14	10.53
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	405	269	30.36	24.54
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	-	-	-	x
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	13	26	2.93	80.77
Other Group 4 Crimes	-	3	0.34	0.00
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	528	478	53.94	96.23
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	14	13	1.47	100.00
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	18	9	1.02	66.67
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	12	10	1.13	90.00
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	6	4	0.45	100.00
Total offensive/bladed weapons	50	36	4.06	88.89
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	3	7	0.79	100.00
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	20	34	3.84	85.29
Bringing drugs into prison	-	-	-	x
Supply of drugs - Total	23	41	4.63	87.80
Possession of drugs	273	176	19.86	98.30
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	-	-	-	х
Total drugs crimes	296	217	24.49	96.31
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1	-	-	x
Bail offences (other than absconding)	102	134	15.12	96.27
Other Group 5 crimes	79	91	10.27	98.90
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	1025	972	109.69	77.16
Common Assault	398	340	38.37	72.06
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	45	48	5.42	100.00
Common Assault - Total	443	388	43.79	75.52
Breach of the Peace	21	19	2.14	100.00
Threatening & abusive behaviour	401	405	45.71	82.96
Stalking	6	4	0.45	75.00
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	428	428	48.30	83.64
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	9	6	0.68	50.00
Drunk and incapable	4	1	0.11	100.00
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	10	7	0.79	100.00
Other alcohol related offences*	6	7	0.79	100.00
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	20	15	1.69	100.00
Wildlife offences*	3	5	0.56	60.00

Other Group 6 offences	122	130	14.67	60.00
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	597	550	62.07	84.36
Dangerous driving offences	29	26	2.93	88.46
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	47	70	7.90	80.00
Speeding offences	-	-	-	x
Driving while disqualified	20	15	1.69	106.67
Driving without a licence	47	64	7.22	95.31
Failure to insure against third party risks	137	177	19.98	99.44
Seat belt offences	-	-	-	x
Mobile phone offences	-	-	-	x
Driving Carelessly	42	45	5.08	77.78
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	1	-	-	х
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	52	22	2.48	118.18
Other Group 7 offences	222	131	14.78	54.20

From: Taxis and Private Hire taxiandprivatehiretrademid@outlook.com

Sent: 18 August 2020 Item 5.3

To: Elected Members and officers at Midlothian Council

Subject: Action request from Midlothians Taxi and Private hire trade and proposal for Midlothian based TEC

We are sorry to land this on you yet again, but it has become apparent over the past few months, that Midlothian has seen a massive increase in the out of authority vehicles continuing to operate outwith their boundaries and therefore impacting on the livelihoods of the Midlothian Taxi & Private Hire owners and drivers.

As you may be aware, we have been attempting to educate the drivers who have been flouting the legislation and even offering them a copy of the Civic Government Act Section 21, listing the offences, over the course of the past 2 months. A minimal amount of the drivers that we speak to have no idea of the legislation and regulations that they should be adhering to, but the majority say they aren't breaking any rules, commenting they will not get any work unless they are sitting waiting within Midlothian. Which totally contradicts the legislation.

We would assume that Edinburgh and East Lothian licensing boards distribute the legislation just like Midlothian do and therefore the drivers have been made aware of the rules that must be adhered to. So in essence, they have been given the information and therefore are deliberately flaunting the rules. We can understand that they may not get work unless they are sitting within Midlothian and waiting for a job to come through, BUT that is completely down to the operators who seem to be unscrupulously utilising their drivers to gain market exposure within Midlothian and to meet their own ends. Both are at fault whichever way you look at it and are therefore not fit and proper people to hold a PHC/Taxi licence.

On the other side, we have tried to contact the operators, who seem to think they have free rein within Midlothian and can flout the rules and regulations set down by the Scottish Civic Government Act and the only answer they can give is "that's not how our system works". Their systems should be altered accordingly to act with the confines of the law as it is stated. With choosing not to alter their work practices to mirror the law as it is set down, it furthers emphasises the point, that without any consequences to concern themselves with and for their disregard of the law, the current state of affairs will continue and further endanger the livelihoods of those that work and service the local communities within Midlothian.

We have contacted Police Scotland on numerous occasions and have given statements regarding certain drivers. The officers are very rarely to know of the legislation section within the Civic Government Act and we feel this doesn't add much clarity to a increasing problematic issue. There is, it seems, very little discussions between Midlothian Council and Police Scotland regarding who's responsibility to solve these issues it actually is. The Council say that its Police Scotland and they determine that we must speak to Licencing department.

Discussions between all parties must be had immediately so that an agreement can be reached for varied reasons. Proper procedures then can be introduced to protect all parties and also the drivers who are genuinely working within the confines of the law. Education for the officers and a helping hand when determining the miscreants who try to tout/wait and therefore endanger the public on a daily basis when uplifting members of the public.

The aforementioned operators require to be chastised for their complete disregard to the regulations, law and local authorities. Police Scotland and local licencing regimes have been notified of this problem on many occasions, with no judgements being enforced whilst the drivers and operators continue to ply their trade outwith their boundaries, hopeful of gaining market exposure and a foothold without being challenged by the authorities on any level.

Strong enforcement must be enacted within Midlothian immediately and certainly, along with the proper agreements between each local authority and Police Scotland to show that open season within Midlothian's' borders and give our trade some respite from the historical downward spiral that we continue to face and especially with the onset on the current pandemic of Covid.

If the out of authority vehicles are allowed to ply their trade with no repercussions then the impact on the hackney trade could be disastrous due to the Midlothian vehicles losing work constantly and therefore exiting the trade. One of consequences would be that there would become less and less wheelchair accessible vehicles to be utilised by the residents of Midlothian which no-one within and out with the trade would want.

We were of the opinion that Midlothian Council, has policies in place to support local businesses, and at present, even in these unprecedented times, the local business within the taxi and private hire trade really need that support now more than ever so that they can continue with the vital transportation requirements of Scotland's' fastest growing authority. The support that the trade has received was certainly welcomed with regards to the payments for school transport for instance.

With our trade being in a very precarious position, we plead with the council to understand that there are various avenues that must be explored to help the revival of a much needed service for the local communities. The issues contained within this letter are immensely pertinent to the future of our trade and require serious consideration by all parties to safeguard jobs, public safety and the transport needs of the local communities.

We implore the Council to act, as Scottish Law is being broken on a daily basis within the constituency of Midlothian, which as the fastest growing authority in Scotland, is certainly not the type of news we want put in the public domain. It would protect the trade to a degree within Midlothian and therefore also protect the supporting income into the local economy.

The public require and should deserve the backing of their local authority on these matters as what will it take to happen before action is taken? An accident? Fraud?Or worse, a crime of a sexual nature? Single women after a night out jumping into a vehicle that isn't licenced and who knows what may happen without any tracking mechanisms or recourse? The introduction of preventative measures, therefore being proactive instead of reactive is required.

Public safety should be the number one priority when dealing with our trade. Without confidence being shown to our trade, we will have a dwindling value in their eyes, and they should be safer in the knowledge that their local authority and the Police have a careful watch, alongside maintaining a safe environment for the workforce of Midlothian's Taxi and Private Hire trade.

BUT... on the previously mentioned tracking mechanisms, it can be safe to assume that all the major operators have dispatch systems whether it is Edinburgh or East Lothian. Those systems as required by the tender documents to attain certain contracts have data than can be looked at by the authorities. It would then allow licencing/Police to determine whether or not the jobs are being accepted within Midlothian's borders by the drivers but also that the operators are giving the jobs out to drivers when not in their own licenced authority, hence action should be taken against the operator licence holders.

We would also like to mention that the TEC and the proposal to alter that particular situation to be based within Midlothian would be advantageous to the point that enforcement could be added into their remit which would cover the issues raised here. Enforcement that knows the local area and therefore the drivers and operators who maintain the trade with Midlothian.

f this is allowed to continue without enforcement action, then the trade will diminish further and be faced with very few alternatives but to seek advice to gain legal protections for the livelihoods that are concerned with our respective trades.

Please also find attached a list of signatures from both sides of the trade that we have collected over the past few days which will initially show that the sentiment expressed above for a TEC to be based within Midlothian. It should also show the discontented feelings at what the owners and drivers view as negligible action to protect their livelihoods along with public safety.

If you could please respond with any viewpoints and any actions that are possible to have the desired effects on any of the issues mentioned in this letter it would be very much appreciated.

Kind regards,

On behalf on Midlothian's Taxi and Private Hire Trade.