

Scrutiny Report April 2015 - March 2016

Midlothian



Please let it be noted that this report is for information purposes, to provide an indication of performance and to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

(Figures relate to Midlothian as a whole for the date period 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016 (YTD) with comparisons made to the previous year 1 April 2014 - 31 March 2015 (LYTD))

YTD = Year to Date LYTD = Last Year to Date

Priority 1 – Tackling Substance Misuse

Indicator - Reduce the volume of crime aggravated by alcohol

Target - Reduce from LYTD

Current situation

On target. YTD alcohol aggravated crime accounted for 9.4% of all group 1-7 crime recorded by Police in Midlothian, down from 10.1% LYTD.

Reasons

Compared to the previous year, there were 202 fewer crimes recorded overall in Midlothian YTD, and a decrease in alcohol aggravated crime by 0.7% (71 crimes). YTD there were 6961 group 1-7 crimes recorded in Midlothian, 655 were tagged with the aggravator 'alcohol'. LYTD there were 7163 crimes recorded of which 726 were aggravated by alcohol. The percentage of alcohol aggravated crime is also lower YTD compared to the 3-year average of 11.4%.

Over 40% of alcohol aggravated crime are acts of violence (incl serious violent crimes and common assaults), a further 28% of alcohol aggravated crime related to threatening and abusive behaviour and breach of the peace. Vandalisms account for 6.7% of all crime.

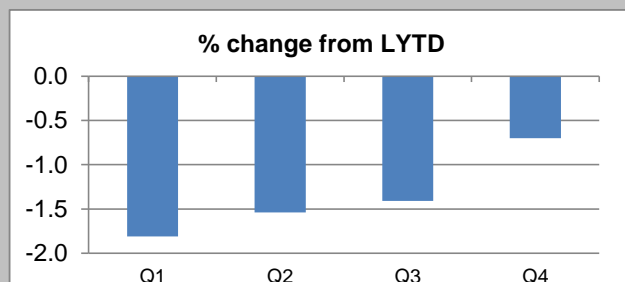
What are we doing

A number of actions are being taken by Police and the Community Safety Partnership in tackling alcohol fuelled violent crime:

- Targeting of 'party houses' through the weekly partnership tasking and co-ordination group
- Following the grading meeting on 29 January four licensed premises have achieved the Best Bar None Award - 3 x gold and 1 x silver.
- Police visits to problem and monitored licensed premises (no problem premises but three being monitored currently)
- Early intervention meetings with licencees and their staff following incidents with Licensed premises
- Dispersal detail within Dalkeith and Penicuik Town Centres
- Campaign Against Violence (CAV) days of action
- Securing the use of Force Flexible Policing Unit for April/May
- Test purchase operation undertaken during March (three premises failed, however all passed the re-test)

Indicator - Reduce the volume of crime aggravated by alcohol

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	N/A	9.4%	10.1%	-0.7%



Priority 1 – Tackling Substance Misuse

Indicator - Increase the proportion of positive stop searches for drugs

Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

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

Reasons

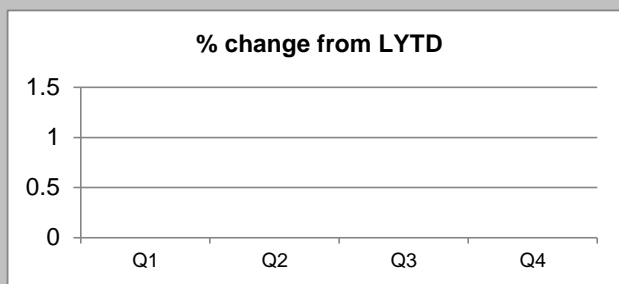
Between 1 June 2015 and 31 March 2016 Lothian and Scottish Borders Police carried out 1,281 stop and searches for drugs (105 consensual, 1,176 statutory), with a positive return of 27.8%. This is above the force figure of 26.6%.

What are we doing

Officers in Midlothian continue to search people on an intelligence led basis.

Indicator - Increase the proportion of positive stop searches for drugs

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
26.6%	27.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A



Priority 2 – Protecting People:

Indicator - Increase the number of Adult at Risk referrals made to partner agencies

Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

On target. There were 1327 referrals made to partnership agencies YTD, up from 1303 LYTD - an increase of 1.8%.

Reasons

Improved awareness among police officers of the risk factors involved and necessity for informed consent to share with partnership agencies.

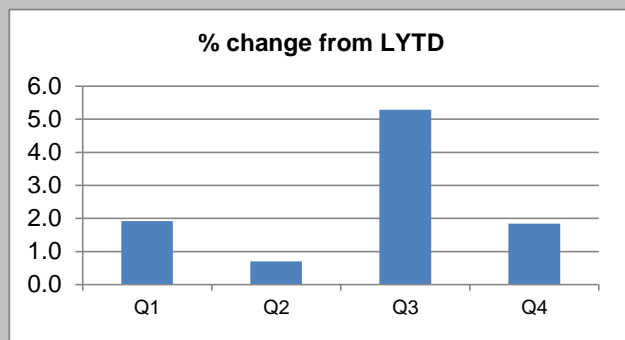
An adult protection screening pilot was launched across East and Midlothian in July 2015. The multi agency screening group meets twice a week to screen adult referrals prior to submission. The main benefit of this group is to allow referrals to be made and received by the relevant agency more effective and efficient.

What are we doing

- Introduction of VPD (Vulnerable Persons Database), as a standardised national process and database, making it easier to raise a referral for adults involved in domestic incidents and hate crimes and adults at risk.
- Continued awareness-raising among police officers regarding criteria for submission of adult concern referrals.
- Operation Monarda: Police have been working with partner agencies, the third sector and local communities across Midlothian as part of an ongoing national campaign to help minimise risk and prevent harm to vulnerable and older people from criminals who commit doorstep crime (incl road shows, foot patrols, attendance at community facilities such as libraries, leisure centres, and day centres).
- Established a co-located Public Protection Unit unit within the Brunton Hall, Musselburgh.
- Recent introduction of the ICMU (Incident Crime Management Unit), whose role in principle is to triage receipt of initial submission of adult VPDs, which will improve the quality, standard and compliance aspects of adult protection VPDs.
- In the process of developing a pilot "Risk and Concern" hub which will enhance our ability to assess risk. Two other pilot areas in Scotland (Aberdeen and Glasgow)

Indicator - Increase the number of Adult at Risk referrals made to partner agencies

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	N/A	1327	1303	1.8%



Priority 2 - Protecting People

Indicator - Ensure 95% of Domestic Abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24 hours)
Target - 95%

Current situation

On target. YTD 98.7% of domestic abuse initial bail checks have been conducted within a prescribed timeframe of 24 hours - above the 95.0% target and the divisional and force figure (97.0% and 96.8% respectively).

Reasons

These checks are vital to ensure that the perpetrator is adhering to bail conditions imposed at the court. It is well known that perpetrators regularly return to victims irrespective of bail conditions or not, and these checks, which include a physical search of the property are designed to protect the victim and provide levels of support and reassurance.

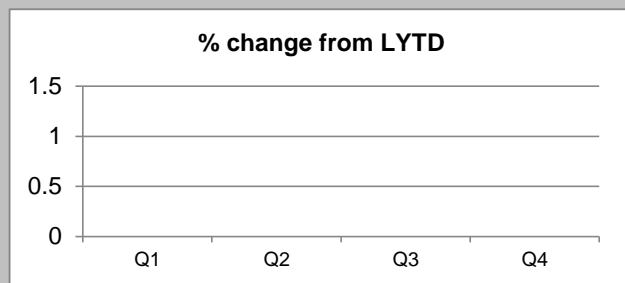
Supervisors and officers are fully aware of the importance of these checks and the disciplined process that is in place between the courts and the police.

What are we doing

- Pro-active Domestic Abuse bail checks.
- MATAC: responsible for identifying and targeting High Risk Domestic Offenders

Indicator - Ensure 95% of Domestic Abuse initial bail checks are conducted within a prescribed timeframe (24 hours)

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
96.8%	97.0%	98.7%	97.6%	1.1%



Priority 2 - Protecting People:

Indicator - Domestic Abuse crimes and offences – achieve a detection rate of at least 75.0%
Target - 75%

Current situation

On target. Detection rate for domestic abuse crimes and offences YTD is 75.6%, meeting the target figure of 75.0%.

Reasons

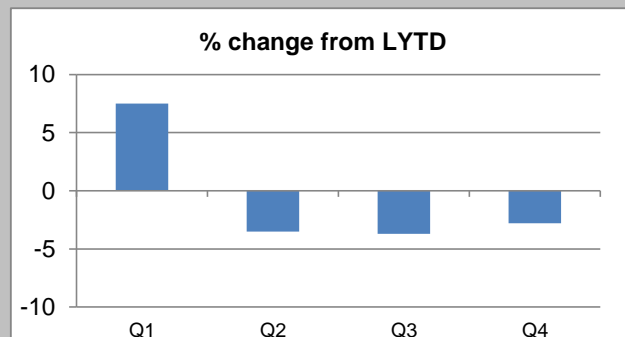
YTD there were 681 crimes and offences of domestic abuse recorded in Midlothian, down from 740 PYTD and above the five-year average of 482. Police in Midlothian detected 515 crimes/offences of domestic abuse in 2015/16, at a detection rate of 75.6%, achieving the year end target of 75.0%.

What are we doing

- Pro-active Domestic Abuse bail checks for both offender and victim.
- Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC): responsible for identifying and targeting high risk domestic offenders
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC): responsible for identifying and protecting high risk victims of domestic abuse
- Officers trained in identifying risk assessment through domestic abuse questionnaire
- Direct referral process in place to East and Midlothian Domestic Abuse Service (DAS)
- Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit (DAIU) in place to deal with complex and high tariff cases
- Seasonal national campaigns

Indicator - Domestic Abuse crimes and offences – achieve a detection rate of at least 75.0%

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
81.7%	80.7%	75.6%	78.4%	-2.8%



Priority 3 - Reducing Violence :

Indicator - Decrease the number of violent crimes per 10,000 head of population

Target - reduce from LYTD

Current situation

On target. YTD there were 9.2 violent crimes per 10,000 population, slightly below LYTD figure of 10.0 crimes per 10,000 population.

(note the latest population estimate for Midlothian relates to 2014 - population estimate of 86,210)

Reasons

79 violent crimes (all group 1) were recorded YTD in Midlothian. This is 8.1% below LYTD when 86 crimes were recorded and lower than the 3-year average of 97 crimes. The rate of violent crimes YTD is 9.2 crimes per 10,000 population, down from 10.0 LYTD.

There have been seven attempted murders recorded by police, up one from LYTD (6). Crimes of serious assault have decreased by one compared to the previous year 34 PYTD to 33 YTD). Crimes of assault and robbery have also decreased YTD compared to the previous year 22 PYTD to 15 YTD).

Detection rate for all group 1 crime is an excellent 94.9% up 13.5% on the PYTD figure of 81.4%.

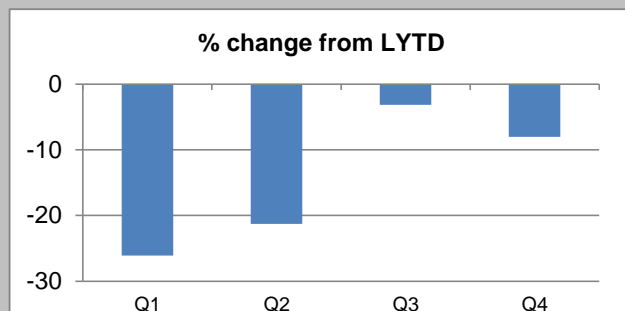
What are we doing

A number of actions are being taken by Police and the Community Safety Partnership in tackling violent crime:

- Targeting of 'party houses' through the weekly partnership tasking and co-ordination group
- Visits to problem and monitored licensed premises
- Dispersal detail within Dalkeith and Penicuik Town Centres
- Targeted use of Campaign Against Violence (CAV) officers
- Antisocial behaviour and violent offenders monitoring group - action against high profile and prolific offenders (for example for violent offences committed in the vicinity of the dwelling tenancy warnings or in cases eviction are carried out by the relevant housing association/ council)
- Robust monitoring and enforcement of bail conditions/curfew for known violent offenders
- Active early engagement with violent offenders released from prison
- Prioritising of warrants for violent offenders
- Secured Force Flexible Policing unit for Apr/May
- Process established to extend MAPPA to include violent offenders

Indicator - Decrease the number of violent crimes per 10,000 head of population

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	N/A	9.2	10.0	-0.8%



Priority 3 - Reducing Violence

Indicator - Increase the percentage of positive Stop and Searches for offensive weapons

Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

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

Reasons

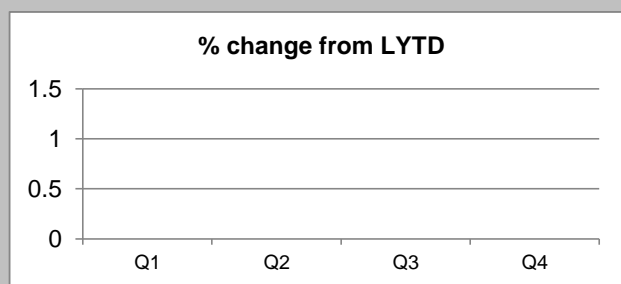
Between 1 June 2015 and 31 March 2016 in the Lothian and Scottish Borders Police carried out 145 stop and searches for weapons (42 consensual and 103 statutory), with a positive return of 16.6%, which is above the force figure of 14.2%.

What are we doing

Officers in Midlothian continue to search people on an intelligence led basis.

Indicator - Increase the percentage of positive Stop and Searches for offensive weapons

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
14.2%	16.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A



Priority 4 - Making our Roads Safer

Indicator - Decrease the number of people killed or seriously injured on Midlothian's roads

Target - Decrease from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. YTD 43 people were killed or seriously injured on Midlothian's roads, 14 more than the previous year (29), and 12 more than the 3-year average of 31.

Reasons

YTD there were 3 fatalities on Midlothian's roads - there were no fatalities LYTD. In the last quarter (December - March 201) there were no fatalities on Midlothian's roads.

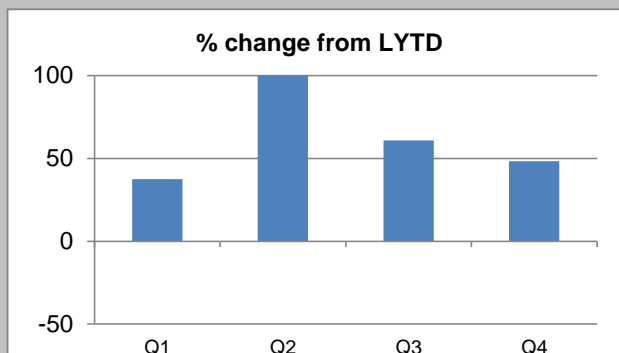
YTD there were 40 people seriously injured on Midlothian's roads, up from 29 the previous year. Three children were seriously injured YTD, up from zero the previous year and comparable with the 3-year average (3). Analysis of all Killed/Seriously Injured (KSI) continues to be undertaken in an effort to establish causation factors or identify any "hot spot" areas, however this has failed to identify anything or any locus of significance.

What are we doing

- Targeted patrol matrix used by Roads Policing which identifies hotspots for serious and fatal collisions.
- Deployment of unmarked Roads Policing vehicles and Police Motorcycles
- Additional Community Policing Team Officers have been trained into the use of hand held radar devices and are undertaking speed checks on roads identified as problematic in an effort to positively influence driver behaviour
- Joint work with partners in VOSA to ensure road worthiness of vehicles/HGV's and that drivers are complying with standards required
- Winter Safety Campaign aimed at educating drivers to the hazards of winter driving
- Tomorrow's driver events - aimed at S5/6 year pupils to raise awareness of the dangers on the road
- Operation Zenith - targeting motorcyclists behaviour on the road

Indicator - Decrease the number of people killed or seriously injured on Midlothian's roads

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
1317	170	43	29	48.3%



Priority 4 - Making our Roads Safer

Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for dangerous driving

Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

On target. YTD there were 37 detections for dangerous driving in Midlothian, an increase of 11 (42.3%), from PYTD.

Reasons

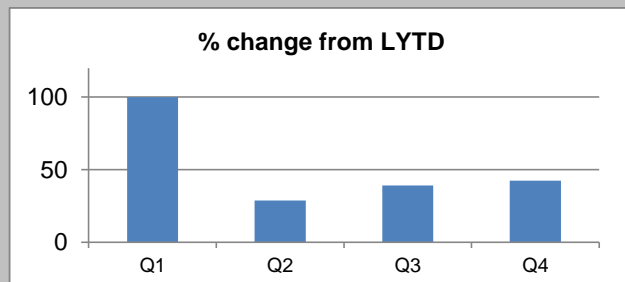
Males aged 17-26 years are over represented in dangerous driving offences (68%). Dangerous Driving offences recorded in Midlothian account for 23.3% of all offences in the Lothian and Scottish Borders Division and 1.5% for all of Scotland.

What are we doing

- Roads Policing are tasked through the weekly partnership tasking and co-ordination group (TACG) in regards to patrolling antisocial / careless driving hotspots
- Deployment of unmarked Roads Policing vehicles and motorcycles
- Deployment of camera enforcement vehicles in Midlothian. There are currently three sites which form part of their deployment matrix and others being looked at.
- Continued road checks involving Roads Policing working with local Community officers and partners

Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for dangerous driving

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
2499	159	37	26	42.3%



Priority 5 - Reducing Antisocial Behaviour

Indicator - Increase the detection rate for hate crime

Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

On target. The detection rate for hate crime in Midlothian was 80.2%, above 79.0% LYTD.

Reasons

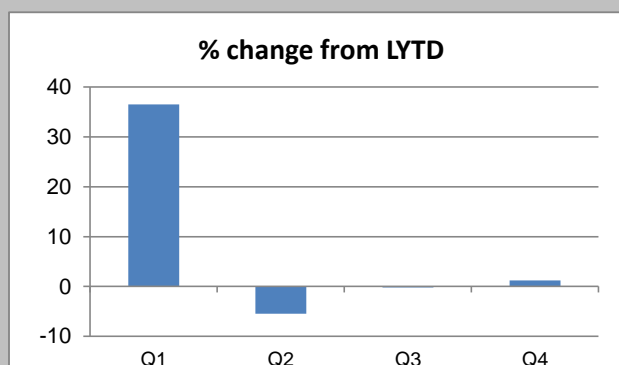
At the end of March the Midlothian detection rate for hate crime increased by more than 1% compared to the same period the previous year, and sits above the divisional and force figures of 79.0% and 77.0% respectively. Racially aggravated hate crime continues to be a challenge in Midlothian with offences taking place between neighbours, at point of sale, and against police officers during arrest. YTD there were 86 recorded hate crimes/offences, down 4 from 90 PYTD.

What are we doing

- A racial hate crime offender has been taken to the ASBVO meeting (case is being monitored and on conviction action will be taken against the tenancy)
- Educational inputs at local schools
- A thorough and robust investigation process in place
- Strong links with identified vulnerable premises

Indicator - Increase the detection rate for hate crime

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
77.0%	79.0%	80.2%	79.0%	1.2%



Priority 5 - Reducing Antisocial Behaviour

Indicator - Reduce the number of incidents of Antisocial Behaviour reported by members of the public
Target - reduce from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. The number of complaints of antisocial behaviour (ASB) increased by 234 incidents YTD compared to LYTD.

Reasons

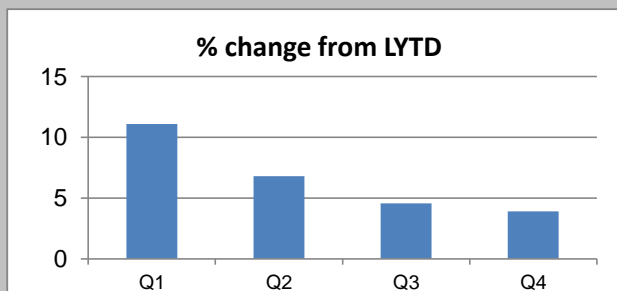
6299 incidents of ASB have been reported by members of the public YTD. There have been 234 more incidents YTD than LYTD - an overall increase of 3.9%. A specific challenge for police is the last quarter was high levels of youth disorder in the Bonnyrigg area. Hotspots in youth disorder are raised at the Community Safety Delivery Group and weekly tasking and co-ordinating group (T&CG) and specific action are taken by Community Policing Team / funded officers and community learning and development street workers. A Bonnyrigg Problem Solving Partnership Group has been initiated and meets regularly to tackle ongoing youth disorder in this area. Alcohol related antisocial behaviour continues to be a challenge for police with a disproportionate percentage of calls received Friday and Saturday between 20:00 and 00:59.

What are we doing

- Weekly partnership tasking and coordination group - actions taken around repeat ASB loci and offenders
- Briefing circulation on the Midlothian Council Mediation Service has resulted in an increase in police referrals to this service
- Antisocial Behaviour and Violent Offenders Monitoring Group (ASBVO) - a number of actions taken each meeting against high tariff ASB offenders
- ASB occurring in private and housing association tenancies are passed to the housing agency involved to ensure enforcement action is taken
- Woodburn and Bonnyrigg Problem Solving Partnerships ongoing
- Consultation ongoing with Children's Reporter regarding a more robust use of supervision orders for youths regularly offending in the community
- Rural Experience Midlothian completed its second diversionary project with three very positive outcomes
- Underage drinking/test purchase operation undertaken in March
- Challenge Project (Army youth diversion project for early secondary school pupils) in the coming months
- Secure Force Flexible Policing unit resources for April/May
- Community Beat Officers/Housing officers joint visits to identified problematic premises

Indicator - Reduce the number of incidents of Antisocial Behaviour reported by members of the public

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
317247	26163	6299	6065	3.9%



Priority 6 - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Indicator - Increase the number of detections for drugs supply, drugs production and drugs cultivation
Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

On target. YTD police in Midlothian detected 74 offences for drugs supply, production and cultivation, which is 5 more detections than LYTD (+7.2%).

Reasons

Police in Midlothian detected 74 offences for drugs supply, production and cultivation YTD. This is 5 offences above LYTD (+7.2%).

50 offences were for drugs supply and 24 offences for drug production/cultivation. Briefings are taking place with Community Safety Officers and Housing Officers within Midlothian Council to educate front line workers around identifying drug related paraphernalia - this has resulted in a number of detections.

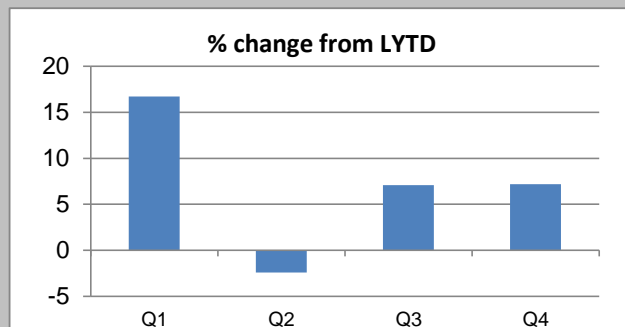
There is one active Serious Organised Crime Group operating within Midlothian. Police have made 11 arrests of SOCG principles and 466 members throughout Lothian and the Scottish Borders area YTD.

What are we doing

- Divisional Intelligence Officer now within Dalkeith Divisional Intelligence Unit
- Information sharing protocol is now in place to carry out Landlord Registration checks in order to identify potential money laundering
- Operation Sandrone now in place to actively pursue any intelligence relating to drug supply/misuse by children and young people
- Joint Police and Trading Standards work continues in relation to New Psychoactive Substances in our area
- Operation Borah targeting suspected cannabis cultivations

Indicator - Increase the number of detections for drugs supply, drugs production and drugs cultivation

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
5007	382	74	69	7.2%



Priority 6 - Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Indicator - Increase the amount of cash and NET assets seized from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act

Target - increase from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. YTD police have seized £472,766 in cash and NET assets from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act. This is a decrease of £283,554 compared to LYTD.

Reasons

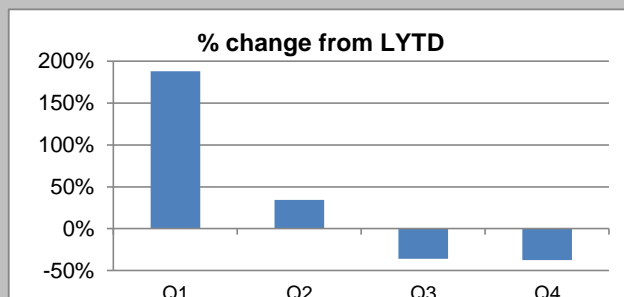
There have been three NET assets seized YTD totalling £464,446 and a further £8320 in cash seizures from five individuals who reside in Midlothian. LYTD there were six NET assets seized and five cash seizures with a total value of £756,310.

What are we doing

- Police Scotland continue efforts to identify and assess the scale and impact of serious organised crime, and to manage the threat posed by those SOCGs involved in Midlothian.
- Information sharing protocol is now in place to carry out Landlord Registration checks in order to identify potential money laundering
- Joint plan in place with Midlothian Council to tackle SOCG

Indicator - Increase the amount of cash and NET assets seized from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	N/A	£472,766	£756,310	-37.5%



Priority 7 – Reducing Housebreaking

Indicator -Reduce the number of thefts by housebreaking at domestic properties

Target - reduce from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. Police recorded 159 domestic housebreakings (incl attempts) YTD, up from 103 LYTD - an increase of 54.4%.

Reasons

Housebreaking to domestic properties continues to be a challenge for Police with 159 recorded break-ins YTD, up 54.4% from LYTD total of 103 crimes. The 3-year average for 2012/13 - 2014/15 was 108. On a positive note non-dwelling housebreakings (e.g. break-ins to garages and sheds) have dropped by 21% YTD. Overall domestic and non-domestic housebreakings (excl businesses) have dropped by 2.6% YTD compared to LYTD.

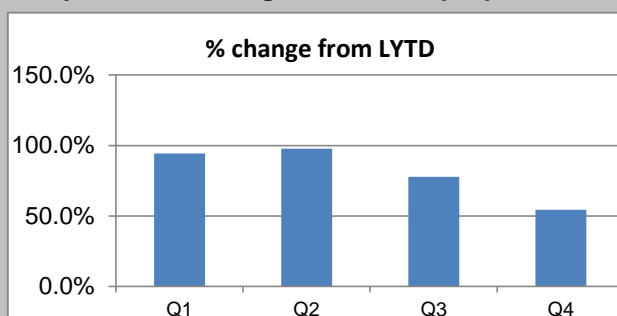
The targeting of domestic properties for car keys and the subsequent theft of motor vehicles has been a challenge for police with 23 motor vehicles stolen during domestic housebreakings YTD. A recidivist group of young males continue to commit high numbers of housebreakings throughout the area and dedicated police resources are being directed to this SOCG under the banner Operation Bistra.

What are we doing

- Police continue to gather intelligence and deploy resources to housebreakings and autocrime under Operation 'Greenbay' and Operation Bistra.
- General crime prevention advice is given by recording officers at victims of domestic housebreakings. More detailed crime prevention surveys are offered to victims of domestic housebreaking who appear vulnerable or who are repeat victims.
- Increase in the use of social media by Community Policing Sgts in promotion of home security and personal safety advice
- An ASBO is being considered for a high tariff individual convicted of a number of housebreakings. Action against the tenancy is also being considered.
- Consideration for action taken at the ASBVO where stolen property is detected in Council or social housing tenancies where tenant was convicted of housebreaking in the vicinity of their tenancy
- Housing officers have been educated around the reporting of intelligence to Police (e.g. gardening tools stored within a flat without a garden)
- Deployment of plain clothed officers in problematic areas
- Proactive bail/curfew checks on offenders
- Target hardening initiative relating to sheds/garages/houses planned for the Dalkeith/Eskbank areas in May

Indicator - Reduce the number of thefts by housebreaking at domestic properties

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	532	159	103	54.4%



Priority 7 – Reducing Housebreaking

Indicator -Increase our detection rate for crimes of housebreaking at domestic properties
Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

On target. The detection rate for crimes of domestic housebreaking YTD is 35%, compared to LYTD total of 34% and above the 3-year average of 31%.

Reasons

Despite high levels of housebreaking Police continue to make a number of arrests with the solvency rate for domestic housebreakings 35% YTD - up slightly from 33.98% LYTD and the 3-year average of 31.2%.

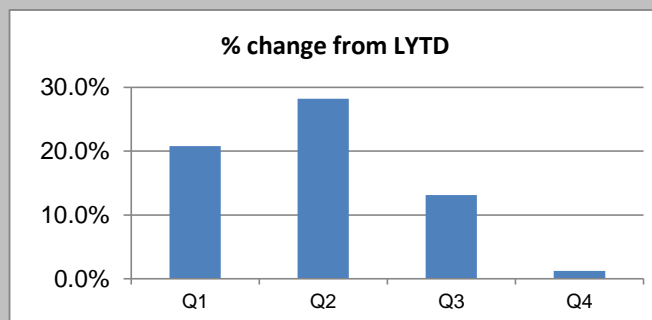
Several nominals have been charged with numerous offences YTD, with a total of 38 individuals charged with 56 domestic housebreaking (incl attempts). Details of repeat housebreaking offenders are passed by police to Midlothian Council Community Safety Team and Criminal Justice Social Work for follow up enforcement action.

What are we doing

- Operation Reduce and Capture (RAC)
- Operation Bistra – Police operation targeting non-dwelling housebreakings and the theft of pedal cycles and gardening equipment across Midlothian
- Police are represented at all CSP Roadshows delivered throughout the year promoting personal, road and home safety
- Joint work with our Search and Recovery Teams (SART) with regards to tracing stolen property
- Joint work with officers from Edinburgh targeting known housebreakers across both authority areas (Operation Greenbay)

Indicator -Increase our detection rate for crimes of housebreaking at domestic properties

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	42.7%	35.2%	34.0%	1.2%



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

In September 2014 the Professional Standards Department introduced a change in process for streamlining the handling, investigation and response to all complaints about the police. As a result, year on year comparisons are not possible.

Number of complaints - Midlothian	TBC
Number of complaints - J Division	478

Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	TBC
Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	35.8

	Midlothian	J Division
Total allegations recorded	TBC	639