

Scrutiny Report

1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018

Midlothian



"The data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. There may be minor amendments between the information in this report and the final statistics – for example: due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, road crashes or incidents. It would not therefore be accurate or appropriate to refer to, quote or use the data in this report as official statistics. The extraction date from recording systems can differ so data should be seen as accurate on date of extraction by may still be dynamic. All data in the report is to indicate trend only as figures will change over time"

LYTD = last year to date YTD = this year to date

Our Intention

Wherever possible, to live independently and in their own home by:

- Being open, responsive and accountable to victims, witnesses and communities, giving them an effective voice and working to develop new ways to meet their needs such as a better understanding of cultural and diversity requirements and ensuring they receive the help and support they require;
- Protecting victims and the most vulnerable within our communities, working in partnership, sharing relevant information and taking action to support these individuals by providing assistance, intervention and referral;
- Enhancing our investigations into missing people and provide appropriate support to individuals and families Our intention is to ensure people, including those with disabilities/ long-term conditions or are frail are able affected
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Current Situation

The number of adult missing person incidents decreased by 4.0% YTD compared to LYTD with 149 recorded LYTD and 143 recorded YTD. 36 missing adults had vulnerabilities such as dementia/mental health 25 were cared for adults.

To provide support for vulnerable adults in a care home setting the Divisional Missing Person Coordinator has strong links with care homes in the area, highlighting concerns and where required registering residents for care home plans which ensure the effective transfer of information and a quick response/trace to future incidents.

Bogus workmen crimes recorded by police decreased from 15 LYTD to 4 YTD (-73.3%). An attempt was made to defraud a 71-year-old female of £50000 by a male offering to carry out repair work to her home. The other three crimes involved offering gardening work to elderly/vulnerable persons. Police enquiries have led to the detection of two crimes this YTD.

Police continue to make use of social media to engage with the community in terms of crime prevention of similar incidents and generating intelligence to aid enquiries.

What are we doing next?

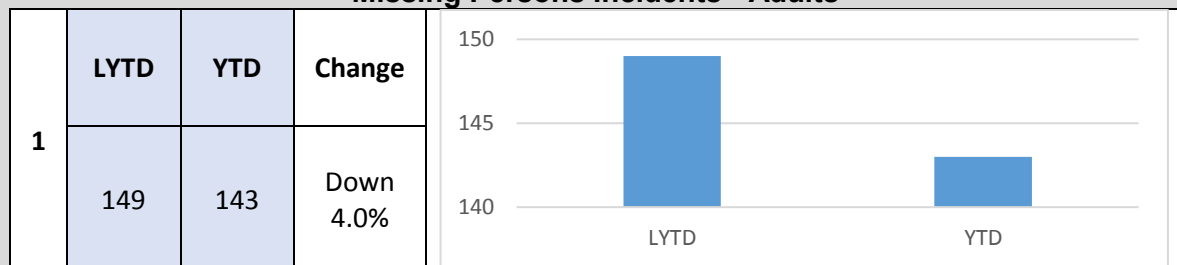
- Neighbourhood Watch Alert Scheme – Community Beat Officers are encouraging the setup of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes at local Community Council meetings across Midlothian.
- Call blocker initiative for those identified at risk of financial harm - in conjunction with Mid Council, Social Work, Midlothian Trading Standards, Trading Standards Scotland
- Financial harm/scam awareness presentation/training cascaded to Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network and all Community Beat Officers

- Banking protocol implemented in Midlothian. This is an alert network with financial situations to notify of bogus workmen activity in their area – allows banks have staff on high alert for victims attending for cash.
- Crime prevention road shows are ongoing within Midlothian providing advice on how to beat doorstep crime helping people identify doorstep crime, providing information on who to contact and on the steps they can take to keep themselves safe.
- Continued support of Operation Monarda with planned days of action - the aim being to deliver a clear message to those engaged in bogus worker crimes that Police and partner agencies will take action, gathering and developing intelligence relating to persons and vehicles involved, identifying and reporting offenders, raising public awareness and increasing reassurance whilst promoting partnership working.

Police Performance Indicators

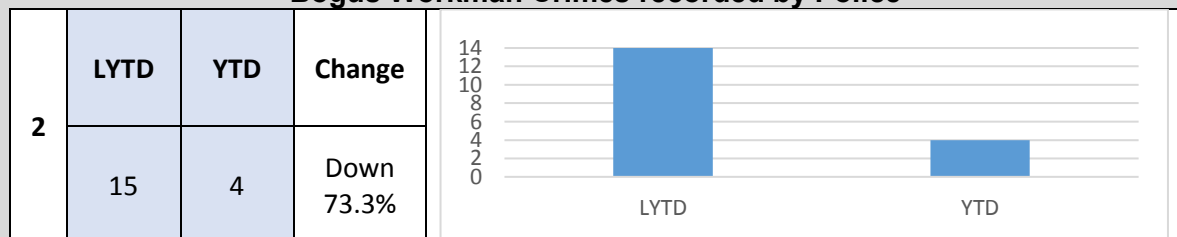
1. Missing Persons incidents - Adults
2. Bogus workmen crimes recorded by the Police

Missing Persons Incidents - Adults



Source: Missing persons coordinator, J Division

Bogus Workman Crimes recorded by Police



Source: UNIFI, Group 3 crimes, initial input date, ED, aggravator 'bogus caller' – crimes recorded in error and no crime removed from results. Please note that this data comes from interrogation of local systems using aggravator tag searches to give an indication of financial harm against the vulnerable only. Data should not be quoted as official statistics.

Misuse of Alcohol & Drugs, Gender Based Harm, Crimes of Dishonesty, Violent Crime, Financial Harm, Cyber Crime, Antisocial Behaviour & Hate Crime, Serious & Organised Crime & Counter Terrorism, and Death and Injury on Midlothian Roads

Our Intention

Our intention is to ensure (1) Fewer people are victims of crime, abuse or harm & (2) People feel safe in their neighbourhood and homes & (3) Our communities take a positive role in shaping their future by:

- Engaging with partners to prevent and reduce crime, ensuring the most vulnerable members of social groups within our communities are protected, focussing on the offences and offenders that cause the greatest harm;
- Preventing criminality and the misuse of drugs and alcohol through effective early intervention, education and enforcement;
- Influencing road user behaviour and improve road safety awareness through education, initiatives, activities and enforcement;
- Preventing serious, organised crime, target, disrupt and deterring those involved;
- Protecting our communities from the threat of terrorism, contributing fully to the UK Government CONTEST Strategy in respect of terrorism locally, across the region, nationally and internationally.

Current Situation

Police recorded 978 incidents of domestic abuse YTD, down 5% from LYTD (1030). Crime incidents have also decreased YTD, with 44.2% of all incidents recorded resulting in the creation of a crime report compared to 49.8% LYTD. Police continue to carry out bail checks on domestic abuse perpetrators with good results (100% compliance YTD).

Hate Incidents increased by 4.9% YTD compared to LYTD (up 4 incidents). Hate incidents motivated by race, particularly against adults, accounted for the majority of hate incidents recorded within Midlothian. Point of sale, neighbour disputes and crimes against police officers continue to represent the majority of hate crime incidents across Midlothian.

Antisocial behaviour incidents decreased by 6% YTD compared to LYTD (6340 and 6745 respectively). Crimes of vandalism have also decreased by 9.3% YTD compared to LYTD (957 and 1055 respectively).

Detections for drugs supply, production and cultivation decreased by 32% YTD, with 53 detections recorded YTD compared to 78 LYTD. Operations into Drug supply offences are ongoing into intelligence received and this will be a priority area for Midlothian officers in this coming year.

Housebreakings (domestic) decreased by 46.1% YTD compared to the previous year (83 and 154 respectively). This is particularly pleasing as this was our main priority over the past 12 months, and in addition to the drop in recorded crime, we have also increased our detection rate to an exceptional 48.2% (up 13% on PYTD) and well above the National figure. Lock Down Crime Roadshows and crime prevention messages through social media are having a positive impact in increasing security of dwelling houses, with enforcement and intelligence gathering continuing through Operation Bistra. A challenge for police continues to be recidivist young males linked to serious organised crime targeting dwellings and non-dwellings for pedal cycles and motor vehicles.

All dishonesty crime (group 3) increased by 3.3% YTD (2407 and 2330 respectively) however this was improving picture throughout the year where we were almost 20% above at some point. This increase is entirely down to the increase in shoplifting which has increased by 159 crimes (779 and 620 respectively), a percentage increase of 25.6%. Again however, I would add that significant progress in this area has been made over the second six months to reduce that the difference from an increase of 55.6% after the first six months of the year.

Serious violent crime decreased by 6.7% YTD, from 74 to 69 crimes. Crimes of attempted murder reduced by 4 crimes, serious assault increased by 2 crimes, and assault and robbery reduced by 5 crimes. Hotspots for violent crime in public YTD continue to be observed in Mayfield and Dalkeith town centre. A dispersal plan continues in Dalkeith to disperse and prevent ASB and violent crime linked to alcohol misuse. Detection rate for all group 1 (violent) crimes finished at an excellent 85.7%.

There was a significant improvement in road casualties within Midlothian last year which saw a reduction in those killed or seriously injured on our roads reduce by 19.1% (47 and 36 respectively, with fatalities down 75% from eight to two and serious injuries down 12.8% from 39 to 34. Additionally, slight injuries were also down by 27.7% from 177 to 128 respectively.

What are we doing next?

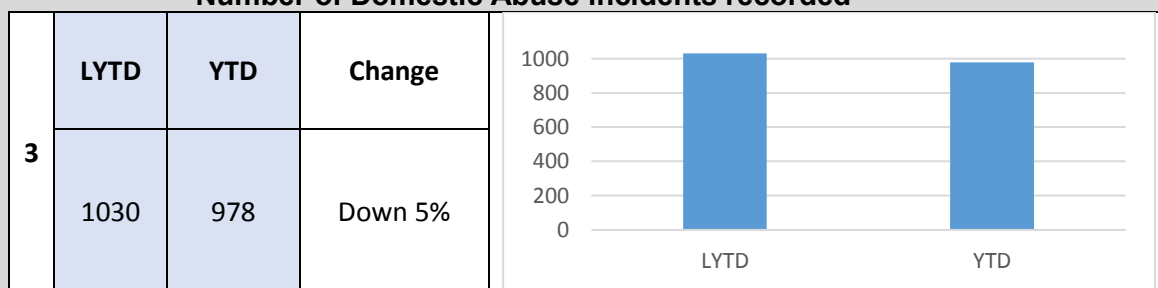
- Police are leading in the development of violence against women and girls (VAWG) prevention plan in partnership with multiple partners.
- Midlothian officers are utilising the Community Engagement Vehicle to provide a mobile point of contact for residents in areas where there have been high number of ASB calls received.
- Plans are being made to develop an intelligence gathering leaflet relating to drug and alcohol misuse, antisocial behaviour and vandalism. Once designed and printed these leaflets will be distributed in a controlled manner.
- Midlothian Police are planning the launch of "You're Asking For It" campaign to tackle the issue of proxy alcohol purchases by adults for children in relation to alcohol misuse.
- Continued development of Retail Crime Partnerships
- Working with Lifelong Learning and Employability (LLLE) to have all high schools active in Fearless and Mentors in Violence Programme
- Plans to roll out young drivers programme to Edinburgh college.
- Working with COPFS regarding CRASBO's for recidivist shoplifters

Police Performance Indicators

3. Number of Domestic Abuse incidents recorded
4. Hate Incidents
5. Antisocial Behaviour Incidents
6. Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation
7. Housebreaking (Domestic)
8. Group 3 Crimes of Dishonesty

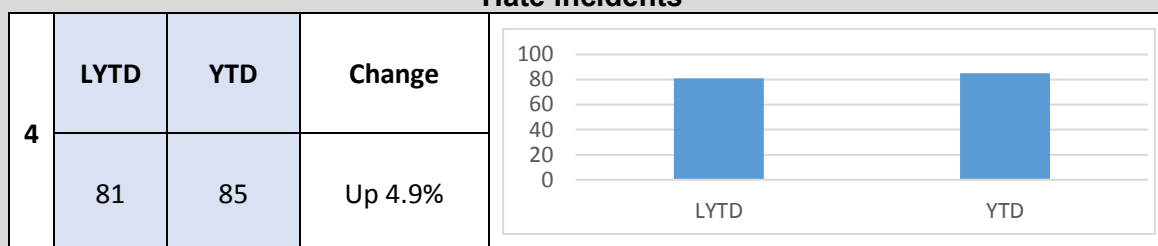
9. Serious Violent Crime
10. Road Casualties

Number of Domestic Abuse incidents recorded



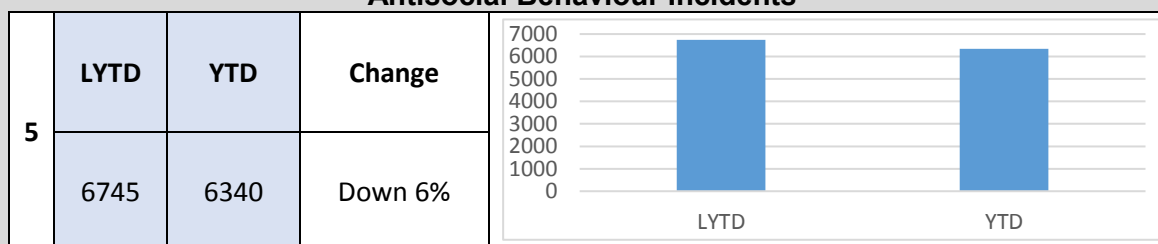
Source: SCOMIS, all incidents

Hate Incidents



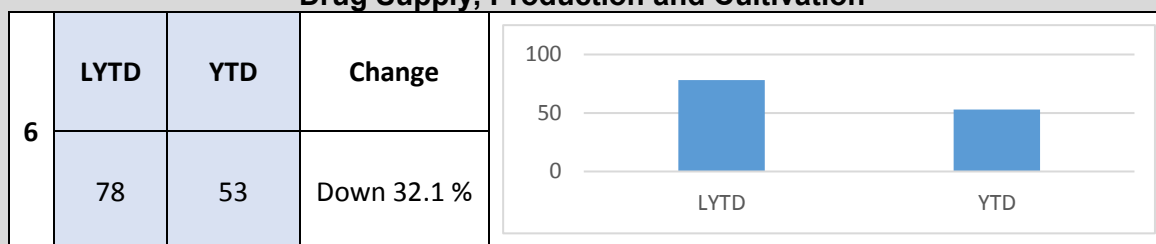
Source: SCOMIS, all incidents

Antisocial Behaviour Incidents



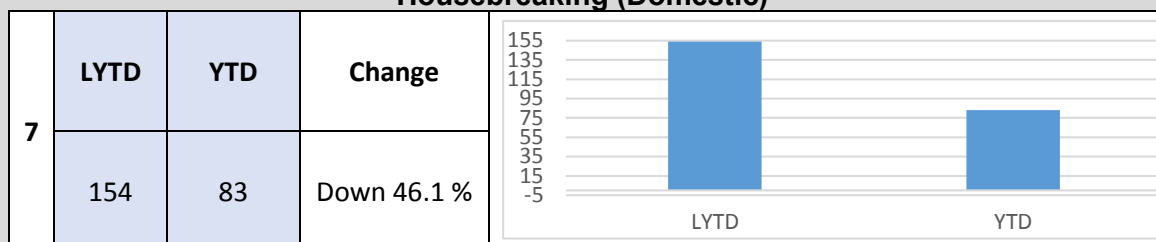
Source: SCOMIS, all incidents

Drug Supply, Production and Cultivation



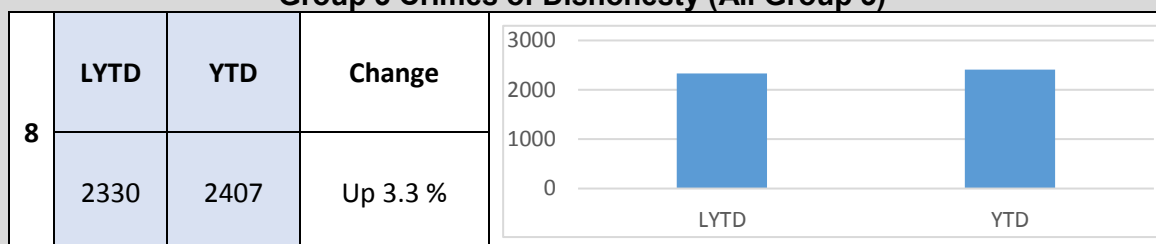
Source: Analysis and Performance Unit, LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD – Midlothian - December 2017

Housebreaking (Domestic)



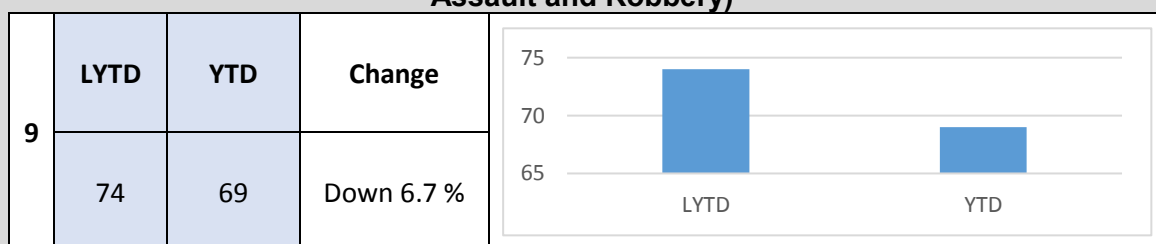
Source: SCOMIS

Group 3 Crimes of Dishonesty (All Group 3)



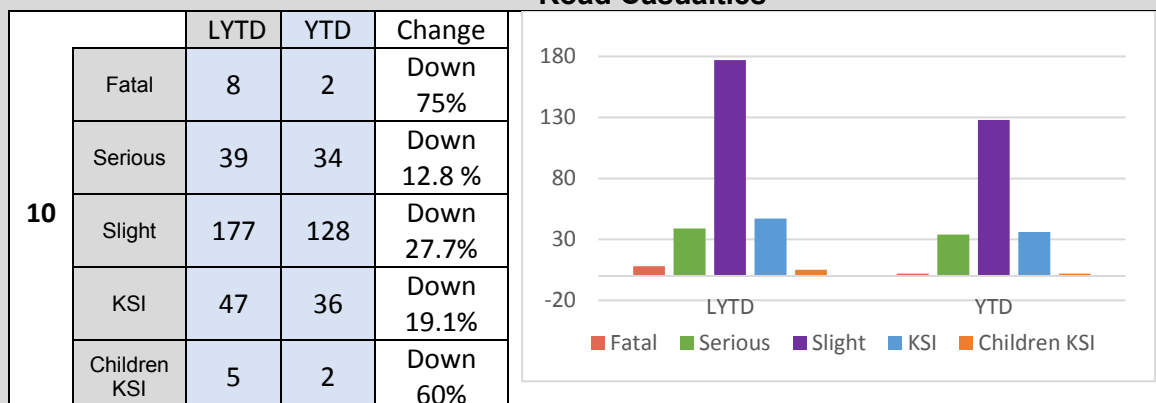
Source: SCOMIS

Violent Crime (Murder, Culpable Homicide, Att Murder, Serious assault, Assault and Robbery)



Source: Analysis and Performance Unit, LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD

Road Casualties



Source: Analysis and Performance Unit, LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD

Child Protection, Child Sexual Abuse & Exploitation, Missing Persons

Our Intention

Our intention is to ensure (1) children and young people are supported to be healthy, happy and reach their potential & (2) all care experienced children and young people are being provided with quality services by:

- Remaining committed to the development of strong working partnerships to protect children and young people within our communities through referral, early effective intervention, education and enforcement;
- Through the proactive sharing of information with partners, identifying those most exposed to risk allowing us to implement effective measures for their protection;
- Conducting all enquiries in a child-focused manner, ensuring children are meaningfully involved in decision making about their lives and the services they receive.

Current Situation

The number of children reported to police as missing YTD increased by 17.4% compared to LYTD (391 and 333 respectively). A total of 218 reports stemmed from “Looked-after Children”.

The Divisional Missing Person Coordinator continues to liaise with partnership services including education, young offender units, and social workers to provide support and prevent future absences.

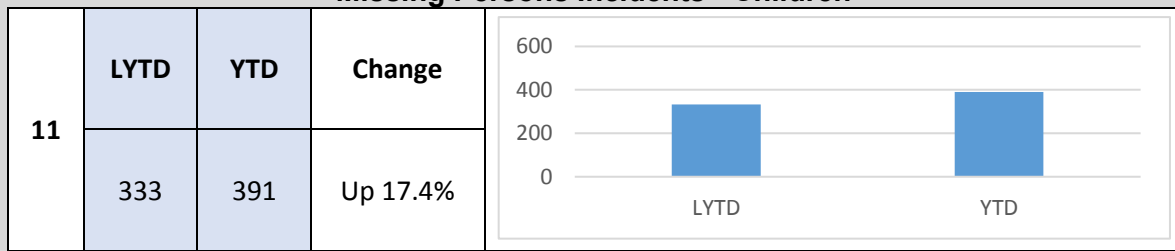
To provide support for young people in residential and foster care the Divisional Missing Person Coordinator is linking in with management in units/foster carers to highlight and action concerns timeously, and ensure protocols are being followed effectively.

What are we doing next?

- Police Single Point of Contacts (SPOC's) being introduced into all residential premises within Midlothian in an effort to engage with the young people with a view to building a trusting relationship and reducing the number of times they abscond.
- Progression of missing person protocol within Midlothian's schools.
- Working with LLE to enhance Youth Campus Officer provision in Midlothian

Police Performance Indicators
 12. Missing Persons incidents - Children

Missing Persons Incidents - Children



Source: Missing persons coordinator, J Division