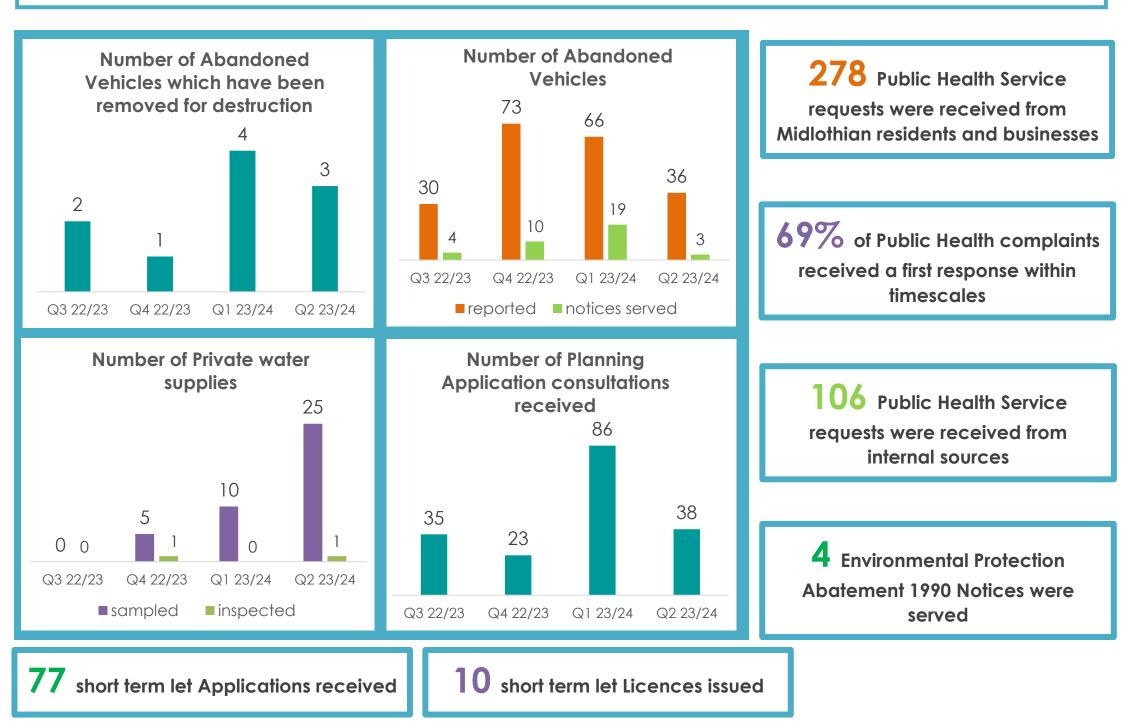


Workplace Health and Safety



RIDDOR related visit took place to investigate business workplace health and safety incidents.

Public Health



Civil Contingencies and events

Plans and Procedures:

Plans and Procedures updated this quarter:

- Emergency Contacts Directory as and when staff changes have occurred.
- Draft version of the 2023 Severe Weather Plan. Will be finalised after a validation session and submitted to CMT for approval early Q3.
- Development of a Prevent related briefing document for Facilities staff who do not have access to e-learning. With assistance from the Police Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer for the Lothian and Borders area.

Plans in progress or awaiting guidance:

- Midlothian Council generic Emergency Plan. We have been awaiting changes to multi-agency partnership arrangements which are now concluded. It will also take account of internal restructuring.
- Operation UNICORN. No details received yet from official sources. Preparations to date are in line with those carried out previously.

Business Continuity Plans:

The development of Business Continuity plans are, by necessity, the responsibility of individual services as they are best placed to determine their priorities, resource requirements, dependencies on other services and suppliers and how they can work around the loss of essential components. However, advice and assistance is available from the Health, Safety & Resilience Team. To encourage BC plan development on a consistent basis across services, engagement has been carried out with a number of services. The intention is to roll this out wider once a decision has been made regarding the future of our current business continuity software which is due to lapse in December 2023.

No change to the Q1 position. Awaiting clarification of options regarding current Business Continuity software contract extension/move to replacement product. Business Continuity Planning remains a key service management tool.

Multi-agency Exercises, Training, Presentations and Work streams:

Team Members Participated in the following. Where appropriate to their areas of work, invitations were extended to colleagues in other services and partners:

- Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership Short Life Working Groups to develop multiagency frameworks in relation to National Power Outages, Severe Weather, Care for People, Mass Fatalities, Risk Preparedness Assessment. All workstreams are progressing. Participation in these is important to avoid any assumptions or obligations being included which might prove to be detrimental to, or unachievable by, Midlothian Council.
- Briefings relating to the Protect Duty/Martyn's Law, including participation in a workshop to discuss potential content of training for the "Competent Person in the Workplace". As the Bill is still in draft form ("Terrorism (Protection of premises) draft bill") and the Home Affairs Select Committee have raised concerns over the content, changes are anticipated. Progress will continue to be monitored.
- Series of Met Office briefing sessions on Severe Weather scenarios (ongoing)
- Planning meetings for a Torness Power Station emergency exercise in 2024 which will require participation from Midlothian Council (as well as other neighbouring local authorities).
- The opportunity to observe (virtually) at a series of strategic multi-agency meetings held as part of an exercise in the west of Scotland looking at a scenario with mass fatalities. (Invited as a representative from the East of Scotland with the purpose of acquiring learning for local procedures)
- Briefing by Scottish Government on the Emergency Alerts system, including how to request an alert.

Team members facilitated:

- Attendance of a senior manager on the September 2023 multi-agency Crisis Management Course organised by the EoS RRP. More nominations have been submitted for the period Oct – Dec 23 so will be included in future reports.
- Prevent input to Building Maintenance Team Leads by the Police Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer for the Lothian and Borders area.

Report to Divisional Management Teams/Corporate Management Team:

The last quarterly report noted that a report was being drafted for submission to the Corporate Management Team regarding proposed steps to enhance the organisation's preparedness for emergency response. Current direction is that an expanded report will be submitted to the Corporate Management Team in Q3 following a test of response arrangements within some elements of Place. This is intended to highlight interdependencies between Place and other services and identify any gaps which might exist.

Ongoing, routine representation at/participation in:

- Local Resilience Partnership meetings core group, sub groups and Short Life Working Groups as detailed above.
- Lothian and Borders CONTEST group meetings and support to the Midlothian CONTEST and Prevent SPOC.
- Internal meetings requiring a Contingency Planning input, including Care for People, Estates Management Safety Groups, internal CONTEST Group, Safety Advisory Group, support for Business Continuity activities.
- Local Authority Resilience Group Scotland (LARGS) networking meetings of resilience practitioners.

Ongoing monitoring of events and/or live incidents - disseminating information internally and liaison with external organisations as required.

To note: Following attendance at meetings, seminars, presentations, training sessions, a summary of all pertinent information is forwarded to senior manager(s) and other colleagues as appropriate. Invitations are also forwarded where the subject might be of direct interest to other services/partners.

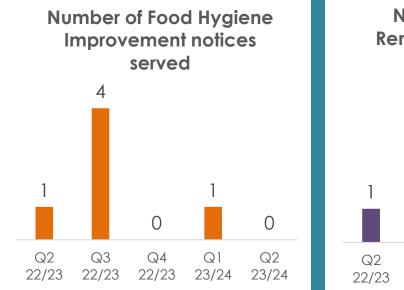
Public events

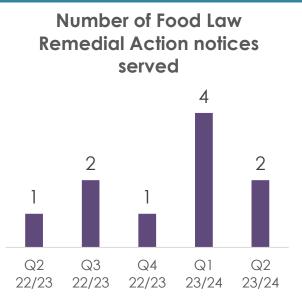


Completed Safety Advisory Group planning for 2 of the 4 Planned/Public Fireworks events and 8 of the 9 Remembrance Parades. The planning and delivery of the Royal Regiment of Scotland SCOTS Freedom Parade in Penicuik was undertaken on the 28th of September 2023.

Q3 Safety Advisory Groups will focus on remaining fireworks events and upcoming Festive Events/Lights Switch Ons/Children's parades.

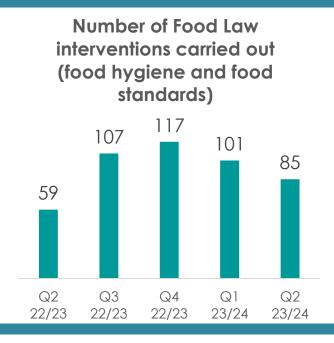
Food Hygiene and Standards

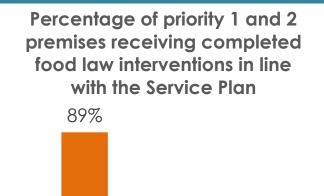




76 Food law service requests were received from Midlothian residents and businesses. (Includes food safety and food standards).

80% of food related service requests from Midlothian residents and businesses were responded to within the target response time of 5 working days. (Includes food safety and food standards).



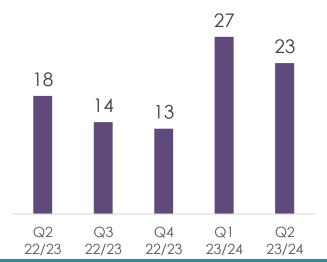


Q1 23/24

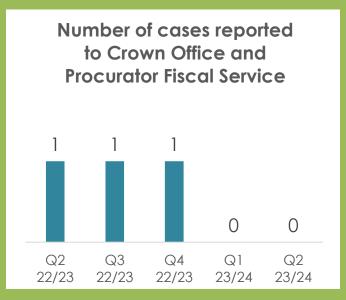
86%

Q2 23/24

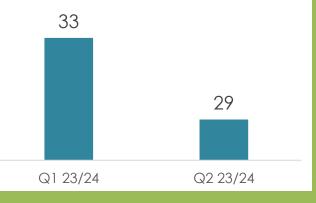




Trading Standards



Number of intelligence logs input to Intelligence Database (IDB)





100% of Business advice requests were responded to within 5 working days.

100% of Business advice requests were completed within 14 days.

Develop and implement a Trusted Trader Scheme:

A report is being prepared for approval by Cabinet.





98% of Consumer complaints were responded to within 5 working days.

90% of Consumer complaints were completed within 14 days.

Trading Standards Campaigns/Joint working/Initiative details:

In August, Trading Standards joined the Office of Product Safety & Standards staff to visit two retailers of e-scooters and were satisfied as to the safety of their products and associated batteries.

Trading Standards

