

Scrutiny Report April 2016 - June 2016

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 and should be treated as management information only.

(Figures relate to Midlothian as a whole for the date period 1 April 2016 - 30 June 2016 (YTD) with comparisons made to the previous year 1 April 2015 - 30 June 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

Off target. YTD alcohol aggravated crime accounted for 10.7% of all group 1-7 crime recorded by Police in Midlothian, up from 9.6% LYTD, however compares favourably with the 3 year average figure of 11.6%.

Reasons

Compared to the previous year, there were 167 more crimes recorded overall in Midlothian YTD, and an increase in alcohol aggravated crime by 1.1% (38 crimes). YTD there were 1928 group 1-7 crimes recorded in Midlothian, 207 were tagged with the aggravator 'alcohol'. LYTD there were 1761 crimes recorded of which 169 were aggravated by alcohol. The percentage of alcohol aggravated crime is lower YTD compared to the 3-year average of 11.6%.

Almost 40% of alcohol aggravated crime were acts of violence (including serious violent crimes and common assaults), a further 29% of alcohol aggravated crime related to threatening and abusive behaviour and breach of the peace. Vandalisms accounted for 8.9% of all crime.

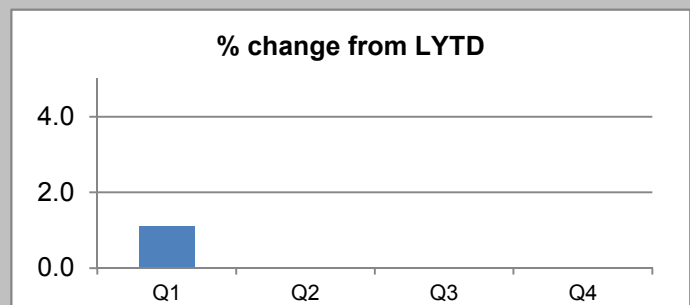
What are we doing

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
- Police visits to problem and monitored licensed premises (currently there are 3 monitored and no problematic)
- Early intervention meetings with licencees and their staff following incidents with Licensed premises
- Dispersal detail within Dalkeith and Penicuik Town Centres
- Monthly proactive joint visits being carried out by Police Licensing Officer and Licensing Standards Officer Midlothian Council.
- Local Days of Action continue across the division
- Work started to encourage greater participation in the Best Bar None Awards
- In conjunction with Community Justice partners, seeking to introduce a pilot arrest referral project
- Seeking exclusion orders from licensed premises as part of a sentence for alcohol related offences

Indicator - Reduce the volume of crime aggravated by alcohol

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	N/A	10.70%	9.60%	1.10%



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

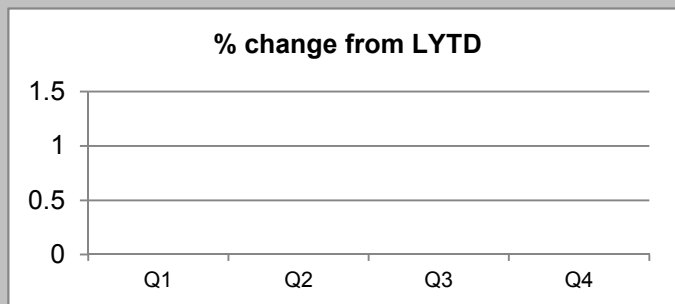
YTD there were 96 stop and searches (total including drugs, weapons and stolen property) carried out by police in Midlothian, 29 of which were positive (30.2%).

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
N/A	N/A	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 368 referrals made to partnership agencies YTD, up from 330 LYTD - an increase of 11.5%.

Reasons

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

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.

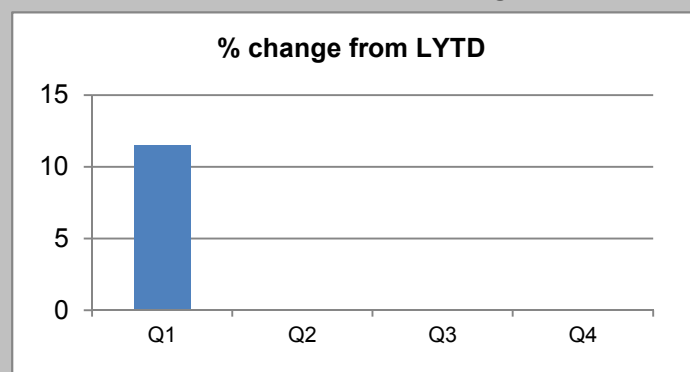
Introduction of a Risk and Concern Hub within J Division to provide enhanced risk assessment and information sharing.

What are we doing

- Continued awareness-raising among police officers regarding criteria for submission of adult concern referrals.
- Established a co-located Public Protection 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.

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	368	330	11.50%



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 100% of domestic abuse initial bail checks were conducted within the prescribed timeframe of 24 hours - above the 95.0% target and the divisional figure (99.3%).

Reasons

Initial bail 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.

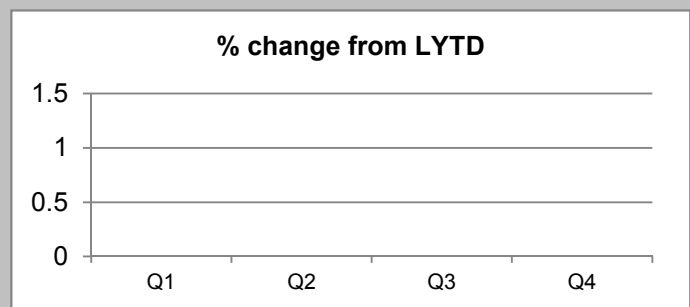
Supervisors and officers are fully aware of the importance of these checks and the disciplined process that is in place between the courts and the police.

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
N/A	99.3%	100.0%	N/A	N/A



Priority 2 - Protecting People:

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

Current situation

Off target. Detection rate for domestic abuse crimes and offences YTD is 67.8%, below the target figure of 75.0%.

Reasons

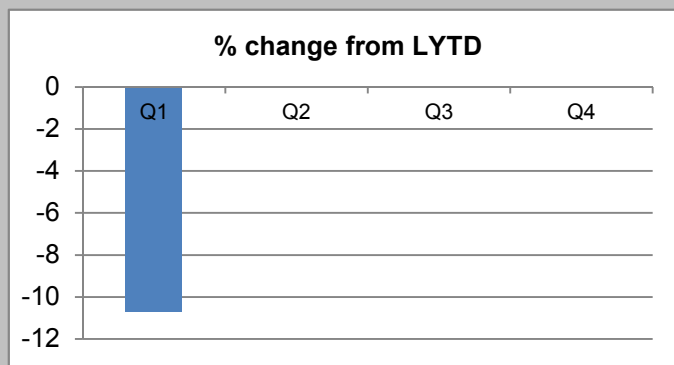
YTD there were 177 crimes and offences of domestic abuse recorded in Midlothian, down from 195 PYTD. In total 51.1% of incidents resulted in a crime being recorded, below LYTD (58.1%). The total detection rate for crimes and offences recorded YTD was 67.8%, 10.7% above PYTD (58.1%), albeit below our target figure. The solitary nature of this type of offence makes investigations complex.

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
- Full review of unsolved crimes currently ongoing
- Selected officers undertaking enhanced investigation training into domestic abuse to assist operational officers

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
N/A	76.2%	67.8%	78.5%	-10.7%



Priority 3 - Reducing Violence :

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

Target - reduce from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. YTD there were 4.0 violent crimes per 10,000 population, above the LYTD figure of 1.9 crimes per 10,000 population.

(note the latest population estimate for Midlothian relates to 2016 - population estimate of 87,390)

Reasons

35 violent crimes (all group 1) were recorded YTD in Midlothian. This is 106% above LYTD when 17 crimes were recorded and above the 3-year average of 22 crimes. The rate of violent crimes YTD is 4.0 crimes per 10,000 population, up from 1.9 LYTD.

There have been 2 attempted murders recorded by police, up from one LYTD. Crimes of serious assault have increased from 4 LYTD to 12 YTD, albeit there has been a change in the Scottish Crime Recording Standards regarding what is defined as a serious assault that has played a significant part in this rise. Crimes of assault and robbery have also increased YTD compared to the previous year 3 PYTD to 8 YTD.

Detection rate for all group 1 crime is 80% YTD, down from 88% PYTD.

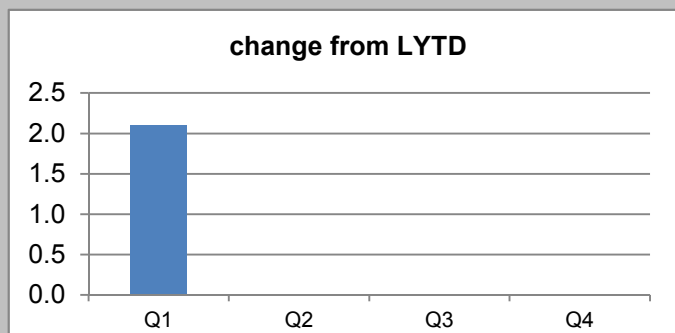
What are we doing

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 Local Action Days
- 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
- Process established to extend MAPPA to include violent offenders
- Fortnightly analysis of serious assaults/robberies to establish any trend/hot spots

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	4.00	1.90	2.1



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

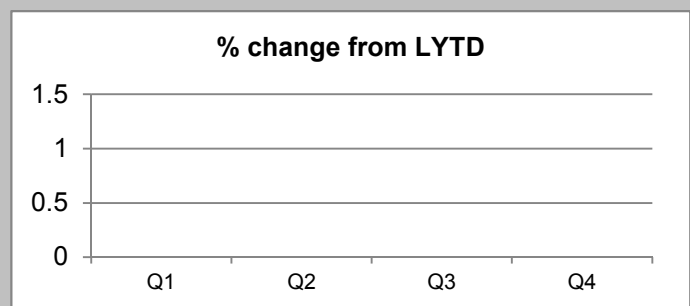
YTD there were 96 stop and searches (total incl drugs, weapons and stolen property) carried out by police in Midlothian, 29 of which were positive (30.2%).

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
N/A	N/A	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 13 people were killed or seriously injured on Midlothian's roads, up 1 from PYTD (12) and 5 more than the 3-year average of 8.

Reasons

In the reporting period there were no fatalities on Midlothian's roads - compared to 1 LYTD. There were 13 individuals seriously injured, up from 11 PYTD.

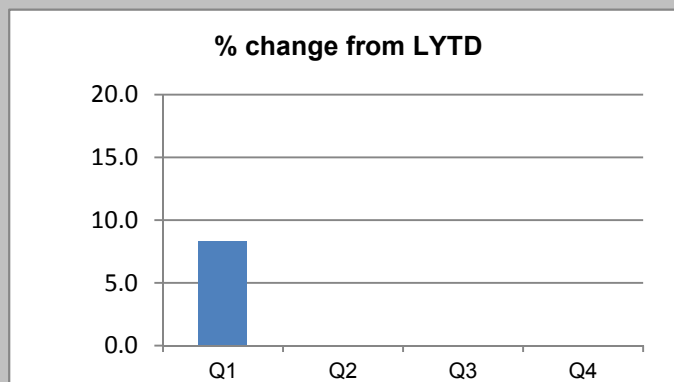
YTD there were 13 people seriously injured on Midlothian's roads, up from 11 the previous year. 2 children were seriously injured YTD, comparable with PYTD (2) and 1 above the 3-year average (1). One Vehicle Accident resulted in 3 casualties and another resulted in 2 casualties. Analysis of all Killed/Seriously 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
- Community Beat 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 and address local Ward related matters
- Joint work with partners in VOSA to ensure road worthiness of vehicles/HGV's and that drivers are complying with standards required
- Tomorrow's driver events - aimed at S5/6 year pupils to raise awareness of the dangers on the road - take place late August/early September.
- Operation Zenith - targeting motorcyclists behaviour on the road
- Divisional Road Safety group established looking at education/enforcement and engineering issues

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
N/A	57	13	12	8.30%



Priority 4 - Making our Roads Safer

Indicator - Increase the number of people detected for dangerous driving

Target - Increase from LYTD

Current situation

Off target. YTD there were 11 detections for dangerous driving in Midlothian, a decrease of 1 (8.3%), from PYTD (12).

Reasons

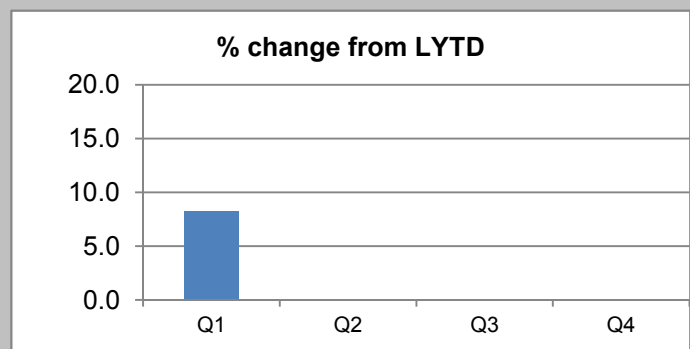
Males aged 19-26 years are over represented in dangerous driving offences (55%). Dangerous Driving offences recorded in Midlothian account for 22% of all offences in the Lothian and Scottish Borders Division.

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 four others actively being pursued which will give greater flexibility and coverage throughout Midlothian.
- 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
N/A	50	11	12	8.30%



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 73.7%, above 66.7% LYTD.

Reasons

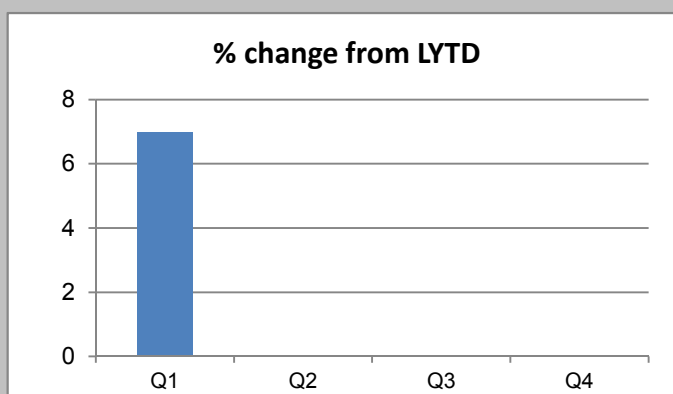
At the end of June the Midlothian detection rate for hate crime increased by 7% compared to the same period the previous year, and sits above the divisional figure of 54.3%. Racially aggravated hate crime continues to be a challenge in Midlothian with offences taking place between neighbours, at point of sale, and against police officers during arrest. YTD there were 20 recorded hate crimes/offences, down 3 from 23 P YTD.

What are we doing

- Work with partners to consider tenancy matters for convicted offenders.
- 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
N/A	54.3%	73.7%	66.7%	7.0%



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

On target. The number of complaints of antisocial behaviour (ASB) decreased by 80 incidents YTD compared to LYTD.

Reasons

1563 incidents of ASB reported by members of the public YTD. There were 80 less incidents YTD than LYTD - an overall decrease of 4.9%. A continuing challenge for police is youth related antisocial behaviour in the Woodburn & Bonnyrigg areas. Both areas have Problem Solving Partnership Groups who meet regularly to tackle on going youth disorder in this area. A further challenge for police is ASB caused by off road motorcycles and dishonesty crime in the form of housebreakings to non-dwellings (sheds/garages) and theft motor vehicles.

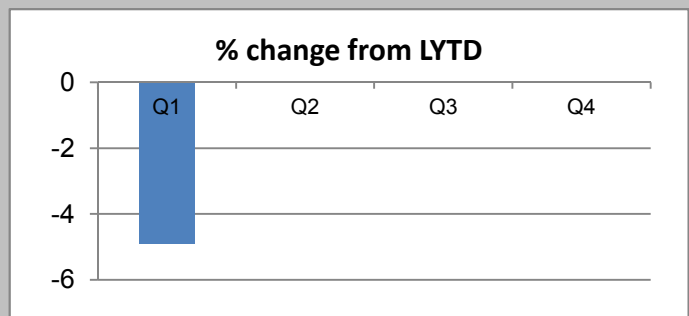
Alcohol related antisocial behaviour continues to be a challenge for police with a disproportionate percentage of calls received Friday and Saturday evenings.

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 on going
- Working in partnership with youth offending and the Children's Reporter regarding a more robust use of supervision orders for youths regularly offending in the community
- Planning underway for a further Rural Experience Midlothian diversionary project
- Recent Challenge Project (Army youth diversion project) completed with active participation from attendees
- Community Beat Officers/Housing officers joint visits to identified problematic premises
- Partnership work with local residential units to reduce levels of ASB from residents

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
N/A	6536	1563	1643	-4.90%



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

Off target. YTD police in Midlothian detected 19 offences for drugs supply, production and cultivation, which is 1 fewer detection than LYTD.

Reasons

Police in Midlothian detected 19 offences for drugs supply, production and cultivation YTD. This is 1 offence below LYTD (-5%).

16 offences were for drugs supply and 3 offences for drug production/cultivation. Compared to LYTD police detected 3 more offences for drugs supply (13 LYTD).

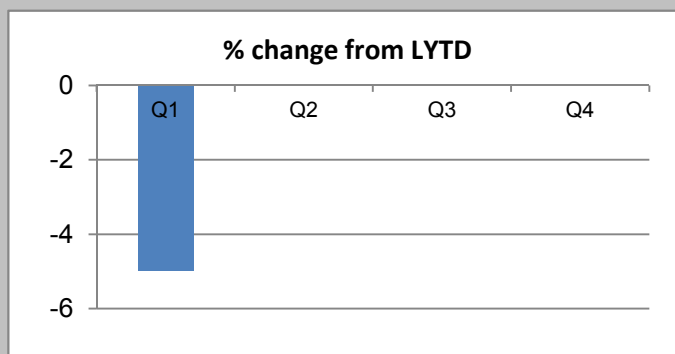
There is one active Serious Organised Crime Group operating within Midlothian with police resources dedicated to preventative and enforcement action under Operation Bistra.

What are we doing

- 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
- Midlothian Council Integrity group now have an action plan and joint work well underway.

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
N/A	91	19	20	5.00%



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 seized £2,417.89 in cash and NET assets from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act. This is a decrease of £5,901.88 compared to LYTD.

Reasons

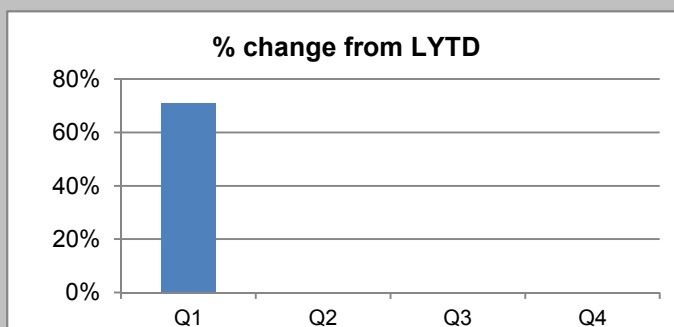
During Quarter 1 (April - June) there were 2 cash seizures within the Midlothian area, totalling £2,417.89. No NET assets were seized YTD. LYTD there were the same number of cash seizures (2) and no NET assets seized. The value of cash seizures LYTD was £8,319.77,

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
- Financial Investigator allocated to Lothian and Scottish Borders Division to assist in financial investigations

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	£2,418	£8,320	70.9%



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 41 domestic housebreakings (incl attempts) YTD, up from 35 LYTD - an increase of 17.1%.

Reasons

Housebreaking to domestic properties continues to be a challenge for Police in Midlothian with 41 recorded break-ins YTD, up 17.1% from LYTD total of 35 crimes. The 3-year average for 2013/14 - 2015/16 was 30

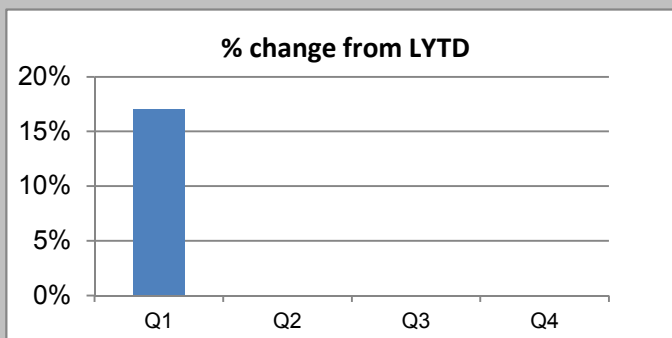
A recidivist group of young males continue to commit high numbers of housebreakings throughout the Midlothian area and dedicated police resources are being directed to this SOCG under the banner Operation Bistra.

What are we doing

- Police continue to gather intelligence and deploy resources to housebreakings 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
- 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 in the Dalkeith/Eskbank areas

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

Force YTD	Divis'n YTD	ML YTD	ML LYTD	ML Change
N/A	130	41	35	17.1%



Priority 7 – Reducing Housebreaking

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

Current situation

Off target. The detection rate for crimes of domestic housebreaking YTD is 43.9%, below LYTD total of 48.6% however above the 3-year average of 34.4%.

Reasons

Despite high levels of housebreaking Police continue to make a good number of arrests with the solvency rate for domestic housebreakings 43.9% YTD. Despite a slight reduction compared to LYTD (48.6%) the detection rate is considerably above the three-year average for 2013-2015 of 34.4%. The Midlothian detection rate is also above the average for Lothian and Scottish Borders (J) Division (36.2%)

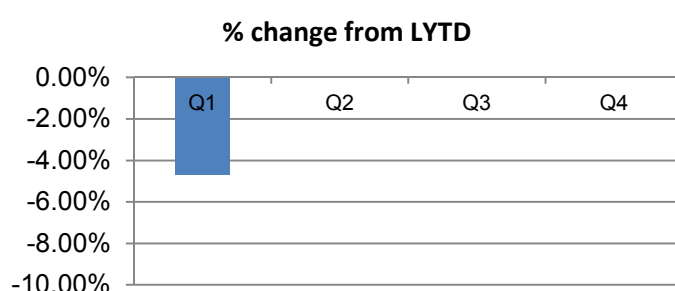
17 individuals have been charged with domestic housebreaking offences YTD with details passed by police to Midlothian Council Community Safety Team for follow up enforcement action.

What are we doing

- 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)
- All dwelling housebreakings investigated by our Community Investigation Unit (specialist officers)

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	36.20%	43.90%	48.60%	-4.70%



Public Confidence - Number of complaints against the Police:

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	28
Number of complaints - J Division	103

Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	35
Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	28.8

	Midlothian	J Division
Total allegations recorded	37	137