

Scrutiny Report

1 April 2017 – 30 September 2017

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

Adults at Risk, Missing Persons

Our Intention

Our intention is to ensure people, including those with disabilities/ long-term conditions or are frail are able, 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.

Current Situation

The number of adult missing person incidents decreased by 17% YTD compared to LYTD with 90 recorded LYTD and 75 recorded YTD. In total 65 adults were reported missing in the last six months, 14 of whom had identified vulnerabilities such as dementia/mental health, and 19 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. These plans ensure the effective transfer of information and increases the efficiency of the subsequent response and enquiry into any related incident.

Bogus workmen crimes recorded by police decreased from five LYTD to two YTD (-60%), however many others have been averted through due diligence of the community. A 78-year-old male was defrauded of £600 after two males attended at his address to power wash his driveway, whilst an 85-year-old disabled male was defrauded of £25 for gardening work never carried out. Police enquiries have led to the detection of one crime.

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

What are we doing next?

- Neighbourhood Watch Alert Scheme – a local police officer has now been trained as an administrator and will be circulating alerts. Community Officers are encouraging the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes at local Community Council meetings across Midlothian.
- "Bystander Training" was provided to partners across the Lothians and Scottish Borders (Oct 17). This training enhanced prevention/awareness relative to the reduction of sexual violence related to the night time economy. Going forward, the intention is for this training to be provided to licencees and their staff.

- Call blocker initiative for those identified at risk of financial harm - in conjunction with Midlothian Council's Social Work and Trading Standards, Trading Standards Scotland
- Creation of a financial harm/scam awareness presentation – to be presented to Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network (Nov 17), thereafter cascaded to Community Officers.
- Development of an “alert” network with financial establishments to notify them of bogus workmen activity in their area – allows banks to have staff on high alert for victims attending for cash (Projected date for full operation – Early 2018).
- Crime prevention road shows are ongoing within Midlothian providing advice on tackling and identifying doorstep crime, providing information on who to contact and on steps they can take to keep themselves safe.
- Continued support of Operation Monarda (bogus workman initiative) with planned days of action - the aim being to deliver a clear message to those engaged in bogus workman 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, increasing reassurance whilst promoting partnership working.

Police Performance Indicators

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

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 and organised crime through targeting, disrupting 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, nationally and internationally.

Current Situation

Police recorded 488 incidents of domestic abuse YTD, down 11% from LYTD (549). Domestic crime incidents have also decreased with 45.3% of all incidents recorded resulting in the creation of a crime report. Police continue to carry out bail checks on domestic abuse perpetrators with good results (99.1% compliance YTD).

Hate incidents increased by 24% YTD compared to LYTD, with an increase of 10 incidents. Point of sale, neighbour disputes and crimes against police officers continue to represent the majority of hate crime incidents across Midlothian. A multi agency approach is being adopted for an identified vulnerable repeat victim. This is a complex case and has required a dedicated Police point of contact who is leading on this work to reduce any further victimisation, in addition to linking in with Adult Protection partners to ensure the required levels of support and assistance is being provided to the victims.

Antisocial behaviour incidents increased by 7% YTD compared to LYTD (3456 and 3221 respectively). Crimes of vandalism and youth calls also increased (5% and 17% respectively). In a bid to reduce crimes of vandalism, police in conjunction with Midlothian Council staff organised a "clean up" in and around educational buildings and grounds in the days prior to the 2017 summer holidays. Overall there was £752 damage caused to Midlothian's schools this year, down from £1,755 the previous year and the two-year average of £3,233. There were five vandalisms committed at Midlothian's schools during summer 2017 compared to the previous two-year average of seven. This initiative will hopefully be repeated in advance of future school holidays.

Detections for drugs supply, production and cultivation decreased by 34% YTD, with 23 detections recorded YTD compared to 35 LYTD. Following the seizure of £66k of Cocaine and £9k of heroin from an address in Woodburn in July 2016 and a guilty verdict at court, this case will now be progressed through the Antisocial Behaviour and Violent Offenders Monitoring Group (ASBVO) following sentencing on 01/11/2017. A second seizure of 418g of Cannabis (value £4,184) and £2,200 cash from an address in Penicuik is also being progressed through the ASBVO with an intention to evict the individual involved.

In the first six months of 2017/18 police seized £33,090 in cash and NET assets (five seizures) from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act. This is a slight increase from LYTD (£31,774).

Housebreakings (domestic) decreased by 39% YTD compared to the previous year, with 46 crimes recorded and is below the two-year average (80). 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 our dedicated Operation Bistra. A challenge for police continues to be recidivist young males linked to serious and organised crime targeting dwellings and non-dwellings for pedal cycles and motor vehicles.

All dishonesty crime (group 3) increased by 20% YTD (1289 compared to 1076). Crimes of shoplifting have increased by 56% YTD, with increases also seen in business housebreaking and autocrime. In response, a dedicated CID led Operation Barrier began on 16th October looking specifically at this issue with a view to targeting offenders and gathering intelligence.

Serious violent crime decreased by 28% YTD, from 39 to 28 crimes. Crimes of attempted murder reduced by 2 crimes, serious assault by 6 crimes, and assault and robbery by 3 crimes. Hotspots for violent crime in public 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. The detection rate for all group 1 (violent) crime is currently 94.2%.

YTD 23 people were killed or seriously injured on Midlothian's roads, two fewer than LYTD. There were four fewer fatalities on Midlothian's roads YTD and a reduction of over one third in the number of people who suffered minor injuries on Midlothian's roads.

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 (initial meeting November 2017).
- Structured plan with partners during National Hate Crime week 14th - 21st October, where a number of activities including inputs were delivered and advice and information provided to vulnerable groups through roadshows and drop ins.
- Midlothian officers are utilising the Community Engagement Vehicle to provide a mobile point of contact for residents in areas such as Danderhall where there have been a high number of ASB calls received. This initiative is in its early stages but is already having a positive impact and will be utilised throughout Midlothian reacting to trends of ASB where appropriate.
- Structured plans in place for Halloween and Bonfire nights including visits to premises selling fireworks, inputs to schools, advisory letters to shops re selling eggs etc. Police are also working with SFRS partners in terms of dual deployment on Bonfire evening.
- Plans are in place 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.
- Foodbank referrals: Current referral process under review and trying to establish a Dalkeith Retail Crime Partnership which focuses heavily on foodbank and support referrals in a bid to address dishonesty crime, in particular shopliftings, across the Dalkeith and wider Midlothian area.

- Straiton Retail Crime Partnership – In conjunction with many of the retailers in the Straiton area, a shop watch has been developed and is about to go live. This will allow retailers to have real time communication and assist target hardening of the area. In addition to this, work will be undertaken to compliment the investment of local CCTV by the Peel Group with a streamlined shoplifting reporting process
- Lifelong Learning and Employability (LLE) is planning to reintroduce a lessons pack – “No return” to Midlothian schools as supported by the Police and CSJP.
- Community Beat Officers are now trainers in No Knives Better Lives which is set to be rolled out in schools by the end of the year.
- 2moro's driver for all S5/S6 pupils in Midlothian took place late October 2017.

Police Performance Indicators

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

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 and 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-focussed manner, ensuring children are meaningfully involved in decision making about their lives and the services they receive.

Current Situation

The number of children reported missing YTD increased by 52% compared to LYTD (242 and 159 respectively). In total YTD 87 young people were reported missing, with 20 children reported missing on three or more occasions in the last six months, and six young people reported missing more than 10 times in that period.

The Divisional Missing Person Coordinator continues to liaise with partners including education, young offender units, and social workers to provide support and prevent future absences. Work is underway with education in an attempt to introduce a new protocol within schools to ensure better knowledge of what constitutes a missing person and the associated reporting processes. This has been piloted in Edinburgh with success.

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?

- A training day on Child Sexual Exploitation took place in October 2017 for Best Bar None applicants. This was hosted jointly by Police and Barnardos. This training will also be offered to our pub watch members.
- An educational package for young people on the "Not Yours To Share" campaign is being developed in Midlothian– this should be available early 2018
- Community Ward Officers have delivered child safety and 'people who help us' talks with nursery children at several Bonnyrigg nurseries during October.
- Progression of missing person protocol within Midlothian's schools.

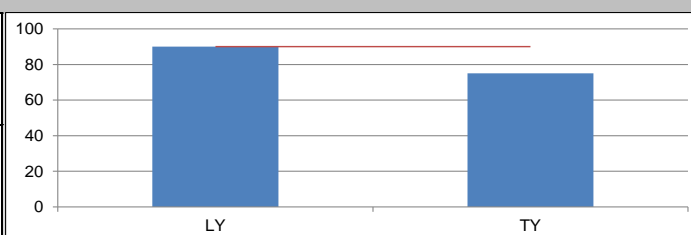
Police Performance Indicators

1. Missing Persons incidents - Children

Police Performance Indicators Midlothian

Missing Persons incidents – Adults

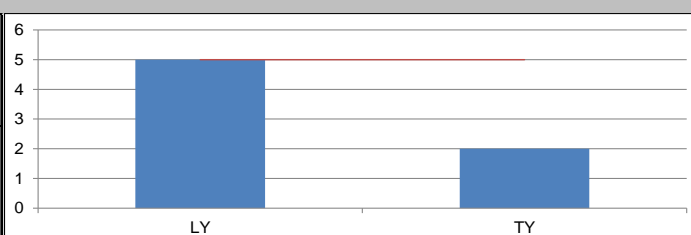
LYTD	YTD	Change
90	75	Down 17%



Source: Missing persons coordinator, J Division

Bogus Workmen Crimes

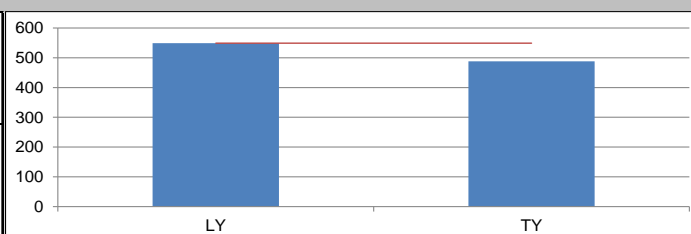
LYTD	YTD	Change
5	2	Down 60%



Source: UNIFI, Group 3 crimes, initial input date, ED, aggravator 'bogus caller' – crimes recorded in error and no crimed 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.

Number of Domestic Abuse incidents recorded

LYTD	YTD	Change
549	488	Down 11%



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

Number of Hate Incidents

LYTD	YTD	Change
42	52	Up 24%



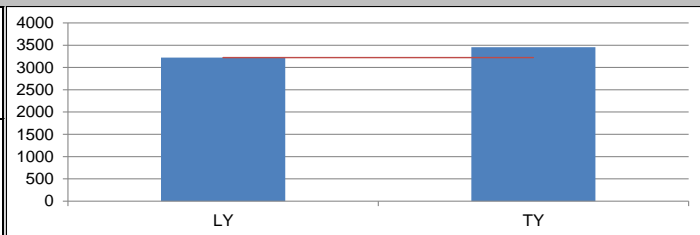
Source: SCOMIS, all incidents

Police Performance Indicators Midlothian

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Antisocial Behaviour incidents

LYTD	YTD	Change
3221	3456	Up 7%

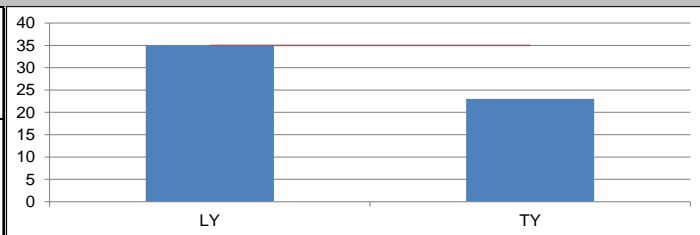


Source: SCOMIS

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Detection of Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation

LYTD	YTD	Change
35	23	Down 34%

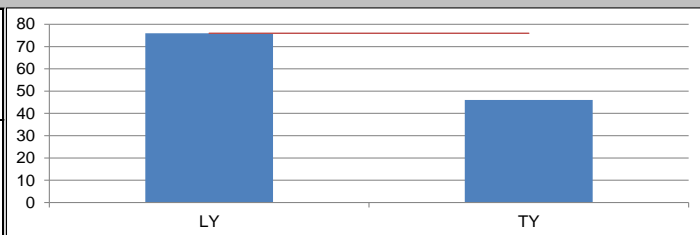


Source: Analysis and Performance Unit, LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD – Midlothian - September 2017

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Domestic Housebreaking

LYTD	YTD	Change
76	46	Down 39%

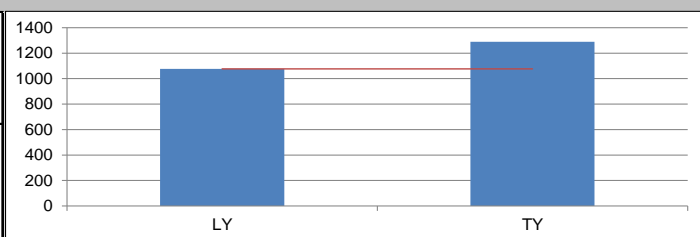


Source: SCOMIS

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Crimes of Dishonesty (all group 3)

LYTD	YTD	Change
1076	1289	Up 20%



Source: SCOMIS

Police Performance Indicators Midlothian

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

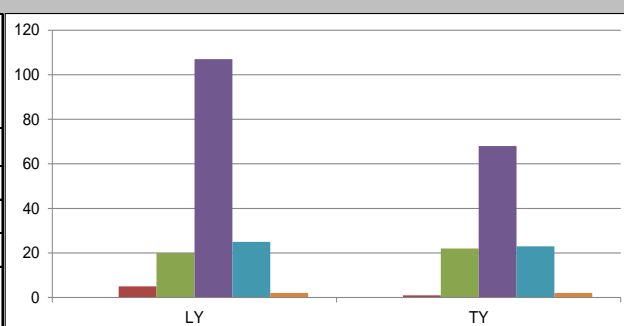
LYTD	YTD	Change
39	28	Down 28%



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

Road Casualties

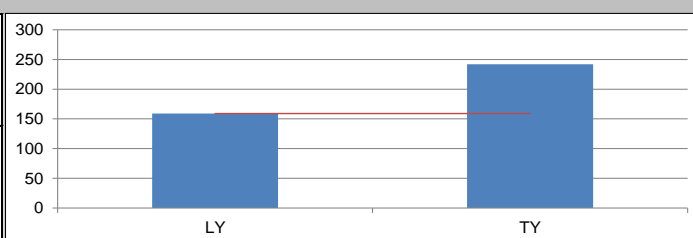
	LYTD	YTD	Change
Fatal	5	1	Down 80%
Serious	20	22	Up 10%
Slight	107	68	Down 36%
KSI	25	23	Down 8%
Children KSI	2	2	-



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

Missing Persons incidents – Children

LYTD	YTD	Change
159	242	Up 52%



Source: Missing Persons Coordinator, J Division