

South West Locality Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 31 January 2019

South West Locality Policing Update

Item number	8.1
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Executive Summary

This report reflects recent policing activity within the Locality over the last 2 months and is designed to provide an indication of local crime trends, antisocial behaviour, summarised ward activity and work of Community Policing Teams.

Additional detailed reports around funded ward officer activity are submitted separately to the Local Authority and Community Safety Partnership as part of the Edinburgh Partnership Agreement.

Other planned community safety work relating to policing will be covered in the Locality Improvement Plan updates.

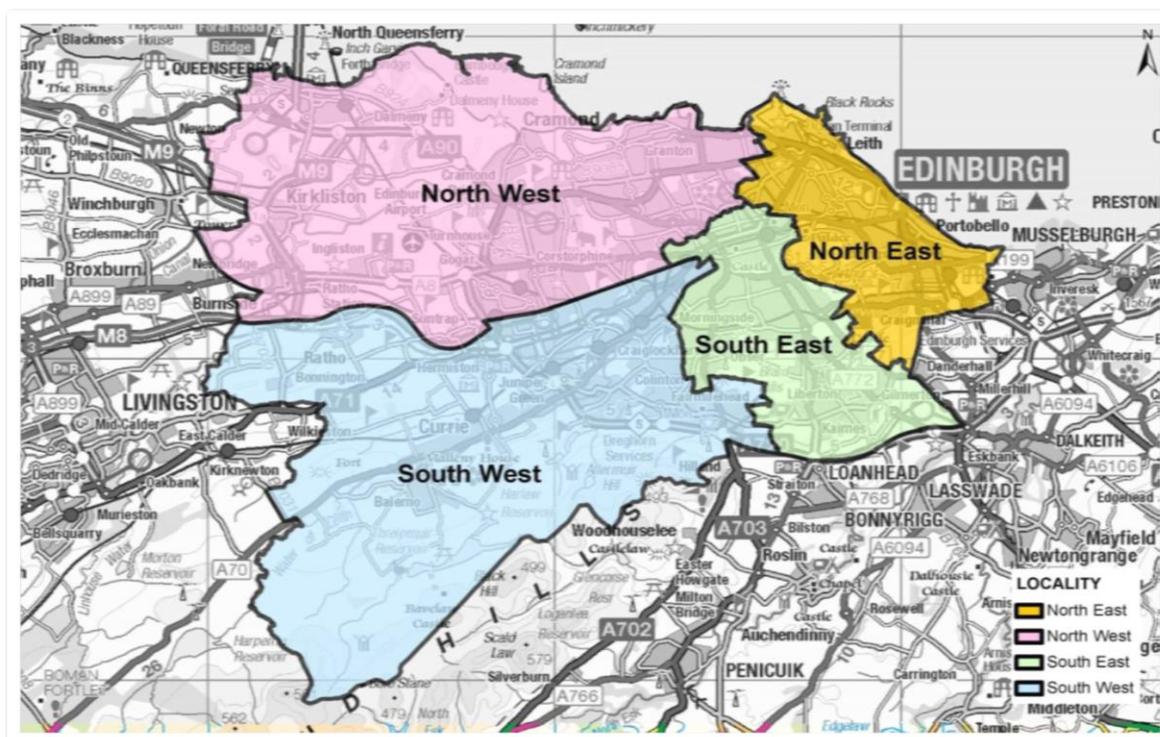


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CITY OF EDINBURGH DIVISION

South West Locality Policing Update

Tuesday, 22 January 2019



Purpose

This information is provided for Local Area Committee members.

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Key Crime Statistics

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMAND – CRIME SUMMARY					
2 nd April 2018 – 21 st January 2019					
South West Police incidents – last 7 days		654			
Average per day		93			
PUBLIC SAFETY		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Robbery	Recorded Crime	42	34	7.7	38.2
	Detection Rate	66.7	71.8	-5.1	
Serious Assault	Recorded Crime	62	62	0.0	52.6
	Detection Rate	72.6	87.1	-14.5	
Common Assault	Recorded Crime	977	1109	-11.9	1029.4
	Detection Rate	59.4	57.0	2.4	
DOMESTIC ABUSE		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Domestic Abuse	Recorded Crime	591	823	-28.2	825.6
	Detection Rate	65.5	71.9	-6.4	
HATE CRIME & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Hate Crime	Recorded Crime	154	220	-30.0	199.4
	Detection Rate	53.2	64.5	-11.3	
Antisocial Behaviour	Recorded Crime	6826	7389	-7.6	6810.8
ACQUISITIVE CRIME		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Domestic Housebreaking	Recorded Crime	204	224	-8.9	258.8
	Detection Rate	28.9	27.7	1.2	
Motor Vehicle Thefts	Recorded Crime	104	144	-27.8	
	Detection Rate	42.3	22.9	19.4	
Thefts from Motor Vehicles	Recorded Crime	140	168	-16.7	
	Detection Rate	12.1	1.2	10.9	
Please note these figures are taken from ScOMIS (Police Scotland Crime Management Tool) and relate to crime recorded between 02/04/18 and 31/03/2019. These figures are invalidated and used for internal crime management purposes. Validated Quarterly crime figures are published on the Police Scotland website					



Ward Updates

Ward Updates

Ward 8 - PCs Crow & Jones

Emerging Crime / ASB and Community Engagement:

In the run up to the Bonfire season, PCs Crow & Jones were actively engaged in working in partnership with City of Edinburgh Council Environmental Wardens, local housing associations and the South West Neighbourhood Team addressing issues in relation to education around the dangers of fireworks including working diligently to identify material build up within the ward for the purpose of locals building Bonfires.

Hi visibility patrols throughout the ward have been ongoing during routine ward business including where both officers have been involved in local events such as Operation Heddle, Operation Screening & assistance to search and conduct enquiries into a local High Risk missing person. In this respect, they continue to utilise a variety of methods including, foot patrols, bicycle patrols and where required within marked vehicles to ensure maximum access to the various walkways, pathways and parks.

Additionally a locally run Hate Crime week saw patrols carried out in relation to hate crime prevention.

They have also continued to work with local residents to provide crime prevention advice in relation to house break-ins and related theft and this will continue under our new Operation Screening, focused on acquisitive crime.

Community Activity

Within the period, both officers have attended 4 Community Council meetings representing various areas of the ward. These important meetings offer an excellent opportunity for local community members to raise questions & issues to the local officers who deliver their Police report while in attendance. The number attended is reflective of the festive period where meetings stop over this period.

Our local Coffee with a Cop surgeries continue which are very popular with local residents in an approachable and relaxed setting and as such 6 surgeries have taken place including 2 community related events where stalls are staffed by PC Crow or Jones with informational / advice provided in relation to a wide number of community concerns or matters. One such was during the Hate Crime awareness week at a local supermarket.

Op Screening ran between 15th – 22nd Dec 2018 within the ward where PC Crow attended an event to provide security advice / stall in conjunction with the local Army liaison officer to provide reassurance and security advice among the residential area serving the local Army barracks.

Ward 2 - PCs Murdoch & Ford

Emerging Crime / ASB and Community Engagement:



Since the last scrutiny report PC Murdoch has been on paternity leave and annual leave for end of November to end of December, therefore, ward duties carried out were restricted to before and after these periods. However, PC Oliver Ford has now taken on the Ward 2 Funded Role from PC Chancellor and will be a great asset to the community of the Pentland Hills and whilst PC Murdoch was away, he carried out Ward 2 engagement throughout November and December.

In November, along with PC Kaiser-Ferris, PC Murdoch carried out investigations with regards to suspicious activity around farms in the Pentland Hills area, due to quad bikes being stolen. A male was identified as being responsible for being in the curtilage of a farm with the intention to commit theft and subsequently charged.

PC Murdoch attended the Balerno Farmers Market and engaged with local councillors and MSPs.

PC Ford organised Operation Heddle, which targetted speeding complaints and other road traffic matters in the South West area of which Pentland Hills had a focus.

Through PC Ford, 45 tweets were sent out in relation to various matters across the South West area in relation to national campaigns but also, through diligent work, identified bike thefts that had not been reported to police and ensured all information was gathered.

Further anti-social behaviour was reported within Mallyen area of Balerno and a youth has been identified for causing nuisance to a complainer and will be reported in due course.

A locally run Hate Crime awareness week took place, engaging with members of the public at various supermarkets and also at Heriott Watt University to raise awareness of what Hate Crime is and how to report it.

PC Ford looked in to reports of parking complaints in and around Dean Park Primary and educated drivers regarding their parking consideration.

Community Activity:

All community council meetings were attended during the months of November, December and January, with no areas of focus requested from any of the meetings.

Coffee with a Cop is still running in each of Juniper Green, Currie and Balerno, however, the attendance by members of the public has been light, therefore, along with PC Ford, a review of these surgeries will take place to manage expectations of the communities they serve.

Ward 9 - PC Wotton & Mears

Emerging Crime / ASB: During the months of November through to January Constables Wotton and Mears continued to engage with residents at Rosemount buildings and conducted high visibility foot patrols in the areas around Fountainbridge and the Canal waterways.



Regular hi visibility patrols of the Harrison park area were conducted in relation to complaints of persons smoking Cannabis in the area; these preventative / reassurance patrols have shown a significant reduction in any further complaints / incidents being reported to the Police, however, our Police activity will continue give attention to the Park during routine ward patrols.

Patrols were conducted in the Craiglockhart hill area after continued reports of antisocial behaviour linked to youths drinking on the hill. Patrols were then conducted in the woods near to Firhill high school and Union Canal, for Dorset Place to North Meggatland as it appears that the patrolling of Craiglockhart hill dispersed the youths to other Ward 9 areas.

Local retail premises were visited to provide shopkeepers to remain vigilant in selling alcohol that could be passed on to youths.

During November Visits were conducted to local shops in the area in relation to the selling of fireworks prior to and after bonfire night.

School patrols were conducted in conjunction with the Boroughmuir High school liason officer in the Fountainbridge area following complaints that were received from local residents in relation to youths loitering in common stairs, smoking and littering.

Patrols were carried out with the council environmental wardens in relation to continued dog fouling in the area of Fountainbridge.

Evening and night time high visibility patrols were conducted throughout November and December in relation to House breakings in the Criaglockhart area.

A visit was attended by Constables Wotton and Mears at the new Printworks on Fountainbridge after the redevelopment of the building; security and crime prevention advice was provided followed by a full crime prevention survey.

Constable Mears conducted weekly visits to a recidivist offender and liased with the local council housing officer to assist in him being moved from to a different location after continous neighbour disputes.

In November Constable Mears conducted enquiries in to a theft from tourists at a local hotel which resulted in an employee of the hotel being found to be responsible and issued and Adult warning.

In December Constables Wotton and Mears were on a series of visits to residents in partnership with Dunedin Canmore when they apprehended a male in relation to a Domestic breach of bail.

In the latter part of November and the month of December school patrols were conducted in conjunction with the festive drink drive campaign and a number of drivers were warning in relation to their driving standards, this ran along side Operation Heddle.



Community Activity:

All community council meetings were attended in the month of November and no meetings were held in the month of December and a reduced number of meetings in January. All meetings continue to be well attended by members of the public where personal and property crime prevention advice has been issued in relation to subjects such as online fraud, doorstep crime and personal safety.

With the decline in attendance in the police surgery at North Merchiston club there are plans in place to reintroduce new locations in Fountainbridge and Meggetland in order to increase public availability.

Presentations were provided to local primary schools and a local cub scout group.

Ward 7- PCs Baillie & Brownless

Constables Brownless and Baillie continue to deal with the lively Ward 7s multitude of issues.

November through to January saw several operations running: Operation Screening focussed on acquisitive crime, Ward 7 houses several notable housebreakers who were informed they would be on the radar. Numerous uniformed and plain clothed patrols were carried out. In line with the festive drink drive campaign Operation Heddle looked at the various road traffic complaints that come into the Ward. Several areas were identified for road checks, several drivers were stopped due to speed and manner of driving, along with this several received notices in respect of vehicle defects. There are several areas in the Ward that numerous parking complaints are received. This issue is dealt with by fixed penalty notice, inconsiderate parking notices and written warning to companies that fail to follow polite requests. Dominos delivery drivers on Dalry Road are a prime example that were dealt with.

Parking issues continue to be dealt with around schools at drop off periods, uniformed patrols so far keep the issues and complaints under control.

In response to resident complaints over drug use in the Westfield and Caledonian Crescent area several MDA warrants were executed. A large quantity of controlled substances and cash was seized.



Ward 7 has three Community Councils which see their monthly meetings well attended by Police and members of the public. The few issues that do come to the Police, i.e. parking, neighbour disputes are swiftly dealt with. Joint visits with Police, housing and local Councillors add to the swift solvency rate.

Contact is maintained with the Kurdish initiative which sees over 100 members meet on a weekly basis in the area. Police will often attend and get involved with activities.

Many activities take place at the Broomhouse Centre proxy locations (completion of the new building will be the later end of 2019) The past two months saw several activities and events for young carers, Christmas singalongs and the Centre AGM which started the ball rolling for a new name for the Centre.

Large scale crime prevention surveys were completed for local business and schools that experienced several issues that caused slight alarm to members of staff and teachers.

In response to alcohol related incidents CAP activity was increased with over 30 licenced premises visits with education and enforcement increased substantially compared to previous months. Visits along with trading standards have been taking place in response to contraband being sold from licenced premises. Further training with CAP participants is also underway.

Constables Brownless and Baillie arranged three prominent locations for Hate Crime Week: Stalls were set up at Heriot Watt, Napier Universities and Tesco. These three locations saw a high level of interaction which focussed on all areas of crime that effect people in the Ward 7 area.

A trial run of a student drop in at Edinburgh College is currently underway.

During November a seminar on human trafficking was attended that looked at the different areas that are often overlooked and the types of people who may find themselves victims of trafficking and what support agencies can lend a helping hand.



Significant Crimes / Ongoing Operations

Operation Heddle / Festive Drink Drive campaign

This initiative ran between the 3rd & 31st December 2018 and was managed and coordinated by the South West Community Policing team working with partners in Roads Policing and utilising Special Constables. The focus was on education particularly around vehicle condition and them being suitable and ready for winter driving conditions, however, enforcement where offences were detected.

Speed checks were carried out throughout the period at various locations around the locality particularly within the main arterial routes but included many of the 20 MPH zones & parking issues at local schools during drop off and pick up times.

The following activity was recorded during the period:

- 2 stalls held providing road safety advice at Westside Plaza and Fountain Park
- Patrols conducted at all schools in South West Edinburgh at least once with regular issue schools visited 2-3 times these were conducted at children drop off time with numerous joint patrols alongside parking attendants
- 4 static road checks conducted two alongside roads policing
- 16 speed checks
- 1 push bike patrol to give advice to cyclists and one warned re a light offence
- Regular parking and prohibited turn patrols
- 11 ASB car patrols in relation to boy racer and community complaints
- 17 tickets issued
- 5 reports to PF (1x drink driving, 1x fail to stop, 2x no VEL, 1x no insurance)
- 1 drink driver
- 3 S.165 seizure
- 60 warnings for various issues (lighting, parking, speeding)
- 104 vehicles stopped and winter safety checks conducted/ breath tests
- 2 recovered stolen MV's
- 1 male reported to DVLA for medical check due to poor observations in darkness
- 30 goods vehicles warned re restricted roads
- 2 taxis warned re uniform/ID

Operation Screening - Wards 2 & 8 / Operation Spiky – All wards

Throughout November the South West Community Policing Team along with partner agencies are tackling crimes of dishonesties and anti-social behaviour through Operation Screening. We will be conducting a number of crime prevention surveys, awareness events and stalls. We will also be conducting extensive patrols, letter drops and promoting the events and crime prevention methods on twitter. Officers will also be targeting offenders wanted on packages or outstanding warrants bringing them to justice.



Domestic Abuse Local Action Group

The Domestic Abuse Local Action Group is running in the South West of Edinburgh as a Pilot. Members will include Woman's Aid, Council, Police, CJSW, Caledonian, Willow and other domestic abuse groups. This discusses domestic abuse situations with a view of early intervention and providing support mechanisms for victims. Over 200 referrals have been made and increased support given to many victims who would not have received support prior to this process.

Festive Domestic Abuse Campaign - Wards 2,7,8 & 9

During December South West Community Policing unit teamed up with Womans Aid and EDDACs to raise awareness of Coercive control domestic abuse. A couple of stalls were ran with domestic abuse support services. A social media campaign was used to promote reporting mechanisms and support agencies and was seen by over 5000 people. Throughout the month police visited many victims of domestic abuse offering support and putting safety measures in place whilst also working alongside partner agencies. We also targeted offenders of domestic abuse who were wanted on outstanding packages and warrants and brought them to justice making numerous arrests.

