

South West Locality Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 28 March 2018

South West Locality Policing Update

Item number	8.1
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1. 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.

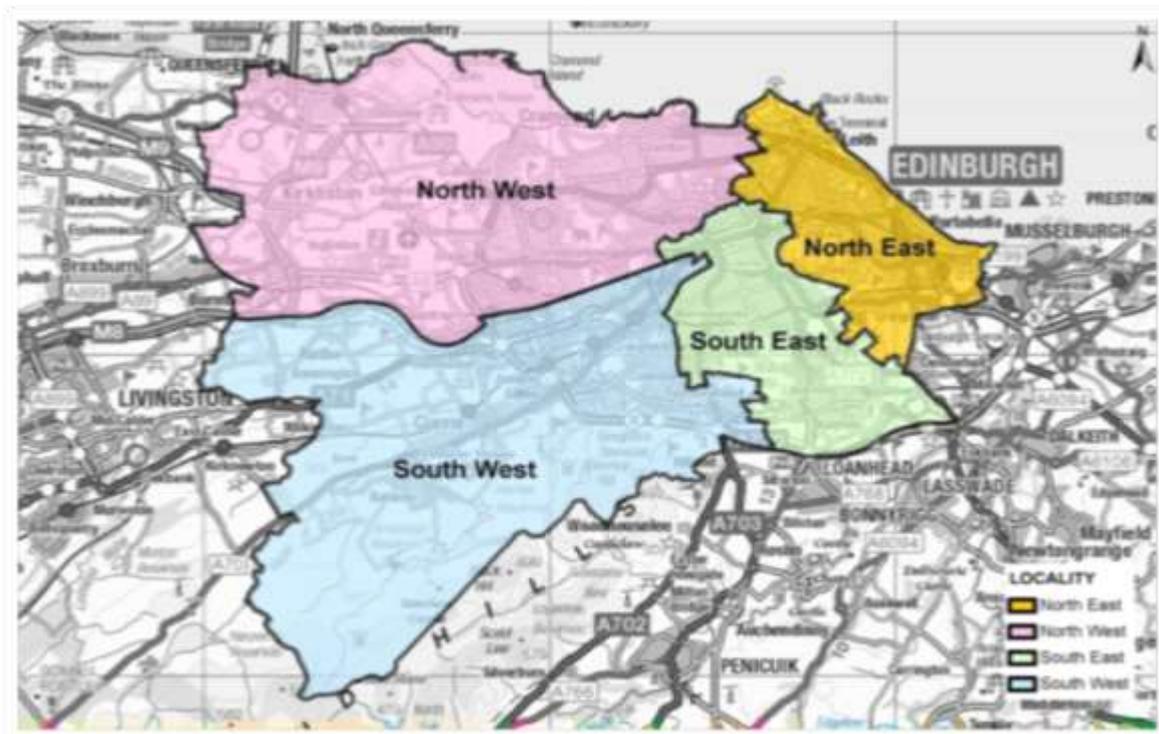


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CITY OF EDINBURGH DIVISION

South West Locality Policing Update

Friday, 22 March 2019



Purpose

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Key Crime Statistics

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMAND – CRIME SUMMARY					
2 nd April 2018 – 18 th March 2019					
South West Police incidents – last 7 days		497			
Average per day		71			
PUBLIC SAFETY		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Robbery	Recorded Crime	51	49	4.1	46.2
	Detection Rate	68.6	67.3	1.3	
Serious Assault	Recorded Crime	82	70	17.1	62.2
	Detection Rate	75.6	84.3	-8.7	
Common Assault	Recorded Crime	1175	1316	-10.7	1218.6
	Detection Rate	58.9	59.3	-0.4	
DOMESTIC ABUSE		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Domestic Abuse	Recorded Crime	717	965	-25.7	963.6
	Detection Rate	66.8	72.4	-5.6	
HATE CRIME & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Hate Crime	Recorded Crime	180	253	-28.9	226
	Detection Rate	51.1	65.6	-14.5	
Antisocial Behaviour	Recorded Crime	7982	8536	-6.5	
ACQUISITIVE CRIME		TYTD	LYTD	% Difference	5 Year Average
Domestic Housebreaking	Recorded Crime	257	270	-4.8	332.6
	Detection Rate	30.4	26.7	3.7	
Motor Vehicle Thefts	Recorded Crime	125	166	-24.7	
	Detection Rate	42.4	25.3	17.1	
Thefts from Motor Vehicles	Recorded Crime	157	204	-23	
	Detection Rate	12.1	1.5	10.6	
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 2

Ward 2 – PC Murdoch / PC Ford

Emerging issues / ASB & Community Engagement

Throughout January and February, PC's Ford and Murdoch continued with targeting anti-social behaviour in the ward 2 area and also carrying out extensive housebreaking patrols in response to a slight increase in activity in the Ward 2 area.

Due to part of St Katherines Young Persons Unit being relocated to Wester Hailes area, PC Murdoch has liaised with them and introduced himself as a point of contact for any future issues and is keen to build rapport with the young persons there. Additionally, PC Murdoch has started up links with the Heathervale Young Persons Unit, Dumbryden Drive, identifying himself as the single point of contact and intends to engage with the young persons in the unit and potentially organise a game of football against them.

Operation Harefield was launched at the end of February at a Young Farmers event. This operation will focus on rural crime, in particular Livestock Worrying. Various events have been scheduled to raise awareness for this and PC Murdoch is in contact with Emma Harper MP, who has a campaign to increase the penalties for livestock worrying offences.

Anti-social behaviour focused around a particular address in Balerno remains ongoing, however, through various engagements and linking in with City of Edinburgh Council, numerous youths have had letters sent to their home addresses warning them that their behaviour will not be tolerated. This would appear to have some form of effect, with reduced calls from the complainer.

During January and February, PC Ford continued to work in support of the whole of the South West Locality by promoting several Operations and campaigns through the use of the local Twitter account. Over the Month of February there have been 38 tweets sent out on the @EdinPolSW Twitter account. These tweets have covered the following campaigns:

#OpScreening - Covering crime prevention around Housebreakings etc.

#OpHeddle - Covering Road Safety

#OpArable - Covering both Violent Crime and Acquisitive Crime reduction / prevention.

#OpHarefield - Covering Rural Crimes

#DontTolerateHate in conjunction with #ReportHate and #NoHateMate - Campaign covering the National Hate crime awareness week.

PC Ford has now returned to full operational duties following a injury and looks forward to getting more involved in the Ward 2 area directly.



Ward 7 – PC Baillie / PC Spence

Emerging issues / ASB & Community Engagement

Since the beginning of March, PC Spence has been on mobile patrols throughout Ward 7 in light of crimes of violence, ASB and housebreaking, whilst increasing his geographical knowledge of the area. Further PC Spence is working to identify possible locations to hold police surgeries across Ward 7 to provide face to face contact and meet with the local community.

Throughout January and February several MDA warrants were executed in the Ward 7 area, the majority in response to numerous complaints Constables Baillie and Brownless received from concerned residents. Large quantities of various drugs and cash were recovered with several people put to Court.

Complaints continue to be received regarding vehicle issues around Ward 7 primary schools, these issues mainly cover parking and speed/ inconsiderate driving. Increased mobile and static checks were carried out resulting in drivers being warned and ticketed for various motoring offences.

More work was carried out with CAP to promote responsible behaviours in and around licenced premises. On the back of increased shoplifting reports a Police surgery was trialed in the store most effected. Unfortunately only one person attended this well published event.

In response to residents' complaints regarding door step traders Constable Baillie with the aid of PSYV carried out a leaflet drop to more than 250 houses in the Longstone and Kingsknowe area.

Constable Baillie continued good interactions with the Kurdish initiative, the coming spring weather will see their outdoor BBQ returning.

Close work with the Broomhouse Project continues, many people are now being signposted to third sector organisations for the help they need rather than languishing along.

Building on the success of our partnership work around Youth Diversion and close cooperation with local Youth Providers, particularly in relation to ASB within the Saughton Stenhouse areas of recent years, there have been 2x youth drop in clubs established, one by the Broomhouse Centre and the other with CEC at Carrickvale Community Centre. This is an ongoing piece of work under the guise of Operation Sedgewick, which as we move toward the Easter holiday break, will be reinvigorated with further partnership patrols between CEC & the Community Policing Team and a planned football match against the Saughton youths currently being organised. Watch this space.

Lastly, close cooperation with Dunedin Canmore around engagement & intervention work where required continues particularly at Westfield Avenue where local resident meetings have been attended by the Community Team, Community Intervention Partnership (CIP) Police Officers and local residents to discuss issues & concerns and explain what action is

or has been carried out in relation to problematic residents. PC Baillie & Spence continue to support CIP officers around joint visits, patrols and enforcement where required.

Ward 8 – PC Jones / PC Crow

Emerging Crime / ASB and Community Engagement:

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, Operation Harefield & assistance to search and conduct enquiries into a local High Risk missing person over Christmas and into the New year.

The officers continue to utilise a variety of methods including foot, bicycle and marked mobile patrols.

Locally run dedicated weeks have included Hate Crime and Home Security week saw patrols carried out in relation to hate and home crime prevention.

Crime prevention advice is continually offered to local residents in relation to house break-ins and related theft and this will continue under Operation Screening in Spring and Summer 2019, focused on acquisitive crime.

Community Activity

The officers have attended all Community Council meetings representing various areas of the ward. These important meetings offer excellent opportunities for local residents to speak to local officer about issues in the area.

Coffee with a Cop surgeries continue in various locations across the ward. These 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.

Ward 9 - PC Wotton / PC Mears

Emerging issues / ASB & Community Engagement

During January and February 2019 PC's Wotton and Mears have attended several child and adult case conferences as well as core group meetings and concern meetings for vulnerable residents in the Ward 9 area. Many of these meetings are regarding individuals who need ongoing Police involvement due to their specific vulnerabilities and association with criminal types.



PC's Wotton and Mears have also conducted numerous joint visits along with Dunedin Canmore staff to various addresses in the Fountainbridge area. These are in relation to ongoing neighbourhood issues, crime enquiries as well as vulnerable persons concerns and ASB. Pc Wotton assisted Dunedin Canmore staff with a Flat recovery from Rosemount Buildings - The occupant of which was a regular source of Drug related ASB and attracted unwanted visitors to the area. The seizure of the flat has resulted in a dramatic reduction in this unwanted behaviour in the area.

PC's Mears & Wotton have been conducting targeted ASB patrols in several locations throughout ward 9 as part of Operation Screening and Agora, as well as cycle patrols along the canal paths and other walkways to combat bike thefts and associated house breaking.

PC Wotton along with PC Mears have been looking into ongoing and repeated Neighbourhood issues in and around Dorset Place and Merchiston mews. Where by local youths are causing issues cycling and causing damage to street furniture. Liaising with the School link officer from Boroughmuir High School a number of youths have been identified then spoken to in the presence of parents.

PC Wotton continues to make inquiries into a male who has mental health issues; a repeat offender who makes false calls to the emergency services. Following a recent call of an escalating seriousness; arrangements are being made with the males support workers and solicitor to interview him again.

Operation Eliminate – is an ongoing operation targeting ASB and Drug related ASB in the Ward 9 area. Throughout February PC Wotton formulated, organised, craved and then executed a misuse of drugs search warrant which was executed at the Fountain News shop on Dundee Street, FountainBridge. Officers from the SW CPT, LAVRU, A Dog Handler, officers from Dunedin Canmore along with Craigmillar LAVRU, Police Support Unit as well as officers from the HRMC and Trading standards all attended and assisted with the day's operation.

From the search of the shop and subsequently the shop keeper's home address there were significant recoveries of drugs and money.

As a result from a previous warrant executed in the Fountain News shop; under Op Eliminate at the end of 2017, PC Wotton attended court on the February 25th and provided evidence that resulted in the shop keepers son receiving a sentence of 11 months incarceration for Drug supply.





Significant Crimes / Ongoing Operations

Operation Harefield – 25th February onwards.

A prevention & awareness campaign focussed primarily around livestock worrying in rural Edinburgh particularly ward 2 Currie & Balerno in Spring 2019. This Operation incorporates our usual coordinated activity working with Park Rangers and the local Farming community.

The Community Policing Team have undertaken planned activity in a number of ways such as Hi Visibility cycle patrols, stalls with the National Farmers Union & Park Rangers, stopping and speaking to members of the public out walking particularly those with pet dogs.

Harefield has also incorporated awareness and crime prevention in relation to Plant machinery and farm equipment with our Community Policing Team offering Crime prevention surveys to a number of permises.

A flavour of the type of activity can be drawn from one of our local Funded Officers PC Ford who on one day alone, conducted patrols in Swanston, Bonaly, Torphin, Torduff reservoir, Thriepmuir reservoir & Harlaw reservoir where between 40 – 50 dog walkers were spoken to by him and advised about their responsibilities in keeping their pets under control in relation to livestock worrying. This operation is still ongoing.

There has been a farm and vehicle security event held with young farmers, a further event offering bike marking and advice will be held at Harlaw Reservoir and another in Bonaly working alongside elected members and partner agencies.

Operation Tasset

This is the ongoing Police enquiry into the murder of Lionel Simenya.

As you will already be aware as a result of the press release and subsequent media reports, tragically, Mr Simenya was found deceased in suspicious circumstances in Fords Road, Edinburgh on the morning of 7th March 2019.

From a community impact perspective, the local Community Policing Team has undertaken various activities to provide reassurance to the local community linking in with elected representatives and local support groups to keep them fully informed and updated with developments.

A 22 year old man has been arrested and charged and enquiries are ongoing.

Planned activity:

As the school Easter holidays approach us and in conjunction with the various activities at Saughton Park ahead of the official opening on 22nd June 2019, SW Community Policing



Team will run another Operation Sedgewick working in partnership with CEC to provide ASB patrols particularly within the Ward 7 Saughton/Sighthill/Stenhouse areas.

Key youth diversionary work is also being planned with Youth Providers within the Lifelong Learning team, About You & the Broomhouse Centre with another Saughton Youth versus Police/Youth Workers football match proposed during the Easter holidays. More to follow!

Operation Screening

Throughout the start of this year, the South West Community Policing Team along with partner agencies have been working closely tackling crimes of dishonesty and anti-social behaviour through Operation Screening. We have been conducting a number of crime prevention surveys, awareness events and stalls. We also conducted extensive patrols, letter drops and promoting the events and crime prevention methods on twitter.

Through this period an idea of some of the results are:

24 warrant arrests for over 75 offences

3 warrants enforced on houses

28 arrests in relation to bike thefts, dishonesties and anti social behaviour

Joint patrols conducted with environmental wardens, housing officers, trading standards, HMRC and others.

2 stolen vehicles conducted

£38,000 worth of stolen bikes recovered and returned to owners

A further £10,000 of other stolen property returned to owners

173 charges reported in relation to bike thefts

Over £40,000 seized by police as linked to crimes

Over £1000 of counterfeit goods seized

Over £5000 worth of illegal substances seized

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. Ongoing.



Operation Heddle

This is South West Community Policing Teams ongoing operation to look at roads policing complaints and issues. This month alone we have been out conducted road checks and speed checks leading to:

2 tickets being issued

22 drivers being spoken to

8 inconsiderate parking notices being issued

Extensive patrols at schools

We have also been deploying Pop Up Kirsty in the South West area. Ongoing.

Doorstep Crimes

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers have been out with us this month to tackle doorstep crime. They worked alongside community officers and conducted a letter drop to over 200 addresses

Numerous patrols conducted and officers engaged with vulnerable members of the community

Themed coffee with a cops and stalls held

Social media advice put out

Community Alcohol Partnership

This is progressing well and aims to:

- raise awareness among youths of the dangers around alcohol and drug misuse at an early stage to prevent health issues and actions escalating to criminality
- improve diversionary methods for youths involved in ASB
- tackle proxy-buying and underage drink sales to reduce associated health and criminal implications
- tackle drug issues in the South West

Monthly meetings are held between over 20 partner agencies with joint working being conducted to tackle any alcohol related issues in the area.



