



POLICE
SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Scrutiny Report

1st October 2017 – 31st March 2018



East Lothian

The data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents there may be minor amendments between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. The extraction date from recording systems can also differ so it would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in the report as official statistics.

Data contained in this report should only be used to identify trends as figures are likely to change over time.



INTRODUCTION

Police Performance Indicators

Crimes and offences are grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes. The Scottish Government defines these categories. For example, 'Group 1' refers to 'Non Sexual Crimes of Violence', (such as serious assault, robbery). Group 2 refers to 'Sexual Crimes', (such as rape, voyeurism) and so on.

Police Scotland publishes management information on an annual and quarterly basis, by local authority and by police division, as well as at a national level. These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency. Police Scotland publishes all of these reports on the 'Our Performance' section of the Police Scotland website.

The reports can be accessed here: <http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

The East Lothian Policing Plan uses the following Police Performance indicators, and these have been mirrored in the scrutiny report to maintain parity of understanding:

Non-Sexual Crimes of Violence (Group 1) - crimes per 10,000 population

Sexual (Group 2) - crimes per 10,000 population

Anti-social Behaviour Incidents (public reported) - crimes per 10,000 population

Racially Aggravated Conduct - crimes per 10,000 population

Crimes of Dishonesty (Group 3) - crimes per 10,000 population

Proportion (%) of Domestic Abuse incidents which result in a Crime Report – total for reporting period

Number of Domestic Abuse incidents recorded - total for reporting period

Road Casualties - total for reporting period

Source: Police Scotland Analysis Performance Unit

(Based on East Lothian's population of 104,840 in 2017 - Scottish Government figures)

Glossary

- **MATAC** (Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination) responsible for identifying and targeting high risk domestic offenders.

A meeting where effective decision making ensures resources are deployed to tackle individuals who pose the greatest risk to victims of Domestic Abuse, using any and all means at the group's disposal. Clear lines of communication, ownership and accountability ensure that victims and their children remain safe.

- **MARAC** (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) responsible for identifying and protecting high risk victims of domestic abuse.

A victim focused information sharing and risk management meeting attended by all key agencies, where high risk cases are discussed. The role of the MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be taken to increase public safety. In a single meeting, MARAC combines up to date risk information with a timely assessment of a victim's needs and links those directly to the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a domestic abuse case: victim, children and perpetrator.

- **iVPD** (interim Vulnerable Persons Database)

iVPD is a Police Scotland database that records information about individuals who are experiencing adverse circumstances or situational vulnerabilities which may impact on their current or future wellbeing, and records incidents where there has been an immediate crisis response required in respect of adult or child protection, domestic abuse, hate crime and youth offending.

Where there is a legal basis to, Police Scotland will share relevant, necessary, justifiable and proportionate information with partners to secure appropriate intervention with statutory requirements and national guidance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Non Sexual Crimes of Violence (Rate per 10,000 population)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
8.9	7.7	-14%



Violent crime in East Lothian fell from 93 reported incidents in 2016/17 to 81 reported incidents in 2017/18. The detection rate also improved from 78.5% to 90.1%. This included a 100% solvency for Robbery and Assault with Intent to Rob.

Sexual Crime (Rate per 10,000 population)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
15.5	12.8	-17%



Sexual crime in East Lothian fell from 163 reported incidents in 2016/17 to 134 reported incidents in 2017/18. The detection rate was 48.5%. A number of enquiries from 2017/18 remain as live enquiries.

Antisocial Behaviour (Rate per 10,000 population) (Public Reported)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
506.1	516.9	2%



The number of public reported anti-social behaviour calls to the police increased from 5306 in 2016/17 to 5419 in 2017/18. These include calls classified as public nuisance, disturbance, noise, neighbour dispute, vandalism and communications. The biggest rise came from 'communication' related incidents, rising from 655 to 854. There have been slight decreases in reported public nuisance, noise and vandalism related calls.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Racially Aggravated Conduct (Rate per 10,000 population)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
1.3	2.3	77%



Although a significant jump in percentage terms, the number of reported racially aggravated crimes increased from 14 in 2016/17 to 24 in 2017/18. These have been subject to local scrutiny with no clear links between each crime. Only 12 out of 32 Local Authority areas recorded less racially aggravated conduct. Positively, 104.2% of racially aggravated crime (all of those from 2017/18) were solved. This is up from 85.7% the previous year.

Crimes of Dishonesty (Rate per 10,000 population)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
177.1	189.1	7%



Crimes of dishonesty increased from 1857 in 2016/17 to 1983 in 2017/18. An increase in shoplifting contributed significantly to this increase, rising from 478 to 696. A dedicated Shoplifting Team has been introduced to East Lothian as a result, which in part has contributed to the increase through increased reporting and discovery of crimes. Housebreakings to domestic properties has seen an encouraging reduction from 152 to 89.

Domestic Abuse (% of incidents resulting in crime report)

2016/17	2017/18	Change
45.1	42	-3%



Domestic abuse remains a key policing priority, with all incidents subject to rigorous scrutiny to ensure no opportunities are missed to protect victims. Victims will often contact police in relation to domestic related matters, such as child custody concerns and verbal arguments, which may not meet the threshold for them being recorded as crimes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Domestic Abuse Incidents

2016/17	2017/18	Change
932	930	-0.2%



The overall number of domestic abuse incidents have stayed relatively static over the last two years. This is a crime that cuts across social and demographic groups and is often hidden from public view. It is important that the police and partners remain alert to identifying risk factors and giving victims a voice to speak out.

Road Casualties

2016/17	2017/18	Change
190	223	17%



	2016/17	2017/18	Change
Fatal	2	3	50%
Serious	26	34	31%
Slight	162	186	15%

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Non Sexual Crimes of Violence

Prevention

Prevention activity is well established within East Lothian showcasing the excellent partnership working approach that spreads across a wide range of varying activities to improve public safety.

As previously reported, following the report into the death of Bailey Gwynne, and the subsequent recommendations made from it, local community officers were trained in the delivery of the 'No Knives Better Lives' presentation. There has been exceptionally positive feedback with regards this presentation which has been delivered to the majority of secondary schools in the area at both S1 and S3 level, with further talks planned in the near future. The purpose of these sessions is to highlight the personal impact, legal risks and consequences of carrying a knife and since the inception of these presentations there has been several phone calls to the police from schools in relation to such issues.

Currently local officers are working alongside East Lothian Council and Crimestoppers to roll out a new programme called 'Fearless', to give schools more reference materials to deal with matters such as violence and child sexual exploitation, as well as providing a platform to report concerns confidentially.

Intervention

Best Bar None, is a national initiative, supported by partner agencies that reward well run licensed premises. It aims to reduce alcohol related violence and anti-social behaviour.

This year's scheme saw 19 venues participate and collect their awards at a local presentation event at the Brunton Hall, with 12 of those achieving the highest 'Gold' award. One venue was also a finalist in the National Best Bar None awards. The scheme for 2018-2019 will be launched in the coming weeks.

Currently the community officers in the Dunbar area are also starting up a Pubwatch scheme for the town and there are plans to organise an operation between police and partner agencies in relation to complaints made by licensees relating to an increase in the number of fabricated identification documents being used.

The East Lothian Licensing Officer continues to carry out regular visits of all licenced premises in the area to ensure compliance with legislation and to offer advice and support to licensees.

Enforcement

Following a spate of violent incidents in the area, two males involved in Serious and Organised Crime and in possession of offensive weapons, were arrested following an operation by local officers, supported with national resources such as the Air Support Unit, Dog Units, Road Policing and Armed Response officers.

In recent months there have been a couple of incidents within licensed premises in East Lothian which have resulted in the police submitting reports to the Licensing Board. One case was concluded with a written warning, whilst another case which involved underage drinking, operating out with licensing hours and a serious assault taking place, resulted in the Personal Licence Holder having their Personal Licence revoked.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Sexual Crimes

Prevention

The East Lothian based Community Safety Officer is tasked with co-ordinating and delivering prevention activity within East Lothian. This officer has delivered Bystander training to two groups of students from Queen Margaret University and there are plans to do more sessions in October 2018. The aim of these sessions is to reduce violence and sexual crime by challenging attitudes around consent. The Bystander approach encourages people to react to warning signals and to provide them with the confidence and the tactics to intervene. The training revolves around a short film entitled 'Who are you?' and explores many of the issues raised in this. Extremely positive feedback has been received by those who have participated so far and there are plans to expand this training further.

Intervention

East Lothian's two dedicated Youth Community Officers have spent a large amount of time within the primary and secondary schools in both the Musselburgh and Haddington group areas delivering educational inputs to pupils of all ages, ranging from Drugs Education, Child Sexual Exploitation and Alcohol, as well as continuing to support the work of the Risk Factory, a purpose built venue that allows children to learn about safety and crime prevention by involving them in various practical scenarios, in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and East Lothian Council Education Department.

'Fearless', as previously mentioned under Non Sexual Crimes of Violence, will also support and educate children in respect of sexual crime.

A number of protests have recently taken place across East Lothian in respect of Registered Sex Offenders, or those perceived to have that status. We have in depth and establish Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements in place.

Enforcement

Within East Lothian we have a dedicated divisional Public Protection Unit with specialist officers providing support and investigation lead. This is further supported by Divisional and National Domestic Investigation Units and Divisional and National Rape Investigation Units. These specialist officers are routinely deployed in East Lothian to support on-going investigations.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Antisocial Behaviour Incidents

Prevention

The East Lothian Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordinating Group continues to meet on a weekly basis comprising of members from Police Scotland, Scottish Fire Service and East Lothian Council Safer Communities Team. This is recognised as a very successful partnership approach that has seen varying issues of antisocial behaviour (ASB) across East Lothian dealt with in an efficient and timeous manner. Individuals involved in repeat antisocial behaviour are discussed at this meeting and relevant legislation will be used to deal with them.

Police Scotland and East Lothian Safer Communities team continue to rigorously monitor antisocial behaviour and the volume of incidents reported both through 101 and also the Antisocial Behaviour Hotline. As seen previously, a Problem Solving Partnerships (PSP) can be instigated where areas of concern are highlighted. Through regular meetings and collaborative working, increased patrols by police officers, youth outreach workers and community wardens can ensure antisocial behaviour is effectively targeted. This has seen success of late in Haddington and Tranent in relation to youth related antisocial behaviour.

Intervention

Both Youth Community Officers (YCO's), in collaboration with the local Community Wardens and Scottish Fire Service, have conducted numerous inputs at both primary and secondary levels in East Lothian, in relation to ASB and the impact it can have on the wider communities. Various topics are discussed using a power point presentation including vandalism, under-age drinking, fire-raising, peer-pressure and the laws and legislation relating to ASB.

YCOs will continue to work with Youth Justice to deliver timely interventions to young people committing acts of ASB. Working with local schools we will respond to any information or intelligence where youths are known to congregate annually to celebrate the end of their exam timetable, to ensure any celebrations take place safely and legally.

Intelligence received in relation to ASB, Drugs and Vandalism from the continuation of the use of 'The Writings on the Wall' leaflet is submitted regularly when received and shared between partner agencies.

Enforcement

Local officers will continue to provide increased patrols to recognised hotspots, as determined by the ASB Tasking Group, and enforcement action will take place in relation to bail or Anti-Social Behaviour Order conditions.

Please also refer to the full report provided by Kenny Black, East Lothian Safer Communities Team Leader for full information.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Racially Aggravated Conduct

Prevention

East Lothian's Community Safety Officer has delivered Third Party Reporting training to staff and student union representatives from Queen Margaret University, and in doing so raised awareness of Hate Crime, what various support mechanisms are in place for victims and how to report incidents using the 3rd Party Reporting site. This was so successful, staff from East Lothian Council Safer Communities Team were also trained. The antisocial behaviour investigation officers and community wardens are at the fore front when dealing with the communities and this training will be a very useful tool in reporting Hate Crime incidents.

Further expansion of the Third Party Reporting network is planned to encourage the victims of this under reported crime to come forward.

Youth Community Officers provide regular inputs to the primary and secondary school pupils in relation to Hate Crime.

Intervention

East Lothian officers were recently joined by their partners from the Scottish Fire Service to take part in the first East Lothian Pride event to raise awareness of LGBT issues. Pride Saltire was held at Cockenzie House and the event saw various stalls and partner agencies coming together to raise awareness and discuss current issues surrounding LGBT.

The East Lothian Safer Communities Officer will be joining forces with East Lothian Council Safer Communities Head Community Warden to be trained to roll out the 'Keep Safe' Initiative alongside 'I am me.' 'I am me' aims to help people with a disability feel safe within their community and is a community partnership charity developed in Renfrewshire. 'Keep Safe' will aim to work alongside local businesses, shops, libraries and cafes who have agreed to keep their premises a 'Keep Safe' environment for persons to go if they feel frightened, distressed or become the victim of a crime whilst out in their community.

Enforcement

A thorough and robust investigation process is in place and all racially aggravated crime is monitored by the Deputy Area Commander for East Lothian. Hate crime is also a standing agenda item on the daily Police Tactical, Tasking and Co-ordinating process, providing governance.

Regular analysis of Hate Incidents is also undertaken in order to tackle any emerging trends and to support any repeat victims identified.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Crimes of Dishonesty

Prevention

Shopwatch in the Preston, Seton and Gosford area remains successful and has been positive in aiding local officers in their detection rates of shoplifting incidents. Other areas currently developing Shopwatch schemes are Dunbar, Musselburgh and Tranent.

East Lothian Community Safety Officer facilitated a Secure By Design training input to East Lothian Council Architectural Services conducted by the National Designing Out Crime Manager. This was an information seminar that aimed to raise awareness of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Numerous crime prevention surveys have also been completed at both commercial and residential properties to raise owner's awareness to their personal and building security.

Also within East Lothian, we are looking to develop a Rural Crime Group,

Intervention

A Reducing Re-Offending Group has recently been established as part of the East Lothian Community Justice Local Outcome Improvement Plan, titled 'Transform'. Two nominals have been highlighted as part of this and a multi-agency approach will be implemented to reduce or prevent these nominals from re-offending.

Operation Monarda is a national campaign which has been supported locally to combat door step crime and has involved local officers working with the Citizen Advice Bureau, Trading Standards, day centres, local banks and pharmacies.

Enforcement

With an increase in the volume of shoplifting in East Lothian, a dedicated team has been established to tackle the problem. Officers have identified crime trends and a number of travelling shoplifting groups have been arrested as a result. Other travelling criminals have also been arrested operating without a pedlars licence following complaints of aggressive door-to-door selling across various towns in East Lothian.

Various other operations have also been running, namely: Operation Hayes – investigating historical and current thefts of push bikes from sheds, garages and outbuildings in the East Lothian; Operation Barrier – a large scale review dedicated to improving detection of low level acquisitive crime and improving the quality of service provided to the public. This included the review of over 5500 crime reports and included the use of proactive and Criminal Investigation Unit resources from across J Division throughout October and November; Christmas Keep Safe Campaign– In East Lothian we supported the Police Scotland 'Xmas Keep Safe' campaign. This is an initiative run in the lead up to the festive season, raising awareness of Shop Safety, Party Safety, Home Safety and Road Safety. The high profile media campaign ran from late November 2017 until after New Year 2018.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Domestic Abuse

Prevention

All operational officers are trained in risk assessment through the domestic abuse questionnaire, and the Domestic Abuse investigation unit lends expertise to deal with complex and high tariff cases.

Disclosure Scheme Domestic Abuse was rolled out nationally on 1 October 2015. Through the scheme people can request a disclosure if they believe their current partner may have an abusive past, or a request can be made on their behalf.

We will be looking to roll out the 'Bystander' training to other organisations throughout East Lothian.

We will continue to support national campaigns such as '16 days against Gender Based Violence' and the white ribbon campaign.

Intervention

MATAC and MARAC meetings are adhered to and attended ensuring victims are given the protection and help they need, and perpetrators are targeted effectively. Specially trained Crime Prevention Officers will be operate as directed by the MARAC, to provide security advice to victims of Domestic Abuse.

iVPD's inform a key part of Risk & Concern management and assessment in conjunction with Partner Agencies, allied to strong national Police Scotland media campaigns.

Enforcement

A thorough and robust investigation process is in place, including reviews of all domestic abuse incidents by supervisors at an early stage, and detailed subsequent comprehensive analysis across a variety of specialist groups and officers, with a view to identifying any missed opportunities and adding rigour to the decision making process of crime types.

In addition, through local tasking and coordination there are pro-active domestic abuse bail checks carried out.

ACHIEVING PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

Road Casualties

Prevention

Local roads policing officers and youth community officers will be joining colleagues from ELC Transportation again this year to run the 2morrow's Driver multi-agency event and Roads Policing will also deliver Young Drivers Inputs at Torness to young apprentices.

Other campaigns that local roads policing officers have been involved in are Motorcycle Safety weekends targeting known biker routes including the A198 and A199.

Operation Alternate is also taking place regularly which are multi-agency road checks targeting HGV's, vans and cars and involved the Road Policing department, Driving Standards Agency and other Government agencies.

Intervention

Operation Close Pass began life in the West Midlands and has been adopted by a number of forces across the UK, including Police Scotland. Plain clothes officers on pedal cycles with bike-mounted cameras advise colleagues when they are passed too closely by drivers who are then stopped and given advice and any offences dealt with. The drivers stand on a specially designed mat which allows officers to show them how closely they passed the unmarked bicycle and how much space they should give – at least as much space as you would give a car. Local Roads Policing officers have recently been out covering the A198 at Aberlady as a high proportion of cyclists use this road on a Saturday morning.

A similar initiative, "Lose the Blinkers" has also been run in East Lothian, to educate drivers in relation to safely overtaking and passing horse riders.

Enforcement

Local community officers continue to give attention to parking issues within the respective towns and villages, with particular attention given to areas around schools.

Through monthly Community and Police Partnership meetings various speeding complaints are highlighted by local residents. Community officers trained in the use of the Pro Laser speed guns, in conjunction with Roads Policing colleagues, give these areas attention. Recently, such collaborative working has been seen in Port Seton, Musselburgh, Gifford and Haddington town centre. North Berwick Community officers will be targeting speeding motorbikes on the coastal road in that area.

Other Matters of Note

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV)

The Police Scotland Youth Volunteers Programme has been a very successful undertaking, giving young people aged 10 – 18, an insight into policing in Scotland and inspires them to participate positively in their communities. PSYV in Scotland aim to:

- Promote a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people;
- Encourage the spirit of adventure and good citizenship;
- Support local policing priorities through volunteering;
- Give young people a chance to be heard; and
- Inspire young people to participate positively in their communities.

Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCG)

The local SOCG officer was invited to work with East Lothian Council's Trading Standards department in relation to Trust a Trader. This involves all trusted tradespersons listed with the council to be police checked, to provide consistency and prevent people connected to SOCGs working in these fields.

Communication Toolkit

As part of a national workstream, 'Local Approaches to Policing', the Lothian and Scottish Borders Division is designing a Communication Toolkit for all Divisions in Scotland. As part of this, there has been an opportunity to review how we engage and communicate with the public and our staff. East Lothian has been selected to develop the use of Social Media and plans are being progressed to ensure availability of technology and training to a wide range of staff in an effort to improve this form of engagement.

Special Constables

East Lothian currently has 12 Special Constables. In 2017/18 those officers contributed 1270 hours towards local policing. A recruitment event was held in November 2017 in Haddington to try and encourage recruitment, and similar events are planned for later in 2018.