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East Lothian Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Quarter 2 – 2023/2024

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. This report has been generated to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents and the management of crime enquiries, there is likely to be differences between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. It would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in this report as official statistics.

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Our Vision

Sustained excellence in service and protection.

Our Purpose

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

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Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities

Your local policing priorities across THE LOTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS

Our vision
Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland

Our values
Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Human Rights

Our purpose
Working in partnership for the safety and wellbeing of communities in the Lothians & Scottish Borders

Protecting the most vulnerable people

- Protect vulnerable people to prevent abuse, neglect & exploitation.
- Implement a delivery model supporting a Violence Against Women & Girls Prevention Strategy.
- Implement the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.
- Proactively target domestic abuse offenders.
- Develop partnership approaches to improve public confidence to report incidents of harm & abuse.

Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour

- Work collaboratively to identify and target violent offenders.
- Increase awareness of the impact of violence & antisocial behaviour.
- Work in partnerships to reduce alcohol related criminality.
- Collaborate to capture the under reporting of violence & explore preventative approaches (i.e. Navigator).
- Develop night time economy plans with licensed premises & promote participation in 'Best Bar None'.

Reducing acquisitive crime

- Focus on domestic housebreaking.
- Raise awareness of current crime trends & prevention tactics.
- Tackle emerging acquisitive crime patterns to identify & target prolific offenders.
- Work to prevent acquisitive crime.
- In partnership, maximise support for victims of acquisitive crime.
- Work with Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC).
- Use Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to deliver crime prevention information.

Improving road safety

- Collaborate on the engineering of the roads through our communities to improve road safety.
- Detect offenders who disregard road traffic laws & endanger others.
- Support partnership driver education programmes.
- Raise awareness of the consequences of speeding, not wearing a seat belt, drink or drug driving & using a mobile phone while driving.

Tackling serious & organised crime

- Work to divert people from becoming involved in serious & organised crime & using its products (drugs, counterfeit good etc).
- Use social media to raise awareness and educate about human trafficking.
- Work to prosecute those involved in serious organised crime, including online, 'cuckooing' & 'county lines'.
- Maximise the disruption of serious organised crime groups.
- Target the production, cultivation & supply of illegal drugs.

Police Scotland Strategic outcomes

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service
- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery
- Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing
- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public
- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

Logos: East Lothian Council, Midlothian, Scottish Borders Council, West Lothian Council, OFFICIAL, Police Scotland (POILEAS ALBA)

Introduction

Crimes and offences are grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes. The Scottish Government defines these categories, as follows;

- Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence
- Group 2 – Sexual Crimes
- Group 3 – Crimes of Dishonesty
- Group 4 – Fire-raising, Malicious Mischief etc.
- Group 5 – Other (Pro-activity) Crimes
- Group 6 – Miscellaneous Offences
- Group 7 - Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles

Police Scotland publishes management information on an annual and quarterly basis by local authority and 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:

1. Protecting the most vulnerable people;
2. Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour;
3. Reducing acquisitive Crime;
4. Improving road safety;
5. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime.

All figures quoted in this report are for the period April 2023 to September 2023 and are compared against the same reporting period from the previous year. Where figures are quoted on rate per 10,000 population, these are based on East Lothian's population of 107,090 in **2019** (Scottish Government figures, published April 2020).

East Lothian Performance Summary

East Lothian Performance Summary Report
Reporting Period: April 2023– September 2023

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 2, 222 Crime increase 16%

Protecting the most vulnerable people

Domestic Crimes



310 (28.8 less than 5YA)

Missing Persons Incidents



468 (12 less than 2022/23)

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour

Hate Crimes



38 (17.6 less than 5YA)

ASB Incidents



2,665 (361 less than 5YA)

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Crimes of Dishonesty

Detections
22.78%



1049 (147 more than 5YA)

All Housebreaking

+166%



95 (59.4 more than 5YA)

Improving road safety

Road Casualties

- 32%



34 (16 less)

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Executive Summary

I am pleased to present the mid-year scrutiny report and my second as East Lothian Local Area Commander, which covers the period 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2024. Whilst not having some of the landmark historic events of previous years this has still been a busy period for Policing both within East Lothian and nationally. The UCI World Cycling Championships in August saw officers deployed around a number of venues in the central belt and Glentress in the Scottish Borders in August. Closer to home the Scottish Open, Ladies Day and Fringe by the Sea Festival were events which attracted significant visitor numbers over what is an already busy holiday period for our coastal communities and I for one reflect positively on the way these events were planned and executed by a number of partners whilst continuing to provide an effective service to the communities across East Lothian.

Within the Local Policing Plan 2023-2026, which was launched in April, we have not changed our Policing priorities from those previously identified and the priorities reflect where most of our call demand lies in protecting vulnerable people in both physical and digital spaces. Over 80% of calls received by Police do not result in a crime being recorded however due to the vulnerabilities posed, result in Police time being used to respond and help vulnerable people within our communities with the help of partners.

Effective responses to help the most vulnerable are a partnership exercise and I wish to acknowledge the help and support provided by a number of key partners in supporting both me personally along with my Policing teams in order that we can meet the challenges that are present to us on a united front.

Funding and resources have remained a focus throughout the last 6 months and continuing to find financial savings are a reality for the Police as they are for most if not all of the public sector. To this end I have been reviewing the use of 6 stations that are part of the Police Estate in East Lothian and looking at opportunities to modernise the facilities our officers work from as I recognise this plays a huge part in boosting morale and efficiency. The pilot of Community officers offering drop in sessions in various Community centres and spaces has begun and we are looking at smarter ways of working through diary appointments in the community which are some of a number of such initiatives that are ongoing and I hope to provide further updates on this as and when available.

The figures presented in this document should leave us in no doubt as to the challenges we face as there are rises in crime in a number of areas which are explained in later sections. The work of the East Lothian Tactical and Coordination group is a particular highlight and the effectiveness of this multi-agency weekly meeting in tackling anti-social behaviour and the wider reasons behind it, I am sure, explains the overall decrease in Anti-social behaviour and Hate crime and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the work of Inspector Alan King and Kenny Black and their teams working within our communities to make them safer, respectful and more tolerant of others.

As part of our response to ASB we have been able to deploy a newly formed team of Special Constables known as the SIT, lead by full time officers, into areas which have been hotspots for ASB. It is worth highlighting that Special Constables are volunteers and give up their time to assist their communities and the Police which is greatly appreciated and it is hoped this new initiative will see further volunteers recruited to the Special role.

Continuing in the theme of volunteers, our Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) continues have been involved in several events in the last quarter including Longniddry Gala Day, Edinburgh Tattoo, promoting the 'It'll cost you' campaign which targets proxy purchasing and underage drinking; Peebles Highland Games, a litter pick at Fisherrow Harbour (in the pouring rain I might add!), and the Poppy Scotland Cycle Sportif. They also helped promote Water Safety at a partnership event in North Berwick.

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In the year since the group restarted after COVID, there has been over 200 hours of volunteering work carried out between everyone.

The group has also been participating in their Peer Education modules, recently completing the 'Cyber Aware' module which educates them with the knowledge to stay safe online, in the hope that they will go on to speak to friends and family about it.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Missing Persons
<p>The Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division and the communities of East Lothian recognise that protecting people, particularly those considered vulnerable, is a policing priority. Within the remit of protecting people is the work and investigations carried out to trace people who are reported missing. To put the scale of this work into context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police Scotland, on an annual basis undertake over 22,000 investigations into missing people;• In the Lothians and Scottish Borders Division this equates to the following;<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 2017 / 2018 – 2390 missing person investigations.• Year 2018 / 2019 – 2581 missing person investigations.• Year 2019 / 2020 – 1786 missing person investigations.• Year 2020 / 2021 – 1468 missing person investigations.• Year 2021/2022 – 1613* missing person investigations.• Year 2022/2023 – 1690* missing person investigations*different criteria used to count<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 2023/2024 – Q2 figures only, 86 for 2022/23 compared with 73 for 2023/24. <p>Recognising the vulnerability associated with missing people, particularly those that are young or suffering from mental health challenges, Police Scotland has adopted a rigorous investigation structure and management approach to incidents involving missing people.</p> <p>In East Lothian we review the circumstances of every missing person report to identify any vulnerability and we will then link in with partners to ensure appropriate support is provided to keep that individual safe.</p> <p>We recognise that a large proportion of young people who are reported missing in East Lothian are care experienced. Many of these young people have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences and through no fault of their own can be placed far away from their families and friends which can be a contributing factor in them absconding. We have continued to work with care establishments to support the development of individual care plans and with statutory agencies in East Lothian and other local authority areas to ensure young people are placed in the most appropriate unit.</p> <p>We have continued to raise awareness of the Herbert Protocol and Autism Missing Person Protocol to protect those individuals where Dementia/Alzheimer's is a factor in them going missing. This protocol applies to individuals living in a care setting and in their own homes.</p> <p>During this reporting period we have been able to draw on national resources such as Dog handlers and Air and Marine Support as well as our partners including Her Majesty's Coastguard and Mountain Rescue teams to safely trace a number of High Risk missing persons.</p>	

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Domestic Abuse Incidents
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	5yr Average	Q2 2023/24	% Change
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	613.2	640	4.37
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	338.8	310	-8.50
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	39.76	38.28	-1.48
Total crimes and offences detection rate	65.94	58.06	-11.95
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	37	41	10.81

Domestic Abuse definition (Taken from the COPFS joint protocol on domestic abuse).

Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, co-habiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse can be committed in the home or elsewhere, including online.

Tackling domestic abuse alongside Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is a national strategic priority for Police Scotland. We have multi-agency partnership arrangements in place through MATAC (Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating – Offenders) and MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing – victims) to both manage high risk offenders and provide appropriate support to vulnerable/repeat victims and survivors. In addition to these groups the newly formed East Lothian Equally Safe Group will begin meeting to discuss local partnership working around VAWG.

In partnership with colleagues in Midlothian we have formed a Domestic Abuse enquiry team to ensure that any criminal incident which cannot be immediately resolved at the time is investigated promptly thereafter with a specialist team which has already progressed 57 investigations to conclusion since it started in February this. Such has been the success of this team that we are continuing to run the team into 2024 based from Tranent Police Station.

The half year overall number of domestic incidents remains consistent with the 5 year average which is encouraging given the population growth within East Lothian. We have however seen a decrease in detection rates

compared to the 5 year average which is disappointing albeit this is against a back drop of recording fewer crimes per number of incidents which is a more encouraging statistic particularly in the context of the continued reporting of historical domestic abuse, showing that victims are feeling able and supported to report historical crime against them.

In East Lothian we have robust scrutiny arrangements in place with every domestic incident reviewed on a daily basis by the Local Area Commander and Detective Inspectors from the Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit and Public Protection Unit so every opportunity to detect the crime is maximised.

We continue to proactively target offenders who breach bail conditions set for domestic abuse cases and we continue to see an increase of such detections compared to the 5 year average. It should be noted that this is in line with more offenders being on bail through the increased use of electronic bail monitoring and a backlog of cases going through court.

We continue to promote the use of the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) which gives people the right to ask about the background of their partner to see if they have been abusive in the past. It also allows concerned families, friends and professionals such as midwives and social workers to make a referral to the scheme. DSDAS gives Police Scotland the power to tell people they may be at risk even if they have not asked for the information themselves. The numbers of referrals to the DSDAS scheme have improved since the last report which is encouraging and reflective of some excellent joint working across partners.

Next month officers from across East Lothian will support the 16 days of action for the Violence Against Women and Girls and our community officers were in attendance at a recent Freshers Fair at Queen Margaret University giving out information in relation to this topic.

Alongside this we continue to support other national campaigns such as "DON'T BE THAT GUY" aimed at encouraging peers to challenge abusive and unacceptable behaviour.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Hate Crime
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East Lothian			
	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Q2 Per 10,000
Hate Incidents	64	54	5.04
Hate Crimes *	55.6	38	3.55
Hate Crime Detection Rate	73.38	63.16	

Hate Incident definition

Any incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group but which doesn't constitute a criminal offence.

Hate Crime definition

A hate crime is a crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated (wholly or partly) by malice and ill-will towards a social group.

Social Groups

There are currently five social groups protected under hate crime legislation: disability or presumed disability: race or presumed race (including Gypsy traveller groups): religion or presumed religion: sexual orientation or presumed sexual orientation and transgender identity or presumed transgender identity.

This period has seen an overall decrease of hate crimes compared to the 5 year average with the number of hate incidents also reducing. This reflects the positive work undertaken by local Community officers and partners to respond quickly to reports of hate crime and take robust action around perpetrators.

Every hate incident and hate crime reported in East Lothian is subject to intense scrutiny with the Local Area Commander having overall responsibility for this. This ensures that incidents and/or crimes are not treated in isolation and processes are in place to identify repeat victims, locations and offenders. We investigate all such reports robustly to bring perpetrators to justice whilst working with partners to support victims.

We have implemented 42 "Keep Safe" places which is a partnership initiative developed with Police Scotland and "I Am Me" community led charity to raise awareness and increase reports of Disability Hate Crime. "Keep Safe" works with local businesses to create a network of safe places for disabled, elderly, and vulnerable people to go if they are lost, scared, need help, or if they are the victim of crime. Keep Safe premises enable vulnerable members of our community to partake in community life and vary from shops, cafés and restaurants, fitness centres and libraries.

Police Scotland has recently opened a new user experience survey for hate crime. Anyone who reports hate crime to Police Scotland will receive a text message around one month after their report to invite them to participate and share their feedback about their experience. Where previously hate crime was one of the crime

types included in our local policing user experience survey, the focus of this bespoke question set for hate crime will provide the data and insights to enhance service delivery through evidence-led principles; given the strategic importance the service places on hate crime.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Sexual Crimes (Group 2)
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Crime Type	5 Year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 2	113.8	130	14.24%	12.14	47.69%
Rape & Attempt Rape	22.4	18	-19.64%	1.68	44.44%
Indecent/Sexual Assault	46.8	37	-20.94%	3.46	51.35%
Other Group 2	44.6	75	68.16%	7	46.67%

Overall, group 2 sexual crimes have increased which is down to a number of factors namely repeat offending by certain individuals and behaviour amongst children which has been categorised as sexual.

Many of the other group 2 crimes recorded are either non-recent or non-contact offences perpetrated over the internet often from suspects out with East Lothian which poses its own challenges in terms of identifying and bringing offenders to justice. We recognise that sexual offences continue to be under reported and will continue to work closely with our partners through the Violence Against Women and Girls Working Group and the Equally Safe Group, to encourage and support victims to report sexual crimes.

As previously mentioned we have worked in partnership with Queen Margaret University to support the Violence Against Women and Girls agenda and as part of the 16 days campaign will be looking at including the provision of “by-stander” training to licensed premises.

Our school link officers continue to provide inputs on internet safety to our young people to raise awareness and keep them safe.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Drug Supply, Production & Cultivation
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Drugs Supply	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation	22.4	18	-19.64%	1.68	83.33%

There has been a decrease in drug supply charges labelled this year however some of the quantities of drugs seized bely this figure which is reflective of the extensive activity of our Proactive Crime Team around issues of Organised Crime.

We remain committed to preventing the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol and continue to refer individuals who have taken a near or non-fatal overdose. In addition to this and as a result of work done in the East Lothian Community Safety Group we are examining how to share more Police Concern forms with NHS colleagues and ensuring that people in custody are offered support for drug and alcohol addiction

Police Scotland has now completed its rollout of Naloxone to all local policing divisions across Scotland. Intra-nasal Naloxone is now standard issue kit for officers up to, and including, the rank on Inspector and officers are reminded it must be carried by all equipped officers on every shift.

The national roll out of the Naloxone nasal spray which can be safely given to those who have taken an overdose without any adverse effects has had a positive impact and over Q1/2 it has been used on 5 occasions in East Lothian in the context of 20 usages overall in the division.

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Crimes of Violence (Group 1)
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Crime Type	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 1	52.4	116	121.37%	10.83	52.59%
Serious Assault	19.8	38	91.92%	3.55	76.32%
Robbery	8.6	15	74.42%	1.4	60.00%
Common Assault	417.6	537	28.59%	50.14	63.87%

*Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

We have seen an increase in group 1 crimes with many more crimes than the 5 year average. Encouragingly our solvency in these areas is above 60% for the more serious physical assaults and robberies which leads to confidence that the more violent offenders are being brought to justice.

The increase in group 1 crimes has again been heavily driven by threats and extortion crimes, termed “sextortion” offences whereby victims are encouraged to share intimate images or videos with individuals they have met on line and are then threatened that these will be distributed to friends and family unless monies are paid. These generally involve victims living locally with the perpetrator often operating from abroad. These crimes are difficult to solve due to the different social platforms and jurisdictions involved. Our focus is on providing support to victims and raising awareness through social media campaigns. We recognise that the Police Service may not be the best agency to promote messages around this crime type and we will continue to work with partners, including education and student bodies to tailor and deliver messages to the demographic groups most impacted.

It would also be right to acknowledge an increase in serious assaults however there is no discernible trend to these and whilst incidences are sometimes linked to drugs and alcohol there is no specific preventative measure available over and above wider campaigns that are already in circulation around substance abuse or knife crime.

We have trained officers to deliver the “No knives better lives” programme in our schools and we have also worked with Heavy Sounds to provide targeted inputs from those with lived-experience of knife crime to groups of young people whose behaviour is causing concern in the community.

Crimes of violence within licensed premises continue to be monitored on and we do not have any monitored Licensed Premise in East Lothian.

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Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Reducing Antisocial Behaviour				
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Indicator	5 Year Average	2023-24 Q2	Change	TYTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Antisocial Behaviour Incidents	3025.8	2665	-11.92		
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)	358	383	6.98%	35.76	23.50%
Fire-raising	21.2	25	17.92%	2.33	28.00%
Breach of the Peace and S38 CJ&L(S) A 2010	356.4	364	2.13%	33.99	73.35%

We have again seen a decrease (360) in incidents recorded as ASB in comparison to the 5 year average which reflects positively on the hard work done by the Community and Police Partnerships in identifying and addressing ASB before it becomes a long term problem and emphasised by the fact that we do not have any live Problem Solving Partnerships (PSPs) currently.

One of the many positive features of East Lothian remains the work on ASB undertaken with our partners and is it is important to pay tribute to this particularly through the weekly meeting of the East Lothian Tasking and Coordination Group which has seen the addition of several new members over the last 6 months which has increased its effectiveness in dealing with incidents of ASB. In addition our school link officers work closely with partners to support young people and their families to improve their behaviour and reduce vulnerabilities.

The summer months were undoubtedly busier in terms of youth related ASB however there were a number of positive joint results such as work undertaken to reduce youth calls to Linn Rocks in East Linton. The recent work over Halloween and Bonfire Night has again demonstrated the strength of the partnership approach we routinely take to ASB.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Dishonesty (group 3)
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5 Year Average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
902	1049	16.30%	97.95	22.78%

Overall we have seen a rise in Group 3 Crimes reported this year compared to the 5 year average.

Fraud continues to account for a large proportion of Group 3 crimes which is a national trend with most of it being cyber-enabled however the most stark rise in in domestic housebreaking which is explored in more detail below.

We have continued to promote national fraud awareness crimes through our social media accounts and have provided face-to-face fraud prevention inputs to elderly residents, both in their own homes and in care settings. We visit all victims of high value frauds and those who we deem may be vulnerable to carry out crime prevention surveys and provide advice and reassurance.

We continue to work locally with Trading Standards and Trusted Traders to provide residents with advice re bogus workers and signpost them to Trusted Traders as well as working with our partners through Operation Janaca to target bogus callers and had a visit from the Scam van in June to highlight the dangers of fraud.

Our community officers will be looking to promote drop in sessions in a number of community spaces and places over the next few months in order to provide advice on this subject and will be active in working with local retailers to reduce incidents of shoplifting.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Housebreaking
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Crime Type	5 Year Average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	35.6	95	166.85%	8.87	13.68%
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	38.6	38	-1.55%	3.55	10.53%
Other (Business) HB	39.2	24	-38.78%	2.24	25.00%
All HB	113.4	157	38.45%	14.66	14.65%

In contrast to last year where housebreaking in all categories fell, we have seen a sharp rise which has been driven by a number of different teams of younger housebreakers operating throughout the Lothians. Whilst some of these persons are resident within the Lothians many are from much further afield including Dundee. All housebreakings are investigated by a dedicated team of officers based at Musselburgh which is supported by additional specialist Road Policing, CID and specialist resources. Locally we have dedicated patrols to hotspot areas and are working to educate home owners on safeguarding their property.

We have made a number of arrests already and are continuing to investigate with the expectation of further charges being libelled against arrested persons and further culprits being identified as a result of our enquiries.

Trends in housebreakings are subject to continual analysis and increasingly where they develop, there is a cross-boundary element to the offending which takes place over a number of different local authority areas and this is definitely the case over the last 6 months. There is a National Acquisitive Crime group which the division attends and this allows trends to be highlighted and good practice exchanged across all areas of the country.

Given the rise, participation in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme is something I regard as important to grow to enable us to warn and inform. There are just over 800 local people registered to receive NHW alerts and just over 200 receiving rural alerts. We are continuing to promote the alerts system to have more communities signed up.

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Improving road safety	Road Casualties
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	Q2 2022/23	Q2 2023/24	Change
Fatal	2	1	-50%
Serious	15	14	-7%
Slight	33	19	-42%
Total	50	34	-32%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	2	2	0%

	5 Year Average	Q2 2023/24	Change
Dangerous driving	31.4	24	-23.57%
Speeding	39	28	-28.21%
Disqualified driving	10.6	10	-5.66%
Driving Licence	53	39	-26.42%
Insurance	129.6	106	-18.21%
Seat Belts	4.4	20	354.55%
Mobile Phones	10.2	20	96.08%
Drink/Drug Driving Detections	53.8	52	-3.35%

Overall there have been positive reductions in the number of road casualties with a 32% reduction in all classes of fatal, serious and slight injury accidents. Sadly there was one fatality this year however on review of the site there is nothing to indicate that the road layout or speed at this location was a factor.

Making our roads safer is a key priority and our specialist Road Policing officers are tasked on a daily basis to patrol routes on the A1 and A199 (priority roads) and other fast roads, with our community officers focussed on our towns and villages, specifically around our schools.

We continue to work closely with Community Councils with speed checks being included as a priority in most of the Community and Police Partnerships (CAPPs).

Roads Safety Strategy continues to prioritise enforcement around the FATAL 5:

- ☒ Careless driving
- ☒ Drink & drug driving
- ☒ Not wearing a seatbelt
- ☒ Speeding
- ☒ Using a mobile telephone while driving.

We have also initiated a Multi-agency Vulnerable Road Users Group which concentrates on identifying measures to protect and educate road users for example around their awareness and behaviour towards cyclists and pedestrians. This has seen inputs delivered to EDF staff at Torness locally with further inputs planned around the county.

Moving forward we will continue with a number of road safety initiatives including a Festive Drink drive campaign and further National campaigns on tyre and brake safety. As ever these campaigns will focus on casualty reduction on our priority routes.

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime	Tackling Serious & Organised Crime
<p>The National Threat level is currently SUBSTANTIAL meaning an attack is likely.</p> <p>Our proactive crime team have been involved in an ongoing operation targeting drugs supply in East Lothian which is still active however has already seen notable arrests and seizures of a variety of drugs.</p> <p>Our officers are also involved under ELPARC conducting quad bike patrols in and around North Berwick/Dunbar speaking with local farmers and providing advice/prevention measures in respect of theft of diesel and GPS equipment.</p> <p>ELCAT & CBOs conducted an off road bike initiative at Crystal Rig with Borders CAT team. Various tickets were issued and follow up enquiries still ongoing in respect of further potential offences. Future initiatives will be organised working alongside partnership agencies (NFU, East Lothian Park Rangers etc.</p> <p>Work is also ongoing in respect of sheep worrying and hare coursing utilising high visibility quad patrols, social media posts and funding requested for new signage.</p> <p>In respect of water safety, the school liaison officer is creating a briefing paper (incorporating tombstoning, alcohol and drug misuse) working alongside the local authority and SFRS to deliver school talks utilising drug boxes and visual impairment system recently purchased by Police Scotland for education purposes.</p> <p>Officers are currently exploring the possibilities of setting up a Farmers Roadshow on 6 monthly basis which would tie in with exploring platforms for an extended rural/farm watch. NFUs have also been contacted to deliver an input with community officers from Mid and East Lothian about the aspects and implications of rural/wildlife crime. Initial enquiries have been made about resurrecting a police stall at East Lothian Farmers Market utilising PSYV staff</p> <p>Further meetings of the group are scheduled with the next to be held on 27th November 2023 under the chair of Sergeant Stuart Foster.</p> <p>Every elected member in East Lothian continues to be offered crime prevention surveys of their home and offices which have been widely taken up.</p> <p>Successful Prevention sessions have also taken place with our officers providing inputs to East Lothian Council staff to raise awareness of the threat posed by Organised Crime.</p>	

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Complaints	Executive Summary
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April 2023 – September 2023				
	Number of Complaints about the Police		Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	
Complaints received about the Police	35		23.09	
	On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
Total Allegations Recorded	33	-	25	58

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the East Lothian area command as at 30th September 2023.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the Allegation Category and Type. As can be seen there has been a 33.5% decrease in the overall number of Complaints about the Police when comparing LYTD and YTD.

Area	Allegation Category and Type	LYTD	YTD	% change
	On Duty - TOTAL	53	33	-37.7%
	Discriminatory Behaviour	1	1	0.0%
	Excessive Force	3	2	-33.3%
	Incivility	19	7	-63.2%
	Irregularity in Procedure	27	17	-37.0%
	Neglect of Duty	0	2	x
	Other - Criminal	0	1	x
	Other - Non Criminal	1	1	0.0%
	Traffic Irregularity/Offence	2	1	-50.0%
	Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	0	1	x
	Quality Of Service - TOTAL	32	25	-21.9%

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	Policy/Procedure	5	1	-80.0%
	Service Delivery	9	7	-22.2%
	Service Outcome	18	17	-5.6%
	Grand Total	85	58	-31.8%

Police Scotland’s ability to function effectively is reliant upon the trust of the public and their belief that we can carry out our duties in a fair and impartial manner. It is accepted that on occasions things may go wrong and mistakes will be made. Police Scotland’s national Professional Standards Department oversee all complaints made against officers in East Lothian with robust processes in place to ensure that when members of the public wish to raise a concern or make a complaint about either the quality of the policing service provided or the actions of an officer, their concerns will be listened to and appropriate action taken. In Lothians and Borders Division there is a focus on learning from complaint investigation to ensure that we can continuously improve our service.

East Lothian CAT team – Q2 Update

This quarter it is all change in ELCAT. The team now works from two stations within the sub division. Some of the team have stayed in Tranent and some are now working from Haddington. The team welcomes 3 new officers to the team this quarter, PC Sean Dryden is working from Haddington, and PCs Alan Clark and Gemma Archibald both in Tranent. PC Owen Findlay has headed off to pastures new in the CID. PS Meikle has moved onto response and Stuart Foster is the temporary Sergeant at Haddington.

ELCAT are committed to engaging with all communities in East Lothian, working in partnership with East Lothian Council, and other agencies to provide the best possible service to the public. ELCAT officers were involved in numerous events over the summer months. Marches, Gala day parades, and in particular the Scottish Open Golf event.

ELCAT officers routinely check the high risk nominals in East Lothian who are currently subject to bail curfew conditions. This involves random checks of the addresses to ensure the nominals are complying with their bail conditions. 15 people were arrested and reported for breaching their bail conditions during this quarter. Many of these bail curfews are because the nominals are high risk or serial domestic offenders.

ELCAT regularly patrol the antisocial behaviour hot spots and in addition to this the team organised a day of action against illegal off road bike users. Local farmers had contacted Police in both East Lothian, and the Scottish Borders to complain about a large number of off road bikers arriving and damaging land, property and wildlife. We combined resources and 8 vans were traced with off road bikers using them in the Crystal Rigg area of Dunbar and Monynut forest.

Organised crime groups are particularly targeted by ELCAT. The team regularly carry out search warrants for Drugs and weapons. 8 persons were reported for drugs offences by ELCAT during this quarter.

Appendix: Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	334	579	11.62	52.68
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	1.4	1	0.02	100.00
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0	0	0	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	1.8	2	0.04	100.00
Attempted murder	11	8	0.16	87.50
Serious assault	136.4	162	3.25	75.93
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	43.2	72	1.45	66.67
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	83	1.67	77.11
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	2	0.04	50.00
Domestic Abuse (Total)	N/A	85	1.71	76.47
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	36.4	37	0.74	91.89
Threats and extortion	38.6	181	3.63	2.21
Other group 1 crimes	20.6	31	0.62	67.74
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	562.6	668	13.41	53.74
Rape	103	98	1.97	58.16
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	5.2	3	0.06	33.33
<i>Rape and attempted rape - Total</i>	108.2	101	2.03	57.43
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	5.8	0	0	-
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	161.4	189	3.79	52.91
Lewd & libidinous practices*	48.8	28	0.56	57.14
<i>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</i>	216	217	4.36	54.84
<i>Prostitution related crime - Total*</i>	0.4	0	0	-
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	28.2	39	0.78	87.18
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	48.4	75	1.51	61.33
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	10	17	0.34	35.29
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	19.6	32	0.64	56.25
Public indecency (common law)	6.2	2	0.04	100.00
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	81.2	124	2.49	41.94
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	8.2	11	0.22	63.64
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	36.2	50	1	34.00
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	0	-
<i>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</i>	238	350	7.03	52.00
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	4247	4535	91.04	24.23
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	174.8	268	5.38	22.39
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	141.4	123	2.47	13.82
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	167.8	98	1.97	30.61
<i>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</i>	484	489	9.82	21.88
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	98.8	102	2.05	6.86
Theft of a motor vehicle	214.2	215	4.32	30.70

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Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	251.4	162	3.25	16.05
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	17.2	25	0.5	12.00
<i>Motor vehicle crime - Total</i>	581.6	504	10.12	20.24
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	62.6	58	1.16	5.17
Common theft	1194.4	1141	22.9	16.30
Theft by shoplifting	1097.6	1366	27.42	38.43
Fraud	513.6	721	14.47	11.79
Other Group 3 Crimes	313.2	256	5.14	35.55
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	2040	2122	42.6	27.33
Fireraising	125.8	158	3.17	15.19
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	1797.8	1807	36.27	27.23
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	2.6	2	0.04	50.00
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	108.4	135	2.71	45.19
Other Group 4 Crimes	5.4	20	0.4	10.00
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	2177.4	2201	44.18	94.64
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	90.4	88	1.77	82.95
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	83.8	87	1.75	97.70
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	70.6	142	2.85	74.65
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	40.2	74	1.49	77.03
<i>Total offensive/bladed weapons</i>	285	391	7.85	82.10
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	31.6	29	0.58	75.86
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	106.6	88	1.77	87.50
Bringing drugs into prison	10.8	0	0	-
<i>Supply of drugs - Total</i>	149	117	2.35	84.62
Possession of drugs	913.8	607	12.18	100.82
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	8.6	2	0.04	150.00
<i>Total drugs crimes</i>	1071.4	726	14.57	98.35
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1.2	12	0.24	100.00
Bail offences (other than absconding)	434.6	656	13.17	95.27
Other Group 5 crimes	385.2	416	8.35	98.80
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	5181.4	5681	114.04	66.04
Common Assault	2154.2	2656	53.32	61.14
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	217	229	4.6	99.13
<i>Common Assault - Total</i>	2371.2	2885	57.91	64.16
Breach of the Peace	71.2	45	0.9	86.67
Threatening & abusive behaviour	1876.6	1862	37.38	71.05
Stalking	50	53	1.06	69.81
<i>BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</i>	1997.8	1960	39.34	71.38
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	65.6	56	1.12	92.86
Drunk and incapable	21.6	12	0.24	100.00
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	21	19	0.38	105.26
Other alcohol related offences*	18.4	22	0.44	100.00
<i>Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</i>	61	53	1.06	101.89
Wildlife offences*	20.8	30	0.6	53.33

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Other Group 6 offences	665	697	13.99	54.52
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	3701	3895	78.19	82.26
Dangerous driving offences	135	128	2.57	78.91
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	279.6	272	5.46	101.84
Driving while disqualified	314.2	337	6.76	99.11
Driving without a licence	58.4	38	0.76	97.37
Failure to insure against third party risks	295.2	198	3.97	98.99
Driving Carelessly	727.6	567	11.38	99.12
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	73.4	94	1.89	98.94
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	94.4	83	1.67	92.77
Other Group 7 offences	319	343	6.89	85.71

East Lothian Recorded Crime Overview

East Lothian	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	52.4	116	10.83	52.59
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	0	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	0.2	0	-	-
Attempted murder	1.8	3	0.28	0
Serious assault	19.8	38	3.55	76.32
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	8.6	15	1.4	60
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	7	0.65	100
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	0	-	-
Domestic Abuse (Total)	N/A	7	0.65	100
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	5.2	10	0.93	90
Threats and extortion	5.4	36	3.36	5.56
Other group 1 crimes	3.2	7	0.65	71.43
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	113.8	130	12.14	47.69
Rape	21.8	17	1.59	47.06
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	0.6	1	0.09	0
Rape and attempted rape - Total	22.4	18	1.68	44.44
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	2.6	0	-	-
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	33	31	2.89	45.16
Lewd & libidinous practices*	11.2	6	0.56	33.33
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	46.8	37	3.46	51.35
Prostitution related crime - Total*	0	0	-	-
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	5.2	5	0.47	100
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	10.4	21	1.96	71.43
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	2.6	3	0.28	33.33
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	3	8	0.75	62.5
Public indecency (common law)	1	0	-	-
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	14.4	29	2.71	20.69
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	1.6	1	0.09	0
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	6.4	8	0.75	37.5
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	-	-
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	44.6	75	7	46.67
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	902	1049	97.95	22.78
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	35.6	95	8.87	13.68
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	38.6	38	3.55	10.53
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	39.2	24	2.24	25
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	113.4	157	14.66	14.65
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	22.6	26	2.43	11.54
Theft of a motor vehicle	46	36	3.36	27.78

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Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	50	46	4.3	19.57
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	5	7	0.65	0
Motor vehicle crime - Total	123.6	115	10.74	19.13
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	17.2	16	1.49	0
Common theft	242.6	259	24.19	18.92
Theft by shoplifting	218	271	25.31	39.11
Fraud	108.4	147	13.73	9.52
Other Group 3 Crimes	78.8	84	7.84	29.76
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	403.8	433	40.43	24.25
Fireraising	21.2	25	2.33	28
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	358	383	35.76	23.5
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	1	0	-	-
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	22	21	1.96	38.1
Other Group 4 Crimes	1.6	4	0.37	0
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	443.6	494	46.13	97.17
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	17.6	14	1.31	100
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	17.6	23	2.15	104.35
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	7.4	21	1.96	80.95
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	6	14	1.31	71.43
Total offensive/bladed weapons	48.6	72	6.72	90.28
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	3.6	4	0.37	100
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	18.8	14	1.31	78.57
Bringing drugs into prison	0	0	-	-
Supply of drugs - Total	22.4	18	1.68	83.33
Possession of drugs	194.8	159	14.85	100
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	2.4	0	-	-
Total drugs crimes	219.6	177	16.53	98.31
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0.2	0	-	-
Bail offences (other than absconding)	82.8	148	13.82	95.95
Other Group 5 crimes	92.4	97	9.06	102.06
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	914	1041	97.21	65.61
Common Assault	381.8	498	46.5	61.24
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	35.8	39	3.64	97.44
Common Assault - Total	417.6	537	50.14	63.87
Breach of the Peace	10	13	1.21	100
Threatening & abusive behaviour	336.6	342	31.94	72.51
Stalking	9.8	9	0.84	66.67
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	356.4	364	33.99	73.35
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	11.4	10	0.93	100
Drunk and incapable	3	3	0.28	100
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	8.8	4	0.37	100
Other alcohol related offences*	5.4	9	0.84	88.89
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	17.2	16	1.49	93.75
Wildlife offences*	5.4	6	0.56	33.33

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Other Group 6 offences	106	108	10.08	42.59
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	631.4	638	59.58	82.45
Dangerous driving offences	31.4	24	2.24	91.67
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	53.8	52	4.86	115.38
Speeding offences	39	28	2.61	92.86
Driving while disqualified	10.6	10	0.93	90
Driving without a licence	53	39	3.64	100
Failure to insure against third party risks	129.6	106	9.9	101.89
Driving Carelessly	4.4	20	1.87	100
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	10.2	20	1.87	95
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	58	64	5.98	84.38
Other Group 7 offences	7.4	17	1.59	94.12