



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF POLICE, FIRE and COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE 2023
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS FACILITY**

Committee Members Present:

Councillor Akhtar
Councillor Allan
Councillor Hampshire (Chair)
Councillor McGinn
Councillor McGuire
Councillor McMillan
Councillor Menzies
Councillor Trotter

Police Scotland

Mr B Leathes, Chief Inspector
Mr A Hall, Superintendent

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Group Commander M Landels
Station Commander G Ferguson
Area Commander H Sangster (part meeting)

Other Councillors Present

Councillor C McFarlane
Councillor J Findlay

Council Officials Present:

Ms S Saunders, Head of Communities
Mr K Black, Safer Communities Team Leader

Clerk:

Ms M Scott

Apologies:

SC David Morrison Prevention & Protection

Declarations of Interest:

None

- 1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: POLICE, FIRE & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 21 JUNE 23**

The minutes of the Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee held on 21 June 23 were approved.

2. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR EAST LOTHIAN – Q1 AND Q2 2023/24

Area Commander (AC) Hilary Sangster explained the Local Fire Plan review is now complete and the review report with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Strategic Leader Team prior to submission to before going to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Board. AC Sangster is hopeful to be able to share this before the end of the year. A review of the Local Fire Plan generates the next step of developing the next Local Fire Plan which in current operating context is challenging and AC Sangster referenced the Operational Impact Change document created by the service is a public document and she will arrange for this to be shared after the meeting for Members to look at and can contact her with any questions.

Councillor Hampshire asked if this plan took into consideration the Local Development Plan in East Lothian and the growth we are delivering and if the next plan would also do this. AC Sangster explained the review is a look back at what the service said they would do and the evidence to support our work towards the KPI's including partnership working and for the development of the next Local Fire Plan the service will engage and consult with all partners, stakeholders and the public as part of the development process which will inform future focus and key performance indicators within the plan.

AC Sangster then advised the chair of the need to leave the meeting and introduced GC Mark Landels to present the SFRS performance report.

Group Commander Mark Landels, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service presented a report on the performance of the Fire and Rescue Service in East Lothian over Quarters 1 and 2 of 2023/24. He spoke in detail to the report and highlighted the key indicators of:

- i) Reduction of False Alarms (all)
- ii) Reduction of all accidental fires
- iii) Reduction of Special Service
- iv) Reduction of False Alarms – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
- v) Reduction of Special Service – Road Traffic Collisions
- vi) Reduction of Special Service – Fatalities
- vii) Reduction of Special Service – Road Traffic Collision casualties

and provided a thorough outline in each of these areas.

Councillor Trotter asked how much each call out to a deliberate fire costs the service and if the people responsible are caught are they liable for this cost. Mr Landels explained as the Fire and Reservice is an emergency service they are operationally available and whether it is a real fire or a false alarm they would attend a 999 call. He added Police Scotland do the follow up and if the case reached court then they would decide the outcome but the Fire Service do not receive any finances. Mr Landels explained the service try to reduce these types of call outs by local operational crews engaging with youth at the actual incident and also through the Community Acton Team who target areas through intelligence to promote youths not to make such calls. Mr Landels stated he would be able to find out the specific costs for Councillor Trotter and pass these on after the meeting.

In response to a question from Councillor Hampshire, Mr Landels explained if there is anyone in attendance at a deliberate fire when services arrive then staff will engage with them to explain the dangers of starting these fires to try and limit this happening again. He added that the service also visits schools to get this message across and thematic action plans deal with

seasonal risks in the summer months. Mr Landels explained Fire and Rescue also work with Police Scotland to try to identify areas to take a joint approach on speaking with individuals if the Police are also called to frequent events to hammer home the message to not start wilful fire raising.

Councillor McGinn asked if Mr Landels had any information on the numbers for retaining fire fighters in the county. Mr Landels stated the service is actively recruiting and maintain an open policy for recruitment all year round as the numbers at some stations are not as high as the service would like. He added that procedures have changed and members of the community can now come into stations to be told about the role and to try and improve recruitment we give them information on levels of fitness required and tests that will be applied during the process. Mr Landels confirmed it can be a challenge to retain fire fighters but recruitment is open all year round online and is reviewed monthly in terms of progressing candidates through each stage. He explained the Virtual Recruitment Team monitor the numbers and an update can be given on these for the whole of Scotland at the next meeting.

Grant Ferguson, Station Commander presented the East Lothian Prevention and Protection Activities including Home Fire Safety Visits, Home Fire Safety Referrals, Partnership Working/Youth Engagement, Fire Safety Support and Education and Safeguarding. Mr Ferguson explained that at the time the report was written work was underway to prepare for the Bonfire period and as with previous years was planned and coordinated with other partners including the Local Authority and Police Scotland. Mr Ferguson stated that between August and September 4 Fire Safety and Anti-social Behaviour Bonfire talks took place at Dunbar Grammar and North Berwick High Schools to try and avoid heightened anti-social behaviour. Mr Ferguson gave a summery of events over the 5th and 6th of November highlighting there were no acts of violence against staff within East Lothian, there were 7 call outs to bonfires and 1 officer from Haddington was sent to Edinburgh to help with issues there which showed testament to East Lothian's reliance.

In response to a question from Councillor Akhtar, Mr Ferguson explained when comparing with the previous years data it is similar. He added that he would continue to encourage our partners to make these referrals for home safety visits and to boost that process, the service could reach out to partners to make them aware of this. Mr Landels explained the Group Commander in charge of Prevention and Protection continues to actively promote this and staff are trained constantly on identifying risks within the home as well as emphasising the importance of these referrals especially for our most vulnerable.

Councillor Hampshire asked how we can engage more with young people to make it clear setting up a fire in woodlands is not a safe thing to do and if there was anything Councillors could do in partnership with Fire and Rescue through the community, wardens or protection officers and community development officers to try and identify the individuals involved to try and engage them in other activities away from having these fire. Mr Landels said he would speak with the Liaison Officer for East Lothian to pass on the offer of assistance to further reduce this type of anti-social behaviour.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

3. POLICE SCOTLAND SCRUTINY REPORT – THE LOTHIAN AND SCOTTISH BORDERS – Q3 AND Q4 2022/23

Police Scotland had submitted a scrutiny report to update members on their work during Quarters 1 and 2, 2023/24.

Chief Inspector (CI) Ben Leathes, Police Scotland, spoke in detail to the report, highlighting the local policing priorities of:

- i) Protecting the most vulnerable people
- ii) Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour
- iii) Reducing acquisitive crime
- iv) Improving Road Safety and
- v) Tackling serious and organised crime,

and provided a thorough outline of the report's contents.

Councillor McGuire thanked Police Scotland for all their hard work behind the scenes. He commented that he found it astonishing there had been a reduction in speeding cases as this was the biggest complaint he received as a Councillor. CI Leathes stated the complaints received through the CAPR are in relation to the 20mph speed limits which the policy of the Police is not to enforce but to educate residents and the community on the use of those limits. He added if someone was speeding over and above the Police would and have taken action on this.

In response to a question from Councillor Allan, CI Leathes explained the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme he mentioned is virtual and relied on residents signing up online to receive alerts specific to your postcode. He did not think physical Neighbourhood Watch groups were particularly prevalent.

Councillor Akhtar asked what strategies were in place to enable officers to be able to spend more time on the issues detailed in the report and not on issues that are not crime related. CI Leathes explained the work Police Scotland are doing with the NHS is about trying to refer people to the correct agency but the Police will continue to attend anyone who feels unsafe or in crisis even though they are not always the best placed agency to do so. He added that if possible calls will be diverted when they come into the control room but often the Police will still be required to ensure the safety of individuals especially if they are incidents of violence. CI Leathes said officers would then determine if an individual required further support which is where the Police Concern Form Pathway would come in. He made Members aware a new pathway has been opened up to refer any drug, alcohol and mental health concerns directly to the NHS as well as existing pathways established through Adult Protection, Child Protection and third sector involved and the Domestic Abuse Team. CI Leathes stated that if other agencies could be utilised for calls received for domestic incidents that are not violent such as support on child contact then the Police would see a reduction in the need for people to involve them. Superintendent Andy Hall added there had been media reporting regarding decisions made by the Met on calls they will and wont attend in the future but he explained Police Scotland were in a different position as they legislatively set up a different focus so even though 80% of incidents they attend are not crime related they are not going to step back from those 80% but instead will look to bring in partners and look at ways to better resolve those incidents. He added police officers are not always the best people to attend the incidents they are at the moment but they are the only service on at the time some of the calls come in. Superintendent Hall stated the service has a new Chief Constable who has reiterated her commitment to community policing.

Councillor Akhtar also asked for more information on the Police office space within East Lothian. CI Leathes stated there are 6 stations within the county that have all been in existence for a long time and contain legacy cells which are no longer used but they are built into the space and are very difficult to change. He added officers increasingly require more space due to having more equipment which needs to be stored so this would need to be taken into consideration when looking at if estates are fit for purpose in 21st century policing. CI Leathes noted officers are now able to be more mobile than they used to as crimes are directly input

onto the system and there is no need to return to a nearby station as well as having access to a number of different transport options. He explained there is also a need to look at what facilities the existing 6 stations have, what they can have in the future and what can the service do better in terms of providing a better facility especially in terms of officer welfare as they need to feel safe. Superintendent Hall added that although Police Scotland are looking at the estate strategy it does not mean they will be taking officers out of the 6 stations in East Lothian it just means the buildings may be changed but would be looking at opportunities to locate them so they are available to communities.

In response to Councillor Hampshire, CI Leathes confirmed any plan Police Scotland make would be presented to the local authority and communities.

Councillor McGinn stated as the Chair of Fa'side Park the support he has received from Police Scotland has been fantastic and he greatly appreciated it. Councillor McGinn asked if it would be possible to report on the number of assaults and attacks on officers and if there was a lack of resources to be investigated more minor crimes. CI Leathes explained the pilot being referred to is in a particular part of the country and at this point in time any crime reported to the Police within East Lothian is investigated but the aim is devote officers time to crimes with the best chance of being solved, where is evidence and a positive line of enquiry to pursue. He added that more minor crimes such as shed break ins and vandalism have very few opportunities evidentially therefore the Police don't want to spend a lot of time on them. CI Leathes stated officer assaults are taken very seriously and each morning the report of any assault is taken to the Senior Management Team with a specific structure in place so any officer who has been the victim of one or numerous assaults enters into a pathway of support. He added that management will look to see if there has been a training issue or it was just the circumstances at the time. CI Leathes expressed the importance of making sure officers get physical and psychological support to ensure they do not have a fear of returning to work adding that Police Scotland had access to good counselling support and HR advisors to support officers.

In response to questions from Councillor McMillan, Superintendent Hall stated it is always nice to receive positive feedback for staff to know they are supported by the community and would encourage members of the public to continue to do so through the Command Team to pass on the message to individual officers. He added the Divisional Award Ceremony had taken place recently where outstanding work from across the division was recognised. In regards to contacting the Police, he highlighted the challenges of having a mobile number and how calls were best to be directed through the call centre but did recognise the challenges getting through on 101. Superintendent Hall confirmed completing a report with this much detail does take effort on every level but it is seen as an investment to allow discussions between Police Scotland and the Local Authority. CI Leathes echoed Superintendent Hall's comments on positive feedback.

Councillor McMillan stated that communication through a dedicated phone line or email would be useful as things like speeding issues are often reported to local Councillors instead of the Police due to the 101 system being extremely time consuming. He added if offices change then looking at systems that compensate being able to stop officers in the way in and out.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Scrutiny Report.

4. TACKLING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Executive Director for Place had submitted a report to advise the Committee on the number, type and geographical breakdown of antisocial behaviour complaints received by East Lothian Council during the reporting period (1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023) and to advise on actions taken in response to same.

Kenny Black, Team Manager - Safer Communities Team, spoke to the report in detail, highlighting the overall number of Antisocial Behaviour Complaints, themes for complaints (noise, youth, drug misuse, and others including shouting, swearing and neighbour disputes), a breakdown of complaints by place, comparisons to the equivalent reporting period in 2022/23. Mr Black noted during the reporting period there were 133 referrals to the mediation service, 14 live Antisocial Behaviour Orders in East Lothian, two live eviction cases before Edinburgh Sheriff Court, the Multi-agency Adult Case Monitoring Group were currently monitoring the behaviour of 56 individuals within the community who are involved in more serious, complex and persisting cases of anti-social behaviour. Mr Black made reference to the ongoing work of various groups to address anti-social behaviour and the joint agency work that took place during the reporting period with a view of refreshing the joint Police and Council Anti-social Behaviour Strategy. He stated the hope is to have the new strategy published by the Summer of 2024 following a public consultation. Mr Black reported there were 61 joint Police/Council letters sent to parents of children and young people whom the Police had identified as being present in instances and areas affected by anti-social behaviour and gave an update on recent implemented recommendations made by the service review of the Council's Protective Services division.

Councillor Akhtar acknowledged the downward trend and thanked the Anti-social Behaviour Team for all their work behind the scenes to get numbers to the level they are currently at. Councillor Akhtar wanted to know that the new Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy would be shared widely to partners and members of the local community in moving forward in different ways we can tackle anti-social behaviour. Mr Black assured Members a widespread consultation will take place both internally with partner agencies and with the wider community.

Councillor McMillan commented it was great to see the partnership working to engage young people and communities and thanked Mr Black and his team for their hard work.

Councillor Hampshire asked if there had been an improvement in the court timeframes as there had previously been a long delay. Mr Black confirmed the delay for civil cases is much less than it was during covid and the court diary for cases he is directly in have now almost returned to pre-covid levels.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

6. PFCSSC DRAFT ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2023/2024

A draft annual work programme was presented to Committee.

CI Leathes highlighted the Police figures would not be available until the second week of June so requested a change of date for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the programme.

Signed

.....

Councillor Norman Hampshire
Convener of the Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee



2

East Lothian Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Final year – 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.



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.

Contents of Report

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities	4
Introduction	5
<i>Performance Summary Report</i>	6
<i>Executive Summary</i>	7
<i>Protecting the most vulnerable people</i>	
<i>Missing Persons</i>	8
<i>Domestic Abuse Incidents</i>	9-10
<i>Racially Aggravated Conduct</i>	11
<i>Crime (Group 2)</i>	12
<i>Drugs supply, Production & Cultivation</i>	13
<i>Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour</i>	
<i>Crimes of Violence (Group 1)</i>	14
<i>Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour</i>	15-16
<i>Reducing Acquisitive Crime</i>	
<i>Dishonesty (Group 3)</i>	17
<i>Housebreaking</i>	18
<i>Improving Road Safety</i>	
<i>Road Safety</i>	19-20
<i>Tackling Serious & Organised Crime</i>	
<i>Tackling Serious & Organised Crime</i>	21
<i>Complaints About the Police</i>	22-23
Appendix	
<i>Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview</i>	24-26
<i>East Lothian Crime Overview</i>	27-29

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

<p>Protecting the most vulnerable people</p> <p>Protect vulnerable people to prevent abuse, neglect & exploitation.</p> <p>Implement a delivery model supporting a Violence Against Women & Girls Prevention Strategy.</p> <p>Implement the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.</p> <p>Proactively target domestic abuse offenders.</p> <p>Develop partnership approaches to improve public confidence to report incidents of harm & abuse.</p>	<p>Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Work collaboratively to identify and target violent offenders.</p> <p>Increase awareness of the impact of violence & antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Work in partnerships to reduce alcohol related criminality.</p> <p>Collaborate to capture the under reporting of violence & explore preventative approaches (i.e. Navigator).</p> <p>Develop night time economy plans with licensed premises & promote participation in 'Best Bar None'.</p>	<p>Reducing acquisitive crime</p> <p>Focus on domestic housebreaking.</p> <p>Raise awareness of current crime trends & prevention tactics.</p> <p>Tackle emerging acquisitive crime patterns to identify & target prolific offenders.</p> <p>Work to prevent acquisitive crime.</p> <p><small>OFFICIAL</small> In partnership, maximise support for victims of acquisitive crime.</p> <p>Work with Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC).</p> <p>Use Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to deliver crime prevention information.</p>	<p>Improving road safety</p> <p>Collaborate on the engineering of the roads through our communities to improve road safety.</p> <p>Detect offenders who disregard road traffic laws & endanger others.</p> <p>Support partnership driver education programmes.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the consequences of speeding, not wearing a seat belt, drink or drug driving & using a mobile phone while driving.</p>	<p>Tackling serious & organised crime</p> <p>Work to divert people from becoming involved in serious & organised crime & using its products (drugs, counterfeit good etc).</p> <p>Use social media to raise awareness and educate about human trafficking.</p> <p>Work to prosecute those involved in serious organised crime, including online, 'cuckooing' & 'county lines'.</p> <p>Maximise the disruption of serious organised crime groups.</p> <p>Target the production, cultivation & supply of illegal drugs.</p>
---	---	--	--	--

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 Keeping people safe 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 March 2024 and are compared against the five year average. 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).

Performance Summary Report

East Lothian Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: April 23 – March 2024

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 4,241

Crime Increase: 16%

Protecting the most vulnerable people

Domestic
Bail Offences

26%



91 (37 > 5YA)

Missing
Persons

17%



64 <5YA

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour

Hate
Crime

81



10 < 5YA

Serious
Assault

49%



52 (18>5YA)

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Housebreaking

14%



271 (36 > 5YA)

Acquisitive Crime

20%



2012 (234>5YA)

Improving road safety

Road Traffic
Casualties

-26%



106 (31<5YA)

Serious Organised Crime

Drug supply

33%



47 (12>5YA)

OFFICIAL

Executive Summary

I am delighted to present this end of year scrutiny report and my third as East Lothian Local Area Commander, which covers the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The year has been less marked by major events than previous years, however, it has none the less been challenging in terms of a growth in overall crime levels along with considerable financial challenges and change not least in terms of the end of funded community officers in East Lothian.

The new Chief Constable Jo Farrell has placed trust, confidence and performance in Policing as key areas of focus with operational priorities of effectively managing threat/risk/harm, officer and staff wellbeing and effective problem solving/proactivity/prevention. The Local Policing Plan 2023-2026, which was launched in April last year, remains focused on our Policing priorities and forms the summary headings for this report with a focus on managing threat/risk/harm and the “three Ps” in all areas.

We recognise that the Policing priorities and performance levels that we seek to achieve on behalf of our communities can only be achieved through close partnership working, and that is why an additional school link officer has been added to the existing two, with all three officers continuing the positive work in schools and participating in running East Lothian Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV). Whilst there is no longer funding for community funded officers, we have recognised the importance of maintaining a community policing presence and whilst the community police footprint will be reduced, we will seek opportunities to uplift this resource to support our Community Policing teams.

We will continue long established and close working relationships with key partners through the East Lothian Strategic Partnership and the various sub-groups beneath this. The weekly East Lothian Tactical and Coordination meeting is a central pillar in much of the partnership work undertaken in the community and the growth in membership of this meeting has been central to protecting vulnerable people. We also continue to work with East Lothian Partnership Against Rural Crime (ELPARC) and the National Rural & Acquisitive Crime Unit (NRACU) to deter and disrupt rural criminality and have had several successes through this network in tracing and identifying offenders who are travelling throughout the UK to commit rural crime.

A new venture this year has been the launch of Community Speedwatch which will see the introduction of speed monitoring by volunteer Community Groups supervised by Police officers. It hoped this will offer an opportunity for increased presence, monitoring and enforcement as members of the community assist local officers to enhance the safety of our roads.

Funding and resources remain a constant challenge in the face of a rapidly expanding population in East Lothian and we continue to work closely with key partners and our centralised Estates team on shaping an Estate Enablement plan for the future, which reflects the Chief Constables priorities around staff welfare. We realise consultation on proposed changes is important and will provide opportunities to do this over the coming months.

Despite the challenges of the last year, I am pleased that we have seen an overall decrease in important areas of missing persons, anti-social behaviour and hate crime, however in recognising this there is still work to be done to tackle the increases elsewhere and by working with all our partners we aim to make our communities safer, respectful and more tolerant of others.

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, Police Scotland, on an annual basis undertake over 20,000 investigations into missing people.

In the Lothians and Scottish Borders Division this equates to the following;

- 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
- Year 2023/2024 – 1488 missing person investigations

*different criteria used to count

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.

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. This approach has seen the number of missing persons within East Lothian fall to under 300, however we recognise this is still too many.

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 which is why we have continued to work with care establishments on a daily basis 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 place.

We have continued to raise awareness of the Philomena, Herbert and Autism Missing Person Protocols to protect those individuals most at risk of going missing. These protocols apply to individuals living in a care setting and in their own homes.

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 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Her Majesty's Coastguard and Mountain Rescue teams, to safely trace a number of High Risk missing persons and are ever grateful for their continuing support.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Domestic Abuse Incidents
---	---------------------------------

	5yr Average	2023/24	% difference from 5yr ave
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	1168.4	1233	5.5
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	635.6	674	7.7
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	40	41.4	1.4
Total crimes and offences detection rate	67.2	65.9	-1.9
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	64	91	26.4

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, cohabiting, 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) and a commitment to the Scottish Government Equally Safe Strategy is a national strategic priority for Police Scotland and these priorities are addressed through specific local partnership forums. 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.

A dedicated Domestic Abuse enquiry team of 2 officers seconded from frontline duties and based at Tranent Police Station exists to ensure that any criminal incident which cannot be immediately resolved at the time is investigated promptly. Over 100 reports have been submitted by this team since they started in February last year on top of which it provides officers which a chance to develop skills in relation to domestic abuse investigation which they then take back to their response teams, further strengthening the zero-tolerance approach to domestic abuse.

This year we have seen the overall number of domestic incidents and crimes recorded increase slightly against the 5-year average driven in large part by an increase in domestic bail offences. We have also seen an increase of

4% in detection rates compared to the same reporting period last year which is encouraging and more in keeping with overall levels of performance on the 5-year average.

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 have seen a sizeable increase of such detections compared to the same reporting period last year. It should be noted that this continues to be in line with more offenders being on bail 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 increased year on year and are managed by our Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Unit.

Later this year officers from across East Lothian will support the 16 days of action for the Violence Against Women and Girls and in addition to this we will continue to support other national campaigns such as "DON'T BE THAT GUY" aimed at encouraging peers to challenge abusive and unacceptable behaviour as well as carrying out prevention and education work in our schools and higher education establishments.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.

Hate Crime

East Lothian			
	5-year average	2023/24	Per 10,000 population
Hate Incidents	112.8	110	10.3
Hate Crimes	91.2	81	7.6
Hate Crime Detection Rate	67.8	65.4	

The new Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 is defined below and went live on **1st April 2024**.

HATE INCIDENT - 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 characteristic group, but which does NOT constitute a criminal offence (non-crime hate incident).

HATE CRIME - Any crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated (either wholly or partly) by malice and ill will towards a characteristic group listed in the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021

In Scotland, prior to April 2024, the law recognised hate crimes as motivated by prejudice based on:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity

From 1st April 2024, this was extended to include Age and Variations in sex characteristics.

This period has seen an overall decrease in both the numbers of hate crime and hate incidents compared to the 5-year average. This reflects the positive work undertaken by local Community officers 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 continue to implement "Keep Safe" 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.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.

Sexual Crimes
(Group 2)

Crime Type	5 Year average	2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 2	222	249	12%	23.3	45.4%
Rape & Attempt Rape	40	44	10%	4.1	38.6%
Indecent/Sexual Assault	87.6	81	-7.5%	7.6	42.0%
Other Group 2	104.3	124	29.2%	11.6	50%

Overall, group 2 sexual crimes have increased in the area of non-contact offences however serious contact offences such as rape have remained stable and most positively indecent and sexual assaults have fallen when compared to the 5-year average.

Many of the other group 2 crimes recorded are non-contact offences perpetrated over the internet or through communications devices used by young people. Often suspects are from out with East Lothian which poses its own challenges in terms of identifying and bringing offenders to justice however we recognise that in the case of our own young people there is work to be done in partnership with schools.

Our school link officers are a vital part of prevention work and continue to provide inputs on internet safety to our young people to raise awareness and keep them safe. The You, Me, Together approach which was part of a pilot undertaken in Dunbar High School, raising awareness of Violence Against Women and Girls, is now live across the country and our school link officers are concentrating their efforts in line with the style of offences being reported.

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.

We have worked in partnership with Queen Margaret University to support the Violence Against Women and Girls agenda and continue to provide "by-stander" training to licensed premises.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.

Drug Supply, Production & Cultivation

Drugs Supply	5-year average	2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	2023/24 Detection Rate
Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation	35.4	47	32.8%	4.4	91.5%

There has been an increase in drug supply charges labelled this year which is reflective of the renewed activity of our Proactive Crime Team based at Musselburgh and our Community Action Teams based at Tranent and Haddington following some excellent proactive work in the county.

We have doubled our number of stop and searches (205) with equivalent rises in positive searches which goes to show that an intelligence led Policing approach targeting the right people in the right place at the right time brings positive results.

We remain committed to preventing the harm caused by the misuse of drugs through enforcement and preventative measures and have continued to refer individuals who have taken a near or non-fatal overdose to support services within 24 hours of police contact.

In addition to this, we have also pioneered the sharing of information with NHS Lothian on those most at risk of harm through addiction to drugs and alcohol, which has seen 56 referrals sent via our Vulnerable Person Database over Q4. This is an area of work which we hope to expand through partners and via the partnership forums such as Community Safety and Justice Partnership and Mid and East Lothian Drugs and Alcohol Partnership.

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Crimes of Violence (Group 1)
---	-------------------------------------

Crime Type	5-year average	2023/24	% Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 1	104.8	192	83.2%	17.9	55.2%
Serious Assault	34.8	52	49.4%	4.9	88.5%
Robbery	17.2	23	33.7%	2.1	60.9%
Common Assault	769	894	16.3%	83.5	62.1%

*Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

We have again seen an increase in group 1 crime with more crime than the 5-year average however it should be borne in mind that this still includes COVID years which does distort the average somewhat. Encouragingly our solvency in many of these areas is improving and is even higher in regard to more extreme crimes of violence such as robbery and serious assault which provides confidence that the more violent offenders are being brought to justice.

Similar to the previous year the increase in group 1 crime can mainly be attributed to an increase in threats and extortion which has nearly doubled from 32 to 59. The vast majority of threats and extortion crimes are “sextortion” offences whereby victims are encouraged to share intimate images or videos with individuals they have met online 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 media platforms and jurisdictions involved. Our focus is on providing support to victims and raising awareness through social media campaigns which we do in partnership with both national (National Crime Agency) and local partners such as local authority education and student bodies to tailor and deliver messages to the demographic groups most impacted (currently ages 18-25).

Both robbery and serious assaults have increased which although concerning on the face of initial statistics, does not necessarily mean the wider public or public spaces are any less safe. Most of this crime occurs has occurred in private space and involves repeat offenders who are often victims themselves due to involvement in other criminality such as low-level drug dealing. Despite these increases our detection rate for serious assaults remains very high at 88.5% meaning that perpetrators face the consequences of their actions.

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

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Reducing Antisocial Behaviour
---	--------------------------------------

Indicator	5 Year Average	2023-24	% Change	Per 10,000 population	2023/24 %Detection Rate
Antisocial Behaviour Incidents	5555.5	4742	-14.6		
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)	711	725	2	67.7	22.2
Fire-raising	38	46	21	4.3	23.2
Breach of the Peace and S38 CJ&L(S) A 2010	661.1	671	1.4	62.7	74.1

We have again seen a significant decrease (813 less) 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.

Despite the withdrawal of funding for community officers in East Lothian we remain hugely committed to tackling the criminal elements of ASB through the weekly tasking and coordinating group undertaken with our partners and through the Community and Police Partnership meetings. Growing the services and activities available for young people is a vital element of this and we have supported a number of projects through our Community Partnership Fund.

In addition, our school link officers work closely with partners to support young people and their families to improve their behaviour and reduce vulnerabilities.

As we move towards the summer months when we expect an increase in visitors to coastline of East Lothian, we are increasing our joint action with the countryside rangers and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to target ASB and accidental fires associated with wild camping.

We continue to advocate around responsible use of the bus network and are engaged with bus companies, local community councils and elected members around concerns over free travel connected to ASB on the bus network as well as disrupting travel into the county by exchanging information on young offenders with Edinburgh Policing division and the utilisation of the team of Special Constables under the Special Initiative Team (SIT).

SIT has deployed across East Lothian to provide a high-profile patrol capability in response to reports of young people causing antisocial behaviour in Dunbar, Tranent, Haddington and Wallyford. On high profile routes around Musselburgh and Prestonpans, the team have carried out road checks resulting in drugs recoveries and numerous items of intelligence being gathered.

The team have worked to assist Community officers to carry out bail checks on well-known criminals in the area to ensure that curfew conditions are rigorously enforced, and ongoing risk to the community is mitigated.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Dishonesty (group 3)
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------

5 Year Average	2023/24	Change	Per 10,000 population	2023/24 Detection Rate
1778.8	2012	20%	187.9	30%

Overall, we have seen an increase in Group 3 Crimes reported this year compared to the 5-year average. Detection rates have increased alongside of this which is reflective of the fact that much of the growth in this area has been through shoplifting and domestic housebreaking which are 2 areas of focus for enforcement.

Shoplifting is a crime linked to both socio-economic deprivation and addiction and it is no surprise that the higher levels of this crime are seen in the more deprived areas of the county. We are working with partners to enforce; target harden and encourage reporting from local businesses as well as divert shoplifters to addiction services and will continue to monitor this crime trend.

Fraud has fallen back as a growth area which is reflective of the multi-agency prevention work however this area of crime remains at around 300 of the reported overall acquisitive crime with most of it being cyber-enabled. We have continued to promote national fraud awareness crimes through our social media accounts. We 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.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Housebreaking
-----------------------------------	----------------------

Crime Type	5 Year Average	2023/24	Change	Per 10,000 population	2023/24 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	83.8	163	94%	15.2	20.2%
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	75.4	35	-54.5%	3.3	11.4%
Other (Business) HB	82.4	79	-4.1%	7.4	44.3%
All HB	241	277	14.7%	25.9	26%

Housebreaking as a collective rose which was primarily driven by a sizeable increase in domestic housebreaking despite encouraging drops in both non-dwelling and business housebreakings. This sizeable increase is primarily driven by offenders in their late teens and early 20s who are often not resident in East Lothian and have targeted domestic houses to steal high value cars and more recently jewellery.

We continue to follow a number of positive lines of enquiry in relation to these after recent enforcement activity but backlogs and delays over mobile phone examination and forensic analysis mean further detections are still outstanding.

Trends in housebreakings are subject to continual analysis and increasingly where they develop there continues to be a cross-boundary element to the offending which takes place over a number of different local authority areas. 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.

Participation in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme is encouraged and something we would ideally like to see more of as this allows real time alerts to be issued in relevant areas. We are continuing to promote the alerts system to have more communities signed up and are participating in a Quad Bike alert scheme which was initially piloted in Midlothian and again alerts those registered to real time criminal activity in their neighbourhood.

	2022/23	2023/24	Change
Fatal	2	4	100%
Serious	40	27	-36%
Slight	95	75	-21%
Total	137	106	-26.2%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	2	1	-50%

	5 Year Average	2023/24	Change
Dangerous driving	54.6	44	-19.4%
Speeding	64.8	37	-42.9%
Disqualified driving	20	18	-10%
Driving Licence	99	77	-22.2%
Insurance	260	241	-7.3%
Seat Belts	11	25	127.3%
Mobile Phones	21	31	47.6%
Drink/Drug Driving Detections	102	99	-3.1%

Sadly, there have been 4 fatalities this year however on review of the site visits and investigations to date there is nothing to indicate any trend in causation factors or that the road layout at these locations requires any immediate improvement.

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 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 and Community and Police Partnerships with the recently launched Community Speedwatch initiative which is a national initiative designed to assist Police and local communities in problem solving around speed awareness and we would want to support and encourage all 6 Community wards to take this up.

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.

Our detection rates have increased in line with this strategy which is reassuring and demonstrates we are deploying officers in the right place and the right time.

Moving forward we will continue with a number of road safety initiatives including National Close Pass to protect cyclists and National campaigns on issues such as mobile phone and drink driving enforcement campaigns will continue throughout the year with the current focus being on a National Seatbelt campaign. As ever these campaigns will focus on casualty reduction on our priority routes.

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime	Tackling Serious & Organised Crime (SOC)
<p>The National Terror Threat level is currently SUBSTANTIAL meaning an attack is likely.</p> <p>We have recently revised the Serious Organised Crime Multi-Agency Action Plan 2024-2027 in conjunction with the East Lothian Council (ELC) and other law enforcement and regulatory bodies.</p> <p>This plan shows we are committed to keeping people safe and disrupting organised crime groups within our community. This Action Plan is based on the revised national strategy to tackle SOC across Scotland. This strategy is about all of Scotland working together to reduce the harm caused by serious and organised crime and has many overlaps with the national CONTEST strategy of which all parties are committed to fulfilling their obligations under that strategy.</p> <p>The action plan is aligned to the four priority themes of the national SOC strategy (2015) which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divert: To divert people from being involved in SOC • Deter: To deter SOC by supporting private, public and third-party organisations to protect themselves • Disrupt: To disrupt SOC Groups. • Detect: To identify, detect and prosecute those involved in SOC <p>The main focus of this Action Plan is on Prevention, and both we and ELC accept that SOC within our communities may not be easily identifiable as it comes in many forms and guises, and before we have the opportunity to react or respond, it has infiltrated our communities and caused harm.</p> <p>To ensure greater awareness of the SOC within our communities, and how best to move towards early and effective intervention, we will develop an evolving training and awareness programme over the lifetime of the Action Plan, for all Police, ELC and East Lothian Health and Social Care (HSCP) staff. ELC's Safer Communities Team will take the lead in facilitating training within ELC and HSCP.</p> <p>This will bring enhanced awareness and ensure that all staff are aware of the existence of the Action Plan and how they can contribute effectively to its success and reduce the harm caused by SOC within the communities of East Lothian.</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>	

Complaints	Executive Summary					
------------	-------------------	--	--	--	--	--

Table: Complaints and allegations received in the East Lothian Council area, by period ¹

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
East Lothian Council	91	98	-7.1%	139	158	-12.0%

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the East Lothian area command as of 31st March 2024.

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.

Table: Allegations received in the East Lothian Council area, by category, type and period ¹

Allegation Category and Type	PYTD	YTD	% change from PYTD
On Duty - TOTAL	85	88	3.5%
Assault	2	1	-50.0%
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	3	200.0%
Excessive Force	4	6	50.0%
Incivility	34	22	-35.3%
Irregularity in Procedure	40	46	15.0%
Neglect of Duty	0	2	x
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	0	1	x
Other - Criminal	0	2	x
Other - Non Criminal	1	2	100.0%
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	3	2	-33.3%
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	0	1	x
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	73	51	-30.1%
Policy/Procedure	14	7	-50.0%
Service Delivery	23	15	-34.8%

Service Outcome	36	29	-19.4%
Grand Total	158	139	-12.0%

1. Data is based on the case received date.

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.

Appendix: Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q4	Per 10,000 Q4 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	676.2	1 032	20.72	57.1
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	2.6	1	0.02	100.0
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0.6	-	-	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	4.4	2	0.04	100.0
Attempted murder	20.6	10	0.20	90.0
Serious assault	258.0	276	5.54	76.8
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	94.8	130	2.61	66.2
Domestic Abuse (of female)	96.2	183	3.67	76.0
Domestic Abuse (of male)	3.0	8	0.16	50.0
Domestic Abuse (Total)	99.2	191	3.83	74.9
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	62.2	86	1.73	108.1
Threats and extortion	95.8	287	5.76	4.2
Other group 1 crimes	38.0	49	0.98	63.3
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	1 114.6	1 384	27.78	51.6
Rape	202.0	211	4.24	53.1
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	9.6	5	0.10	60.0
Rape and attempted rape - Total	211.6	216	4.34	53.2
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	14.0	13	0.26	38.5
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	313.2	396	7.95	47.0
Lewd & libidinous practices*	92.2	73	1.47	60.3
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	419.4	482	9.68	48.8
Prostitution related crime - Total*	0.8	2	0.04	50.0
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	58.4	80	1.61	82.5
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	102.2	129	2.59	62.0
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	21.6	26	0.52	46.2
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	32.4	49	0.98	65.3
Public indecency (common law)	9.4	6	0.12	100.0
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	168.4	267	5.36	42.7
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	17.2	26	0.52	69.2
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	73.2	101	2.03	34.7
Other Group 2 crimes	-	-	-	-
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	482.8	684	13.73	53.1
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	8 489.4	8 634	173.32	27.2
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	376.0	545	10.94	22.4
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	290.4	152	3.05	11.8
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	347.6	242	4.86	39.7
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	1 014.0	939	18.85	25.1
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	193.0	171	3.43	9.9
Theft of a motor vehicle	443.8	407	8.17	33.2

Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	456.4	270	5.42	14.4
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	34.2	37	0.74	18.9
Motor vehicle crime - Total	1 127.4	885	17.77	22.4
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	136.4	163	3.27	14.1
Common theft	2 374.4	2 110	42.36	19.2
Theft by shoplifting	2 191.6	2 644	53.08	43.0
Fraud	1 093.0	1 445	29.01	12.0
Other Group 3 Crimes	552.6	448	8.99	39.7
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	4 035.2	3 936	79.01	26.3
Fireraising	230.4	285	5.72	18.9
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	3 547.4	3 345	67.15	25.7
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	4.6	2	0.04	50.0
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	242.8	259	5.20	46.3
Other Group 4 Crimes	10.0	45	0.90	4.4
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	4 172.4	4 256	85.43	93.5
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	155.0	184	3.69	84.8
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	162.6	154	3.09	97.4
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	131.8	266	5.34	67.3
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	73.8	140	2.81	75.7
Total offensive/bladed weapons	523.2	744	14.93	79.4
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	58.6	51	1.02	84.3
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	202.6	203	4.07	87.7
Bringing drugs into prison	19.2	14	0.28	28.6
Supply of drugs - Total	280.4	268	5.38	84.0
Possession of drugs	1 744.8	1 182	23.73	96.6
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	12.0	4	0.08	100.0
Total drugs crimes	2 037.2	1 454	29.19	94.3
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1.4	14	0.28	92.9
Bail offences (other than absconding)	858.6	1 203	24.15	99.3
Other Group 5 crimes	752.0	841	16.88	96.6
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	9 951.4	10 576	212.30	67.3
Common Assault	4 246.2	4 942	99.21	62.1
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	416.4	456	9.15	99.8
Common Assault - Total	4 662.6	5 398	108.36	65.3
Breach of the Peace	117.0	114	2.29	95.6
Threatening & abusive behaviour	3 484.8	3 405	68.35	72.6
Stalking	100.4	95	1.91	82.1
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	3 702.2	3 614	72.55	73.6
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	119.6	112	2.25	89.3
Drunk and incapable	36.4	29	0.58	100.0
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	28.6	22	0.44	104.5
Other alcohol related offences*	37.4	32	0.64	106.3
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	102.4	83	1.67	103.6
Wildlife offences*	37.6	43	0.86	44.2

Other Group 6 offences	1 327.0	1 326	26.62	55.3
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	7 062.8	8 242	165.45	84.4
Dangerous driving offences	250.6	226	4.54	81.0
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	544.6	585	11.74	99.0
Speeding offences	491.2	252	5.06	98.8
Driving while disqualified	109.0	76	1.53	98.7
Driving without a licence	528.6	455	9.13	100.7
Failure to insure against third party risks	1 378.2	1 276	25.61	99.5
Seat belt offences	122.0	155	3.11	99.4
Mobile phone offences	162.0	155	3.11	95.5
Driving Carelessly	624.0	695	13.95	87.3
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	213.4	1 310	26.30	99.8
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	737.2	683	13.71	100.1
Other Group 7 offences	1 902.0	2 374	47.66	52.3

East Lothian Recorded Crime Overview

East Lothian	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q4	Per 10,000 Q4 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE	104.8	192	17.93	55.21
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	0.2	1	0.09	100
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0.2	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	0.4	0	-	-
Attempted murder	2.4	2	0.19	0
Serious assault	34.8	52	4.86	88.46
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	17.2	23	2.15	60.87
Domestic Abuse (of female)	x	30	2.8	70
Domestic Abuse (of male)	x	0	-	-
Domestic Abuse (Total)	x	30	2.8	70
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	8.2	14	1.31	92.86
Threats and extortion	15.8	59	5.51	8.47
Other group 1 crimes	7	11	1.03	54.55
GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES	222.4	249	23.25	45.38
Rape	38.4	43	4.02	39.53
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	2	1	0.09	0
Rape and attempted rape - Total	40.4	44	4.11	38.64
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	4.8	5	0.47	60
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	64.6	64	5.98	42.19
Lewd & libidinous practices*	18.2	12	1.12	33.33
Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total	87.6	81	7.56	41.98
Prostitution related crime - Total*	0.2	0	-	-
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	9.4	10	0.93	90
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	21.8	30	2.8	70
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	4.2	3	0.28	33.33
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	6.8	10	0.93	60
Public indecency (common law)	1.2	0	-	-
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	32.2	51	4.76	31.37
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	2.8	5	0.47	80
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	15.8	15	1.4	33.33
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	-	-
Other Group 2 crimes - Total	94.2	124	11.58	50
GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY	1778.8	2012	187.88	30.02
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	83.8	163	15.22	20.25
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	75.4	35	3.27	11.43
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	82.4	79	7.38	44.3
Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total	241.6	277	25.87	25.99
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	44.4	32	2.99	18.75
Theft of a motor vehicle	95.4	74	6.91	27.03

Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	92.6	75	7	18.67
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	8.4	9	0.84	0
Motor vehicle crime - Total	240.8	190	17.74	21.05
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	35	42	3.92	26.19
Common theft	459.2	470	43.89	22.55
Theft by shoplifting	429.6	591	55.19	50.25
Fraud	229.6	298	27.83	10.4
Other Group 3 Crimes	143	144	13.45	32.64
GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.	804.2	841	78.53	22.95
Fireraising	38	46	4.3	23.91
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	711	725	67.7	22.21
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	1.6	0	-	-
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	50.2	51	4.76	41.18
Other Group 4 Crimes	3.4	19	1.77	0
GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES	832.4	947	88.43	96.52
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	28	31	2.89	87.1
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	32.6	30	2.8	106.67
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	17.8	35	3.27	77.14
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	11.6	32	2.99	68.75
Total offensive/bladed weapons	90	128	11.95	84.38
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	6	8	0.75	87.5
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	35.4	47	4.39	91.49
Bringing drugs into prison	0	0	-	-
Supply of drugs - Total	41.4	55	5.14	90.91
Possession of drugs	367.2	276	25.77	97.46
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	2.4	0	-	-
Total drugs crimes	411	331	30.91	96.37
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0.2	0	-	-
Bail offences (other than absconding)	159.6	302	28.2	100.33
Other Group 5 crimes	171.6	186	17.37	98.92
GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES	1762.8	1919	179.2	66.81
Common Assault	769	894	83.48	62.08
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	61.4	73	6.82	98.63
Common Assault - Total	830.4	967	90.3	64.84
Breach of the Peace	16	21	1.96	100
Threatening & abusive behaviour	626.6	631	58.92	73.53
Stalking	19	19	1.77	63.16
BOP, S38 & S39 Crim Just & Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total	661.6	671	62.66	74.07
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	20.8	21	1.96	104.76
Drunk and incapable	4.6	9	0.84	100
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	13	6	0.56	100
Other alcohol related offences*	8.4	10	0.93	100
Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)	26	25	2.33	100
Wildlife offences*	8.8	9	0.84	44.44

Other Group 6 offences	215.2	226	21.1	47.35
GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES	1236.4	1285	119.99	84.12
Dangerous driving offences	54.6	44	4.11	86.36
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	102.2	99	9.24	106.06
Speeding offences	64.8	37	3.46	94.59
Driving while disqualified	20	18	1.68	94.44
Driving without a licence	99	77	7.19	101.3
Failure to insure against third party risks	260	241	22.5	100.41
Driving Carelessly	11	25	2.33	100
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	21	31	2.89	96.77
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	113.2	136	12.7	88.97
Other Group 7 offences	15.8	25	2.33	96

3



SFRS Quarter 3 and 4 Report, 1st October 2023 – 31st March 2024

CONTENTS

PAGE

1	Introduction	3
2	Performance Summary	4
3	Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities	4
	<i>Local Risk Management and Preparedness</i>	5
	<i>All deliberate primary fires</i>	6
	<i>All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))</i>	7
	<i>All deliberate fires excl. dwellings</i>	8
	<i>Special Service - RTCs</i>	9
	<i>Special Service Casualties - All</i>	10
	<i>False Alarm - UFAs</i>	11

Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within East Lothian for Quarters 3 and 4 2023-24 (1st October 2023 – 31st March 2024) including information on the year to date figures.

Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 6 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Mar					RAG rating
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	YTD
All deliberate primary fires	45	31	65	62	81	◆
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	8	8	6	9	14	◆
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	183	180	242	221	219	●
Special Service - RTCs	36	25	42	54	34	●
Special Service Casualties - All	42	28	38	49	57	◆
False Alarm - UFAs	531	456	543	607	327	●

RAG rating - KEY

◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

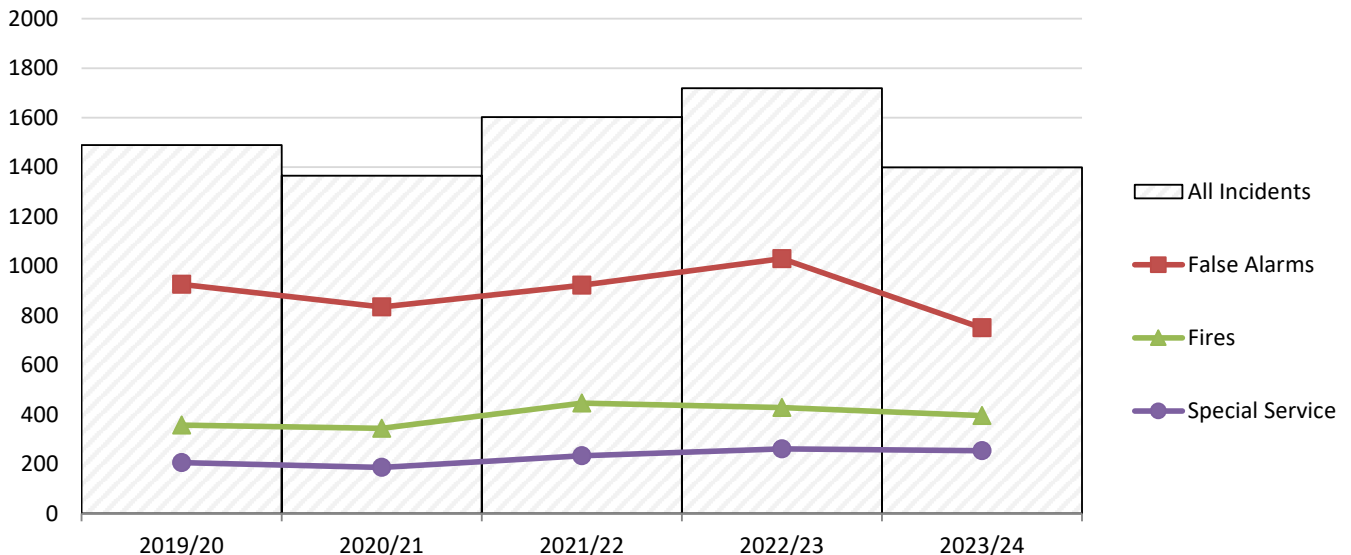
Note

Quarterly comparison RAG Rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods.
 Year to Date RAG Rating = the cumulative total of all quarterly performance in current year compared to cumulative total of all quarterly performance in previous year.

Incident Overview

Year to date (1st October 2023 – 31st March 2024), SFRS responded to 585 incidents in East Lothian, this is a decrease of 191 incidents compared with the same reporting period last year.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within East Lothian council over the last 5 fiscal years



Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities

Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.

We said we would:

- train our staff to deal with our local risks
- gather and analyse risk information
- work with partners to mitigate risks
- deal with major events

Train our staff to deal with our local risks

All of our operational staff undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training.

Gather and analyse risk information

All of our operational staff gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence, used in our preparations to resolve incidents. We conduct Post Incident Debriefs to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events.

We use Urgent Operational Intelligence Briefings to inform our operational staff of any safety critical information.

Work with partners to mitigate risks

We continue to be an active member of the East Local Resilience Partnership.

We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency event risks are mitigated.

Deal with major events

There were no major fire events during the reporting period, tragically, there was one serious dwelling fire which tragically resulted in one Male fatality. Though not in the reporting period, SFRS attended a Level 2 Incident in May '24 at Edenhall Hospital site which resulted in 12 appliances attending the incident over a 7 hour period.

Reduction of 'All deliberate primary fires'

Primary fires can be described as any property such as a residential house or a commercial building, road vehicle, land involving trees or external structure (fencing, garages, garden huts etc). The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in our communities. We share information with partners to make sure that we reduce the risk to members of the community as well as property. Reduction of deliberate primary fires contributes to The Single East Lothian Plan.

Results

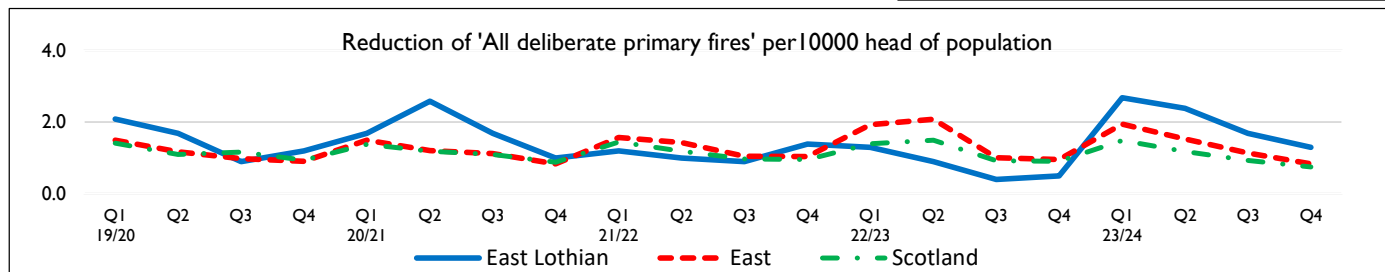
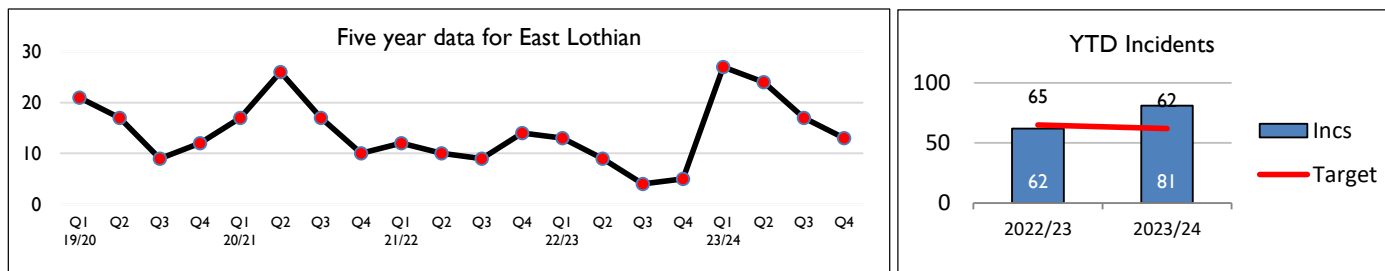
We aim to reduce primary deliberate Fires in East Lothian by contributing towards the SFRS target of 10% reduction per year, over a three-year rolling period. During this quarter, SFRS responded to 30 deliberate Primary Fires, which is an increase of 8 incidents compared with the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population shows the number of incidents in East Lothian is above the Scottish and East Service Delivery Area trend lines.

Reasons

Of the 30 deliberate primary fires attended during the reporting period, 4 involved dwelling & commercial building types, 2 having occurred at the former hospital site at Edenhall. 8 Incidents involved wilful fireraising of vehicles and 10 incidents involving fires in woodland.

Actions

SFRS continue to work in partnership to educate and inform people about the dangers of fire. This included Edenhall, where in April '24 SFRS visited the site along with Police Scotland and NHS estates to discuss recent acts of anti-social behaviour. We routinely engage with schools and target areas where anti-social behaviour involving wilful fireraising is prevalent. Appendix I 'East Lothian Prevention Q3 & Q4 Report' provides further details on our prevention activities. During the reporting period, SFRS conducted a total of 319 HFSV in East Lothian.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 14	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	45	31	65	62	81	
Musselburgh	10	7	9	5	15	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	5	4	11	6	10	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	12	7	16	23	8	
North Berwick Coastal	4	3	3	2	1	
Haddington & Lammermuir	11	3	10	5	13	
Dunbar & East Linton	3	7	16	21	34	

Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities, but also their success in response activity in saving lives.

Results

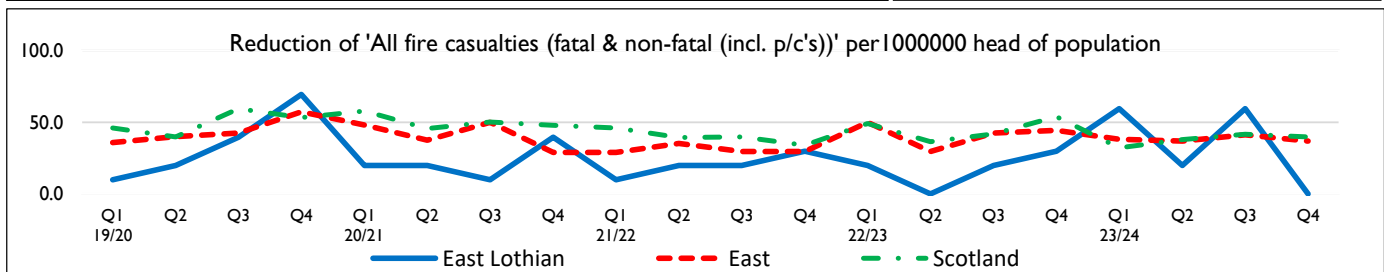
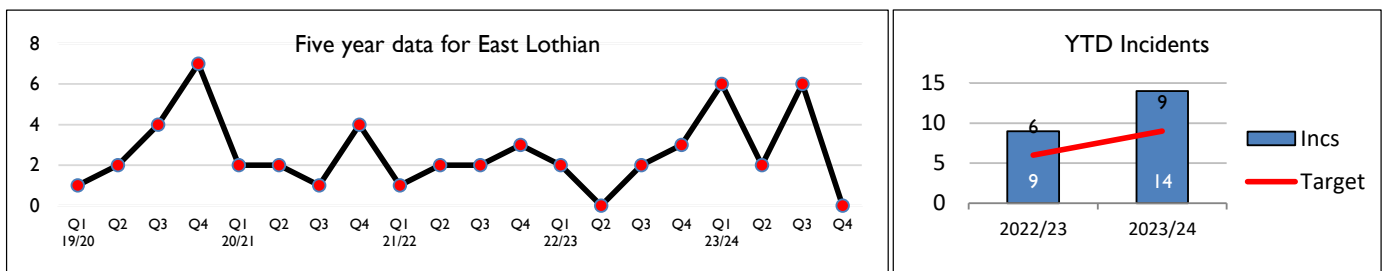
Sadly, 1 person lost their life due to a fire in their home in the 6-month reporting period. We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in East Lothian each per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. In this reporting period there were a total of 6 casualties as a result of fires in the home. This is an increase of 5 when compared with the same reporting period last year. The long-term trend based upon casualties/10,000 population shows East Lothian is performing below the Scottish average and East SDA average.

Reasons

Injuries reported were sustained when persons re-entered the property, injuries included smoke inhalation and burns. Historically East Lothian has low numbers of casualties injured by fire, the trend remains low against the east and national average. SFRS continues to work with partners and stakeholders to further reduce the number of casualties being injured by fire.

Actions

We continue to work with our partners in East Lothian Council and seek opportunities with social work and NHS to target those most vulnerable and at risk from fire. Appendix 1 'East Lothian Prevention & Protection Activities' provides further details on current activities. Appendix 1 provides further details of the preventative work and initiatives to further mitigate the risk by our operational staff and members of the P&P Community Actions Team. Appendix 2 provides detail on SFRS referral process which takes account of GDPR legislation.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 2	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	8	8	6	9	14	
Musselburgh	0	3	1	5	5	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	2	1	2	1	4	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	1	1	0	1	1	
North Berwick Coastal	1	1	1	0	1	
Haddington & Lammermuir	2	2	2	1	1	
Dunbar & East Linton	2	0	0	1	2	

Reduction of 'All deliberate fires excl. dwellings'

Historically deliberate fire setting was not a significant problem for the SFRS in East Lothian, however recent years have shown a distinct increase in this activity and there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. In the main, deliberate fires are secondary fires categorised into refuse/bins, grassland or derelict buildings incidents. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting contributes to the Single East Lothian Plan.

Results

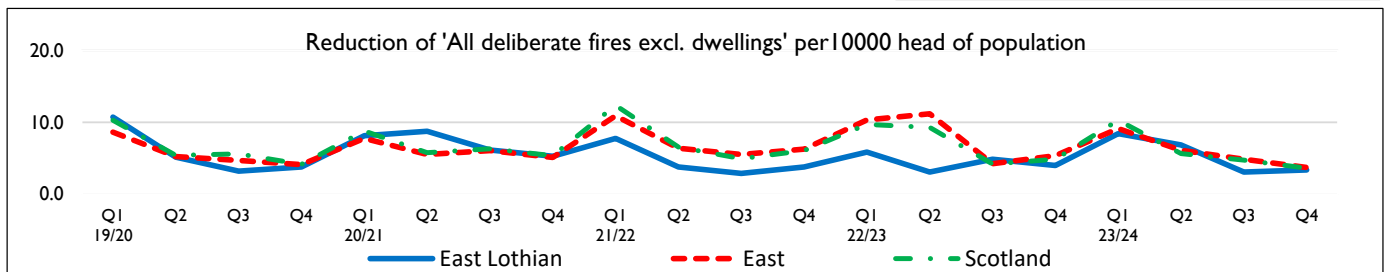
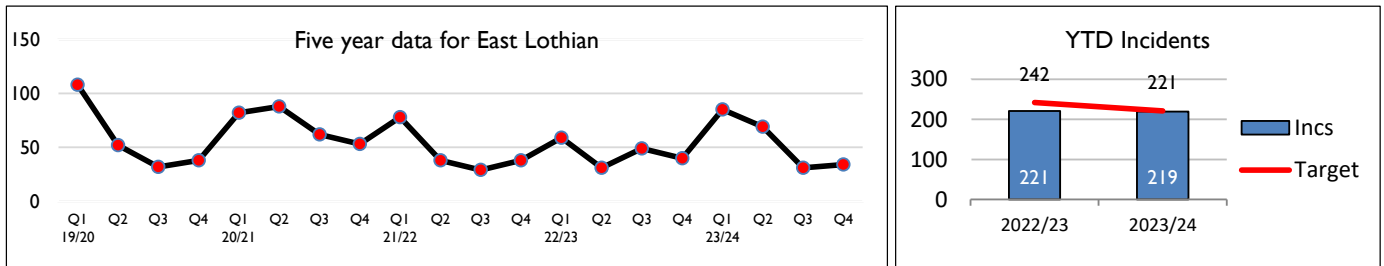
There were 72 deliberate fires (not including residential properties) during the reporting period, this is a increase of 11 when compared to the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population shows East Lothian in line with the Scottish and East Service Delivery Area trend line.

Reasons

Of the 72 deliberate fire incidents, these involved other type of building structures such as 2 incidents at the former Edenhall hospital site, woodland, domestic refuse, vehicles and outdoor structures such as wheelie bins and skips. Appendix I provides further details of the preventative work and initiatives to reduce anti social behaviour involving wilful fireraising.

Actions

SFRS continue to work in partnership to educate and inform people about the dangers of fire. We routinely engage with schools and target areas where anti-social behaviour involving wilful fireraising is prevalent. Appendix I 'East Lothian Prevention Q3 & Q4 Report' provides further details on our prevention activities. During the reporting period, SFRS conducted a total of 319 HFSV in East Lothian.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 37	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	183	180	242	221	219	
Musselburgh	67	51	52	32	49	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	31	38	63	40	46	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	36	54	41	76	39	
North Berwick Coastal	12	6	12	5	6	
Haddington & Lammermuir	17	17	49	31	31	
Dunbar & East Linton	20	14	25	37	48	

Reduction of 'Special Service - RTCs'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single East Lothian Plan, number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.

Results

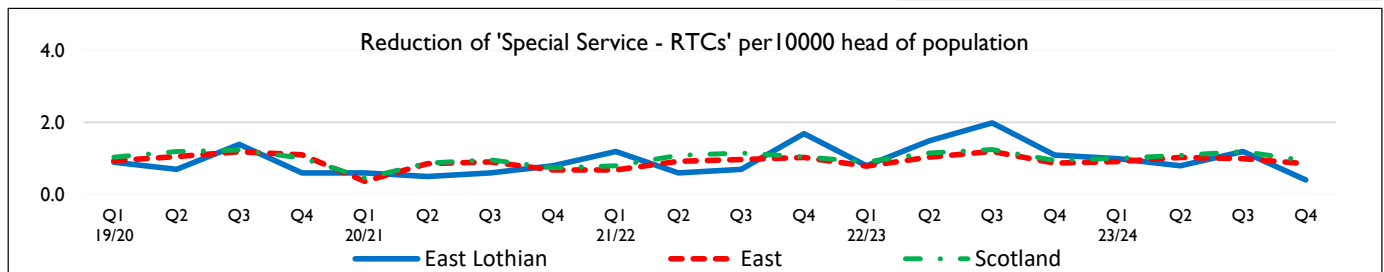
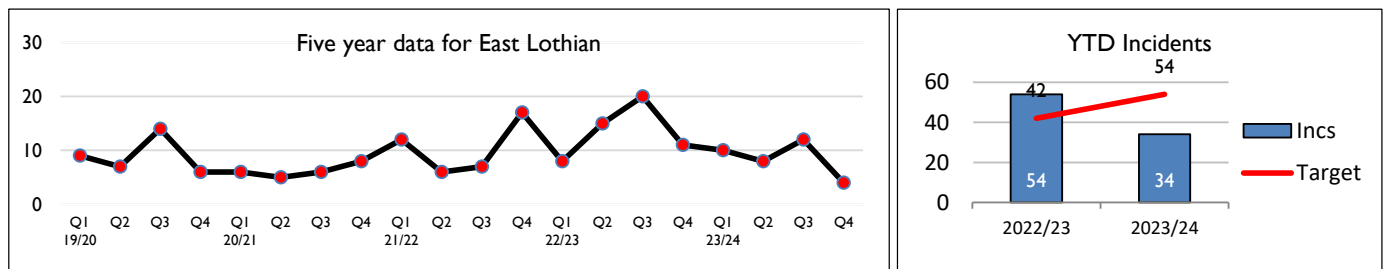
SFRS attended 16 Road Traffic Collisions during the reporting period, this is a decrease of 15 when compared with the same reporting period last year. Of the 16 RTC incidents SFRS attended, there were 13 casualties. Per 10,000 head of population, East Lothian is below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend lines. It should be noted the number of RTCs reported are only when SFRS were requested to attend and does not reflect the actual number of RTCs in the East Lothian area.

Reasons

The SFRS only attend those RTC's they are requested to attend this number does not reflect the total number within East Lothian. When we are called to attend, SFRS crews work to assist Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service to extricate casualties trapped in their vehicles and/or make the scene safe.

Actions

The SFRS is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities. The continued delivery of Tomorrow's Driver programme targeting young people is an excellent partnership approach to reducing road traffic collisions.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 6	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	36	25	42	54	34	
Musselburgh	7	4	5	5	7	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	5	2	3	9	6	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	7	4	4	11	5	
North Berwick Coastal	2	0	8	4	2	
Haddington & Lammermuir	6	7	9	16	7	
Dunbar & East Linton	9	8	13	9	7	

Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single East Lothian Plan.

Results

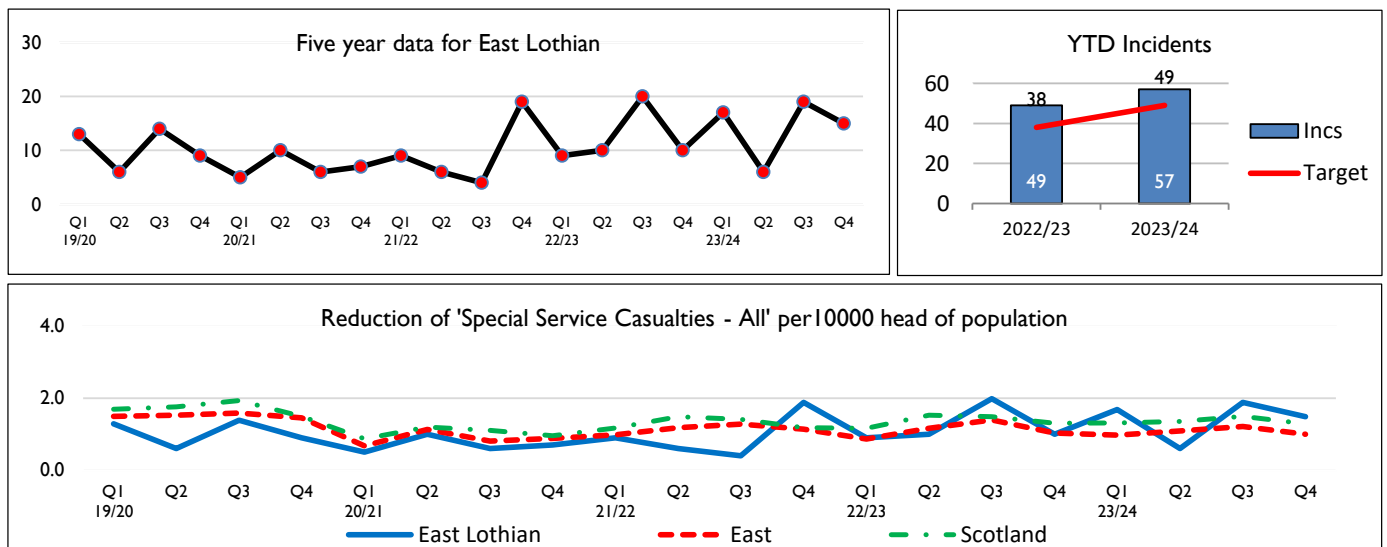
SFRS attended 120 Special Service incident types in the last quarter a decrease of 21 incidents from the same reporting period last year. I am unable to provide exact number of casualties as a result from SS other than the previous communicated RTC casualties. Per 10,000 head of population, East Lothian is performing above the Scottish and in line with the East Service Delivery area trend lines.

Reasons

The majority of Special Services SFRS attended were at the request to assist other emergency services. During the reporting period incidents included: Water Rescue, HAZMAT, OHCA, Effecting Entry, RTCs and Flooding incidents.

Actions

The SFRS in East Lothian will continue to respond to the communities needs in terms of other non-fire emergencies with the overall objective of reducing casualty and fatality rates within East Lothian.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 10	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	42	28	38	49	57	
Musselburgh	11	8	4	13	8	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	6	0	8	6	6	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	6	4	7	9	15	
North Berwick Coastal	6	2	2	2	4	
Haddington & Lammermuir	4	4	9	12	18	
Dunbar & East Linton	9	10	8	7	6	

Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAs'

Fire Alarm Signals are defined as incidents where SFRS have attended but there was no fire. Examples are automated fire alarm system activations, false alarm malicious calls and false alarm good intent. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Results

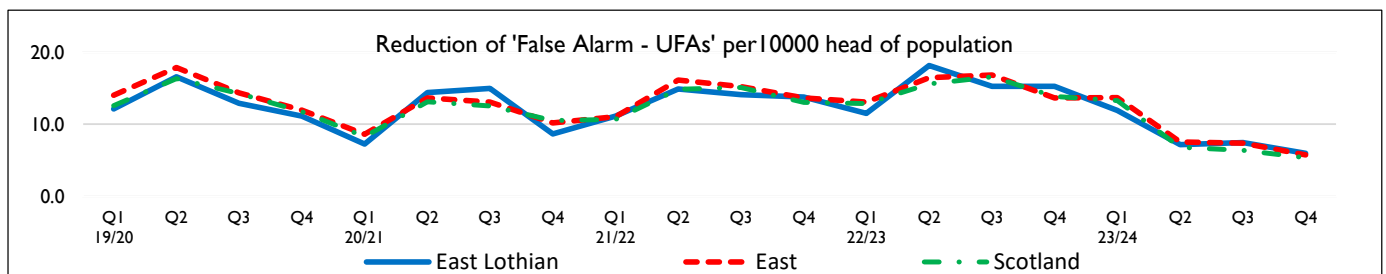
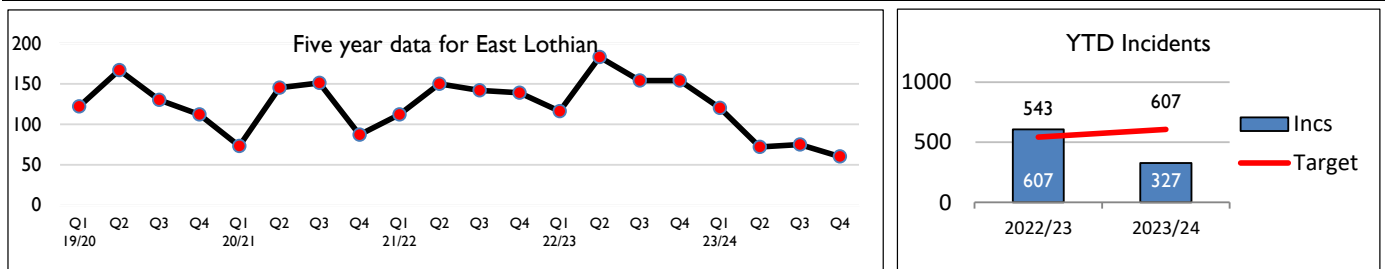
SFRS attended 335 False Alarm incidents during this reporting period, this is a decrease of 165 incidents when compared to the same reporting period last year. East Lothian trend line is performing in line with the Scotland and the East delivery area trendline.

Reasons

The main contributory of fals alarms are caused by cooking in the home. SFRS continues to see reductions in False Alarms, operational staff continue to engage with occupiers and property responsible persons when attending incidents in an attempt to reduce the number of false alarms the service reponds to annually.

Actions

Our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers work closely with premises to reduce further incidents. This includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions in order to prevent future Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incident.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 55	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
East Lothian	531	456	543	607	327	
Musselburgh	146	130	145	156	81	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	54	41	68	58	30	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	66	67	76	107	55	
North Berwick Coastal	86	58	80	79	51	
Haddington & Lammermuir	119	92	100	130	75	
Dunbar & East Linton	60	68	74	77	35	

Appendix 1

East Lothian Prevention & Protection Activities

1st October 2023 – 31st March 2024

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is the enforcing authority for the Fire Scotland Act 2005 and Fire Safety Regulations 2006. The act applies to specific non-domestic premises and requires duty holders to comply with relevant aspects of the Act and Regulations. SFRS responsibilities as the enforcing authority are captured within an Enforcement Framework. The Framework identifies and assigns priority to premises type with those premises deemed as higher risk given priority for auditing purposes. Premise providing sleeping accommodation such as hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels receive an annual audit. Other premises that are subject to audit but deemed lower risk will be visited every three or five years. Within East Lothian we have one Officer who plans and carries out these duties. The Officer is also available to provide Fire Safety advice, consulting with partners such as Local Authority Building control functions and the wider public with Fire Scotland Act 2005 responsibilities.

EAST LOTHIAN AUDITS 23/24	October-March	YTD
	46	105

Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households to provide fire safety advice and smoke alarms, the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. Requests for HFSVs are generated in several ways, including self-referral (**see page 4**), SFRS partners referring and visits carried out after SFRS have attended a domestic fire incident. This is known as Post Domestic Incident Response (**PDIR**), offering a HFSV to the properties and occupants impacted directly by the fire and the wider neighbourhood area.

When a HFSV is generated, the risk within the property is calculated by asking the occupant a number of specific questions. The outcome will be either, High, Medium or Low risk. This outcome determines priority in relation to carrying out the visit and the frequency for future re-visits. The table below highlights the number of visits carried out in East Lothian for this reporting period.

EAST LOTHIAN QRTs 3&4	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTALS	PREV QRTs 23/24	YTD
Ward						
Dunbar & East Linton	12	7	4	23	31	54
Fa'side	19	23	48	90	73	163
Hadd & Lammermuir	12	14	7	33	21	54
Musselburgh East & Carberry	14	20	21	55	44	99

Musselburgh West	14	8	10	32	48	80
North Berwick Coastal	8	21	5	34	30	64
Preston/Seaton/Gosford	13	19	20	52	50	102
TOTALS				319	297	616

Home Fire Safety Referrals

The table below details how HFSVs were generated.

Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR)	133	
Alzheimer's Scotland	1	
East Lothian Occupational Therapists	14	
NHS	2	
Family Member	1	
Police Concern	9	
Self-referral	86	
SP Energy Networks	9	
Social Services	12	
Women's Aid East & Mid	4	
Other	26	
Total	297	

Partnership Working/Youth Engagement

During this period, we delivered a number of safety presentations and talks across all primary and secondary schools within East Lothian. This included, CPR, water safety and participation at **2moro's** driver events. We are currently arranging support for the S4 employability initiative delivered at Musselburgh Grammar School.

Fire Safety Support and Education (FSSE)

SFRS regularly engage with Children and Youths to discourage fire-related anti-social behaviour. This is very successful, however, on occasion we have to undertake additional actions and interventions. Our FSSE policy procedure is used to engage with those individuals who demonstrate an unsafe or concerning interest in fire or have been involved in fire-related antisocial behaviour. Such individuals are normally referred to us via Police Scotland. SFRS have trained members of staff, Fire Safety Advisors (FSAs) who carry out one-one discussion(s) with individuals, highlighting the dangers and consequences of such behaviour. Within the report period, SFRS engaged with **4** FSSE individuals.

Safeguarding

During this period our teams continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support. This has resulted in **16** referrals being processed to Social Services.

Our Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) continues to support the weekly Anti-social behaviour Task and Coordinating Group (TACG) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC).

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Our Local Community Action Team have also been involved with delivery and promotion of the following initiatives during the reporting period.

- Fire Safety in the Home
- Cooking Safety
- Grass & Wildland Fires
- Electrical Safety
- Road Safety
- Festive Safety
- Bonfire Safety

Bonfire Plans.

Bonfire Period Activity

Between 29th October and 8th of November, SFRS attended a total of four (4) secondary fires (refuse or woodland). It is pleasing to report that there were no verbal or physical abuse incidents reported by our staff. These positives outcomes are the result of continued partnership working with Police Scotland and ELC. Our Community Action Team (CAT) play a huge part, delivering talks to all High Schools and various Youth Groups leading up to Bonfire night. Our safety presentations are also available to the wider public via Social Media platforms such as Twitter and YouTube.



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Do you know someone
OVER 50 who
SMOKES?



And do they meet one or more
of the following criteria:

- Living alone?
- Mobility issues?
- Using medical oxygen?

THEY MAY BE AT **GREATER RISK OF FIRE**
AND WE NEED TO REACH THEM!



#MAKETHECALL

0800 0731 999

to book a free

HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT

or text "FIRE" to 80800 from your mobile phone



How to Make a Referral for a Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV)

Guidance for Partner Organisations

Contents

Background	Page 3
What is a Home Fire Safety Visit?	Page 3
Who will benefit from a Home Fire Safety Visit?	Page 4
Premises not suitable for a Home Fire Safety Visit	Page 5
How do partner organisations make a referral for a Home Fire Safety Visit?	Page 5
Problems referring?	Page 9
Assistance from SFRS	Page 10

Background

The main purpose of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is to work in partnership with communities and with others in the public, private and third sectors, to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland.

The number of dwelling fires in Scotland has reduced over recent years. The SFRS is committed to reducing these types of incidents further. It has been identified that there is a clear relationship between risk groups and those who are prone to slips, trips, falls and ill health.

Partnership working is essential, ensuring that those individuals who are at risk from fire are identified.

By 2010 we came to understand that older people were more vulnerable than others so we focussed our attention on these people. As we approached 2015 we identified a clear relationship between our risk groups and those prone to slips, trips, falls and ill health.

Throughout 2018 and beyond our aim is to continue working with partner organisations to keep residents within our communities safe from fire and, where applicable, improve their health and wellbeing.

What is a Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV)?

A HFSV is a comprehensive assessment that examines the levels of fire risk within the home. It usually takes around 30 minutes and is conducted by trained firefighters or Community Action Team members. They are free of charge and include fitting long life smoke detection, where applicable.

Upon request and resources permitting, it is possible to arrange a joint HFSV where a partner agency is also in attendance with SFRS personnel.

It should be borne in mind that where an operational fire crew from a local community fire station conduct the visit it is possible that they may be called away to an emergency incident whilst in someone's property. This is due to fire crews being available to attend emergency incidents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Where applicable, positive intervention, onward referral and/or signposting to partner organisations will be made in an attempt to improve the fire safety, health and well-being of residents throughout Scotland.

Who will benefit from a Home Fire Safety Visit?

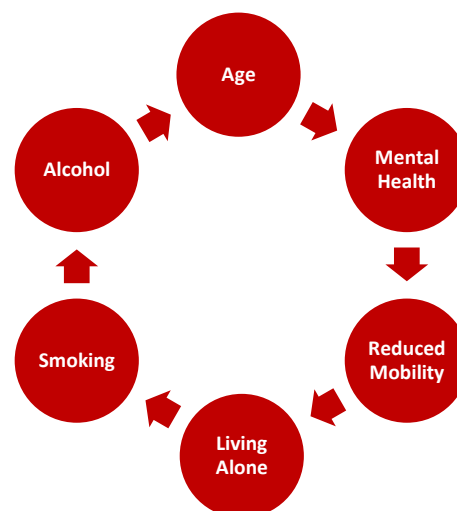
Although HFSVs are available to everyone, we are asking our partner agencies to refer those individuals who identify with a number of risk factors. These can include age, living alone, limited mobility, dependency on substances and lifestyle choices. In addition, we will use the data we collect to better target “at risk” people.

If you have safety, health or wellbeing concerns about anyone you support in a working capacity who meets one or more of the criteria listed below, submit a referral for a HFSV. **Please note that permission must be gained from the service user before you pass their details to SFRS.**

- Over 65 years of age
- Lives alone
- Has a physical and/or learning disability
- Has any sensory impairment
- Is known to be substance or alcohol dependent
- Unable to protect themselves from harm
- Experiencing mental health problems
- Fire risk concerns identified, for example burn marks on bedding, furniture or carpets; electrical faults in the home; unsafe practices with fire, cooking or heating; hoarding; the occupier smokes.

This graph shows a basic profile of people who die in fires.

Source: *SFRS Fire Fatalities and Casualties Analysis Report 2013-2016*



Premises not suitable for a Home Fire Safety Visit

SFRS will not conduct a HFSV in any relevant premises as defined in the Fire Scotland Act 2005, together with any premises which come under the scope of the Care Commission.

Some examples are shown below, however, there may be others in addition to these:-

- Men's/Women's Hostels
- Student Accommodation
- Staff Accommodation
- Nurses Quarters
- Care Homes
- Children's Homes
- Holiday Accommodation
- Caravans
- Properties being used for child minding services if the request is in connection with that service
- Houses in Multiple Occupation. NOTE: An HMO is a property rented out to at least 3 (unrelated) people who share the bathroom or toilet and kitchen

How do partner organisations make a referral for a Home Fire Safety Visit?

1 Ensure your organisation has a registered HFSV referral pathway with SFRS

If individuals within a partner organisation try to make a referral without having an approved referral pathway an error message will pop up advising that they "do not have permission to perform the action".

If your organisation is not already registered, setting up a referral pathway is easy. Your SFRS Local Area representative can assist with this. All that's required is

- 1 Your organisation's domain name (for example, SFRS domain name is @firescotland.gov.uk
- 2 the name of your organisation as it should appear in the drop down of partners listed within the partner referral form

Your SFRS Local Area representative will liaise with SFRS ICT function on your behalf to set up the referral pathway.

2 Individuals within the partner organisation require to register for an account before they can refer

Once the partner organisation is registered, the partner agency link requires individuals within partner organisations to register with a user name (their work email address) and a password of their choice. This ensures a secure connection between

the user and SFRS. If the same computer is used partners shouldn't have to log on every time a referral is made. However, if they use a different computer the system will require them to log on to confirm identity.

Partner organisations do not get full access to the SFRS CSET application. The link opens up a risk rated referral form which, depending on the answers given, lists each request on local community fire station lists in order of who is deemed most at risk.

3 The referral process

A specific URL to SFRS interactive Community Safety Engagement Toolkit (CSET) pre risk rating form has been set up for partner organisations to make a referral for a HFSV on behalf of a client/service user.

Please ensure you have the persons' permission before making the referral.

The link can be accessed through the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service website and the referral made by following the undernoted steps.

Go to www.firescotland.gov.uk

On the landing page of the Scottish Fire and Rescue website, to the right hand side you will see the option "book a home fire safety visit".



🔍 | Menu

Working together for a safer Scotland

We are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland

Quick links

Book a home fire safety visit	→
Find your local fire station	→
Publications	→
About SFRS	→
Contact us	→

- Click on the arrow to the right of "book a home fire safety visit"
- Scroll down to the bottom until you come to "complete our partner referral form" and choose this option. This will open up a blank partner referral form for you to populate, as described undernoted.

Online

[Complete our partner referral form](https://cset.firescotland.gov.uk/thirdparty/hfsv/requestvisit)

You may also save the link to your favourites for easy access.

<https://cset.firescotland.gov.uk/thirdparty/hfsv/requestvisit>

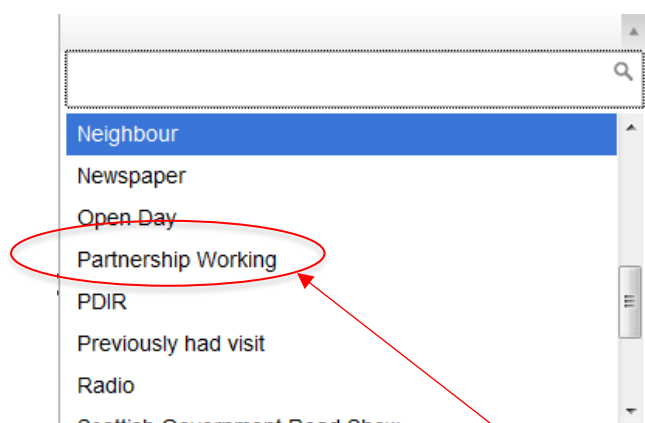
Choose the address of the person you want to refer and complete the risk rating questions. Most addresses should be listed as the address gazetteer is updated periodically.

Make every attempt to ensure accuracy when choosing the address, especially in relation to flat numbers and the spelling of street names.

Complete the form. Each question asked has a score attached to the answer given. This allows us to list each request, with those deemed most at risk given priority. At the conclusion of the visit, if the post risk rating outcome is “high” risk a re-visit will be offered to the occupier one year after the date of the visit.

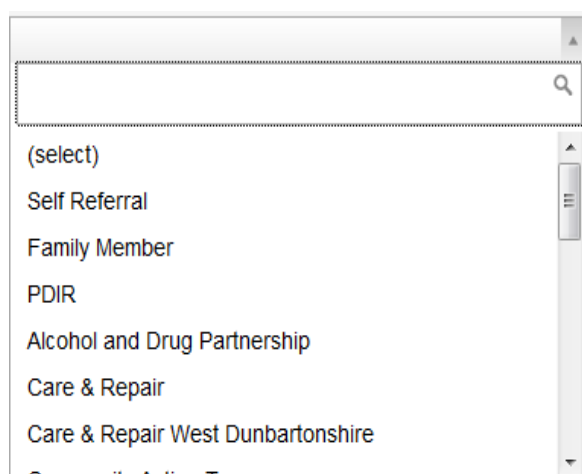
Assistance on how to answer some of the questions can be found undernoted.

How Did You Hear About Us?



Choose “partnership working”

Referrer Details



Choose **(your organisation's name)** from the drop down list.

Question 18

As you are a partner organisation referring a service user and the visit has yet to take place please answer “YES (PREVISIT)”.

18	HAS THIS REQUEST BEEN REFERRED FROM A PARTNER AGENCY?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES (PREVISIT)	<input type="radio"/> YES (POSTVISIT)	<input type="radio"/> NO
----	---	---	---------------------------------------	--------------------------

Referrers Details

Please ensure you choose your organisation name from the drop down and state your own name and contact telephone number in case we need to update you after the HFSV has been conducted.

Your email address can be typed within the “comments” freetext box. This is an efficient way of communicating with you outwith office hours.

Any Other Relevant Risk Information

If you wish to state any further information please use the freetext box at the bottom “any other relevant risk information”. This box can be used to highlight information, examples of which are undernoted. In relation to personal or confidential information, please take data protection into consideration when adding freetext comments.

For example, we do not need to know the exact ailment or medication taken by an occupier. Instead it more useful to know the effects of any medical issues such if it is known that they would be unable to evacuate in an emergency situation.

Any other relevant Risk information:

Disabilities, visual or hearing impairment. Joint visit required etc.

Joint visit requested as occupier has acute anxiety issues

Occupant may take a while to answer the door due to poor mobility

Submit the information. When the user completes the referral and hits the “submit” button, within 3 to 10 seconds the HFSV request will be added to the appropriate station list of outstanding visits in accordance with the address of the property.

The above displays how partner organisations can securely share personal data and supporting information in relation to a service user with SFRS. Partners are requested to use the above detailed method of referral rather than emailing or posting correspondence directly to SFRS employees.

NOTE:

The most secure way of sharing data between your organisation and the SFRS is by using the HFSV partner portal on www.firescotland.gov.uk

Emailed correspondence containing personal data (not sent via egress secure email) will not be accepted by the SFRS, in accordance with GDPR, as it presents a higher risk of data breach.

Problems referring?

An error message such as “you do not have permission to perform this action” will be displayed when there is a problem referring. Possible solutions include –

- 1 Please do not google eg “SFRS Home Fire Safety Visit” as, from the results, you may choose the hyperlink for use by SFRS employees only. Ensure you are using this address/link to access the pre risk rating form: <https://cset.firescotland.gov.uk/thirdparty/hfsv/requestvisit>
- 2 Have you supplied your local SFRS contact with your domain name? (For example SFRS domain name is **firescotland.gov.uk**)
- 3 Could there be expired security information in your web browser? To diagnose and correct this issue follow the steps below:
 - 3.1 Log out of the hyperlink by clicking the dropdown menu arrow next to your name in the top right of the application inside the blue button, then click the “Log Out” button which appears.
 - 3.2 Close and reopen your browser then reopen by using this link: <https://cset.firescotland.gov.uk/thirdparty/hfsv/requestvisit> and attempt to login again.
 - 3.3 If this does not resolve the issue then please use the link below to find the instructions to reset your browser cache and follow them before logging in again.

(This may cause you to lose data such as browsing history and saved logins and passwords from your web browser depending on which options are selected.)

Instructions to reset your browser cache:
<http://www.wikihow.com/Clear-Your-Browser%27s-Cache>
- 4 If you do not receive your confirmation in your work email inbox, check the spam/junk folder.

Assistance from SFRS

If, after trying the above solutions you are still having trouble referring, please get in touch with your local SFRS contact. He or she can then take steps to request additional assistance from SFRS ICT Service Desk, where required.

Thank you for working in partnership with the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.



How to Make a Referral For a HFSV

Version Number 2.0

January 2024

REPORT TO: POLICE, FIRE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING DATE: 12 June 2024

BY: Executive Director for Place

SUBJECT: Tackling Antisocial Behaviour

4

1 PURPOSE

To advise the Committee on the number, type and geographical breakdown of antisocial behaviour complaints received by East Lothian Council during the reporting period (1 October 2023 and 31 March 2024) and to advise on actions taken in response to same.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee notes the terms of the report.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The number of antisocial complaints received by East Lothian Council during the reporting period was 876 bringing the aggregate number of complaints received during 2023 / 2024 to 1803. This represents a 3 % increase as compared to the preceding reporting year (1759).

3.2 Appendix 1 provides a linear analysis of antisocial behaviour complaints made to East Lothian Council from 2019/2020 to 31 March 2024.

3.3 Appendix 2 provides a linear analysis of the number of antisocial behaviour complaints made to East Lothian Council per 100 000 of the population from 2019 to 2024.

3.4 Of the 876 complaints received, 420 related to antisocial noise, 123 were youth related, 96 related to drug misuse with the remaining 237 consisting of, *amongst other things*, shouting, swearing, neighbour disputes, harassment, and verbal abuse. The diagram at Appendix 2 offers a visual representation of the breakdown in terms of case type.

3.5 In terms of *loci*, 35% of the complaints were from Musselburgh and the surrounding environs, 20% from Tranent, 8% from Dunbar, 17% from Prestonpans, 13% from Haddington and 7% from North Berwick. The

diagram at Appendix 3 offers a visual representation of geographical breakdown.

- 3.6 During the reporting period, 89 referrals were made to the mediation service. Following upon a previous review of the way in which lower-level antisocial behaviour complaints were being processed on receipt, cases continue to be, at first instance, referred to the mediation service with a view to diverting parties away from traditional enforcement interventions.
- 3.7 There are 20 live Antisocial Behaviour Orders in East Lothian. There is currently one live eviction case before Edinburgh Sheriff Court. The Antisocial Behaviour Case Monitoring Group continues to meet on a four weekly basis to ensure that the more *serious, complex, and persistent* cases are addressed from a multi-agency perspective; there are currently 53 cases being so monitored, 15 of which are drug related.
- 3.8 The Antisocial Behaviour Overview Group, along with the weekly Tasking and Co-ordinating Group, met throughout the reporting period; the latter of these multi-agency groups, *amongst other things*, informs the deployment of Police Officers, Community Protection Officers, Neighbourhood Outreach Youth Workers, and mobile CCTV cameras, of which there are now 6, to antisocial behaviour “hotspots”, with said deployments being made on an analysis of complaint levels and received intelligence.
- 3.9 Officers continue to participate in the national Antisocial Behaviour Officers Forum, the Scottish Community Safety Network, and the Scottish Mediation Network.
- 3.10 The Overview Group directed a review of the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy in December 2022; a cross-service working group consisting of senior officers and police representatives met twice during March 2023. Following upon those discussions and having received initial feedback from the East Lothian Tenants and Residents panel, work has continued on the preparation of a pre-consultation draft during the reporting period. Work will continue on this strategy review, within available resources, ensuring appropriate public consultation before finalising the strategy through Council governance during 2024.
- 3.11 During the reporting period, 65 joint Police / Council letters were sent to the parents of children whom the police had identified as being present in instances and areas affected by antisocial behaviour; all such letters were copied to Education, Children’s Wellbeing, Police Scotland’s Youth Justice Officer and to the relevant Area Housing Office where the child formed part of council tenancy household.
- 3.12 The Community Protection Officers have maintained a high-visibility street presence throughout the reporting period responding to complaints of low-level antisocial behaviour, fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, unauthorised Traveller encampments, littering, graffiti, dog fouling and out of control and stray dogs.

3.13 The Community Protection Team continues to undergo a period of change with a review of work processes currently underway. This includes the anticipated adoption of the “Noise App” that will allow officers to assess and manage more effectively noise related antisocial behaviour complaints.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and no negative impacts have been identified.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial – None.

6.2 Personnel - None.

6.3 Other – None.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Appendix 1 Graph – Antisocial Behaviour Complaints made to East Lothian Council 2019/2020 to 31 March 2024.

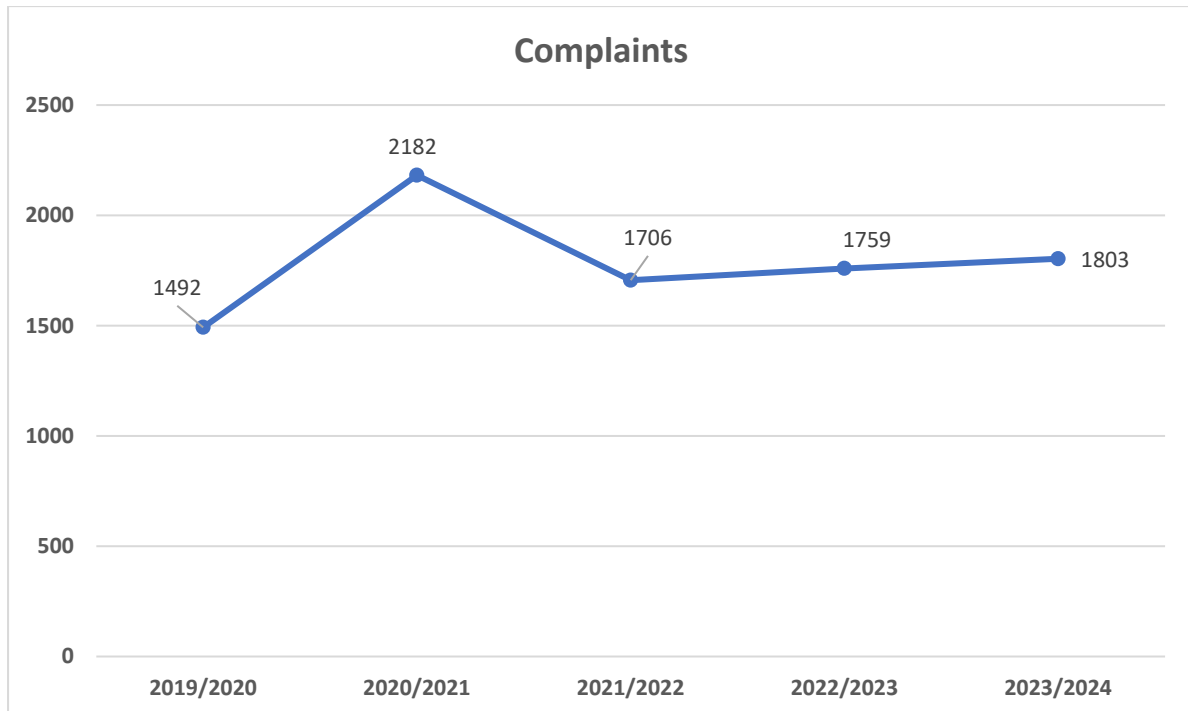
7.2 Appendix 2 Chart showing breakdown of case type (1 October 2023 – 31 March 2024).

7.3 Appendix 3 Chart showing geographical breakdown (1 October 2023 – 31 March 2024).

AUTHOR'S NAME	Kenneth Black
DESIGNATION	Team Manager Community Protection Team
CONTACT INFO	01620 829 919
DATE	27 May 2024

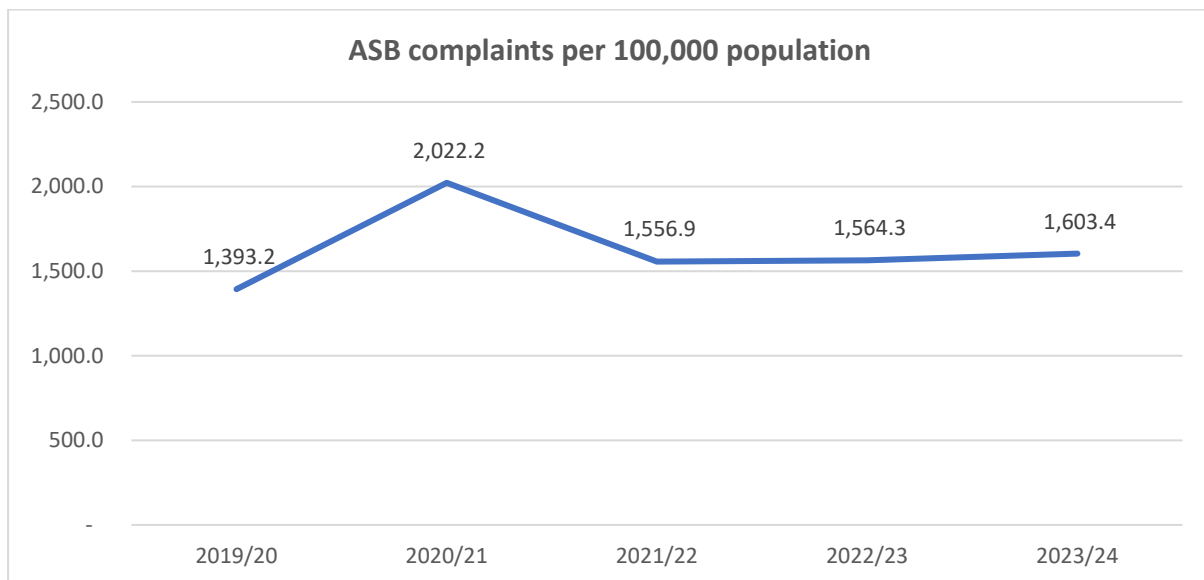
Appendix 1

Number of antisocial behaviour complaints made to East Lothian Council 2019 / 2020 – 2023 / 2024



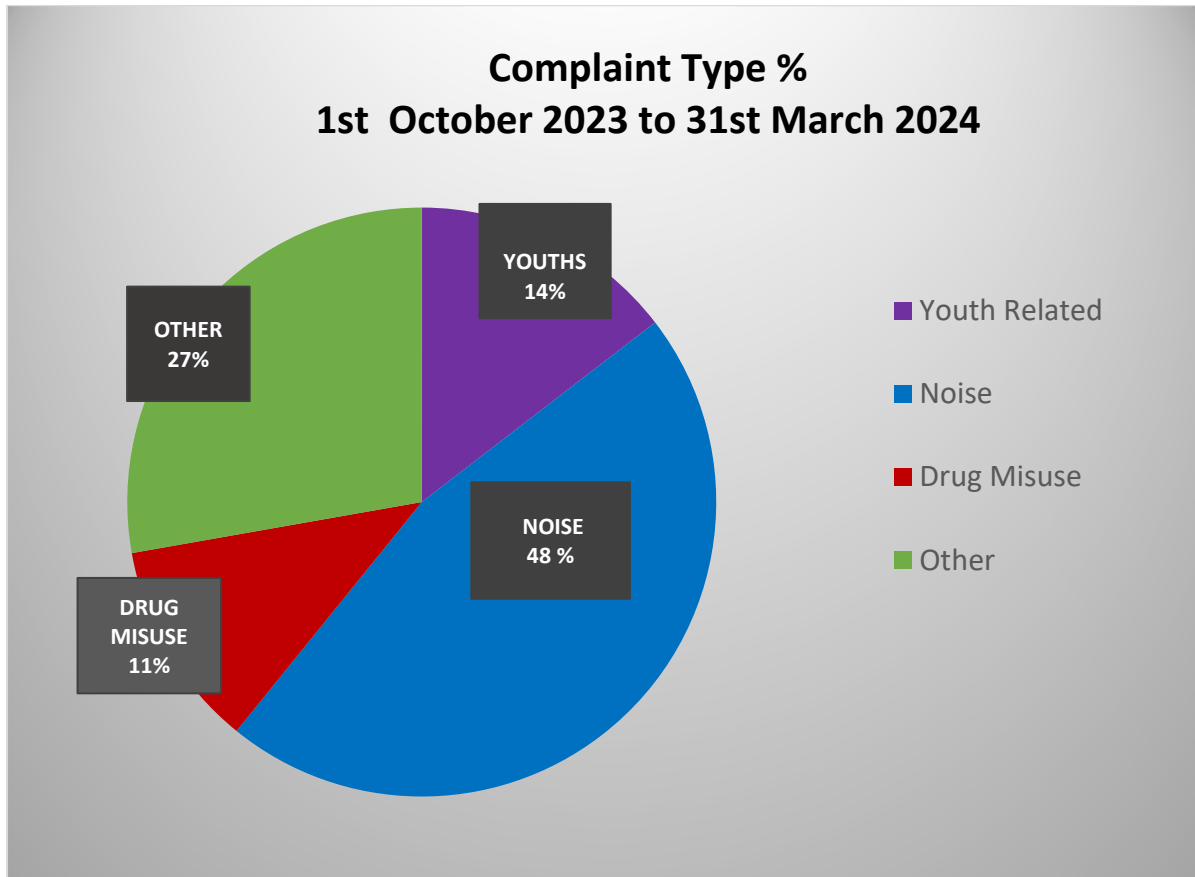
Appendix 2

Number of Antisocial Behaviour complaints made to East Lothian Council per 100k of population 2019 – 2024



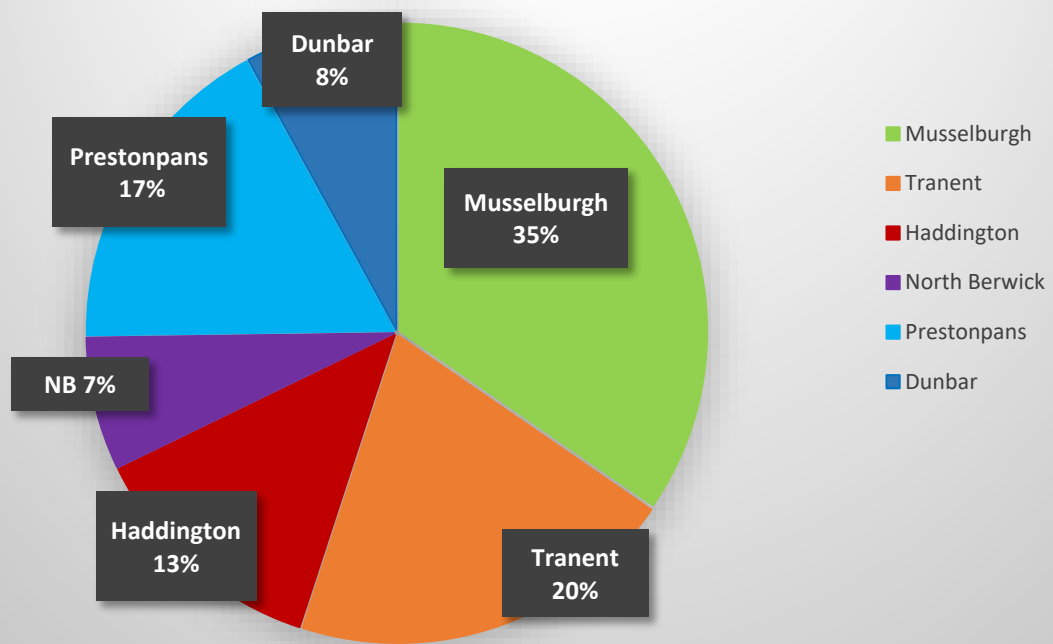
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
ASB complaints	1492	2182	1706	1759	1803
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022
Mid-Year population	107,090	107,900	109,580	112,450	112,450
ASB complaints per 100,000 population	1,393.2	2,022.2	1,556.9	1,564.3	1,603.4

Appendix 3



Appendix 4

**Geographical breakdown of antisocial behaviour cases %
1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024**



Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme 2024/25

Meeting Date	Performance Monitoring/ Inspection Reports	Other Reports / Reports Requested by Members	Deadline for Reports	Pre-Meet Date
Wed 11 Dec 2024 (10am)	Fire Service Local Performance Report Q1 and Q2 Police Scotland Scrutiny Report Q1 and Q2	ELC Antisocial Behaviour Report	TBC	TBC
Wed 11 June 2025 (10am)	Police Scotland Scrutiny Report Q3 and Q4 Fire Service Local Performance Report Q3 and Q4	ELC Antisocial Behaviour Report	TBC	TBC