

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH, LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT BY PC Russell Rosie and Mark Hancock

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an update on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 31st January 2020.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of the report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Performance relative to the Year Average; set out in the report.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger; We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

NATIONAL PRIORITIES – DELIVERED LOCALLY

Based on our assessment of national priorities, the following have been identified for tailored action for the communities of West Lothian:

- Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
- Protecting the Public
- Road safety and Road Crime
- Serious Organised Crime and Terrorism
- Major Events and Threats
- Benefits of Reform
- Public Confidence

WEST LOTHIAN PRIORITIES

The community priorities identified for West Lothian through our Community Planning Partnership are:

- Protecting People
- Reducing Antisocial Behaviour
- Reducing Violence
- Tackling Substance Misuse
- Making our Roads Safer
- Tackling Serious Organised Crime

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

East Livingston & East Calder

- Reducing antisocial behaviour
- Making our roads safer
- Tackling substance misuse

1/ PERFORMANCE

There is currently no partnership analyst in the Community Safety Unit and therefore there is no access to the previously provided statistics.

Police Scotland official West Lothian Statistics can be found at page 90 onwards.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/138327/232757/445136/Management-info-council-Area-Report-Q1-2018-19>

2.1 - Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Throughout this period, The Community Policing Team have continued to work hand in hand with partners and other agencies such as West Lothian Council Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), Housing and Schools. Doing so creates better communication and a greater detailed understanding of the problematic areas that allows police to engage in early intervention strategies and prevention activities. With the Safer Neighbourhood Team, a number of joint visits have been made throughout the ward resulting in occupiers being warned and issued tenancy warnings over loud music and anti-social behaviour. Carrying out this task benefits the complainer and aids in reducing further escalation and call demand. At present, neighbourhood disputes and anti-social behaviour type calls account for a large percentage of calls to Community Officers.

Throughout this report period, SNT, Police and Housing assisted together regarding a property within the Uphall ward. By carrying out letter drops, engaging with neighbours and members of the public, the occupiers of the property were found to be in breach of their Anti-Social Behaviour Order and were subsequently arrested, charged and put to court the following day.

The police wish to encourage all members of the public to report incidents of anti-social behaviour within their ward area. Doing so allows the information to be assessed and assists in creating an intelligence picture which results in the problematic areas being targeted by police. Information provided by the public can remain anonymous.

During the December period, police received a number of calls to licensed premises regarding ongoing disturbances or violent related behaviour. These incidents were tackled by carrying out licensed premises checks at peak times and high visibility foot patrols in and around the problematic premises and town centre areas.

In the January, Police were contacted by a member of the public who had been victim of a serious assault. CID carried out enquiries into the assault identifying a suspect responsible who was later traced, charged and held to appear at court.

2.2 - Road Safety

Roads Policing continue to monitor the ward area and act on local intelligence being supplied by members of the public. With this assistance and information provided, officers can actively target those responsible for committing driving offences such as speeding, driving with no license, driving whilst disqualified and driving without valid insurance. Police rely on members of the public providing this type of intelligence allowing them to target offenders in the area and take action when required.

During the December and January months, Police carried out a festive Drink Drive campaign resulting in a number of offenders being arrested and reported to the PF for Road Traffic offences. Offenders were charged with offences such as Driving Impaired through Drink/Drugs and Driving under Influence of Alcohol.

A number of complaints and concerns remain ongoing within the ward area in terms of speeding, parking issues and other Road Traffic incidents. Police will remain to monitor these issues and where possible carry out routine patrols and stop checks at the problematic areas and issue tickets.

Police wish to remind members of the public against inappropriate/dangerous/inconsiderate parking in and around the local schools within the ward area. Police continue to support the schools in The Parksmart Scheme. In an effort to increase the awareness of this initiative, Sergeant Wells will be attending the West Lothian Parents Teacher Association forum along with WLC Education to highlight the benefits of the scheme.

Social Media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter are still being used by Police Scotland to provide assistance with driving standards and expectations as well as supplying local information.

2.3 - Dishonesty

During the months of December and January, police were contacted regarding a series of Housebreakings and Attempt Housebreakings to domestic and business premises within the ward area. The Criminal Investigation Unit and CID continue to carry out investigations in regards to these offences.

Police encourage members of the public and business owners to consider the use of CCTV and appropriate outside lighting. CCTV is a positive deterrent which aids in minimising this crime type along with effective lighting during the darker evenings. Further information and guidance can be located on the Information Commissioners Office website.

Throughout this period, the ward has received a number of calls regarding Bin Thefts. Enquiries are led to believe that the bins are being targeted by local youths who thereafter transport them mostly to woodland areas and set them on fire. It is urged by members of the public to contact police if they witness or identify any suspicious behaviour.

2.4 – Drug Dealing and Misuse

Along with the Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU), the local Community Policing Team are directly and actively involved in the disruption of drug dealing and production within the ward area within domestic properties. Doing so allows officers to link in with other agencies such as Housing and ensure the relevant tenancy warnings are progressed.

Police continue to gather community intelligence from members of the public resulting in Misuse of Drugs Act warrants being executed in the ward area.

In January, the CIU along with uniformed officers executed a Misuse of Drugs Warrant at a property in Broxburn resulting in the recovery of a quantity of Class B Drugs, Drug Equipment and a substantial amount of cash. The subject was arrested and charged for being involved in Drug Supply. Housing have since issued the subject with a tenancy warning.

The majority of drug related crime enforced by police stems from intelligence being provided by members of the public. The public are urged and encouraged to report any suspicious activity that they see or hear. Doing so allows police to gather information which allows disruption to the individuals highlighted. Members of the public are again reminded that they can contact the police as an anonymous person. This can be carried out by phoning 101 or by contacting Crimestoppers by email or 08005551111. The Police continue to rely on information from the public to tackle this type of crime.

West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service are also a local service who can be used to support individuals and their families who suffer from alcohol and or substance misuse. More details can be obtained by contacting WLDAS on tel.01506 430225 or WLDAS.com

4/ Contacts

Details of your Community Policing can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/west-lothian>

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You can also follow us on Twitter: @WestLothPolice

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