

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LINLITHGOW, LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT BY PC's Peter Robertson / Andrew Murray

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

Linlithgow Ward

- 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/ LOCAL PRIORITIES

2.1 - Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Police continue to work proactively with partner agencies to disrupt anti-social behaviour incidents and prevent violence related crimes. Through intelligence violence reduction patrols are carried out to the areas of high concern. Targeting these areas at identified times and carrying out Hi-Visibility patrols within these high priority locations continue throughout the ward areas to deter these types of incidents.

Ongoing neighbour disputes involving anti-social behaviour continue to be reported to police throughout the ward area. This has recently resulted an occupier being charged with two offences and reported to the Procurator Fiscal, the occupier was also issued with a tenancy warning as a result of their behaviour.

By working closely with partnership agencies this allows police to carry out early intervention work and prevention activities reducing further escalation and call demand. Neighbour disputes still continue to account for a large percentage of anti-social behaviour calls to the police.

Community Officers are also tasked with Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Plans and visits to licensed premises in order to prevent offences and detect offenders. Foot patrols have also been carried out in the problematic areas to prevent further disorder.

Domestic related violence remains frequently reported within the Ward area. In an effort to support victims, they are encouraged to report incidents and seek advice should they feel threatened or vulnerable. Victims can also seek advice and support from West Lothians Domestic and Sexual Abuse Team (DASAT) who provide a confidential and friendly service. They can be contacted at dasat@westlothian.gov.uk

Members of the public are continued and remain encouraged to report crimes and incidents of anti-social behaviour to the police to allow us to respond appropriately and gather information and intelligence.

2.2 - Road Safety

Roads Policing with the assistance of local intelligence, continue to target unlicensed and uninsured drivers throughout the ward areas. Officers will continue to target offenders in the area and take robust action when stopped. This has resulted in the last three months with over 25 various charges for Road Traffic Offences.

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Ward 1 - Linlithgow

Community Officers meet with members of the community on a regular basis to listen to their concerns regarding traffic issues in their area. Recently addressing parking problems in the ward through the use of social media, posters and enforcement. Police will continue to patrol areas of concern in terms of speeding, parking and other Road Traffic offences.

A recent foot patrol resulted in no fewer than 17 parking tickets being issued by one officer in a 2.5 hour period.

Police continue to receive a number of complaints regarding inappropriate/dangerous parking in and around schools throughout West Lothian. Ward Officers continue to support The Parksmart Scheme which has been adopted by many schools across the county and continue to encourage all schools to sign up to it.

The schools all have access to the relevant materials and West Lothian Council education and representative from Police Scotland will be speaking at the forthcoming PTA Forum to again highlight the scheme and encourage PTAs to take this important road safety initiative forward.

We continue to remind drivers of expected driving standards via our social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

2.3 - Dishonesty

During the winter months there was an increased reporting of thefts or attempted thefts from motor vehicles in the Ward area.

Police would like to remind the local community as the nights continue to become darker to review their home security.

- . Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look as if your home is occupied.
- . Ensure all doors and windows are secure when you leave and when you go to bed.
- . If possible use security lighting at front and back of your property
- . Make sure all garden tools and ladders are locked away
- . Use good quality locks on any Sheds or outhouses
- . Make a note of all makes, models and serial numbers of your property
- . Secure keys safely, preferably kept on person or close by at all times

Further advice can be obtained from [Scotland.police.uk](https://scotland.police.uk)

Police continue to highlight and promote the existence of Neighborhood Watch Scotland's Alert Scheme and the ability for members of the public / organizations to self-register.

Details of this can be found at:-

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk>

On-line frauds and scams continue to be a nationwide problem. Further information can be found at:-

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www.actionfraud.police.uk

Further advice can be obtained from Scotland.police.uk

2.4 - Drug Dealing and Misuse

Police continue to carry out a number of intelligence led drug searches of properties and positive stops. Through intelligence Ward officers have targeted properties within the ward. They have been searched under warrant to tackle the Cultivation and Supply of various Controlled Drugs within our communities. This resulted in a number of persons being reported to the court.

Police continue to receive reports of subjects smoking and taking illegal substances within their homes and surrounding areas. Working closely with partnership agencies allows for a positive approach whereby action can be taken.

The Police continue to rely on information from the public to tackle this type of crime. Any members of the community with information regarding drugs can contact CRIMESTOPPERS anonymously on 0800555111.

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

Engagement Forums

Ward Officers continue to write monthly articles for the Black Bitch Magazine and Linlithgow Arrow highlighting current issues and crime trends.

Local Police surgeries have been reintroduced one Saturday per month at the BID office The Vennel, Linlithgow.

The public should make use of the Alert system through Neighbourhood Watch Scotland in order to keep abreast of local issues and updates from their local Ward Officers.

School Link officer has continued to engage with local schools in an effort to support staff with problematic situations.

Officers also continued to support the local Community Councils as well as Pub watch meetings in the town of Linlithgow.

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/linlithgow/>

Email: West Lothian Community East@Scotland.pnn.police.uk Tel: 101

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