

4. POLICE WARD UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by PC Russell Rosie providing performance, activity and issues in the ward up to 31 January 2020.

PC Russell Rosie then explained all the various initiatives that were taking place across the ward by Police Scotland and included bogus callers as the weather started to improve; parking on Main Street, Broxburn; and parking on pavements.

PC Rosie continued to advise committee of some overall initiatives that Police Scotland was undertaking and included changes to some shift patterns so there was a stronger police presence when licensed premises were closing; the commencement of drug testing at the roadside for the use of cannabis and cocaine; advising businesses on enhanced security to avoid break-ins; and working with fire colleagues in relation to blue bins being set on fire.

With regards to attendance at meetings of community councils, PC Rosie advised committee that it was his hope and intention to try and attend these meetings. However, it was a matter of available resources and at the moment a lot of officers' time was being taken up by training new recruits in preparation of the Climate Emergency conference taking place in Glasgow later in the year.

PC Rosie concluded his report by reminding committee that the police relied on members of the public reporting incidents and to do so regularly so they could collect the necessary intelligence to take investigations forward.

The committee took the opportunity to ask questions of PC Rosie and in doing so requested if it would be possible for future police reports to contain statistics relevant to speeding offences and drug offences in the ward.

Decision

1. To note the content of the report;
2. To note the initiatives being carried out by Police Scotland across the ward and the whole of West Lothian; and
3. To request that future police reports include statistics in relation to speeding offences and drug offences in the ward.