



## East Lothian Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



### Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Quarter 2 – 2024/2025

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.

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## Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities



## **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 – Damage and Reckless Behaviour
- Group 5 – Crimes against Society
- Group 6 – Antisocial Offences
- Group 7 – Miscellaneous Offences
- Group 8 – Road Traffic offences

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 2024 to September 2024 and are compared against the five year average.

East Lothian Performance Summary Report  
Reporting Period: April 2024 – September 2024

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 2,557

Less than 1% increase

Protecting the most vulnerable people

Domestic  
Bail  
Detections



21 (21 less  
than 5YA)

Missing  
Persons  
Incidents



(17 less than  
2023/24)

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour

Serious  
Assault



35 (17 less than  
2023/24)

ASB  
offences



(37 less than  
5YA)

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Crimes of  
Dishonesty



999 (103 more  
than 5YA)

Domestic  
Housebreaking



39 (53 less  
than 2023/24)

Improving road safety

Road  
Casualties



44 (13 less than  
2023/24)

## Executive Summary

I am delighted to present this half year scrutiny report and my fourth as East Lothian Local Area Commander, which covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. I am pleased to report that we have seen overall decreases in important areas of missing persons, domestic housebreaking and violent crime involving robbery and serious assault.

Despite these positive statistics I recognise there are real concerns around anti-social behaviour being reported to both Police and Council particularly in the Musselburgh area and that these frequently involve a small amount of young people. I was out on patrol with my response and community officers over Halloween and witnessed some of this behaviour firsthand and am first in recognising that there is still work to be done to tackle the root causes. I and all my Policing teams are committed to working closely with all our partners as we aim to make our communities safer, respectful and more tolerant of others.

The year has been marked by changes in government at Westminster and I welcome both Douglas Alexander and Chris Murray to their positions as elected Members of Parliament for East Lothian and look forward to working with both of them and others over the coming months. Over the last 6 months we have continued to receive support from our team of Special Constables under the Special Initiative Team (SIT) for which I am very grateful. SIT have deployed across East Lothian on a number of Saturday evenings to provide a high-profile patrol capability in response to reports of ASB and acquisitive crime and their capacity and willingness to volunteer to help their communities is an example to us all.

Our Police Scotland Young Volunteers (PSYV) group continues to thrive and in their recent newsletter clocked up 471 hours of volunteer time. They are led by our School Link officers and supported by adult volunteers. Amongst their busy schedule, including a clean-up along the River Tyne, helping out at the Edinburgh Marathon and Fisherrow Harbour Festivals, they also found time to assist me in a clear up of Musselburgh Police Station car park which was long overdue.

Since my last report, nationally Police Scotland has undertaken significant consultation and planning to produce our 2030 vision for policing which sets key ambitions of safer communities, less crime, supported victims, and a thriving workforce.

Key milestones in this vision that have already been progressed and impact directly in East Lothian include Police Scotland's role in the implementation of the Digital Evidence Sharing Capability which will allow us to rapidly share CCTV evidence with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, with the intention of speeding up the outcomes at court and delivering system-wide efficiencies in the criminal justice system. This is being implemented in East Lothian over the next 6 months.

Secondly, we have awarded a contract for a national roll out of body worn video to Motorola Solutions UK Limited and although there is no date set for implementation in East Lothian this will be another vital element of improving officer safety and recording best evidence. Thirdly we have seen the establishment of a Mental Health Taskforce which aims to reduce demand on frontline officers and ensure people in mental health crisis receive the right care from the right agency.

Finally and something which we have been directly part of is delivery of an estates masterplan and 10-year investment profile to take a strategic approach to which police buildings should be kept, improved or sold and how they should be used to deliver co-location with partners, better working environments for officers and staff, financial savings, and provide the accessible and visible policing service the public needs and values.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.

Missing Persons

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. Below is a breakdown of the missing persons reported in East Lothian over the last 6 months when compared with the same period last year.

	Adult	Cared For Adult	Child	Care Experienced Child	NHS	Deceased
Q2 2023/24	27	2	26	17	0	1
Q2 2024/25	18	2	21	15	0	0
Change	-9	2	-5	-2	0	-1

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 again through quarter 2 from 73 to 56 overall which represents good progress.

A large proportion of young people who are reported missing in East Lothian are either care experienced or experiencing difficulties at home. We continue 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 cared for 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 I am grateful for their continuing support.



Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Domestic Abuse Incidents
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	5yr Average	Q2 2024/25	% change from 5yr average
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	610.4	664	8.8
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	247.0	229	-7.3
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	40.5	34.5	-6.0
Total crimes and offences detection rate	65.1	65.7	0.9
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	42.2	21	-50.2

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

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

Tackling domestic abuse alongside Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) 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.

This year to date we have seen a slight rise in the number of domestic incidents coupled with a slight fall in crimes recorded against the 5-year average. Detection rates have remained fairly static and overall the picture is encouragingly stable.

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 instigate proactive contact with victims following release of all arrested persons. A dedicated Domestic Abuse enquiry team

of 2 officers seconded from frontline duties, based at Tranent Police Station, continues to ensure that any criminal incident which cannot be immediately resolved at the time is investigated promptly.

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.

Officers from across East Lothian supported the recent “16 days of action” campaign for Violence Against Women and Girls and in addition to this we continue to support other national campaigns such as “DON’T BE THAT GUY” aimed at encouraging peers to challenge abusive and unacceptable behaviour as well as carrying out prevention and education work in our schools and higher education establishments.

We are also participating in the formation of the East Lothian Equally Safe group which will be seeking to take further proactive steps to preventing and eradicating all forms of violence against women and girls in East Lothian.

The primary goal of the Equally Safe group is to create a Scotland where women and girls can live free from the fear, threat, or experience of violence, abuse and exploitation.

Key priorities in the strategy include:

- Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls.
- Women and girls thrive as equal citizens – socially, culturally, economically and politically.
- Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people; and
- Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls, and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Hate Crime
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East Lothian			
	5 year average	Q2 2024/25	% change from 5 year average
Hate Incidents	12.8	12	-6.3
Hate Crimes	54.8	54	-1.5
Hate Crime Detection Rate	70.4	50	-20.4

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.

Despite changes in the law to widen the definition of hate crime this period has seen overall numbers of hate crimes and incidents reported remain stable. Whilst we would want to see slightly higher detection rates, many of these crimes remain under investigation and the overall numbers should be seen as a positive in the context of the widening criteria for reporting hate crime.

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.

Protecting the most vulnerable people.	Sexual Crimes (Group 2)
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Crime Type	5 Year average	Q 2 2024/25	% change from 5 year average	% Detection Rate
Group 2	116.8	141	20.7	50.4
Rape	20.8	36	73.1	44.4
Attempt Rape	0.8	3	275.0	33.3
Indecent/Sexual Assault	44.8	35	-24.1	50.0
Other Group 2	8.6	14	62.8	35.7

Overall, group 2 sexual crimes have increased in the area of non-contact and rape offences. The increase in reporting of rape offences is primarily driven by non-recent reports which are categorised reports occurring a year or more after the offence was perpetrated. This should not necessarily be viewed as a negative statistic with victims of sexual crime clearly having increased confidence to come forward and report crime and there are not any concerning trends in terms of recent sexual crime. We have recently formed a dedicated team of detective officers to investigate these crimes and ensure that the increase does not negatively impact on our service to victims or ability to bring perpetrators to justice.

The increased reporting also validates much of the work that has gone on in this arena over the last decade, particularly in relation to victim support and care. We will continue to work closely with all our partners through the Violence Against Women and Girls Working Group and the newly formed Equally Safe Group, to encourage and support victims to report sexual crimes.

Our three school link officers are also 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 Community Safety partnership group has also used its network to disseminate various prevention measures and messages to the community in terms of avoiding being the victim of this type of crime.

Non-contact offences perpetrated over the internet or through communications devices used by young people continue to be reported with suspects coming from out with East Lothian which does pose a challenge in terms of identifying and bringing offenders to justice and emphasises the need for ongoing prevention and education in this area.

## Drug Supply, Production & Cultivation

Drugs Supply	5 year average	Q2 2024/25	% Change from 5 year average	% Detection Rate
Drugs Supply (including possession with intent)	17.4	17	-2.3	111.8

Drug supply charges have retained the higher numbers seen over the previous year which is again reflective of the hard work of both our Proactive Crime Team based at Musselburgh and our Community Action Teams based at Tranent and Haddington.

The figures demonstrate we remain committed to preventing the harm caused by the misuse of drugs through a combination of effective enforcement and preventative measures. We have continued to refer individuals who have taken a near or non-fatal overdose to support services within 24 hours of police contact and are engaged with all our partners to try and reduce the harm caused by drug misuse.

Overall numbers of stop and searches completed have increased and we are working hard to ensure this number is a true representation of the work being carried out as well as ensuring that we make the best use of the tactic against prolific shoplifters and other known criminals. Positive searches account for just over a third (36) of the total (94).

We continue to share information from our Vulnerable Adult Database with substance misuse services in NHS Lothian, on those most at risk of harm through addiction to drugs and alcohol and are engaged with NHS Lothian and other partners on both operational and strategic levels to ensure a partnership approach is developed in order to tackle the harm caused by drug and alcohol addiction.

Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	Crimes of Violence (Group 1)
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Crime Type	5 year average	Q2 2024/25	% Change from 5 year average	Q2 2024/25 Detection Rate
Group 1	521	575	10.4	63.3
Serious Assault	21.6	18	-16.7	88.9
Robbery	9.4	4	-57.4	50.0
Common Assault	407.4	448	10	58.9

Group 1 crime trends have reduced in the key areas of serious assault and robbery when compared against both the 5 year average and the same period last year. Although the overall totals of group 1 crime are higher than the 5 year average this belies a fall of 51 crimes of common assault from the totals in Q2 this time last year which is an encouraging outcome when considered against the overall trend.

The totals do include all domestic crimes of violence and there have been slight rises in stalking and other specific domestic abuse offences such as Section 1 Domestic Abuse Scotland Act which we will continue to monitor closely over the next period.

Assaults on emergency workers remain fairly stable and we have been the pilot division for new training to recruits, called Act Don't React which is seeing the levels of assaults against officers receiving this training markedly reduce. Act Don't React is a tailored program of training underpinned by behavioural science research that teaches us to understand how and why we react to certain situations, how to recognise this and how to intervene to regain control of our behaviour. Officers learn how to engage and communicate with members of the public and colleagues, so that all of our interactions can reach their best outcome in order to keep everyone safe and increase trust in Policing.

Last year we reported record levels of crime attributed threats and extortion which has markedly reduced from 36 to 15 reported crimes in Q2. The vast majority of these crimes where "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. This has been and continues to be a real area of focus for both local and national campaigns and therefore whilst it is reassuring to see these figures come down, but we remain focussed on delivering a number of prevention tactics as these crimes are notoriously difficult to solve due to the different social media platforms and jurisdictions involved and therefore prevention is proven to be the most effective use of Police resources.

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	Q2 2024-25	% Change from 5 year average	Q2 2024/25 % Detection Rate
Antisocial Behaviour Offences	397.0	362	-8.8	
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)	365.4	385	5.4	24.2
Fire-raising	20.2	34	68.3	32.4
Breach of the Peace	11.2	12	7.1	100
S38 CJ&L(S) A 2010	348.6	326	-6.5	71.8

We have again seen a decrease (35 less) of criminal offences recorded from ASB calls 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 is emphasised by the fact that we do not have any live Problem-Solving Partnerships (PSPs) currently.

Many of the repeat problem locations for ASB revolve around individuals and we have taken steps to either support these individuals in addressing alcohol and drug addiction which exacerbates their behaviour or provide enforcement action against them through the use of ASBOs. The contribution of the Community Protection Team from East Lothian Council in this should not be underestimated and there are several examples of successful joint enforcement against repeat ASB offenders.

In relation to ASB committed by young people all Police officers whether that is at Area Commander level or below work closely with partners to support young people and their families to improve their behaviour and reduce vulnerabilities. This is never more so than during key events in the calendar such as Halloween and Bonfire night and whilst the statistics from these dates are not contained in this report, it is point of note that whilst East Lothian did not experience the levels of disorder seen in parts of Edinburgh, there was nonetheless evidence of the reckless use of fireworks by a small group of young people. I am grateful for the support of a number of partners in working to address this behaviour but would point out that communities as a whole need to come together to work with statutory services to make this sort of behaviour both socially, morally and criminally unacceptable.

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. It is vital that there are adequate recreational facilities for young people across East Lothian and we are committed to supporting this.

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. We have performed a number of joint patrols on the transport network and continue to exchange information on young offenders travelling on the network with Edinburgh Policing division.

All incidents of ASB are brought to the attention of the weekly tasking and coordinating group undertaken with our partners every Wednesday and through the Community and Police Partnership meetings (CAPPs). The support of elected members in attending CAPPs along with local Community officers is greatly appreciated and this is an area of community engagement which we would seek to strengthen.

To this end initial meetings have taken place with a number of local churches with the intention of introducing a Street Pastors network to East Lothian. This requires the participation of 4 churches and a volunteer group to go out on the streets to help support people in need as well as providing a presence to deter ASB. Further meetings and implementation are planned for 2025. The presence of Street Pastors on streets in other towns and cities is proven to have a positive influence on incidents associated to ASB.

The summer months provided the usual seasonal increase in visitors to East Lothian and despite some increases in the volume of calls and demand on Policing resources for events including Fringe by the Sea, Scottish Golf Open and Gala days, the summer season appears to have been successful from a Policing perspective. Throughout the summer we continued regular operational meetings with countryside and coastal partners to address seasonal issues such as wild camping and parking.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime	Dishonesty (group 3)													
<table><tr><th>Crime Type</th><th>5 year average</th><th>Q2 2024/25</th><th>% change from 5 year average</th><th>Q2 2024/25 Detection Rate</th></tr><tr><td>Total Group 3</td><td>896.4</td><td>999</td><td>11.4</td><td>31.4</td></tr></table>					Crime Type	5 year average	Q2 2024/25	% change from 5 year average	Q2 2024/25 Detection Rate	Total Group 3	896.4	999	11.4	31.4
Crime Type	5 year average	Q2 2024/25	% change from 5 year average	Q2 2024/25 Detection Rate										
Total Group 3	896.4	999	11.4	31.4										
<p>Overall, we have seen an increase in Group 3 Crimes reported this year compared to the 5-year average. This is in large part driven by a continuing growth in shoplifting. Shoplifting is a crime linked to both socio-economic deprivation and addiction and the higher levels of this crime are seen in the more deprived areas of the county.</p> <p>There is no doubting there are a number of levers driving increased shoplifting ranging from professional teams targeting high end alcohol and items of value to those struggling to put basic food items on the table. Consequently, what is required is a range of measures to enforce, target harden and encourage reporting from local businesses as well as divert known or would be shoplifters to addiction services and improve availability and access to food banks in more deprived areas which are all ideas included in the East Lothian Poverty Plan</p> <p>Fraud continues to fall back as an area of growth with 123 crimes reported as against 136 this time last year. 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. We also provided preventative support and messaging both locally and in support of national campaigns in an effort to continue to reduce the number of victims.</p> <p>Another area of increase has been in the area of keyless thefts of vehicles. Certain makes and models of vehicle are more vulnerable to this crime type than others and again the crime is usually committed by organised groups who possess the technical expertise to overcome vehicle security. We have been encouraging owners of these vehicles to take additional security measures to prevent their vehicles being stolen.</p>														

Reducing  
Acquisitive Crime

Housebreaking

Crime Type	5 Year Average	Q2 2024/25	% Change from 5 year average	Q2 2024/25 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	46.4	39	-15.9	41.0
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	37.2	25	-32.8	0
Other (Business) HB	32	52	62.5	26.9

\*All crime types include attempt thefts.

Housebreaking as a collective has reduced markedly from the same period last year when we experienced a sizeable increase in domestic housebreaking. This increase was primarily driven by offenders in their late teens and early 20s who targeted domestic houses to steal high value cars and jewellery. Thanks to some excellent investigative work, a number of these offenders have been caught and incarcerated which has seen a noticeable fall however we are not complacent in this fall and would continue to advocate on home security and prevention measures such as greater participation in the Scottish Neighbourhood Watch scheme as this allows real time alerts to be issued in relevant areas.

Recent trends in housebreaking have seen increases in businesses being targeted as a result of young people stealing vapes and alcohol and this is again a theme we are working with local partners in Education and Social Work to discourage. Break ins to the numerous building sites across East Lothian have also added to acquisitive crime levels and we have been carrying out crime prevention surveys and increased patrols to deter offenders.

All trends are subject to continual analysis and intelligence gathering and we continue to participate in the National Acquisitive Crime group where information and good practice are exchanged across all areas of the country.

Improving road safety	Road Casualties
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	Q2 2023/24	Q2 2024/25	% Change
Fatal	1	2	100%
Serious	19	15	-21%
Slight	37	27	-27%
Total	57	44	-22.81%
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	0	2	-

	5 Year Average	Q2 2024/25	% Change from 5 year average
<b>Dangerous driving offences</b>	31.4	37	17.8
<b>Driving carelessly</b>	64.0	67	4.7
<b>Speeding offences</b>	39.2	17	-56.6
<b>Unlawful use of a motor vehicle</b>	254.4	259	1.8
<b>Seat Belt offences</b>	7.6	7	-7.9
<b>Mobile Phone offences</b>	13.2	14	14
<b>Driving under the influence</b>	53.6	47	47

There have been 2 fatalities over the last 6 months 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.

We have seen reductions in the number of collisions in all categories which is testament to the partnership work that goes on across the road network both locally and nationally.

Making our roads safer is a key priority and our specialist Road Policing officers continue to be 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 our Community Speedwatch initiative in Musselburgh having its inaugural outing in November.

Community Speedwatch 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 communities to take this up as it adds value both in terms of deterrent and intelligence gathering as well as providing an outlet for communities to take active steps to keep their roads safer.

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.

Moving forward we will continue with a number of road safety initiatives with a current focus on the Festive Drink Drive Campaign. 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 continue to implement 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"><li>• Divert: To divert people from being involved in SOC</li><li>• Deter: To deter SOC by supporting private, public and third-party organisations to protect themselves</li><li>• Disrupt: To disrupt SOC Groups.</li><li>• Detect: To identify, detect and prosecute those involved in SOC</li></ul> <p>The main focus of the plan is around Divert and Deter however there are also a number of live investigations into SOC which support the Disrupt and Detect strands of this strategy and we are supported by national teams of officers in these investigations.</p> <p>County lines intelligence and opportunities for enforcement remains an area of focus and we recognise that deterring this sort of criminality from obtaining a foothold in our communities is vital and we must utilise tactic's under all 4 "Ds" to ensure this continues to be the case.</p> <p>The National County Lines Intensification Week took place between <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024</b>. The theme during this period was reducing Child Exploitation, particularly child criminal exploitation, safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, including the detection of perpetrators. We took part in extra patrols and safeguarding checks with our partners in British Transport Police, particularly in relation to the transport network and known vulnerable people in our communities.</p>	

Complaints	Executive Summary					
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Table: Complaints and allegations received in the East Lothian Council area, by period <sup>1</sup>

	TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
	YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
East Lothian Council	61	41	48.8%	100	76	31.6%

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the East Lothian area command as of 30 September 2024.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the Allegation Category and Type. As can be seen there has been a 53.5% 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 <sup>1</sup>

Allegation Category and Type	PYTD	YTD	% change from PYTD
<b>On Duty - TOTAL</b>	66	43	53.5%
Assault	2	0	x
Discriminatory Behaviour	0	1	-100.0%
Excessive Force	7	3	133.3%
Incivility	22	11	100.0%
Irregularity in Procedure	30	21	42.9%
Neglect of Duty	0	2	-100.0%
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	1	0	x
Other - Criminal	3	1	200.0%
Other - Non Criminal	1	1	0.0%
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	0	1	-100.0%
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	0	2	-100.0%
<b>Quality Of Service - TOTAL</b>	34	33	3.0%
Policy/Procedure	2	3	-33.3%
Service Delivery	10	9	11.1%

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Service Outcome	22	21	4.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	100	76	31.6%

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	Q2 2024/25	% Change against 5 year average	Detection Rates 2024/25
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>2,958.4</b>	<b>3,232</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>62.0</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	1.6	1	-37.5	200.0
Culpable homicide (at common law)	-	-	0.0	-
Culpable Homicide (other)	1.8	8	344.4	100.0
Attempted Murder	10.4	8	-23.1	137.5
Serious Assault (of an emergency worker)	-	1	0.0	100.0
Serious Assault (Incl. FGM, culpable & reckless conduct – causing injury)	143.2	134	-6.4	76.9
Common Assault (of an emergency worker)	226.6	237	4.6	99.2
Common Assault	2,284.8	2,465	7.9	58.3
Robbery (including assault with intent to rob)	48.8	59	20.9	67.8
Domestic Abuse (of male)	1.6	6	275.0	33.3
Domestic Abuse (of female)	59.8	119	99.0	65.5
Stalking	49.6	54	8.9	63.0
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	36.0	44	22.2	93.2
Threats and extortion	70.4	79	12.2	7.6
Other group 1 crimes	23.8	17	-28.6	35.3
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>597.8</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>55.6</b>
Rape	104.6	175	67.3	49.1
Attempted Rape	5.0	17	240.0	17.6
Sexual assault	222.4	212	-4.7	62.7
Crimes associated with prostitution	0.4	1	150.0	100.0
Indecent photos of children	32.2	54	67.7	90.7
Communicating indecently	55.2	49	-11.2	71.4
Causing to view sexual activity or images	89.6	105	17.2	47.6
Threatening or Disclosure of intimate image	41.4	43	3.9	27.9
Other Group 2 crimes	47.0	67	42.6	49.3
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>4,195.8</b>	<b>4,413</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>28.6</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	183.2	158	-13.8	34.8
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	125.8	85	-32.4	12.9
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	139.0	129	-7.2	27.1
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	94.8	103	8.6	11.7
Theft of a motor vehicle	208.0	230	10.6	37.8
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	204.2	169	-17.2	20.7
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	18.4	24	30.4	20.8
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	62.2	61	-1.9	14.8
Common theft	1,175.8	987	-16.1	18.2
Theft by shoplifting	1,092.4	1,636	49.8	39.5
Fraud	596.6	617	3.4	15.2



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Other Group 3 Crimes	295.4	214	-27.6	42.5
<b>GROUP 4: DAMAGE AND RECKLESS BEHAVIOUR</b>	<b>2,042.0</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>28.8</b>
Fireraising	134.2	151	12.5	26.5
Vandalism (including reckless damage etc)	1,778.2	1,659	-6.7	26.8
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	2.6	1	-61.5	100.0
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	120.4	113	-6.1	61.1
Other Group 4 Crimes	6.6	8	21.2	37.5
<b>GROUP 5: CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>	<b>2,152.2</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>94.3</b>
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (not used in crime)	8.4	11	31.0	81.8
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (not used in crime)	3.8	5	31.6	80.0
Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (not used in crime)	2.4	19	691.7	94.7
Possession of a corrosive substance (not used in crime)	-	-	0.0	-
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife (not used in crime)	160.8	138	-14.2	88.4
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (used in criminal activity)	3.2	3	-6.3	66.7
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (used in criminal activity)	1.4	2	42.9	100.0
Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (used in criminal activity)	1.0	2	100.0	250.0
Possession of corrosive substance (used in criminal activity)	-	-	0.0	-
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife NEC (used in criminal activity)	128.4	212	65.1	67.9
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	28.4	21	-26.1	81.0
Supply of drugs (incl possession with intent)	96.2	107	11.2	93.5
Bringing drugs into prison	10.8	46	325.9	28.3
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	7.6	12	57.9	108.3
Possession of drugs	817.6	569	-30.4	108.8
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	3.6	10	177.8	90.0
Bail offences (other than absconding)	486.4	535	10.0	95.1
Other crimes against public justice	385.0	449	16.6	96.4
Other crimes against society	7.2	9	25.0	100.0
<b>GROUP 6: ANTISOCIAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>2,137.4</b>	<b>2,120</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>73.8</b>
Breach of the Peace	58.2	82	40.9	95.1
Threatening & abusive behaviour	1,906.0	1,873	-1.7	71.0
Hate aggravated conduct (incl stirring up hatred)	64.6	79	22.3	91.1
Drunk and incapable	17.6	9	-48.9	100.0
Consume alcohol in designated place (local bye-laws)	18.0	18	0.0	100.0
Other alcohol related offences	19.4	23	18.6	100.0
Urinating	53.6	36	-32.8	97.2
<b>GROUP 7: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>659.0</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>60.5</b>
Wildlife offences	25.0	18	-28.0	38.9

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Offences involved animals (not wildlife)	63.6	49	-23.0	55.1
Community and public order offences	437.4	514	17.5	57.2
Environmental offences	19.2	9	-53.1	88.9
Licensing offences	64.4	46	-28.6	87.0
Other misc. offences	49.4	30	-39.3	90.0
<b>GROUP 8: ROAD TRAFFIC OFFENCES</b>	<b>3,753.2</b>	<b>3,774</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>80.9</b>
Dangerous driving offences	138.6	131	-5.5	73.3
Driving carelessly	335.2	300	-10.5	84.0
Driving under the influence	279.4	313	12.0	103.2
Speeding offences	282.0	103	-63.5	100.0
Seatbelt offences	77.8	81	4.1	100.0
Mobile phone offences	89.6	89	-0.7	100.0
Unlawful use of a motor vehicle	1,418.8	1,200	-15.4	98.1
Vehicle defect offences	113.2	203	79.3	99.5
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	167.0	341	104.2	90.6
Road traffic offences (involving bicycle/tricycle)	4.6	3	-34.8	66.7
Other Group 8 offences	847.0	1,010	19.2	41.5

## East Lothian Recorded Crime Overview

East Lothian	5 Year Average	Q2 2024/25	% change against 5 year average	Detection Rates 2024/25
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>523.0</b>	<b>575.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>63.3</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)			-	
Culpable homicide (at common law)			-	100.0
Culpable Homicide (other)		1	-	-
Attempted Murder	2.0	4	100.0	150.0
Serious Assault (of an emergency worker)			-	
Serious Assault (Incl. FGM, culpable & reckless conduct – causing injury)	21.8	18	-17.4	88.9
Common Assault (of an emergency worker)	38.4	41	6.8	97.6
Common Assault	409.0	448	9.5	58.9
Robbery (including assault with intent to rob)	9.4	4	-57.4	50.0
Domestic Abuse (of male)	0.2	2	900.0	50.0
Domestic Abuse (of female)	9.4	16	70.2	87.5
Stalking	9.8	11	12.2	54.5
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	7.0	10	42.9	90.0
Threats and extortion	12.2	15	23.0	6.7
Other group 1 crimes	3.8	5	31.6	60.0
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>117.0</b>	<b>141.0</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>50.4</b>
Rape	20.8	36	73.1	44.4
Attempted Rape	0.8	3	275.0	33.3
Sexual assault	44.8	34	-24.1	50.0
Crimes associated with prostitution			-	
Indecent photos of children	5.2	17	226.9	82.4
Communicating indecently	12.6	8	-36.5	50.0
Causing to view sexual activity or images	16.8	22	31.0	50.0
Threatening or Disclosure of intimate image	7.4	7	-5.4	42.9
Other Group 2 crimes	8.6	14	62.8	35.7
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>896.8</b>	<b>999.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>31.4</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	46.4	39	-15.9	41.0
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	37.2	25	-32.8	-
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	32.0	52	62.5	26.9
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	22.6	20	-11.5	-
Theft of a motor vehicle	41.8	40	-4.3	42.5
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	44.8	43	-4.0	18.6
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	5.2	6	15.4	50.0
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	17.4	20	14.9	20.0
Common theft	241.8	236	-2.4	18.6
Theft by shoplifting	202.0	329	62.9	52.3
Fraud	125.8	123	-2.2	10.6

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Other Group 3 Crimes	79.8	66	-17.3	34.8
<b>GROUP 4: DAMAGE AND RECKLESS BEHAVIOUR</b>	<b>412.8</b>	<b>435.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>24.8</b>
Fireraising	20.6	34	65.0	32.4
Vandalism (including reckless damage etc)	365.8	385	5.2	24.2
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	0.6		-100.0	
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	23.6	16	-32.2	25.0
Other Group 4 Crimes	2.2	34	-100.0	
<b>GROUP 5: CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>	<b>459.0</b>	<b>407.0</b>	<b>-11.3</b>	<b>98.3</b>
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (not used in crime)			-	-
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (not used in crime)	0.4		-100.0	-
Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (not used in crime)	0.2	6	2900.0	83.3
Possession of a corrosive substance (not used in crime)			-	-
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife (not used in crime)	36.0	42	16.7	92.9
Possession firearm/offensive weapon/knife in prison (used in criminal activity)			-	-
Possession offensive weapon/knife in school (used in criminal activity)	0.4		-100.0	-
Possession offensive weapon/knife in a private place (used in criminal activity)		1	-	100.0
Possession of corrosive substance (used in criminal activity)			-	
Other possession of offensive weapon/knife NEC (used in criminal activity)	18.2	40	119.8	57.5
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	3.6	2	-44.4	50.0
Supply of drugs (incl possession with intent)	17.4	17	-2.3	111.8
Bringing drugs into prison			-	
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	2.4	1	-58.3	100.0
Possession of drugs	188.8	104	-44.9	117.3
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0.2		-100.0	
Bail offences (other than absconding)	98.4	88	-10.6	95.5
Other crimes against public justice	92.2	104	12.8	99.0
Other crimes against society	0.8	2	150.0	100.0
<b>GROUP 6: ANTISOCIAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>397.0</b>	<b>362.0</b>	<b>-8.8</b>	<b>74.3</b>
Breach of the Peace	11.2	12	7.1	100.0
Threatening & abusive behaviour	349.0	326	-6.6	71.8
Hate aggravated conduct (incl stirring up hatred)	13.0	8	-38.5	100.0
Drunk and incapable	3.2		-100.0	-
Consume alcohol in designated place (local bye-laws)	7.6	7	-7.9	100.0
Other alcohol related offences	6.2	4	-35.5	100.0

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Urinating	6.8	5	-26.5	80.0
<b>GROUP 7: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>103.2</b>	<b>119.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>61.3</b>
Wildlife offences	7.0	5	-28.6	80.0
Offences involved animals (not wildlife)	5.8	8	37.9	50.0
Community and public order offences	74.8	94	25.7	56.4
Environmental offences	3.4	1	-70.6	100.0
Licensing offences	11.6	9	-22.4	100.0
Other misc. offences	0.6	2	233.3	100.0
<b>GROUP 8: ROAD TRAFFIC OFFENCES</b>	<b>662.6</b>	<b>677.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>82.4</b>
Dangerous driving offences	31.4	37	17.8	59.5
Driving carelessly	64.0	67	4.7	86.6
Driving under the influence	53.6	47	-12.3	106.4
Speeding offences	39.2	17	-56.6	100.0
Seatbelt offences	7.6	7	-7.9	100.0
Mobile phone offences	13.2	14	6.1	100.0
Unlawful use of a motor vehicle	254.4	259	1.8	98.1
Vehicle defect offences	21.4	44	105.6	100.0
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	9.8	8	-18.4	100.0
Road traffic offences (involving bicycle/tricycle)	1.8	1	-44.4	100.0
Other Group 8 offences	166.2	176	5.9	47.2