



# OPERATION DODFORD

**Report: January to May 2020**

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### Crime and Anti-social behaviour (ASB) Leighton Buzzard & Linslade

*Bedfordshire Police implemented a new crime recording and case management system on 23rd May 2018. New processes associated with this system have led to some data quality issues, principally because of differences in the way that information is captured. The Force is actively working to implement improvement actions which we envisage will improve the quality of our data over time. Therefore the recorded crime data for May 2018 onwards cannot be verified by the Force and there are potentially significant issues with the accuracy of recorded crime data during this period. This should be taken into account when attempting to draw any conclusions around the profile for recorded crime over time.*

Crime Type	Crimes Per Day			Recorded Crime		
	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	% Change	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	Change
Death/Injury by Unlawful Driving	0.01	0.01	<b>+0.0%</b>	1	1	<b>+0</b>
Violence with Injury	0.50	0.58	<b>+15.8%</b>	76	88	<b>+12</b>
Violence without Injury	0.76	0.77	<b>+1.7%</b>	115	117	<b>+2</b>
Stalking and Harassment	0.56	0.59	<b>+4.7%</b>	85	89	<b>+4</b>
Rape	0.05	0.05	<b>+0.0%</b>	8	8	<b>+0</b>
Other Sexual Offences	0.11	0.13	<b>+18.8%</b>	16	19	<b>+3</b>
Robbery	0.06	0.12	<b>+100.0%</b>	9	18	<b>+9</b>
Burglary - Residential	0.85	0.30	<b>-64.8%</b>	128	45	<b>-83</b>
Burglary - Other	0.22	0.18	<b>-15.2%</b>	33	28	<b>-5</b>
Vehicle Offences	0.83	0.75	<b>-8.8%</b>	125	114	<b>-11</b>
Theft from the Person	0.05	0.04	<b>-14.3%</b>	7	6	<b>-1</b>
Bicycle Theft	0.10	0.14	<b>+40.0%</b>	15	21	<b>+6</b>
Shoplifting	0.84	0.95	<b>+14.2%</b>	127	145	<b>+18</b>
Other Theft	0.61	0.45	<b>-25.0%</b>	92	69	<b>-23</b>
Arson	0.02	0.02	<b>+0.0%</b>	3	3	<b>+0</b>
Criminal Damage	0.67	0.82	<b>+22.8%</b>	101	124	<b>+23</b>
Trafficking of Drugs	0.03	0.00	<b>-100.0%</b>	5	0	<b>-5</b>
Possession of Drugs	0.05	0.11	<b>+142.9%</b>	7	17	<b>+10</b>
Possession of Weapons	0.05	0.03	<b>-37.5%</b>	8	5	<b>-3</b>
Public Order	0.54	0.82	<b>+52.4%</b>	82	125	<b>+43</b>
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	0.11	0.09	<b>-17.6%</b>	17	14	<b>-3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.02</b>	<b>6.95</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>1056</b>	<b>-4</b>

## Area Comparison

Crime Type	Crimes Per Day			Recorded Crime		
	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	% Change	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	Change
Leighton Buzzard	6.41	6.40	+0.5%	968	973	+5
Linslade	0.61	0.55	-9.8%	92	83	-9
Leighton Buzzard and Linslade Total	7.02	6.95	-0.4%	1060	1056	-4

## Area Comparison

Crime Type	Crimes Per Day			Recorded Crime		
	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	% Change	01/01/19 to 31/05/19	01/01/20 to 31/05/20	Change
Luton Borough	58.51	52.86	-9.1%	8835	8035	-800
Central Beds	50.67	44.28	-12.0%	7651	6730	-921
Bedford Borough	40.92	39.71	-2.3%	6179	6036	-143
Unknown Location	3.15	3.39	+8.6%	475	516	+41
Force Total	153.25	140.24	-7.9%	23140	21317	-1823

## Top Crime Scene Locations in the Selected Period

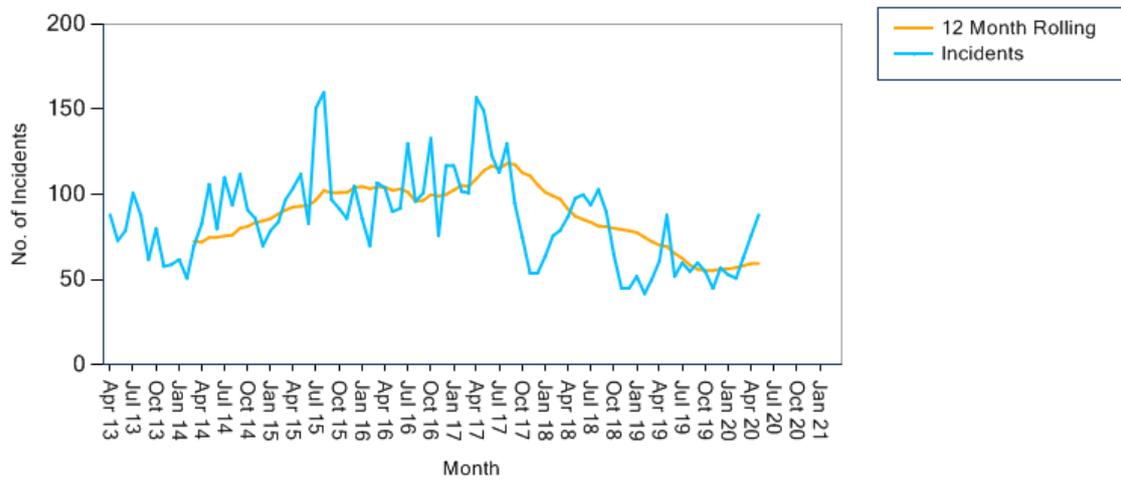
01/01/2020 to 31/05/2020

Location	Crimes in Period
Aldi Foodstore Ltd, Vimy Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1ER	20
109-113, Co-operative Retail Services Ltd, Waterdell, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3PL	18
9, Waitrose & Partners Ltd, Waterborne Walk, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DH	15
Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1WS	14
42, The Sun, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1RX	12
STREET RECORD, Trivia Close, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9SS	11
Tesco Stores Ltd, Vimy Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1ER	11
Homebase Ltd, Vimy Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1ER	10
Trivia Close, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9SS	10
Shell, Billington Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9HH	9
15, Superdrug Stores Plc, Waterborne Walk, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DH	9
9, Waitrose Ltd, Waterborne Walk, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DH	9
400, CO-OP FOOD, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4FN	8
28, Wilko Retail LTD, High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EA	7
50, Swan Hotel, High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EA	6
3-5, Lloyds Pharmacy, Market Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EU	6
1-4, Tesco, Aries Court, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3XW	6
Shell (UK) Ltd, Leighton Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1LA	5
Grovebury Retail Park, Unit 4, Grovebury Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4EG	5
37, Poundstore, High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1DN	5
STREET RECORD, Leighton Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1LA	5
Threshers Court, 26, Meadow Way, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3XX	5
Morrisons Supermarket Plc, Morrison, Filling Station, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1WS	4
10, The Top Bell Public House, 10, Market Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EY	4
STREET RECORD, Billington Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4TG	4
Vandyke Upper School & Community College, Vandyke Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 3DY	4
Grundfos Pumps Ltd, Grovebury Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4TL	3
Wilkinsons, Wilkinsons, High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EA	3
STREET RECORD, Eagle Close, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4AT	3
STREET RECORD, High Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1EE	3
16, Mary Bassett School, Bassett Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1AR	3
STREET RECORD, Globe Lane, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2TA	3
45, Gulf Service Station, Lake Street, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1SA	3
Astral Park, Johnson Drive, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4AY	3

Highest ASB demand locations:

Location	Postcode	In Period
Falcon Mews, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard	LU74QX	12
Millers Close, Leighton Buzzard	LU73YQ	8
Meadow Way, Leighton Buzzard	LU73XL	6
Heath Road, Leighton Buzzard	LU73BT	5
High Street, Leighton Buzzard	LU71EX	5
Westside, Doggett Street, Leighton Buzzard	LU71BE	5
Knaves Hill, Linslade	LU72RH	4
Oakley Green, Leighton Buzzard	LU73ED	4
Vandyke Road, Leighton Buzzard	LU73HH	4
Westside, Doggett Street, Leighton Buzzard	LU71BD	4

ASB long-term trend



**Dodford Results**

**Current tasking is weekly market day patrols on Tuesday and Saturdays (single officer or PCSO 09:00 – 13:00 and 12:00-16:00 / 13:00 – 17:00 alternate weeks), to disrupt and detect anti-social behaviour.**

**Market day patrol intention**

- Provide high visibility policing in the town centre and Market.
- Patrol the shops.
- Make licensed premises checks in the town centre.
- Monitor the taxi ranks, and deal with any offences.
- To seize alcohol and cigarettes from minors and alcohol in designated areas.
- Stop check younger children and enquire as to truancy.
- To ensure that the shoppers who come to the town centre and shop keepers and their staff feel safe whilst going about their business whilst deterring shoplifting in the retail establishments.
- To deter and move on street drinkers within the town centre area.
- To challenge and document antisocial behaviour and parking.
- To visit and patrol Parsons Rec & Pages Park to deter/ detect antisocial behaviour.

**Total hours worked and outcomes**

Month	Hours worked	Footbeat (hours)	Incidents Attended / of note	People stopped	Vehicles Stopped	Arrests
January 2020	48hrs		<p>Intelligence report submitted in relation to female drug user seen injecting drugs in the female toilets in WEST STREET car park.</p> <p>Group of traveller youths causing anti-social behaviour inside Superdrug in WATERBORNE WALK. Youths observed and ejected from the shop.</p> <p>2 youths riding bikes on the footpath causing alarm and distress to members of the public. They were stopped and given strong words of advice.</p> <p>Several cars parked on double yellow lines in NORTH STREET and LAKE STREET moved on and given words of advice.</p> <p>Male teenager had lost his mobile phone and was assisted by officer in trying to locate it. Phone later found by a member of the public.</p> <p>Community Protection Warnings issued due to poor behaviour in town from 2 youths to their parents with strict conditions for the youths to abide by.</p>	10		

		<p>Attended All Saints Church due to staff concerned that drug dealing is taking place inside the grounds. Reassurance and advice given and intelligence submitted.</p> <p>Well known LUTON homeless male seen back in LEIGHTON BUZZARD town centre. Intelligence submitted.</p> <p>Concerns raised regarding local homeless male causing issues and making a mess outside of Stephen ALLAN Jewellers and Wilkinson. Statements to be taken from both shops in order for further action to be taken.</p> <p>3 females ejected from Poundland after harassing staff. These females were also banned from Poundland and asked not to return.</p> <p>4 females acting in a suspicious manner in and around WATERBORNE WALK. Females were approached and spoken to and moved on.</p> <p>Known male and female shoplifters with empty bags seen looking into shop windows around the HIGH STREET. Deterred from stealing due to officer intervention.</p> <p>Catalytic converter stolen from a vehicle in WEST STREET car park. Incident reported by officer and vehicle owner was contacted by Crime Bureau to take a report.</p> <p>Theft of goods from Boots and male offender ran off down the HIGH STREET. CCTV informed. Area search but no trace for the offender. Boots did not want to take the matter any further due to poor CCTV and unknown value of goods stolen. Other shops made aware of the description of the male.</p> <p>Group of youths on bikes in WATERBORNE WALK causing issues spoken to and asked to leave the area. They headed out of town.</p> <p>Damage only Road Traffic Collision near to the post office in CHURCH SQUARE. Dealt with by attending officer.</p> <p>Information passed on regarding stolen goods being sold on E-Bay. Intelligence submitted.</p> <p>Male was viewed on CCTV and identified in the HIGH STREET after causing problems in The Swan Public House. Has now been banned as per request from the manager Rachel at the location.</p> <p>£30.00 found in the cash point at Lloyds Bank. Money returned to cashier.</p>			
February 2020	54.5hrs	Known female shoplifter with an unknown male seen with 2 boys around 9 – 11 years old walking around the town centre. Monitored and observed by officer deterring any shoplifting.	7		1

		<p>Prolific male shoplifter seen trying to get in Boots and New Look but deterred by shop staff and officer. Male eventually left the town centre.</p> <p>Wanted male seen and arrested after foot chase by officer.</p> <p>Assisted looking for a missing dog. Unfortunately, unable to locate.</p> <p>Vehicles parked illegally moved on from LAKE STREET and NORTH STREET.</p> <p>Hand bag found while out on patrol. Booked into property.</p> <p>CCTV viewed in Waitrose for shoplifting offender. Identified and to be added to the crime report for officer to arrest suspect.</p> <p>Officer assisted a couple who had locked themselves out of their car. Son was contacted who brought spare keys down.</p> <p>Theft from the Salvation Army. Goods retrieved and returned to the store.</p> <p>Credit card found and disposed of.</p> <p>Youths spoken to after causing problems in the multi storey car park.</p> <p>Attended Pyman Jewellers after concerns from staff that a male has been in on numerous occasions spending large amounts of cash on rings. Intelligence submitted and staff asked to monitor transactions and officers will attend regularly for updates.</p> <p>Known male with severe anger issues and violent tendencies walking around the HIGH STREET. Male monitored but no problems.</p> <p>Concerns raised from Superdrug regarding prolific offender targeting their shop. Safeguarding advice given and an area search for the male conducted. Not seen around during this shift.</p> <p>Trolley found hanging over the edge of the multi storey car park. CCTV informed and asked to keep a look out for youths anywhere in that area. CCTV also asked to look through footage to see if the youths responsible could be seen and identified.</p> <p>Multi storey car park cleaner informed officer of 3 well known drug users that have been seen acting suspiciously around the toilets. Other local Community units made aware of this.</p> <p>Words of advice given to youths doing wheelies and causing a nuisance in the HIGH STREET. Youths left the area.</p> <p>Male on a bike with his face covered deterred from stealing from Boots.</p>			
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		<p>Officer attended The Swan Public House and spoke to manager to advise that stolen goods were said to be being sold on the premises. She was told that if this was allowed to continue then the licencing team would be informed and they could expect a visit.</p> <p>Statement taken from manager of Superdrug in relation to a theft from shop by well known shoplifter in the area. Statement was then sent on to the officer in case.</p> <p>4 traveller males causing problems in the town centre stopped and spoken to and words of advice given.</p> <p>Restorative Justice warning handed out to a female caught stealing from Tesco.</p>			
March 2020	80	<p>Members of the public challenged in relation to shopping with children after Government guidelines outlined due to covid-19. All said they had no other option as they were single parents.</p> <p>Several vehicle owners spoke to at TIDDENFOOT LAKE in relation to driving to a beauty spot for a walk or run. All took the advice on board with no complaints and left the area.</p> <p>3 local homeless persons spoken to and offered placements in accommodation while the Covid-19 enforcement was in place. All 3 refused any kind of assistance on the grounds of them being unable to get their prescriptions. It was explained to them that this is something that they can get help with but all still refused any help.</p> <p>Boots visited and spoken to after complaints from them that the local homeless people are sleeping outside their shop during the evening and leaving a mess and urinating close by. It was explained to Boots staff that this could be due to the homeless people using their free Wi-Fi and advised that this should be turned off when they close to stop them from being able to use it.</p> <p>A number of vehicles were moved after being seen parked illegally in LAKE STREET and NORTH STREET.</p> <p>Known shoplifter made off after assaulting the security guard at Waitrose. Security guard asked to report to the control room.</p> <p>Youths on the top floor of the multi storey car park moved on due to congregating and noise.</p> <p>Group of travellers with empty bags seen walking around the HIGH STREET causing suspicion. Monitored and deterred from shoplifting.</p> <p>Youths on bikes warned and advised after seen riding push bikes on the foot path. They soon left the area.</p> <p>Assist Street Watch after a male was found collapsed. Male taken to hospital.</p>	5	2	

		<p>Known shoplifter stole 2 bottles of gin from Waitrose. CCTV made aware. Officer emailed crime bureau for a report to be taken.</p> <p>Male deterred from shoplifting from Poundland. CCTV was reviewed by attending officer and it transpired the same male had stolen several items before it was noticed. The shop was advised to crime the incident and to ensure the CCTV is kept. The male involved was well known to the Police. Description of the offender was passed on to CCTV operators and other shops in the town informed.</p> <p>Due to Covid-19 becoming a major concern and a lockdown put in place by the Government towards the end of March the market and all non-essential shops were ordered to close. Due to this a comprehensive list of shops, beauty spots and parks were compiled and Dodford duties resumed and officers asked to visit places on this list to make sure members of the public were complying with social distancing and that parks and play areas were not being used and that people were not driving to beauty spots to go for walks, dog walks or runs. Below is a list of those locations that were to be visited at least twice during the shift and shop staff and security spoken to:-</p> <p><u>LEIGHTON BUZZARD:</u></p> <p>Leighton Tesco Vimmy Road</p> <p>Aldi Vimmy Road</p> <p>Waitrose Waterborne Walk</p> <p>Morrisons Lake Street</p> <p>Sainsburys Billington Road, Leighton Buzzard</p> <p>Co-op Leighton Road</p> <p>Lloyds Pharmacy High Street</p> <p>Grovebury Retail Park Grovebury Road</p> <p>Meadow Way/Danes Field Play Area Meadow Way,</p> <p>Vandyke Road Playing Field, Vandyke Road</p> <p>Parsons Close Recreation Ground</p> <p>Pages Park Billington Road</p> <p>Astral Park Johnson Drive</p> <p>Boots Chemist High Street</p> <p>Wilkinsons High Street</p> <p><u>LINSLADE:</u></p> <p>Tesco Express, Coniston Road</p>			
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**RESTRICTED**

		<p>Derwent Road Recreation Ground and Play Area Derwent Road</p> <p>Linslade Recreation Ground Waterloo Road</p> <p>Mentmore Park Mentmore Road</p> <p>Tiddenfoot Lake Mentmore Road</p> <p>Homebase Vimy Road</p> <p>Leighton train Station Station road</p> <p>Post office Church Square, Leighton</p> <p>The Market</p> <p>Library car park, Lake street, Leighton Buzzard.</p>			
April 2020	100hrs	<p>Strict Covid-19 restrictions were still in place and Operation Dodford officers working the shifts were asked to continue to patrol the areas set out on the list provided to offer reassurance to shops and other open business premises and to engage, explain and encourage members of the public not adhering to the government advice to go home or risk receiving a fine.</p> <p>A number of members of the public came up and thanked us for what we were doing and to keep up the good work that we were doing in the community.</p> <p>Incidents attended included Covid-19 breaches in WING ROAD to which the residents were given strong words of advice and their guests asked to leave.</p> <p>Report of youths using the bike track at DANES WAY field. No sign of any youths on officer arrival.</p> <p>Known offender going around coughing in peoples faces. Extensive area search but male not found.</p> <p>A vehicle thought to be being driven on cloned plates. Area search no trace for vehicle.</p> <p>Homeless male seen by CCTV to be the victim of an assault. Male spoken to by attending officers but refused to engage or give over any details of any assault.</p> <p>Homeless persons once again offered accommodation while Covid-19 remains a threat. Once again all help offered was refused.</p>	2		
May 2020	112hrs	<p>Strict Covid-19 restrictions were still in place and Operation Dodford officers working the shifts were asked to continue to patrol the areas set out on the list provided to offer reassurance to shops and other open business premises and to engage, explain and encourage members of the public not adhering to the government advice to go home or risk receiving a fine.</p> <p>The market restarted in the library car park between the hours of 08:00 and 12:00 and due to this shifts were changed to accommodate this with the market traders and council staff being given priority to ensure</p>			

			members of the public attending were adhering to the Government guidelines and that they were social distancing. Foot patrols were also conducted in the HIGH STREET, WATERBORNE WALK, PARSONS REC, NORTH STREET, GROVEBURY ROAD and TIDDENFOOT LAKE. Shop staff and security at Waitrose, Tesco, Homebase, Aldi, Morison's, Sainsburys and pharmacy outlets were amongst those spoken to. All spoken to were very appreciative of our presence and said that it made themselves and their staff feel safe.			
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**Additional information**

Nothing further of note.