Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Impact of police reform on local policing

Written submission from E McDonald

Reading with interest the paragraph in the Evening News 5/11/13 about policing, it will be a sad day if our community police are redeployed; in my area they would be greatly missed.

I have been involved with the police and council since 18 May 2012 about parking on pavements on roundabout and this took place even when our crossing patrol lady was trying to keep the children safe. It was a terrible time; eventually it was agreed with the council and police that double yellow lines would go. Town and police were to enforce them ie. any person that had a drive had to use it and not park on verges or pavement. Access only, I would think this is pretty clear yet you would think yet some police PC say obstruction. I get angry at this as it’s been very hard getting to this point.

Now I must tell you about the brilliant community police PCs. First there is Lyndsey Hughson, Rona Duncan and now new Emma Smith, all of Dalkeith. Lyndsey is very well thought of and is well known and does a grand job. Rona I have spoken to and on the phone and is always helpful, and there is Emma who Lindsay introduced me to and I think all three are great for this area.

The parking we still have some issues with and I still have to phone about but Lyndsey cannot be there all the time and the back-up is not good. That is why if the police are local they know it is nothing to do with obstruction. It is an offence and the police should be singing from the same hymn sheet. I am enclosing the first letter, also a plan of my area. I am not even sure this letter will be read but I felt I had to write it.

E McDonald
10 November 2013
Thick black crosses: Is where some parking goes on.
Arrows: That is the four crossings our crossing patrol lady looks after on her own.