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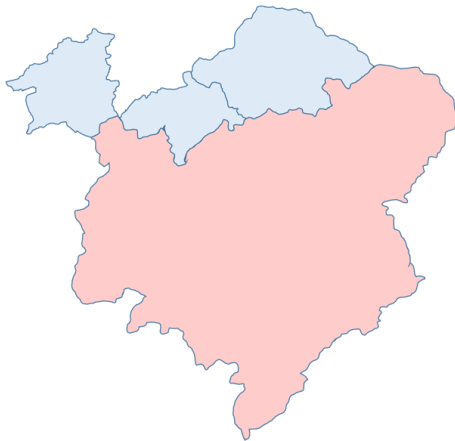


Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Tweeddale East and West Community Councils Multi Member Ward Report for October 2021

29/09/21 – 26/10/21



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Tweeddale East & West Multi Member Ward Policing Plan and the areas you have identified as priorities.

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. 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.

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Figures for the whole Scottish Borders Area

(Data from 01/04/2020 – 27/10/2021)

	2020 /2021	2021 /2022	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	1,918	2,293	19.6	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 50.1% compared to 55.2% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	81	102	25.9	The detection rate for Group 1 is 70.1% compared to 81.7 % at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	32	35	9.4	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 68.6% compared to 87.5% at same time last year.
Robberies	11	7	-70.0	The detection rate for Robberies is 100% compared to 54.5% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	475	591	24.4	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 64.6% compared to 72.2% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	4,527	3,467	-23.4	
Hate Crime – All incidents	59	85	+44.1	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 60.3% compared to 88% at the same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	144	192	33.3	The detection rate for Group 2 is 60.4% compared to 72.9% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	23	31	34.8	The detection rate for Rape is 64.5% compared to 69.6% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – All incidents	11	13	18.2	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes are 84.6% compared to 109.1% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	691	853	23.4	The detection rate for Group 3 is 29.2% compared to 36.2% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	25	49	96.0	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 32.7% compared to 64.0% at same time last year.
Motor Vehicle Thefts	29	29	-	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 24.1% compared to 58.6% at same time last year.

Community Sergeant Update

PS Stephen Granger



October has seen the start of the prevention and intervention phase for Operation Moonbeam. This is the police response to target illegal use of fireworks and associated anti-social behaviour which statistical evidence has indicated increases at this time of year. The activity phase will cover the two consecutive weekends spanning the Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night periods in 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has again impacted the number of organised public displays scheduled to take place. There will be significantly fewer events than in previous years, however, this may encourage members of the public to buy their own supplies for garden displays.

Amendments to The Fireworks (Scotland) Regulations 2004 were made in June 2021 relating to the supply, sale and use of fireworks.

This will be the first Bonfire Night with the new rules, which are as follows:

- Regulation 3: Use of fireworks outside permitted hours: restricts the times of day fireworks can be used by the general public to between 6pm and 11pm, with the exception of 5 November (when they can be used from 6pm until midnight), New Year's Eve, the night of Chinese New Year and the night of Diwali (when they can be used from 6pm until 1am).
- Regulation 3A: supply of fireworks outside permitted hours: restricts the times of day fireworks can be sold to the general public to the daytime hours of 7am and 6pm, alongside existing requirements on retailers around sale and storage licences.
- Regulation 3B: supply of fireworks in excess of the permitted quantity: restricts the quantity of fireworks that can be sold by retailers to the general public to 5kg at any one time.

There are exemptions to regulation 3, which includes groups who have a local authority issued public entertainment licence or public liability insurance documents, and professional fireworks operators.

The public should be mindful of these changes and I would encourage them to report concerns relating to the sale, supply and discharge of fireworks outside permitted times promptly to police. This can be done via 101 or via Contactus on the Police Scotland website.

Finally, the weekends of both Hallowe'en (Sunday, 31 October) and Bonfire Night (Friday, 5 November) fall within the timings relating to the policing of the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow. This was referenced in last month's report by CI Vinnie Fisher the Local Area Commander. Community Officers will be abstracted to cover other duties during this time between local response policing or deploying to COP26. Your patience and understanding is appreciated during this time and non urgent queries can still be directed to the Community Policing email boxes at the end of this report which will continue to be monitored.

Local Policing Priorities

1. Protecting most vulnerable
2. Reducing violence and Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Reducing acquisitive crime
4. Improving road safety
5. Tackling serious and organised crime



Protecting most vulnerable

In October 2021 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around **141** mental health related calls, around **31** missing person enquiries and approximately **70** domestic related incidents.

Tweeddale East & West had **14** mental health related calls and 0 missing person enquiries. Due to GDPR and protection of victims/subjects involved, we are unable to share any more specific information in relation to these type of call within this report.

Police Scotland work in collaboration with key partners to assist the most vulnerable within the communities and to provide support.



Reducing violence and ASB

Assaults

03/10/21 report received of an assault in Eastgate, Peebles. The assailant was traced and issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

08/10/21 report of a female apparently assaulting male in George Terrace, Peebles. Officers attended and failed to find the persons involved after extensive enquiry.

Anti-Social Behaviour

01/10/21 report received that youths were within the Community Garden, Kingsmeadows Road, Peebles. Officers attended and the youths made off. No damage has been reported.

01/10/21 report of youths throwing sticks at windows of a property in Tweed Avenue. Officers attended and there was no trace of the youths and no damage to the windows.

02/10/21 report of youths consuming alcohol at Cardrona. Area searched by officers with no trace of the youths.

Between 03/10/21 and 24/10/21 – report of youths antagonising a resident at Cleland Avenue, Peebles. Community policing dealing.

08/10/21 report of female youths banging on windows at Waverley Mills, Innerleithen. Area searched by officers with no trace of the females.

08/10/21 report of youths shouting and swearing at Play Park, Walkerburn. No trace of youths on officers attending.

09/10/21 report of youths chapping doors at Station Road, West Linton. Officers attended and there was no trace. Further enquiry by Community/Youth Engagement Officer.

Between 12/10/21 and 22/10/21 reports received regarding youths harassing another resident in Cleland Avenue, Peebles – officers have attended on each occasion and identified four youths as being responsible. Youths spoken to in presence of parents.

13/10/21 report of eggs and flour thrown at a property in Dunwhinny Gardens. Youth Engagement Officer making further enquiries.

16/10/21 male issued with a Recorded Police Warning for urinating in a close off High Street, Peebles.

16/10/21 report of vehicles speeding and revving engines in Kingsmeadows Car Park. Area searched no trace.

16/10/21 report of mixed group of youths fighting at junction of Young Street and Old Town, Peebles. No trace on officers attending.

16/10/21 report of males causing a disturbance in Old Town, Peebles and that a vehicle had been damaged. Officers attended and owner of vehicle made aware of the damage.

17/10/21 report of males swearing and under the influence at lunch time near to Tweed Bridge. Officers attended and spoke with the males and there were no issues.

17/10/21 report of youths knocking on door in Victoria Park Drive and running away. Community Officers dealing.

18/10/21 complaint re youths knocking door in Glen Road, Peebles. Community Officers dealing.

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19/10/21 Offices were called to licensed premises in Northgate, Peebles regarding a disturbance. On arrival of the officers the persons had been ejected and there were no complaints made.

22/10/21 report of youths throwing eggs at a property in Marmion Road, Peebles. Community officers dealing.

22/10/21 report received that there was a large group of youths drinking, smashing glass and causing damage in School Brae, Peebles. Officers were on High Street, Peebles at the time speaking with other youths when this was received and there were no youths, smashed glass or vandalism taking place.

23/10/21 due to complaints regarding youths congregating at West Linton Primary School officers on patrol found four youths within. Two of the youths were issued with Recorded Police Warnings after being found in possession of drugs.

24/10/21 report of a male being harassed by youths in Glensax Road, Peebles. Officers attended and there was no trace.

24/10/21 whilst assisting a female in Eastgate, Peebles the female assaulted an officer and will be reported for various offences. The officer was not injured.

25/10/21 report received of a disturbance in Dalatho Crescent, Peebles. Officers attended and a female charged with assault and possession of an offence weapon. Released on police bail with a date to appear at court.

Vandalism

02/10/21 report of damage to vehicle St. Andrews Close, West Linton. Enquiries continuing.

18/10/21 a car was damaged in Connor Street, Peebles. Enquiries continuing.

23/10/21 officers on mobile patrol became aware of a disturbance outside the Neidpath Inn, Peebles where a window had been damaged. A male was identified and charged with vandalism.

Reducing acquisitive crime

Theft

29/09/21 report of alcohol being stolen earlier in the month by youths from Glen Road Store, Glen Road, Peebles. Enquiries continuing.

06/10/21 attempts were made to enter a camper van parked in Connor Street. Persons were disturbed and left the area. For further enquiry.

Between 13/10/21 and 16/10/21 a white Ford Transit Tipper was stolen from Connor Place, Peebles. Further enquiries.

18/10/21 report of garden chairs being stolen from a garden in Cleland Avenue. This is all part of the Anti-Social Behaviour being dealt with by Community Officers.

Theft Housebreaking

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Between 29/09/21 and 30/09/21 attempts were made to enter sheds a farm in West Linton. Enquiries continuing.

18/10/21 a property in Walkerburn was entered and items stolen. Further enquiries being made.

21/10/21 report received of 3 vehicles stolen from a property in Leithen Road, Innerleithen. Two of the vehicles were subsequently recovered. Enquiries continuing.



Improving road safety

Within the Selkirk Sheriff Court Jurisdiction there were **4** parking tickets issued in September.

30/09/21 driver reported for careless driving on Boggsbank Road, West Linton.

05/10/21 a male has been reported for dangerous driving on A72 east of Walkerburn.

06/10/21 report of a driver failing to stop after hitting a vehicle in North Street, Peebles.

08/10/21 report of a vehicle being driven dangerously on A703 near to Cringletie Hotel causing an accident. Enquiries being made to trace driver.

09/10/21 report received that an ambulance had crashed on the A703 south of Eddleston and was on its side in a field. Officers attended and the driver was uninjured.

09/10/21 a male has been reported for failing to identify the driver of a vehicle involved in a Road Accident in July 2021

13/10/21 driver was issued a fine for driving without a current MOT certificate in Peebles

12/10/21 report of a driver hitting a stationery car in Edinburgh Road, Peebles. No one was injured.

12/10/21 report of 1 vehicle accident on A72 near Drochil Castle. Vehicle was on its side but driver sustained no injuries.

12/10/21 report of a vehicle having struck 2 metal bollards at children's crossing at South Park, Peebles. Officers attended and are following a positive line of enquiry.

16/10/21 a driver in Walkerburn was issued a fine for driving without a current MOT certificate, and also issued with a Recorded Police Warning for possession of drugs.

22/10/21 report of a number of cars racing on A72 near the Nest Roundabout and Clovenfords area. No details of the vehicles were given. Officers attended and there were no trace of the vehicles.



Tackling serious and organised crime

On 19th of October 2021 officers on patrol in Galashiels stopped a male and following a search of him and his possessions, 45.8g of Herbal Cannabis was recovered along with £327 in cash. Total value of items recovered was £700. The circumstances the male was found in resulted in him being arrested and reported for being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

On 19th of October 2021 officers executed a drugs search warrant at a address in Galashiels, a search of the address resulted in the recovery of items related to drugs supply and quantities of both Class A and Class B drugs. A male occupant has been reported to the procurator fiscal for being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

On 20th of October 2021 officers executed a search warrant at an address in Hawick. Following a search over 60 items of stolen property were found. A male occupant was reported to the procurator fiscal regarding the circumstances.

On 21st of October 2021 officers executed a search warrant at an address in Hawick. Following a search of the address over 100 items of counterfeit goods and £6000 cash were recovered along with amounts of Cocaine and Cannabis. A male occupant will be reported for trading offences and possession of controlled drugs.

Campaigns

October Activity: You can keep up to date with the latest from [Scottish Borders Police](#) by following their Facebook page.

- **"After Dark" Housebreaking Prevention Campaign.**

A house that looks unoccupied is a target for criminals.

- ✓ Keep windows and doors locked
- ✓ Secure sheds and garages
- ✓ Fit/check outside security lighting is working
- ✓ Fit a shed/garage alarm
- ✓ Fit an intruder alarm
- ✓ Record/security mark valuable property
- ✓ Consider additional garage door locks
- ✓ Use timer switches on lights
- ✓ Secure bicycles to a ground anchor
- ✓ Consider leaving a radio or audio device on when not at home



As the nights get darker earlier think about your home security.

- A **Bike Security Drop-In** was held at the Enduro World Series Tweed Valley Event at Innerleithen on 2nd October.
Local Officers and VeloEye offered Free Bike Marking and Security Advice



Bike Security Drop-In
EWS Tweed Valley Event Innerleithen
Sat 2nd October
10am – 3pm in the Festival Village

- Bike Marking
- Security Advice

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- **Ongoing Divisional Domestic Abuse campaign**

- Regular social media posts highlighting local (DAAS) and national helpline contact details and reporting mechanisms

e.g. " Are you – or someone you know - afraid of your partner or ex-partner? Know that you are not alone, that we believe you and that we can help. In the Scottish Borders, DAAS provides confidential information and support to anyone experiencing domestic abuse focussing on risk assessment and working with you to safety plan; DAAS will enable you to make informed choices about safety and provide support to help you recover and live a life free from harm/abuse. DAAS are available on 01835 825024 or daas@scotborders.gov.uk Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm.

For further information on the range of services available in Scottish Borders visit

<http://ow.ly/mzXp50FPzE2>

Outside office hours you can call the 24 Hour Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 027 1234 or visit

<http://ow.ly/P3sh50FPzE3> in an emergency always call 999."



2. General Crime Prevention Activity

Rural

- Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) - the partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.

A launch event was held at Kelso Ram Sales on 10th September

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/4144/new_partnership_launched_to_help_tackle_rural_crime_in_the_scottish_borders

Hare Coursing days of action are being held regularly at priority locations and times.



HELP US TARGET THIEVES AND POTENTIAL THIEVES IN YOUR AREA

- ALWAYS contact Police Scotland IMMEDIATELY if you see suspicious activity on or near your property
- Use 999 if ongoing (e.g. if persons are still on your property, are threatening or a crime is in progress)
- Otherwise call the 101 non-emergency number
- CONSIDER YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY - DO NOT PUT YOURSELF AT RISK BY CONFRONTING INTRUDERS
- You can also report to us on-line <https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>
- Or report anonymously through Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

WHAT INFORMATION DO WE NEED?

ANY information you can provide may help us create the connection to criminal activity including:

- ✓ Registration number or partial registration number
- ✓ Photograph or description of a suspicious vehicle (e.g. colour / make / model / any signage)
- ✓ If the vehicle has left - what direction was it going?
- ✓ How many people were in the vehicle and any descriptions?
- ✓ If they spoke to you what did they give as a reason for being on your property?



SCOTTISH PARTNERSHIP AGAINST RURAL CRIME

- We continued to distribute free SelectaDNA forensic marking kits & signs and crime prevention advice to farmers and rural business. These can be requested by Farmers / Rural businesses using the [Contact Us Form](#) on the Police Scotland Website.



No Cold Calling Zones

- A refresh of the existing zone in Swinton been completed (new road signs and house packs).
- Information has been provided to Innerleithen Community Council re. setting up a new one.
- Any community organisation wishing to refresh their zone (those with the old Lothian and Borders Police signs) or interested in setting up a new zone should contact their local community policing team <https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>



New 159 fraud hotline launched

A new emergency hotline has been launched for people to report and check financial scams as they happen.

A potential victim who dials 159 will be automatically connected to their bank's fraud prevention service. **This is only if your bank has signed up to this scheme.**

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Anyone who receives a call or message from somebody claiming to be from a trusted organisation and who suggests money should be transferred is being urged to hang up and call 159.

Fraudsters stole £4m a day in the UK in the first half of the year.

The banking trade body, UK Finance, has described the level of fraud as a national security threat.

- **Fraudsters steal £4m a day as crime surges**
- **Politeness leaving people at mercy of fraudsters**

The new service is being promoted by **Stop Scams UK** - a coalition of banking and technology companies.

Initially, the project is being run for a year, but the intention is for it to become a universal service eventually.

However, not all banks and building societies are signed up. TSB will not join until January. Banks that are taking part include Barclays, Lloyds (including Halifax and Bank of Scotland), NatWest (including Royal Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank), Santander and Starling Bank. Nationwide Building Society said it would join but it has also [launched its own version](#).

More than 80% of UK mobiles and landlines will be able to use 159 at the outset, costing the same as a national rate call. There is also [an accompanying website](#).

CAT Update:

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – During October the CAT have completed targeted foot and mobile patrols, paying particular attention to youth hot spot areas in Peebles, Jedburgh, and Kelso. Following issues at the public toilets in Jedburgh, CCTV was installed and patrols completed, resulting in a significant reduction in incidents reported. In Peebles, a bottle marking initiative has been carried out in Peebles with the assistance of local licensed premises



DRUGS – CAT officers continue to carry out intelligence led stop and searches, with quantities of drugs being recovered. They have also executed drugs warrants in Galashiels and Duns, with Class A and B drugs seized. Further warrants were executed in Hawick with a large quantity of counterfeit clothing seized. Enquiries are ongoing with the various brands and a male will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal. A further house search in Hawick resulted in the recovery of various items of stolen property. One male has been reported for a variety of offences.

ROAD SAFETY – CAT have issued a number of tickets to drivers for various offences. Mobile patrols have been carried out in hotspot areas including Hawick, Galashiels and Peebles and a number of ASB vehicle warnings have been issued. High visibility road checks have been carried in targeted hot spots.

QUAD BIKES – Two new police quad bikes are now fully operational, and have already been utilised for missing person searches in the Newcastleton and Yetholm areas. Additionally, they have been used to patrol more remote areas in Peebles where youths have been gathering and leaving broken bottles, litter etc.

Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team

Anyone with information relating to any criminal activity can contact Police Scotland

By dialling 101 or alternatively anonymously by calling

CRIMESTOPPERS on **0800 555111**.

Should the Community Council wish to discuss any matters highlighted in the report, please contact:

TweeddaleEastCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TweeddaleWestCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

We will endeavour to provide you with this information, however some information is sensitive and as an organisation we have to ensure compliance with GDPR.

