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## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Tweeddale East and West Community Councils Multi Member Ward Report for February 2023



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.

# **Community Sergeant Update**

February seen Peebles High School host the first of a Pupil Support Hub during the lunch break, aimed at introducing teenagers to a wide range of services to ensure they are aware what information and assistance is all available to them as they enter adulthood. This included representatives from Social Work, Police, Citizens Advice, local housing associations and youth groups to name but a few. The hub was a great success with plans to continue this monthly with a more specific focus following feedback from pupils and the organisations involved.



Youth
Engagement
Officer PC
Moody at the
Pupil Support
Hub.

# **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 February 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 139 mental health related calls, around 26 missing person enquiries and approximately 78 domestic related incidents.

Tweeddale East and West had 12 mental health related calls and 4 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 Anti-Social Behaviour**

#### **Assaults**

04/02/23 – a youth has been reported for assaulting another youth in Victoria Park, Peebles.

15/02/23 – a minor assault was reported in Eastgate, Peebles enquiries are continuing.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour**

13/02/23 – report received of youths causing a disturbance in School Brae, Peebles. Officers attended and there was no trace of the youths or any damage found.

15/02/23 – report of a Rave ongoing in the area of Kingsmeadows Car Park/Tweed Bridge. Officers attended timeously and found no noise on arrival. There were youths on Tweed Green but they were not causing any issues.

## **Vandalism**

06/02/23 – report of damage to the poly tunnel and bench at Kingsland Primary School, Peebles.

15/02/23 – report of damage to front door of a property in Main Street, West Linton

24/02/23 – report of damage to the plastic window of the Pirate Ship within the play park at Victoria Park.



# **Reducing Acquisitive Crime**

## Theft by Housebreaking

04/02/23 – between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February three bikes were stolen from a property in Pirn Road, Innerleithen.

18/02/23 – report of a bike being stolen from a property in Springhill, Peebles

18/02/23 – report a property being broken into at Cardrona and property stolen.

## **Theft**

Between midnight and 0700 09/02/23 a car battery was stolen from a car at Bellspool, Dawyck.

Between 1630 and 1700 hours on 19/02/23 a mountain bike was stolen from outside a property on Peebles Road, Innerleithen.



# **Improving Road Safety**

## Killed or Seriously Injured

There were no accidents where persons were killed or seriously injured.

Road Traffic Offences

02/02/23 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for driving with no insurance in Peebles

02/02/23 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for careless/inconsiderate driving in Peebles

04/02/23 – a driver has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for driving with no insurance.



# **Tackling Serious and Organised Crime**

# **Campaigns**

## **Keep Safe Initiative**

Primarily aimed at disabled members of the community helping to tackle disability hate crime, Keep Safe is a national network of over 800 safe places (including shops, libraries, pubs etc.) for anyone who may feel lost, scared or vulnerable when out in the community. About Keep Safe (iammescotland.co.uk)

All Scottish Borders Co-ops have signed up to the scheme with staff training, business packs and store signage being provided.

#### Rural

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



 We continued to distribute free Selecta DNA 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 new Zone has been set up in Eddleston covering 120 Houses Road signs and house-packs have been provided.
- Implementation work is ongoing with Bowden and Newtown St Boswells community councils for zones in these areas.
- 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 <a href="https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/">https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/</a>

## **Scams**

Victims of Phone / Internet / Doorstep Scams continue to be provided with an incident follow-up information pack containing advice intended to prevent repeat victimisation. This pack now includes a copy of the latest "Little Book of Big Scams" which covers a huge variety of common scams. <u>Little</u> Book of Big Scams — Cyber Scotland

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# **CAT Update:**

ROAD SAFETY –SBCAT have issued 9 traffic tickets throughout the month, with two people being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a number of offences including no MOT & insurance. We continue to carry out static checks to prevent and detect traffic offences. Speed Gun checks are being carried out outside schools and where there is a recognised casualty profile, and we are liaising with partners with a view to implementing a community speed watch scheme in the future.

PARKING TICKETS – SBCAT issued 22 parking tickets in February.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – Static road checks also help deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 78 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in February. We are also continuing to develop our relationship with neighbouring forces to address cross border crime and travelling criminals.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – 4 drug search warrants were carried out in January in Hawick and Kelso, with 3 of them providing positive results. Personal amounts of drugs were seized.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE — Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant. In February SBCAT traced and arrested five persons who were wanted on warrant. We were also involved in the recent child abduction in Galashiels, initially assisting with the search and thereafter with the enquiry and public reassurance.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols and engagement with youths continue in Burnfoot Industrial Estate. We have also been liaising with partners to address ongoing youth issues reported at the Galashiels Interchange.



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# 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.