

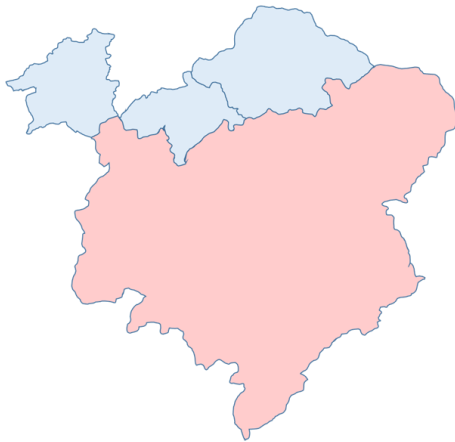
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Tweeddale East and West Community Councils Multi Member Ward Report for August 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.

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Community Policing News – Tweeddale East and West – PS James Harrison

An issue that is frequently brought to my attention is speeding. Road Safety is a priority for Police Scotland and we have set guidelines for how we deal with speeding issues. A noteworthy extract from this guidance is *'Deployment of resources must prioritise sites which represent the greatest risk and should only be undertaken where considered necessary and in the interest of casualty reduction'*.

We assess reports of speeding using a number of different methods. One of these is by using www.crashmap.co.uk to find evidence of a casualty profile. Another is to liaise with Scottish Borders Council to establish if a speed survey has been conducted recently. Scottish Borders Council publish their speed surveys online at <https://scottishborders.azurewebsites.net/scottishborders/map-full-view>

A speeding complaint will be allocated police resources according to the level of risk it represents. We do receive reports that, once a survey has taken place, seem to be an issue of perception rather than speeding. If there is no casualty profile, and no evidence from surveys of a speeding issue, then we cannot justify allocating significant resources. Routine responses to this will be in the form of speed gun checks outside a nearby school, or Pop Up Bob being deployed by a local Community Officer.

Scottish Borders Council can carry out speed surveys if you believe there is a persistent speeding issue. If a genuine speeding issue is identified they may be able to consider such things as repainting lines or putting in additional signage to reduce speeds, or even engineering solutions. This also gives police evidence of the issue and will enable us to dedicate further resources. In such cases we can start to utilise the Roads Policing department or the Community Action Team, who will include these areas into their patrol matrix. A Safety Camera Van may also be deployed (however these will not enforce a 20mph limit).

While Road Safety is a priority for Police Scotland, our ability to address it will always be dictated by resources. I will finish with the words of our Local Area Commander Chief Inspector Fisher, *'In summary, we receive many complaints of speeding and our response to each is carefully considered. Before carrying out any speed enforcement, it is essential we can evidence a speeding related casualty profile, and that deployment of resources is justified in terms of casualty reduction potential.'*

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

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In August 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 187 mental health related calls, around 36 missing person enquiries and approximately 80 domestic related incidents.

Tweeddale East and West had 23 mental health related calls and 3 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

Anti-Social Behaviour

05/08/23 – 14 year old male reported for causing a breach of the peace in School Brae/Tweed Green, Peebles

09/08/23 – Report of youths causing noise in Eastgate, Peebles. Youths had left prior to police attending.

13/08/23 – Report of large gathering of youths causing a nuisance in Kingsmeadows Car Park, Peebles. Officers attended and youths had left.

17/08/23 – Report of youths causing a nuisance at a Hotel on High Street, Peebles. After enquiry three youths have been reported for Culpable and Reckless Conduct.

21/08/23 – A male who caused a disturbance at Hay Lodge Health Centre, Peebles was detained for court the following day where the Sheriff gave him a 6 month prison sentence.

Vandalism

06/08/23 – Report of a window being smashed at a property on High Street. Further enquiries being made.

18/08/23 – Report of youths causing damage to a property in March Street. Further enquiries being made.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

Theft

05/08/23 – Report of a bag and contents being stolen from the Gytes Leisure Centre, Peebles.

Between 2030 19/08/23 and 0720 20/08/23 two mountain bikes were stolen from a campsite at Traquair House, Innerleithen.

21/08/23 – Report of a window being smashed at old accommodation building at Peebles Hydro.

22/08/23 – Report of a bike being stolen from Glentress, Peebles



Improving Road Safety

Killed or Seriously Injured

Road Traffic Offences

05/08/23 – A driver reported for careless driving after an accident on A72 at Horsbrugh Ford.

06/08/23 – A driver has been reported for a number of road traffic offences after being involved in an accident in Eliots Park, Peebles.

08/08/23 – Driver has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for dangerous driving on the A703 between Peebles and Eddleston.

14/08/23 – Driver has been issued with a Fixed Penalty Ticket for no insurance when stopped on Carlops Road, West Linton.

15/08/23 – A driver was issued an Anti-Social Behaviour warning for their manner of driving on Innerleithen Road, Peebles and A72.

19/08/23 – Driver reported for careless driving and having no insurance whilst driving on A703.

29/08/23 – Driver issued with a Fixed Penalty Ticket for careless driving on A72 near Blyth Bridge.

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 \(iammescotland.co.uk\)](http://iammescotland.co.uk)

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

Divisional Domestic Abuse campaign

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

Ongoing engagement with main local employers to share campaign messages, information in relation to local support services and charities and prevention messages targeting perpetrators directly.

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
<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>

CAT Update:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at Coldstream Civic Week, Lauder Common Riding and Eyemouth Herring Queen Festival.

SBCAT also helped in the safe delivery of the UCI World Championships event at Glentress, Peebles conducting high visibility foot patrols at the event site as well as mobile patrols of Peebles and surrounding area. The event ran from 4th – 12th August with SBCAT officers involved each day of the event (approximately 8 hours a day per officer).

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 11 traffic tickets throughout the month.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 31 tickets have been issued. The Waterloo Van Centre has been checked regularly by officers however no issue has been identified.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We continue to carry out static road checks in rural areas at all times of day to deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 41 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in August.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot, Hawick as well as near derelict sites in Hawick to address concerns at these locations. Galashiels Interchange continues to be patrolled regularly by officers. Further to that, officers have repeatedly attended at Moneynut windfarm, Berwickshire, to deter and detect off road motorbikes.

Reports being received by officers of youth ASB in Newtown St. Boswells, specifically at SBC HQ as well as near to Whitehill Farm. Regular patrols of the area being conducted by SBCAT officers and background work being undertaken by local CBO to establish a longer term solution.

A report was made to police of youths climbing on scaffolding at the abandoned St. Aidan's School in Gattonside. SBCAT officers attended and traced the youths involved resulting in 4 youths receiving Youth Warning Letters.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant/missing person/and bail curfew checks. SBCAT have carried out regular checks on multiple individuals who are wanted on warrant. These individuals are aware they are wanted and enquiries to trace them are continuing.

Following a report of a recidivist violent offender breaching bail conditions, SBCAT officers traced the male and conveyed him to Hawick Police Station where he was charged accordingly and held for court the following day.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT took part in executing 1 drug search warrants in the area.

In Innerleithen, one male was reported to the Procurator Fiscal after a quantity of Class B drugs were found within his home address. A further male within the property was also reported for possession of an Offensive Weapon.

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Other – After reports of a male in Hawick armed with a knife, SBCAT officers attended and arrested the male to be held for court the following day. After assisting with follow up enquiries, the male was successfully remanded to prison to await trial.

SBCAT officers assisted with a further call of a male in possession of a knife in Jedburgh, tracing and arresting the male to be held for court the following day.



[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.