

Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Tweeddale East and West Community Councils Multi Member Ward Report for November 2024



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.

North Area Community Policing News - PS Crawford Laing

With the Festive period fast approaching I would like to appeal to people to ensure that they take care of themselves and others when on nights out. Alcohol is often a factor in putting ourselves and others at risk and so moderating alcohol consumption can go a long way to keeping ourselves safe. Don't become separated from friends when out and plan ahead in relation to getting home.....always have a Plan B!

Winter weather can be challenging when out on the roads. Making sure that your car is well maintained will help reduce the risk of problems during your journey and having a few items (food, water, phone charger) in the car in case of emergency is always a good idea.

The Festive period can be a challenging time for some however there are organisations out there that can help.

Breathing Space - 0800 83 85 87

NHS 24 - 111

Samaritans – 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org

The Your Police Survey for 2024/25 is still open, the link below gives access. We value your input and would appreciate your time in completing the survey.

https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2024-2025/

The below link gives access to the latest Police document for the Scrutiny Panel for the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board, which sits every quarter at Scottish Borders Council.

(Public Pack)Item No. 5 (a) - Police Scotland Agenda Supplement for Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board, 13/12/2023 09:30 (moderngov.co.uk)

Once you click into this link, please scroll down to read the full report. It provides progress and updates on service matters from Police Scotland as presented by the Local Area Commander CI Stuart Fletcher.

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 November 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 179 mental health related calls, around 14 missing person enquiries and approximately 84 domestic related incidents.

Tweeddale East and West had 19 mental health related calls 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 Anti-Social Behaviour

Assaults

On 04/11/2024 report of disturbance taking place within an address in Whitehaugh Park, Peebles. One male arrested and charged with assault and BOP.

On 08/11/2024 report of assault taking place in Crookston Place, Peebles. Male arrested and subsequently charge with assault and road traffic offences.

On 16/11/2024 report of assault on Northgate, Peebles. Person responsible arrested and charged with assault and held for court.

On 17/11/2024 report of an assault in a property St Michaels Bank, Peebles. Person responsible arrested and charged with Assault.

On 28/11/2024 report of an assault within a licensed premises in West Linton. Crime report submitted for assault.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/11/2024 report of persons still within a licensed premises in Peebles after closing time. Officers attended and no offences detected.

On 02/11/2024 report of humming noise from an address in Old Town, Peebles. Ongoing neighbour issue. Caller already in contact with council. No further police action.

On 03/11/2024 report of youths kicking a front door in St Ronan's Way, Innerleithen. Area searched, no trace. Community officer made aware.

On 05/11/2024 report of two groups of youths causing issues in Hall Street, Innerleithen. Area searched, no trace.

On 06/11/2024 report of damage to fencing at skate park, Victoria Park Drive, Peebles. Nothing ongoing on police arrival. Fence panels missing but possibly historical wind damage.

On 07/11/2024 report of neighbour issues in Ballantyne Place, Peebles. No criminality and advice provided.

On 12/11/2024 report of neighbour issues in Station Court, Cardrona. All parties spoken to and advice given.

On 14/11/2024 report of a breach of the peace at Tesco car park, Peebles. Enquiries ongoing to trace culprit.

On 14/11/2024 report of youths walking down High Street, Innerleithen, kicking gates and fences. No further calls, no police attendance.

On 14/11/2024 report of dog bite causing minor injury on outskirts of peebles. Victim did not wish formal action however Police liaising with dog warden.

On 15/11/2024 report of a concern for male causing a disturbance in a house in Ballantyne Place, Peebles. Culprit arrested and held for court.

On 16/11/2024 report of neighbour issues in Damcroft, Peebles. Advice given to both parties re issue with dog barking.

On 20/11/2024 report of male banging and shouting in March Street, Peebles. Drunk male at wrong address, conveyed to correct address.

20/11/2024 report of threatening and abusive behaviour at a property on Gen Rd, Peebles. Suspect issues with Recorded Police Warning.

On 23/11/2024 report of noise coming from neighbour at an address in Tweedholm Avenue East, Walkerburn. Advice given to both parties.

On 24/11/2024 report of male causing issues after consuming alcohol within address at Horsburgh Street, Innerleithen. Male conveyed to his home address and issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

On 25/11/2024 report of neighbour issues in Craigerne Drive, Peebles. Advice given.

On 28/11/2024 report of youths kicking door and throwing eggs at property in Victoria Park Drive, Peebles. Enquiry ongoing.

Vandalism

On 05/11/2024 report of vandalism to a motor vehicle (paint stripper or similar substance) in Hawdene, Broughton. Enquiry complete with culprit not identified.

On 11/11/2024 report of graffiti on a building in Old Town, Peebles. Enquiry ongoing.

On 14/11/2024 report of damage to a pole holding a solar panel in March Street, Peebles over two week period. Crime report submitted for vandalism.

On 23/11/2024 report of graffiti on a building in Old Town, Peebles. Enquiry ongoing.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

Theft

On 04/11/2024 report of theft of mountain bike which had been secured to a camper van overnight at Glentress. Enquiries ongoing.

On 05/11/2024 report of telephone bank fraud from an address in Broughton. Crime report for enquiry created.

On 07/11/2024 report of a theft of sweets from Tesco, Dovecot Road, Peebles.

On 08/11/2024 report of theft from an address in March Street, Peebles. Male traced and issued a Recorded Police Warning.

On 08/11/2024 report of theft of two mountain bikes from an open garage on Station Rd, West Linton. Enquiry ongoing.

On 13/11/2024 report of banking fraud from an address in Old Town Peebles. Details noted, Crime Report created for enquiry.

On 15/11/2024 report of a theft from clothing recycling bank at Tesco in Peebles.

On 15/11/20245 report of a theft from clothing recycling bank at co-op, Innerleithen.

On 23/11/2024 report of persons obtaining food and drink at Stobo castle and failing to pay. Enquiry ongoing to trace suspects.



Improving Road Safety

Road Traffic Offences

On 25/11/2024 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Peebles



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement - November 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 6 Drug Warrants across the command area during November, four were positive and 6 persons were charged with drug related offences.

Another industrial sized cannabis cultivation was discovered at a business premises in an industrial estate in Eyemouth. This had a value conservatively of £895,000 and one male was arrested at this premises. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal and this was widely reported in local and national news outlets.

We would like to remind readers of this document that this type of criminality is not only attributed to disused premises but also to premises owned and rented out by unsuspecting landlords and we would ask all persons who own such premises to thoroughly complete their due diligence before renting buildings to anyone, particularly if the rent is agreed as cash payments.

A number of stop and searches were also conducted in identified hotspot area where drugs misuse was prevalent across the Scottish Borders.

Serious and organised crime impacts local communities across the Borders and anyone with information on criminal activity are asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, report it at any Police Station or report it anonymously via the Crime Stoppers Charity.

CAMPAIGNS



As the nights get darker earlier Police Scotland is reminding you to review your home security.

Some advice on keeping your home secure.

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look as if your home is occupied
- Ensure all doors and windows are secure when you leave and when you go to bed
- If possible use security lighting at the front and back of your property
- Make sure all garden tools and ladders are locked away when not being used
- Use a good quality lock on any garden sheds and outhouses

- Make a note of all makes, models and serial numbers of your property
- Create a FREE private and secure inventory of all your personal property at www.immobilise.com

If you notice anything suspicious in your neighbourhood report it to Police Scotland on 101.



CAT Update:

MMW REPORT:

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders.

On the 18th of November CAT officers completed a joint static road check with traffic officers. One driver failed the roadside drug test and was arrested. Another had his vehicle seized as it was in a dangerous state of repair.

Speed checks have been completed in several towns near to schools along with foot patrols looking for parking issues at drop off and pick up times, including Newcastleton.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility enforcement across the Borders and addressing parking concerns there.

Passing attention was given to Galashiels, Selkirk, Kelso and Duns.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We carry out high visibility mobile patrols across rural areas at varying times while completing static road checks. A number of static road checks were completed this month

On the 13th of November the CAT took part in Operation Checkpoint. This is an operation across the North and England and South of Scotland targeting cross border rural acquisitive crime. Several vehicles were stopped but no offences were detected.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in targeted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns highlighted as per our taskings. This includes outside Jedburgh Sheriff Court on Monday court days.

In response to the ongoing ASB in Burnfoot at Morrison's on Mart Street in Hawick the CAT have been doing plain clothes patrols on the after-school bus from Mart Street up to Burnfoot. During one of these patrols on the 13th of November officers witnessed youths shouting abuse at a family with disabilities. Upon trying to stop the youths they ran off the bus and after a foot chase they stopped them. The youth shouting the abuse was taken home to his parents and he was reported via the vulnerable persons database for a disability hate crime.

During the evening of Saturday 23rd of November CAT officers attended several calls in Hawick and Newtown St Boswells for youths throwing snowballs at homes of vulnerable people. Although the youths made off from police, many were identified and their details were passed to the ASB unit.

As we enter the festive season we have increased our checks of licensed premises especially on Friday and Saturday evenings over the last month.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – During the previous month several priority arrest warrants were issued by the courts in Jedburgh and Selkirk. These were for individuals who pose a risk to their ex-partners or the public. These are allocated to the CAT to ensure they are arrested as quickly as possible. 3 have been arrested by the CAT this month. With several others handing themselves in after the CAT made enquiries with their family, friends or employer.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT -

On the 12th of November the SBCAT conducted an MDA search in Kelso along with response officers. Unknown tablets were recovered along with a personal amount of cannabis.

On the 21st of November the SBCAT joined a team of over 30 officers from across the South of Scotland and Cumbria Police. This was to execute a series of MDA search warrants in the Borders as part of an enquiry which has taken years to investigate and was targeting a male involved in serious and organised crime. About an hour later the male was traced by 2 of the CAT and arrested. They subsequently found that he was found to be in possession of 5kg of cannabis. The quick arrest prevented him for destroying any evidence.

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.