

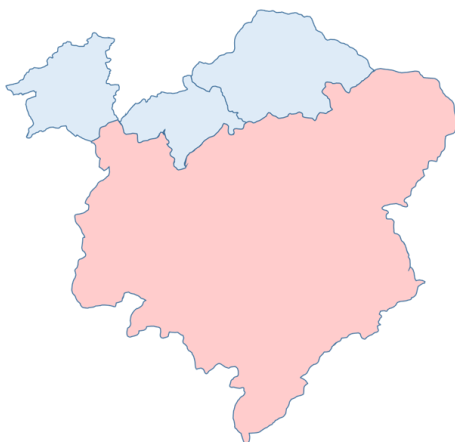
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Leaderdale and Melrose Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for March 2021



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Leaderdale & Melrose 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 Crime, 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 – 26/03/2021)

	2019 /2020	2020 /2021	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	3468	3394	-2.1	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 55.5% compared to 56.2% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	97	140	44.3	The detection rate for Group 1 is 76.4% compared to 77.3% at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	45	50	11.1	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 90.0% compared to 77.8% at same time last year.
Robberies	17	21	23.5	The detection rate for Robberies is 71.4% compared to 82.4% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	926	873	-5.7	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 72.9% compared to 71.0% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	5243	7188	37.1 % Weekly change	The 37.1% weekly increase in ASB incidents can be attributed to public nuisance calls related to COVID19.
Hate Crime – All incidents	98	103	5.1 % weekly change	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 77.5% compared to 80.5% at the same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	221	282	27.6	The detection rate for Group 2 is 68.8% compared to 74.2% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	56	46	-17.9	The detection rate for Rape is 54.3% compared to 75.0% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – All incidents	1111	1242	11.8 % Weekly change	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes are 76.3% compared to 72.6% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	1411	1254	-11.1	The detection rate for Group 3 is 34.2% compared to 41.6% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	105	47	-55.2	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 48.9% compared to 41.0% at same time last year.
Motor Vehicle Thefts	74	52	-29.7	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 61.5% compared to 59.5% at same time last year.



Community Sergeant Update

PS Stephen Granger

Firstly, I would like to thank the Community Councils and Councillors for all of your support and feedback during the move to the Multi-Member Ward Report. We do acknowledge and appreciate this has been a significant change from the previous reporting however the majority of the feedback has been very positive and encouraging. The main aim of this change was to ensure all communities were receiving information in line with the local policing plan and priorities. One of the benefits has been the ability to demonstrate and share some of the pro-active Policing that is being carried out throughout the region. Our Policing vision is to make the area safe, protected and resilient and in order to achieve this we need to deliver our local priorities. This new reporting mechanism allows us to make the best use of time spent by our operational Police officers, ensuring visibility in the community.

March has seen our launch of the joint initiative with The Borders Food Train delivering scam prevention packages to ensure our communities are supported and aware of current trends. This is now well underway and residents in the region are now beginning to receive these packs. We are also working with local magazines and media to promote our Take 5 Campaign. If at all possible, please can we highlight the availability of call blocking devices provided by Trading Standards following funding from Scottish Government information available at <https://www.tsscot.co.uk/launch-of-roll-out-of-free-call-blocking-devices-2/>

Another key partnership approach is our involvement with the Scottish Borders Partnership in Rural Crime (SBPARC). This has been formed and we are currently, actively working in partnership with SBC, NFU, Scottish Land and Estates, Horsecatch Scotland and the Tweed Commission with a view to reducing acquisitive crime.

I am pleased to report that my colleagues in CID have carried out significant enquiry in relation to a number of linked Thefts across the region, this has been a cross-border investigation which is resulting in two people being reported to our Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service. CID also very quickly identified the suspect for an Attempted Robbery in Coldstream which resulted in a man being arrested and appearing at court.

We would like to thank the community for their support, the information provided to us by the public is key to successful investigations.

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 March 2021 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 124 mental health related calls, around 14 missing person enquiries and approximately 76 Domestic related incidents.

Leaderdale and Melrose district had 12 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 ASB

Assault

On the 26/02/2021 report of nurse being assaulted within the Borders General Hospital, Melrose. Police attended male arrested charged with four offences and held to appear at court.

On the 27/02/2021 report of male being assaulted on Dingleton Road, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

On the 18/03/2021 report of male being assaulted while working at Satchells farm, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 26/02/2021 a report of a Covid breach in a house in Melrose. Police attended and a male was issued with a fine, others were warned and dispersed.

On 27/02/2021 a report of a disturbance within the Borders General Hospital. A male was charged with offences under the emergencies workers act, resisting arrest and tow police assaults.

On 07/03/2021 a report of persons on Leaderfoot Viaduct hanging a banner. Police made aware.

On 07/03/2021 a report of youths banging on a door in Tweedbank. Informant wished the Community Officer to be made aware.

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On 07/03/2021 two drivers were issued fines for not obeying white lines on the A68 near to Soutra. A driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding on the A68 near to Soutra.

On 17/03/2021 a report of person continually banging on a door in Melrose. Police attended and searched for persons, no trace.

On 17/03/2021 a report of a disturbance in Melrose. One male was arrested and held to appear at court the next day.

On 20/03/2021 a report of youths within the grounds of Earlston Primary School. Police attended but youths had left.

On 21/03/2021 a report of a disturbance in Morrow Gardens, Melrose. Police attended, nothing ongoing and advice given.

On 22/03/2021 a report of youths on the roof of St Aidens, Gattonside. No further calls.

On 22/03/2021 a report of a disturbance at the BGH. A male was arrested and charged with five offences and held for court.

On 24/03/2021 a report of a male kicking the doors at Morow Garden, Melrose. Police attended, no trace of any male.

On 24/03/2021 a report of threats being made to a resident in Earlston. Caller wanted advice from the Police.

On 25/03/2021 a report of a disturbance at the BGH. Police attended and conveyed a male home.

Vandalism

On the 14/03/2021 report of a vehicle being damaged whilst parked outside a property at Eildonbank Eildon, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

Reducing acquisitive crime

Theft

On the 26/02/2021 report of items being stolen from a local supermarket in Melrose Road, Earlston. Enquires continuing.

On the 26/02/2021 report of items being stolen from a local supermarket in Melrose Road, Earlston. Enquires continuing.

On the 27/02/2021 report of various attempted thefts from addresses on Eildon Crescent, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

On the 01/03/2021 report of a bicycle being stolen from a shed belonging to a property on Barrons way, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

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On the 02/03/2021 report of a bicycle being stolen from the cellar of a property on Douglas Road, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

On the 06/03/2021 report of two bicycles being stolen from a garage on Douglas Road, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

On the 14/03/2021 report of parcels being stolen off the doorstep of a property in Morow Gardens, Melrose. Enquires continuing.

Theft by Housebreaking

None reported.

Improving road safety

Within the Selkirk Sheriff Court Jurisdiction there were 7 parking tickets issued in March.

Roads Policing Campaigns – 17th March was the national speeding day of action.

On 28/02/2021 a driver was issued points and a fine in Earlston for not having a current MOT.

On 04/03/2021 a driver was issued a fine and penalty points on the A6106 outside Earlston for having no MOT.

On 09/03/2021 a driver had their vehicle uplifted for having no insurance on the A6091 near to Ravenswood Roundabout.

On 14/03/2021 a driver had their vehicle uplifted in Melrose for having no insurance.

On 17/03/2021 a driver was cautioned and charged in Lauder for having no insurance or MOT. The vehicle was seized.

On 17/03/2021 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for having no insurance on the A68 near to Earlston.

On 19/03/2021 a driver was issued points and a fine on the A6091, Melrose Bypass for speeding.

On 19/03/2021 two drivers were issued a fine on the A68 near Oxton for not obeying the white lines.

On 20/03/2021 a driver was issued points and a fine on the A68 at Lauder for not having a current MOT.

On 23/03/2021 a driver was issued a recorded police warning for having the incorrect details on his driving licence.



Tackling serious and organised Crime

Friday 12th March 2021, CID and the Scottish Borders Community Action Team executed a Misuse of Drugs warrant in Selkirk. A male was found in possession of a personal quantity of diamorphine.

Friday 12th March 2021, officers discovered a cultivation within an address in Hawick. A large quantity of cannabis plants were seized with a potential street value of £90,000.

Saturday 20th March 2021, officers were on mobile patrol in Galashiels, when they searched a male who was in possession of 33 gram wraps of Diamorphine. Approximate value £2,000

Wednesday 24th March 2021, officers were on mobile patrol in Galashiels town centre, and searched a female where she was found to be in possession of an 8 inch kitchen knife in her handbag and 1550 Valium tablets.

Thursday 25th of March 2021, officers arrested a male and recovered a personal amount of cannabis, Valium tablets and a supply amount of Diamorphine.

Sunday 28th March 2021, in Galashiels, officers searched a male and recovered a personal amount of Valium tablets.

Saturday 28th March 2021, officers searched a female in Melrose and found her in possession of a quantity of Valium tablets.

Monday 29th March 2021, officers executed a drugs warrant in Peebles and recovered a personal amount of Cocaine and a sum of cash.

Campaigns

Campaigns

Locally Police Scotland supported the following campaigns in March through extensive social media messaging;

- National Rape Campaign
- Ongoing Divisional Domestic Abuse campaign
- Child Sexual Abuse (CSE) campaign
- Young Carers Action Day

Rural

- Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) was formed with partners including SBC, NFUS, Scottish Land and Estates, Horsecatch Scotland, Tweed Commission. The partnership will meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.



- We posted advice on social media and SBAAlert regarding Livestock Worrying.
- We continued to distribute free SelectaDNA forensic marking kits & signs to farmers and rural business.
- We promoted acquisitive crime prevention advice, focused on quadbike thefts, through our local media channels.

Scams

- Scams prevention advice was distributed for publication going forward in local free magazines (Peebles Life, Jed Eye, Kelso Life and Gala Life).
- Trading Standards Scotland roll out of free telephone call blocking devices for the vulnerable was supported through SBAAlert and Social Media.



No Cold Calling Zones

- In partnership with SBC and Future Hawick a No Cold Calling Zone was established in Wellington Court Hawick.

CAT Update:

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – During February the CAT have completed targeted mobile and foot patrols, paying attention to youth hotspot areas including Peebles, Kelso and Eyemouth. Calls in relation to breaches of Covid legislation continue to be recorded, with officers responding accordingly.



DRUGS - CAT have executed drugs warrants in Hawick, Peebles and Kelso, with Class A and B drugs being recovered with a total street value of approximately £220. Cash, linked to the sale of drugs, has been seized to the value of £4925. Several persons have been stopped and searched and both Class A and B drugs recovered.

ROAD SAFETY –Antisocial driving continues to be reported as an issue, and the CAT have carried out patrols of areas of concern. As a result, CAT have issued 18 traffic tickets to drivers for a variety of offences and continue to give attention locations where this behaviour continues.

RURAL CRIME – Officers from the Cat team have developed a strategy targeting rural acquisitive crime, in particular the theft of quad bikes. Alongside Northumbria Police and Roads Policing Officers, patrols are being carried out based on extensive analysis of data, targeting the locations and roadways most utilised by those involved.

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:

LeaderdaleMelroseCPT@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.

