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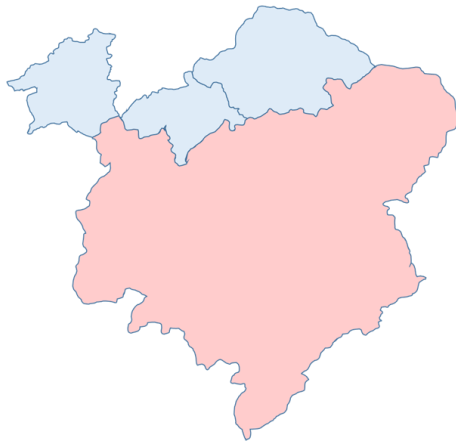


## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

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

From 27/11/2021 - 31/12/2021)



**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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## Community Sergeant Update

### PS Stephen Granger

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable festive period and wish everyone all the best for the New Year ahead.

Recent weeks have underlined that coronavirus continues to present personal and professional challenges for everyone. Public welfare and safety is paramount and that includes that of police officers, police staff and their families which is critical as policing works to maintain a quality service for the public. Officers locally have demonstrated their resilience, professionalism and commitment throughout the entire pandemic which will continue. I would like to thank you all for your continued understanding and patience as we strive to meet the needs of all our local communities.

As is normally the case we have had a busy start to 2022. January sees the relaunch of the Police Scotland Take Five for Fraud Campaign which runs from 3<sup>rd</sup> until 28<sup>th</sup> January. Cases of criminals exploiting unsuspecting people and persuading them to part with money or personal information are continuing to rise. Criminals are becoming more sophisticated and convincing in their methods, and taking advantage of advances in technology. They will often conduct extensive research on potential victims to make themselves appear legitimate. Of particular note are crimes committed online, as fraudsters use the internet more and more to target victims.

Throughout the campaign the public and business will be encouraged to Take Five – and follow this straightforward and impartial advice:

- **Stop** - Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **Challenge** - Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **Protect** - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Police Scotland.

More information can be found on the Police Scotland website by clicking the below link

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/campaigns/2020/take-five/>

In addition anyone can sign up to receive trusted alerts and advice from [Neighbourhood Watch Scotland](#) on a range of safety and security issues targeted to their local area.

I have temporary oversight from a Sergeants perspective for all of the Community Policing Teams for the Scottish Borders at present after the departure in December of PS Paul Begley to another post. This is a short term arrangement and a permanent replacement for Paul, Sergeant Alison Granger, will be in post at the end of January. Prior to this I would continue to encourage contact via the CPT email address at the end of this report for routine community policing matters.

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## **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 December 2021 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 228 mental health related calls, around 17 missing person enquiries and approximately 96 domestic related incidents.*

*Leaderdale and Melrose district had 15 mental health related calls and 2 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 03/12/21 report of an assault in Earlston area. Statement noted and Crime report submitted for assault.

On 14/12/21 report of alarm activation at local hospital, member of staff assaulted by female. Crime report submitted for assault.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

On 01/12/21 report of a male causing a nuisance within local Hospital. Male arrested and reported for summons. Crime Report submitted.

On 01/12/21 report of aggressive female in local hospital. Female arrested.

On 05/12/21 report of a disturbance in Cotgreen Road, Tweedbank. Male arrested for 3 assaults and resist arrest.

On 11/12/21 report of person not having control of dogs in Tweedbank. Owner traced and person in charge of dogs at the time has been issued with a ticket for failing to have control of dogs.

On 17/12/21 report received of youths within grounds of a local school in Melrose causing a nuisance. No trace of youths in the grounds on police arrival.

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On 19/12/21 report of group of youths within playground area of Primary School, Earlston throwing items about. Police attended area searched no trace.

On 23/12/21 report disturbance within the Hospital. Female traced and charged with Emergency Workers offences and conveyed home by her mother.

### Vandalism

On 24/12/21 report of damage to a window in Abbey Street, Melrose. Small hole found in glass pane. No known suspects. For further enquiry.

On 27/12/21 report of damage to a car in Morow Gardens, Melrose. Crime Report submitted for vandalism.

On 27/12/21 report of damage to windows at a premises in Abbey Street, Melrose. Crime report submitted for vandalism.

On 29/12/21 report of vandalism to a window in Abbey Street, Melrose. Further enquiry to be made with complainer.

## Reducing acquisitive crime

### Theft

On 01/12/21 report of theft of items from within Borders General Hospital, Melrose. Enquiries ongoing.

### Theft by Housebreaking

On 23/12/21 report of housebreaking at a house in Lauder. Crime report submitted. For further enquiries.

On 23/12/21 report of a housebreaking in Darnick, Melrose. No apparent theft. Crime report submitted.

## Improving road safety

Within the Selkirk Sheriff Court Jurisdiction there were 5 parking tickets issued in December.

On 14/12/2021 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for driving over the speed limit on Melrose Bypass

On 16/12/2021 a driver was issued a fine for having no MOT in Melrose

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On 16/12/2021 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for using a mobile phone whilst driving in Tweedbank

On 22/12/2021 a driver was issued a fine for having no MOT in Tweedbank.

On 30/12/21 a driver was arrested and charged with driving under the influence following a road traffic collision in Lauder.

### **Killed or Seriously Injured**

No accidents where persons were killed or seriously injured.



## **Tackling serious and organised Crime**

On evening of 2nd December officers executed a drug search warrant at an address on the outskirts of Hawick recovering a cannabis cultivation consisting of a number of plants and bags of herbal matter. Total value of plants seized is between £5k and £15k. Value of herbal matter is between £1k and £1.5k. Enquiry ongoing to confirm and trace occupant.

## **Campaigns**

- **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.



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- 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

- 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:

On the evening of 2nd December officers from the community action team executed a drug search warrant at an address on the outskirts of Hawick recovering a cannabis cultivation consisting of a number of plants and bags of herbal matter. Total value of plants seized is between £5k and £15k. Value of herbal matter is between £1k and £1.5k. Enquiry ongoing to confirm and trace occupant.



### Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team

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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](mailto: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.



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