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## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Leaderdale and Melrose Community Councils  
Multi Member Ward Report for May 2022



**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 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 Sergeant Update**

### **PS Stephen Granger**

The start of summer and warmer weather will see people spending more time outdoors and the temptation will be for some to cool off by swimming outdoors in one of the many open bodies of water which we have in our area. The consequences of not acting responsibly around water ways can be fatal. The most recent statistics from the National Water Safety Forum show that in 2021 a total of 277 people lost their lives to unintentional drowning in the UK of which 57 were in Scotland. With this in mind between 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> June Police Scotland will launch its Drowning Prevention Week. This will see officers out and about patrolling areas with bodies of water and chatting to the public about water safety.

Safety is a serious issue at reservoirs as while the water may look harmless there are hidden dangers. Parents in particular should keep their children safe and act responsibly around all water courses. Deep cold water is a particular danger at reservoirs with dams, steep banks and underwater pipework presenting real hazards. Publicly owned reservoirs are situated in remote locations where there may be a lack of immediate assistance if an incident occurs. Also mobile phone reception can be poor limiting ability to contact help promptly.

Take responsibility for your own actions and makes sensible decisions to stay around waterways:

- Be aware of the dangers, think about the risk and plan to minimise them
- Never underestimate the current, depth or temperature of the water
- Never get into the water alone and don't go swimming after drinking alcohol.

You will note some changes to the layout of the Multi-member ward reports which have been implemented in consultation with the Local Area Commander. The reason for these changes is to reduce the overall size of the document with one notable change being the removal of the table of crime statistics. To replace this the below link gives access to the agenda and related documents for the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board which sits every quarter at Scottish Borders Council.

[Browse meetings - Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board - Scottish Borders Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk)

Contained in the agenda for each meeting is a more detailed document reporting on progress reports and updates on service matters from Police Scotland as presented by the Local Area Commander CI Vinnie Fisher. I trust you will find these documents and further information of value.

As was referenced in April's report community officers throughout the Scottish Borders remain committed with the policing of multiple local summer festivals and events- your patience and understanding during this busy time is greatly appreciated.

## 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 May 2022 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 180 mental health related calls, around 18 missing person enquiries and approximately 83 domestic related incidents.*

*Leaderdale & Melrose had 22 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 Anti-Social Behaviour

#### Assaults

On 02/05/2022 report of an assault in Earlston. CID dealing. Crime report submitted for assault.

On 17/05/2022 report of an assault in Tweedbank. Statements noted. Crime report submitted for assault and Breach of the Peace.

On 21/05/2022 report of assault in Buccleuch Street, Melrose. Crime report submitted for assault.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour

On 01/05/2022 report of noise coming from cars in Station Road, Earlston, only a couple of cars at locus on police arrival. No noise ongoing.

On 02/05/2022 report of youths on roof of building in Cotgreen Road, Tweedbank. No trace of any youths on roof on police arrival. Youths seen playing football nearby who have no knowledge.

On 05/05/2022 report of disturbance at BGH, Melrose. Male arrested.

On 13/05/2022 report of a disturbance in Hospital, Melrose. Male traced and charged with 2 x assaults and conveyed back to his home address.

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On 21/05/2022 report of youths causing a nuisance in South Croft Park, Earlston. Area searched and no trace of any of the youths described.

### **Vandalism**

On 06/05/2022 report of damage at BGH, Melrose. Crime report submitted. Enquiries in hand to trace possible suspect.

On 16/05/2022 report of smashed windscreen on car on A68 while parked up near Carfraemill. Crime report submitted for damage.

On 25/05/2022 report of damage to vehicle parked in Jura Drive, Tweedbank. Further enquiry ongoing.

## **Reducing Acquisitive Crime**

### **Theft by Housebreaking**

**NIL**

### **Theft**

On 03/05/2022 report of a theft from hospital, Melrose. Further enquiry ongoing.

On 05/05/2022 report of theft of fuel near Lauder. Crime report submitted and further enquiries to be made.

On 10/05/2022 report of theft of fuel in lauder. Crime report submitted. Further enquiries to be made.

On 19/05/2022 report of theft of items in Chiefswood Road, Melrose. Crime report submitted further enquiries to be made.

On 23/05/2022 report of theft of wing mirror from a vehicle in Tweedbank Estate. Crime report to be submitted. Further enquiry to be made.

On 24/05/2022 report of theft in Abbey Street, Melrose. Crime report to be submitted and further enquiries to be made.

## **Improving Road Safety**

On 07/05/2022- a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for speeding in Melrose

On 14/05/2022 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Lauder

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On 21/05/2022 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Soutra hill.

### Killed or Seriously Injured

NIL

## 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.



- 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.

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### 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:

#### ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

SBCAT have carried out patrols in areas where we have reported issues regards youth ASB, in line with tasking from the Oversight committee. This has included high visibility patrols following events associated with the Common Ridings, which will continue throughout the summer.



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Additionally, following a report of off-road motorbikes in the Jedburgh area and surrounds, SBCAT deployed on quad bikes alongside conventional vehicles and Roads Policing. Multiple people were traced in Jedburgh with off-road bikes in vans, and were dealt with accordingly.

### DRUGS

One property in Coldstream was searched under a Misuse of Drugs Act warrant, one male being reported for possession of controlled drugs. In addition, numerous persons have been stopped and searched and found in possession of controlled substances, all of whom have been reported to the court.

### ROAD SAFETY

High visibility static road checks have been carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in May, which has resulted in multiple road traffic offences being reported, including driving without insurance, use of mobile phone, failing to stop, careless driving, and bald tyres, amongst others. ASB warnings have been issued to several drivers. Particular attention was given to the Berwickshire area prior to and during the running of the Jim Clark Rally to deter 'enthusiasts' from trying rallying for themselves on open roads.

## 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](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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