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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Leaderdale and Melrose Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for February 2023



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 Policing News – Leaderdale and Melrose

The past month has seen some challenging and high profile incidents occurring in the Borders, including the Melrose area which has had a marked effect on the community and those involved. Community officers from across the Borders have actively focussed their attention on the town to assist in providing reassurance, safety advice and carrying out patrols in areas of concern. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who provided assistance and help during these challenges, as it highlighted how strong a community can be in coming together in difficult times.

The below link gives access to the latest Scrutiny panel document 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, 14/12/2022 09:30 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

This document reporting on progress reports and updates on service matters from Police Scotland as presented by the Local Area Commander CI Vinnie Fisher.

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 February 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 139 mental health related calls, around 26 missing person enquiries and approximately 78 domestic related incidents.

*Leaderdale & Melrose had ** mental health related calls and ** 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 16/02/2023 report of an assault in Hospital, Melrose. Crime report submitted for assault x 2.

On 27/02/2023 report of assault in Cherry Park, Tweedbank. Complainer still to be seen.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/02/2023 report of possible bogus workmen in the Tweedbank area. False call with good intent.

On 04/02/2023 report of youths banging on doors in Buccleuch Street, Melrose. Officers attended nothing ongoing – advice given.

On 06/02/2023 report of a public nuisance involving a group of youths. Advice given to caller meantime but matter referred to local community officer.

On 08/02/2023 report of a disturbance in an ambulance outside hospital, Melrose. One male charged with various offences.

On 10/02/2023 report of a public nuisance, youths banging doors in Buccleuch Street, Melrose. Further engagement to be made with informant, not seen by police yet.

On 11/02/2023 report of harassment in St Dunstons Park, Melrose. Informant spoken to by police. Civil dispute over property. Advice given meantime.

On 12/02/2023 report of disturbance within hospital in Melrose, male refusing to leave. Officers attended male moved on.

On 12/02/2023 report of disturbance within Abbotsford Lodge, Melrose. Officers attended no persons traced.

On 19/02/2023 report of male urinating in Buccleuch Street, Melrose. Officers attended further engagement to be made with informant.

On 19/02/2023 report of a disturbance in Townhead Way, Newstead. Family dispute between brothers. No complaints.

On 20/02/2023 report of a robbery in Newstead. Crime reports submitted for various offences.

On 21/02/2023 report of threats in Hareshaw Bank, Tweedbank. Advice given to both parties. No crimes identified.

On 23/02/2023 report of male causing a disturbance within hospital in Melrose. Officers attended, assistance given.

On 24/02/2023 report of a disturbance in High Cross Avenue, Melrose. Officers attended, no persons seen.

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On 25/02/2023 report of loud party from a garden in Stobshaw Place, Tweedbank. No noise on arrival of police and house in darkness.

Vandalism

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 06/02/2023 report of break ins in South Croft Park, Earlston. Crime reports submitted.

Theft

On 01/02/2023 report of a theft from local hospital in Melrose. Crime report submitted for theft.

On 01/02/2023 report of a theft from a local shop in Tweedbank. Crime report submitted for theft.

On 02/02/2023 report of historical thefts by a male in Melrose. Further enquiry to be made with complainer to establish if the thefts have occurred.

On 27/02/2023 report of theft from bank account in Melrose. Complainer still to be seen.

Improving Road Safety

On 03/02/23 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for speeding in Earlston

Killed or Seriously Injured



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

See CAT update

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)

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

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/>

Scams

Victims of Phone / Internet / Doorstep Scams continue to be provided with an incident follow-up information pack containing advice intended to prevent repeat victimisation. This pack now includes a copy of the latest “Little Book of Big Scams” which covers a huge variety of common scams. [Little Book of Big Scams – Cyber Scotland](#)

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CAT Update:



ROAD SAFETY –SBCAT have issued 9 traffic tickets throughout the month, with two people being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for a number of offences including no MOT & insurance. We continue to carry out static checks to prevent and detect traffic offences. Speed Gun checks are being carried out outside schools and where there is a recognised casualty profile, and we are liaising with partners with a view to implementing a community speedwatch scheme in the future.

PARKING TICKETS – SBCAT issued 22 parking tickets in February.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – Static road checks also help deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 78 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in February. We are also continuing to develop our relationship with neighbouring forces to address cross border crime and travelling criminals.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – 4 drug search warrants were carried out in January in Hawick and Kelso, with 3 of them providing positive results. Personal amounts of drugs were seized.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant. In February SBCAT traced and arrested five persons who were wanted on warrant. We were also involved in the recent child abduction in Galashiels, initially assisting with the search and thereafter with the enquiry and public reassurance.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols and engagement with youths continue in Burnfoot Industrial Estate. We have also been liaising with partners to address ongoing youth issues reported at the Galashiels Interchange.

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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.