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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Leaderdale and Melrose Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for June 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 – PS James Harrison

I would like to introduce myself as the new Community Policing Sergeant for the North Policing Area, covering Galashiels & District, Leaderdale & Melrose, Selkirkshire and Tweeddale East / West. I have previous community policing experience as a Community Beat Officer in Galashiels, as well as being the recent Community Action Team Sergeant. I look forward to working with Ward CBO Ian Porter, Elected Members and Community Councils in Leaderdale and Melrose in the future.

Rural Crime is often committed by persons travelling from out with the Scottish Borders using the A68. The Community Action Team take part in Operation Checkpoint which is a joint operation with English police forces to deter and detect cross border criminality, and local officers routinely patrol through the night. We will also robustly investigate any crime reported to us. While we try to deter and detect rural crime as much as possible, please remain vigilant and report any suspicious vehicles (using descriptions and registration plate numbers where possible) to police, so that officers can attend or make further enquiries.

Lastly, I would like to thank those of you who have shown an interest in Community Speedwatch. As this is a new initiative, a pilot will be carried out in the near future at three locations in the Scottish Borders. After careful consideration by a working group consisting of Community Councillors, Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Council representatives, these locations have now been identified. We appreciate the interest shown in the project, however are not looking for any further site suggestions at this time. More information will be released on the successful completion of the pilot.

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.

[Item No. 5 a ii - Scottish Borders Scrutiny - Q1 2022-23.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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

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5. Tackling serious and organised crime



Protecting most vulnerable

In June 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 213 mental health related calls, around 28 missing person enquiries and approximately 91 domestic related incidents.

Leaderdale & Melrose had 31 mental health related calls and 7 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 12/06/2023 report of an assault in a local school in Lauder. Crime report submitted for assault.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/06/2023 report of threats from a neighbour at Chapel Mains, Galashiels / Lauder. Crime report submitted for threats and one male arrested.

On 07/06/2023 report of group of people outside property and CCTV issues in Chapel Mains, Lauder. Matter resolved by police. No further issues.

On 11/06/2023 report of a disturbance in local hospital, Melrose. Male calmed down on arrival of police, frustrated at waiting time. Staff dealing.

On 12/06/2023 report of disturbance within local hospital, Melrose. Male traced by police and taken home, no complaints made.

On 14/06/2023 report of an aggressive male within local hospital, Melrose. One male arrested. Crime report submitted.

On 17/06/2023 report of male shouting street in Jura Drive, Tweedbank. Area searched by officers and no trace of anyone.

On 17/06/2023 report of female causing a nuisance in a garden in Allanbank Gardens, Lauder. Dispute between two young females. Matter resolved by parents.

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On 17/06/2023 report of loud party in Riverside Drive, Tweedbank. No noise heard on police arrival. Nothing ongoing.

On 20/06/2023 report of male refusing to leave hospital, Melrose. No issues on police arrival.

On 21/06/2023 report of staff being threatened within hospital, Melrose. Male had left prior to arrival of police. Advice given to staff.

On 21/06/2023 report of a threat received at a worker near Langshaw, Galashiels. Crime report being submitted for threats.

On 23/06/2023 report of neighbour problems in Lauder barns, Lauder. Further engagement to be made complainer.

On 23/06/2023 report of nuisance from local youths in Annay Road, Melrose. No complaints made. Male concerned now home safe and well.

On 24/06/2023 report of male causing nuisance in local hospital, Melrose. One male issued with a recorded police warning and taken away from hospital.

On 25/06/2023 report of excessive noise from a property in Weavers Linn, Tweedbank. Noise stopped prior to arrival of police.

On 26/06/2023 report of a disturbance in Tweedbank Drive, Tweedbank. CCTV viewed, no criminality established.

On 27/06/2023 report of a disturbance in Tweedbank Drive, Tweedbank. Crime report submitted for Breach of the Peace.

On 28/06/2023 report of a disturbance in local hospital Melrose. Female did not want to return home from hospital. Steps taken to make her feel safe in own home.

On 28/06/2023 report of neighbour issues in Stonyford, Lauder. Housing association aware of issues. Further arrangement made to speak with parties involved.

On 28/06/2023 report of banging on windows in Carlin Court, Tweedbank. No crimes identified. All parties spoken to.

Vandalism

On 03/06/2023 report of damage at school in Earlston. Complainer still to be seen 05/04/2023.

On 08/06/2023 report of damage to a garage in Lowood, Melrose. Crime report submitted for vandalism.

On 12/06/2023 report of damage to windows at a warehouse in Tweedbank Industrial Estate. Crime report submitted for vandalism.

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Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

Theft

On 01/06/2023 report of a theft of fuel in Earlston. Complainer still to be seen.

On 04/06/2023 report of theft shoplifting within premises in High Street, Melrose. Appointment made to speak with complainer.

On 08/06/2023 report of a theft from local retail premises in Gala Water Retail Park, Galashiels. Crime report submitted for a theft and vandalism.

On 29/06/2023 report of a theft from Cemetery in Melrose. Complainer still to be seen. For further enquiry.

Improving Road Safety

On 03/06/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Blainslie

On 06/06/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding in Gattonside

On 11/06/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding in Carfraemill

On 17/06/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Ravenswood, Melrose

On 18/06/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for careless/inconsiderate driving in Melrose

On 28/06/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for careless/inconsiderate driving in Melrose

Killed or Seriously Injured



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

See CAT update

Campaigns

Festive Drink / Drug Drive Campaign 2022

This campaign will run from 1st December to 2nd January 2023 and will include high visibility patrols and road checks with the main aim of reducing casualties and increasing the awareness of the risks associated with drink / drug driving.

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/>



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CAT Update:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at Denholm rideout (each officer 9 hours, Hawick Colour Bussing (each officer, 5 hours), Hawick Common Riding Friday and Saturday (each officer between 8-10 hours), Selkirk Common riding main day (each officer 9 hours), Melrose rideout (each officer 6 hours), Morebattle rideout (each officer, 6 hours), Melrose Fancy dress (each officer 2 hours), Peebles Installation (each officer, 6 hours), Melrose bike ride, (each officer 4 hours), Melrose three hills race (each officer, 2 hours), Walkerburn fancy dress parade (each officer, 5 hours).



ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in various places in the Borders. SBCAT have issued 9 traffic tickets throughout the month and seized 2 vehicles for having no insurance.

PARKING TICKETS – SBCAT have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there however have been limited due to abstractions at local Common Riding events. 9 tickets have been issued targeting areas of concern raised by members.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We continue to carry out static road checks in rural areas at all times of day to deter and detect rural acquisitive crime. 45 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in January.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT took part in executing one drug search warrant in Galashiels. A quantity of Class A drugs were found and an offender charged accordingly. A report has been sent to the PF.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant/missing person/and bail curfew checks. SBCAT have carried out regular checks on multiple individuals who are wanted on warrant. These individuals are aware they are wanted and enquiries to trace them are continuing. One male was traced as a result of enquiries and arrested. SBCAT has been involved in three high risk missing person reports during the month, thankfully with all persons subsequently being traced safe and well.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot, Hawick as well as near derelict sites in Hawick to address concerns at these locations. Further to that, officers have repeatedly attended at Moneynut windfarm, Berwickshire, to deter and detect off road motorbikes.

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Following a recent incident in Tweed Green, Peebles, whereby a male was robbed of his wallet by youths, SBCAT officers have carried out reassurance patrols in that area. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the youths.

A report was made to police regarding a male exposing himself to children aged 10-12 years of age at Victoria Park Innerleithen. SBCAT officers attended and assisted trace the male concerned. The male was subsequently arrested and charged accordingly.

3 youths have also been reported by CAT officers to Youth Justice for disorder caused at the fun fair at Galashiels during Braw Lads week.

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.

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