

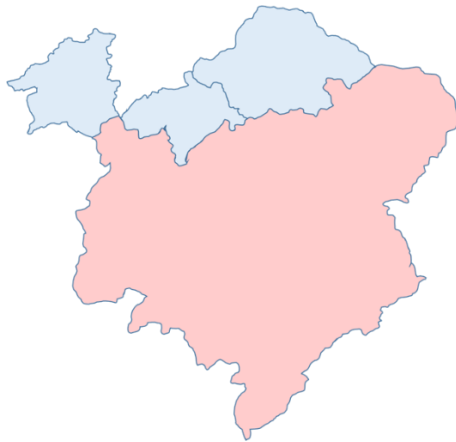
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Leaderdale and Melrose Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for February 2025



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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North Area Community Policing News – PS Crawford Laing

Fraud is a crime type that effects only a small number of people in the Borders however can often be easily prevented.

Most frauds happen remotely by telephone or through the internet and below are some hints to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim.

Online –

-When buying or selling items, always use a reputable platform such as Ebay which will offer some buyer and seller protection.

-Platforms such as Marketplace or Gumtree are better for local buying and selling where you can meet the buyer /seller in person and goods can be exchanged for payment however always ensure you consider your own safety when you meet someone who is effectively a stranger.

-Carry out appropriate checks before investing online.

Telephone –

-Always be wary of cold callers and don't be afraid to end the call.

-Banks generally don't call customers without prior appointment and you will never be criticised for ending a call.

-Never pass bank or other personal details over the phone to someone you do not know or trust.

In person –

-Always be wary of cold callers to your home or business. Do not be afraid to politely ask them to leave.

-It is always best to arrange your own contractor for work that you require than to engage the services of someone that has come to your door without appointment.

If you are suspicious of something, then consider seeking advice from family members or friends before proceeding.

Further advice can be found on the following links.

[Internet safety - Police Scotland](#)

[Scams and frauds - Police Scotland](#)

[Protect yourself from fraud and cyber crime | Action Fraud](#)

The Your Police Survey for 2024/25 is still open (closes 31/03/2025), the link below gives access. We value your input and would appreciate your time in completing the survey.

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2024-2025/>

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 2025 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 163 mental health related calls, around 29 missing person enquiries and approximately 76 domestic related incidents.

Leaderdale & Melrose had 12 mental health related calls and 1 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 16/02/2025 report of assault at an address in Newstead, Melrose. Suspect arrested and charged accordingly.

On 27/02/2025 report of an assault in High Street, Melrose. One male arrested and charged with assault and urinating in a public place.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/02/2025 report of an ongoing disturbance, male being abusive to staff in BGH, Melrose. Male calm on police arrival, will be reported for breach of the peace. Left in care of family.

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On 07/02/2025 report of a disturbance within licensed premises, East Port, Melrose. Intoxicated male taken home and left in care of a friend.

On 07/02/2025 report of loud music from an address in Calfward Park, Lauder. No noise on police arrival. Community officer aware of ongoing issues.

On 18/02/2025 report of youths drinking and smoking cannabis in grounds of Earlston High School, Earlston. Youths spoken to by officers, no sign of cannabis. Details noted of youths.

On 18/02/2025 report of noise issue (dog barking) within an address in Jura Drive, Tweedbank. Dog had stopped barking. Advice given.

On 21/02/2025 report of youths causing a nuisance within school grounds, Earlston. Group had left prior to Police arrival.

On 21/02/2025 report of someone kicking a door in Jura Drive, Tweedbank. Female arrested on another matter.

On 21/02/2025 report of an ongoing disturbance within a Hotel at Melrose. All parties spoken to by police. Drunken argument. No complaints made and advice given.

On 21/02/2025 report of loud music from an address in Calfward Park, Lauder. No music could be heard on police arrival.

Vandalism

On 24/02/2025 report of damage to a motor vehicle within car park off Georgefield Road, Earlston. Allocated for enquiry.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 03/02/2025 report of a Theft by Housebreaking in The Beeches, Tweedbank. Crime report created and allocated for enquiry.

Theft

On 13/02/2025 report of internet fraud in Mill Road, Earlston. Enquiry ongoing.

On 14/02/2025 report of theft of a window from a caravan at Drygrange, Melrose. Crime report created for enquiry.

On 19/02/2025 report of online fraud via Facebook Marketplace. Crime report created for enquiry.

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Improving Road Safety

Killed or Seriously Injured

No reports

Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement – February 2025

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 2 Drug Warrant during the month of February which resulted in the significant seizures of Class B and C Drugs. 2 persons were reported for drug related offences.

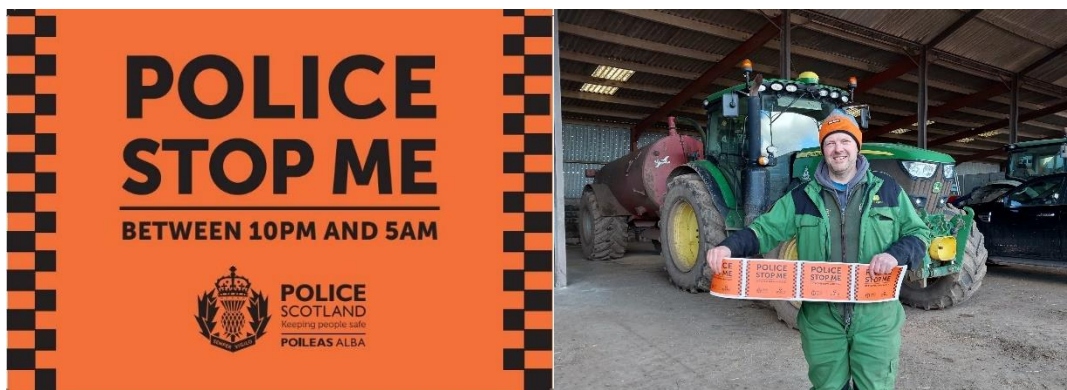
A male was stopped and searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act which resulted in the seizure of a quantity of Class A drugs from within a vehicle. Following assistance from our Road policing colleagues several road traffic offences were identified. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Another industrial sized cannabis cultivation was also discovered at a business premises within Hawick. This had a value of approximately £300,000 with enquires still ongoing in relation to this. This was widely reported in local and national news outlets.

Serious and organised crime impacts local communities across the Borders and anyone with information on criminal activity are asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, report it at any Police Station or report it anonymously via the Crime Stoppers Charity.

Campaigns

Launch of the Stop Me Sticker Campaign to help tackle rural crime. Police Scotland is providing farming communities with a specially designed, waterproof sticker than can be displayed on tractors, excavators, and other rural machinery, encouraging police to stop them to verify ownership and permitted use during set hours where the machinery is not routinely used by the owners.



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Sextortion is blackmail. Criminals target people through dating apps, social media, text or email and manipulate them into sharing sexual content that they later use to demand money. Don't panic, don't pay, report it to police.

Read more at <https://orlo.uk/UPF97>



CAT Update

ROAD SAFETY & PARKING TICKETS –

Officers have been carrying out high visibility enforcement across the Borders and addressing parking concerns there. Extra attention was given to Galashiels, Selkirk, Duns and Chirnside following complaints.

On the 5th February SBCAT were on mobile patrol in Burnfoot when there was a report of a no injury collision between an electric off road motorbike and a car. The bike was seized, and the rider was charged with several offences under the Road Traffic Act.

On the 15th February SBCAT officers came across a van in Galashiels that appeared to be abandoned with its lights on. Upon inspection a driver was found to be in the drivers seat but heavily intoxicated with alcohol. He failed the breath test and was later charged with drink driving.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We carry out high visibility mobile patrols across rural areas at varying times while completing static road checks.

On the 26th of February a rural patrol of farms was completed using the quad bikes in the area around Galashiels. Numerous farmers were spoken to and anti-theft farm vehicle stickers were handed out.

VIOLENCE AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in targeted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns highlighted as per our taskings.

On the 9th February 2025 there was a serious incident in Chirnside and SBCAT assisted with the enquiry. A male was arrested and later appeared at Jedburgh Sheriff Court for murder.

On the 13th February 2025 the SBCAT were first to attend an immediate call to a pub in Galashiels following an assault whereby a male was left unconscious. The CAT assisted with the arrest of the suspect and took the injured male to the BGH.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE –

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Since late December the SBCAT has been making attempts to trace a male who was wanted for a domestic related serious assault in Hawick. This continued into early February but by working with intelligence analysts in Edinburgh we were able to narrow down his location and he was subsequently arrested in Cheshire.

On the 10th of February a priority warrant was issued for a registered sex offender in Selkirk. The SBCAT were on duty and immediately attended at his address and arrested him.

Also, on the 10th of February SBCAT officers were in Selkirk when reports came in regarding a male approaching teenage females in a concerning manner in the town centre. The male was traced and issued with a recorded police warning.

TACKLING SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME –

In early February the SBCAT assisted the Proactive Crime Team as they executed a drugs search warrant in Hawick. Cannabis plants worth an estimated £290,000 were seized from the property.

OTHER ISSUES OF NOTE-

SBCAT officers now have access to Selecta DNA tagging Spray. This can be sprayed on suspects making off from us, such as those using off road bikes and failing to stop. It leaves an invisible residue behind which shows up under a UV light, allowing us to identify offenders.

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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