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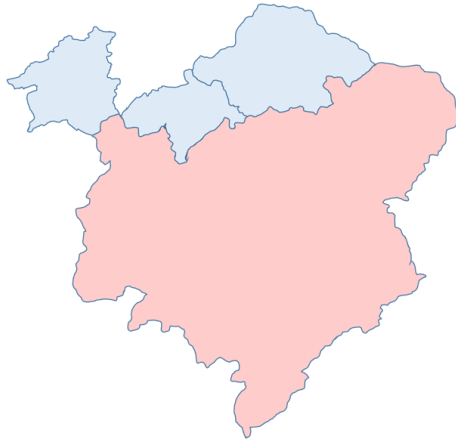


Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Selkirkshire Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for August 2023

(1st August 2023 – 31st August 2023)



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Selkirkshire 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 – Selkirkshire – PS James Harrison

An issue that is frequently brought to my attention is speeding. Road Safety is a priority for Police Scotland and we have set guidelines for how we deal with speeding issues. A noteworthy extract from this guidance is *'Deployment of resources must prioritise sites which represent the greatest risk and should only be undertaken where considered necessary and in the interest of casualty reduction'*.

We assess reports of speeding using a number of different methods. One of these is by using www.crashmap.co.uk to find evidence of a casualty profile. Another is to liaise with Scottish Borders Council to establish if a speed survey has been conducted recently. Scottish Borders Council publish their speed surveys online at <https://scottishborders.azurewebsites.net/scottishborders/map-full-view>

A speeding complaint will be allocated police resources according to the level of risk it represents. We do receive reports that, once a survey has taken place, seem to be an issue of perception rather than speeding. If there is no casualty profile, and no evidence from surveys of a speeding issue, then we cannot justify allocating significant resources. Routine responses to this will be in the form of speed gun checks outside a nearby school, or Pop Up Bob being deployed by a local Community Officer.

Scottish Borders Council can carry out speed surveys if you believe there is a persistent speeding issue. If a genuine speeding issue is identified they may be able to consider such things as repainting lines or putting in additional signage to reduce speeds, or even engineering solutions. This also gives police evidence of the issue and will enable us to dedicate further resources. In such cases we can start to utilise the Roads Policing department or the Community Action Team, who will include these areas into their patrol matrix. A Safety Camera Van may also be deployed (however these will not enforce a 20mph limit).

While Road Safety is a priority for Police Scotland, our ability to address it will always be dictated by resources. I will finish with the words of our Local Area Commander Chief Inspector Fisher, *'In summary, we receive many complaints of speeding and our response to each is carefully considered. Before carrying out any speed enforcement, it is essential we can evidence a speeding related casualty profile, and that deployment of resources is justified in terms of casualty reduction potential.'*

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 August 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 187 mental health related calls, around 36 missing person enquiries and approximately 80 domestic related incidents.

Selkirkshire had 20 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 13/08/2023 report of 2 males assaulting taxi driver. Dryburgh Arms Hotel, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/08/2023 report of 11 year old girl assaulted by another girl. Newtown St Boswells Primary School. Enquiries ongoing.

On 21/08/2023 report of female assaulted & threatened by male whilst walking her dog.. St Mary's Loch, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/08/2023 report of female assaulted by neighbour. Baillie Way, Newtown St Boswells. Two persons arrested.

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Anti-Social Behaviour

On 11/08/2023 report of heavily intoxicated male causing a disturbance. Pringle Park, Selkirk. Male located and spoken to by officers.

On 12/08/2023 report of 4 males fighting & causing a disturbance. Thornfield Crescent, Selkirk. Males traced & spoken to by officers.

On 13/08/2023 report of youths kicking ball at window and swearing. Mungo Park Court, Selkirk. Police aware.

On 15/08/2023 report of male causing a disturbance. Cross Keys Inn, Ettrickbridge. Civil matter, advice given.

On 30/08/2023 report that a group of youths have jumped over the fence into the nursery garden and are throwing items around. Philiphaugh Primary School, Selkirk. Youths ran away on Police arrival.

Vandalism

On 01/08/2023 report of youths in school playground who have ripped door off shed. Primary School, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 02/08/2023 report of damage to building light fittings, canopy & signs. Scottish Borders Council HQ, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 06/08/2023 report of damage to noticeboard. Co-op, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 09/08/2023 report of damage to house lock. Market Place, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 14/08/2023 report that the trampoline at Jenny Moore, Newtown St Boswells had been slashed. Enquiries ongoing.

On 24/08/2023 report that the safety matting at Jenny Moores Road Playpark, St Boswells has been ripped up. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 12/08/2023 report of male breaking into & ransacking house. Male found unconscious in property. Tower Street, Selkirk. Male charged.

On 12/08/2023 report of youths breaking into primary school. Philiphaugh Primary School, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Theft

On 17/08/2023 report of theft of cash from house. Kirk Wynd, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

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On 19/08/2023 report of theft of alcohol. Co-op, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/08/2023 report of theft of office chairs, later found in river. Montrose Place, Selkirk. Found to be boys larking about, no crime recorded.

On 23/08/2023 report of male removing and taking fence panels from garden fence. Weirgate Avenue, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 24/08/2023 report of theft of alcohol. Co-op, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

On 10/08/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Selkirk

Killed or Seriously Injured

On 15/08/2023 report of 3 car road traffic collision. One person deceased and two other injured. A7 Ashkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

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 \(iammescotland.co.uk\)](https://iammescotland.co.uk)

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

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.



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/>



CAT Update:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at Coldstream Civic Week, Lauder Common Riding and Eyemouth Herring Queen festival.



SBCAT also helped in the safe delivery of the UCI World Championships event at Glentress, Peebles conducting high visibility foot patrols at the event site as well as mobile patrols of Peebles and surrounding area. The event ran from 4th – 12th August with SBCAT officers involved each day of the event (approximately 8 hours a day per officer).

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 11 traffic tickets throughout the month.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 31 tickets have been issued. The Waterloo Van Centre has been checked regularly by officers however no issue has been identified.

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. 41 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in August.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in Burnfoot, Hawick as well as near derelict sites in Hawick to address concerns at these locations. Galashiels Interchange continues to

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be patrolled regularly by officers. Further to that, officers have repeatedly attended at Moneynut windfarm, Berwickshire, to deter and detect off road motorbikes.

Reports being received by officers of youth ASB in Newtown St. Boswells, specifically at SBC HQ as well as near to Whitehill Farm. Regular patrols of the area being conducted by SBCAT officers and background work being undertaken by local CBO to establish a longer term solution.

A report was made to police of youths climbing on scaffolding at the abandoned St. Aidan's School in Gattonside. SBCAT officers attended and traced the youths involved resulting in 4 youths receiving Youth Warning Letters.

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.

Following a report of a recidivist violent offender breaching bail conditions, SBCAT officers traced the male and conveyed him to Hawick Police Station where he was charged accordingly and held for court the following day.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT took part in executing 1 drug search warrants in the area.

In Innerleithen, one male was reported to the Procurator Fiscal after a quantity of Class B drugs were found within his home address. A further male within the property was also reported for possession of an Offensive Weapon.

Other – After reports of a male in Hawick armed with a knife, SBCAT officers attended and arrested the male to be held for court the following day. After assisting with follow up enquiries, the male was successfully remanded to prison to await trial.

SBCAT officers assisted with a further call of a male in possession of a knife in Jedburgh, tracing and arresting the male to be held for court the following day.

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:

SelkirkshireCPT@scotland.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.