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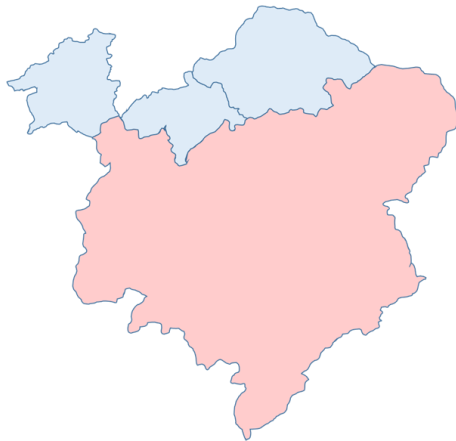


Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Selkirkshire Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for July 2023

(1st July 2023 – 31st July 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

I thought this month I would give an overview of the North Community Policing Area (CPA), which includes your area. In particular highlighting your local CBO and the best way to contact them.

The North CPA consists of the following five Ward areas, Leaderdale & Melrose, Selkirkshire, Galashiels & District, Tweeddale East and Tweeddale West, and covers about half of the Scottish Borders. Each Ward area contains a number of Community Councils and has a dedicated Community Beat Officer (CBO), as shown below.

Leaderdale & Melrose – PC Ian Porter

Selkirkshire – PC John Murray

Galashiels & District – PC Sarah Shaw

Tweeddale East – PC Viv Carsley

Tweeddale West – PC Dani McMurdo

Some of these officers are new in post so you may not have met your local CBO yet.

CBOs deal with a wide range of subjects including antisocial behaviour, neighbour disputes, licensing, crime prevention, vulnerable people, wildlife crime, traffic issues and local events such as common ridings. They are without doubt your first and best point of contact for community related matters in your area. **You can contact them via the relevant community mailbox which is shown at the bottom of this report.** It may be that the matter you report is best suited to a partner agency, in which case we can try and signpost you to the most appropriate one.

If, however, the issue is more serious and you would like police attendance, call 101 or email Police Scotland to request a diary appointment, or in an emergency call 999.

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 July 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 153 mental health related calls, around 15 missing person enquiries and approximately 74 domestic related incidents.

Selkirkshire had 9 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 13/07/2023 report of male assaulted by neighbour. Sprouston Cottages, Newtown St Boswells. Female charged.

On 17/07/2023 report of male assaulted within pub. Town Arms, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/07/2023 report of 11 year old girl being assaulted by older female. Baillie Way, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 13/07/2023 report of youths throwing items at passing vehicles. Newtown St Boswells, Not ongoing on Police arrival.

On 24/07/2023 report of youths throwing apples from the roof of the public toilets at members of the public. Newtown Public Toilets, Newtown St Boswells. Youths spoken to by Police.

Vandalism

On 07/07/2023 report of tyres slashed on 3 vehicles. Thirlestane Terrace, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

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On 12/07/2023 report of smashed window. Greenside Park, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 14/07/2023 report of council road being drilled into & a bollard being fitted. Dunsdalehaugh Square, Selkirk. Advice given.

On 15/07/2023 report of damage to playground equipment Primary School, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 16/07/2023 report of damage to hotel room. Buccleuch Hotel, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/07/2023 report of nursery furniture being stacked against primary school door and attempt to set alight. Newtown Community Wing, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/07/2023 report of youths breaking window. Lancaster House, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.



On 25/07/2023 report of smashed windows Lancaster House, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing

On 29/07/2023 report of car tyre and tents being slashed. Tibbieshiels, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 31/07/2023 report of car driving into fence then driving off. Smedheugh Farm, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 06/07/2023 report of house broken into, car keys taken and two vehicles stolen. Jenny Moores Road, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 09/07/2023 report of house being broken into by youths. Mains Street, St Boswells 5 youths charged

On 14/07/2023 report of possible break in Co-op, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

Theft

On 07/07/2023 report of flowers stolen from grave. Bowden Road, Melrose. Enquiries ongoing.

On 07/07/2023 report of contents of parcel stolen from outside house. East Port, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 10/07/2023 report of theft of £10. Dickson Drive, Newtown St Boswells. RPW issued.

On 16/07/2023 report of theft of horse trailer. SAC Veterinary, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 25/07/2023 report of shoplifting Co-op Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

On 07/07/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for driving with no insurance in Selkirk

On 12/07/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Selkirk

On 18/07/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for driving with no insurance in Selkirk

On 19/07/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for careless/inconsiderate driving in Selkirk

Killed or Seriously Injured

No persons killed or seriously injured.

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 \(iammescotland.co.uk\)](http://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 St Boswells Fair (6 days) (10 hours per day, each officer), Burnfoot Carnival (8 hours each officer), Floors Rideout (each officer 7 hours), Kelso Fancy Dress Parade (each officer 9 hours), Borders Union show (each officer 10 hours) and Eyemouth Herring Queen fancy dress (3 hours, each officer).



ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 17 traffic tickets throughout the month.

Off road motorbikes - Whilst carrying out high visibility patrols in Hawick, an off-road motorbike was observed being ridden in the town centre. Officers attempted to stop the rider, however he ignored them and rode past them. Subsequently the vehicle and rider were traced at Morrison's Petrol Station where the rider made off on foot. The motorbike was seized by police. Officers chased the rider on foot and after he removed his helmet, was identified by officers as a 16 year old youth. His parents were made aware and a report has been submitted through the appropriate channels detailing 6 Road Traffic Offences.

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 45 tickets have been issued.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – Operation Checkpoint (10 hours each officer) was undertaken on Wednesday 12th July. During this Operation a number of vehicles were checked out at various points along the border to deter travelling criminals. No offences were detected.

SBCAT had a preventative rural crime stand at the Borders Union Show, Kelso, working with partner agencies providing advice and support not only for the farming community but other members of the public attending the show.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in all highlighted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns at these locations. During this month two dog fouling tickets were issued to members of the public.

Over the weekend of the 19th, 22nd and 23rd High visibility patrols were carried out in Peebles and surrounding area by SB CAT to dissuade antisocial behaviour. During this time a number of groups of youths were spoken to. Whilst speaking with some of these groups, bottles of alcohol was on the ground nearby. No youths took ownership of the alcohol, which was then poured away in front of them. One 16 year old youth was found in possession of cans of lager, which were also poured away. A Youth ASB letter is being sent to his parents.

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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 who was particularly difficult to trace was eventually traced as a result of protracted enquiries and arrested.

Following a report of a recidivist domestic abuse offender re-offending, SB CAT 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 one drug search warrant in the Kelso area. No drugs were recovered. The occupier was arrested on another matter.

Other – Following a report of two males attending at a farm in the Scottish Borders looking for scrap metal and a subsequent theft from the farm, SB CAT officers assisted CID officers gather crucial evidence and traced two further witnesses. The enquiry is currently still ongoing and will require cross border cooperation with Northumbria Police.

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.