

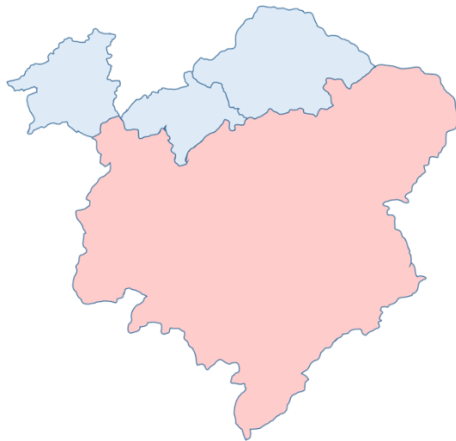
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## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Selkirkshire Community Councils  
Multi Member Ward Report for July 2024



**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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North Area Community Policing News – PS James Harrison



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PESA Lorna Evans (see image) has retired from the police after an incredible 43 years at Peebles front counter. Lorna has seen much change to the police over these years and was an integral part of not only the police in Tweeddale, but also the community. She is heavily involved in the Beltane festival and Highland Games, and we wish her well for the future.

Events season in the North CPA is finally over, with Lauder having their common riding at the beginning of August. There will still be some events to come (such as the Peebles Arrow – see image) but our busy period is now over and we can focus more on local community matters. One issue that is rising again is acquisitive crime.

Please can I encourage people to take precaution with their belongings; whether that is locking sheds with suitably strong locks, ensuring their house doors are locked, closing windows, hiding car keys and valuables, not leaving tools in vans, fit trackers to quad bikes etc. Simple actions can help prevent crime. I have attached some guidance to this e-mail, please share widely.

If you see something suspicious please call the police. If it is a suspicious vehicle you are not sure of call 101, if you see someone climbing through a window call 999. Whichever number you call, we will grade the priority and attend. Sign up for Rural Watch Scotland for alerts on current crime trends and other information.

The below link gives access to the latest Police document for the Scrutiny Panel for the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board, which sits every quarter at Scottish Borders Council.

[Item No. 5 a - Scottish Borders Scrutiny April - Sept.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Once you click into this link, please scroll down to read the full report. It provides progress and updates on service matters from Police Scotland and contains an input from Local Area Commander, Chief Inspector Stuart Fletcher.

## 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 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 198 mental health related calls, around 14 missing person enquiries and approximately 90 domestic related incidents.

Selkirkshire had 6 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 04/07/2024 report of a male from Buccleuch Road, Selkirk being assaulted by his neighbour who has punched male numerous times to the face, resulting in male incurring two black eyes and pain to jaw. A diary appointment has been made to obtain further details. Enquiries ongoing.

On 14/07/2024 report of female assaulting bar staff at Selkirk Rugby Football Club. Diary appointment made to gather further information.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

On 11/07/2024 report of fire in a derelict building at Level Crossing Road, Selkirk. The fire was started deliberately. Fire crew attended and extinguished the fire. No suspects found.

On 14/07/2024 report of youths riding e-scooters on Shawburn Road, Selkirk. Attempts to contact informant have not been successful. Will continue to try and make contact.

On 14/07/2024 report of heavily intoxicated male being verbally abusive to people before passing out at the aide of Haining Loch, Selkirk. Police attended and male was arrested and charged with threatening and abusive behaviour.

On 23/07/2024 report of youths entering abandoned factory which is unsafe. Dunsdale Road, Selkirk. Police will give passing attention when on patrol.

### **Vandalism**

On 26/07/2024 report of two former pupils damaging toys in playground. Knowepark Primary School, Selkirk. Youths to be charged with vandalism.

On 26/07/2024 report of gate & fence torn down and set alight. Megget Reservoir, Selkirk. Diary appointment made.

On 31/07/2024 report of windows smashed in property. Buccleuch Road, Selkirk. Diary appointment made.

## Reducing Acquisitive Crime

### Theft

On 05/07/2024 report of theft of fuel. Hillside Filling Station, Selkirk. A diary appointment has been made. Enquiries ongoing.

On 06/07/2024 report of theft of fuel. Hillside Filling Station, Selkirk. A diary appointment has been made. Enquiries ongoing.

On 08/07/2024 report of female shoplifting & then returning to the store & attempting to shoplift again, confronted by a member of staff & became verbally abusive. Diary appointment made. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/07/2024 report of attempted theft of fuel from oil tank. Burnbrae, Bowden. Case closed as no further lines of enquiry.

On 24/07/2024 report of theft of matches. Co-op, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 30/07/2024 report of a youth stealing various items from shop. Co-op, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 31/07/2024 report of theft of fuel. Hillside Filling Station, Selkirk. A diary appointment has been made. Diary appointment made.



## Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

### ***Serious and organised crime enforcement – July 2024***

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 2 Drug Warrants across the command area during July, all were positive. This included another large industrial scale Cannabis cultivation which had a potential street value of £190,000. Furthermore the Unit conducted 4 proactive searches resulting in 1 person being charged, £50,000 of controlled drugs and weapons being recovered.

They would also like to highlight that the local communities across the Borders may have information which they deem insignificant in relation to people being seen at disused large premises over a period of time. Any suspicious activity will be followed up by this team but it is important that the public know they can report such matters in person at any Police Station, by use of 101 or anonymously via the Crime Stoppers charity.

## 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.



### Rural

Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) the partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.





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### Why Join SB Alert?

Find out what's really happening in your area - receive regular updates on crime, scams, weather warnings, road closures, and other emergencies.

SB Alert is a free messaging service where you decide, when and how you are kept alerted about the issues that matter to you. [sbalert.co.uk](http://sbalert.co.uk)



Delivered by Neighbourhood Watch Scotland

[ruralwatchscotland.co.uk](http://ruralwatchscotland.co.uk)



### 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 July the SBCAT has been heavily involved with the election detail and local events in St Boswells, Lauder, Duns and elsewhere in the Borders.



**ROAD SAFETY** – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders and have issued 1 traffic ticket for careless driving this month.

On 31<sup>st</sup> July the SBCAT were in Lauder when there was a serious vehicle accident 1 mile North on the A68, involving a vehicle containing 3 children. The CAT attended immediately and assisted the drivers and young children who were in shock until traffic officers could attend and take over.

**PARKING TICKETS** – Officers have been carrying out high visibility enforcement across the Borders and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 29 tickets have been issued.

Passing attention was given to Galashiels, Jedburgh, Kelso and along with other areas.

**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. 2 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders this month along with numerous hi-visibility patrols of rural areas.

**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** – High visibility patrols have continued in targeted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns highlighted at these locations. The SBCAT has also been heavily involved in Community events throughout the month. Much of this has involved foot patrols targeting anti-social behaviour.

On 4<sup>th</sup> July the SBCAT were tasked with patrols of the polling stations. We dealt with some banners which had been stolen, including one which had been modified to be mildly offensive and placed outside of a polling station.



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The SBCAT were St Boswells Fair for several days. There was a lot of engagement with the local community and the travellers with no major issues or problems.

On 24<sup>th</sup> July SBCAT traced and arrested a male wanted by the CID for robbery.

The SBCAT have been attending in Jedburgh on Mondays when the court is on due to reports of ASB. These mobile and foot patrols have been well received by the public in Jedburgh with officers being approached and thanked on several occasions. These patrols will continue over the summer months.

2 youth warning letters were issued during the month of June.

**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 with only 1 arrest this month for a non-domestic offence. The SBCAT has also assisted with high-risk domestic enquiry packs.

One of the roles the SBCAT completes is issuing dog fouling tickets on behalf of the council. On 29<sup>th</sup> July officers attended at an address in Galashiels to issue such a ticket. Upon meeting the male due to receive the ticket officers became concerned about his ability to care for himself and the dog. The following day they did a joint visit with the SSPCA. The dog was handed over to the SSPCA and it established that several members of the family had mental health issues and their home was in a poor state with some basic facilities not working. Full details were noted and passed to social work to ensure the family get the support they require.

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT** – SBCAT officers have taken part in 1 one drugs search warrants in the Scottish Borders. 3 people have been searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act with 1 of them being found in possession of a personal amount of cannabis.

For the past month the SBCAT has been enquiring into a package of drugs which was intercepted by the Post Office. Subsequently a search warrant was craved and executed in Hawick on 30<sup>th</sup> of July. A personal amount of cannabis and unknown tablets were recovered. Further forensic analysis is required but it is highly likely that the male involved with be reported for being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs.

**OTHER ISSUES OF NOTE-** Despite extra patrols in the Burnfoot and Mainsfield Road areas of Hawick there has been an increase in ASB, including the use of off road motor bikes and electric bikes. During August there will be a significant focus on these issues by the CAT and other Community Officers.

## Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team

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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](mailto: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.

## Special Constables – Recruiting

With a long and impressive history, the Special Constabulary is a part-time, volunteer body consisting of voluntary officers with identical powers to that of police officers. As a special constable, you'll work alongside our police officers in your spare time – forging strong partnerships in the community, patrolling our streets, preventing crime, and interacting with all kinds of people to give back, keep your local community safe and make a real difference.

You can work full time and be a Special Constable in just 96 hours per year or a few hours a week. The role is diverse, demanding, and rewarding. You could be doing anything from policing a football match to assisting at a road accident. Special constables also police major sporting and public events and provide an excellent bridge between the Police Service and the public, representing both the community within the police service and the police service within local communities.

Special Constables can act as a positive force for change - bringing with them an extensive pool of skills, talents, experience, local knowledge, and diverse backgrounds - as well as enhancing the overall level of service provided by the police. So, whatever your walk of life, step forward now and find out how being a police volunteer could be the perfect fit to suit your lifestyle.

[Police Scotland Special Constable Recruitment - Police Scotland](#)