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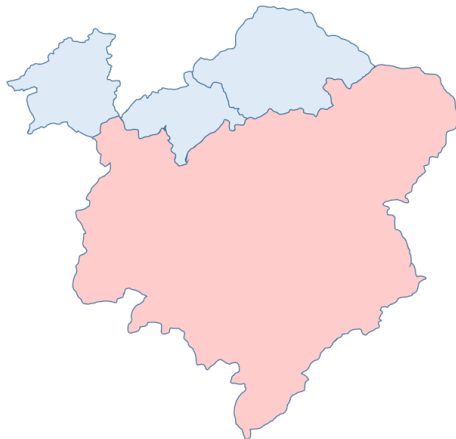


Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Selkirkshire Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for June 2023

(1st June 2023 – 30th June 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 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 John Murray, Elected Members and Community Councils in Selkirkshire the future.

With the summer comes the usual influx of visitors looking to experience to Borders scenery and hospitality. Most are welcome, but I am aware of complaints regarding wild campers near to St. Mary's Loch and other areas in the Yarrow Valley. While Police Scotland have no legal basis to prevent people camping, I would expect visitors to adhere to the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and respect the residents of the valley. If you suspect offences are being committed by campers, such as antisocial behaviour or vandalism, please report these to Police Scotland either via 101 or online.

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.

[\(Public Pack\)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 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.

Selkirkshire had 20 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 24/06/2023 report of female assaulting 4 patrons Dryburgh Arms Hotel, Newtown St Boswells. Female arrested.

On 28/06/2023 report of boy assaulted by another boy in a park in Newtown St Boswells. Boy spoken to.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/06/2023 report of youths playing loud music, partying & lighting fires. Sprouston Road, Newtown St Boswells. Youths spoken to, advice given.

On 03/06/2023 report of ongoing issue regarding youths climbing on the roof of the council buildings. Bowden Road, Newtown St Boswells. Police aware & patrolling area.

On 03/06/2023 report of campers being abusive. Megget reservoir, Selkirk. Issue resolved, no Police involvement.

On 04/06/2023 report of male riding motorbike around park. Clifton Road, Selkirk. Police aware.

On 06/06/2023 report of a group of youths on bikes harassing complainer & leaning on her car. Roxburgh Place, Newtown St Boswells. Not ongoing on Police arrival, no youths found.

On 23/06/2023 report of a group of people fighting in the street. Baillie Way, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

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On 24/06/2023 report of 2 males fighting in the street, Clifton Road, Selkirk. Nothing ongoing on Police arrival.

On 26/06/2023 report of 2 groups of youths shouting at each other, High Street, Selkirk. Nothing ongoing on Police arrival.

On 28/06/2023 report of 2 pupils fighting and smashing up classroom. Philiphaugh Primary School, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Vandalism

On 27/06/2023 report of vandalism to campervan Bowden Road, Bowden. Enquiries ongoing.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

Theft



On 14/06/2023 report of theft of fuel. Hillside Filling Station, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 21/06/2023 report of theft of 9 hens. Hillside Terrace, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 26/06/2023 report of theft of goods The Woll Golf Club Shop, Ashkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/06/2023 report of theft of items from grave, Wairds Cemetery, Melrose. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

On 21/06/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for careless/inconsiderate driving in Ashkirk Village

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

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who may feel lost, scared or vulnerable when out in the community. [About Keep Safe \(iammescotland.co.uk\)](#)

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 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

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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.

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:

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.