

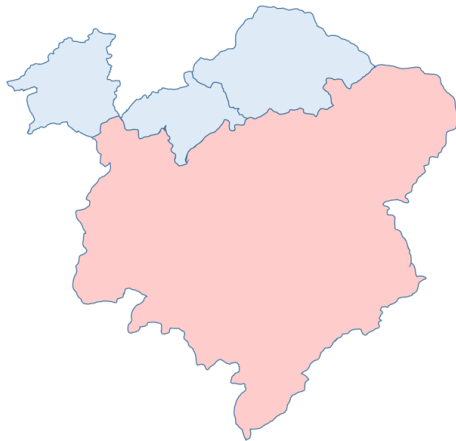
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Selkirkshire Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for November 2023
(1st November 2023 –30th November 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



The Local Police Plan 2020-23 for the Lothians and Scottish Borders identifies five strands for police to focus on during this period. These strands are; *Protecting the most vulnerable people, reducing violence and anti-social behaviour, reducing acquisitive crime, improving road safety and tackling serious & organised crime*. While each of these areas generally have specialist units that are individually dedicated to each strand, such as Roads Policing or CID, Community Policing is at the forefront of prevention work in all of these areas. I previously mentioned our work with the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (*reducing acquisitive crime strand*) and last month Op Torsion and the work of the School Link Officers (*reducing violence and ant-social behaviour strand*). We are also frequently involved in campaigns such as the one shown above (with Borders Women's Aid) during the recent White Ribbon Campaign (*protecting the most vulnerable people strand*).

The Lothian and Scottish Borders Local Police Plan is derived from Police Scotland's Annual Police Plan 2022/23, which identified Domestic Abuse as a national priority. I see the preventions work carried out by Community Beat Officers in their local communities as integral to this, particularly in their work with partners, educating communities and raising awareness. The White Ribbon Campaign comprised of White Ribbon Day on 25th November and a subsequent 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. It is the leading charity engaging men and boys to end violence against women and girls. I look forward to the Community Team being part of a wide variety of campaigns in 2024, including Road Safety, Mental Health Awareness, Rural Alerts, Hate Crime Campaigns, Cybercrime and numerous others.

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If you are affected by any of the issues mentioned above, please do not hesitate to contact Police Scotland on 101 or contactus (via the Police Scotland website) for advice, or in an emergency contact 999. You can find out more information about the White Ribbon Campaign here:

[White Ribbon Scotland - Men tackling violence against women](#)

And the Annual Policing Plan & Lothian and Borders Local Policing Plans here:

[Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2022/23](#)

[lothians-and-scottish-borders-police-plan-2020-2023.pdf \(scotland.police.uk\)](#)

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.

<https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s75749/Item%20No.%205%20a%20-%20Scottish%20Borders%20Q4%20CI.pdf>

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

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 November 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 196 mental health related calls, around 25 missing person enquiries and approximately 78 domestic related incidents.

Selkirkshire had 37 mental health related calls and 3 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

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Assaults

On 03/11/2023 report of girl assaulted by male. Burn Brae, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 06/11/2023 report of boy being assaulted by older boy. Burn Brae, Newtown St Boswells. Boy & parents spoken with, passed on to School Link officer.

On 12/11/2023 male assaulted & robbed within his home. Thornfield Crescent, Selkirk. 2 males arrested.

On 15/11/2023 report of male & female being assaulted by another male and female. Raeburn Meadow, Selkirk. Male & female charged with assault.

On 16/11/2023 report of attempted assault on male. Market Place, Selkirk. Male arrested.

On 17/11/2023 report of female assaulted by male. Sprouston Road, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/11/2023 report of 11 year old girl assaulted by 13 year old boy. Newtown Primary School, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries on going.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 05/11/2023 report of derelict factory being broken into. Riverside Road, Selkirk. Police arrived to find building secure.

On 06/11/2023 report of youths throwing stones at houses. Burn Brae, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 07/11/2023 report of dirt bike being driven at high speed on pavements. Philip View, Selkirk. Person spoken with regarding safe use of dirt bikes.

On 11/11/2023 report of youths throwing items at caller's house. Halywell Hill, Selkirk. Youths moved off before Police arrival.

On 11/11/2023 report of persons unknown kicking doors. Burn Brae, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 12/11/2023 report of youths throwing items at property. Halywell Hill, Selkirk. Officers made aware.

On 14/11/2023 report of intoxicated male shouting in the street. High Street, Selkirk. No trace of male on Police arrival.

On 20/11/2023 report of youths kicking & banging front door. High Street, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 27/11/2023 report of front door being kicked & a rock being thrown at property. Back Row, Selkirk. Police attended, advice given.

Vandalism

On 04/11/2023 report of brick thrown at front door of property. Park Avenue, Newtown St Boswells. Youth charged with offence.

On 05/11/2023 report of window smashed in home. Bridge Street, Selkirk. Male arrested, enquiries ongoing.

On 06/11/2023 report of car damaged by youths kicking a football at it. Burn Brae, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 12/11/2023 report of car tyre slashed. Tower Street, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 12/11/2023 report of two trucks & a trailer vandalised. A7, Ashikirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/11/2023 report of damage to car. Park Avenue, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

On 21/11/2023 report of damage to garden gate. Market Place, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 05/11/2023 report of house broken into and items stolen. Jenny Moores Road, Newtown St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

Theft

On 16/11/2023 two reports of shoplifting, Co-op, Selkirk. Enquiries ongoing.

On 24/11/2023 report of theft of Silvercross Dolls Pram from skip in garden. Weirgate Brae, St Boswells. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

On 26/11/2023 - a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Ayton

Killed or Seriously Injured



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 7 Drug Warrants across the command area during November, four were positive and 8 persons were charged with drug related

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offences. This included another large / industrial scale Cannabis cultivation which had a potential street value of £1,250,000 which was well publicised in local and national media.

They have also been liaising with a number of forces in England in relation to further criminality involving county lines nominals and rural acquisitive crime, particularly in the Eastern are of the Scottish Borders. Inquiries here are ongoing.

Five warrants were also executed in conjunction with other departments in relation to stolen property searches across the Scottish Borders.

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.

A number of bespoke business cards explaining the benefits of and reassuring any caller to Crime Stoppers have been produced and can be circulated amongst the Wards should this be deemed useful.

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

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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.

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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:

SBCAT MMW REPORT:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at various locations throughout the Scottish Borders during the three days around bonfire night



ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders and have issued 8 traffic tickets for various offences throughout the month.

Following concerns regarding antisocial driving at Tesco, Galashiels, regular checks were carried out during the month in line with direct CAT taskings, 1 driver was charged for no insurance and his vehicle was seized.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Eyemouth, Duns, Selkirk, Galashiels, and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 119 tickets have been issued.

Passing attention was given to Traquare Road, Innerleithen (no issues) The War Memorial in Coldstream (no issues) Galashiels Town Centre and Bridge Street in Kelso were also regularly checked by officers, which was also carried out as a result of requests made at the previous meeting.

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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. 57 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in November.

Regular patrols have been carried out at Monynut with nothing to report.

During the month, SBCAT officers took part in Operation Checkpoint alongside neighbouring forces. As a result of this, a number of traffic offences were detected and tickets issued.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in targeted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns highlighted at these locations.

4 youth warning letters were issued during the month of November in relation to youths entering and causing bother at the Cinema in Galashiels.

On 6/11/23 a male was found to be D and I in Hawick and was issued with a police warning ticket.

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. During the past month there has been two high priority warrant executed. Both males subsequently appeared at court on these matters.

On the 28th November SBCAT officers took part in Border Rape Crisis Reclaim the Night March in Galashiels and worked alongside partner agencies providing advice and support for interested parties.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT officers have taken part in two drugs search warrants in the Scottish Borders.

One in Galashiels, unfortunately the search was negative, however disruption to the supply chain continues.

A second warrant was executed at an apparently disused mill on Dunsdale Road, Selkirk. Owing to the dilapidated state of the building, the clearing took longer than usual, with officers having to do locus protection for a number of days. Eventually following an in depth structural survey, limited

amounts of officers were able to enter the building and dismantle the set up. There were approximately 1400 plants with a street value of over one million pounds.

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](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.