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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Hawick and Hermitage Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for September 2022

(1st September 2022 – 30th September 2022)



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Hawick and Hermitage 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 Sergeant Update

PS Ali Granger

September in the Borders started with the welcome return of the Tour of Britain, with the second stage starting in Hawick finishing in Duns, taking in a number of Borders towns in between. This was a really well organised event, and local officers worked closely with organisers and national police units to ensure the event passed safely without incident.



Stage 2 finish at Newtown Street, Duns

Community and CAT officers in Hawick have been working hard to reassure members of the community living in the Wellfield Road and Burnfoot areas, after concerns were raised in the local press regarding drug dealing and anti-social behaviour. A number of arrests have been made alongside regular high visibility patrols. We ask for the continued support of the community as the information you provide is vital in tackling these issues - any information regarding drug dealing and antisocial behaviour can be reported to police using 101, completely anonymously to crime stoppers on 0800 555 111 or using the online reporting tool – <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/pre-form>

In addition to reactive measures, we have been continuing to engage with local youngsters in an effort to prevent them from becoming involved in such activities. PC Ryan Stewart, in partnership with the British Army Youth Development Team, is planning youth engagement events in October. Hawick School's officer PC Jo Swindells is organising a child safety event at Burnfoot Primary on 3rd October.

Local Community officers have also begun to re-establish relationships with the town community councils. This will not always involve attendance, but meetings will either be attended or apologies sent. There are a total of 69 community councils in the Scottish Borders and we appreciate your understanding that we are unable to extend individual regular contact to all. That said, all CC's

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receive this report and should contact the community policing team mailbox if they wish to discuss specific issues or believe there is an urgent and pressing need for police attendance.

There were 14 calls to Newcastleton in September, including sheep worrying, vandalism to local school & theft (see below) concern for person, noise nuisance and road traffic offences.

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 ii - Scottish Borders Scrutiny - Q1 2022-23.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

This document reports progress 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 September 2022 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 124 mental health related calls, around 39 missing person enquiries and approximately 67 domestic related incidents.

Hawick and Hermitage area had 10 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



Assaults

On 02/09/2022 report of an assault at Weensland Road. Female arrested for assault. Relevant paperwork submitted.

On 06/09/2022 report of an assault within school at Hawick High, Buccleuch Road. Male youth cautioned and charged.

On 10/09/2022 report of an assault at Croft Road. Male arrested, cautioned and charged.

On 27/09/2022 report of an assault at Hawick High School, Buccleuch Road. Enquiries continuing

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 01/09/2022 report of a pupil acting aggressively towards teacher at Hawick High School, Buccleuch Road. Female cautioned and charged and report submitted.

On 04/09/2022 report of two males fighting at Silver Street. Officers attended, nothing ongoing on arrival.

On 06/09/2022 report of a disturbance at Waverley Bar, High Street. Male traced and warned re his conduct.

On 09/09/2022 report of disturbance at Morrisons, Mart Street. Officers attended, male escorted home.

On 11/09/2022 report of a urinator at Howegate. Fixed penalty notice issued.

On 14/09/2022 report of youths causing nuisance at Kenilworth Avenue. Officers attended, area searched, youths playing in the area spoken to.

On 26/09/2022 report of a disturbance at Liddesdale Road. Officers attended, nothing ongoing. No criminality. Male taken home and advised not to return to Liddesdale Road.

Vandalism

On 05/09/2022 report of damage to a polytunnel at Newcastleton Primary School, Montagu Street. Children admitted to damage and cleared up mess. Details of all involved have been noted and relevant paperwork submitted.

On 07/09/2022 report of damage to main front door of flats at Oliver Park. Enquiries continuing.

On 10/09/2022 report of damage to vehicles at Brougham Place. Statements noted and door to door enquires carried out. Relevant paperwork submitted for vandalism.

On 25/09/2022 reports of a window being smashed at a commercial property on Buccleuch Road. Relevant paperwork submitted for vandalism.

On 26/09/2022 reports of a window being smashed at a property on Liddesdale Road. Relevant paperwork submitted for vandalism.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

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On 13/09/2022 report of attempts made to gain entry to Morrisons Petrol Station, Mart Street. No entry gained, and metal bar used seized. Statements noted and CCTV seized. Relevant paperwork submitted. Enquiries continuing.

On 26/09/2022 report of housebreaking at Northhouse Farmhouse. Three quad bikes stolen from shed, and damage to barn door. Enquiries ongoing. Crime prevention advice given.

On 27/09/2022 report of housebreaking and items stolen at The Buccleuch, Trinity Street. Enquiries continuing.

Theft

On 03/09/2022 report of theft of fuel at Morrisons, Mart Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 06/09/2022 report of theft of bottle of juice and other items from Costa, High Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 07/09/2022 report of theft of goods from Morrisons, Mart Street. Male arrested on outstanding warrant along with shoplifting offence.

On 12/09/2022 report of theft of goods from Morrisons, Mart Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 15/09/2022 report of theft of heavy duty special joist hangers from Thornwood Lodge, Weensland Road. Enquiries continuing.

On 18/09/2022 report of theft and damage to vehicles at The Mill, Mangerton, Newcastleton. Enquiries continuing.

On 26/09/2022 report of theft of fuel from Morrisons, Mart Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 27/09/2022 report of theft and damage to a back passenger window of vehicle at High Street. Window smashed and items stolen. Enquiries continuing.



Improving Road Safety

On 06/09/2022 report of a road traffic offence, driver using mobile phone at Liddesdale Road. Driver cautioned and charged and issued with a conditional offer

On 07/09/2022 report of a road traffic offence at Howegate. Vehicle seized under RTA 1988. Driver cautioned and charged with no insurance, driving out with conditions of provisional licence, two defective tyres and careless driving. Relevant paperwork submitted.

Killed or Seriously Injured

No accidents where persons were killed or seriously injured.



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Please see CAT update

Campaigns

Scams

Victims of Phone / Internet / Doorstep Scams continue to be provided with an incident follow-up information pack containing advice intended to prevent repeat victimisation. This pack now includes a copy of the latest “Little Book of Big Scams” which covers a huge variety of common scams. [Little Book of Big Scams – Cyber Scotland](#)

High Value Bike Thefts from Vehicles

Following a spate of bike thefts from visitors vehicles in the Peebles area, work is ongoing to place warning signage at hotspot areas in Peebles, Innerleithen and Glentress. Prevention advice leaflets are also to be distributed to local businesses such as cafes, hotels etc.

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 \(iammesotland.co.uk\)](#)

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

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 interested in setting up a new zone or wishing to refresh an existing zone (those with the old Lothian and Borders Police signs) or should contact their local community policing team <https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>

Rural Crime

- Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) exhibited at the Border Union Show highlighting the latest rural crime prevention advice. The partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.

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- We continued to distribute free wireless perimeter security alarms 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.

CAT Update:

ROAD SAFETY, RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Officers from SBCAT joined with officers from Northumbria police, Dumfries & Galloway and Roads Policing officers to carry out Op Winterberry. This was an overnight initiative to tackle rural crime by conducting a series of checkpoints along the English / Scottish border. In total over 50 vehicles were stopped with a number of driving offences detected. Officer from SBCAT will continue to support such initiatives in the future, and endeavour to tackle rural crime wherever possible.



Two persons were stopped by SBCAT on their way to Moneynut with off road motorbikes in their van. No offences had been committed, but they were warned and instructed not to return.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT

During September SBCAT executed five search warrants at premises in Hawick, Jedburgh and Eyemouth. At one address over 4700 white tablets were recovered, along with 685 grams herbal cannabis and £4000 cash.

SBCAT also carried out reassurance patrols in the Wellfield and Burnfoot areas, and conducted a door to door survey with Community Policing Team, Scottish Borders Council and the Scottish Borders Housing Association.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

SBCAT officers were dedicated to an investigation team set up to trace a missing person in the Scottish Borders for a number of weeks during September.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Youth ASB is continuing to be reported in Peebles, and SBCAT are addressing this with their counterparts in Community Policing. We are aware there are some youths who have been causing problems in Peebles, however these have been reported to the relevant agencies and proceedings are ongoing. SBCAT will continue to address any antisocial behaviour reported to police, and we would like to encourage people to report any genuine problems to us. Identification of the culprits, and evidence in the form of witness statements, greatly helps SBCAT to address the issues reported.

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:

LothianScotBordersCPTHawickHermitage@scotland.pnn.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.