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## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

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

(1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 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 Policing News – Hawick & Hermitage**

Community Officers have been busy throughout November with both local Bonfire events and the Remembrance Day services and parades.

In addition they have continued their partnership working with local schools where they give prevention inputs and engage with the children at schools across the ward areas. The work of the school link community officers is more important now than ever before. Early engagement doesn't just reduce the likelihood of offending - educational inputs by our officers also reduce the likelihood our young people will become victims of crime.

Officers are aware of complaints regarding speeding and parking and numerous locations throughout the Borders. We are consistent in our approach to enforcement – where there is a history of collisions or a school then we can ask for the assistance of Roads Policing or the CAT officers. Community Officers are being trained up in the use of the speed guns, but again these officers must be deployed in the areas where the risk of accidents is at its greatest, so that we are using our resources efficiently and effectively.

Parking is similar – where there is dangerous or obstructive parking we must prioritise our resources to tackle these issues first and foremost.

There were 13 calls to Newcastleton in November, including noise nuisance, domestic incidents, fraud and road traffic matters.

There have been a number of drugs search warrants executed in the Hawick area in November which have resulted in the recovery in class A, B & C drugs and cash. Several people have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal as a result and several enquiries are ongoing.

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 November 2022 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 150 mental health related calls, around 39 missing person enquiries and approximately 67 domestic related incidents.*

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*Hawick and Hermitage area had 13 mental health related calls and 5 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 01/11/2022 report of assault of female at Bourtree Place, Hawick. Enquiries ongoing.

On 04/11/2022 report of assault at Back Dam Gate, Hawick. No positive lines of enquiry identified, enquiry complete.

On 11/11/2022 report of youth assault at North Bridge Street, Hawick. One male youth charged and relevant paperwork submitted

On 16/11/2022 report of assault of staff at Morrison's Hawick. Enquiries ongoing

### Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/11/2022 report of a disturbance at Hawick High School, Buccleuch Road. No crime and relevant paperwork submitted.

On 13/11/2022 report of a urinator at High Street. Recorded Police Warning issued to male.

On 13/11/2022 report of youths climbing on scaffolding at Brougham Place. Officers attended, area searched with no trace of youths.

On 17/11/2022 report of a disturbance at Waverley Bar, High Street. Windows broken by known male who was also verbally abusive towards staff. Statements noted and male charged.

### Vandalism

On 26/11/2022 report of a window being smashed at Crown Close. Relevant paperwork submitted for vandalism.



## Reducing Acquisitive Crime

### Theft by Housebreaking

### Theft

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On 08/11/2022 report of theft of money withdrawn from an account at Lothian Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 09/11/2022 report of theft of vapes to the value of approx. £50 at Tower Knowe. Relevant paperwork submitted. Enquiries continuing.

On 16/11/2022 report of theft of goods from Morrisons, Mart Street. Enquires continuing.

On 17/11/2022 report of theft of deodorant from Boots Chemist, High Street. Enquiries continuing.

On 21/11/2022 report of theft of money from a property at Slitrig Crescent. Enquiries continuing.

On 22/11/2022 report of theft of a parcel of cat food from front door of a property at Laidlaw Terrace. Enquiries continuing.



### Improving Road Safety

On 05/11/22 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Hawick.

On 09/11/2022 report of a road traffic offence, no insurance or driving licence at Mart Street. Driver cautioned and charged and vehicle seized. Relevant paperwork submitted.

On 12/11/2022 report of a road traffic offence, no licence, at Lothian Street. Vehicle seized and male charged and reported for summons.

On 17/11/2022 report of a road traffic offence at Bourtree Place, driving vehicle out with conditions of vehicle insurance. Male cautioned and charged and vehicle seized.

### 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](#)

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

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.
- 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 again joined with officers from Northumbria police, Dumfries & Galloway and Roads Policing officers in November to carry out a second Op Checkpoint, the overnight initiative to tackle rural crime by conducting a series of checkpoints along the English / Scottish border. Officer from SBCAT will continue to support such initiatives in the future, and endeavour to tackle rural crime wherever possible.



#### DRUG ENFORCEMENT

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SBCAT have assisted with the execution of six drugs warrants in Galashiels and Hawick during November. During these over £5000 cash has been recovered, along with cannabis, heroin and diazepam.

### IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY

Throughout November SBCAT have been out conducting static road checks for the Winter Safety Campaign, checking vehicles and in particular tyre tread depth. Advice was given to a number of drivers. We were also involved in a vehicle pursuit after which the driver was charged with a number of offences including drink driving. Parking issues in Berwickshire have also been addressed.

### ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

SBCAT have carried out high visibility patrols in identified youth hotspots in Peebles, Galashiels and Hawick. We are working with our counterparts in Community Policing to address any identified antisocial behaviour issues. We were also deployed over the bonfire night weekend to address any reports of ASB.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

SBCAT assisted colleagues in ensuring that Remembrance Sunday passed safely and without incident, with SBCAT Sgt PS Harrison laying the wreath on behalf of Police Scotland at the Galashiels service.

## 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:

[LothianScotBordersCPTHawickHermitage@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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.