

**OFFICIAL**

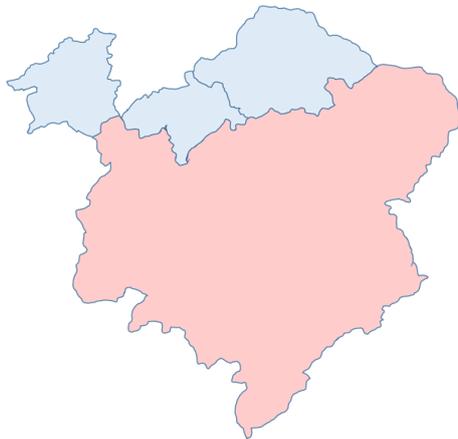


## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Hawick and Hermitage Community Councils  
Multi Member Ward Report for JANUARY 2024

(1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024)



**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.

**OFFICIAL**

## **Community Policing News – Hawick & Hermitage – PS Ali Granger**

There were 9 calls to Newcastleton in January, and included concern for persons, abandoned vehicles and suspect persons reports. PC Trochimiak and PC Patterson will be in the village in the coming days for community engagement and youth club visits.

There are several initiatives throughout the Schools being developed and led by the School Link Officers. PC's Ula Trochimiak and Ryan Stewart are currently working on

- Working with Borders Women's Aid and Rape Crisis in Hawick High delivering inputs
- Emergency services day at Burnfoot Primary, where it is hoped all P7's (and possibly P6's) from across the Hawick cluster can attend and learn about how to keep themselves and others safe within their communities. They will also learn about the work their emergency services and partner organisations carry out.
- Setting up boxing taster sessions as an introduction for local P7's and above as a diversionary activity.
- Delivering sextortion, Serious & Organised Crime and county lines inputs at Hawick High Attending the additional needs and well-being hub to liaise with young people at Hawick High School.

All these initiatives require a substantial amount of hard work and organisation and we rely on the support of our partners, schools and local communities, a huge thank you for your help.

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 January 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 204 mental health related calls, around 18 missing person enquiries and approximately 82 domestic related incidents.*

## OFFICIAL

*Hawick and Hermitage area had 31 mental health related calls and 0 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

### Assault

On 17/01/2024 report of an assault at Mart Street. One male arrested and charged with assault to injury and released with special conditions.

On 27/01/2024 report of an assault within Base Nightclub in the early hours, victim was approached by two males. The assault did not cause injury, necessary paperwork submitted, enquiries ongoing.

On 28/01/2024 report of an assault at Loan. No further police involvement due to injured male being obstructive and not wishing to engage. Necessary paperwork submitted.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

On 03/01/2024 report of a public nuisance at Ramsay Road. Informant contacted and confirmed no damage and nothing to suggest any criminality. Advice given.

On 03/01/2024 report of a public nuisance at Loan. Intoxicated male trying door. Officers attended, appears male has attended at wrong address. Area searched with no trace of male.

On 07/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Weatherspoon's, Bourtree Place. Officers attended, males were traced within Stampers Bar, all males spoken to and CCTV viewed. 2 x males issued with a Recorded Police Warning and other male taken home.

On 11/01/2024 report of youths refusing to leave Morrison's, Mart Street. Complainer spoken to, youths being verbally abusive, no complaints made and advice given.

On 11/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Morrison's, Mart Street. No complaints made, no crime committed, male has been banned from store.

On 13/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Oliver Place. One male charged with vandalism, further enquiries ongoing to establish male responsible for assault.

On 18/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Ramsay Road. Officers attended, no noise on arrival, all parties spoken to with no issues.

## OFFICIAL

On 25/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Renwick Terrace. Officers attended, area searched with no trace of suspect persons. No complaints made by informant.

On 28/01/2024 report of a disturbance at Fisher Avenue. Victim did not wish to make a complaint. Relevant paperwork submitted.

On 30/01/2024 report of youths causing a nuisance at Morrisons, Mart Street. Officers attended and moved youths on.

### **Vandalism/Vehicle Crime**

On 04/01/2024 report of vandalism to a window at High Street. Female Cautioned and charged.

On 09/01/2024 report that a vehicle parked on Ramsey road had had its near side tyres slashed. Enquiries were carried out. Necessary paperwork submitted.

On 11/01/2024 report of damage to a window at Duke Street. Relevant paperwork to be submitted for vandalism.

On 16/01/2024 report of damage to a window at Duke Street. Relevant paperwork submitted for vandalism.

On 24/01/2024 report of damage to a vehicle at Kirk Wynd. Passenger side window smashed and items stolen. Enquiries ongoing.



## **Reducing Acquisitive Crime**

### **Theft by Housebreaking**

On 08/01/2024 report that an unknown person had attempted to gain entry to a property on the High Street during the early hours, CCTV has been obtained. Enquires continuing.

On 16/01/2024 report of a housebreaking at Phonehouse, High Street. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/01/2024 report of a housebreaking at Lothian Street. CID aware, for further enquiry.

On 26/01/2024 report of a housebreaking at Allars Bank. Unknown persons have entered the premises and removed items. Enquiries continuing.

### **Theft**

## OFFICIAL

On 15/01/2024 report of locks being cut and theft of donations from Salvation Army clothing bins situated on Croft Road. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/01/2024 report of theft from Costa Coffee, High Street. Relevant paperwork submitted for low value theft shoplifting, suspect still to be identified by CCTV.

On 26/01/2024 report of a driver failing to pay for fuel from Weensland Road service station. Attempts are being made to contact the driver.



### Improving Road Safety

On 06/01/2023 reports of a road traffic offence. Male was cautioned and charged with having no insurance, driving out with terms of licence and possession of class B drugs.

On 16/01/2024 report of a road traffic offence whilst on mobile patrol in Hawick. Vehicle stopped for having no valid Test Certificate. Keeper issued with a conditional offer for no MOT.

On 26/01/2024 a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for driving with no MOT in Hawick.

### Killed or Seriously Injured

No accidents where persons were killed or seriously injured.



## Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

### Serious and organised crime enforcement – January 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 5 Drug Warrants across the command area during January, four were positive and 4 persons were charged with drug related offences.

County lines nominals and rural acquisitive crime are still prevalent in some areas of the Scottish Borders and we are working closely with colleagues in England and local partners to detect and identify offenders in this area of criminality.

Two warrants were also executed in conjunction with other departments in relation to serious crime inquiries.

#### Cannabis Cultivations

Pro-active CID would again 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**

### **Fraud**

January saw a national campaign throughout Police Scotland focusing on Fraud. Online sales and romance frauds and the links they have to gift card Scams.

A comprehensive list of the main fraud types can be accessed on the Police Scotland website at [www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/advice-for-victims-of-crime/fraud/main-electronic-fraud-types](http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/advice-for-victims-of-crime/fraud/main-electronic-fraud-types)

### **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](#)

### **After Dark**

Although housebreaking can occur at any time of year criminals will often take advantage of darker nights and shorter daylight hours. A Social Media campaign has highlighted the need for householders to keep their windows and doors locked, consider the fitting of intruder alarms, CCTV and outside security lighting, record and security mark valuable property, secure car keys out of sight and the use of Faraday pouches for keyless car entry systems.

### **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.

### **No Cold Calling Zones**

- 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 and the Ram Sales highlighting the latest rural crime prevention advice. The partnership continues to meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.

We continue to provide security, crime prevention and livestock worrying advice to farmers and rural business. This can be requested by Farmers / Rural businesses using the [Contact Us Form](#) on the Police Scotland Website.

## **CAT Update**

**ROAD SAFETY** – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders and have issued 7 traffic tickets for various offences throughout the month.

Following concerns regarding antisocial driving at Tesco, Galashiels, and regular checks were carried out during the month in line with direct CAT tasking's and 1 driver was reported for driving with no insurance.

Throughout January numerous hi- vis speed and static road checks have been carried out at schools throughout the Scottish Borders at dropping off and picking up times.

**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 177 tickets have been issued.

In early January a female was knocked over and injured by a person driving a vehicle that had been illegally parked in Peebles town centre. Over the following days the SBCAT targeted area for parking offences and issued a total of 64 tickets in the Peebles area. On multiple occasions the officers were approached by members of the public thanking them for their efforts.

On 16/01/24 – during one shift 2 CAT officers issued 20 parking tickets in Eildon while completing other duties.

Passing attention was given to Traquair 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.

Following a report of illegally and poorly parked vehicles within Duns Industrial Estate Business owners and staff were spoken to and the parking regulations were explained to them. They all moved their vehicles to suitable places. Regular checks are being completed but no further parking issues have been identified.

**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. 34 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders in January along with numerous hi-visibility patrols of rural areas.

On 24/01/24 two officers conducted a patrol of Monynut on quadbike. Other regular patrols have been completed with nothing to report.

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

16 youth warning letters were issued during the month of January in relation to youths.

On 6/1/24 following an enquiry a youth was traced and C/C'd for vandalising a shop window in Selkirk.

## OFFICIAL

On 24/1/24 following a report that youths had set a fire in Selkirk, officers attended and after confirming it was a small controlled fire their presence resulted in a male youth being identified and his parents having to be spoken to.

**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 a total of 11 people were arrested on warrant. This includes 2 high priority warrants whereby the 2 individuals were remanded at court the following Monday due to the risks they posed to the public

On 12/1/24 officers reported a male for warrant after he was found to be in breach of his curfew.

On 12/01/24 – CAT officers observed two people wanted on high priority warrants. They ran off from the officers but following a foot chase they were both arrested. Due to the risks they posed to the public they were both remanded at court

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT** – SBCAT officers have taken part in 1 drugs search warrants in the Scottish Borders.

On 13/1/24- CAT officers carried out a drug search on a male found in a car in the Selkirk area. He subsequently failed a roadside drug wipe and was arrested (enquiries ongoing)

On 17/1/24- CAT officers executed an MDA warrant in Peebles which resulted in the recovery of a personal amount of cannabis and a male being C/C'd and reported. (approx. 22g est value, £330.00)

**OTHER ISSUES OF NOTE-** On 11/1/24- CAT officers arrested a person in relation to a reported Fraud. Following interview they were C/C'd with Fraud and reported to the PF.

On 18/01/24 - Following an invite from a young pupil of Drumlanrig Primary School in Hawick CAT officers attended at the school. They explained the role of the police and the actions that young children can do to help their community.

## 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.