

OFFICIAL



Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for March 2021



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Kelso and District 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

Figures for the whole Scottish Borders Area

(Data from 01/04/2020 –26/03/2021)

	2019 /2020	2020 /2021	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	3468	3394	-2.1	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 55.5% compared to 56.2% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	97	140	44.3	The detection rate for Group 1 is 76.4% compared to 77.3% at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	45	50	11.1	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 90.0% compared to 77.8% at same time last year.
Robberies	17	21	23.5	The detection rate for Robberies is 71.4% compared to 82.4% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	926	873	-5.7	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 72.9% compared to 71.0% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	5243	7188	37.1 % Weekly change	The 37.1% weekly increase in ASB incidents can be attributed to public nuisance calls related to COVID19.
Hate Crime – All incidents	98	103	5.1 % weekly change	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 77.5% compared to 80.5% at the same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	221	282	27.6	The detection rate for Group 2 is 68.8% compared to 74.2% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	56	46	-17.9	The detection rate for Rape is 54.3% compared to 75.0% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – All incidents	1111	1242	11.8 % Weekly change	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes are 76.3% compared to 72.6% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	1411	1254	-11.1	The detection rate for Group 3 is 34.2% compared to 41.6% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	105	47	-55.2	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 48.9% compared to 41.0% at same time last year.
Motor Vehicle Thefts	74	52	-29.7	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 61.5% compared to 59.5% at same time last year.

Community Sergeant Update

PS Paul Begley



Firstly, I would like to thank the Community Councils and Councillors for all of your support and feedback during the move to the Multi-Member Ward Report. We do acknowledge and appreciate this has been a significant change from the previous reporting however the majority of the feedback has been very positive and encouraging. The main aim of this change was to ensure all communities were receiving information in line with the local policing plan and priorities. One of the benefits has been the ability to demonstrate and share some of the pro-active Policing that is being carried out throughout the region. Our Policing vision is to make the area safe, protected and resilient and in order to achieve this we need to deliver our local priorities. This new reporting mechanism allows us to make the best use of time spent by our operational Police officers, ensuring visibility in the community.

March has seen our launch of the joint initiative with The Borders Food Train delivering scam prevention packages to ensure our communities are supported and aware of current trends. This is now well underway and residents in the region are now beginning to receive these packs. We are also working with local magazines and media to promote our Take 5 Campaign. If at all possible, please can we highlight the availability of call blocking devices provided by Trading Standards following funding from Scottish Government information available at <https://www.tsscot.co.uk/launch-of-roll-out-of-free-call-blocking-devices-2/>

Another key partnership approach is our involvement with the Scottish Borders Partnership in Rural Crime (SBPARC). This has been formed and we are currently, actively working in partnership with SBC, NFU, Scottish Land and Estates, Horsewatch Scotland and the Tweed Commission with a view to reducing acquisitive crime.

I am pleased to report that my colleagues in CID have carried out significant enquiry in relation to a number of linked Thefts across the region, this has been a cross-border investigation which is resulting in two people being reported to our Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service. CID also very quickly identified the suspect for an Attempted Robbery in Coldstream which resulted in a man being arrested and appearing at court.

We would like to thank the community for their support, the information provided to us by the public is key to successful investigations.

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 March 2021 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 124 mental health related calls, around 14 missing person enquiries and approximately 76 Domestic related incidents.

Kelso and district had 18 mental health related calls and 2 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 ASB

Assault

On the 05/03/2021 report of a female being attacked by other females within park at Shedden Park, Road, Kelso. Enquires continuing.

On the 16/03/2021 report of a male juvenile being attacked by another male juvenile on Croft Road, Kelso. Juvenile assailant reported to child services for further action.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/03/2021 a report of a disturbance in Kelso. Police attended, a male was arrested and charged with being in possession of an offensive weapon and a controlled substance.

On 06/03/2021 a report of youths gathering near the river in Kelso. Youths being verbally abusive, shouting and swearing. On police arrival the youths ran off. Local officers will be aware.

On 08/03/2021 a report of youths smoking and drinking in the grounds of Edenside Primary School. Youths had dispersed prior to police arrival.

On 08/03/2021 a report of stalking and harassment in Kelso. A crime report has been created and enquiries are ongoing.

On 12/03/2021 a report of youths in the grounds of Edenside Primary School making noise in the early hours. Police attended and no youths were found.

OFFICIAL

On 21/03/2021 a report of three drunk females in Roxburgh Street, Kelso. Police attended, females awaiting parents collecting them.

Vandalism

On the 24/03/2021 report of items being damaged within a property at Orchard Park, Kelso. Police attended and male perpetrator arrested charged with two offences, released from custody with date to appear at court.



Reducing acquisitive crime

Robbery

On the 28/02/2021 report of male being forced onto the ground and being threatened with a knife before being searched and having money stolen from him at an address in Eschie Court, Kelso. Enquires continuing

Theft

None reported.

Theft Housebreaking

On the 03/03/2021 report of a property at Eschie Court, Kelso being broken into and items stolen. Enquires continuing.

On the 23/03/2021 report of a business premises at The Square, Kelso being broken into and items stolen. Police attended and following further enquires a male perpetrator has been charged with theft and reported for prosecution.



Improving road safety

Within the Jedburgh Sheriff Court Jurisdiction there were 3 parking tickets issued in March.

Roads Policing Campaigns – 17th March was the national speeding day of action.

On 02/03/2021 a driver was charged with various road traffic offences in Kelso.

On 02/03/2021 a driver was fined and issued points near to Nenthorn for careless/inconsiderate driving.

On 05/03/2021 a vehicle was involved in a hit and run in Kelso. Enquiries are ongoing.

On 06/03/2021 a vehicle was uplifted in Kelso for having no insurance.

On 07/03/2021 a vehicle was uplifted in Kelso for having no insurance. A male was also charged with driving without a licence.

On 18/03/2021 a driver was issued a fine in Spylaw Road, Kelso for not wearing a seatbelt.



Tackling serious and organised crime

Friday 12th March 2021, CID and the Scottish Borders Community Action Team executed a Misuse of Drugs warrant in Selkirk. A male was found in possession of a personal quantity of diamorphine.

Friday 12th March 2021, officers discovered a cultivation within an address in Hawick. A large quantity of cannabis plants were seized with a potential street value of £90,000.

Saturday 20th March 2021, officers were on mobile patrol in Galashiels, when they searched a male who was in possession of 33 gram wraps of Diamorphine. Approximate value £2,000

Wednesday 24th March 2021, officers were on mobile patrol in Galashiels town centre, and searched a female where she was found to be in possession of an 8 inch kitchen knife in her handbag and 1550 Valium tablets.

Thursday 25th of March 2021, officers arrested a male and recovered a personal amount of cannabis, Valium tablets and a supply amount of Diamorphine.

Sunday 28th March 2021, in Galashiels, officers searched a male and recovered a personal amount of Valium tablets.

Saturday 28th March 2021, officers searched a female in Melrose and found her in possession of a quantity of Valium tablets.

Monday 29th March 2021, officers executed a drugs warrant in Peebles and recovered a personal amount of Cocaine and a sum of cash.

Campaigns

Campaigns

Locally Police Scotland supported the following campaigns in March through extensive social media messaging;

- National Rape Campaign
- Ongoing Divisional Domestic Abuse campaign
- Child Sexual Abuse (CSE) campaign
- Young Carers Action Day

Rural

- Scottish Borders Partnership against Rural Crime (SBPARC) was formed with partners including SBC, NFUS, Scottish Land and Estates, Horsecatch Scotland, Tweed Commission. The partnership will meet regularly to address local priority rural crime throughout the year.



- We posted advice on social media and SBAAlert regarding Livestock Worrying.
- We continued to distribute free SelectaDNA forensic marking kits & signs to farmers and rural business.
- We promoted acquisitive crime prevention advice, focused on quadbike thefts, through our local media channels.

Scams

- Scams prevention advice was distributed for publication going forward in local free magazines (Peebles Life, Jed Eye, Kelso Life and Gala Life).
- Trading Standards Scotland roll out of free telephone call blocking devices for the vulnerable was supported through SBAAlert and Social Media.



No Cold Calling Zones

- In partnership with SBC and Future Hawick a No Cold Calling Zone was established in Wellington Court Hawick.

CAT Update:

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – During February the CAT have completed targeted mobile and foot patrols, paying attention to youth hotspot areas including Peebles, Kelso and Eyemouth. Calls in relation to breaches of Covid legislation continue to be recorded, with officers responding accordingly.

DRUGS - CAT have executed drugs warrants in Hawick, Peebles and Kelso, with Class A and B drugs being recovered with a total street value of approximately £220. Cash, linked to the sale of drugs, has been seized to the value of £4925. Several persons have been stopped and searched and both Class A and B drugs recovered.

ROAD SAFETY –Antisocial driving continues to be reported as an issue, and the CAT have carried out patrols of areas of concern. As a result, CAT have issued 18 traffic tickets to drivers for a variety of offences and continue to give attention locations where this behaviour continues.

RURAL CRIME – Officers from the Cat team have developed a strategy targeting rural acquisitive crime, in particular the theft of quad bikes. Alongside Northumbria Police and Roads Policing Officers, patrols are being carried out based on extensive analysis of data, targeting the locations and roadways most utilised by those involved.

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:

KelsoDistrict@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.

