

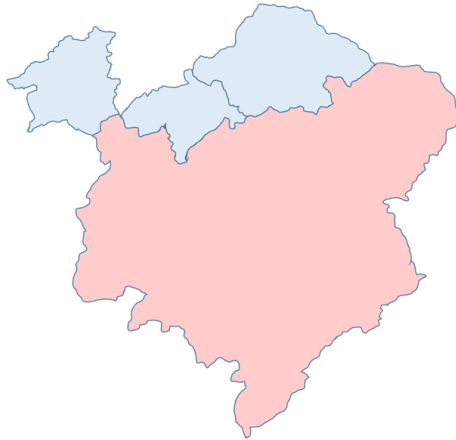
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for May 2023



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.

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Community Update - Kelso & District

Events season is in full swing with the final week of Hawick Common riding currently taking place. Local officers look forward to Kelso Civic Week next month

Last month's report mentioned changes to the structure of community policing in the Scottish Borders, and I also spoke about this at the Cheviot Area Partnership meeting. I have attached a letter from the Deputy Local Area Commander, Inspector Robbie Noble alongside this report to provide some clarification.

Community Officers are not funded by Scottish Borders Council and are the first point of contact for communities regarding any issues or problems. There is one community officer per ward area – Kelso and District have PC Paul Owenson.

Community Action Team officers are funded by Scottish Borders Council, and there are two officers per Area Locality – Cheviot has PC Kirsty Chisholm and PC Bruce Anderson. They work closely with the Community Officers providing action in areas of concern.

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 - Police Scotland Report.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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 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 May 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 207 mental health related calls, around 31 missing person enquiries and approximately 85 domestic related incidents.

Kelso & District had 27 mental health related calls and 3 missing person enquiry. 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



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On 07/05/2023 report of assault in Shedden Park, Kelso. A youth has been charged with assault. Partner agencies have also been notified and relevant paperwork submitted.

On 08/05/2023 report of a male being assaulted whilst in Jamieson's Court, Kelso. Male charged with minor assault.

On 21/05/2023 report of a male being assaulted in Jamiesons Entry, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 05/05/2023 report of a disturbance within a property at Jamieson's Court, Kelso. Officers attended and spoke occupants, and no complaints being made by any parties.

On 05/05/2023 report of a disturbance within a property in Roxburgh Street, Kelso. Officers attended and no crimes established, however, partner agencies notified to offer additional support to all parties.

On 28/05/2023 report of an intoxicated male causing a disturbance at Kelso Racecourse. Officers attended and male was issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

Vandalism

On 15/05/2023 report of damage to garden furniture at a property in Mayfield Gardens, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 22/05/2023 report of damage to plant pots in a garden at Orchard Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing acquisitive crime

Theft

On 03/05/2023 report of theft of cash and goods at W H Smith, Horsemarket, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 17/05/2023 report of theft shoplifting from Travis Perkins, Spylaw Road, Kelso by two unknown males. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/05/2023 report of theft from an address in Hendersyde Park, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/05/2023 report of thefts of ornaments from a grave at Fernyhill Cemetary, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/05/2023 report of theft shoplifting from The Co-op Store, Roxburgh Street, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

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Improving road safety

On 22/05/2023 Speed check carried out by Roads Policing at Eccles where 5 drivers were warned

On 23/05/2023 Speed check carried out by Roads Policing at Sprouston where one driver warned and one conditional offer issued (see below).

On 23/05/2023 Speed check carried out by Roads Policing at Kelso where two drivers warned and two conditional offers were issued (see below).

On 03/05/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for driving with tyre grooves less than 1.6mm (cars/light goods) in Kelso.

On 07/05/2023 a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Kelso.

On 23/05/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding in Kelso.

On 23/05/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding in Kelso.

On 23/05/2023 a driver was issued penalty points and a fine for speeding in Sprouston.

Killed or Seriously Injured

On 20/05/2023 report of a serious road accident having occurred on the unclassified road north of Stichill, Kelso, involving two vehicles. All parties required medical attention.



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

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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:

MISUSE OF DRUGS – SBCAT carried out 9 searches of premises throughout the Scottish Borders during May, 8 of which had positive results. These were as follows;

KELSO – personal amount of herbal cannabis and 105 blue pills (suspected Valium).

JEDBURGH – 38.5g herbal cannabis, knives, sword, bb gun and £620 cash.

PEEBLES – 6.7g cannabis resin, personal amount of cocaine, £4445 cash. Large bag of vapes also seized, suspected of being sold to children.

KELSO – 133g herbal cannabis.

JEDBURGH – 11.8g white powder, personal amount of cannabis, knife.

GALASHIELS – small cannabis cultivation, suspected LSD.

JEDBURGH – 33g heroin, 2.8g cannabis, 1g white powder, 200 valium, 100 benzo, £1250 cash.

GALASHIELS – 28g herbal cannabis, knife.

Of note, the recent introduction of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 has allowed us to seize weapons that are now deemed illegal, such as martial arts type weapons, during searches of houses.

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Although the month has been dominated by house searches, we were also deployed to provide locus protection and assist at a house search at an incident at Moss Paul near Hawick, as well as assist at the Jim Clark Rally Event.

ROAD SAFETY – 3 conditional offer tickets for dangerous driving issued.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH – A working group has been set up to help implement the Community Speedwatch initiative in the Scottish Borders. Community Speedwatch has already been successfully implemented in Fife. This will initially be on a trial basis, and consists of enabling local Community Group volunteers to monitor vehicle speeds in designated places, with a guidance letter being sent to speeding motorists by Police Scotland. Please get in touch if you are interested in setting up a community speedwatch group.

ARREST WARRANTS – 3 persons were arrest wanted on warrant in May by SBCAT.

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.

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