

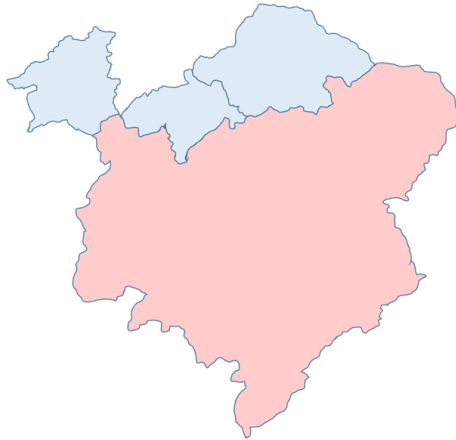
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Kelso and District Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for July 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

Throughout July Community Policing Team officers and Community Action Team officers continued to police the numerous summer events throughout the Scottish Borders. These events included Duns Summer Festival, St Boswells Fair, Jethart Callant's festival, St Ronan's Festival, Kelso Civic Week, Eyemouth Herring Queen Festival, Burnfoot Carnival and Royal visits to Galashiels and Selkirk.

Kelso Civic week went well with a great effort from the foot marshals in particular. Police will continue to attend and support common ridings in the coming years, however the number of officers we are able to allocate to events has decreased. Kelso has a huge amount of volunteer foot marshals which helps ensure the safety and sustainability of these events without a heavy reliance on police. Kelso is often given as an example to other towns as to how effective foot marshals are – well done to all those involved.



Cavalcade leaving the town for Sprouston this year

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 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 July 2023 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 153 mental health related calls, around 15 missing person enquiries and approximately 74 domestic related incidents.

Kelso & District had 27 mental health related calls and 2 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

On 02/07/2023 report of an assault taking place in Brisbane Place, Crawford Street, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 18/07/2023 report of two females fighting in Croft Park, Kelso. Officers attended and after speaking to witnesses, one female has been charged with assault.

On 21/07/2023 report of a male having been assaulted whilst within a property in Jamiesons Court, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 07/07/2023 report of two males causing a disturbance outside a property in Maxmill Park, Kelso. Officers attended and two males were arrested for threatening and abusive behaviour and malicious mischief.

On 08/07/2023 report of a male causing a disturbance outside a property in Oakfield Court, Kelso. Officers attended male issued with Anti-Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notice for vandalism.

On 18/07/2023 report of a disturbance within a property in Oakfield Court, Kelso, one male traced and charged with threatening and abusive behaviour.

On 19/07/2023 report of a disturbance outside a property in Kersfield Court, Kelso. Officers attended and no disturbance evident, no criminality

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On 21/07/2023 report of a disturbance outside a property in Woodside Gardens, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 23/07/2023 a male was issued with a Recorded Police Warning after urinating against a shop doorway in Woodmarket, Kelso.

On 26/07/2023 report of a group of youths being abusive at WH Smith, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/07/2023 report of male being abusive and harassing female in the church. St Andrews Church, Kelso. Male traced and given Recorded Police Warning.

Reducing acquisitive crime

Theft

On 19/08/2023 a male from Sydenham Court, Kelso, reports theft of his wallet and bus pass. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/07/2023 report of theft of mobile phone that was accidentally left on a service bus. Enquiries ongoing.

On 19/07/2023 report of theft of goods from Lidl, Shedden Park Road, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/07/2023 report of theft of consumables from Sainsburys, Pinnaclehill Industrial Estate, Kelso. Enquiries ongoing.



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.

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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:

During the past month SBCAT officers carried out High Visibility foot patrols and worked alongside other community agencies at St Boswells Fair (6 days) (10 hours per day, each officer), Burnfoot Carnival (8 hours each officer), Floors Rideout (each officer 7 hours), Kelso Fancy Dress Parade (each officer 9 hours), Borders Union show (each officer 10 hours) and Eyemouth Herring Queen fancy dress (3 hours, each officer).

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Borders and have issued 18 traffic tickets throughout the month.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk and Hawick, and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 47 tickets have been issued.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – Operation Checkpoint (10 hours each officer) was undertaken on Wednesday 12th July. During this Operation a number of vehicles were checked out at various points along the border to deter travelling criminals. No offences were detected.

SBCAT had a preventative rural crime stand at the Borders Union Show, Kelso, working with partner agencies providing advice and support not only for the farming community but other members of the public attending the show.

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ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in all highlighted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns at these locations. During this month two dog fouling tickets were issued to members of the public.

Over the weekend of the 19th, 22nd and 23rd High visibility patrols were carried out in Peebles and surrounding area by SB CAT to dissuade antisocial behaviour. During this time a number of groups of youths were spoken to. Whilst speaking with some of these groups, bottles of alcohol was on the ground nearby. No youths took ownership of the alcohol, which was then poured away in front of them. One 16 year old youth was found in possession of cans of lager, which were also poured away. A Youth ASB letter is being sent to his parents.

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. These individuals are aware they are wanted and enquiries to trace them are continuing. One male who was particularly difficult to trace was eventually traced as a result of protracted enquiries and arrested.

Following a report of a recidivist domestic abuse offender re-offending, SB CAT officers traced the male and conveyed him to Hawick Police Station where he was charged accordingly and held for court the following day.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT took part in executing one drug search warrant in the Kelso area. No drugs were recovered. The occupier was arrested on another matter.

Other – Following a report of two males attending at a farm in the Scottish Borders looking for scrap metal and a subsequent theft from the farm, SB CAT officers assisted CID officers gather crucial evidence and traced two further witnesses. The enquiry is currently still ongoing and will require cross border cooperation with Northumbria Police.

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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