

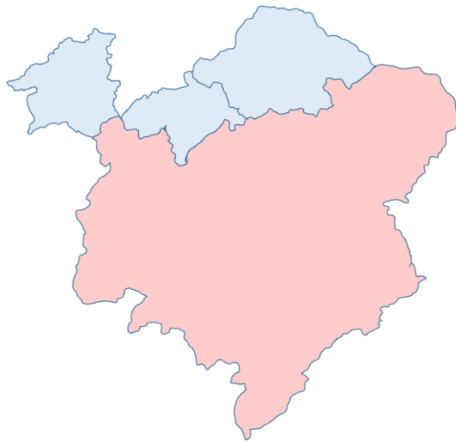
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Hawick and Hermitage Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for OCTOBER 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.

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Community Policing News – Hawick & Hermitage – PS Ali Granger

Area Commander, Chief Inspector Fletcher and I made a visit to Newcastleton this month, where we met with Newcastleton Community Trust and Community Council representatives. Several local issues were discussed including road safety, special constables, policing in the area and youth club provision.

The Police Community fund has allocated a grant to Innov8 Youth Project, contributing to a start-up fund to the young people for their own fundraising ideas, helping them improve financial sustainability for the club. We fully support the work of Innov8, with regular appearances from both Community Officer PC Patterson, and School Link Officer, PC Trochimiak.

There were 9 calls to Newcastleton over October – although these calls do not include those involving a specific ongoing issue PC Patterson is currently dealing with. PC Mortimer attended the Newcastleton Community Council meeting on the 8th October. PC Stewart and I attended the Hawick Community Council meeting on 21st October.

Youth Antisocial behaviour continues to be an issue at Morrisons in Hawick. The work which police and partner agencies are doing surrounding issues in Burnfoot will also help tackle this issue longer term, however in the meantime whenever possible, community officers and CAT are attending any incidents to help ensure continuity in our approach to this. PC's Mortimer and Patterson have both been in regular contact with the store manager regarding the issue.

PC Patterson has been carrying out several parking patrols at Wilton, Drumlanrig and Stirches Primary Schools, with several parking tickets issued. Speed checks have been carried out in Denholm, alongside speed control measures at Newcastleton and Bonchester. He also teamed up with Trading Standards and Fire and Rescue to attend retailers of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire night. Both PC's Fraser and Mortimer have been patrolling rural areas in the hours of darkness carrying out vehicle checks to combat rural crime.

Deputy Area Commander, PI Noble, plans to attend the next meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership meeting on 19th November.

Please encourage the completion of the Your Police survey – your views are important and shape the way our service will be delivered in future. A link to the survey is below.

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2024-2025/>

The link below gives access to the latest Police document for the Scrutiny Panel for the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board, which sits twice per year at Scottish Borders Council.

[Item No. 5 a - Scottish Borders Scrutiny Oct-Mar.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

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 Stuart Fletcher.

Local Policing Priorities

1. Protecting Vulnerable People in a Physical & Digital World
2. Reducing violence and Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Reducing acquisitive crime
4. Improving road safety
5. Tackling serious and organised crime

Protecting Vulnerable People in a Physical & Digital World



In October 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 207 mental health related calls, around 18 missing person enquiries and approximately 91 domestic related incidents.

Hawick and Hermitage area had 43 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 Anti-Social Behaviour

Assault

On 06/10/2024 report of an assault at Oliver Crescent. Enquiry ongoing.

On 12/10/2024 report of an assault at Crown Close. Ethical CR submitted for assault and vandalism.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 04/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Green Terrace. Male cautioned and charged with minor assault and vandalism.

On 07/10/2024 report of anti-social behaviour at Bourtree Place. No trace, no further calls.

On 07/10/2024 report of youths causing nuisance at Morrisons, Mart Street. Youths had left area prior to police attendance.

On 13/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Ramsay Road. Officers attended, no fighting, noise complaint, advised to keep noise down.

On 20/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Liddesdale Road. Officers attended and moved on people who did not reside at location. No criminality.

On 20/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Stonefield Place. Officers attended, nothing ongoing on arrival, crime report raised for threatening and abusive behaviour and vandalism. Enquiry ongoing.

On 23/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Loan. Female arrested and reported for threatening and abusive behaviour.

On 23/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Beaconsfield Terrace. Accused arrested, cautioned and charged.

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On 25/10/2024 report of youths gathering at Morrisons, Mart Street, causing disruption within store. Officers attended and spoke with youths. No criminality, details noted.

On 26/10/2024 report of a disturbance at Loan. Officers attended, minor disagreement between both parties, no criminality.

On 28/10/2024 report of females causing issues and being abusive towards staff members at Morrisons, Mart Street. Incident raised to make officers aware if the group were to cause further issues. Police attendance was not required.

On 29/10/2024 reports of youth disorder at Morrisons, Mart Street. Female to be charged with Breach of the Peace and refusing to leave a licensed premises. Second call resulted in home visits carried out and parent informed about their children's behaviour. Further crime report raised regarding female from previous incident.

On 29/10/2024 report of male riding an off road motorcross bike, wearing a balaclava, no helmet, up and down street at North Bridge Street. Officers attended; area searched no trace. Intelligence documented.

Vandalism/Vehicle Crime

On 11/10/2024 report of vandalism at Buccleuch Road, Hawick. Enquiry complete.

On 17/10/2024 report of vandalism to a vehicle at Green Terrace. Enquiry complete.

On 22/10/2024 report of damage to a vehicle at Weensland Road. Enquiry complete.

On 26/10/2024 report of damage to doors at walkway between Union Street and gardens behind. Enquiry complete.



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft

On 05/10/2024 report of theft of fuel from Morrisons, Mart Street. Enquiry complete.

On 07/10/2024 report of theft of bicycles and scooters from nursery playground at Trinity Primary School. Male cautioned and charged.

On 10/10/2024 report of theft from Pringles Butchers, High Street. Ethical CR submitted.

On 14/10/2024 report of theft of goods from Farmfoods, High Street. Enquiry Ongoing.

On 16/10/2024 report of theft of goods from Costa Coffee, High Street. Relevant paperwork submitted. Enquiry Ongoing.

On 17/10/2024 report of theft of money from The Loan, Hawick. Informant did not engage, insufficient information. Enquiry complete.

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On 18/10/2024 report of minor theft from Costa Coffee, High Street. Enquiry Ongoing.

On 24/10/2024 report of theft of products from Boots, Chemist, High Street. Male to be traced and charged.

On 24/10/2024 report of theft of alcohol and groceries from Morrisons, Mart Street. Property recovered. Enquiry complete.

On 29/10/2024 report of theft of products from Boots Chemist, High Street. Enquiry ongoing

On 31/10/2024 report of theft of ladders from a van parked at Borthaugh Road. Enquiry ongoing.

On 31/10/2024 report of theft of goods from Boots Chemist, High Street. Enquiry ongoing.



Improving Road Safety

On 11/10/2024 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for careless/inconsiderate driving in Hawick

On 19/10/2024 at Princes Street, Hawick, male arrested for driving under influence of alcohol and failing to provide specimen at the station. Charged and report submitted

Killed or Seriously Injured

No accidents where persons were killed or seriously injured.



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement – September 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 6 Drug Warrants across the command area during September, all except one were positive and a variety of MDA charges were proffered against 5 persons. Heroin, cocaine, benzodiazepines and cannabis were all recovered during these searches in addition to large sums of cash and suspected stolen property.

They also assisted other CID departments in the area with stolen property warrants for housebreakings across the Scottish Borders.

They would like to re-enforce the message to all wards that any drug related crime or organised criminality in the Scottish Borders can be anonymously reported via CrimeStoppers, who are an independent charity not connected to the Police. The public can of course still use 101 for this purpose too.

Serious and organised crime enforcement – October 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 4 Drug Warrants across the command area during October, four were positive and 4 persons were charged with drug related offences. A number of stop and searches were also conducted in identified hotspot area where drugs misuse was prevalent across the Scottish Borders.

Serious and organised crime impacts local communities across the Borders and anyone with information on criminal activity are asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, report it at any Police Station or report it anonymously via the Crime Stoppers Charity. This information can be on any criminal matter but includes an individuals unexplained financial gain or wealth or persons who are vulnerable in our communities and being targeted or exploited by others for any reason.

Campaigns

Hate Crime Awareness Week – 12th to 19th October

Hate Crime in all its forms is unacceptable and that is why Police Scotland is raising awareness of the impact hate crime has on officers and staff and, in turn, the communities they serve.

We have a duty and an opportunity to lead change to improve the experiences of our communities, including our officers and staff. Discrimination of any kind is utterly deplorable and unacceptable. It has no place in society and no place in policing.

Black History Month 2024



Police Scotland has teamed up with our friends and colleagues at SEMPER Scotland (Supporting Ethnic Minority Police employees for Equality in Race) to celebrate Black History Month.

For Police Scotland, Black History Month is a chance to celebrate the enormous value and contribution Black and Minority Ethnic citizens bring to communities of geography and interests across Scotland and to policing in Scotland.

This year Police Scotland and SEMPER continue to celebrate Black History month under the banner of Proud to Be, sharing contributions from our colleagues across a series of events on their achievements, pride in their culture and what the month means to them personally and as police officers and staff.

Black History Month is a celebration, but it is also an opportunity to highlight the action Police Scotland and the SPA is taking, and the further work required, to drive an anti-racist, anti-discriminatory agenda, as we seek to address complex and insidious wrongs which have deep roots through history and which persist today.

Policing Together is driving an anti-racist agenda to identify and eliminate the biases in practices and policies and to build a better service.

We are actively listening to under-represented communities, inside policing and across Scotland, to understand how we can better serve them.

Police Scotland is committed to increasing knowledge and learning on inclusion and has given every police leader the skills and tools they need to build effective and inclusive teams.

The success of this action will be measured by the improved experiences of our officers and staff, and of all the communities we serve.

CAT Update:

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ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders and have dealt with 11 traffic offences this month.

SBCAT stopped a car in Galashiels which they recognised as having recently driven off without paying for fuel. Following checks they established that the car had no insurance and the vehicle was seized. The driver was charged with driving with no insurance and theft of fuel.

In late October SBCAT became aware of a vehicle driving erratically in Jedburgh. Upon speaking to the driver he failed the drug swipe test and was arrested for drug driving. Samples will be sent away for analysis prior to a report being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Speed checks have been completed in several towns near to schools along with villages including, Chirnside Coldingham and Ayton.

PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility enforcement across the Borders and addressing parking concerns there. Advice has been given to drivers and 50 tickets have been issued.

Passing attention was given to Galashiels, Selkirk, Hawick, Kelso, Duns and Peebles.

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We carry out high visibility mobile patrols across rural areas at varying times while completing static road checks. A total of 24 static road checks were completed during October

On the afternoon of Sunday 27th of October, 4 CAT officers were deployed to Monynut, with 2 officers on quadbikes and 2 more in a 4x4 vehicle. Off road motorbikes were seen but they made off from police, further checks appeared to show that they had left the area.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – High visibility patrols have continued in targeted areas of the Scottish Borders to address concerns highlighted as per our taskings. This includes outside Jedburgh Sheriff Court on Monday court days.

Considerable attention has been given across Burnfoot, especially around the shops and the primary school. There are still ongoing issues with off road motorcycles and youth ASB. Extra Community and CAT patrols will continue

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – Part of the SBCAT role is to trace persons wanted on warrant/missing person/and bail curfew checks. The SBCAT has also assisted with high-risk domestic enquiry packs and have traced one male wanted for domestic offences this month.

On Halloween the CAT were out conducting youth patrols as part of Operation Torsion. They attended Newtown St Boswells for a ASB youth call. Following enquiries they established that a teenage girl had been assaulted. A male has been charged with a minor assault.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – On the 18th October the SBCAT and Proactive Crime Team (PCT) executed a drugs search warrant in Selkirk. 30g of white powder was seized which will be sent for analysis alongside some controlled tablets.

On 30th October the SBCAT assisted the PCT with executing a drugs search warrant in Galashiels. Some weapons were recovered but no drugs.

OTHER ISSUES OF NOTE-

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On the 11th of November PC Bernard Hennessey is leaving the SBCAT to go to the CID. On the same date PC Connor Flockhart will be joining the 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:

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.