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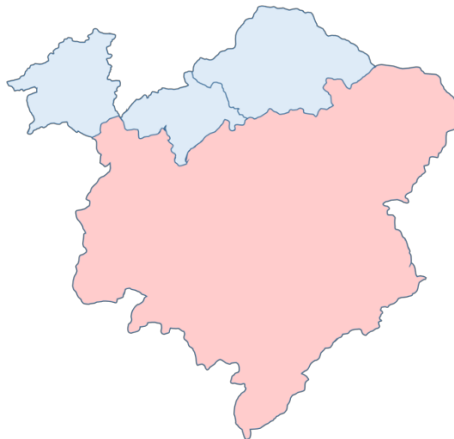


Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

East Berwickshire Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for April 2024

(Up to 30/04)



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the East Berwickshire 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 – East Berwickshire – PS Ali Granger

During April, Berwickshire community officers have been listening to communities and carrying out speed checks in requested locations including Coldingham, Whitsome, Reston and Allanton. Community officer speed checks aim to educate drivers and raise awareness – encouraging drivers to be considerate of other road users, particularly local residents and vulnerable road users.

On 17th April, Roads Policing officers, in partnership with the Community Action Team, Community Policing Team and Motorcycle Unit ran an operation on the A1 at Burnmouth. Our partners from Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency, Traffic Examiners and HM Revenue and Customs were also present. The aim was to carry out numerous checks of vehicles to ensure they are fit for use on the roads and ensure legislation is complied with. 73 vehicles were stopped, 9 offences dealt with, and numerous warnings issued.



Vehicle checks at Burnmouth

The Your Police Survey for 2024/25 has recently launched, the link below gives access. We value your input and would appreciate your time in completing the survey

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

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 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 April 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 221 mental health related calls, around 22 missing person enquiries and approximately 104 domestic related incidents.

East Berwickshire had 22 mental health related calls and 3 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

Assaults

On 18/04/24 report of male being assaulted in Northfield Terrace, Chirnside. One male issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

On 25/04/24 report of male being assaulted in Northfield Terrace, Chirnside. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/04/24 report of male being assaulted within the common stairwell of Marine Square, Eyemouth. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 02/04/24 report of male causing a disturbance within the Contented Sole. Male arrested and conveyed to Hawick Police Station where he was charged with threatening and abusive behaviour and held for court.

On 10/04/24 report of two males refusing to leave The Tavern Public House, Eyemouth. Males had left prior to police arrival. Advice given, no criminality.

On 17/04/24 report of about 8 youths causing a disturbance outside a property in Pocklaw Slap, Eyemouth. Officers attended, youths had been dispersed. No criminality. Advice given.

On 17/04/24 report of same youths congregating at the end of The Avenue, Eyemouth. Officers attended, no trace of youths, no criminality. Advice given to informant.

On 27/04/24 report of a disturbance ongoing within a garden in Killies Green, Eyemouth. Advised to keep the noise down.

On 28/04/24 report of a female making threatening gestures to another in Reston area. Statements noted. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

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On 30/04/24 report of male causing a disturbance within the Penny Petroleum, Eyemouth Industrial Estate. Officers attended. No criminality established. Male taken home.

Vandalism

On 08/04/24 report of damage to a small wooden building at Netherbyres, known as Eyemouth Mill Gating Station. Enquiries complete

On 18/04/24 report of both nearside tyres of a car having been slashed whilst parked on the roadway on Glebe Crescent, Chirnside. Enquiries ongoing

On 20/04/24 report of a car windscreen having been smashed whilst parked overnight on the junction of the High Street /Armatage Street, Eyemouth. Enquiries ongoing

On 28/04/24 report of small window of front door of Sandison House, Marine Square, Eyemouth being smashed. No attempts were made to enter the property. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

On 30/04/24 report of damage to glass panel on the front door of a property in Chapel Street, Eyemouth. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 08/04/24 report of a window being forced allowing entry to be gained to a property in Hoprig Road, Co'path. Crime report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

On 28/04/24 report of attempt to break into a property at the rear of Paxton Terrace, Eyemouth. One male arrested and further enquiries to be carried out.

On 27/04/24 report of a theft slip-in to a property in Glebe Crescent, Eyemouth. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

Theft

On 12/04/24 report of informant robbery in Deanhead Road, Eyemouth. Vehicle was stolen, vehicle was subsequently recovered by police after colliding with a marked police car on Coldingham Road, Eyemouth. Male and Female arrested and charged and reports submitted

On 19/04/24 report of theft of items from insecure trailer whilst male was carrying out work near to the roundabout at Cove. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

On 23/04/24 report of theft of item from the beach in Eyemouth. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

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On 15/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Gunsgreen Crescent.

On 17/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for driving with no insurance in Burnmouth.

On 23/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for driving with no insurance in Whitsome.

On 26/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for speeding in Cockburnspath.

On 28/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Burnmouth.

On 28/04/24 – a driver was issued a fine for driving with no MOT in Eyemouth.



Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement – April 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 7 Drug Warrants across the command area during April, four were positive and 12 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

Motorcycle Safety

Our annual motorcycle safety campaign urges drivers to look out for motorcyclists as riders take to the road this summer. In 2023/24, there were 151 road deaths and 27 were motorcyclists.

Motorcyclists make up around one per cent of all road users yet account for 14 per cent of deaths.

Engagement and enforcement activity will take place throughout the spring and summer months using both marked and unmarked police vehicles. Police Scotland officers, including those from the national motorcycle unit, will be carrying out intelligence led patrols to engage with all drivers and riders.

Rural Crime

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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.

Special Constables – Recruiting

With a long and impressive history, the Special Constabulary is a part-time, volunteer body consisting of voluntary officers with identical powers to that of police officers. As a special constable, you'll work alongside our police officers in your spare time – forging strong partnerships in the community, patrolling our streets, preventing crime, and interacting with all kinds of people to give back, keep your local community safe and make a real difference.

You can work full time and be a Special Constable in just 96 hours per year or a few hours a week. The role is diverse, demanding, and rewarding. You could be doing anything from policing a football match to assisting at a road accident. Special constables also police major sporting and public events and provide an excellent bridge between the Police Service and the public, representing both the community within the police service and the police service within local communities.

Special Constables can act as a positive force for change - bringing with them an extensive pool of skills, talents, experience, local knowledge, and diverse backgrounds - as well as enhancing the overall level of service provided by the police. So, whatever your walk of life, step forward now and find out how being a police volunteer could be the perfect fit to suit your lifestyle.

[Police Scotland Special Constable Recruitment - Police Scotland](#)

CAT Update:

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders and have issued 10 traffic tickets for various offences throughout the month.

Throughout April numerous hi- vis speed and static road checks along with foot patrols have been carried out at schools throughout the Scottish Borders at dropping off and picking up times. Including primary schools in Kelso, Galashiels, Duns, Peebles, Hawick and Lilliesleaf.

On 17th April SBCAT officers took part in Operation Checkpoint on the A1 along with Roads Policing and the DVSA. Numerous vehicles were stopped and 4 drivers were issued with traffic tickets.

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 75 tickets have been issued.

Passing attention was given to Traquair Road, Innerleithen (no issues) The War Memorial in Coldstream (ticket issued) Galashiels Town Centre and Bridge Street in Kelso were also regularly checked by officers along with Duns Industrial Estate (no issues), ambulance parking bays at the health centres in Hawick (several tickets issued)

In March the Central Ticket Office ran out of parking tickets. The SBCAT has very few blank tickets left, which has affected the figures for this month. We will be given new ticket books as soon as they are available.

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. 13 static checks were carried out throughout the Scottish Borders this month along with numerous hi-visibility patrols of rural areas..

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At Monynut vehicle patrols and a quad bike patrols were completed on weekends with the following to report

On Sunday 7th April officers from SBCAT, ELCAT and Edinburgh conducted a joint day of action with patrols of Monynut and the surrounding area on quad bikes, off road motorcycles and off road motor vehicles. On this occasion no offences were detected.

However, the following day officers were conducting a mobile patrol at Monynut when a farmer made them aware of 2 young males driving a vehicle erratically and generally messing about endangering lambs. The vehicle was traced in the area and the driver was charged with careless driving.

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

Similar high visibility foot patrols are being completed across the Borders with a focus on Peebles, Innerleithen, Kelso, Newtown St Boswells and Burnfoot in Hawick due to youths causing ASB. As well as Jedburgh Sheriff Court on court days due to previous reported issues with members of the public.

2 youth warning letters were issued during the month of April in relation to youths.

On 13 April the SB CAT assisted at Melrose 7s conducting foot patrols across Melrose. This continued into the evening where we were once again joined by the Specials Initiative Team (SIT). They stopped 4 youths who had been drinking and contacted parents to collect. Alcohol was seized from several other youths and disposed of, and some other minor issues were dealt with 2 recorded police warnings were issued.

On 27th April the SIT returned to work with the SBCAT in Peebles, Innerleithen and Hawick. Some youths were taken home following ASB. 3 tickets were issued for minor offences, 5 licensed premises were checked, and 60 vehicles were stopped.

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 3 people were arrested on warrant.

On 16th April 24 CAT officers carried out a bail check on a male in Hawick. The male was found to be in breach of his conditions and was reported for warrant.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT – SBCAT officers have taken part in 4 drugs search warrants in the Scottish Borders.

On 5/4/24 the SBCAT executed 4 search warrants in one day. The first 2 were completed in Hawick with the Proactive Crime Team. Over £1000 in cash was seized from one of the addresses. A further MDA search warrant was then executed in Selkirk with the Proactive Crime Team. About £7000 of heroin was recovered along with Over £3000 in cash. Following this the SBCAT executed a MDA search warrant in Galashiels with assistance from a Public Order team to force entry. Personal amounts of cannabis, cocaine and controlled tablets were seized from within.

OTHER ISSUES OF NOTE-

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On 10th April 2024 a suspicious device was found within a property in Selkirk. Due to a risk it could be an explosive device the MOD's bomb disposal unit attended along with other specialists. The SBCAT assisted in securing the area, evacuating elderly residents and ensuring that the public were safe.

On 15th April 2024, CAT officers following a report of a S127 comms offence towards a Borders MP, traced, arrested, interviewed and subsequently charged a male for the offence, with him being released on a undertaking to appear at court.

New legislation relating to fox hunting came into effect last year. The new laws have been compiled with across most of Scotland but there have been reports of offences in the Scottish Borders. Over the past couple of months SBCAT have been investigating and this month 1 male was charged under the new legislation, another was arrested, interviewed and released without charge. This was the first time this legislation had been used in Scotland and this was reported by the press at a National level.

As of 20th May the SBCAT will be reduced to 1 Sergeant and 6 Constables.

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:

EastBerwickshireCPT@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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