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Cllr James Anderson December 2024 report.

### **Eyemouth Harbour Master plan.**

The most recent information on the Harbour Mater plan can be found below. A huge amount of work has gone into the masterplan and the master plan consultation link is below. The plan shows a fantastic opportunity for everyone in Eyemouth and the surrounding area, detailing the needed infrastructure and the benefits for all. I have advocated for this plan at Scottish Borders Council and will continue to support fully the work ongoing. A huge well done to everyone involved in this plan.

The latest information on the Master plan can be found at [here](#).

The consultation summery can be found [here](#).

The consultation questionnaire can be found [here](#).

### **Nature Scotland site visit.**

#### **Site Visit Summary**

A site visit was conducted on December 9, 2024, involving representatives from NatureScot, Myself, MSP Rachael Hamilton, local business owners, and members of the Scottish Borders Council (SBC). The visit focused on identifying and discussing problem areas within the community, with NatureScot representatives being guided through these concerns.

Throughout the visit, I, along with MSP Rachael Hamilton, provided support to the community representatives and business owners, facilitating open discussion about their needs and the challenges they face. The meeting proved to be very constructive, emphasizing collaborative efforts to enhance the community's readiness for the upcoming visitor season.

As a result of this meeting, several actions were agreed upon: NatureScot will collaborate closely with local community groups and business owners to develop comprehensive plans in preparation for the 2025 visitor season. Establishing these plans is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of both residents and visitors as we approach a busy year ahead.

It was made clear that a repeat of the 2024 season licensing issues would not be acceptable.

### **Reduction in antisocial behavior**

Historically, our area has faced challenges associated with various forms of antisocial behavior. Prior to the last nine months, weekly reports of nuisance behaviors were common, including disturbances, vandalism, and other forms of disruptive conduct. These incidents not only affected the quality of life for residents but also posed ongoing challenges for local law enforcement and community leaders.

In response to these ongoing issues, the implementation of community policing initiatives has been a key strategy aimed at fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the community, particularly among youth.

PC Luke Cameron has been instrumental in this approach. His involvement in the community, particularly through leading an American football class during enrichment periods at Eyemouth High School, has allowed him to connect with local youth in a constructive and engaging manner. Community Engagement:

The American football class has not only provided physical activity but has also served as a platform for mentorship, allowing PC Cameron to build trust and rapport with participants. This proactive engagement has helped reframe perceptions of law enforcement as approachable and supportive figures rather than solely authority figures.

Over the last nine months, there has been a demonstrated and steady reduction in reports of antisocial behavior in the area.

There has been a marked decline in the number of complaints regarding nuisance behaviors. This decline can be quantitatively assessed against the previous year's data, which indicated a higher frequency of incidents.

The ongoing engagement with youth has fostered a sense of community and discouraged negative behaviors by providing alternative avenues for interaction and support.

### **Battery storage applications (BESS)**

This report addresses a matter of significant concern for our communities across the Scottish Borders: the proposed battery storage facilities that could reshape our landscape and local environment for the next 25 to 30 years. The ongoing discussions surrounding these projects highlight the critical intersection of energy policy and local governance.

### **A summary of Community Concerns**

It has become increasingly evident that, in the view of many, the Energy Minister, Gillian Martin MSP, has chosen to prioritize party politics over the genuine needs and concerns of our communities. There are serious apprehensions regarding the current Scottish Government's approach to decision-making, which appears to be influenced more by political alliances than by a commitment to sustainable and inclusive development

Specifically, the lack of a coherent policy framework and disregard for proper planning processes surrounding battery energy storage have raised alarms. This situation undermines local communities and threatens the legitimacy of decisions affecting both our environment and community well-being.

The goal is to ensure that the voices of our communities are heard and respected throughout the decision-making process. The implications of the battery storage facilities extend beyond technical considerations; they represent a social contract with residents whose lives and landscapes may be irrevocably changed.

### **Environmental Insights**

I would like to highlight the views of environmental charity Keep Scotland Beautiful, which emphasizes the need for local planning authorities to play a pivotal role in developments such as these. Their statement underscores that combating climate change is a key priority, necessitating a just transition from fossil fuels to clean, sustainable, renewable, and low-carbon energy sources.

While the organization recognizes the importance of battery energy storage systems in reducing carbon emissions, they also stress the potential impacts on habitats, biodiversity, landscapes, and local communities. Therefore, it is essential that these impacts are minimized and that thorough environmental assessments and inclusive consultations are conducted throughout the planning process.

In summary, it is imperative for our Communities to convey a unified message to the Energy Minister: with engagement, and respect for the democratic processes that guide our local

governance. I am urging all stakeholders to prioritize a balanced approach between renewable energy initiatives and the preservation of our valued landscapes and community integrity.

The decisions made today will have lasting effects on our environment and our way of life. Together, we must advocate for a future that honors both sustainability and the voices of those we serve.

### **Careers week:**

During my visit to Coldingham and Copath Primary Schools for Careers Week, I had the wonderful opportunity to engage with both the children and their teachers. Our conversations centered around the importance of career progression and, more significantly, the value of pursuing a passion in life.

It was inspiring to witness the enthusiasm of the young students, who posed numerous questions and contributed to lively discussions. I was particularly impressed by their aspirations, with some expressing interest in becoming a veterinary nurse, farmer, or politician. Equally heartwarming was the excitement of those who dreamt of being footballers or YouTubers, as we explored the realities and challenges associated with pursuing such careers.

Overall, the experience reinforced the importance of encouraging young people to dream big while also providing them with realistic insights into the paths they wish to take.

### **Motion by Cllr Begg and Seconded by Cllr Anderson.**

Free Bus Pass reimbursements motion

“Scottish Borders Council supports concessionary travel schemes to encourage greater use of public transport. The Older & Disabled Persons Free Bus Travel Scheme was introduced in 2006 but under the current Scottish Government the reimbursement has been cut dramatically and is now only 55% of the fare. For a 15-year-old, the reimbursement under the Young Persons Free Bus Travel Scheme has been cut to just 43% of the fare. It is clear that the level of reimbursement provided to bus operators is insufficient to support many rural routes. We understand that the current Scottish Government is reviewing the level of reimbursement in December 2024”. This Council agree that the Leader write to the Cabinet Secretary for Transport requesting that the reimbursement for concessionary bus travel is increased for rural routes.

### **Seconder speech**

Thank you, Councillor Begg, and esteemed members of the council. I am pleased to second Councillor Begg's motion.

Accessible and affordable public transport is a priority for the Scottish Borders Council, and we have long supported concessionary travel schemes as a crucial means of encouraging greater public transport usage. However, the recent actions taken by the Scottish Government regarding the reimbursement of these schemes, which many in this chamber hoped would address my earlier concerns, have unfortunately exacerbated the situation. I believe it is safe to say that many elected members share my disappointment with the latest outcome.

Our residents, particularly those who benefit from free bus travel, believe that the cost of their fares is covered by their tax contributions. Pensioners feel entitled to this benefit, having paid taxes for many years. However, when I explain how the reimbursement system operates, I have consistently encountered disbelief and frustration. It is unfathomable to them that the government promotes free travel while only reimbursing bus operators for half of the actual fare.

The challenges faced by our rural transport network do not align with those of urban networks. Our population distribution and travel patterns are significantly different from those of cities with denser populations. This city-centric perspective continues to be reflected in the Scottish Government's

policies, underscoring the need for a shift in thinking that accommodates the unique needs of rural areas like ours.

When we experience further cuts to our bus network, I encourage the public to recognize where the responsibility lies. No business can sustain itself by only receiving 50% of the value for its products, and no vehicle can run on fuel for which only half the cost is covered—attempting to do so would lead to legal consequences. (driving off at the pump without paying gets the police at your door, even if it's a mistake)

We must advocate for an increase in reimbursement, and it is imperative that we present a unified voice to the Scottish Government, conveying that while we waited in hope for our concerns to be addressed, the outcome has not only failed to meet our expectations—it has missed the mark entirely.

Thank-you.

Motion approved by vote

### **Question to council**

Would the Executive Member recognize that, in light of the continuing trend of bank branch closures and the challenges that accompany this situation, banking hubs are increasingly significant within East Berwickshire and the surrounding region and require support from Scottish Borders Council.

### **Answer by Cllr Leigh Douglas**

Thank you for the question, the elected member should recognize that the banking sector across the UK has been closing branches and contracting their presence in communities for many years. They have at the same time been expanding their digital services. This is a commercial decision made by private companies in response to the commercial realities they face in running physical services in many communities. An extension of this approach is for banks to work together to provide banking hubs in communities whereby more than one commercial bank operates from the hub. The Council would absolutely endorse this approach as one way in which banking services for rural communities can be sustained.

### **Planning support**

The ongoing situation regarding 10 Market Place, Eyemouth, has been a subject of considerable discussion among local residents. Following the installation of a new restaurant, the owners encountered planning issues related to inadequacies in the plans submitted by their previous agent.

In light of these challenges, I recommended that the owners engage a new agent to expedite the resolution of the planning concerns and facilitate the restaurant's opening. Despite our efforts, the issues stemming from the previous agent's oversight have proven to be both significant and time-consuming.

I am fully supporting the new agent, who is diligently working to address these complications in order to enable the business to open as soon as possible.

I wish the owners every success once they get past this significant issue.

### **Eyemouth Town team**

#### **Update on Eyemouth Place Plan Consultants (New Practice):**

New Practice (NP) provided progress updates regarding community engagement. They highlighted the need to review the stakeholder list to ensure comprehensive community

involvement. NP confirmed plans to visit Eyemouth on 28 October to engage with local residents and launch a survey on 18 November to gather input on the town's needs. A community exhibition is proposed for 27 November at the Community Centre. Action items included circulating the updated stakeholder list and gathering event information.

#### **Investment Plan Consultants Update:**

Subgroup members shortlisted four consultant firms for the Border Towns Investment Plan (BTIP) and recommended selecting Ekosgen, a social enterprise familiar with the region's initiatives. The Town Team supported this decision, and actions were assigned to confirm their engagement.

#### **Proposed Heritage Group:**

A quarterly Community Heritage Conversation, facilitated by Historic Environment Scotland and national bodies, is scheduled for 21 November, providing an opportunity for Eyemouth to secure match funding for heritage projects. Potential interest from various local groups was discussed to form a working subgroup.

#### **Harbour Masterplan Feasibility Study:**

Consultations are ongoing for the Harbour Masterplan, with plans to engage the community in November regarding initial findings. An interim document is to be circulated with a completion target for March 2025. Concerns were raised regarding parking restrictions affecting local access, which will be communicated to the relevant Trust.

#### **Public Report on Community Issues and Requests**

This report provides an overview of various community inquiries and issues raised within the region. It aims to inform residents about ongoing matters and actions taken by myself. These issues are a small example of the issues dealt with.

##### **1. Neighbor Dispute in Cockburnspath**

- The local community council has raised concerns regarding an ongoing neighbor dispute in #####, Copath.). The council is looking into mediation options to help resolve the situation. **Mediation in place.**

##### **2. Abandoned Bins in Eyemouth**

- There are bins in the Tavern Carpark that have reportedly been abandoned for seven years. As these are situated in a council carpark, requests have been made for them to be removed promptly. **Bins now removed**

##### **3. Rat Infestation Concerns**

- The Co-path community is experiencing significant issues with a rat infestation, especially in areas referred to as "the banking." Previous pest control measures have not been effective, and there is a growing urgency for a comprehensive response to address this problem and prevent further spread. **Ongoing work to address rats In gardens of properties. Co-path CC will report to local residents.**

##### **4. Cherry Tree Planting in Eyemouth**

- A proposal has been made to plant cherry trees along the roadside leading to Gunsgreen House. The local enhancement group aims to plant these trees, which will be funded by the community in memory of loved ones. An agreement for this initiative is currently under consideration.

##### **5. Toilet Facilities at Cedar Café**

- There are ongoing issues regarding the maintenance of toilets at Cedar Café, tied to a contract with the landowner. Legal advice is being sought to clarify the situation.

##### **6. Community Playpark and Road Safety**

- The Cowdrate playpark in Lower Burnmouth has been reported for issues with the rubber surface, which is lifting and requires attention. **Measures are being taken to inspect and repair this.**

#### 7. Caravan Concerns in Reston

- A caravan has appeared on disused land near the train station, allegedly causing noise and environmental concerns. Residents have expressed worries about living conditions and potential planning breaches. It is also important to note a number of residents support this caravan being in situ. Investigations are underway.

#### 8. Prescription Collection Point in Coldingham

- There has been a request to identify a suitable piece of land in Coldingham for a 24-hour pharmacy collection unit. This would help community members easily access their prescriptions at their convenience. Investigations to find a suitable site and assess the necessary permits are in progress. **Staff to follow up direct with company.**

The inquiries reflect a range of community concerns from safety and environmental issues to facility maintenance and service provision. The Scottish Borders Council is actively addressing these matters and will continue to engage with the community for resolution. Residents are encouraged to stay informed and report any further issues as they arise.

### **Report on Infrastructure & Environment Activities** **August – November 2024**

#### 1. Waste Collection

- **Challenges Addressed:** The council is actively working to resolve recent issues with waste collection services. Efforts include improving staffing levels by recruiting new drivers and loaders, along with enhancing safety measures in line with industry guidelines.
- **Fleet Improvements:** Five new refuse collection vehicles have been added to the fleet, enhancing waste management capacity.
- **New Procedures:** The introduction of new protocols for waste containing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) began on October 21, increasing compliance with safety standards.

#### 2. Passenger Transport

- **Service Launches:** The school transport system resumed smoothly in August, and a new Taxi Bus service in Berwickshire has gained popularity, receiving positive feedback.
- **Community Involvement:** The Taxi Bus is also being considered for food package deliveries, expanding its utility within the community.

#### 3. Fleet Services Innovations

- **Management Software Implementation:** The rollout of Fleetwave software is enhancing job management and maintenance tracking for vehicles.
- **Personnel Recruitment:** Additional mechanics have been appointed to support the growing needs of fleet maintenance.

#### 4. Roads and Infrastructure Developments

- **New Projects:** Significant infrastructure improvements, including the opening of Mansfield Footbridge and replacement of the Jubilee Footbridge, were completed ahead of schedule.
- **Safety Initiatives:** The Roads team is reviewing and proposing new road safety measures, including the introduction of speed limit changes.
- **Community Engagement:** Work experience placements have been offered to local students, enhancing community involvement in infrastructure projects.

#### 5. Estates Management



- School Upgrades: Significant funding was secured for kitchen upgrades to support Universal Free School Meals, and the transition to cashless catering is progressing.
- Community Asset Transfers: The council is discussing several property transfers to community groups to enhance local services.
- Environmental Initiatives: The River Tweed Trail project is underway, focusing on improving shared-use paths and accessibility for walking and cycling.

**Scottish Borders Area Command**  
**The Lothians and Scottish Borders**  
**East Berwickshire Community Councils**

Multi Member Ward Report for November 2024

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

In November PC MacLeod and PC Jacobs assisted at the Remembrance Parades in Eyemouth, Coldstream and Duns. These events are an honour for us to be part of and we are delighted to be able to help facilitate them.

On 20th November, Officers in Eyemouth received a visit from 'PC Hamish' who is currently undertaking the challenge of visiting every Police Station in Scotland armed with home baking.

On 28th November, PC Jacobs and MacLeod assisted Response and CID officers after the discovery of

an industrial cannabis cultivation in Eyemouth. Enquiries are ongoing into this and one male was arrested.

PC Jacobs attended the most recent Community Panel meeting in Eyemouth and discussed how we

can best protect the most vulnerable members of our community from falling victim to a range of crimes, in particular Scams.

Pictured are PC MacLeod and PC Jacobs attending at Ayton, where they were able to join in with carol singing prior to the Christmas tree being lit up.

Berwickshire School Link Officer PC Cameron has had an active November and has delivered a number of inputs in schools including

- Internet Safety with Duns PS P6's, teaching children how to keep themselves safe when utilising the internet and highlighting the risks and consequences of what you post there.

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- Drugs Awareness, educating EHS S6's on the dangers of Illegal drugs, where they come from and how they can impact communities, before they leave School and face new challenges in work, further education or at University.

- People Who Help Us, talking to Coldstream PS P1's and P2's all about the Role of the Police, How they can help in an emergency, how to make a 999 Call and of course a chance to jump in the Van Cage and try the lights and sirens.

PC Cameron also had the pleasure of attending Book Week at Chirnside PS to speak with the P5's

about his favourite book, the importance of reading and how it shaped his personality and career.

The Your Police Survey for 2024/25 is still open, 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.

(Public Pack)Item No. 5 (a) - Police Scotland Agenda Supplement for Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer

Communities Board, 13/12/2023 09:30 ([moderngov.co.uk](https://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 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 November 2024 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 189 mental

health related calls, around 14 missing person enquiries and approximately 84 domestic related incidents.

East Berwickshire had 14 mental health related calls and no 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.

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Reducing Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour

Assaults

On 03/11/24 report of a female having been assaulted by another female in Renton Terrace.

Female issued with a Recorded Police Warning for assault.

On 17/11/24 report of a male assaulting another male and verbally threatening him in Hinkar Way, Eyemouth. Male arrested, interviewed and thereafter caution and charged for Threatening and Abusive Behaviour.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 03/11/24 report of a female being a nuisance and shouting outside her property in Renton Terrace, Eyemouth. Officers attended and provided suitable assistance

On 04/11/24 report of males being a nuisance by jumping over a wall in and out of a garden in East

Croftsfeld, Chirnside. Officers attended. No trace of males in area. Advice given.

On 13/11/24 report of a youth causing a disturbance in Haymons Cove, Eyemouth. Male was calm on police arrival. Youth spoken to and advice given. Relevant paperwork submitted.

On 16/11/24 report of two males fighting in Callercove Crescent, Eyemouth. Nothing ongoing on police arrival. Area searched, no trace of males.

On 19/11/24 report of a male shouting at a delivery driver and acting in a threatening and abusive manner towards the male when he had parked in a driveway in Burnmouth area. Enquiries ongoing.

Vandalism/vehicle damage



On 08/11/24 report of a vehicle being scratched with a sharp instrument whilst parked in George Street, Eyemouth. Enquiries complete.

On 13/11/24 report of oil having been thrown over the windscreen of a vehicle whilst it was parked in Main Street, West End Chirnside. Enquiries complete.

Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft by Housebreaking

On 14/11/24 report of an attempted housebreaking to a property in Whitehall Road, Chirnside.

Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

Theft

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On 11/11/24 report of scrap metal and bikes having been taken from a garden in Queens Road, Eyemouth. Enquiry complete.

On 11/11/24 report of a male filling his vehicle with fuel at the Penny Petroleum, Eyemouth and driving away without paying. Crime Report submitted. Enquiries ongoing.

On 20/11/24 report of theft from Northfield Terrace, Chirnside. Enquiries ongoing.

Improving Road Safety

On 03/11/2024 – a driver was issued a fine and penalty points for not obeying white lines in Eyemouth.

Roads Policing carried out a handheld speed enforcement on the A1 at Ayton with 5 warnings being issued.

Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Serious and organised crime enforcement – November 2024

The Scottish Borders CID Proactive Unit executed 6 Drug Warrants across the command area during

November, four were positive and 6 persons were charged with drug related offences.

Another industrial sized cannabis cultivation was discovered at a business premises in an industrial

estate in Eyemouth. This had a value conservatively of £895,000 and one male was arrested at this

premises. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal and this was widely reported in local and national news outlets.

We would like to remind readers of this document that this type of criminality is not only attributed to disused premises but also to premises owned and rented out by unsuspecting landlords and we would ask all persons who own such premises to thoroughly complete their due diligence before renting buildings to anyone, particularly if the rent is agreed as cash payments.

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.

Campaigns

Winter road safety

Winter means changes in the roads, shorter days, and changing weather.

We all have a responsibility to keep Scotland's roads safe during the winter months.

Advice if you are out walking during winter:

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1. Dress for the weather by wearing reflective or bright-coloured clothing so other road users can see you when it is dark, or visibility is poor.

2. If you are walking home late at night, make sure someone knows where you are going and when.

3. Vehicles can take up to ten times longer to stop on slippery road surfaces so take extra care

crossing the road.

4. Stick to pedestrian crossings.

5. If there are no crossings nearby, find a place with a clear view and wait for long gaps in the traffic before crossing the road.

6. Don't cross the road between parked vehicles, unless it can't be avoided then take extra care (look out for vehicles that suddenly pull out or reverse)

7. Never cross the road behind a bus.

8. If there is no pavement, keep to the right-hand side of the road so you can see traffic coming towards you.

Advice to consider if you are cycling during winter:

1. Make sure your bike can be seen by people on the road.

2. Use a good set of front and rear lights (white at the front, red at the back)

3. Wear clothes that help you be seen on your bike, such as bright and light reflective items

4. Pay attention to road signs, markings, and particularly red lights.

5. Do not cycle on the pavements, they may be slippery and can also endanger pedestrians.

6. Be mindful of the effects poor weather can have on other road users.

7. Make sure you know about the dangers around you.

8. Cars can take twice as long to stop in wet weather.

9. Braking can be unpredictable in ice and snow.

Advice for drivers during winter:

1. Make sure your car is ready for winter.

2. Check that your tyres, brakes, windscreens, wiper blades and windows are free from defects and clean.

3. Drive to the road conditions. Road conditions can change without warning, stopping distances will be affected by the weather.

4. Make sure your windows are clean and aren't misted up.

5. Make sure there is no snow and ice on your windows before you drive.

6. When the roads are icy, drive at a slow speed in a high gear.

7. Accelerate and brake very gently.

8. Driving distracted (for example, using a Sat Nav) can cause additional stress. It is dangerous to yourself, passengers, and other road users.

CAT Update:

ROAD SAFETY – SBCAT have continued carrying out road checks in numerous locations in the Scottish Borders.

On the 18th of November CAT officers completed a joint static road check with traffic officers. One driver failed the roadside drug test and was arrested. Another had his vehicle seized as it was in a dangerous state of repair.

Speed checks have been completed in several towns near to schools along with foot patrols looking

for parking issues at drop off and pick up times, including Newcastleton.

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PARKING TICKETS – Officers have been carrying out high visibility enforcement across the Borders

and addressing parking concerns there.

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

RURAL ACQUISITIVE CRIME – We carry out high visibility mobile patrols across rural areas at varying

times while completing static road checks. A number of static road checks were completed this month

On the 13th of November the CAT took part in Operation Checkpoint. This is an operation across the

North and England and South of Scotland targeting cross border rural acquisitive crime. Several vehicles were stopped but no offences were detected.

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.

In response to the ongoing ASB in Burnfoot at Morrison's on Mart Street in Hawick the CAT have been doing plain clothes patrols on the after-school bus from Mart Street up to Burnfoot. During one

of these patrols on the 13th of November officers witnessed youths shouting abuse at a family with disabilities. Upon trying to stop the youths they ran off the bus and after a foot chase they stopped them. The youth shouting the abuse was taken home to his parents and he was reported via the vulnerable persons database for a disability hate crime.

During the evening of Saturday 23rd of November CAT officers attended several calls in Hawick and

Newtown St Boswells for youths throwing snowballs at homes of vulnerable people. Although the youths made off from police, many were identified and their details were passed to the ASB unit. As we enter the festive season we have increased our checks of licensed premises especially on Friday and Saturday evenings over the last month.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE – During the previous month several priority arrest warrants

were issued by the courts in Jedburgh and Selkirk. These were for individuals who pose a risk to their

ex-partners or the public. These are allocated to the CAT to ensure they are arrested as quickly as possible. 3 have been arrested by the CAT this month. With several others handing themselves in after the CAT made enquiries with their family, friends or employer.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT –

On the 12th of November the SBCAT conducted an MDA search in Kelso along with response officers.

Unknown tablets were recovered along with a personal amount of cannabis.

On the 21st of November the SBCAT joined a team of over 30 officers from across the South of Scotland and Cumbria Police. This was to execute a series of MDA search warrants in the Borders as

part of an enquiry which has taken years to investigate and was targeting a male involved in serious

and organised crime. About an hour later the male was traced by 2 of the CAT and arrested. They subsequently found that he was found to be in possession of 5kg of cannabis. The quick arrest prevented him from destroying any evidence.

Feedback from a meeting/contacting your Community Policing Team

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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](mailto: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