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## **Scottish Borders Area Command**

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

East Berwickshire Community Councils  
Multi Member Ward Report for October 2020



**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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**Figures for the whole Scottish Borders Area**

(Data from 01/04/2020 – 25/10/2020)

	2019 /2020	2020 /2021	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	2147	1961	-8.7	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 53.8% compared to 55.3% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	51	79	54.9	The detection rate for Group 1 is 77.2% compared to 76.5% at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	21	31	47.6	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 87.1% compared to 76.2% at same time last year.
Robberies	11	10	-9.1	The detection rate for Robberies is 60% compared to 90.9% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	550	527	-4.2	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 74.6% compared to 69.5% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	3331	4522	35.8	The 35.8% increase in ASB incidents can be attributed to public nuisance calls related to COVID19.
Hate Crime	13	13	-	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 107.7% compared to 84.6% at the same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	135	145	7.4	The detection rate for Group 2 is 73.1% compared to 71.1% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	32	22	-31.3	The detection rate for Rape is 68.2% compared to 68.8% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – Recorded Crime	372	454	22.0	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes are 78.9% compared to 69.1% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	875	709	-19.0	The detection rate for Group 3 is 35.1% compared to 40.3% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	64	26	-59.4	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 61.5% compared to 39.1% at same time last year.
Motor Vehicle Thefts	52	30	-42.3	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 56.7% compared to 61.5% at same time last year.



## Community Sergeant Update

### PS Paul Begley

I am pleased to welcome back the East Berwickshire Ward report and would like to thank the community for their patience during the previous few months, I am sure you will appreciate the demands on the emergency services during this pandemic and we are grateful for the support from the community.

Throughout October 2020, your local Community Policing Team have been dealing with ongoing incidents, supporting our colleagues in Response Policing and working alongside the council funded Community Action Team in order to address the Local Policing Priorities.

At the beginning of October 2020, Police in the Scottish Borders launched their rural crime campaign and I am delighted with the uptake on this and officers have visited a number of farms and provided free safety parks as well as security advice, as we move towards the darker nights.

Under the current circumstances, Police are unable to attend Community Council meetings and understand a number of these have been taking place on Zoom, unfortunately Police Scotland are unable to use this platform.

As an interim measure, I am holding a monthly teams meeting with your local Councillors.

### **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 October 2020 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 151 mental health related calls and around 32 missing person enquiries and approximately 69 Domestic related incidents.

East Berwickshire had 11 mental health related calls and 5 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

05/10/2020 – Two Police officers were assaulted by a female in the Eyemouth area, she has been arrested and charged with this. The officers sustained minor injuries.

06/10/2020 – Report of Assault in the Acredale area of Eyemouth, this incident was between juveniles, where a stone was thrown, minor injury and enquiries ongoing.

11/10/2020 – Report of Minor Assault by a Juvenile, isolated incident and matter referred to partner agencies for engagement.

21/10/2020 – Report of Assault in Eyemouth, no injuries sustained and a male was issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

31/10/2020 – Police attended a youth related call in Eyemouth, this resulted in a female Police officer being assaulted, the officer did not sustain any injuries.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

10/10/2020 - Police attended at Eyemouth Primary School after reports of youths drinking. A young female was found intoxicated and taken home to her parents and this information shared with partner agencies.

11/10/2020 - Police were made aware of damage to a padlock and chain and off road bikes causing a nuisance in the Monynut area near to Cockburnspath. On 18/10/2020 there was a further report of off road bikes. Police attended and searched for bikes. Work continues to address this issue.

14/10/2020 – Reports of a drunk male within a shop in Eyemouth. Police attended and the male was issued a Recorded Police Warning.

14/10/2020 - Reports of youths gathering in the Harbour area causing issues. Police attended and warned the youths, both in relation to their behaviour and in regarding Covid guidelines. .

17/10/2020 – Reports of youths gathering at Eyemouth Primary School, Police attended however the majority of youths ran off, some youths were traced and warned accordingly.

19/10/2020 - Reports of youths within Eyemouth Holiday Park causing issues. Police were unable to trace the Youths.

### Vandalism

On 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at separate locations in Eyemouth, two windows in total have been smashed. Both incidents are under investigation.

On 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020, a number of youths have been seen damaging a wall at Eyemouth Golf Club, this is currently under investigation and enquiries are ongoing.



## Reducing Acquisitive Crime

### Theft

05/10/2020 – Reports of a wooden baton being stolen from a farm in the Eyemouth area, enquiry carried out however nobody has been identified as being responsible.

09/10/2020 – Report of cash being stolen from within an address in Eyemouth, enquiries carried out however the victim has not engaged with Police and has since left the UK.

14/10/2020 – Report of Shoplifting in Eyemouth, male traced and tobacco products recovered. He was issued with a recorded Police warning.

21/10/2020 – Report of a money box being interfered with at the public toilets in Eyemouth. Enquires ongoing.

23/10/2020 – Report of Theft of Fuel (Drive Off) from a local fuel station in Eyemouth, enquiries ongoing.



## Improving Road Safety

01/10/2020 – Driver driving carelessly in the Burnmouth area, he was stopped and issued with a fixed penalty.

05/10/2020 – Police in Eyemouth stopped a vehicle and following further enquiry, male was issued with a fixed penalty notice for no insurance.

07/10/2020 - Police were carrying out vehicle checks in Eyemouth. A male was subsequently issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice for having no insurance on his motor vehicle.

24/10/2020 – On the A1 near Ayton, a female driver was charged with no insurance or MOT and a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

26/10/2020 – Driver stopped in Coldingham for using a mobile phone whilst driving, subsequently issued with a fixed penalty notice.

29/10/2020 – Vehicle stopped in Eyemouth and found to have no insurance, vehicle was seized and driver issued with a fixed penalty notice.



## Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

Operation Marron – A National County Lines campaign covered all aspects of the 4D's Divert/Deter/Disrupt/Detect in SOC. A banner was displayed in local highlighted locations. Leaflets and posters were distributed in the Eyemouth area, where there have been reported cases.

There have been two reported cases in the Scottish Borders of Cuckooing/County Lines; one in Eyemouth involving males from London and the other in Galashiels, also involving a London nominal (not connected). In the Eyemouth case, the males have appeared at court and been given bail

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conditions which include NOT to enter Scotland. The nominal from Galashiels was found with drugs to the value in excess of £10,000. This highlights the importance of informing the police where persons from another area are discovered living in the home of a vulnerable person (drug user, mental health concerns, young person).

A police training programme on Cuckooing/County Lines has been delivered to local housing officers.

October was European Cyber Security Month. The aim is to raise awareness of cybersecurity threats, promote cybersecurity among citizens and organizations; and provide resources to protect themselves online, through education and sharing of good practices. Information relating to the Suspicious Email Reporting System (SERS) from the National Cyber Security Centre was shared to the division, both internally and externally by social media, SB Alert, Neighbourhood Alert and through a briefing note. This proved to be an effective method of reporting suspected fraudulent and scam emails and texts. To date the NCSC have received nearly 3 million reports, with the removal of over 13,000 scams. (Suspicious emails to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) and suspicious text messages should be forwarded to 7726).

All SOC Information Sharing Agreements for Landlord Registration have been updated and are in line with a nationally approved template, these documents have been sent to Scottish Borders Local Area Commander to sign and agree with local authority counterparts.

## Campaigns

Scottish Borders Police are running an autumn rural crime awareness campaign focusing on farm theft prevention measures. Although we regularly patrol and check rural areas, local farms continue to be targets for thieves.

Community Officers are visiting farms with a pack specifically designed for Farmers containing a wide range of information on measures to help deter and prevent theft including;

- Physical Security Measures
- Forensic Security Marking
- Quad Bike Security
- Trackers
- CESAR Equipment Marking
- Sheep Theft



The campaign is supported by social media messaging shared by partners including NFUS and SLE. Farmers can use the contact us form on the Police Scotland website to request a free information pack and / or a visit from a local community officer

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>

### **CAT Update:**

SBCAT continue to respond and take a partnership approach to reported incidents of unauthorised off road motorcycles in the Monynut area of Berwickshire. Recent action involved sending letters to the registered keepers of vehicles parked in the area over recent weekends. This process appears to have seen a reduction of motorcycles attending in the area. Further planned partnership activity is to be undertaken.



Youth Patrols – CAT activity for youth patrols have focused on Kelso, Peebles, Eyemouth, Selkirk and Hawick. CAT officers have engaged with youths, seized alcohol and as a result of activity in October a number ASB letters have been sent to the parents of those youths identified as involved in ASB across the region.

CAT have executed a number of MDA warrants across the region recovering a substantial amount of Class A, B and C controlled drugs. During the execution of a MDA warrant in Hawick, £1980 in cash was seized along with a Class B drugs with a potential street value of £3150. During the execution of a warrant in the Peebles, Class B drugs with an approximate street value £700 along with £3442 in cash and £1080 in counterfeit currency. Cat have further executed MDA warrants in Galashiels, Kelso, Peebles and Hawick with recoveries of both Cash and controlled substances.

### **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](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.