

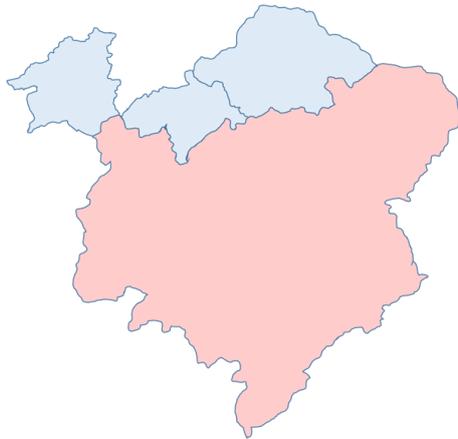
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Scottish Borders Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Jedburgh and District Community Councils
Multi Member Ward Report for December 2020



The information provided within this report, is predominately based on the Jedburgh 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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Figures for the whole Scottish Borders Area

(Data from 01/04/2020 – 21/12/2020)

	2019 /2020	2020 /2021	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	2657	2532	-4.7	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 55.1% compared to 56.6% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	69	97	40.6	The detection rate for Group 1 is 78.4% compared to 75.4% at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	30	38	26.7	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 89.5% compared to 73.3% at same time last year.
Robberies	14	14	-	The detection rate for Robberies is 64.3% compared to 85.7% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	704	659	-6.4	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 74.8% compared to 72.4% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	83	136	63.9	The 63.9% weekly increase in ASB incidents can be attributed to public nuisance calls related to COVID19.
Hate Crime	4	1	-75.0	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 0% compared to 50% at the same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	170	219	28.8	The detection rate for Group 2 is 74.4% compared to 75.9% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	46	32	-30.4	The detection rate for Rape is 68.8% compared to 76.1% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – Recorded Crime	15	14	-6.7	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes are 28.6% compared to 106.7% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	1077	935	-13.2	The detection rate for Group 3 is 35.9% compared to 41.7% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	80	33	-58.8	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 54.5% compared to 43.8% at same time last year.
Motor Vehicle Thefts	59	37	-37.3	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 67.6% compared to 67.8% at same time last year.



Community Sergeant Update

PS Paul Begley

I hope where possible, everyone has had an enjoyable festive period although I am mindful this has also been a difficult period for some.

December 2020 has been very different for Policing in comparison to previous years, mostly due to the current government guidelines and the changing situation. Particularly as there were not as many events or planned social gatherings as there has been previously.

That said, your local officers have been doing all they can to address and deliver on the local Policing priorities, dealing with ongoing incidents and supporting our health colleagues by carrying out patrols in line with the government guidance.

Our approach to the pandemic has not changed and from the outset we have continued to Engage with the public, Explain the guidelines, Encourage compliance and where necessary and proportionate Enforce the legislation.

Throughout December 2020, we have been deploying in line with our festive plan which has been aimed at prevention. We have been paying particular attention to retail premises, youth anti-social behaviour, licensed premises, drink/drug driving and proactive investigation in relation to known domestic abuse offenders and this will continue into the early part of January 2021.

The more recent announcement from Scottish Government has seen us increase our presence on the road network, particularly on our main arterial routes and Borders.

As we move into January 2021, you will see from the campaign section of the report, we are driving the Take Five For Fraud campaign. This is explained in more detail however please remain vigilant to scams and follow the advice. We also have advice on our website and if there are any concerns, please contact us on 101 if you suspect fraudulent activity.

I would like to wish everyone well for 2021.

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 December 2020 Police in the Scottish Borders attended and were involved with around 149 mental health related calls, around 18 missing person enquiries and approximately 99 Domestic related incidents.

Jedburgh and District had 5 mental health related calls and 1 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 Anti-Social Behaviour

Assault

On the 01/12/2020 report of Female being assaulted at Grieve Avenue, Jedburgh. Enquires continuing.

On the 01/12/2020 report of male being assaulted at Bankend South, Jedburgh Enquires continuing.

On 18/12/2020 a male was charged with two assaults, one male charged with possession of drugs after a disturbance at a public house in Jedburgh.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 05/12/2020 a report of youths drinking in, "the Square", Jedburgh. Police attended and engaged with youths. Youths not drinking and they were socially distancing, no issues.

On 11/12/2020 a resident in Jedburgh received threats via Facebook. Community Officer made aware and to make enquiries into the threats.

On 19/12/2020 a report of a large group shouting outside a public house in Jedburgh. Police attended and the group were dispersing.

Vandalism

On the 26/11/2020 report of damage to tyres on a vehicle parked at Mossburnford Smithy House, Renniaston, Jedburgh. Enquires continuing



Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft

On the 26/11/2020 report of attempted theft of fuel from a large vehicle parked in a layby on the A68 near to Jedburgh. Enquires continuing.

On the 04/12/2020 report of theft from a property at Howden Crescent, Jedburgh.

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Enquires continuing.

On the 06/12/2020 report of Christmas tree being stolen from Old Belses Farm Cottage, Jedburgh. Enquires continuing

Theft Housebreaking

On the 01/12/2020 report of garage being broken into and items stolen at Bountrees, Jedburgh. Enquires continuing.

On the 14/12/2020 report of outside doors attempted to be forced of a business premises at Riversideside Workshops, Edinburgh Road, Jedburgh no entry gained. Enquires continuing.

On the 18/12/2020 report of a property being broken into and items stolen at Blair Avenue, Jedburgh. Enquires continuing.



Improving road safety

Within the Jedburgh Sheriff Court Jurisdiction there were 21 parking tickets issued in December.

On 02/12/2020 a driver was offered a conditional offer and the vehicle was uplifted for having no insurance in St Boswells.

On 07/12/2020 a car was seized near to Cleikimin, Jedburgh for having no insurance.

On 10/12/2020 a driver as offered a conditional offer in Jedburgh for having no MOT.

On 13/12/2020 a driver was offered a conditional offer for having no MOT on the A68 in Jedburgh.

On 17/12/2020 a driver was offered a conditional offer for having no MOT on the Bongate, Jedburgh.



Tackling serious and organised crime

DRUGS

Three cannabis cultivations were discovered by police, one was found to have 24 mature plants. 2 x suspected drug deaths were investigated and linked Misuse of Drugs Act searches carried out.

HARE COURSING

A known family were found in circumstances to suggest hare coursing in the Chirnside area. Although there was not enough evidence to pursue this they were all given COVID fixed penalty notices for travelling from Tier 3 to Tier 2. All opportunities to disrupt and detect this group will be taken.

MADE FROM CRIME CAMPAIGN

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A divisional campaign in relation to Serious and Organised Crime, called “Made from Crime” will be running throughout December. The campaign tackles the risk and harm caused by Serious and Organised Crime Groups in relation to unexplained wealth highlighting making money from illegal sources.

The campaign covers all aspects of Serious Organised Crime in a ‘4D’ approach in the following way: Divert – by raising awareness and increasing reporting opportunities we are preventing people from becoming involved in Serious Organised Crime and they can also see the consequences through positive reporting of the successes.

Deter – reducing illicit trade and encouraging businesses to protect themselves.

Disrupt – maximise the use of Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA), Financial Investigation and partners to affect criminal lifestyles.

Detect – prosecute offenders in an enforcement phase.

Trading Standards have been approached to take part, this would be particularly relevant for counterfeit goods, especially if there appears to be evidence of people using online selling (Facebook marketplace etc). The message is shared through social media and uses the Crimestoppers information for anonymous reporting.

FRAUDS AND SCAMS

In December Police Scotland launched a national campaign Take Five to Stop Fraud, which encourages members of the public and businesses to follow straightforward and impartial advice – Stop, Challenge and Protect - aimed at reducing the chances of becoming a victim of financial fraud. This includes online fraud, email deception as well as phone-based and social media scams.

Campaigns



Take Five for Fraud

Cases of criminals exploiting unsuspecting people and persuading them to part with money or personal information are continuing to rise. Our officers and staff should be just as aware as members of the public as criminals are becoming more sophisticated and convincing in their methods, and taking advantage of advances in technology. They will often conduct extensive research on potential victims to make themselves appear legitimate.

Latest Scottish Government figures show that in 2019-20, fraud increased by 23% and since 2010-11 has gone up by 33%. In the last year (2019-20) there were 11,939 crimes of fraud recorded in Scotland - including many committed online, as fraudsters use the internet more and more to target victims.

Throughout the campaign, officers, staff members of the public and business will be encouraged to Take Five – and following this straightforward and impartial advice:

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- Stop - Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

- Challenge - Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

- Protect - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Police Scotland.

DCC Malcolm Graham said: "Fraud, in any form, is a despicable and cowardly crime with, often anonymous criminals targeting the most vulnerable people in our communities. We know these faceless crooks will take any opportunity to exploit any situation to their own nefarious advantage.

"We are well aware that fraud continues to rise and want to take the opportunity to warn the public and businesses take a few steps to protect themselves and remain vigilant.

"Our advice is clear and the officer, staff, the public and businesses should be aware that a telephone call, email or text may not be from the person or organisation it appears to come from. Never click on a link from an unsolicited email or text, and remember that banks, police or other legitimate organisations will never ask you for personal banking information or ask you to move funds to a different account.

"With people spending more and more of their time in the cyber and digital space and the growth of the internet has seen otherwise traditional crimes, such as fraud, being carried out online. Our ambitious Cyber Strategy, published in September, sets a clear direction for how we will tackle the threat, risk and harm from digitally-enabled crimes including fraud."

Cabinet Secretary for Justice Humza Yousaf said: "While levels of crime including those involving robbery, housebreaking and theft have fallen over the last decade, reported cases of fraud have risen by a third over the same period, at a time when we have all increased our use of online and mobile technologies.

"While levels of crime including those involving robbery, housebreaking and theft have fallen over the last decade, reported cases of fraud have risen by a third over the same period, at a time when we have all increased our use of online and mobile technologies.

"During 2020 we have seen unscrupulous individuals using the lockdown and on-going restrictions as an opportunity to target some of our most vulnerable citizens and exploit businesses. Such criminal behaviour is absolutely abhorrent and the Scottish Government is working with police and other partners to pursue those who cause harm and misery to our communities and to support people to stay safe.

"As we enter the festive season, I welcome Police Scotland's timely campaign urging people to 'stop, challenge and protect' in order to help households, businesses and communities to keep themselves safe and secure this Christmas and into 2021. In addition anyone can sign up to receive trusted alerts and advice from Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, on a range of safety and security issues targeted to their local area."

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CAT Update:

Anti-Social Behaviour –

During December the CAT have completed mobile and foot patrols of youth hotspot areas including Peebles, Hawick and Eyemouth, with a total of 14 alcohol seizures and other offences detected. Several ASB warning letters have been sent to parents of youths involved.



DRUGS - CAT have executed a number of drugs warrants in Hawick, Duns and Peebles, with class A and B drugs being recovered with a total value of £14,780. This has included a large cannabis cultivation in Peebles, class A drugs from a business premise in Hawick and class B drugs from houses in Duns.

FESTIVE - CAT have been carrying out targeted patrols due to the festive season, including looking at road safety, acquisitive crime patrols and licensed premise visits.

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:

JedburghDistrictCPT@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.