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Scottish Borders Area Commander's

Local Monthly Update – September 2020



	2019/2020	2020/2021	% Change	Local Area Commanders Comment
Total Crimes and Offences (Group 1-5)	1883	1715	-8.9	The detection rate for Group 1-5 is 55.2% compared to 55.5% at same time last year.
Group 1: Non Sexual Crimes of Violence	43	77	79.1	The detection rate for Group 1 is 76.6% compared to 81.4% at same time last year.
Serious Assaults	21	30	42.9	The detection rate for Serious Assaults is 86.7% compared to 76.2% at same time last year.
Robberies	9	10	11.1	The detection rate for Robberies is 60% compared to 88.9% at same time last year.
Common Assaults	459	451	-1.7	The detection rate for Common Assaults is 73.6% compared to 70.6% at same time last year.
ASB (Incidents)	2923	4111	40.6	The 40.6% increase in ASB incidents can be attributed to public nuisance calls related to COVID19.
Hate Crime	35	38	8.6	The detection rate for Hate Crimes is 81.6% compared to 85.7% at same time last year.
Group 2: Sexual Crimes	113	135	19.5	The detection rate for Group 2 is 71.1% compared to 64.6% at same time last year.
Rape – Recorded Crime	24	21	-12.5	The detection rate for Rape is 76.2% compared to 62.5% at same time last year.
Domestic Abuse – Recorded Crime	322	405	25.8	The detection rate for Domestic Abuse Crimes is 78.5% compared to 71.4% at same time last year.
Group 3: Crimes of Dishonesty	773	611	-21	The detection rate for Group 3 is 37.8% compared to 40.5% at same time last year.
Housebreakings – Domestic	62	24	-61.3	The detection rate for Domestic Housebreakings is 66.7% compared to 40.3% at same time last year.

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Motor Vehicle Thefts	47	25	-46.8	The detection rate for Motor Vehicle Thefts is 64% compared to 61.7% at same time last year.
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The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data has been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and is correct as at 27.09.2020.

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.

Local Area Commanders Comments

Covid-19 Update:

During the month of September we have seen a rise in the number of people testing positive for COVID-19 and subsequent changes to legislation and guidance.

Whilst the vast majority of residents across the Scottish Borders continue to adhere to the guidelines we continue to receive calls to COVID related incidents and we fully expect an increase in calls as restrictions tighten. This picture is reflected in September's figures, we received a total of 68 COVID related calls this month which is a 126% increase in calls compared to last month.

We have placed a large emphasis on working with our licensed premises to make sure they understand and are adopting the necessary practices to operate within the current guidelines. Over the last 7 days a total of 53 licensed premise inspections were carried out in the Scottish Borders. A number of joint visits have been carried out between ourselves and our colleagues in Environmental health and Scottish Borders Council licensing department to licensed premises that were found to be breaching guidelines and a robust approach is being adopted to ensure compliance.

Officers in the Scottish Borders will continue to adopt the following Policing style as directed by the Chief Constable when dealing with COVID-19 incidents:

Engage – Establish individual circumstances and how quickly someone can comply
Explain – the risks to public health
Encourage – Voluntary compliance
Enforce – If faced with non-compliance and only as a last resort.

Crime figures and Incidents of Note:

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The following is a list of some of the more notable incidents that we have dealt with in September:

- Between 11 am on Sunday 6th of September 2020 and 1045 am on Monday the 7th of September 2020 an attempt was made to break into a bowling club in Galashiels. On Thursday the 17th of September a male was arrested for the offence and has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- On Tuesday the 8th of September 2020 3 males attempted to murder a 37 year old male in Coldstream. The 3 males have since appeared at court in relation to the offences.
- On Saturday the 12th of September 2020 a Misuse of Drugs Warrant was executed at an address in Galashiels. A quantity of Class A and Class C drugs were recovered. A male has been warned pending analysis of the drugs.
- On Saturday the 12th of September 2020 a report was received of a 68 year old female from Lauder being defrauded of £150,000 through an investment scam. CID continue with this complex enquiry.
- Between 830pm on Sunday the 13th of September and 6am on Monday the 14th of September 2020 a £4000 mountain bike was stolen from a shed in Selkirk. Enquiries are ongoing into this theft.
- On Thursday the 17th of September 2020 2 males were found in possession of £10,000 worth of Class A drugs. The males have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for being concerned in the supply of drugs.
- On Sunday the 20th of September there was a disturbance at holiday cottages in the Peebles area whereby a 36 year old male was charged with seriously assaulting a 26 year old male.
- Between 8pm on Saturday the 19th of September and 9am on Sunday the 20th of September 2020 a fishing hut has been broken into in the Coldstream area. Approximately £3000 worth of equipment was taken. Enquiries continue into the theft.
- About 9pm on Saturday the 19th of September a female was assaulted within a licensed premise in Hawick. This incident was not reported until Monday the 21st of September and enquiries continue into the crime.

On Saturday the 12th of September officers in the Scottish Borders held a hare coursing day of action across Kelso and Berwickshire as part of the National Wildlife Crime Prevention Strategy. Concentrated high visibility patrols were conducted in identified hot spot areas of Swinton, Chirnside, Duns, Longformacus, Greenlaw, Kelso, Leitholm, Birgham, Coldstream and Yetholm.

Positive engagement with farmers was carried out regarding wildlife crime as well as prevention advice given with regards to Acquisitive and other rural crime.

CAT Update

The CAT have carried out 252 hours of targeted mobile patrols, and 113 hours of foot patrol. We have issued 171 parking tickets. They have

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Chief Inspector Stuart Reid | Local Area Commander - Scottish Borders



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