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# **POLICE REPORT ESKBANK & NEWBATTLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL JUNE 21.**

**Submitted 31/05/2021**

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Good Morning/Afternoon.

Hope is all well since the last report.

Hopefully with the Covid restriction beginning to ease we will hopefully return to some form of normality in the near future.

Since the last report I have received an enquiry regarding neighbourhood watch. Unfortunately the police do not run this type of scheme however I have attached a link for a company that will provide you with guidance, help and advice on how to start one in your area.

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk>

## Report

In the block 04/03/2021 – 31/05/2021 the beat codes which cover the Eskbank & Newbattle CC areas recorded approximately 81 crimes in total, of which at the time of reporting 40 were solved, giving a solvency rate of approximately 49.4%.

It should be observed that several crime reports relate to issues that are not of note to the local community, the above numbers are representative and should accurate verified statistics be required this should be dealt with via a freedom of information request.

## Incidents of Note

09/04/21

Community funded officers (MCAT) traced and apprehended suspect persons in the Red woods area of Eskbank/Newbattle. Officers were able to recover a quantity of drugs before cautioning and charging several accused persons.

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28/4/21

Officers traced and apprehended suspect males in the curtilage of a garden on Eskbank Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian. The suspects were known housebreakers, who were subsequently interviewed, cautioned, charged and reported to the procurator fiscal.

### **Road Traffic**

There have been numerous calls to the police in relation to road traffic offences and speeding in the local area, in the last quarter enforcement action has been carried out in the ward area.

This has resulted in numerous persons being charged with road traffic offences.

Enforcement will continue in the area, with roads policing, safety camera partnership and community ward officers aware of ongoing concerns in the ward area.

Parking is an ongoing issue in the ward area, unfortunately the majority of which is currently a Midlothian Council issue and relates to non-criminal parking issue such as "parking on double yellow lines".

Officers are aware of reported parking offences and hot spot areas have been identified, enquiries are ongoing in relation to these reports.

### **Fraud & Bogus Callers**

Can I please take this time to make members aware that there is an increase throughout the UK of internet fraud and bogus callers?

In regards to bogus callers please see the advice below.

Rogue traders and bogus callers operate throughout the year but become more frequent after spring.

Current restrictions mean more people are at home when they would usually be at work, and as a result they may encounter more doorstep callers who know householders will most likely be in when they ring the doorbell.

Police Scotland is asking the public to follow its advice if they receive an unexpected, and unknown, caller at the door:

- Always ask for identification;
- Never feel pressured into making an on the spot decision;
- Never hand over money on the doorstep.

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More advice can be found on the Police Scotland website and via Trading Standards Scotland.

### **Theft & Housebreaking**

As in previous reports, Theft Housebreaking remains an ongoing issue in Midlothian and in our ward.

There are ongoing police actions to tackle housebreakings to both domestic and business dwellings, however residents are encouraged to take responsible preventative measures in relation to the security of their personal belongings.

#### **What basic steps can I take to protect my home?**

Having your home broken into is not common. There are however many ways that you can help secure your home. They don't all cost money – some are common sense and good housekeeping.

First, think about basic good housekeeping routines that aren't expensive:

- Keep your home locked at all times
- Many thieves do not need to break in at all because a door or window has been left open or unlocked
- Don't leave keys on the inside of door locks, under mats or anywhere else they can be easily found
- If you have a 'thumb turn' lock on the inside of a door, ensure that it cannot be accessed from outside
- See details on letter-plates, glazing and adjacent windows advice below
- Don't put your name or room number on your keyring if you live in shared accommodation, if it is lost or stolen, the thief will have information that could direct them there
- Don't keep house keys and car keys on the same key ring
- Don't keep a lot of cash in the house
- Mark your property with a UV marker pen or Security DNA marking Kit - these can be bought online or in some stores
- Look for the Secured By Design accreditation on the product and register - you can place an invisible imprint of your postcode and house number on your possessions
- You can record and register details of your valuables, serial numbers and features or marks, on devices on the national mobile property register on [the immobilise website](#) - this includes mobile phones, cameras, laptops and tablets
- Don't leave valuables where they can be seen through a window - for example, around the tree at Christmas time
- If you have a wall calendar, avoid having it shown near a window from where appointments can be seen - people may see when there will be no one in.

Thieves continue to operate in our area.

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Crime prevention advice can be given completely free of charge, and crime prevention surveys can be arranged by contacting Dalkeith CPT at the email address below.

PC Rob Wallace

*Information regarding crime can be passed to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or through an anonymous Online Form - both of these routes are completely anonymous and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.*

***Police Scotland use social media to circulate the latest news, events and information to the public via Twitter (@Midlothpolice) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/midlothianpolice).***

**E-mail your local Community Policing Team**

**DalkeithCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk**

**Or call on 101.**

**Remember in an emergency ALWAYS dial 999.**