



Eskbank/Newbattle Community Council Report



Between the 4th March 2023 to 14th June 2023, in the Eskbank and Newbattle area there was 491 calls to police, these included some of the following.

Domestic related incidents	17
Assist members of public/concern for person.	112
Theft	30
Road traffic matters	68
Disturbance/public nuisance.	40
Suspicious person/housebreaking	9

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

Incidents of note

On 8th March 2023 unknown persons have thrown stones from the Pathway adjoining the railway station and Hardengreen industrial estate into a residential area in Hardengreen lane. Council deployable CCTV/signage was installed on the pathway, foot patrols were increased and stones cleared by the council from the pathway. Resident feedback has shown that there had been no further incidents of stone throwing since the preventative measures had been put in place.

On 10th March 2023 a fight broke out between three youths on a Lothian bus on Bonnyrigg Road, Eskbank. Two Youths were charged with assault. Incident reported via social work referral. Police are working closely with Lothian buses to tackle youth antisocial behaviour and various joint initiatives are carried out by our community action team to tackle this issue.

On 12th March 2023 a 31 year old male was seen to be driving erratically on Dalhousie Road, Eskbank. Officers stopped the vehicle and found the culprit to be driving under the influence of alcohol. The culprit was taken into police custody and a report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

On 16th March 2023 a 16 year old male has assaulted another 16 year old male known to him on Dalhousie Road, Eskbank. The culprit was identified and charged accordingly.

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On 19th March 2023 a 13 year old male has kicked a bus shelter at Hardengreen bus terminus causing a bystander on the opposite side of the shelter to fall to the ground. Police traced the culprit and charged him for minor assault in the presence of his parents. The incident was reported by way of social work referral.

On 31st March 2023 an 18 year old female was found in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis in Hardengreen Retail Park. The drugs were seized, and the culprit issued a recorded police warning.

On 1st April 2023 a 14 year old female was found to be causing a public disturbance within a Lothian bus at the Hardengreen retail park bus terminus. The culprit was removed from the bus and charged in the presence of her father. A social work referral has been submitted.

On 3rd April 2023 a group of youths have damaged the glass panel of a bus shelter on Eskbank road, Eskbank. There was no positive identification of the youths and no scope for further enquiry.

On the early hours of 6th May 2023 an unknown person has been seen in the garden of a property in Elginhaugh Gardens, Eskbank and has been seen trying the door handle to the property before leaving the area. Patrols have been increased in the area when possible and security advice given.

On 10th May 2023 a 15 year old male has acted in a threatening and abusive manner towards staff at McDonalds, Hardengreen. The culprit was identified and dealt with accordingly. A social work referral has been submitted.

On 12th May 2023 officers found a 13 year old male throwing stones within Hardengreen Retail Park in close proximity to passing vehicles. The culprit was conveyed home where he was charged in the presence of his parents. A social work referral has been submitted.

On 16th May 2023 two unknown males have stolen a motorbike from Edinburgh College car park on Dalhousie Road, Eskbank. There has been no positive identification due to suspects wearing balaclavas and no scope for further enquiry.

On 4th June 2023 a 41 year old female was caught stealing from open display at Tesco, Hardengreen. The culprit was taken into police custody and a report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Due to the issues surrounding youth antisocial behaviour in the Hardengreen area, Police Scotland conducted a youth event in McDonalds, Harengreen whereby youth groups were invited to engage with youths in the area to educate them about events they could partake in in the local area. Various groups were involved including Y2K, CLLE, Dalkeith community thistle football club, Dalkeith rugby, Just Judo, Dalkeith Tennis and Newtongrange Star football club. McDonalds offered free hot chocolates to youths who engaged with the groups and Tesco offered free snacks for the event. A minimum of 40 youths engaged in this event with many showing interest in signing up to clubs. Crime and antisocial behaviour in that

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area has reduced. Further youth engagement events are in the planning stage due to the success of the previous event.

Other strategies have been adopted such as the consideration of Tenancy warnings in relation to prolific offenders.

We are aware of the resident concerns regarding speeding in the Eskbank area. Our community action team and road policing have been made aware for their attention and speed checks when resources allow. Should residents wish to report specific incidents please do so via our 101 facility or 999 in emergencies. You may also consider contacting your elected member regarding your concerns.

Can I take this time to thank the community for their continued efforts to make police aware and to build a stronger safer community?

Community Neighbourhood watch advice can be obtained from the link below. Bringing the community together and communicating among ourselves is an extra step we can take to help combat crimes of dishonesty and opportunists.

Residents are encouraged to take responsible preventative measures in relation to the security of their personal belongings. Lock doors windows, secure outhouse, appropriate lighting/security lights. Report suspicious activity in the area, to name a few.

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

Thieves continue to operate in our area.

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 Juan Martinez

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.