



POLICE SCOTLAND

SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY
POLICING TEAM
EDINBURGH DIVISION



Community Newsletter
April - June 2025

Picture thanks to
Stenhouse
Primary School

Our Local Police Plan 2023-26 outlines our local Divisional priorities and is accessible via [the Police Scotland website](#).

Your local priorities:

- Addressing violence
- Reducing drug harm and targeting supply
- Tackling housebreaking and crimes of theft and dishonesty
- Dealing with disorder and antisocial behaviour
- Making our roads safer

We will provide an update on each priority across the year - therefore each quarter we will provide an update regarding antisocial behaviour, plus one other priority.

This newsletter will focus on:

- Dealing with disorder and antisocial behaviour
- Reducing drug harm and targeting supply



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Operation Pillar is our co-ordinated response to antisocial behaviour (ASB) in South West Edinburgh. ASB issues include underage drinking, violence and general disorder. Our officers have been focusing uniform and plain clothes patrols at ASB ‘hotspots’ and also working with partners to prevent the causes. Our focus during this quarter has been Pentland Hills, Sighthill, Slateford, Fountainbridge and Wester Hailes.

Motorcycle initiative

Trends show motorcycle theft to increase in the summer months, with more tourists visiting Edinburgh. Officers carried out a week of action in May with visits to hotels and universities providing security advice regarding motor cycles. In addition, they carried out proactive patrols and recovered 4 motor cycles. There will be further weeks of action in June and July.

Please take a look at CI Bull’s recent Capital Cops article where he makes reference to Operation Pillar

[Operation targets illegal use of e-bikes and e-scooters](#)

As well as this, CI Bull features in a Q&A article in the Currie and Balerno News on page 26

[C&B News 507 Jun 25 Paul.indd](#)

In addition, officers were involved in a day of action alongside plain clothes officers and the drone unit to target Surron bikes. Officers were mainly deployed on foot and on pedal cycles in and around Sighthill Park as this has been one of the most problematic areas. This resulted in a male being apprehended by officers and seizure of the motorbike he was riding. He was arrested and charged with road traffic offences. Another motorbike which was suspected to be stolen was recovered. Officers engaged with several members of the public and explained the legality surrounding e-bikes.



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

E-bike Initiative

Community officers responded to reports of ASB involving delivery drivers on e-bikes around the Gorgie, Dalry and Fountainbridge areas. Officers carried out a week of action with mobile patrols, foot patrols and stop checks where they educated riders on e-bike and scooter guidelines as well as seizing any bikes that were illegal.

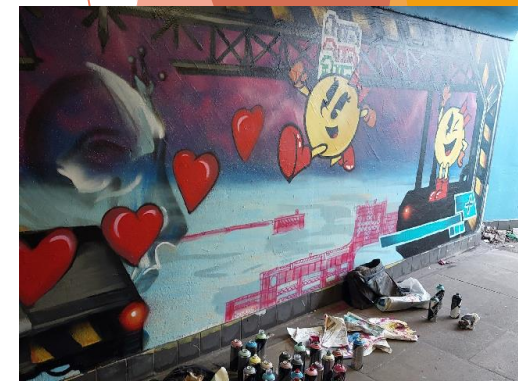
Over the week, 10 bikes were seized due to not conforming the electrical assisted pedal cycle (EAPC) primarily due to having throttles that allowed the cycles to travel in excess of 15mph without pedalling and as such making them motor vehicles.

All 10 riders were charged for having no insurance, driving out with or without a licence and without required crash helmets.

Calder Road Graffiti Project

The graffiti project focusing on the Calder Road underpasses is making good progress, with one of the underpasses now completed. This ongoing project has involved the police driving the vision and getting students from Edinburgh College as well as a local graffiti artist on board. As you can see from the images it has greatly improved the area. The theme has been a mural with a video game theme.

There are plans to now meet with pupils from Wester Hailes High School and also 4 local youth groups to come up with ideas for the next underpass.



Reducing drug harm and targeting supply

Reducing harm caused by drugs is a priority for Edinburgh police. We strive to achieve this by working with partners to support individuals at risk, whilst also targeting Serious and Organised Crime groups who exploit vulnerable people in our community.

The key to preventing this is to firstly safeguard victims and then maximise our investigative opportunities to bring those involved to justice.

An important element of this effort is the flow of information from the community, so police would encourage people to tell us about the causes of drug harm in their local area. If people don't feel comfortable contacting the police then the completely anonymous Crime Stoppers service is also available.

Scotland

CrimeStoppers.

0800 555 111

100% anonymous. Always.



Reducing drug harm and targeting supply

Locally in South West Edinburgh, officers carry out proactive patrols (in uniform and in plain clothes) in order to prevent drug misuse and to identify those involved in supplying drugs. We also respond to information / intelligence in order to target our resources towards the right locations at the right times. This also includes seeking the lawful authority to enter private residences where intelligence indicates that drug production or supply is taking place.

During the last quarter, South West community officers and Local Initiative Team were involved in Operation Easel, an initiative over the last week in May to target acquisitive crime and drug dealing. This involved responding to intelligence, carrying out proactive patrols, visiting common stairs where drug use was reported and stopping and searching suspected persons. The operation resulted in 17 arrests on warrant, seizure of an offensive weapon and a knife, seizure of 6 vehicles for road traffic offences and a male was arrested for being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs with over £1000 worth of controlled drugs seized along with cash.

In addition to this, community officers also carried out proactive patrols following intelligence of drug dealing in the Hutchison / Chesser area which resulted in the arrest of a male who was found in possession of a large quantity of cannabis and a substantial amount of cash on his person. He was charged with being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs and given bail conditions not to return to that specific area of Edinburgh. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Officers were also involved in a substantial recovery of drugs, whereby they recovered a rucksack outdoors in the Stenhouse area containing a total of approximately £39,000 worth of drugs. Overall, we have now seized over £130,000 worth of drugs between this quarter (April to June).

Other local news




Balerno Gala - officers posing with Gala Girl!



It'll Cost You stall at Asda, helped by Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) and Community Alcohol Partnership



Friday Night Lights youth group which is still on every Friday at Tynecastle stadium




Coffee With A Cop

Your local Police Officers invites you to come and meet them and have Coffee with a Cop.

This is a chance to speak with your local Police Officer about absolutely anything that matters to YOU in your local community.

Monday 31 March 2025 at 10am - St Brides Centre, Orwell Terrace
Thursday 10 April 2025 at 10am - Carrickvale Community Centre, Saughton Mains Street
Saturday 19 April 2025 at 2pm - Starbucks, Sainsbury's, Westfield
Monday 12 May 2025 at 10am - St Brides Centre, Orwell Terrace
Thursday 22 May 2025 at 10am - Carrickvale Community Centre, Saughton Mains Street
Saturday 31 May 2025 at 2pm - Starbucks, Sainsbury's, Westfield
Monday 23 June 2025 at 10am - St Brides Centre, Orwell Terrace

POLICE SCOTLAND

Various Coffee with a Cop Events

Other local news



Patrols up the Pentlands tackling ASB and livestock worrying



Craiglockhart Primary School Fair



Speed checks at Ashley Terrace following reports of speeding



Visit to the Manor Care Home to speak with residents, their families and staff



**Edinburgh Division
South West Community Policing Team**

SERGEANTS



L-R
PS 332 Kelly McGarvey
PS 5040 Mark Coull

TEAM 1



L-R
PC 897 Dan Wilson
PC 726 Jack Denwood
PC 951 Paul Murphy
PC 88 Nicola Goodall

Areas covered:
PW54 – Longstone / Parkhead / Dumbryden
PC49 – Slateford / Hutchison / North Merchiston
PC50 – Craiglockhart
PF56 – Comiston / Fairmilehead / Swanston
PF57 – Oxbgangs / Firrhill / Colinton Mains
PF58 – Bonaly / Colinton / Dreghorn / Pentland Hills

TEAM 2



L-R
PC 741 Heather Storer
PC 469 Liam Devlin
PC 390 Bob Galbraith
PC 718 Kirstin Allardice

Areas covered:
PW51 – Saughton / Gorgie / Dalry
PC52 – Sighthill / Broomhouse / Saughton
PC48 – Fountainbridge

TEAM 3



L-R
PC 768 James May
PC 754 Brian Breen
PC 947 Chas Scott

Areas covered:
PS01 – Ratho / Balerno / Pentland Hills
PS02 – Currie / Juniper Green / Heriot Watt
PS55 – Baberton / Clovenstone / Kingsknowe
PW53 – Wester Hailes / Calders / Hermiston Gait

SCHOOL LINK OFFICERS



L-R
PC 278 Craig Blaikie
PC 276 Simon Wotton
PC 174 Gosia Serafin

Schools covered:
PC Craig Blaikie –
Tynecastle High School and Gorgie Mills
PC Simon Wotton –
Currie and Balerno High Schools
PC Gosia Serafin –
Firrhill and Wester Hailes High Schools

Outline Of Divisional Scrutiny Arrangements

On a quarterly basis the Divisional Commander attends and provides both a written and verbal report to [Edinburgh Council Culture and Communities Committee](#) , during which scrutiny is provided in terms of the Division's performance against the Local Policing Plan and other ongoing or emerging issues. Edinburgh Division Scrutiny Reports can be found [here](#). This meeting is also freely available / accessible to view live or retrospectively.

Members of Edinburgh Division's Senior Management Team routinely respond to queries received from Elected Representatives, including MPs and MSPs and constituents' concerns across a broad spectrum of topics.

From a locality perspective, the Area Commander in South West Edinburgh chairs a local Community Improvement Partnerships meeting monthly. This meeting brings together a range of partner agencies to focus on addressing local concerns through partnership solutions.

Accessible Performance Data

Police Scotland's Quarterly Performance Report for the Scottish Police Authority, and performance statistics by council and Policing Division, can be accessed via: www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-we-are-performing/ (Edinburgh Division's performance data can be found on the 'Data Div6' tabs).

Recorded and detected crime data at Multi-Member Ward level can be found via:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/>

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/road-traffic-collision-data/>

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/stop-and-search/data-publication/>





Contact us

- In an emergency call '999'.
- Call '101' to contact the police if it's not an emergency.
- Report an incident online using Police Scotland's Online Reporting Form or e-mail: contactus@scotland.police.uk

If you have information about crime and you want to remain anonymous, tell Crimestoppers by calling [0800 555 111](tel:0800555111) or using their online form.

Email your local community team via:
EdinburghCPTSouthWest@scotland.police.uk

Follow us:

Twitter: [@PSOSSWEdinburgh](https://twitter.com/PSOSSWEdinburgh)

Facebook: [Edinburgh Police Division](https://www.facebook.com/EdinburghPoliceDivision)

Web: www.scotland.police.uk

