



POLICE SCOTLAND

**SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY
POLICING TEAM
EDINBURGH DIVISION**



Community Newsletter
October - December 2024

Pictures 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

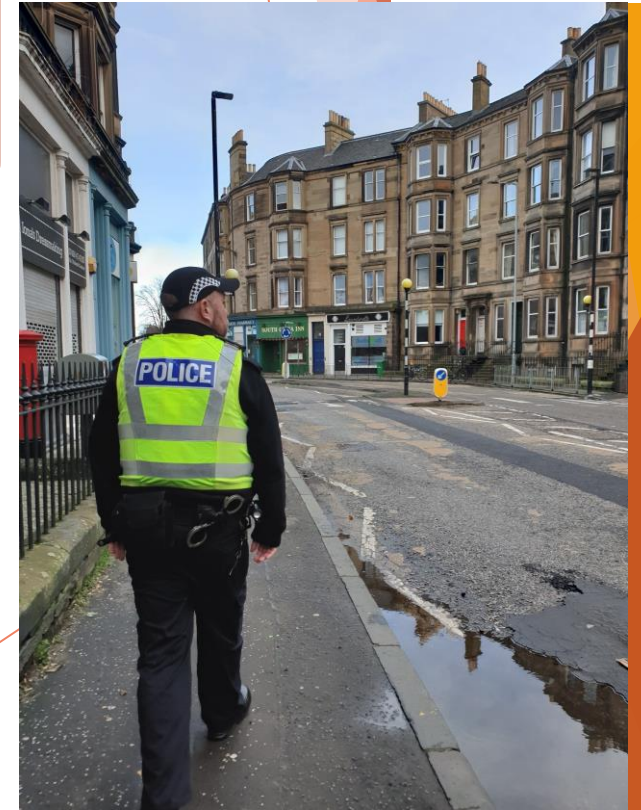
We will provide an update on each priority across the year - therefore each quarter we will provide an update regarding antisocial behaviour, plus one other priority.

This newsletter will focus on:

- **Dealing with disorder and antisocial behaviour**
- **Tackling housebreaking and crimes of theft and dishonesty**



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe



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 along the Union Canal ranging from Fountainbridge to Wester Hailes and then Gorgie/Dalry and Oxgangs. Officers continue to carry out high visibility foot patrols along the canal as a result of recent ASB. We conducted a Week of Action in November focusing on tackling Drug Use. Additionally we launched our Darker Nights campaign in December focusing on acquisitive crimes in particular Housebreakings. Officers have also been carrying out patrols in Oxgangs at retail premises as a result of youth ASB and thefts.

Coffee with a Cop is still ongoing and provides an opportunity for members of the community to come along and speak with officers about issues in their neighbourhood. We are delighted to introduce two new venues this quarter, The Hub at Oxgangs Road North and St Bride’s Community Centre.



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

Union Canal Patrols

There has been an increase in ASB along the canal path ranging from assault to threatening and abusive behaviour towards cyclists. As a result, officers have routinely been patrolling the canal path to provide reassurance and to engage with commuters using the path.

Gorgie / Dalry Week of Action

Police and various partners were involved in a week of action focusing on improving the security of common stairs to negate drug users entering to take illegal drugs. Drugs Search Warrants were executed along with proactive stop and searches being carried out with positive results, namely drugs being recovered along with a knife. Reports were submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Operation Crackle

Officers were involved in Operation Crackle over the Bonfire period, which saw violent disorder throughout the whole city. The disorder in the South West was particularly bad in the Calder Road area. A team of dedicated officers have been busy reviewing intelligence and CCTV footage and as a result 32 persons have been charged with almost 80 offences across the city.

Lothian Bus patrols

Lothian buses have reported ASB on buses, in particular in Gorgie. In the last 3 months, 12 smashed bus windows have been reported in the South West. Officers have carried out joint patrols as a result.



Tackling housebreaking and crimes of theft and dishonesty

Although statistics tell us that the number of theft by housebreaking incidents has reduced against the 5 year average, it remains one of the divisional priorities for Edinburgh police due to the intrusive and impactful nature that the crime has on victims.

Incidents of housebreakings are reviewed daily by senior officers, with police resources being directed to prevention activities and patrols. We also have a team of Detectives who are dedicated to investigating housebreakings to bring those responsible before a court. This team have recently made several significant arrests, resulting in perpetrators being remanded in prison on housebreaking charges.



Property Security



Police Scotland Home Security



Neighbourhood Watch



Secure By Design
Accredited Security Products

Tackling housebreaking and crimes of theft and dishonesty

Darker nights campaign

Analysis of previous crime trends has indicated that theft by housebreaking can be more prevalent during the winter months, therefore your local community policing team ran a prevention campaign during December. This saw officers carrying out uniform and plain-clothes patrols in residential areas on the south side of Edinburgh. Officers were out on foot, engaging with local residents and offering crime prevention advice where applicable. We also carried out a number of road checks at various different times of the day and night, around Swanston, Balerno, Craiglockhart and other areas, to stop vehicles, engage with drivers and identify any links to crime - acknowledging that criminals use and target vehicles within their offending behaviour.



Other local news



Lucky to spot Northern Lights on patrol



Visit from PC Hamish on his tour of all stations in Scotland!



Winter Drink and Drug Driving Initiative



Christmas Lights Switch On Events

School parking patrols



Other local news

Angus Robertson MSP hosted a cost-of-living support event at the St Brides Centre, Orwell Terrace on Monday 16th December. The event was open to the public to come along and seek advice from the organisations present, including Citizens Advice, Social Security Scotland and various homeless and housing charities. PC Storer and PC Devlin also popped in to support the event and engage with locals.



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/>



The South West Community Policing team would like to wish you a **safe and happy Christmas** and best wishes for the new year.

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.pnn.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.pnn.police.uk

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