



# POLICE SCOTLAND

## SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM EDINBURGH DIVISION



Community Newsletter  
January - March 2025

Picture thanks to  
Dean Park  
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

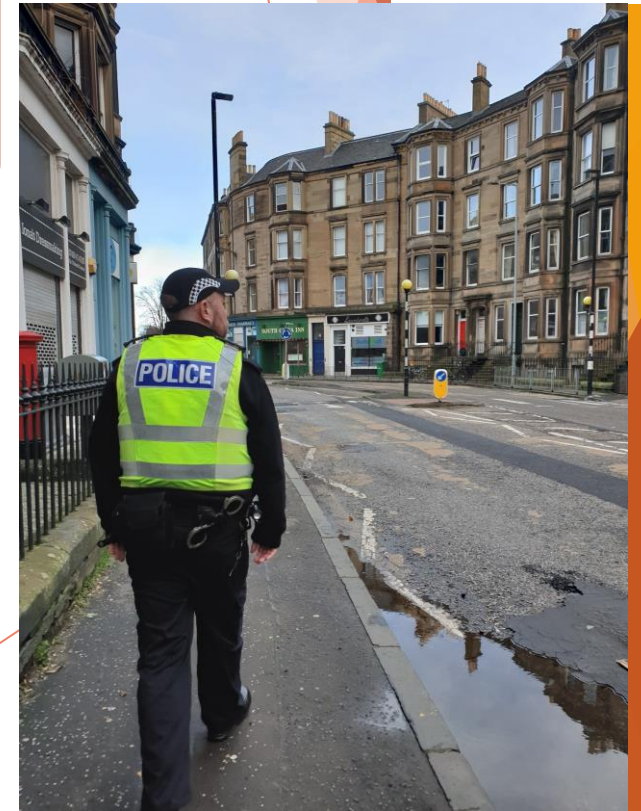
We will provide an update on each priority across the year - therefore each quarter we will provide an update regarding antisocial behaviour, plus one other priority.

This newsletter will focus on:

- Dealing with disorder and antisocial behaviour
- Addressing violence



**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.

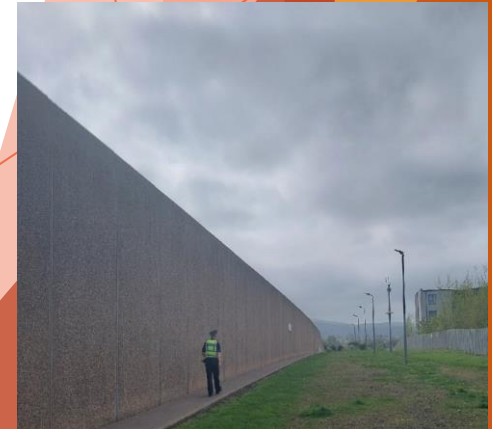
Our focus during this quarter has been Currie, Sighthill, Gorgie/Dalry and Craiglockhart

### Off-road bikes

Following reports of off road-bikes in the Currie and Balerno areas officers conducted enquiries and identified a 14 year old male responsible for damaging a football pitch in Currie. He was charged with a vandalism, threatening behaviour and road traffic offences and a report submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

### Prison patrols

Responding to reports of items being thrown over the walls at HMP Edinburgh, Saughton officers have been carrying out high visibility and plain clothes patrols in the surrounding area. A male acting suspiciously made off from officers but was apprehended and found to be in breach of his bail conditions, wanted on several warrants and wanted for interview regarding other offences. A knife found nearby was also seized for further enquiry.



## Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

### Housebreaking

Following a spate of break-ins to garages and vandalisms to vehicles in Craiglockhart, officers have engaged with the community, provided reassurance, gathered intelligence and secured evidence. Two persons aged 14 and 17 have been identified and have been charged with a total of 7 offences. They have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

### Operation Harefield

Unfortunately there has been a report of sheep worrying near to Clubbiedean reservoir whereby a dog chased a pregnant sheep and sadly the sheep succumbed to it's injuries.

Officers will be carrying out foot and cycle patrols around the Pentlands focusing on rural crime to prevent any further livestock/wildlife crime during spring. In addition to this, there is also a focus on youth engagement for any anti-social behaviour such as underage drinking or littering.

#### Secure your Garages and Sheds

Gardens, sheds and garages often have expensive items such as lawn mowers, bikes and tools.

- Check your shed and garage for signs of decay, which may provide an opportunity for a thief.
- Look to strengthen the door and frame, hinges should be secured with coach bolts or non-return screws. Use strong padbars and close shackle padlocks.
- Think of securing the windows with a grills or heavy wire mesh to increase window security and the use of net curtains to deter casual viewing of your property.
- Register expensive items with a commercial database or use a forensic marker to increase your chance of getting it back if it's stolen.
- A ground anchor is a chain or strong point set into the ground to which you can secure valuable items within the shed or garage. Use one which meets Sold Secured Gold standard or Secured by Design.
- To secure an existing garage door buy a garage defender, these bolt into the ground in front of the garage and stop it from being opened until you unlock it and drop it flat. Make sure its Sold Secure silver or gold standard.
- If you have a door connecting the garage to the house make sure this has the same level of security as your front door, fitting locks that meet BS 3621, or fitting a door that meets PAS 24: 2012.



Scene it. Herd it. Speak up about rural crime in Scotland – Anonymously!

## Addressing violence

The latest available crime statistics are provided below. This relates to crime recorded last year compared to this year.

(‘This year’ = 01/04/24 - 09/03/25; ‘Last year’ = 01/04/23 - 09/03/24)

- Overall serious assault in Edinburgh reduced this year, down by 10% compared to the previous year
- Overall common assault increased slightly this year by 2% compared to the previous year
- Overall threats and extortion reduced this year, down by 30% compared to the previous year
- Approximately 71% of all robberies in Edinburgh this year were solved.  
This means the perpetrator was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Please note that all the data within this newsletter has not been scrutinised to the standard required for a formal public dissemination. As such, all statistics presented should be treated as a guide only.

## Addressing violence

### Shoplifting Initiative

Officers have been involved in a Shoplifting Initiative in the Gorgie / Dalry area due to an increase in thefts. Retailers can also experience violent shoplifters at times and on occasion there have been thefts of knives or blades from stores, which can be used as weapons. Officers carried out plain clothes and high visibility patrols at those retail premises most affected by this and as a result provided retailers with advice not to display knives on open shelves and have arrested and charged a number of individuals with theft and ensured there are bail conditions in place preventing them from returning to the store. Reports have been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

### Vulnerable persons in Dalry being targeted

Officers responded to concerns from partner organisations that vulnerable persons in the Dalry area were being taken advantage of. Community officers alongside other specialist officers were involved in an operation to tackle this by providing reassurance patrols, engaging with the community and resulted in a male being arrested for an assault using a golf club and given bail conditions not to approach the victim. Officers thereafter identified a breach of bail and the male was arrested and a further report submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.





## Addressing violence

Officers have been working in partnership with City of Edinburgh Council Street Enforcement in order to investigate offences under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

Two men have been charged in connection with offences under the Dangerous Dogs Act, following three incidents in the Sighthill and Currie area.

The first incident took place on Tuesday, 18 February, 2025, in Forth View, Currie, where a Staffordshire Bull Terrier attacked another dog. The same dog was involved in a similar incident on Saturday, 8 March, 2025, when it attacked another dog and injured a 74-year-old woman. She did not require hospital treatment.

A 53-year-old man has been charged in connection with both incidents and is subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

The third incident took place in Sighthill Court on Monday, 24 February, 2025, where a bully-type dog (not XL bully) attacked a 16-year-old girl. She did not require medical treatment.

A 19-year-old man has been charged in connection with this incident and a report submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

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Police & Street Enforcement

## Other local news

In January the South West community policing Team welcomed a new Local Area Commander, Chief Inspector Niven Bull

Please take a look at his recent “Capital Cops” article for more information of plans in the South West this Spring. Link below:

[Spring is here, so watch out for the bogus workmen - Niven Bull](#)

In February we welcomed a new Community Inspector, Paul Begley.

Welcome to the South West!

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Chief Inspector Niven Bull



## Other local news

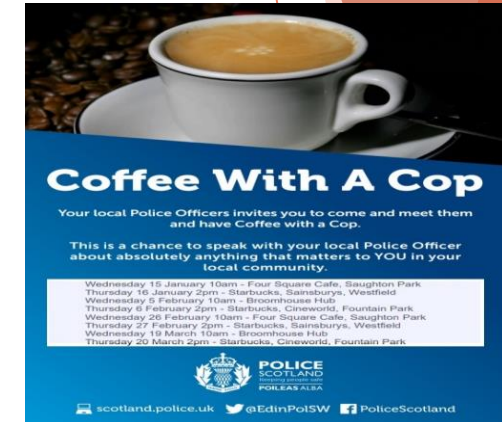
Joint operation with Trading Standards  
at Westside Plaza



Longstone Primary road safety talks



Held at Broomhouse Hub, St Brides, Fountain Park and  
starting soon at Carrickvale Community Centre



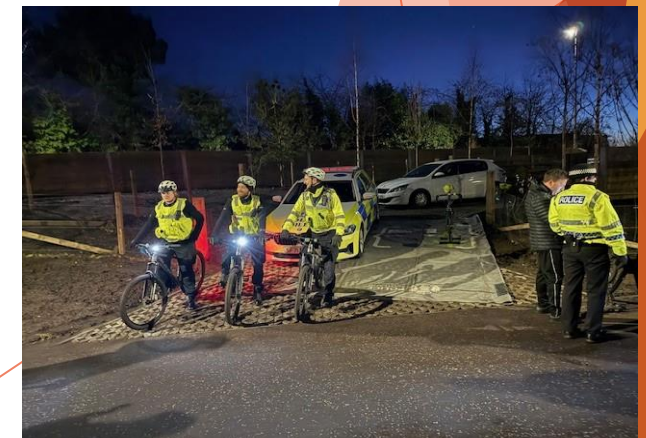
Station visit for Garvald community group



Friday Night Lights every Friday at Tynecastle for youths



Be Bright Be Seen Campaign at Western Approach



### **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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:EdinburghCPTSouthWest@scotland.police.uk)

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Web: [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)

