



POLICE SCOTLAND

SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM EDINBURGH DIVISION



Community Newsletter April - June 2026

Picture thanks to
Mia aged 9.

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.

Sur-Ron initiative

Officers were involved in a couple of days of action alongside plain clothes officers and the drone unit to target the illegal use of Sur-Ron and e-bikes. Officers were mainly deployed on foot with some on pedal cycles in and around Sighthill and Saughton Park as these are some of most problematic areas.

Whilst officers were on this initiative, they traced and arrested a male in relation to other offences and whilst dealing with him, an illegal e-bike was seized with enquiries ongoing to trace its owner.

Officers are also following up reports of illegal e-bikes being used in the Sighthill Park area.

Officers engaged with several members of the public and explained the legality surrounding e-bikes.

The initiative was a great success at acting as a deterrent for this behaviour.



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

Week of Action (6th-12th April 2026) - Shoplifting Initiative

CPT officers alongside our RCTF (Retail Crime Task Force) carried out patrols at Westside Plaza, Hermiston Gait, Gorgie / Dalry and Chesser areas. This was a successful initiative with 1 x fixed penalty notice given, 2 x recorded police warnings given, a youth charged with 5 x shoplifting offences and 6 baskets of items returned to a store. Further, there were 7 arrests as follows:-

- 3 x arrested for shoplifting who were released with special conditions not to enter the store
- 1 x arrest on warrant and recovery of 18 bottles of wine stolen
- 1 x arrest for shoplifting whereby the accused was held in police custody to appear at court
- 1 x breach of bail report after a shoplifting and the accused remanded in custody
- 1 x drink driving whilst patrolling a local shops carpark

Following the initiative officers came across a male and female trying to sell stolen goods in a pub in Slateford. A report has been submitted to the PF and the stolen goods returned to a nearby supermarket.

Please report any resale of stolen goods. You can also do this anonymously via Crimestoppers.



Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

As a result of the shoplifting week of action, a further dedicated initiative was carried out in the beginning of June whereby:-

- 6 x adults were arrested
- 39 x theft by shoplifting charges were presented at police custody
- 6 x warrant arrests
- 5 x youth offending reports completed

We will continue to focus on proactive policing in and around supermarkets in the South West.

Dealing with Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour (cont.)

During this quarter there has been an increase in vehicle crime which CPT have been focusing on. As a result, CPT officers have:-

- Libelled nearly 60 charges in total
- We have recovered 4 stolen vehicles and returned them to their rightful owners
- Proactively sought enquiry opportunities and seized CCTV which will assist at least 3 enquiries related to incidents out with the South West area

CPT currently have a further 10 charges, with the potential for more once final enquiries are carried out.

Please remember to lock vehicles and don't leave valuables on open display within.

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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

Proactive Policing

On 06/04/2026, plain clothed officers were carrying out proactive patrols when they observed persons known to them acting in suspicious circumstances. As officers approached, they made off and were pursued on foot and caught by officers.

After everyone was detained for the purpose of various drug searches, officers seized an amount of drugs (including heroin, cocaine & cannabis) totalling an amount of £4,900.

Proactive Policing cont...

On 16/04/2026, plain clothed officers were carrying out enquiries from intelligence received when they observed a suspect vehicle known to be involved in drug activity. They approached and the vehicle made off with response officers assisting. The vehicle crashed and a short time later two men were arrested.

Drugs including cocaine, pink cocaine and heroin worth around £90,000 were recovered, as well as a bladed weapon and four-figure sum of cash. The vehicle was also found to be stolen.

Both men, aged 23, were charged in connection with this and appeared at court.

We will continue to use every tool at our disposal to trace those committing crimes in our communities and make our community a safer place for all.

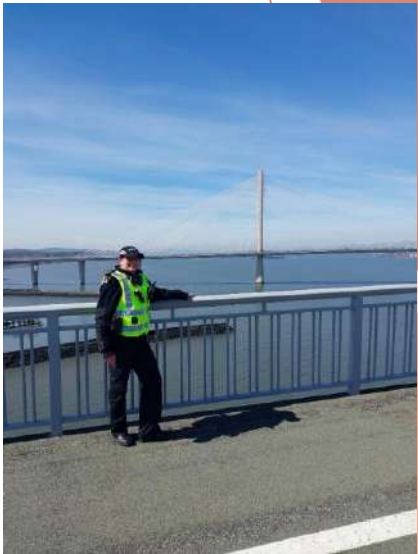
Other local news



Beavers Visit - Juniper Green



Operation Harefield - Sheep Worrying



Operation Clockface

Other local news



During the Easter school holidays officers patrolled ASB hotspots to include Fountain Park and Hermiston Gait to deter any youth disorder. It also included carrying out patrols on buses and engaging with drivers



Attended the Pentland School Fair alongside Fire and Rescue

Friday Night Lights Youth Group every Friday evening at Tynecastle



Do you support a young person aged 11-18 who could benefit from the outlet of a safe space with positive role models?

Big Hearts is welcoming new participants to 'Friday Night Lights', a weekly group open to those who are at risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour in the local community.

The group runs in partnership with Police Scotland, Places for People, Edinburgh Leisure, and Edinburgh Community Sports Hub. It aims to help 30-40 young people who are at risk of getting into trouble by providing them with an added range of support.

Activities include: Football, use of Big Hearts' indoor community space, pool, table tennis, PlayStation and more.

Friday Night Lights runs every Friday from 6pm - 8pm at Big Hearts community space, The Shed, Leithfield Street, Tynecastle Park, EH11 1JG.





THE MAIN AIMS OF FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

- To decrease young people's involvement in anti-social behaviour.
- To increase the access to free provision for young people.
- To improve the understanding of Police Scotland's role in the community.
- To offer opportunities to build a good rapport with adults working in a position of authority.

Friday Night Lights is open to registrations. REFER SOMEONE TODAY! CONTACT BIG HEARTS.

020 352 0000x2 | scottishnightlights@bighearts.org.uk | www.bighearts.org.uk



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

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