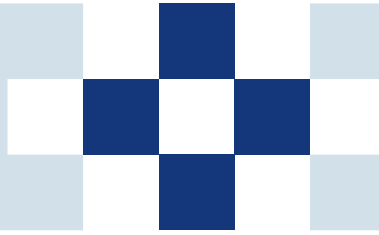


with
youfor
you

work with us to create a
positive force in your community.



February has seen us deal with a number of major incidents in Edinburgh, including a number of murders, and our officers and staff are working hard to carry out thorough investigations to each of them. Our Safer Neighbourhood Team Officers are an integral part in ensuring that the impact of these crimes on the local community is considered and managed. Enquiries are progressing well into each incident, and we hope for swift resolutions for all of them. I would like to reassure the public that serious incidents of this nature are rare, and Edinburgh still remains one of the safest places in the UK to live, work and visit.

The results of the public perception survey that I mentioned in last month's Commander's Message are now being made public, and within this newsletter you will find a breakdown of the results for your ward, which I hope you will find useful. A full copy of the results is available to view on our website at www.lbp.police.uk

Community Safety Advice

Residents in Edinburgh with sheds and garages are being warned to watch out for an increase in crimes that traditionally rise in spring. In particular housebreakings of non-residential buildings, such as business premises, including offices and factories, sheds and garages.

Insecure windows and doors on business premises can tempt opportunist housebreakers. But good lighting, CCTV and an alarm will both dissuade thieves and aid the Police in the event of any attempted break-in.

Residents should also be careful to lock sheds and garages. They can be seen as easy targets to thieves, particularly if they contain valuable items such as mountain bikes or expensive tools. You can help to prevent this type of crime by securing sheds and garages with locks and marking your property.

All members of the community are urged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the Police. Any member of the public who would like appropriate advice should contact their local crime prevention officer.



Local Operation and initiatives

Police Patrols

One of the three priorities set by the Community Safety Sub Group was to deal with the littering in Main Street, Balerno caused by students at the nearby high school during the lunchtime. Officers have undertaken patrols in that area during this time and have noted details of persons found to be littering.

Letters are being sent to their homes to inform their parents.

This zero tolerance approach has meant that there has been a significant decrease in the littering of the Main Street.

Efforts will continue to maintain this reduction.

An issue of antisocial behaviour from the school children of Currie High School in the Dolphin Avenue area has been reported to police.

School Management has been made aware of this and patrols will be carried out to establish the extent of the issue and to take robust action against those found to be causing a disturbance to the local businesses.



Antisocial Behaviour

There has been an increasing number of complaints regarding antisocial behaviour in the Clovenstone and Wester Hailes area, in particular during the weekend.

In response to this high visibility patrols of these areas are being done in order to identify those responsible and to reduce offences.

Complaints of youths throwing items at passing buses from the bridge over Clovenstone Road have also been received.

This is extremely thoughtless behaviour and could result in a serious accident should it continue.

SNT attended at Ratho Primary School Nursery to carry out a talk to the children on personal safety and an introduction to what the police do.

This was received well and it is hoped that further talks will be carried out.

There have been reports of siphoning from fuel tanks in rear gardens of properties and from farms in the Ratho and Balerno areas.

Please be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour.





Appeal for information

Incidents have been reported to Police of a van, seen driving slowly in streets and the occupants appear to be looking into gardens. These persons are responsible for thefts of metal from gardens in the area.

If you see this vehicle or see persons acting suspiciously please contact the police immediately.

There have been a small number of houses broken into in the Currie and Baberton Mains area.

Police are reminding residents to ensure that all rear and side gates to your property are secure or locked.

Ensure that no keys are left in the locks of the door and are out of view.

Officers are carrying out high visibility patrols in these areas and are working hard to trace those responsible.

If you have witnessed a crime or have information relating to a crime, please contact the police on 0131 311 3131.

You can also pass information anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

Local Priorities

At the Community Safety Sub Group on 7th February 2011 the priorities for Ward 2 were set.

- Pub-watch scheme in the Balerno/ Currie area
- Parking of School Buses blocking Bridge Road for up to 1 hour / Parking Juniper Green Primary School
- Lunchtime littering in Main Street Balerno caused by school children

Public Perception Survey

Our Force recently undertook to seek the views of members of the public through a comprehensive survey and this revealed that members of our community in the Pentlands Hills ward feel confident that the police are doing a good job in the area and that most people feel safe, both within their homes and outwith.

It is also clear, though, that we need to work harder to ensure that members of our community know how to contact their local community based officers and inform you about what we are doing to address local issues.

To do this we will be ensuring that Safer Neighbourhood Team officers are highly visible, on foot, in your area and are conducting 'Street Surgeries' on a regular basis, such as at local supermarkets or community events.

We also now have posters distributed locally to publicise how to contact these officers and intend to visit addresses across the area regularly to listen to local residents and take ownership of dealing with concerns.

The survey confirmed that dealing with anti-social behaviour, parking, dog fouling and littering are priorities for residents and local officers will be working closely with our partners in the City of Edinburgh Council to tackle these issues.

A 'Pub Watch' scheme will shortly be launched in the Juniper Green, Currie and Balerno areas and it is hoped that this will provide reassurance to members of our community that alcohol-related disorder will not be tolerated.



A Division

City of Edinburgh help and advice

Lothian and Borders Police
Non emergency
0131 311 3131
www.lbp.police.uk

Lothian and Borders
Fire and Rescue Service
(freephone)
Fire safety advice:
0800 169 0320
enquiries@lbfire.org.uk

Lothian Gay and
Lesbian Switchboard
0131 556 4049
0131 557 0751 (lesbian)

Samaritans
For emotional advice if you are
feeling depressed or suicidal:
0131 221 9999 (Edinburgh)
08457 90 90 90 (National)

Shakti Women's Aid
Support and information for
black minority ethnic women
experiencing domestic abuse:
0131 475 2399

Update
Signposts people with
disability to a wide range
of services:
0131 669 1600

Victim Support
01896 751 212

Women's Aid
0131 3158 110

National freephone helplines

(calls may not be free
from mobile phones)

Breathing Space
For emotional advice if
you are feeling depressed:
0800 838 587

Childline
Help for people aged
18 or under: 0800 11 11

Know the Score
Free confidential drugs
information and advice:
0800 587 587 9

Message Home
Get a message home for
free if you have run away:
0800 700 740

National Debtline
0808 808 4000

National Domestic
Violence Helpline
0808 2000 247

National Missing
Persons Helpline
0500 700 700

Runaway Helpline
0808 800 7070

Scottish Domestic
Abuse Line
0800 027 1234

Shelter's Free Housing
Advice Helpline
0808 800 4444

Stonewall
Lesbian, gay and
bisexual charity:
08000 50 20 20

Womens Aid
0808 2000 247

Crimestoppers

0800 5551111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Contact your SNT Officer

Email:

[adivsntpentlandhills@lbp.pnn.
police.uk](mailto:adivsntpentlandhills@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

Phone 0131 311 3131 ext 2612