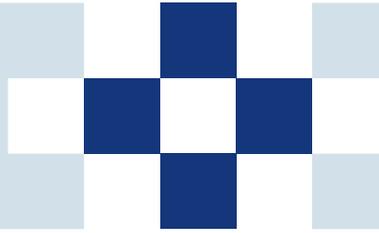


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you

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



Ch Supt Gill Imery

September has seen a host of events in Edinburgh, not least with the recent Unite Against Fascism march and Scottish Defence League gathering in the city centre. Both groups required unique policing efforts to ensure peaceful assemblies, and the Division worked closely with partners to provide freedom of speech without inflammatory

elements or disorder. The event concluded without any arrests and continued the fine public order record that the city has. Indeed, it is testament to the detailed planning and delivery for these rallies that people were able to continue shopping and travel across the city centre unaffected by events.

In regards to wider policing issues, year-to-date

figures highlight a drop in recorded domestic housebreakings by 10%, while solvency has increased by 17%.

At the same time, some excellent initiatives have seen the rate of motor vehicle theft drop by 18%, and thefts of property from within cars drop by almost a quarter. There has been a 6% increase in solvency in general theft in year to date figures, and proactive campaigns such as Operation Cello have been significant contributors. Operation Cello began by targeting bike thefts in West & Pentlands, but following substantial success the decision was made to transfer the good practice employed to high volume crime in general.

Solvency rates in serious assault and robbery have improved markedly too - the latter increasing by 65% compared to last year - with continued efforts by staff in the city's Violent Crime Units showing dividends. Combining these results with the good natured outcome of the demonstrations in Princes Street will continue to endorse Edinburgh's status as a safe and enjoyable place to live.

Metal theft

Lothian and Borders Police recommend that you review the security of your property.

Please consider the crime prevention advice in this section to protect your property against metal theft.

- Store ladders in a secure place. This is really important when building works that involve scaffolding are taking place.
- Tell your insurance company in advance of any building work that you are doing. Not disclosing this information may affect your insurance cover.
- Make it difficult for thieves to move stolen goods by removing wheelbarrows and wheelie bins. Put these items in a secure place.

·Regularly check your roofs so that any theft of roofing materials is found before it rains and water enters the building, causing further damage.

·Watch out for workmen arriving unexpectedly at a building.

·Apply anti-climb paint to drain pipes and roof guttering. This restricts access to roofing. Do not apply the paint below a height of two metres. Display warning notices which warn people that anti-climb paint is being used. Display them prominently. Anti-climb paint can be bought from any security products company.

·Consider installing security lighting, particularly at roof level where metal roof coverings are present. Check with your local authority if permission is needed to do this.



Local Operations and Initiatives

This month has seen officers from Ward 2 working towards the final goals of the outgoing priorities. Operation Century, the initiative in the Pentland Hills to reduce anti-social behaviour has certainly reduced the number of calls regarding same to the police and other agencies. It was a concerted effort by Safer Neighbourhood Team officers (SNT), Rangers and wardens however there are some who believe that the lack of good weather played a



major part. It proves we can plan for events and crime trends but often the results are pre-determined by other major factors. This month has seen the Pentland Hills Safer Neighbourhood Team officers working hard in support of the last quarters priorities, as well as assisting colleagues in ward 8 (Colinton/ Fairmilehead) with various initiatives. These included road checks conducted by Lothian & Borders (L&B) Police and assisted by Ministry of Defence (MoD) & Royal Military Police (RMP) in response to intelligence regarding vehicle document offences, drink driving and other road traffic offences on local roads. This has raised the profile of the SNT and allows the public to see that their "local" officers are still pro-active police officers.

With the start of the new term, officers have been visible at the schools and have recently dealt with instances of anti-social behaviour in the shops near to both the high schools at lunchtime, with a number of pupils spoken to regarding their behaviour. Wardens will also target these areas.

Parking complaints regarding Lanark Road West and recently the road works in Ratho are usually dealt with by SNT officers. There are a number of debates:-

Park on the pavement to assist the flow of traffic, especially buses.

Parking on the pavement obstructs pedestrians, especially those in wheel chairs or with buggies. There are yellow lines on these roads (enforced by City of Edinburgh Council Parking attendants) and should be adhered to. In some areas, there are pedestrian crossings with controlled areas (zig zag lines). These will always be enforced by Police (£60 + 3 penalty points). Officers upon receipt of a complaint will attend and previously we have "leafleted" cars when we are unable to trace the owner(s) at that time. It's appreciated that people like to park at their door but by doing that you could be causing an unnecessary obstruction or committing an offence. Think before you park! As well as dealing with neighbourhood issues, SNT officers also deal with "live incidents" in the area. This was the case recently when they attended a



violent disturbance in a local hostelry caused by a male who had used one of the "legal highs" that are emerging onto the market. He'd inexplicably started to assault others. It was obvious that it did not mix with alcohol and will result in a court case for the individual.

This is a good example of people needing to think about their actions and their possible reactions!



Appeal for information

For those of you that have seen the TV advert for Cravendale dairys - the Cows stealing their milk back, there would now appear to be a Cravendale cow in the Balerno area as there have been a number of reports regarding thefts of milk. To date, there is no other information to go on, but if anyone has been the subject to such a theft, please let us know so that we can maybe ascertain a better pattern. in the meantime we will blame the Cravendale cows for stealing their milk back! On a more serious note, there has been the emergence of a number of graffiti "tags" along the water of Leith walkway and I would urge anyone with information as to the culprit(s) to contact the police as this is unsightly and ends up costing everybody money.

Local Priorities

August into September sees the ending of the previous 3 monthly priorities and the commencement of the new. This periods priorities have been identified as:

1. School parking: All schools in the ward have parking difficulties. The new term sees new parents unaware of the difficulties. There will be a concentrated initiative by Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) officers, Road Safety & Education to educate drivers and deal with offences.
2. Youth Issues: Work will continue on tackling youth issues that emerge in the Clovenstone area, especially with the commencement of the new term and darker nights.
3. Section 165: This is the legislation that covers the seizure of uninsured vehicles being used on a road. Postcode area EH14 has been identified as having a high percentage of uninsured vehicles by the Motor Insurance Bureau (MiB). Experience has proved that this can lead Police to intelligence and other more serious crimes.

Urinating in the street

Police in Edinburgh are taking a stance on people urinating in the street with a new awareness-raising and enforcement initiative in the Grassmarket.

The 'Don't P*ss It Up Against the Wall' campaign has been developed after concerns were raised by local residents about people leaving bars and clubs and urinating in the nearby closes and streets.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team in the city centre has worked with the local community and identified ways to tackle this ongoing issue, which is of particular concern during the busy Festival season when visitor numbers in the Grassmarket area swell considerably.

Key to the campaign was public support which resulted in 900 letters being sent to local businesses and residents asking them to attend public meetings to discuss ways of tackling the problem.

As a result of their views at the meetings the hard-hitting publicity campaign was created which will target customers in pubs and clubs and highlight the issue to visitors to the Grassmarket.

The aims of this marketing campaign are to highlight the negative impact this issue has on the local community and to remind both visitors and residents of Edinburgh about the potential £40 Fixed Penalty Ticket that can be issued by police officers for this offence.

In addition to the posters, beer mats and vinyls that will be displayed, the opening times of the coin operated toilets in the area have been extended to 3am and the use of temporary urinals as a longer term solution is being explored. City Centre Police Inspector Dianne Bruce said "while those enjoying a night out in town might think urinating in the street is harmless, it is a real quality of life concern for local residents and businesses."



A Division

City of Edinburgh help and advice

Lothian and Borders Police
Non emergency
0131 311 3131

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 555111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Contact your Local SNT

Colinton Safer Neighbourhood
Team
Tel No: 0131 311 3131 ext 2612

Email:
adivsntpentlandhills@lbp.pnn.
police.uk