



E DIVISION

Leith Links Community Council

March 2026

Leith Community Policing Team
Monday 30th March 2026



Some notable work and recent results in the Leith Links area

- Leith Community Policing Team (CPT) along with the North East Support team (NEST) have continued Operation NESTGuard which focuses on the Friday and Saturday nighttime economy in Leith. A recent weekend saw 12 licenced premises checked and 5 vehicles seized including 1 e-scooter.
- While conducting plain clothes patrols, CPT officers identified a female matching the description of a person of interest regarding a spate of distraction thefts and robberies. The female was stopped, and searched for stolen property and £6930 was found secreted within her skirt. She was arrested on suspicion of theft and the team assisted Officers from the Edinburgh Violence Reduction Unit with urgent enquiries to the spate of thefts. Further enquiries ongoing in relation to the cash and other incidents.
- During further plain clothes patrols on Leith walk, Officers witnessed a drug deal carried out by a male. This resulted in a foot chase where he was quickly caught and attempted to swallow the drugs in his possession. Due to the officer's quick apprehension, they were able to retrieve the drugs to the combined amount of £360. £760 worth of cash seized also. Accused interviewed and charged with being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs and obstructing a search.
- This month, Community officers have been at Star of the Sea RC Primary School and Leith Primary School giving talks on hate crime, cyberbullying and keeping safe online. The children engaged really well and showed a good understanding of some serious topics.
- Community officers also held a bike marking event at Hermitage Park Primary School.
- Leith retail crime patrols have continued in March. This has resulted in a further 5 arrests and 17 charges. Checks were also carried out at premises known or suspected to sell stolen goods. Further days of action are planned for April and work ongoing with the divisional retail crime team and Licencing partners.

Friday Night Lights

- Each week, Leith Community Policing officers work with Sports Scotland at “Friday Night Lights” youth initiative, to support reducing anti-social behaviour in the Leith area through a programme of activities and sports aimed at young people aged 9-12 years that were deemed ‘at risk’ of committing crime and/or antisocial behaviour.
- The initiative runs on Friday evenings, between 6pm and 10pm, which is a time traditionally associated with such antisocial behaviour.
- This initiative is run in conjunction with various community groups across Leith including YMCA Edinburgh, Leith Academy, Hibernian Community Foundation, Pilmeny Development Project and Lochend Football Academy.
- Participants have reacted positively to the initiative, and there has been a marked decrease in youth-related antisocial behaviour since the project’s inception.



OFFICIAL



Take Five is a national UK campaign that offers straightforward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves from preventable financial fraud.

This includes email deception and phone-based scams as well as online fraud, particularly where criminals impersonate trusted organisations.



Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police.

They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment.

Stop: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Police Scotland directly by calling 101 or Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000.

takefive-stopfraud.org.uk



TO STOP FRAUD™

Edinburgh-wide Police Reports and Information

- On a quarterly basis, the Edinburgh Divisional Commander attends and provides both a written and verbal report to the [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.
- Our Local Police Plan 2023-26 outlines our local Divisional priorities and is accessible via [the Police Scotland website](#). Members of Edinburgh Division's Senior Management Team routinely respond to queries received from Elected Representatives, including MPs', MSPs' and constituents' concerns across a broad spectrum of topics.
- From a locality perspective, each of the 4 Local Area Commanders chair local Community Improvement Partnerships and form part of the Locality Community Planning Partnerships, in order to address local concerns in partnership.
- Police Scotland's Quarterly Performance Report for the Scottish Police Authority and performance statistics (by council & policing division) can be accessed [here](#).
- Recorded and detected crime data at Multi-Member Ward level, Road Traffic Collision (RTC) data (casualties and circumstances), and Stop/Search data can be found via the following links:
<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/> (provided annually)
<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 fortnightly Capital Cops column in the Edinburgh Evening News, featuring themed and topical articles, can be found via this link [Opinion Latest News | Edinburgh News \(scotsman.com\)](#)



E DIVISION

About Us

Local Area Commander:

Chief Inspector Alison MacDonald

Leith Community Policing Team based at Leith Police Station:

Inspector Gary Reid

Sergeant Paul Gray

Your local Community Beat Officers for NL27/NL28:

PC John Anderson

PC Lewis Hardie

PC Campbell Blackmore

Plus 6 other officers dedicated to community issues in Leith

Contact Us:



101 for non-emergencies



EdinburghCPTNorthEast@Scotland.police.uk



@PSOSNEEdinburgh



Edinburgh Police Division



www.scotland.police.uk