

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



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'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Public Safety – Terror Threat Moves Closer to Home

CITY
WIDE

The country is currently on high alert in connection with a number of incidents that have occurred over the past few days. The Lothian and Borders area remains a safe and secure place to live and for people to go about their business. No specific threats have been made against any site within the Force area, however we are taking every step possible to secure the safety of the people we serve.

I want to reassure you that we are doing everything in our power to keep the public safe. We, along with police forces across the country, are currently reviewing our policing and security plans to ensure that they are commensurate with the new threat level and that all police activity is proportionate to that level.

Extra high visibility patrols are taking place throughout the force including the main transport routes in and out of Edinburgh. There has also been an increase of armed officers patrolling Edinburgh Airport.

I want to take this opportunity to ask everyone to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to police. Hate crime or crimes of disorder will not be tolerated and anyone who feels that they are a victim should contact us.

Anyone with any information or concerns can contact Lothian and Borders Police on 0131 311 3131 or Crimestoppers in Confidence and complete anonymity on 0800 555 111.

Divisional Commander – Chief Superintendent George Simpson

Don't be a Victim of Crime this Summer

TOP
TIPS

It's the time of year when we are (hopefully) enjoying the sun in our gardens or going off on holiday.

A prevalent crime at this time of year is what the police call a 'slip in' theft. This can be committed in a number of ways. The most common being when you are in the garden, the thief slips into your house through an insecure door or window and steals your valuables. Similarly, if it is a nice day and you leave windows or doors insecure while you go about your business inside the house. REMEMBER it only takes a second to slip in and steal cash, credit cards, jewellery, a digital camera, an MP3 player, laptop and even your car.

To avoid becoming a victim be vigilant and take the following easy steps:

- If you are in your back garden make sure that your front door is locked and secured, not just the yale lock. These are easy to slip open and for someone to sneak in and steal your valuables.
- Make sure that the windows at the front of your house are also locked and secured for the same reasons.
- If you have a conservatory or patio doors at the rear of your home it is important to secure them to prevent anyone slipping in whilst you cut the grass with your noisy lawnmower or are working in your garden.

Further pointers for those going away on holiday this summer:

- When you go on holiday, contact the post office to suspend your mail so it's not lying behind your door or sticking out the letterbox. Same with any newspapers you have delivered.
- Ask a trusted neighbour, friend or family member to keep an eye on your house for you. They might even be willing to come in and close your curtains at night, open them in the morning and make your house appear occupied.
- Fit timer switches to internal lights, BUT NOT JUST IN YOUR HALLWAY, who sits in their hallway?
- Make sure all windows and doors are securely locked and put the keys somewhere out of sight. Key hooks in the hall that you hang the car keys, spare house keys, garage keys, shed keys and every other sort of key that you have ever possessed are a gift for thieves! Put all of your keys somewhere secure and out of sight.
- If you have a house alarm, use it! If it is monitored by an alarm company tell them you are on holiday.

If you take the above steps you will more than likely have a crime free summer. Unfortunately I can't offer any such reassurances regarding the weather.

FAIRMILEHEAD BEAT

Here are the crime statistics for the Fairmilehead area for July.

There were a total of 10 crimes recorded for the area, which can be broken down as follows:

There were 3 vandalisms in High Buckstone, Frogston Road West and Lothianburn Golf Course 2 of which were broken windows but the water pump and water tank, which is used to water the Golf Course were damaged.

There were 5 crimes of dishonesty, a theft slip-in at Caiystane Crescent which has resulted in 2 persons being reported, Theft by Housbreaking @Caiystane Gardens which maybe dubious, a theft of a stone ornament from a garden in Buckstone Terrace and finally theft slip-in @ Buckstone terrace which resulted in the keys to the property@ Comiston Spring Avenue being taken and the house broken into.

A vehicle in the driveway on Braid Road had its window smashed and the bonnet scratched. A vehicle in the driveway @ Buckstone Crescent had its boot kicked.