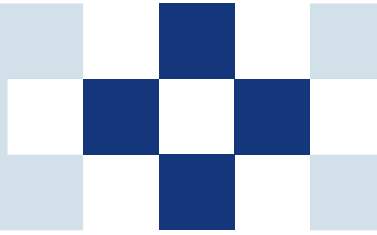


with  
youfor  
you

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](http://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

### Street Safety

The SNT have been busy carrying out a number of initiatives in the area. Given the horrendous weather experienced in December and January, every street in the area has been visited to identify damaged or missing street furniture and also to identify other hazards e.g. dangerous 'potholes' in the road surface.

This Street Safety initiative has resulted in many reports being submitted to the Council so that we can help to make the area safer for pedestrians and all road users.

We have been busy delivering informative inputs to children in the primary schools and at Firrhill High School where we also have a School Link Officer.

Work continues in these areas to highlight some of the many risks to children including those associated with internet use.



### Local Focused Patrolling

Our priorities have included focused attention on the disused premises of the former Fairmile Inn following reports being received of youths congregating there and using the premises for a variety of 'activities'.

Our patrols there have helped to deter their presence and our findings suggest the youths concerned have abandoned their interest in frequenting there.

We have also spent considerable time patrolling in and around the area of Pentland View and Caiyside in response to complaints regarding parked vehicles. We have had support from Traffic Wardens and Council Parking Attendants to address this area.

We plan to promote an anti-vandalism project in the primary schools with the aim of highlighting the wider impact of damage that is caused in the community.

We hope to attract sponsorship to fund prizes for a poster competition.





## Appeal for information

There have been a few incidents of suspected Bogus Workmen type activity where people have called on householders purporting to be from the Water Board.

People should remain vigilant and ensure that any such callers have appropriate identification and should not be left alone at any time within their house.

We have had a small number of break-ins in the Bonaly area where the culprits have made use of garden tools, which have been left all too handy. There has been an increase in the theft of metal from premises in nearby locations. Lead from roofs has been targeted along with copper from unoccupied premises.

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 8 were set

- Youth issues at the Fairmile Inn, gang hut, drinking etc
- Anti Vandalism Project in local primary schools including formal talks and a poster competition, (possibly look for local sponsor for a prize)
- Parking problems at Pentland View and Caiystane

## 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 Colinton and Fairmilehead 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 and dog fouling are priorities for local residents and officers will be working closely with our partners in the City of Edinburgh Council to tackle these issues.

Officers are in the process of delivering a series of talks to local school children to involve them in preventing vandalism and are actively engaging with youths in an effort to prevent anti-social behaviour in areas that the public have highlighted.



## A Division

### City of Edinburgh help and advice

Lothian and Borders Police  
Non emergency  
0131 311 3131  
[www.lbp.police.uk](http://www.lbp.police.uk)

Lothian and Borders  
Fire and Rescue Service  
(freephone)  
Fire safety advice:  
0800 169 0320  
[enquiries@lbfire.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

### Contact your SNT Officer

Email:

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

Phone 0131 311 3131 ext 2328