



POLICE
SCOTLAND
POILEAS ALBA

E DIVISION

Leith Harbour & Newhaven Community Council meeting October 2023

compiled by Leith Community Policing Team – 24/09/23



Welcome to our LHNCC newsletter for October 2023!

Breakdown of calls in north Leith/Newhaven area for October 2023 (approx 216 in total*):

- 7 calls relating to public nuisance
- 5 neighbour disputes
- 28 calls of theft/housebreaking
- 3 domestic-related calls
- 13 calls of other violence
- 1 incident with hate motivation
- 5 loud noise/music-related calls
- 41 concern-for/missing person calls
- 2 drug-related calls

*stats for period 24/09/23-19/10/23

Some notable incidents/events:

- On 3rd October, Community officers observed persons within the Newhaven Harbour lighthouse. Three youths were removed and searched for controlled substances due to the smell of cannabis. One of these was found in possession of a grinder containing cannabis and was charged accordingly. Forth Ports contacted to re-secure the premise.
- Overnight on 5th-6th October, there were a number of vehicles damaged in the underground carpark at Western Harbour Terrace and attempts to set a fire at one of the entrances. As a result of Police enquiries, a 16-year-old male was charged with various offences. Consultations with Preventions Interventions Partnerships dept and the Fire Service followed, with crime prevention and safety/security advice provided to the Residents Association for further circulation.
- On 7th October, the North East Specials Team conducted a licensing initiative in the Leith area, attending at various licensed premises to ensure adherence to standards and legislation. Documentation, signage and levels of intoxication were checked as appropriate, and a report sent to Licensing dept.
- Over the last week, Community officers have engaged with retail outlets where there has been a high incidence of shopliftings and/or involving threatening behaviour towards staff. Discussions were held over the various responsibilities of the premises themselves and the Police, with safety/security advice provided to decrease risk of incidents occurring and to streamline the information-sharing, reporting and enquiry stages of criminal activity.

Some notable incidents/events (cont):

- On 9th October, Community officers gave an input to the PROBUS club in Leith, incorporating a “virtual” tour of Leith Police station, vehicle security and online/financial safety.
- On 13th October, we visited various places of worship across Leith to meet with members of the congregations, following the heightening of the conflict in Israel and Gaza. This allowed us the opportunity to listen to questions, address local concerns and provide reassurance, thus enabling us to continue our essential duties of engagement and cooperation in our communities.
- On 19th October, Community officers held a training session for Police Scotland Special Constables at the Lothian Buses depot at Seafield Road. Special Constables from E and J Divisions undertook a variety of simulated incidents on buses involving domestic abuse, recovery of drugs and serious assault, to allow officers to practice their incident skills and respond to calls as a team. The event was supported by British Red Cross ambulance response volunteers who acted as casualties, witnesses and provided a high level of input in relation to first aid response.
- Over the last month, Community officers have attended at local schools such as Leith Victoria and Taobh na Pairce, offering safety advice in relation to driving and parking near to schools and issuing warnings to parents/guardians, balanced with the needs of local residents. Staff are always happy to see officers and grateful for the attention paid towards vehicles at the relevant times.

Plans ahead:

- Over the next couple of weeks, we shall be engaging with local residents, businesses and vulnerable members of the community in readiness of Bonfire and Fireworks weekend. We shall be providing safety advice and guidance in relation to sale, purchase and use of fireworks and engaging with potential offenders to warn them of the consequences of criminal and/or antisocial behaviour at this time of year, under the banner of Operation Crackle.
- We shall also be attending various public events across Edinburgh and the wider area, including Hearts vs Celtic (22nd Oct), Celtic vs Atletico Madrid football match (25th Oct) and Terminal V dance event (28th Oct).

Tackling vehicle security in the Leith area:

Motor Vehicles are for many of us, the main mode of transport of which we can rely heavily on in everyday life. But what would happen if your vehicle suddenly disappeared or was broken into? Whilst we can't always prevent it there are simple steps that we can all take to reduce our chances of becoming a victim of car crime.

GENERAL

- Utilise your car garage/ underground parking if available.
- Lock any driveway, garage, or underground parking doors, shutters and gates.
- Consider using an alarm for your garage or gates.
- Ensure suitable lighting is in place. Park under working street lights.
- Utilise a driveway parking post to block your vehicle in, if available.



KEYS

- Vehicle Key and fobs should be out of sight and reach.
- Don't place keys near to a letterbox or door. Fishing with a stick and hook through the letterbox has been a common method of car key theft.
- Ensure your doors are double locked, look out for lights flashing, wing mirrors folding in and locks/alarm sound
- Fobs should be placed in a "Faraday pouch" (Secure by Design accredited). Remember to include spare keys. These pouches if used correctly should block the signal to/from your keys.



VEHICLE SECURITY

- Lock and secure your vehicle when not in use (driveway, fuel station forecourt). Ensure windows and sunroofs are closed.
- Remove all valuables i.e personal belongings – car ownership information, money, and electronics. When using the car, don't keep valuables (handbags/ electronics) in view and on the passenger seat, especially during the warmer weather where you may have your windows down.
- Do not leave the car unattended when engine is running (i.e defrosting vehicle). Your insurance may not pay out if your vehicle is stolen in this scenario.
- Position your vehicle in such a manner as to make it difficult for thieves to drive off quickly.
- Park in a busy street where street parking is available.
- Fit theft resistant number plate fittings – stolen number plates are commonly used to hide the identity of stolen vehicles. Use one-way clutch head screws to secure plates.
- Consider purchasing a Secured By Design steering wheel lock such as Disklok
- A security box can be fitted over the pedals to prevent thefts when the vehicle is parked up.
- Consider fitting a tracker, these devices can alert you when your car is active and if it's travelling in a new area.



E DIVISION

About Us

Local Area Commander:

Chief Inspector Kieran Dougal

Leith Community Policing Team based at Leith Police Station:

Inspector Colin Fordyce

Acting Sergeant Chris Casselden

Your local Community Beat Officer for NL26:

Acting Sergeant Chris Casselden

**plus 8 other officers dedicated to
community issues in Leith**

Contact Us:



101 for non emergencies



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Edinburgh Police Division



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