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Southside Community Council Update – October 2021

Your local community officers have had a very busy summer and have been involved in a number of local and divisional operations across the South East area. In August we were involved in Summer City, the operation dedicated to the Edinburgh Fringe and Festival. Despite being a reduced event this year it still required the assistance of police officers to ensure it was as safe as possible. In September we welcomed the new students to Edinburgh University providing them with personal safety and crime prevention advice.

We continue our regular vehicle and foot patrols in the Southside area focussing on areas that are experiencing antisocial and criminal behaviour. If you have any information you would like to pass on please email EdinburghCPTSouthEast@scotland.pnn.police.uk Any intelligence can be provided anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or crimestoppers-uk.org

The new Community Inspector, Kieran Dougal, visited several local retailers with MSP Daniel Johnson to promote the new Protection of Worker Act. This has created a specific offence of assaulting, intimidating or abusing a retail worker carrying out their duties. It is hoped that this offence will provide additional protection to retail workers and result in stronger penalties should anyone be found guilty.

We have launched Operation Slowtime, which is aimed at increasing Road Safety across the area. Officers have carried out a number of speed checks in the South East including Melville Drive. Along with our colleagues in the Roads Policing Unit we have ran Operation Close Pass, which educates drivers on leaving a safe space when passing cyclists. We are continuing to patrol the local schools, as often as possible at drop off and pick up times to ensure all the children and staff are safe. Dangerous and inconsiderate parking is not acceptable and enforcement action will be taken when required.

I would like to highlight the current Take Five Campaign focusing on protecting the public from fraud. Banks will **never** ask you to transfer your money to “safe account” so if you receive any unusual phone calls or emails please STOP, CHALLENGE and PROTECT.

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching for their scams, hoping you’ll let your guard down for just a moment.

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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.

Further advice on Fraud and other crime prevention advice can be found on the Police Scotland webpage - <https://www.scotland.police.uk/takefive>

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