

Five things you need to know today

❌ Last night the skies over Edinburgh were ablaze with fireworks, but in addition there was a major fire on [Arthur's Seat](#) which gave Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service another problem to deal with.

Earlier in the week some attacks were launched on fire crews. All of this happened in spite of the plea from Head of Operations at Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service, John Dickie, who said:-

“This is the busiest time of the year for fire and rescue services across the country.

“Incredibly this is also the time of year when we see a corresponding rise in recorded incidents of violence to crews.

“We are asking the public to support us during what is a challenging and exceptionally busy period for operational firefighters, those working in Fire Control and non-uniform staff working behind the scenes to support frontline activities.

“Firefighters play a vital role in keeping our communities safe. It is unacceptable that in the course of their duties they may be verbally abused or have missiles thrown at them. Equally, if a fire appliance is damaged through coming under attack it may be taken off the run reducing our operational capability.

“We would urge parents and carers in particular to discuss this important issue with their children. Talk to them about what firefighters do and the implications of impeding them from carrying out their duties.

“Please respect our firefighters as they continue to work hard, serving and protecting the people and property of Lothian and Borders.”

As we reported on Thursday, the council Labour group have launched their new consultation document called [Moving Edinburgh Forward](#). We are running a live web chat with the Edinburgh Labour Group on Monday morning from 10 a.m. Do you have any questions for them? Then feel free to join in on Monday or [send us](#) your questions and comments now.

We are drafting up contact page of Edinburgh blogs which you might like to read. Do you write one of these blogs? Please [get in touch](#) if you would like to be listed!

Have you read the [Zoo's Chief Executive's blog](#) yet? He does a good job this week in keeping us all up to date with the pandas, and their new tartan.