

Police launch city centre personal safety drive



Police in Edinburgh have launched an initiative aimed at preventing crime in the city centre over Christmas. Operation Astrodome, now in its fifth year, is the Lothian and Borders Police response to the increasing numbers of people expected to visit the city centre over the festive period.

In addition to ensuring that more officers are out on patrol, police will also encourage people to take account of their own personal safety and security.

Inspector Gill Geany, from Lothian and Borders Police, said:-
“Edinburgh city centre is always a popular destination at this time of year, not just for shoppers and visitors who want to soak up the festive atmosphere, but also for revellers who want to enjoy the vibrant nightlife.

“While the city centre is a safe place to visit, we must acknowledge that the increased numbers of visitors brings more opportunities for crime, and we will be working alongside our partners in City of Edinburgh Council and Essential Edinburgh to ensure we respond accordingly.

“As part of Operation Astrodome we will be carrying out high-visibility patrols throughout the city centre, while also using CCTV and other crime detection and prevention techniques

in order to deter criminality.

“We are asking people to take steps to help avoid falling victim to crime, whether it be keeping your personal belongings safe, or drinking sensibly if you’re enjoying a night out. Information and advice on crime prevention is available on the Lothian and Borders Police website, and I would encourage people to follow the tips provided and help us ensure they stay safe and secure this Christmas.”