

# Police Message to Fans Ahead of Cup Final



On Sunday 26 May, thousands of fans of Hibernian Football Club will travel to Hampden to cheer their side on against Celtic in the Scottish Cup Final.

Around 50,000 fans are expected to head for the National Stadium for the kick off at 3:00pm on Sunday and Police Scotland is welcoming both sets of supporters to Glasgow.

Superintendent David Carradice, of Police Scotland Edinburgh Division said:- “With the build-up to Sunday’s final well underway and Hibs fans preparing to return to Hampden for this year’s contest, we want to help make sure that supporters are able to get to and from the game safely – whatever the result.

“We have been working in partnership with colleagues in Glasgow, the City of Edinburgh Council, British Transport Police and Hibernian Football Club to ensure the weekend can be enjoyed by all those who wish to attend. Similarly we are keen to avoid disruption to everyday life in both Edinburgh and Glasgow.

“It will be a particularly busy sporting day in Edinburgh as the city also plays host to the marathon which always attracts a large number of spectators in addition to the athletes.

“While we want everyone to enjoy this festival of sport, keeping people safe is the priority for Police Scotland. Together with our colleagues at the British Transport Police, we have a wealth of experience of dealing with high volumes of people travelling to and from Scotland’s biggest two cities. There will be a high-visibility police presence on patrol over the weekend to offer guidance and reassurance.

“I would encourage all supporters to plan their day and travel, in advance. I would remind people that it is not permissible to drink alcohol on supporters’ buses, trains or any form of public transport. It is also an offence in Glasgow to drink alcohol in streets and public places and anyone arriving at the turnstiles drunk will not be allowed entry into the stadium.

“Many supporters may opt to stay in Edinburgh and watch the match in various licensed premises across the city and all fans, travelling or otherwise, are encouraged to adopt a responsible attitude to alcohol and ensure their behaviour does not place them or others at risk of harm.”

Referring to the prospect of a first Scottish Cup victory for Hibs since 1902, Supt Carradice said: “After the disappointment of last year’s final, Hibs fans will be even more desperate to see their team return to Leith with the Scottish Cup. In the event of such a victory, fans should check their club’s website – [www.hibernianfc.co.uk](http://www.hibernianfc.co.uk) – for details of a celebratory parade and related events.

“Whatever the result on the pitch, I hope all supporters will work with us and remain safe on the day.”