

Council approve SDL march down Royal Mile



The Scottish Defence League have been given permission to march from East Market Street and down the Royal Mile on Saturday August 17.

The application was approved by the City of Edinburgh Council's Regulatory Committee last week after consultation with Police Scotland.

Assistant Chief Constable Mike McCormick wrote to the council saying, "There have been four, main, SDL events in the city over the last few years – February 2010, September 2011, May 2012 and September 2012.

"Although the February 2010 event was unstructured and required the attention of a significant number of police resources, the others have been more organised and there have been no significant public order issues at any of the events."

ACC McCormick also stated that there is likely to be a counter protest, and other SDL events have seen the group United Against Fascism staging their own rally at the same time.

The council approved the group meeting at East Market Street at 2pm before making their way onto the Royal Mile and to a rally point outside the parliament which would end around 3.15pm.

Police will meet the SDL coaches on the outskirts of Edinburgh and escort them to the meeting point.