Operation Astrodome launched to keep people safe during the festive season.

Police in Edinburgh are today launching their operation to keep people safe during the festive season.

Operation Astrodome will see officers within the Capital provide a high-visibility presence across the city to engage with the public and offer advice and guidance on crime prevention and personal safety.

Police patrols will also be deployed throughout the city centre during the holiday season to deter crime, offer reassurance and address any issues that may arise.

Throughout the coming month, Capital officers will focus on preventing acquisitive crime and alcohol-related violence.

Information relating to safeguarding property will be issued online and displayed in a number of public spaces.

In addition, police will be discussing licensing issues with staff at Edinburgh's pubs and clubs to ensure revellers are able to enjoy their Christmas and New Year celebrations in safe surroundings.

Members of the public are invited to follow the Capital's policing account on Twitter – @EdinburghPolice and join in the discussions by using #OpAstrodome.

Chief Superintendent Mark Williams, Divisional Commander for the City of Edinburgh said: "The Festive season is an exciting time for our communities and a very busy period for our officers, who will be out in large numbers throughout December

to keep the public safe.

"The Capital has some wonderful sights and attractions at this time of year and we anticipate large volumes of the public turning out to enjoy these.

"It is therefore essential that the public is equipped with all the necessary advice they require to protect themselves and their possessions.

"In the coming weeks, we will be issuing helpful advice through face-to-face engagement, displaying posters in well-populated areas and on our website and social media channels.

"Furthermore, police will have a sustained and visible presence at evenings and weekends to deter alcohol-related crime and address any issues that may arise."