

Drug dealer's assets confiscated



An Edinburgh drug dealer's assets were seized under a confiscation order at Edinburgh High Court today. Property owned by William Cassels to the extent of £185,790 was confiscated after he admitted his guilt to drugs charges earlier this year.

On 1 May 2013, police officers searched various properties in Edinburgh and Musselburgh and recovered heroin with a potential street value of £137,000. A search of an address in Musselburgh also recovered £178,000 in cash, which was being held on behalf of Cassels who claimed the money was savings from a cleaning business.

On 12 March 2014, Cassels pled guilty to involvement in the supply of heroin and concealing the profits of that trade, and was sentenced to 6 years' imprisonment.

Lindsey Miller, Procurator Fiscal for Organised Crime & Counter Terrorism, said:

"Due to his conviction for these charges, the Proceeds of Crime Act gives us to the powers to assess all of his financial records for the past 6 years.

"Following this assessment, Cassels was found unable to account for £185,790, and today we have secured a confiscation order for the entirety of that amount.

"The funds recovered will be added to the £88 million already gathered from Proceeds of Crime to be re-invested in the community by Scottish Ministers, through the CashBack for Communities programme."