Stronger North initiative update

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Vice-Convener of Health, Social Care & Housing — Cammy Day

Police Scotland and its partners are continuing to tackle criminality and anti-social behaviour in North Edinburgh through the Stronger North initiative.

Preventing crime and bringing those responsible to justice remains a top priority for Police Scotland. There have been significant results with violent crimes 16% lower than the five-year average which means that in North Edinburgh, 130 fewer people have been victims of violent crimes.

Additional CCTV has been added to the area with further plans to bring more cameras to West Pilton. There has also been a sustained drop in the level of anti-social behaviour in the local community.

Community Safety Leader, Councillor Cammy Day said: "#StrongerNorth is making real progress and I continue to be very grateful to the local community, who have rallied round to help make the north of the city a safer place.

"Information from local residents is helping us, along with Police Scotland, to combat antisocial behaviour and they have led the way on community clear ups to create a more positive environment.

"I am confident that, based on the positive reaction so far from residents, we will reach our goal of reducing crime to build stronger, safer communities." National resources from Police Scotland continue to assist North Edinburgh officers, with additional support from local Violence Reduction Units and the police helicoptor. Police horses have also been frequently deployed.

Inspector David Happs said: "The message from Stronger North remains clear — criminality in the local community will not be tolerated.

"While we have made significant steps tackling crime, we accept that there is still more work to be done.

"Our aim remains the same as it was six months ago, to create a better community for the people of North Edinburgh."