

Five things you need to know today!



Police and Transport for Edinburgh in partnership

Southside Social

Water of Leith Clean up

Pentland Hills Regional Park Boundary Bill

Party Flats

Police Scotland and the Transport for Edinburgh Group, have entered into a partnership as part of a wider community safety and crime prevention drive across the city.

The partnership was signed earlier this week by Sarah Boyd, Head of Operations at Lothian Buses and Chief Superintendent Mark Williams at the Company's Annandale Street HQ.

Liaison Officer PC Julie Cochrane said:

"I am delighted to be taking up this role and am looking forward to working with my colleagues in Police Scotland, Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Trams to listen to staff and passenger concerns so we can address them together."

Welcoming the partnership, Lothian Buses Head of Operations Sarah Boyd, said:

"We operate 70 services all across Edinburgh and the Lothians and hundreds of thousands of passengers travel safely with us every week. This partnership is about ensuring that passengers continue to feel as safe as possible as they wait for their bus and when they travel. PC Cochrane will be working with staff across the company to provide support and

advice on how best to handle difficult situations and, how best to report and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour. We're delighted to be working with Police Scotland. We share the same values around community safety and I'm confident that our work together will benefit our staff and our customers."

Edinburgh Commander, Chief Superintendent Mark Williams, said:

"Edinburgh's public transport network is one of the best in the country and it provides a vital service across the capital for thousands of residents and visitors every day. Thanks to this fantastic new partnership with Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Trams, the city now has a dedicated police resource to support our combined efforts to tackle anti-social and other criminal behaviour on public transport. This is a hugely positive step in ensuring commuters can travel safely right across the network"

Michael Powell, Safety, Quality & Environment Manager at Edinburgh Trams, said:

"Passenger safety sits at the heart of everything we do – it's an integral part of training and daily working life. We're delighted to be involved in this partnership which I'm confident can further enhance the approach we take."

A new social enterprise is opening tomorrow on Buccleuch Street. A pub with a difference, this one hopes to have a real social impact too. They promise training for those who wish to work in the hospitality industry and they will donate their profits to good causes.

pic.twitter.com/0am1mrvu2Y

– *Southside Social (@EdinSocialPub)* [July 30, 2015](#)



Thursday 6th August 10.30am – 1pm Stockbridge Task
– Gardening, River Clean-up and Litter Pick. The Medicinal Garden and area beyond St Bernards Well needs a tidy up and we plan to have a clean-up of the Stockbridge area. Meet Helen and Ben at the end of Saunders Street at 10.30am Parking is metered. See streetmap link [here](#)

The [Pentland Hills Regional Park Boundary Bill](#), a Member's Bill, was introduced to The Scottish Parliament by Christine Grahame MSP earlier this year.

The Bill makes provision to alter the existing southern boundary of the Pentland Hills Regional Park so that the Park includes all (or substantially all) of the Pentland Hills range.

The bill can be found [here](#) and you have until 28 September to make any comments on the proposals it contains.

At its meeting on Thursday this week the Planning Committee will consider the ongoing matter of party flats and whether the actions it has taken are working.

These are flats let out for short holidays to large groups of people which can cause disturbance to the neighbours.

In the case of one flat at Grove Street the council took legal action in a historic move against the owner to take over control of letting the property for a year between October 2013 and October 2014.

The planning committee has decided that using a property in

this way can constitute a change in planning terms and so a planning application would need to be made and approved before a landlord could proceed.

Flats where problems have arisen are at 16/4 and 31/2 Grove Street where investigations are still ongoing, 83 Dundas Street where investigations are at an early stage, 3F1 22 Learmonth Terrace (where the owner has been issued with a notice requiring that short stay use ceases).

Is this a problem for you where you live?

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