

Police ask communities to remain vigilant following events in Belgium today



In response to the events in Belgium today, Assistant Chief Constable Ruairaidh Nicolson has asked communities to remain vigilant and has provided reassurance about public safety in Scotland.

ACC Nicolson, Police Scotland lead officer for Organised Crime, Counter Terrorism and Safer Communities, said: "Following the tragic events in the Belgian capital earlier today, Police Scotland has reviewed security and safety arrangements as a precautionary measure, which we hope provides reassurance to our communities.

"This is something we would do as a matter of course after such events and it is not in relation to any specific information or intelligence.

"Police Scotland is committed to ensuring all communities across the country are as safe as they can be and I would ask the public, especially around crowded places and transport hubs, to remain vigilant and alert, but not alarmed. If you suspect something is wrong, then report it to the police.

"I would stress that there is no specific information which suggests Scotland is at risk of attack however the UK threat level remains at Severe and our communities are not immune from the threat posed by terrorists. That's why I would encourage people to go about their business as normal but remain vigilant.

"I am confident that the diverse, welcoming and multi-cultural

communities across Scotland will work together to defeat terrorism and ensure no individual or community feels marginalised or isolated by the actions of criminals.

“Our thoughts at this time are very much with those individuals and communities affected by the events in Brussels.”