Police urge people to stay local and follow Covid regulations this Easter weekend

Police Scotland have thanked the 'vast majority' of the public who are sticking to the coronavirus rules but insist that officers will not hesitate to use enforcement powers as a last resort against those people who refuse to comply.

Deputy Chief Constable Malcolm Graham said: "The coronavirus regulations have had a significant impact on our lives and I would like to thank the vast majority of people who are sticking to the rules and doing the right thing to avoid the spread of the virus as we move through the easing of restrictions.

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"People should not travel outwith their local authority area except for essential purposes. While Easter weekend is traditionally a time for visiting friends and family, I would urge people to stay local and follow the regulations on gatherings.

"If you are visiting beauty spots within your local area, do so safely and respectfully – leaving no trace of your visit. Please also park responsibly to allow emergency access. "Our approach throughout the pandemic has been to engage with the public, explain the legislation and encourage compliance, but we will not hesitate to use our enforcement powers as a last resort."