# Mr Big rejects truce as TMJ gang escalate gangland war in Edinburgh and Glasgow



An ongoing gangland war in Scotland has taken a dramatic turn, with a reputed crime figure known as Mr Big reportedly rejecting a proposed truce on the same day his associates launched a violent attack against a rival's property. This incident, emblematic of the escalating turf wars plaguing both Edinburgh and Glasgow, underscores the entrenched violence among organised crime groups in the region.

On Saturday, as tensions reached a boiling point, Steven ‘Bonzo’ Daniel attempted to broker peace between factions, contacting Mr Big directly. Unfortunately for Daniel, his overtures were met with derision. An underworld source revealed that Mr Big was unwilling to entertain any discussions, further entrenching the animosity that has marred Scotland's criminal landscape. The source indicated that the Daniel clan, who claim no involvement in the recent theft of cocaine from Mr Big, are seeking to distance themselves from the chaos. Yet, as rivalries heighten, their aspirations for a quiet existence appear increasingly untenable.

In a brazen act of aggression, this same day witnessed masked thugs associated with the Tamo Junto (TMJ) gang target a property linked to Edinburgh crime boss Mark Richardson. Eyewitness accounts described a scene of vandalism as the assailants smashed windows and forced their way inside, although fortunately, no injuries were reported. This incident feeds into a larger narrative of violence that has unfolded since a theft of cocaine – tied to Mr Big's operations in Dubai – was reported, igniting a feud that has seen firebombings and other violent retaliations across the two cities.

The origins of this gangland strife stem from a theft perpetrated by an associate of Richardson's, who reportedly deceived Mr Big during a drug transaction. According to the source, this betrayal has deeply humiliated Mr Big, prompting him to wage a relentless war against both the Daniels and Richardson's associate networks. “Mr Big won’t let this lie now and won’t tolerate being embarrassed,” mentioned the source, encapsulating the volatile sentiments of the underworld.

The TMJ group, which emerged on the back of this turmoil, has consolidated previously disparate criminal elements into a single force aimed at dismantling their rivals. This unification speaks to the broader shifts in Scottish organised crime, where rising tensions have led to the formation of new alliances driven by mutual enmity. With Mr Big previously operating as a solo entity, the emergence of TMJ highlights a strategic adaptation within the criminal ecosystem, creating newfound challenges for rival factions now under constant threat.

The police have responded to the escalating violence with concerted efforts, launching investigations and conducting raids aimed at curbing the mayhem. Police Scotland has already arrested 32 individuals believed to be tied to these conflicts, intensifying their operational focus on the rampant gang activity that has plagued multiple communities. A spokesperson declared, “We were made aware of entry being forced to a property in Edinburgh on Saturday,” while stressing ongoing inquiries into the violence.

This current gangland saga is not an isolated incident; broader disturbances have been noted in other parts of Scotland, particularly the Highlands. Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd has pointed to internal power struggles among drug dealers as the root cause of recent violence, emphasising that the unrest is confined largely within criminal circles rather than signalling an increase in drug trafficking or generalised societal violence.

As the police endeavor to restore order, the underlying issues plaguing Scotland's organised crime landscape remain complex and deeply rooted. In a world where gangland rivalries can escalate with swift brutality, the call for a truce may remain a distant, elusive hope amid the chaos.

The trends are troubling; the escalation of violence is a stark reminder of the ongoing battles within Scotland's underbelly, driven by avarice and the quest for power. As events unfold, it remains to be seen whether further attempts at negotiation will be made or if the cycle of violence will continue unabated.

### Reference Map

1. Core article on the gangland war and failed truce negotiation.
2. Context on police investigations into incidents linked to gang wars.
3. Insights into violence trends attributed to drug dealer conflicts in the Highlands.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

* <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/gangland-war-truce-rejected-mr-35206018> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/gangland-cops-probe-70-incidents-25298390> - This article discusses the extensive investigation by Police Scotland into over 70 incidents linked to the violent turf war between the Lyons and Daniel organised crime gangs. The operation, codenamed 'Operation Engagement,' has been ongoing for more than four years, focusing on a series of shootings, stabbings, and other violent acts. The piece highlights the challenges faced by law enforcement in addressing the deep-rooted conflicts within Glasgow's criminal underworld and the complexities involved in dismantling such organised crime groups.
* <https://www.johnogroat-journal.co.uk/news/drugs-turf-war-behind-rise-in-violence-in-highlands-says-to-337351/> - Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd of Police Scotland's Highland and Islands Division attributes recent violence in the Highlands to an internal power struggle among local drug dealers, rather than an influx of narcotics or traffickers. He reassures the public that the violence is largely contained within the local underworld and emphasizes that there is no evidence of a general upsurge in violence in the region.
* <https://www.inverness-courier.co.uk/news/drug-dealer-turf-war-blamed-for-violence-in-highlands-337293/> - The article reports on Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd's statement that recent violence in the Highlands is due to internal power struggles among local drug dealers, not an increase in narcotics or traffickers. He reassures the public that the violence is largely contained within the local underworld and emphasizes that there is no evidence of a general upsurge in violence in the region.
* <https://www.scottishlegal.com/articles/highland-gangland-boss-jailed-for-drugs-offences> - Ryan Ferguson, a Highland gangland boss, was sentenced to five years and eight months in prison after admitting to supplying cocaine, cannabis, and benzocaine. He had been involved in serious organised crime between June 2019 and September 2021, coordinating deliveries of controlled drugs and large sums of cash to the north of Scotland. The case highlights the ongoing efforts by law enforcement to tackle drug-related organised crime in the Highlands.
* <https://www.northern-times.co.uk/news/drug-dealer-turf-war-blamed-for-violence-in-the-highlands-337410/> - Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd of Police Scotland's Highland and Islands Division attributes recent violence in the Highlands to an internal power struggle among local drug dealers, rather than an influx of narcotics or traffickers. He reassures the public that the violence is largely contained within the local underworld and emphasizes that there is no evidence of a general upsurge in violence in the region.
* <https://verify365.app/money-laundering-scheme-linked-to-glasgow-gangland-figures/> - Gerard McTaggart, a 47-year-old plasterer, was sentenced to over four years in prison for his involvement in a money laundering operation connected to Glasgow’s criminal underworld. Between May and October 2019, he was observed delivering illicit cash to associates and family members linked to a notorious organised crime group operating in the city. This case underscores the ongoing efforts by law enforcement to dismantle high-ranking organised crime groups across Scotland.