# Man charged amid violent escalation in Edinburgh’s gangland war



A man has appeared in court following a series of violent incidents linked to Scotland's escalating gangland war. Fateen Ahmed, 22, from Edinburgh, was arrested on Wednesday after police executed a search warrant in the Gilmerton area. This action was prompted by the attack on a property located on Campion Road and Cumnor Crescent, an area situated near the family home of notorious mob boss Mark Richardson.

Ahmed faces multiple charges, including carrying an offensive weapon, culpable and reckless conduct, and malevolent destruction. He made no plea during his brief appearance at Edinburgh Sheriff Court and has been granted bail, with the date for his next court appearance yet to be confirmed. The violent altercation in question occurred at the weekend, involving masked individuals who were filmed breaking windows and forcibly entering the property.

The atmosphere surrounding this incident is particularly charged, as it is believed to be part of a larger conflict involving Richardson's rivals. Reports indicate that tension in Edinburgh's underworld intensified after a significant quantity of cocaine was stolen from a local crime figure, who remains unnamed for legal reasons. This event has been attributed as a catalyst for the ongoing feud involving Richardson’s associates, with the violence dramatically escalating over the past few months.

The background to Richardson's rise within organised crime is noteworthy. In December 2010, he received a 10-year sentence for orchestrating a major drug trafficking operation, which resulted in the seizure of over 40 kilograms of Class A drugs, valued at more than £2 million. This was pivotal in establishing his standing in Edinburgh’s criminal landscape. Today, he is serving time in HMP Low Moss while his family's safety remains a concern, as highlighted by the recent attack near his home.

The spate of violence is not isolated. Earlier in 2023, concerns were raised following a machete attack on another convicted dealer with links to Richardson, marking a potential resurgence of gang-related activities reminiscent of previous bloody feuds. In a similar vein, the Kinahan cartel has been identified as a significant outside threat, reportedly seeking to undermine Richardson's control over the drug trade in Scotland. This cartel's involvement complicates the already fraught dynamics of regional crime and highlights the international networks that often fuel local conflicts.

Detective Superintendent Paul Grainger has stated that police are actively pursuing leads and conducting further arrests in response to the rising incidents of violent disorder. He urged the public to come forward with any information, signalling that law enforcement are fully committed to quelling the violence permeating the streets of Edinburgh. With 33 arrests already made in connection to this investigation, authorities aim to dismantle the networks responsible for these gangland disputes.

As Edinburgh grapples with these violent clashes, the rivalry between Richardson's associates and competing factions like the Daniel clan continues to escalate, emphasising the pervasive nature of organised crime in the area and the urgent need for intervention.

### Reference Map

* Paragraph 1: [[1]](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/man-appears-court-after-home-35232965)
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* Paragraph 7: [[1]](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/man-appears-court-after-home-35232965)
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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/man-appears-court-after-home-35232965> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-10967359> - In December 2010, Mark Richardson, 23, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for leading a significant cocaine and heroin operation in Edinburgh. The investigation, spanning two years, resulted in the recovery of over 40 kilograms of Class A drugs, valued at more than £2 million. Lothian and Borders Police arrested 66 individuals during the operation, with 14 convicted and sentenced to a total of 44 years. Richardson was apprehended while preparing a large quantity of crack cocaine worth £700,000, marking one of Scotland's largest Class A drug seizures.
3. <https://www.edinburghlive.co.uk/news/edinburgh-news/machete-attack-edinburgh-drug-dealer-25936230> - In January 2023, a machete attack on convicted drug dealer Edmond Reid in Edinburgh's Inch area raised concerns about a potential resurgence of gang violence. Reid, 36, who has associations with cocaine kingpin Mark Richardson, was confronted by a masked assailant wielding a machete. Fortunately, Reid escaped injury due to the prompt intervention of nearby police officers. The incident echoed previous tensions between drug factions in Edinburgh, reminiscent of the 2019 murder of Bradley Welsh, a close associate of Richardson.
4. <https://www.sundayworld.com/crime/irish-crime/kinahan-cartel-fuelling-gangland-war-in-scotlands-underworld/a698857281.html> - In 2023, reports indicated that the Kinahan cartel was fueling a gangland war in Scotland's underworld, particularly targeting the empire of jailed kingpin Mark Richardson. Sources suggested that the cartel's Scottish associates, including Steven Lyons of the Lyons crime family, were linked to attacks on Richardson's operations. The Kinahans' extensive international connections were seen as a significant threat to Richardson's dominance in the Scottish drug trade, highlighting the complex dynamics of organized crime in the region.
5. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/crime/prison-feud-over-ex-girlfriend-12563898> - In 2018, a prison feud erupted between gangland killer James McDonald and drug baron Mark Richardson over allegations that Richardson attempted to woo McDonald's former girlfriend. McDonald, serving a minimum of 30 years for a gangland hit, warned Richardson he was a target behind bars. The dispute underscored the volatile relationships and rivalries within Scotland's criminal underworld, even among incarcerated individuals.
6. <https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/16220284.mark-richardson-jnr-jailed-leading-police-high-speed-car-chase-glasgow/> - In December 2016, Mark Richardson Jnr, a gangster on license from jail, led police on a high-speed car chase through Glasgow when they attempted to take him back into custody. The 31-year-old, who had been part of a major crime mob previously jailed for a total of 87 years, was eventually arrested after abandoning his vehicle and getting into another car. He was later sentenced to 18 months in prison for culpable and reckless conduct, adding to his previous convictions.
7. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/crime/notorious-gangland-hitmans-throat-slashed-12799734> - In 2018, notorious gangland hitman James McDonald was attacked in Glenochil Prison, sustaining a neck wound that required 30 stitches. The attack occurred weeks after McDonald allegedly threatened former associate Mark Richardson, who was serving an eight-year sentence at Saughton jail in Edinburgh. The incident highlighted the ongoing tensions and rivalries within Scotland's criminal underworld, even among incarcerated individuals.