# Young man critically injured after falling 40 feet at Edinburgh Sheriff Court



A man in his early twenties is recovering from serious injuries after a dramatic fall from the top floor of Edinburgh's Sheriff Court. The incident unfolded around 9:40 am as he reportedly climbed over a barrier on the sixth floor, plunging approximately 40 feet onto the marble floor below. Witness accounts describe the chaotic moments preceding the fall, providing chilling insights into the events as they unfolded.

One observer recalled hearing another person shout, “What are you doing?” moments before the man climbed over the barrier. “The next thing I knew, he just disappeared from view,” said the witness, who was on their way to the canteen. Following the fall, the scene was quickly filled with screams and panic, with several individuals rushing to the young man's aid. He is believed to have suffered two broken ankles and a fractured pelvis as a result of the harrowing descent.

Emergency services responded swiftly; two ambulances arrived on the scene to transport the injured man to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. The paramedics managed to administer care quickly, treating him within the court building before he was taken to hospital, where he reportedly remained conscious despite the severity of his injuries.

Another onlooker provided an account that adds a layer of distress to the incident. The witness noted seeing the man sitting calmly on a bench just moments before the fall. “He seemed to be mumbling to himself,” they observed, reflecting on the unpredictability of the situation. After the fall, they described a scene that might have been much worse, noting that he remarkably showed no external signs of bleeding, which could have indicated a much higher level of trauma.

As a result of the incident, the court experienced temporary closure to facilitate the emergency response. A spokesperson for the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service confirmed that access was granted to emergency services, allowing them to handle the immediate situation. The court resumed operations shortly before 11 am, indicating that the incident did not disrupt proceedings for long.

This particular occurrence follows a series of alarming incidents related to falls in public areas across Edinburgh. Just a few years ago, another case drew attention when a worker fell 14.7 feet at Fort Kinnaird Retail Park, resulting in life-changing injuries. Such events have underscored the importance of health and safety regulations, particularly in places where falls from height remain a persistent risk.

Furthermore, Edinburgh has seen incidents involving falls from greater heights, including a case where a man fell from a top-floor balcony at another sheriff court, resulting in his hospitalization. These incidents reveal a concerning pattern regarding safety within public spaces in the city, necessitating ongoing scrutiny and potential reforms to enhance safety measures.

As investigations into the latest fall progress, it remains essential to gather further insights into the circumstances that led to the young man’s harrowing plunge, as well as to consider preventative measures that might safeguard against similar tragedies in the future.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2. Paragraph 6
3. Paragraph 6
4. Paragraph 6

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/man-plunges-top-floor-edinburghs-35232134> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-37295743> - A flooring firm was fined £3,300 after a worker fell 14.7ft (4.5m) through a hole in a floor, sustaining life-changing injuries. The incident occurred at Fort Kinnaird Retail Park in Edinburgh, where the worker tripped and dislodged an unsecured wooden panel covering a void in the floor, landing on steel mesh grids. The company pleaded guilty to breaching health and safety regulations, highlighting the risks of falls from height in the construction industry.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-39787728> - A man was hospitalized after falling 20ft (6m) from a top-floor balcony inside Dumbarton Sheriff Court. The incident occurred in the foyer, and the man, believed to be in his 40s, was taken to the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Court staff and police officers provided first aid before paramedics arrived. An investigation into the circumstances was underway, with the man understood to be a member of the public.
4. <https://news.stv.tv/north/man-jumped-to-death-from-12th-floor-flat-to-escape-friend-after-days-of-torture> - A man was forced to jump to his death from a 12th-floor flat to escape a 'friend' who had spent two days torturing him. The court heard that the abuse inflicted on the victim was so severe that he had no other option but to jump out of the window. His lifeless body was found on the ground shortly afterward. The accused had a history of previous jail sentences for offenses.
5. <https://news.sky.com/story/man-27-charged-after-woman-falls-to-her-death-from-arthurs-seat-in-edinburgh-12399222> - A 27-year-old man was charged after a woman fell to her death from Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh. The woman, identified as Fawziyah Javed, 31, from West Yorkshire, fell from the landmark at around 9pm and died at the scene. The man was due to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court, and the incident was being treated as suspicious.
6. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cgev1zlxykno> - NHS Lothian was fined £220,000 for safety breaches after two patients died when they fell out of hospital windows in separate incidents. The Health and Safety Executive investigated the deaths of the men, aged 55 and 79, at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. The health board pleaded guilty to breaching the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and has taken actions to prevent similar incidents in the future.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-48581327> - A man fell from a window in Edinburgh, landing on a woman in the street below. The incident occurred at about 5pm on Sunday in Duke Street. Both individuals were taken to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, with the 55-year-old man in serious condition. The condition of the woman, in her 60s, was unknown. Police Scotland appealed for witnesses to the incident.