# Dunfermline police tackle violent disputes and mental health crises on challenging patrol night



On a Saturday night in Dunfermline, frontline police officers faced a series of challenging incidents that exemplified the pressures of modern policing. The Courier was granted exclusive access as Sergeant Fraser Simpson, along with other senior officers, led patrol teams tasked with ensuring safety from Aberdour to Kincardine, covering a significant stretch of south-west Fife.

The night commenced with an urgent call: a domestic dispute in Oakley had escalated, reportedly involving a man armed with both a baseball bat and a kitchen knife. The seriousness of the situation escalated the call to an "immediate," the highest priority level for police responses. As officers swiftly mobilised, coordinating with surrounding units, it highlighted the dynamic nature of police work, where a potentially violent situation can require rapid, coordinated action to secure public safety.

While the Oakley incident unfolded, police were also addressing a spate of anti-social behaviour linked to certain hot spots in Dunfermline. Recent weeks had seen an increase in wildfires at Calais Muir Wood, attributed to combustible rubbish being misappropriated from local businesses. Increased police patrols in the area demonstrate a proactive approach by the police, who liaised with business owners to mitigate further incidents. As Sergeant Simpson noted, these added measures have begun to show positive results in deterring the problematic behaviour.

A notable aspect of the night involved frequent checks on local institutions, such as the Dunfermline bus station, which has become a focal point for youth disorder. The commitment to maintaining a visible officer presence in the city centre, especially following recent assaults connected to local venues, reflects the police's priority to nip potential disturbances in the bud.

As patrols continued, another urgent call came through: a woman in a local park was threatening to take her own life. This incident illustrated the varied demands placed on officers, balancing immediate public safety concerns with mental health crises. The urgency of such calls underscores the complexities of police work, where officers often act as first responders in situations requiring empathy and sensitivity.

Throughout the night, the team also handled more peculiar instances, such as dealing with the strange discovery of an abandoned snake on a residential street, showcasing the unpredictability of a police officer's duties. Such events, while unusual, contribute to the diverse challenges faced by law enforcement.

By midnight, despite the completion of the Courier’s observation, the work for Dunfermline’s police officers was far from over. They remained on call for a litany of incidents, including missing persons reports and emergencies that arise with little warning, indicative of the ongoing need for community safety and support. The pressures faced by police in this Scottish town mirror broader trends seen in urban centres, where increasing demands on public services continue to test the resilience of local officers.

In the wider context, recent reports highlight a series of incidents within the region, with the police actively addressing dangerous behaviours such as reckless driving and anti-social activities related to substance misuse. The commitment of local law enforcement to adapt and respond to emerging challenges in Dunfermline is commendable, yet it raises questions about the support and resources necessary for officers to effectively carry out their essential roles in maintaining community safety.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5252628/exclusive-inside-look-at-dunfermline-police-patrol/), [[2]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/tag/police-scotland/page/34/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5252628/exclusive-inside-look-at-dunfermline-police-patrol/), [[3]](https://www.fifenewsonline.co.uk/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/driver-rushed-hospital-after-dunfermline-27475392), [[6]](https://www.ttspress.com/article/page/dailyrecord/news/scottish-news/scots-cops-find-massive-knife-27550838)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5252628/exclusive-inside-look-at-dunfermline-police-patrol/), [[5]](https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2025/may/appeal-following-incident-in-dunfermline/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5252628/exclusive-inside-look-at-dunfermline-police-patrol/), [[7]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-63042035)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5252628/exclusive-inside-look-at-dunfermline-police-patrol/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/tag/police-scotland/page/34/> - This page from The Courier provides the latest news on Police Scotland activities in Dundee, Fife, and Perth. It includes reports on various incidents, such as a woman charged after a car crashed into several parked vehicles in Dunfermline, a man reported missing from Perth, and a police investigation into an unexplained death at a Dundee industrial estate. The page also covers other local news, including a smoke bomb incident in Dunfermline high-rise flats and a disturbance in Dundee.
3. <https://www.fifenewsonline.co.uk/> - Fife News Online is a news platform covering events in the Kingdom of Fife. Recent articles include police appeals for information about wilful fire-raising in Kirkcaldy, NHS Fife's milestone of over half a million COVID-19 vaccinations, and Fife Council's commitment to welcoming Afghan refugees. The platform also reports on various local incidents, such as the discovery of human remains in Glenrothes and a fatal car crash on the A92.
4. <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/driver-rushed-hospital-after-dunfermline-27475392> - This article from the Daily Record reports on a car crash in Dunfermline city centre, where a woman was cut out of a vehicle following a two-car collision on Pittencrieff Street. Emergency services, including the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, responded to the scene. The incident occurred around 3.10pm, and the driver was rushed to the hospital. The article provides details of the crash and the emergency response.
5. <https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2025/may/appeal-following-incident-in-dunfermline/> - Police Scotland released an image of two men they wish to speak to following an incident in Dunfermline city centre on Sunday, 13 April 2025, around 2am in the High Street area. The men are described as white, in their early twenties, of average height, and slim to medium build. The police are appealing for the men themselves or anyone who may recognize them to get in touch. Contact details are provided for those with information.
6. <https://www.ttspress.com/article/page/dailyrecord/news/scottish-news/scots-cops-find-massive-knife-27550838> - This article from TTS Press reports on a police pursuit in Fife where officers rammed a suspected stolen vehicle off the road after it failed to stop. A large knife and a quantity of drugs were discovered inside the white VW Golf, which had been traveling at 111mph on the A92. Two men were arrested facing allegations of theft, road traffic offences, possession of an offensive weapon, and drugs offences. No injuries were reported following the collision.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-63042035> - The BBC reports on a fatal car crash on the A914 in Fife, where a 26-year-old woman died after a collision involving two cars. The incident occurred at about 3:50pm on Monday at Pickletillum, near Drumoig. Three other people received minor injuries in the collision. The woman's next of kin have been informed. Police are appealing for witnesses and dash cam footage to assist with their inquiries.