# Stratford police introduce 'sniffer cats' as an April Fool's joke



In an innovative announcement that has captured public attention, the Stratford Safer Neighbourhood Team in Warwickshire has introduced a novel concept: ‘sniffer cats’. On April 1, the police team unveiled their two new recruits, Police Feline Maui and Police Feline Dinkles, as part of what they claim to be a UK first in law enforcement.

Funding for this pilot project has been secured from the government, with the goal of transitioning from traditional police dogs to felines that are perceived as friendlier and less confrontational. In their post on the Stratford team police page, the police emphasised that the introduction of these cats aims to enhance engagement with the community. The post read, "The aim is to move away from police dogs to a friendlier and less confrontational police felines with a view to rolling it out in all police forces across the country."

One of the unique advantages highlighted is the cats' ability to access hard-to-reach areas that might pose challenges for dogs. Additionally, the officers noted the perceived higher intelligence levels of cats compared to their canine counterparts.

While the announcement was presented with a serious tone, it quickly became clear that the post was intended as an April Fool’s joke, eliciting a wave of humorous responses from the public on social media. One commenter noted, "It’s a brilliant idea—instead of biting and grounding the suspect they can sneer with total disdain and disappointment." Another follower playfully remarked, “Sniffer cats,” while others pointed out the joke by exclaiming, “Happy April Fool."

The light-hearted move by the Stratford team has demonstrated their commitment to engaging with the community in a creative way, even if it was all in good fun.

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

## References

* <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/area/your-area/warwickshire/stratford-on-avon-district/stratford-town/stations-contact-points-and-offices/our-priorities> - This URL provides information about the Stratford Town area, the Safer Neighbourhood Team, and policing priorities in Warwickshire. However, it does not specifically mention 'sniffer cats,' indicating that the statement about 'sniffer cats' is not supported by official police sources.
* <https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/met/newham/stratford/> - This link discusses the Metropolitan Police's efforts in Stratford, Newham, without mentioning 'sniffer cats.' It highlights community policing but does not support the claim about using cats.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source, mentioned in the article as 'Noah Wire Services,' might contain details about the 'sniffer cats' announcement, but without specific content or a direct URL to the relevant article, it serves more as a placeholder than a validating link.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/492eca/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/evidence/evidbb.pdf> - This URL discusses legal aspects of evidence, including authentication and admissibility, which does not relate directly to the 'sniffer cats' or law enforcement in the UK.
* <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/> - The Warwickshire Police website does not provide specific information about using cats in policing. It offers general information on policing and the area of Stratford-upon-Avon.