



Community Safety



Media Monitor

Community Safety Stories in the Media November 2020

Domestic/Gender Based Violence

Urgent change needed to stem femicides, says new domestic abuse tsar

The first commissioner for domestic abuse for England and Wales, who will have significant powers once the domestic abuse bill becomes law early next year, has [committed to working closely with the campaign to tackle femicide](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/nov/29/urgent-change-needed-to-stem-femicides-says-new-domestic-abuse-tsar) – the killing of women at the hands of men. - <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/nov/29/urgent-change-needed-to-stem-femicides-says-new-domestic-abuse-tsar>

One in five crimes involved domestic abuse during Covid lockdown

The first national lockdown saw a spike in [domestic abuse](https://www.itv.com/news/2020-11-25/one-in-five-crimes-involved-domestic-abuse-during-covid-lockdown) cases in England and Wales, new figures have shown, with one in five offences recorded by police related to domestic violence.

More than a quarter of a million crimes were flagged as domestic abuse-related between March and June, the Office for National Statistics (ONS). - <https://www.itv.com/news/2020-11-25/one-in-five-crimes-involved-domestic-abuse-during-covid-lockdown>

Police report reveals rise in crime across Edinburgh under lockdown

New figures show domestic abuse, sexual crimes, drug-related crime, and anti-social behaviour has skyrocketed in Edinburgh during the coronavirus pandemic, while the recorded number of violent crimes, hate crimes, house-breakings and thefts has decreased. - <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/crime/shocking-police-report-reveals-rise-crime-across-edinburgh-under-lockdown-3049999>

Lack of social housing harming domestic abuse survivors, says homelessness charity

The lack of social housing is preventing people from leaving abusive partners, Shelter Scotland has warned.

Between April 2019 and March 2020, 4,832 homelessness applications were made to local authorities where domestic abuse was given as a reason for leaving their old address. One survivor of domestic abuse has said she felt forced to go back to her ex-partner after being sent to a hostel. - <https://www.holyrood.com/news/view,lack-of-social-housing-harming-domestic-abuse-survivors-says-homelessness-charity>

Elder Abuse

One in five older people in the UK have been abused, poll finds

Abuse of older people is at “unprecedented levels” according to a leading charity.

Hourglass, formerly Action on Elder Abuse, said polling that it had commissioned suggested as many as one in five people in the UK over the age of 65 have been abused. The charity calculates that this equates to 2.7 million victims across the UK. Previous estimates have put the figure significantly lower. The [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int/) estimates that – globally – one in six people aged 60 and older experienced some form of abuse in the last year.

- <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/nov/29/one-in-five-older-people-in-the-uk-have-been-abused-poll-finds>

Road Safety

A82 public consultation aims to reduce accidents

It is one of the most scenic roads in Scotland but is also one of the most dangerous due to the layout and high volumes of traffic, especially at the height of the summer tourist season.

Now a motoring expert has said that more use of two plus one overtaking lanes and raising the speed limit for HGVs could help cut accidents on the notorious A82 which links Glasgow and Inverness. - <https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18898374.a82-public-consultation-aims-reduce-accidents/>

'Shocking' rise in drivers caught speeding during lockdown

New government data shows a “shocking” rise in the proportion of people speeding during the first lockdown.

In the second quarter of 2020, 53 percent of cars exceeded the speed limit on [motorways](https://www.motorways.com/), compared with 52 percent in the equivalent period of 2019. On National Speed Limit (NSL) single carriageways, 17 percent exceeded the limit in Q2, compared with 10 percent in Q2 2019. On 30mph roads, the figures were 63 percent and 56 percent respectively. - <https://www.motoringresearch.com/car-news/shocking-rise-drivers-speeding-lockdown/>

Online Safety

Can the law stop the internet bots from undressing you?

Imagine that you upload a photograph of yourself on holiday to your favourite social media platform. You are dressed in a swimsuit and you are smiling at the camera. Now imagine later coming across this image while scrolling through your newsfeed. - <https://theconversation.com/can-the-law-stop-internet-bots-from-undressing-you-149056>

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