



## PRESS RELEASE

### SAFER STREETS

Police in Dumfries and Galloway had a busier than usual weekend in relation to alcohol related anti social behaviour and incidents. Over Friday and Saturday nights the force locked up some 40 people. Not all were kept in custody however. On Monday morning 12 people were still in custody at Stranraer waiting to appear at court and 12 were in custody at Dumfries awaiting court appearances. Cases ranged from drink driving, breach of the peace and assaults right through to being drunk and incapable. Others were released to be reported by summons. Over and above this a number of Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for offences of a minor nature. Superintendent Galloway, Divisional Commander for the Dumfries Division said "We were aware that this weekend was likely to be busy for us and we deployed extra resources to cope with this. The majority of the incidents we were called to and dealt with had a direct link with people taking too much alcohol. This ended up in them either spoiling the evening for themselves, or for someone else. Either way many of the cases we came across could have been avoided by responsible drinking behaviour by people. The festive period has a long way to go yet and we will keep up our strategy of dealing firmly with those who drink to excess and cause a nuisance".

Superintendent Small, Divisional Commander for the Galloway Division echoed the comments of Superintendent Galloway, adding, "the Galloway Division, and Stranraer and Newton Stewart in particular saw some quite violent behaviour from people who had clearly too much to drink. This type of behaviour will not be tolerated and people should understand that they will not be allowed to spoil the fun of others and that firm action will be taken in each and every case".

Operation Safer Streets will continue right through the festive period, and runs along side the drink driving campaign. Police patrols will target areas where information and intelligence indicate that problems will occur.

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