



Community Council Report

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the Kincardine and Mearns Community Council area during the period 1st to 31st July 2018.

The report aims to highlight emerging issues in your area, and to provide crime prevention advice and guidance to Community Council members and residents you represent. Our focus is to reduce crime and disorder, help create safer communities and respond effectively to local concerns.

Community Policing Priorities

Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder:

POLICING OPERATION

Operation BAYSWATER is the overarching operation intended to combat anti-social behaviour. This continual commitment to keeping people safe sees the deployment of officers carrying out directed patrols to identify offenders and local hotspots in a bid to proactively deter and disrupt anti-social behavior in all its forms.

The latest strand of Operation BAYSWATER will commence on Monday 16 July and will run continuously until Monday 20 August 2018. These dates coincide with Aberdeenshire School Summer Holidays. This strand of BAYSWATER will see officers work collectively to ensure that the latest intelligence and local knowledge are combined.

Officers from the Special Constables Task Force will also be utilised.

INTENTION OF OPERATION

- Prevention of anti - social behaviour
- Proactively carry out intelligence led directed patrols
- Highlight youth offending at the earliest opportunity and ensure early intervention.
- Enforcing organisational commitment to reducing anti - social behaviour and providing public reassurance through media release.

Tackling anti-social behaviour is a priority and this type of crime will not be tolerated in any form. Officers will take robust action on each occasion and proactively deal with offenders. There is a presumption that, where evidence relating to offending exists offenders will be apprehended, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal/Children's reporter as a matter of urgency.

Daily patrols consist of both uniform and plain clothes patrols.

Campfires have been identified as a problem within several areas in Stonehaven and as a result of information received from the community the designated patrols will concentrate within;

- Mineralwell Park
- Woods below Gallows Hill
- Waterfront in several places at Carron Den and
- Dunnottar woods

This is needless damage to public property and there is an obvious potential risk of harm to those involved in setting the fires. As a result of positive patrolling so far 2 Fire-raising have been recorded and enquiry is ongoing.

Communities are asked to inform Police of any instances of ongoing Anti-social behaviour particularly relating to Youth annoyance in support of Operation Bayswater during the school holidays.

There have been 11 assaults this reporting period, which is an increase of 3 from last month. Of those crimes reported 10 are detected and various reports will be submitted to both Procurator and Youth Justice Management where relevant. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the named suspect for the outstanding crime. None of the reported assault were serious in nature.

On 29 July a 73 year old female had her purse forcibly removed from her person after taking money out of the cash machine in Market Square, Stonehaven. Thankfully this type of crime is unusual for Kincardine and Mearns area and following extensive enquiry and specific assistance from the local business community the male responsible was identified. He has been charged with robbery and appeared at court from custody.

Acquisitive Crime:

There have been 21 recorded thefts in the Kincardine and Mearns area. This is an increase of 6 since the last report. 7 are detected and the remaining have ongoing enquiries and include theft of a garden bench, a car and fishing rods.

There have been no Housebreakings in the Kincardine and Mearns area again this month.

CRIME REDUCTION ADVICE

PC Kev Marron of the Crime Reduction Team advises;

I always go on about how we live in a low crime area and I, along with the dedicated local Community Policing Team, are committed that this trend continues in Kincardine and The Mearns. But we cannot achieve this on our own. We need assistance from the people who live and work in our community. We need assistance from YOU!

Perhaps because Kincardine and The Mearns is a low crime area I think often complacency creeps in and the residents in our communities feel that they can leave their garages, sheds, cars and even their homes insecure. Often items within their garden are left insecure. I want to alert not alarm. Although crime is low we have to take basic precautions to ensure we continue to enjoy the high quality of life we have been accustomed to in Kincardine and The Mearns.

When you leave your garage, shed or outbuilding make sure they are locked. This is also applicable to your home and vehicle. Alarms from about £5 can be installed as a cost effective but VERY efficient way of alarming a garage, shed or outbuilding. Driveway/passage alarms which activate in your home if any person(s) pass by them can be bought and easily installed from as little as £15.

And let us not forget the old chestnuts. Ensure you have effective lighting around your home, vehicle, garden, garage, shed and outbuilding. Installing a PIR movement detection light with built in CCTV cameras offers very low cost CCTV and effective lighting. The unit has built in recording equipment so there is no need to purchase a recorder.

and:

- Don't leave valuables in your car
- Don't leave valuable items in your garden insecure. Don't leave garden tools lying, ladders, etc. around for a thief to use to overcome the security of your door or windows.
- When enjoying the summer sun in your rear garden remember to lock your front door.
- Don't leave garages, sheds and outbuilding doors open so people can see the contents.
- Keep gates closed and, if appropriate, install and use padlocks on rear gates.
- Don't leave windows open if you are going out.
- Use house alarms.
- When going on holiday make your home look occupied while you are away. Consider getting a neighbour to "open up" and "close down" your home on a daily basis. Use timer devices and tilt blinds so houses look occupied but there is no direct line of sight into your home.
- Get a neighbour to check your home on a daily basis and get them to remove built up post especially if it can be seen from outside the house via glass panels.

- Consider using the Royal Mail's Keepsafe service where postal items can be held for up to 66 days.
- Remember to cancel the milk and papers.
- Do not announce you are going on holiday on social media sites. In general, be careful who you tell you are going away and certainly be careful regarding dates and travel plans.
- The summer is also the time where doorstep crime is more prevalent. Don't feel pressured into agreeing to immediate work. Don't agree to use the first person who calls. Is the work really necessary? Don't pay cash up front. Do shop around if you need work done. Legitimate companies will provide details of your cancellation rights. If the quote is cheap, there is usually a good reason - the work is often sub-standard and what looks like a good deal could cost you a lot more in the long term.
- Consider contacting Trading Standards to assist you in setting up a "No Cold Calling Zone" in your area.
- Consider contacting watch@absafe.org.uk for assistance in setting up a Neighbourhood Watch.
- Report anything suspicious.
- Look out for the vulnerable residents in your community.

And finally, types of crimes are changing. Fraud, eCrime, scams, hoaxes - call it what you will are on the rise throughout the nation. These type of crimes knows no boundaries. In simple terms to protect yourself, don't give personal details over the telephone to anyone who has called you. Anyone. People are still giving out details to their "banks", "computer provider" "etc." Just don't. The caller may try and panic you with time constraints, threats of arrests but just simply hang up the telephone and telephone Police Scotland for advice. So in summary, STOP. PAUSE. THINK. HANG UP.

If you want more advice about security please do not hesitate to contact PC Kev Morran at Stonehaven Police Office.

Road Safety & road crime:

As part of ongoing initiative to increase road safety, Downies Road Portlethen has been identified as an issue. I would encourage anyone with information which could help us identify which vehicles or drivers are involved to feed this into us via the local CPT inbox identified below.

The results of a Traffic Survey Sign that was installed on Blackiemuir Avenue, Laurencekirk between Monday 25th June and Friday 29th June 2018, recording data of vehicles travelling west has now been analysed. From this, it has been established that about 1 in 5 of the vehicles recorded, between the hours of 0600hrs and 1800hrs were travelling above the specified speed limit. That said, of all the vehicles recorded, the average speed travelled was 24mph.

Roads Policing Officers have been tasked with attending and carrying out static speed checks at peak times of the day, duties depending and also highlighted the findings to our Local Community Policing Team. Similarly, we will work with our partners in

education to continue to highlight the road safety message that we provide in pre-school, Primary and Secondary schools across the region.

In addition to the above, as has been done in several local communities throughout the North East, local Community Groups have been keen to fund their own 'speed sign' which can be installed and data captured in areas perceived to be a local problem spot. These have traditionally been funded by the community and installed, data captured and interpreted by Police.

Community Engagement & Reassurance

This month officers within the Kincardine and Mearns Community Policing Team have carried out an operation targeting offenders wanted on warrants.

The seven day operation carried out between July 10th and 17th targeted offenders currently evading the justice system.

A total of 9 warrants were cleared during the operation and those apprehended had been convicted for various offences including violence and dishonesties.

Contact Us

Please also remember you can communicate with us using any of the following:

- 📞 101 – Non emergency;
- 📧 E-mail - StonehavenLowerDeesideCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
- 🐦 Twitter - @NorthEPolice
- 📘 Facebook – www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision
- 🌐 Web – www.scotland.police.uk
- 📞 999 – Emergency;
- 📞 0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers;

Sheila McDerment
Inspector
Kincardine and Mearns Community Policing Team