

**Community Council Report**

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the Inverurie Community Council area during the period 16 July to 20 August 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:**

5 individuals were charged with possession of a controlled drug and one further with being concerned in the supply of a controlled drug as the result of the execution of a drug search warrant in Inverurie.

Operation Bayswater continued this month with a further 9 early interventions carried out with youths involved in disorder. Further patrols will be carried out during the entirety of the summer holidays of the hot spot areas of Inverurie.

Operation Pine patrols were carries out where Criminal Justice Social Workers worked with officers during a Saturday late shift in Inverurie. These have helped to keep the levels of violent crime involving the licenced premises within Inverurie particularly low this month.

**Acquisitive Crime:**

A male was charged with 2 minor shoplifitngs from Co-cop on North Street, Inverurie.

A number of fuel drive-offs occurred in Inverurie during this review period, whilst these can often be genuine mistakes, these incident have been deliberate acts and are still under investigation.

Operation Magpie is a fore wide operation aimed at combating the threat posed by Acquisitive Crime through the division. This Divisional wide Strategy will involve the promotion of our Crime Prevention message, coordination of intelligence gathering, targeting of offenders and locations, and providing a visible Police presence in affected locations. We will continue to proactively heighten public awareness to reduce the risk of our communities becoming victims of Acquisitive Crime, and use local Police Officers and other specialists to target repeat offenders.

**Road Safety & road crime:**

During this reporting period, a number of fixed penalties were issued for no seatbelt, using a mobile phone and speeding. A motorist was charged with Dangerous driving after being stopped doing 114mph on the A96.

The Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce) Strategy, which was initiated in Aberdeenshire, is now a pan Divisional approach to Road Safety.

Along with key partners in Aberdeenshire we will continue to be a stakeholder in the newly formed North East Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy Group which strives to deliver improved outcomes for Road Safety throughout Grampian.

We will maintain a highly visible Police presence on key routes throughout Aberdeenshire, including the A90 and the A96, to influence driver behaviour.

**Community Engagement & Reassurance**

Anyone can be a victim of a bogus caller or rogue trader – so don’t let your doorstep be their marketplace.

That’s the message to every single homeowner and tenant in Scotland as Police Scotland launches a campaign to raise awareness under Operation Monarda.

Between April and September 2017, 336 victims of doorstep crime were defrauded out of around £420,000 across Scotland.  While most victims were considered vulnerable in some way (54%), or were of pensionable age (79%), a significant proportion were out with these groups which are traditionally targeted by such offenders.

Bogus callers will visit a property claiming to be from perhaps a utility company or a charity in order to gain access and steal from within.

Rogue traders offer services typically carried out to a poor standard at over inflated prices, and may use violence or threats to get payment or consent to carry out work – sometimes they will just take the money and do no work whatsoever.

During the campaign Police Officers in the North-east and across Scotland will be running events and stalls to speak to the public at key locations such as banks, garden centres and supermarkets, as well as events giving advice to partner organisations and their clients such as care providers, groups that support those with dementia, and Citizens Advice Scotland.

Community Councils can also help by taking the opportunity to speak with those residents within communities, particularly the elderly and those who may be vulnerable to this type of crime and highlight the dangers associated with bogus callers or rogue traders.  If in any doubt, just say no thanks and hang up or close the door.  Never give out personal details or banking information or agree to purchase items, irrespective how convincing the scam may be.

**Rural Watch Scotland**

'Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland movement and endorsed by  the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and is aimed specifically at the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to all rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

Rural watch is an online community for any member of the public where appeals, crime prevention tips and safety alerts can be posted by those who subscribe which can be viewed by all members. Subscription is free and the sharing of information on the forum is a great example of real time crime prevention in action.

The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

* Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time.
* Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community.
* Improve community cohesion and well-being by supporting communities to develop 'their watch, their way'.
* Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional or unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather.

The experience of Neighbourhood Watch throughout Scotland and elsewhere across the world is that members of Rural Watch Scotland will be less likely than non-members in the rural community to be a victim of crime.

By joining the Rural Watch Scotland scheme members can receive alerts and advice by phone, text or email. By keeping members informed about crime and other threats in specific areas, Rural Watch Scotland can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and members responses to these alerts can help catch criminals or be better prepared to deal with other threats to communities. To join Rural Watch Scotland simply:

Log onto [www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk](http://www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk)

Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.

Follow the on screen instructions.

**Contact Us**

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

* **** 101 – Non emergency;
* **** Twitter - @NorthEPolice
* **** Facebook – [www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision](http://www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision)
* **** Web – [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk/)
* **** 999 – Emergency;
* **** 0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers;

Darren Bruce

Inspector

Inverurie Community Policing Team