

Community Council Report

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the Banff and District Community Council area during the period 01 July 2018 to 31 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:

There have been 6 assaults this reporting period which is a reduction on the previous reporting period. Reports have been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal in relation to three of these cases, and enquiries are ongoing in relation to the remaining three.

Acquisitive Crime:

There have been 11 Thefts in the Banff CPT area. These have been a mixture of shopliftings and from other commercial premises. All opportunities to discuss and implement Crime Prevention strategies are being taken. One male has been reported to the PF regarding a Theft by Shoplifting. The burger van in MacDuff has been targeted on three occasions. This investigation has been allocated to the local Pro-active team, and they are following a positive line of enquiry.

Road Safety & road crime:

Banff CPT continues to focus on the anti- social driving issues which primarily impact on the town centre of Banff, and specifically St Mary's car park.

On 6th and 7th of July 2018, an Op Cedar initiative was carried out. This focused on targeting anti-social driving in Banff; Portsoy and Aberchirder.

The following enforcement action was taken -

- 1 x speeder - 79pmh in 60 zone - Ladysbridge
- 2 x No Tax
- 2 x Conditional Offers
- 4 x tickets issued under the Vehicle Rectification Scheme
- At least 6 drivers educated with regards to their manner of driving.

Outwith these specific operations, Road Traffic matters continue to be the focus of Police activity. One person has been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol (Portsoy) and one driving whilst driving under the influence of drugs

(MacDuff). One person has been charged in relation to Careless Driving (King Edward) and two further individuals are under investigation for same (Portsoy and Aberchirder). There have been a number of people charged in relation to driving without insurance and with Construction and Use offences such as Dangerous Load and a Vehicle in a Dangerous Condition. One person has been charged with Taking and Driving Away a vehicle without permission (MacDuff) and one in relation to driving without L plates (Banff).

A number of 'Fair Warning' letters have been issued to drivers where anti-social driving is identified, but falls short of criminality or where evidence is lacking with which to charge the individual but anti-social driving is suspected. Members of the public are encouraged to report driving which falls below a reasonable standard to the Police.

Community Engagement & Reassurance

Police Scotland is aware of a Bitcoin email scam currently being circulated in the North East which is causing concern for those who receive it.

The email sent to victims contains their own password in an attempt to trick them into believing they have been filmed on their computer watching pornography and demanding payment in bitcoin.

It is widely believed that the fraudsters may have gained victim's passwords from an old data breach and they are using this information to contact people and coerce them into paying money under the pretence of avoiding embarrassment.

This email is a complete scam and the best advice is to report the details to Action Fraud and then click DELETE. If however, you have paid any money to fraudsters please contact Police Scotland to report the fraud.

If the password quoted to you is one that you still use on social media or commercial sites then it would be advisable to use this opportunity to change your passwords.

Don't reply to the email and never pay any money.

Action Fraud circulated details of this particular fraud in the middle of July 2018. Their website is a useful source of information about current scams and how to protect yourself from this type of crime.

Thankfully we have not received any reports of people paying money however if anyone has paid money I would ask them to get in touch with Police Scotland on 101 to report it.

Fraudsters prey on the insecurity of the victims to pay. On this occasion the best way to stand up to these fraudsters is to ignore it and press delete.

For further advice on preventing fraud, see the Police Scotland website or Action Fraud's website at www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Contact Us

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

-  101 – Non emergency;
-  Email - BanffDistrictCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
-  Twitter - @NorthEPolice
-  Facebook – www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision
-  Web – www.scotland.police.uk
-  999 – Emergency;
-  0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers;

Sergeant Caroline Gray
Banff and Buchan West Community Policing Team
Date: 31 July 2018