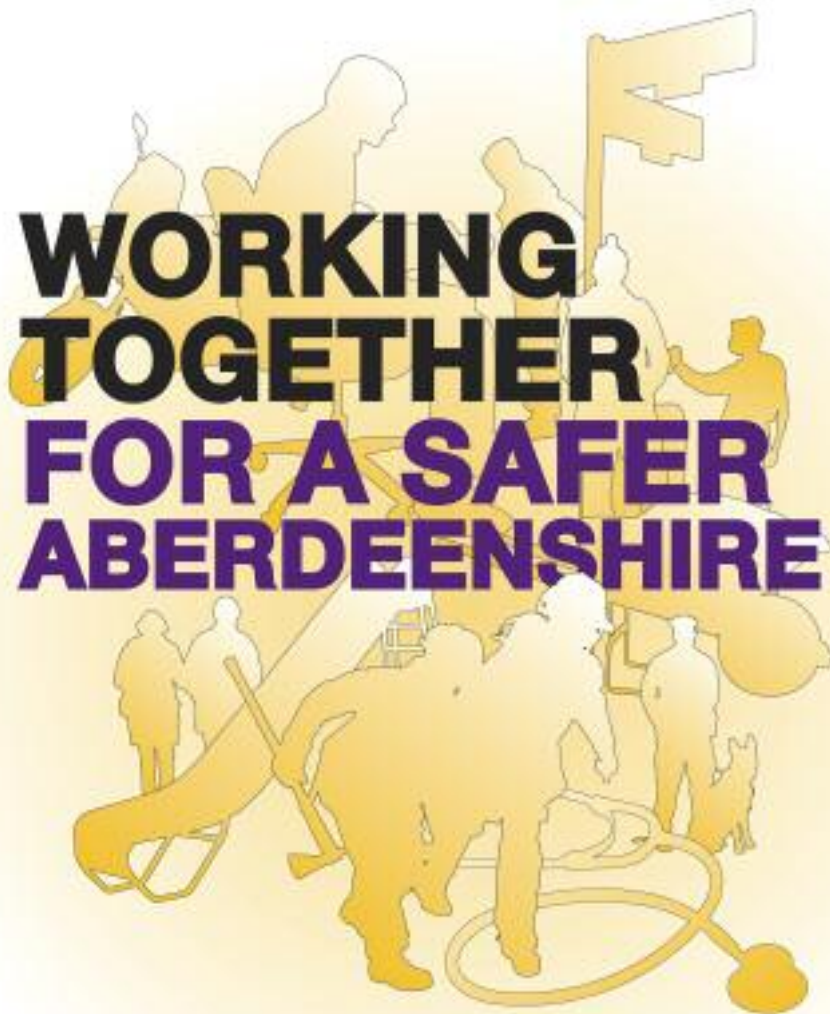




Aberdeenshire Community Safety Booklet 2008



Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership

Working together for the best quality of life for people in Aberdeenshire by making it safer for all those living in, working in or visiting the area.



www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Aberdeenshire Community Safety Booklet, which has been produced in association with the Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership.

Aberdeenshire is fortunate in being recognised in the Quality of Life Survey 2007 as the safest place in Scotland in which to live, work and visit, enjoying high prosperity, good local facilities and a low crime rate.

It is important, therefore, that we work to maintain and enhance our reputation as being a safe place by listening and responding to local concerns and by working together towards solving community safety problems. Community Safety is an essential element of the well-being theme in the Aberdeenshire Community Plan. One of the aims of this booklet is to raise the level of awareness about some of the community safety issues in Aberdeenshire, and to provide information about services that are available to make things better. Preventing crime and antisocial behaviour is everyone's responsibility. This booklet contains advice and information, along with useful telephone numbers.

I hope you find the information useful and would urge you to keep it for future reference.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved in Community Safety work and the advertisers for supporting the publication of this booklet.

William Munro (Chair)
Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership

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COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership has been working together for almost ten years to make Aberdeenshire a safer place for everyone living in, working in or visiting the area.

To achieve this goal the partnership has grown to include public organisations, the private sector and voluntary bodies. Aberdeenshire Council, Grampian Police, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Grampian, Council of Voluntary Service, Community Groups are all very active within the partnership. Also involved are Crimestoppers, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, British Transport Police to name just some.

The Partnership's success has been well documented and is based on the efficient joint working of agencies and community representatives and we hope that the strong partnership we have developed will continue to improve the quality of life by making Aberdeenshire a safer place for everyone living in, working in or visiting the area.

Over the last three years, the partnership has been working to strategic priorities which were identified after wide consultation with the people of Aberdeenshire, public organisations, voluntary organisations and the private sector and analysis of data relating to Community Safety. Data from these partners was analysed and the community safety priorities were decided upon.

These are:

- Vandalism.
- Community Safety problems arising from Substance/Alcohol misuse.
- Road Safety for Young Drivers.

These priorities have been our main focus for the past three years. As Scottish Government funding arrangements have changed we can now broaden our involvement. It is likely that our priorities will remain similar but that other important areas such as Hate Crime, Domestic Violence and other local identified priorities will have resources dedicated to them in order to try and address these important issues.

The partnership has been very active throughout all areas of Aberdeenshire. Some projects we have helped to fund and support are:

The Making A Difference (MAD) project, which originated in Ellon, brings young people, youth development workers and other partners together to reduce alcohol misuse, binge drinking and antisocial behaviour.

Are you a victim of antisocial behaviour?

We are here to help!

As Registered Social Landlords, the Associations have established ways in which our staff will work with you to reduce problems caused by antisocial tenants.

We have links with the Local Authorities and the Police if persistent problems need to be taken to court.

Don't suffer in silence, give your Housing Association a call and let us help.



Tenants First
23 Albert Street,
Aberdeen,
AB25 1XX.
Tel: 01224 628400
Email: info@tenantsfirst.com



Aberdeenshire Housing Partnership
Unit 8,
Netherton Business Centre,
Kemnay,
Inverurie,
Aberdeenshire,
AB51 5LX.
Tel: 01467 641200
Email: enquiries@a-h-p.org.uk



Grampian Housing Association
Huntly House, 74 Huntly Street,
Aberdeen, AB10 1TD.
Tel: 01224 202900
Email: info@grampianhousing.co.uk



Castlehill Housing Association
4 Carden Place,
Aberdeen,
AB10 1UT.
Tel: 01224 625822
Email: info@castlehillha.co.uk



Langstane
Aberdeen Office,
680 King Street,
Aberdeen,
AB24 1SL.
Tel: 01224 423000
Email: info@langstane-ha.co.uk

The funding of MAD has resourced events, activities, training, workshops and one-to-one work. Funding has also been used to compile a toolkit for use elsewhere and has made a major contribution to helping young people make good choices which mean they avoid substance and alcohol misuse.

Road Safety for young drivers has been an extremely important area of work for the partnership. We have built upon the success of the Safe Drive Stay Alive project and the feedback from the events in November each year has been unprecedented. School pupils from across the area, as well as individual visitors to the events have commented on the quality of the presentation as well as the positive impact on those attending. Safe Drive Stay Alive won the Prince Michael International Road Safety Award for Young Drivers in 2007.



Grampian Fire and Rescue Service

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service is committed to Community Safety and has initiated a number of safety programmes in partnership with many other agencies. The Service is taking a prominent role in developing fire safety initiatives throughout Aberdeenshire.

Home Fire Safety Visit

Every year Grampian Fire and Rescue Service deal with approximately 827 fires in the home, of which 122 result in injury or death. Smoke alarms are the first line of defence against fire. They are designed to detect fire in its early stages and can give you those precious few moments to get out safely.

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service can provide a free home fire safety check. This safety check is carried out by officers from a local fire station, and will take approximately 20 minutes. They will look at all areas of fire risk within your home, fit smoke alarms where necessary and advise you on their maintenance. They will also give advice and information on how to stay safe from fire, including kitchen hazards, safe disposal of smoking materials, candles, heaters, electric blankets and the points to consider when making a home fire escape plan. Visit them at their website at www.grampianfrs.org.uk for more information

A number of actions have been taken to address alcohol related problems, including initiatives to alter drinking environments and promote safer drinking by the Aberdeenshire Alcohol Drugs Action Team (AADAT). One way of doing this is to enlist the help of licensed trade staff in preventing or limiting intoxication and to manage drinking environments in such a way as to minimise alcohol-related harm. We will continue to support evidence based targeted initiatives to have a positive impact in this problem area.

Community Safety Groups

The partnership has also helped develop seven Community Safety Groups led by local residents who are encouraged to assist and support all the partners and agencies by helping to address local issues and problems related to the strategic priorities.

Banff and District

The Banff and District Community Safety Group supports projects which enhance the social responsibility of young people, such as:

- After school activities to discourage antisocial behaviour and alcohol and substance misuse,
- Safe driving schemes, such as Driving Ambition, and
- Crime prevention, such as Pubwatch and Shop watch.

They have also funded smart mousemats with contact details of the local emergency services. Grampian Police, Crimestoppers, Grampian Fire & Rescue Service and the Maritime & Coastguard Agency have all supplied their details. The mousemats also include the Community Safety Logo and web site details and features an image of Banff Bridge. 500 mousemats will be distributed to local businesses and to Banff Academy. They continue to support the Friday Night Team providing constructive and entertaining activities for teenagers on Friday nights and have also provided funds for a Peer Educators event for graduating Primary School pupils.

Buchan

The Buchan Community Safety Group has supported the Urban Rodeo which is a short play looking at Road Safety for older road users offering 45 minutes of fun and laughter in order to learn about road safety. The production was presented by the Baldy Bane Theatre Group, and highlighted the problem of every motorist's worst nightmare - the backseat driver. Specifically targeted at road users aged 55 years and over, the play, which is supported by Road Safety Scotland, is designed to raise awareness of issues affecting drivers and pedestrians, as they grow older. 17 smoke alarms have also been provided for the hard of hearing. The alarms have a smoke detector which is connected to a plastic disk which fits under a pillow. During the night, the disk vibrates to warn the individual if and when smoke is detected. During the day, the smoke alarm sets off a bright strobe light in the living area to provide the warning.



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?


Almost every community in Aberdeenshire is served by a Retained Fire Station.

Retained Firefighters are often described as part-time which is not really the case, they are in fact Firefighters who live and work in the community and respond from their normal work, business or domestic activities to attend a wide range of emergency incidents occurring at any time of the day or night. They are alerted by radio pager and respond to the station to crew the fire appliances that attend the emergency incidents.

The Aberdeenshire Council area of Grampian Fire and Rescue Service is protected by 24 Retained Fire Stations in the following locations.

■ Aberchirder	■ Ellon	■ Macduff
■ Aboyne	■ Fraserburgh	■ Maud
■ Alford	■ Huntly	■ Oldmeldrum
■ Ballater	■ Inch	■ Peterhead
■ Balmoral	■ Inverbervie	■ Portsoy
■ Banchory	■ Inverurie	■ Stonehaven
■ Banff	■ Kintore	■ Strathdon
■ Braemar	■ Laurencekirk	■ Turriff

We need dedicated individuals who live and/or work within a reasonable distance of any of these communities. If you think you have what it takes to be a Firefighter on the Retained Duty System then contact the Recruitment Hotline (24 hours), on **01224 788700** for an application form. Alternatively you can contact our Personnel Dept on **01224 696666** between 8.30am & 4.30pm, Monday-Friday, for more information on recruitment needs in your area. An application pack can also be downloaded at www.grampianfrs.org.uk

 Stonewall
DIVERSITY CHAMPION



GRAMPIAN FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Formartine

The Formartine Community Safety Group has provided smoke alarms for the hard of hearing within the Formartine area of Aberdeenshire Council. We have also funded 4,000 leaflets highlighting the problem of under-age drinking in the area. The leaflets, which are designed for the parents of young people, are being delivered to local homes along with sponsors' advertising material. The leaflet drop follows recurrent complaints of under-age drinking in Ellon over recent years. The 'Message in a Bottle' scheme is another project supported by the Formartine group. It is a voluntary project intended for use by anyone with a medical condition who feels vulnerable while living at home. The scheme provides emergency services or other caring organisations with vital details of any conditions, medications or allergies or someone to contact should they be called to a home as a result of sudden illness or personal accident. The scheme works by storing the person's details in a plastic container, which is kept in their fridge. Two small stickers unique to the scheme and known to the emergency services and other caring agencies are attached within the house, one on an inside door or panel within the hallway and the other on the fridge door. If more than one member of the household is using the scheme all the forms are kept inside one container.

Fraserburgh and District

The Fraserburgh & District Community Safety Group has organised a number of sessions at schools and other premises to put security code marks on bicycles. This will hopefully reduce cycle theft and ensure that the Police can return recovered bikes to their rightful owners. The project also involved handing out leaflets to bike owners on which they could record details of the bike, should it be stolen.

The group were also present at the Blue Light festival in Fraserburgh and had a stand advertising the work of the group and offering information on many aspects of community safety, including the sale of security marker pens. We are also addressing the serious matter of firework and bonfire safety which is a particular problem in the area and a Fireworks Safety Poster competition among local schools was ran last year. The winning designs have been used to create posters which are being used this year to promote firework and bonfire safety. Safety vests have been provided to paper delivery boys and girls and a streetlight has been provided to act as a deterrent to thieves and to make local people feel safer.

Kincardine and Mearns

The Kincardine and Mearns Community Safety Group is promoting road safety through a radio jingle competition in primary schools. Also, as part of its drive to promote safer driving among young people it has opened up a competition to all 16-19 year olds who are still at school in the area with a free Pass Plus course included in the prize. The group has also funded coastal safety signs along cliff tops in the area in collaboration with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. The signs warn of

steep cliffs and advise visitors to stay on the marked paths and not to attempt to climb on the cliffs.

Garioch and North Marr

Children at the Scout Hall Playgroup, Westhill are now 'fit and safe' thanks to the Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group. For the past 28 years the Scout Hall Playgroup has been an integral part of the pre-school care and education in Westhill. The Playgroup, with funding from the group, has purchased 20 reflective vests for the children to wear when out walking.



The Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group initiated the 'Message in a Bottle' scheme in Aberdeenshire and amongst the other Community Safety Groups. The scheme is a voluntary project intended for use by anyone with a medical condition who feels vulnerable while living at home. The Scheme details are highlighted in the Formartine section of this booklet. The Garioch and North Marr Group provided kick-start funding for 'Scotland North' Rotary Clubs to promote this project. The result being that over 250,000 bottles have been distributed throughout Scotland and the north of England.

Momentum is an informal education programme that uses young peoples' interest in cars as a starting point for learning. It has been developed by UK Youth in partnership with the Motor Vehicle Repairs Association, the Motorcycle Industry Association, the Motor Schools Association and the Association of British Insurers.

In conjunction with Grampian Police the group have helped to launch 'Best Bar None' an accredited awards scheme for pubs and clubs within Inverurie. Best Bar None is a national awards scheme, which engages with all agencies undertaking enforcement or educational activities in, or connected to licensed premises and the consumption of alcohol.

They have also actively helped to support Community Policing within the town of Inverurie. The group have sponsored protective cycle clothing allowing the Westhill and Inverurie Community Beat Officers to carry out patrols by bicycle.



DRIVING ON LOOSE CHIPS CAN BE LIKE
DRIVING ON BALL BEARINGS!

SLOW DOWN

Aberdeenshire Council spray and chip 1 million square metres of road every year as an essential part of keeping our roads serviceable.

However, although the surface can be driven on almost immediately, it is VITAL that you reduce your speed to a maximum of 20 mph until the surface has settled and all the loose chips removed. So while the loose chips signs are displayed, SLOW DOWN.

Aberdeenshire 
COUNCIL



South Marr

The South Marr Community Safety Group actively supports the 'Take Control' initiative which has been developed by Inspector Ian Kirkwood of Grampian Police and other partners. It is directed towards pupils in 4th year which is an age group previously left out, as they are too young to drive. However, the Police and the Fire Service are now focussing on the 4th years' responsibilities as passengers. It is a very hard-hitting talk with graphics of actual crashes/injuries. Both the South Marr and Kincardine & Mearns Community Safety Groups have contributed £600 each for the purchase of the equipment necessary to carry out these presentations. One of the Community Safety Partnership's biggest concerns has been the appalling loss of life of young drivers. The South Marr Community Safety Group recently sponsored a skid car during the Deeside Young Drivers Day organised by Aboyne and Banchory Community Learning Service.

The programme also included a brake reaction tester, a demonstration drive with a Police Instructor and presentations from both the Police and Fire Services. They have also recently supported with direct funding, the application for a Top Up Grant to the Marr Area Committee. This was for the purchase of a Nintendo Wii games console and associated games. The Wii is being used by Grampian Police and Alcohol Support to educate young people on the dangers of drink driving and speeding.

The Community Safety Groups continue to do excellent work and are always keen to recruit new members. If you want to become involved and to help your own community and local area solve community safety issues then contact your local Community Safety Group. They can be contacted by accessing the website at: www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk and viewing the individual CSG's pages. Find out when the next meeting is and come along. You will be made to feel very welcome!

www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Antisocial behaviour impacts upon every community in Scotland, including those across Aberdeenshire. In June 2004, the Scottish Parliament passed the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, which is intended to assist in the tackling and prevention of this sort of behaviour. The Act requires the Local Authority (Aberdeenshire Council) to prepare and publish a Strategy in consultation with the Chief Constable (Grampian Police) to tackle antisocial behaviour within Aberdeenshire.

Definition of Antisocial Behaviour

Section 143 of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, provides that a person engages in antisocial behaviour if they: *act in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress*; or pursue a course of conduct likely to cause alarm or distress to at least one person who is not of the same household. Conduct includes what people say; and a course of conduct must involve conduct on at least two occasions. Antisocial behaviour is not necessarily behaviour that is merely different, for example by reason of medical or developmental condition or a mental health problem or because of a different lifestyle, culture or religion. Additionally, any behaviour that is shown to be reasonable in the circumstances will be disregarded.

The following are examples of types of behaviour that may fall within this definition;

- Noise – e.g. noisy neighbours, cars/motorbikes, loud music, alarms, noise from pubs/clubs, noise from business/industry.
- Rowdy Behaviour – e.g. shouting and swearing, fighting, drunken behaviour, hooliganism/loutish behaviour.
- Nuisance Behaviour – e.g. Urinating in public, setting fires, inappropriate use of fireworks, climbing on buildings, misuse of air guns, letting down tyres.
- Hoax Calls.
- Intimidation/Harassment – e.g. people making threats, verbal abuse, offensive mail, nuisance phone calls, menacing gestures.
- Vandalism – e.g. graffiti, damage to bus shelters, phone kiosks, buildings, trees, etc.
- Litter/Rubbish – e.g. dropping litter, dumping rubbish, fly-tipping, fly-posting.
- Drugs/substance abuse and dealing .
- Street drinking.
- Abandoned cars.
- Vehicle related nuisance/inappropriate vehicle use.
- Animal related problems – e.g. dog fouling, barking dogs.

This list is not exhaustive and other types of behaviour may be defined as antisocial.

See it, Hear it, REPORT IT!

It is essential that all crimes and/or damage are reported to Grampian Police on:

0845 600-5-700

FOR ALL NON EMERGENCY CALLS

For all non-emergencies, general assistance or information please ring the above number where our team of professional advisers have the expertise and technology to help you 24 hours a day.

WHAT IS CLASSED AS AN EMERGENCY?

- Violence is being used or threatened
- There is danger to life
- A crime is in progress
- A road accident with injuries has occurred
- A non-injury road accident has occurred and there is serious traffic congestion

... in these situations always call 999



TACKLING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 extended existing legislation and introduced a number of new powers and measures to deal with antisocial behaviour, including:

- Improved laws on ASBOs so that they are now available for young people aged 12-15 years.
- Interim ASBOs can be granted in relation to under 16's.
- New statutory powers of arrest on breach of ASBO.
- Improved power to issue fixed penalty notices for litter and fly-tipping.
- New power for Councils to issue a notice for the removal of graffiti from certain items of street furniture.
- Power to disperse groups of people where they have been behaving in a persistent antisocial manner.
- Power for the Courts and Police to close premises that are the focus of persistent antisocial behaviour.
- Power for Sheriff Courts to make a 'Parenting Order' to address the behaviour of parents who deliberately or recklessly fail their child or children on a number of occasions.
- Power for agencies to provide intensive support and monitoring for serious and persistent offenders who meet the criteria for secure accommodation.
- Extension of Restriction of Liberty Orders to young people aged 12 to 15 years.
- New ban on the sale of spray paint to under 16's.

Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Group

The Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Working Group has focused on the implementation of the Aberdeenshire ASB Strategy by using a multi-agency approach to solve local problems.

The enhanced Graffiti Removal Service has been extremely successful with the team being deployed to clean up graffiti on 30 separate occasions during 2006/2007 and on 78 separate occasions during 2007/2008. This service, which is free to members of the public and to local businesses, is considered to be a vital element in the overall strategy for improving Community Wellbeing and the quality of life for people within Aberdeenshire.

The Community Wardens in Peterhead and Fraserburgh have had a significant and overwhelmingly positive impact on the communities they serve. The Community Wardens help to improve community well-being and build community confidence by reducing crime/fear of crime, deterring antisocial behaviour, improving the physical appearance and management of our community and fostering social inclusion. They are a visible presence in the communities providing reassurance and an essential link for local policing partners in those areas.



The Aberdeenshire Community Mediation Service is a joint venture funded by the Partnership, Aberdeenshire Council and administered by SACRO. Mediation is a fundamental element of our strategy in that it is aimed at improving quality of life where issues or difficulties arise between residents whether in Council owned property, Registered Social Landlord residences or private properties.

Since October 2004, approximately 100 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) have been agreed with individuals who have been engaged in persistent antisocial behaviour within the local authority area. Very few of these individuals have chosen not to adhere to the terms of the contract and as a result the level of applications for ASBOs in Aberdeenshire has remained relatively low. ASBOs are only one of the many courses of action available to tackle antisocial behaviour. Aberdeenshire Council and partner organisations will consider a range of options such as mediation, voluntary agreements (ABCs), warning letters and/or diversionary projects (where appropriate) before pursuing legal action. In Aberdeenshire, ASBOs will only be used as a last resort, when other options aren't working, or where the behaviour is so serious that an ASBO is the only suitable option.

REPORTING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

It has never been easier to report antisocial behaviour (ASB). We know victims of antisocial behaviour sometimes do not report incidents for fear of reprisal. We have highly experienced staff that will support you throughout the whole process.

Although Aberdeenshire does not currently have one dedicated telephone helpline to report antisocial behaviour, there are a variety of different sources of help which are available:

- If you are a Council tenant experiencing problems with antisocial behaviour within or near your home, contact your local housing office.
- If you are a tenant of Registered Social Landlord you should report problems to your housing provider.
- If you are an owner-occupier or a tenant of a private landlord, you can receive support from our Antisocial Behaviour Support Officers.
- The Council's Environmental Health Service can deal with complaints of noise from all sectors, including noise from private properties. Complaints should be referred to the Principal Environmental Health Officer for your area.
- Fly-tipping and litter can be reported to the Council via the Wasteline on **0845 600 3900**.
- Graffiti can be reported to the Council via the Wasteline on **0845 600 3 900**.
- The following types of antisocial behaviour should be reported to Grampian Police on their non-emergency number **0845 600 5 700**:
 - Vandalism and other damage to property.
 - People racing in cars.
 - Nuisance behaviour.
 - Misuse of alcohol in public places.
 - Verbal/physical abuse.

RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE NORTH EAST



Rape and Abuse Support is a registered charity that provides a comprehensive service including support and information on legal and medical issues arising from rape or sexual violence and its effects on survivors.

- To provide free and confidential support and information to women and girls in the North East of Scotland who have experienced sexual violence.
- To provide support and information to family, friends and professionals who support survivors.

Rape and Abuse Support, 46a Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BD.
Email: info@rasane.org.uk Helpline: 01224 620772
Website: www.rasane.org.uk



Looking for childcare?

The right childcare means a lot to parents ...

And to children

We make finding that childcare much easier!

Freephone 0800 298 3330

for information and advice about:
Childminders ~ Nurseries ~ Out of School Care ~ Playgroups ~ Creches
Pre-school Education

www.scottishchildcare.gov.uk/
childcare@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



The Helpline offers an independent, confidential telephone based information service to people aged 50 and over living in Scotland, and to those associated with them such as their carers and families.

why not try us?
0845 125 9732

10am until 4pm
Monday to Friday





HI-Net offers a single point of access to health improvement information.

- Keep in touch with the latest health improvement news and information, accessing key documents.
- Promote your work, conferences, workshops and training events.
- Share your knowledge and learn from others working in the health improvement community.

For more information contact the HI-Net team on hinet@nhs.net or 01224 558569.

www.hi-netgrampian.org



Looking for help with your health?

Contact us...

Phone our free healthline on: **0500 20 20 30**

Email us for information: **healthpoint@nhs.net**

To find your nearest healthpoint please call the free healthline on: **0500 20 20 30**

NHS Grampian healthpoints offer free and confidential health advice from trained staff on a wide range of topics.



call free on 0500 20 20 30



GRAMPIAN POLICE - ABERDEENSHIRE DIVISION

The Aberdeenshire Division of Grampian Police was formed on 1st April 2008, and is now directly aligned with the overall Aberdeenshire Council area and co-terminously throughout the six local administrative areas.

Our Mission:

- To promote well being and safety in our communities.
- To provide excellent, visible, accessible services.
- To enhance the quality of life of all those we serve.

Grampian Police aspires to be a modern policing organisation that delivers excellent, effective operational policing supported at all levels by a professionally skilled and efficient infrastructure and we remain focused on achieving this vision, building on our strong reputation for community working and innovation.



We recognise that consensual policing is critical in meeting the expectations of our communities and that only by working closely in partnership with those we serve can we achieve long-term community reassurance and well-being. In striving to make the most effective and efficient use of the resources available to us, we will engage in regular dialogue with our communities and use our own experience and knowledge in prioritising our objectives. In developing our strategic plan we have also considered the respective priorities of the Scottish Government, the Grampian Joint Police Board, key local partner agencies, and the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland.

www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk

The following areas of crime and disorder have been identified as the Force Priorities for 2008/2009:

- Child Protection.
- Community Well-Being.
- Controlled Drugs.
- National Security.
- Offender Management.
- Road Casualty Reduction.
- Serious and Violent Crime.

Whilst the Aberdeenshire area enjoys relatively low crime levels, the priorities of Grampian Police remain relevant and provide focus for our staff on the issues that affect communities. We are committed to enhancing our levels of service and working with partners to further enhance the quality of life for everyone who lives in, works in or travels to the area. We are committed to delivering on our current priorities and to achieving this through intelligence led policing and effective partnership working. We recognise the importance of strong community links and will continue to work with our partners and build on past successes to reassure our communities.

We are committed to enhancing community focussed policing and work is ongoing to maximise the number of 'Community Focussed Police Officers' serving the people of Aberdeenshire. We will also extend our use of Mobile Office facilities in order to enhance our service to the many rural communities and suburbs of the larger towns across Aberdeenshire.

Bill Archibald
Superintendent (Operations)
Vice Chair Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership



CRIMESTOPPERS: 0800 555 111

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL

Does your family have room to care?

PERMANENT FOSTER & ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

Do you have the skills required to care for children and able to offer them a safe and loving home?

Could you make a difference and change the lives of children who are unable to live with their birth families?

Aberdeenshire Council welcomes interest from prospective families who can offer permanent care to children of all ages, particularly for children between the ages of 5 and 10 years and sibling groups.

For more information on the children waiting for families please contact the Family Placement team on **01467 625555** or visit: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/children/adoption

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS?

Disputes with neighbours can typically arise over noise, parking, rubbish, children, pets, fences and boundaries, damage to property and anti-social behaviour.

Contact our free mediation service on

01224 560570

for confidential, impartial assistance



110 Crown Street Aberdeen AB11 6HU
 Email: info@aberdeen.sacro.org.uk
 Fax: 01224 560551





LANDLORD REGISTRATION

Since 30 April 2006, all private landlords in Scotland are required to register with the local authority (or authorities) where they are or will be renting out property.

It is a criminal offence to rent out your property without having submitted a valid application for registration.

For more information ring: **01261 813254**

Or email: **private.housing@aberdeenshire.gov.uk**



Crime Reduction is an important area for the Partnership in terms of providing effective medium and long-term strategies to reduce re-offending and have a positive impact on acquisitive crime. This should be at the heart of what we do as individuals and in our communities. Only by successful work in this area can there be an increase in public confidence and a reduction in the fear of crime.

The Aberdeenshire Division of Grampian Police also recognise that Crime Reduction is a vital area for overall community safety. A new crime reduction unit has been formed and designated officers will have responsibility to continue the positive partnership approach that has been successful in many areas.

The following sections give practical advice on positive preventative measures that can be taken by everyone. Please take the time to read the advice carefully and by applying some of these simple measures we can all have an even greater impact in further reducing criminal activity throughout Aberdeenshire.

Christine Morris - Crime Reduction Sergeant
Aberdeenshire Division'



HOUSE SECURITY

Many Housebreakings are opportunist crimes. In two out of every ten offences no force is used – access is gained through an open door or window. Securing your property will make you safer in your home, and make your possessions safer while you are out.

WINDOWS

- Always lock doors and close windows - even if you are only going out for short time.
- Window locks help to prevent easy access to your home, (a burglar is less likely to break in if they have to smash a window).
- Consider using laminated glass.
- Fit security grilles to vulnerable windows. Many DIY outlets sell decorative iron or internal grilles.
- Don't draw curtains while you are away, it is a clear indicator the house is empty.

DOORS/KEYS

- Use deadlocks where they are fitted. They will make it more awkward for a thief to leave the premises, as well as enter. Don't leave keys near doors in obvious places.
- Make sure doors and frames are strong and in good condition. Doors must be of solid material and at least 44mm thick.
- Fit front and back doors with five-lever mortice dead locks – and use them.
- Patio doors should have specialist locks fitted to the top and bottom of the unit, unless they already have a multi-point locking system.
- Fit a spy-hole, so that you can check visitors to your door. A door-chain also gives more protection when speaking to callers at the door.
- Do not leave spare keys outside in a garage or shed, place garage or car keys out of sight.

LIGHTING / ALARMS

Good lighting can deter a criminal, as there is more chance they will be seen. Lighting can be controlled with timers, passive infra-red (PI.R.) or photoelectric cell (dusk to dawn light).

- Use timer-switches for lights and radios, when you are away over night.
- Visible burglar alarms, and good security lighting will help you to protect your home. Ensure that lights don't disturb neighbours, and that alarms turn off after 20 minutes.
- Fences at the back of your home make the area more secure, but walls and solid fencing can provide cover for a thief to break in unseen. Consider weld mesh fencing, or use trellis (above a lower fence) with thorny plants.

FLATS OR MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY DWELLINGS

- Think about replacing your front door. It must be as secure as the main entry door.
- Fit steel protective strips to doorframes to strengthen them. Fit hinge bolts to stop doors being pulled off their hinges.
- Consider fitting a telephone entry system. Do not 'buzz' open the door for strangers or hold open the door for persons you do not know are resident.
- Always think about fire safety when making improvements to your home security. You must be able to get out as quickly as possible if there is a fire.

IF YOUR HOME IS BROKEN INTO

- When you arrive home and notice signs of a break-in, don't enter the property or shout as the intruder may still be inside.
- Do go to a neighbour and call the Police. For more information you can get useful advice at www.crimereduction.gov.uk

Also see Home Office Leaflets: 'Be Safe, Be Secure' practical guide to crime reduction and 'Your guide to keeping your home secure', 'Coded for keeps'.

Foster Families

Foster families are ordinary people and come from all walks of life, but they all have an understanding of children's needs. Foster families need to be warm, patient, understanding and flexible – with a great sense of humour.

Aberdeenshire Council is looking to recruit foster families locally, for children of all ages and with a range of needs, who require the opportunity to live with or be supported by a stable and caring family or individual.

It's not a playstation or a mobile phone that's the most important thing to a child. It could be you, and your family. Please call the Family Placement Team on **01467 625555** to find out more or visit: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/children/fostering

Scottish Business in the Community

Putting better business at the heart of the Grampian community

www.sbcscot.com/grampian

HALVE YOUR FUEL COSTS

Save money for the good things, take the stress out of commuting and help reduce congestion

You can do all this by registering free and without obligation at



www.carshareaberdeenshire.com

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL

Dealing with antisocial behaviour

Aberdeenshire Council is committed to ensuring that all its tenants have a safe and peaceful environment in which to live. antisocial behaviour is unacceptable (but fortunately not widespread) and the Council takes action to resolve any instances of antisocial behaviour or neighbour nuisance in its housing areas. In addition, the Council offers support and advice to tenants who are victims of antisocial behaviour.

The Council's Housing section works in partnership with a number of agencies (e.g. Police, Grampian Fire and Rescue, Community Mediation, Victim Support and Housing Associations) to reduce and eliminate antisocial behaviour.

The Council tries to resolve disputes without recourse to legal action against residents or others. However, if all other attempts have failed then the Council may consider legal action to seek an ASBO or a Repossession Order for Eviction.

Antisocial behaviour can also include graffiti, fly-tipping and abandoned cars in housing estates. We deal with such incidents quickly after they are reported.

Tenants who experience antisocial behaviour or neighbour disturbance should contact their local housing office in the first instance. All complaints are treated in confidence and Housing staff are trained to deal with incidents of antisocial behaviour in a sympathetic manner. Housing staff can advise tenants on the options available for tackling antisocial behaviour and the support available to them.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is defined as physical, sexual or psychological abuse of an individual, which takes place within a close or intimate relationship.

- Over 80% of domestic abuse victims are women.
- One in four women is a victim of domestic abuse.
- Domestic abuse has no regard for age, nationality, race, ability or whether your partner is of the same or opposite sex.
- There is a wide range of support services available for victims of domestic abuse.
- Don't suffer in silence. Seek advice and support. Report the abuse.

Hate Crime is subjecting people to harassment, victimisation, intimidation or abuse because of their race, faith, religion, disability or because they are lesbian, gay or bisexual. Hate crime is unacceptable and takes many forms, for example:

- Harassment and bullying.
- Verbal abuse.
- Physical assault.
- Offensive graffiti.
- Malicious phone calls or threats.



If you have been a victim or a witness of hate crime, then you can get practical advice and support from your local Citizens Advice Bureau, Aberdeenshire Council or Grampian Police. See the important number section at the rear of this booklet for contact details.

By reporting all incidents, YOU can help prevent it.

Contact Grampian Police on **999** in an emergency or **0845 600 5 700** for all non-emergency calls

www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk

COMPUTER CRIME

This sort of crime is also referred to as cybercrime, e-crime and hi-tech crime. Unfortunately, unlike 'traditional' bullying that may take place (and still does) in the playground, cyber and text bullying can continue long after schools have closed their gates. Bullying on the Internet can happen in two ways:

1. By using e-mail.
2. By somebody setting up a site with the intention to 'target' an individual or group of people.

The increase of mobile phones has also led to text bullying. Sending threatening or bullying text messages is a criminal offence that the Police recognise as a crime. For more information and advice on all aspects of Online Bullying go to: www.beyondbullying.com.

Internet crime

Internet-related crime is a term used to describe a range of different crime types that are committed or facilitated online. Internet crime falls into the following categories: paedophilia, internet fraud, junk email or 'spam' viruses hacking. This sort of crime is also referred to as cybercrime, e-crime and hi-tech crime.

What you can do about Internet crime

Concerned about Internet crime? Here's what you can do:

- Report incidents to your service provider.
- Report it by contacting Grampian Police.
- Leave it to the law enforcement experts instead of carrying out 'vigilante' investigations – particularly around the identification of online paedophiles. This can be counter-productive to official investigations, can put you into a position where you may risk breaking the law yourself and, most importantly, can endanger the safety of children.

CRIMESTOPPERS: 0800 555 111

Lifelong Learning and Leisure

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL

for everyone in Aberdeenshire
providing opportunities to gain knowledge and skills within local communities
oversee projects that meet local community learning, sporting and cultural interests

Community Learning & Development

Outreach programmes
Adult Learning
Surestart
Youth Work
Building Communities
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/cld
01224 684830

Leisure / Facilities

Sports Development
Club development
Active Schools
Grampian Coaching
Events
Holiday Programmes
Aberdeenshire Disability Sport
Swimming Pools
Learn to Swim programme
Sports Centres
Playing Fields
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/recreation
01467 628283

Active
Schools

Building community capacity
Supporting meaningful participation in community life

sp^{ort}



Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL

Adult Placement Scheme

What is an Adult Placement?

Adult Placement is similar to fostering. Adult Placement carers (individuals or families) provide support to adults to enable them to live their life in the community.

The Scheme supports adults with learning disabilities.

Adult Placement allows you to:

- Live independently,
- Maintain your physical, emotional and spiritual well being.
- Protects you from harm and abuse.
- Reduces the need for hospitalisation or admission care, and is tailored to your needs.

What does an Adult Placement provide?

- Long term accommodation and support (including personal care).
- Short breaks in a carer's home.
- Day care in the carer's home.
- You share the carer's daily life and they support you to live a normal life.

The placements range from a few hours support a week to full-time residential placement in a carer's home. For example:

- You are very independent and only need support with budgeting/paying bills, or
- You have complex needs and require 24-hour care.

What does an Adult Placement Carer do?

- Adult Placement carers share their homes and lives with you.
- Carers give practical and emotional support to a maximum of three vulnerable adults at a time. This depends on:
 - Your individual needs
 - How much support you need, and
 - How much support the carer can give.

The carer will be assessed and trained as an Adult Placement Carer to enable them to meet the individual needs of each person placed with them.

Who do you contact for more information?

Team Manager - Adult Placement Scheme, Carlton House,
Arduathie Road, Stonehaven, AB39 2DL.
Tel: **01569 768418**



VEHICLE SECURITY

Such crimes are usually opportunist and you can stop the crooks with vigilance and relatively cheap security precautions. Don't be wise after the event, follow the tips below.

CARS

- Never leave a car unlocked or a window or sun roof open.
- Take belongings with you when leaving your vehicle. A thief will not know a coat or bag does not contain valuables.
- Security mark your stereo and if it is removable always take it with you. Make a note of the serial number and keep it in a safe place.
- Put your aerial down to stop it being vandalised.
- Use your garage when you're not using your vehicle.
- Fit a car alarm or engine immobiliser.
- When leaving your car at night, try to park under a street light.



MOTORCYCLES

- Invest in a secure locking device (shackle lock or strong chain and padlock) for the bike wheel.
- Fit an alarm (available from DIY or bike shops).
- Park in a well-lit place with an immovable object for securing your bike.
- Invest in a cover for the bike, as it reduces temptation.
- Secure your bike to a locking post at home, or lock it away in a secure garage or shed.
- Post-code your bike.

BICYCLES

- Use a strong lock when leaving your bike unattended - even for a few minutes - and secure it to an immovable object.
- Seats and wheels are targets for thieves. If you have quick release, remove the seat and secure the wheels to the frame.
- Have your bike post-coded.

www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk



ROAD SAFETY

The fact remains SPEED KILLS. The faster you are travelling, if and when you hit something, the more damage will be done. Here are some good reasons for keeping your speed down:



- Your reaction time is reduced, even for a driver who is concentrating and driving defensively.
- There is an 80% chance you will kill a child at 40mph, there is an 80% chance of survival for that child at 30mph.
- Clocking up 'points' on your licence is costly, the £60 fine is little compared to the amount your premium will go up when your insurance company are informed.
- Losing your licence could have a devastating effect on your home, work and social life.
- Approximately one third of all collisions in the UK are speed related; sadly in this region this situation is much worse with excessive or inappropriate speed having been identified as a factor in almost one half of all collisions.
- At 40mph most pedestrians are killed; at 30mph half are killed but at 20mph, most survive.
- If average speeds increase by just 1mph, collisions can increase by 19%.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Keep to the speed limit, not just for the cameras, but because driving within the limit saves lives.

- Drive appropriately for the conditions.
- Keep your speed down in places where you will find vulnerable road users like pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.
- Give yourself plenty of time when setting off on a journey.

CRIMESTOPPERS: 0800 555 111

Is someone you know thinking about **SUICIDE**?

Listen to them, take them seriously and support them to get help.

For more information on suicide prevention visit:

www.chooselife.net

For confidential, emotional support contact:

Breathing Space: **0800 83 85 87**

Samaritans: **01224 574488**

or **08457 90 90 90**

chooselife

A national strategy and action plan to prevent suicide in Scotland

WOULD YOU LIKE?



- An easy way to save through payroll, Direct Debit or at your nearest PayPoint terminal.
- Low cost borrowing at competitive rates?
- A Christmas Savings Account?
- Free life insurance on savings and loans?

We are a savings and loans co-operative open to anyone living or working in the Grampian area. We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme so you can rest assured that the money you save will be safe with us.

For more information
Call: **(01224) 626280/625456**
Email: admin@grampiancreditunion.co.uk
Visit: www.grampiancreditunion.co.uk



MOBILE PHONES

By taking a few simple steps you can reduce your risk of becoming a victim of mobile phone theft. By providing the Police with some basic information about your phone, you can make it more difficult for a thief to use it.

Please record the details requested below and keep them in a safe place. The Police may need these details if you report your phone stolen. The 15 digit serial or IMEI number helps to identify your phone and can be accessed by keying ***#06#** or by looking behind the battery of your phone. This number enables phone blocking even if the SIM card has been changed.

Fascia details: _____

Phone number: _____

Serial/IMEI number: _____

PIN number: _____

Service Provider: _____

Service Provider's Tel. No: _____

KEEP THESE DETAILS IN A SAFE PLACE SEPARATE FROM YOUR PHONE.

Lost or stolen mobile phones can be blocked even if the SIM card is changed. Contact the relevant network provider with the phone details from below or phone:

07801 123 123.	
Orange Contract:	07973 100 150
Orange Pre-Pay:	07973 100 450
Vodafone Contract:	07836 191 191
Vodafone Pre-Pay:	08700 776 655
O2 Contract:	08705 214 000
O2 Pre-Pay:	08705 678 678
T mobile (All):	08454 125 000
Virgin Mobile (All):	08456 000 789
3 (All):	07782 333 333

Nestrans - Helping make our transport network safer

As the regional transport partnership for Aberdeen City and Shire, our job is to help create a better transport system for you. It's not just about promoting investment in our transport network, or enhancing public services. Our work also focuses on reducing road accidents through engineering, education and enforcement; on addressing safety issues as we strive to encourage greater use of public transport.

See what we are doing, and what we can do, to make your travel experience better. Visit: www.nestrans.org.uk



nestrans

The Transport Partnership for Aberdeen City and Shire



Ellon Inter – Urban Park & Ride

It's the easy way to travel

Daily regular services to/from Ellon – Aberdeen
Service 747 Monday – Friday to/from Peterhead/Ellon/Dyce
Service 493 Monday – Saturday to/from Ellon – Inverurie
Day returns and Commuter Cards are available.
National Entitlement Cards are valid on all services.
Other services provided by Aberdeenshire Council:

- "Aberdeenshire Local" supported Bus Services
- 'A2B' dialabus
- Entitlement Card
- Community Transport
- Public Transport Infrastructure
- School Transport
- TaxiCard
- Timetable Information
- Fares and Transport Guides

For further information please contact Public Transport Unit:
Tel: **01224 664586** www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/publictransport





ABERDEENSHIRE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVICE PROJECT

For free and impartial advice and information on how to improve the energy efficiency of your home AND SAVE MONEY,
Phone:- FREEPHONE 0800 512012

The Aberdeenshire Energy Efficiency Advice Project is run by SCARF and funded by Aberdeenshire Council.



CONSUMER PROTECTION PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY SAFETY

COLD CALLING CONTROL ZONES UNDERAGE SALES

Aberdeenshire North
10 Commerce Street
Fraserburgh
AB43 9AQ
Tel: 01346 510505
Fax: 1346 510484



Aberdeenshire South
Gordon House
Blackhall Road
Inverurie
AB51 3WA
Tel: 01467 628323
Fax: 01467 628117

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership advice -
01224 748994 or 01224 664293

Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Co-ordinator 01224 665279
Housing Officer (ASB Support):
North Aberdeenshire 01346 586341
South and Central Aberdeenshire 01467 628369
www.aberdeenshirecommunitysafety.org.uk

Grampian Police 0845 600 5 700
www.grampian.police.uk

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service 01224 696666
www.grampianfrs.org.uk

Fire Safety Guidance www.infoscotland.com/firelaw

NHS Grampian 0845 4566000
www.nhsgrampian.org

Substance Misuse

Aberdeenshire Alcohol and Drugs Action
Team (AADAT) 01224 558475
Aberdeenshire Council North Forum 01224 573887
Aberdeenshire Council South Forum 01330 825027
Aberdeenshire Council Central Forum 01261 813449
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/care

Emergency Numbers

Aberdeenshire Council:
Emergency Housing Repairs 08456 08 12 03
Environmental Health 08456 08 12 03

Homelessness 08458 40 00 70
Social Work 08458 40 00 70

Aberdeenshire Council Entitlement Card 08456 08 12 00
Council Tax 08456 08 12 01*
Gritting and Snow Clearing 08454 04 05 06*
Road Defect Reporting 08456 08 12 05*
(To specifically report potholes and flooding due to blocked road gullies)
Street Light Fault Reporting 08456 08 12 05*
Wasteline 08456 00 39 00*
General Enquiries 08456 08 12 07*

All the above calls are charged at local rate calls may be recorded to help provide a better level of service
*Available from 8am – 6pm Mon – Fri

Domestic Abuse

(Please ask for the Domestic Abuse Outreach Worker)
North Aberdeenshire 01771 638200
Central Aberdeenshire 01358 725756
South Aberdeenshire 01330 824991
National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 027 1234
Grampian Women's Aid 01224 593381
Racial Harassment
Aberdeenshire Council 01467 620981
Grampian Racial Equality Council 01224 625895
Grampian Police 0845 600 5 700
Team Work Against Racial Crime 0800 0888 609

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Sir Robert Smith MP

Liberal Democrat Member of
Parliament for West Aberdeenshire &
Kincardine

Telephone: 01330 820330
Fax: 01330 820338
Email: bobsmith@cix.co.uk
Address: 6 Dee Street
Banchory
Kincardineshire
AB31 5ST

Robert holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. Look in the local papers or contact the office for further information.

The production of this advert has been paid for from the communications allowance available to Members of Parliament



Rt Hon Malcolm Bruce MP
Liberal Democrat Member of
Parliament for Gordon

Telephone: 01467 623413
Fax: 01467 624994
Email: brucem@parliament.uk
Website: www.malcolmbuce.org.uk
Address: 67 High Street
Inverurie
Aberdeenshire
AB51 3QJ

Malcolm holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. Look in the local papers or contact the office for further information.

The production of this advert has been paid for from the communications allowance available to Members of Parliament



The Helpline offers an independent, confidential telephone based information service to people aged 50 and over living in Scotland, and to those associated with them such as their carers and families.

why not try us?
0845 125 9732

10 am until 4pm Monday to Friday

Grampian Police - ABERDEENSHIRE DIVISION

Divisional Headquarters - Grampian Police, Blackhall Road, Inverurie, AB51 3QD Superintendent (Operations)
Bill Archibald Superintendent (Support) John Cummings.

Policing will be delivered through teams of Police Officers and Staff working under the direction of Area Chief Inspectors and Community Inspectors as below:-

Chief Inspector Colin Walker, Peterhead

- **Banff and Buchan West** - Inspector Mark McLaughlin.
Stations:- Banff Portsoy.
- **Banff and Buchan East** - Inspector John Esson.
Stations:- Fraserburgh.
- **Buchan** - Inspector Paul Bremner.
Stations:- Peterhead Mintlaw Cruden Bay New Pitsligo.
- **Formartine** - Inspector Steve Pratt.
Stations:- Ellon Turriff Oldmeldrum.

Chief Inspector Kevin Coyle, Inverurie

- **Garioch** - Inspector Bob Thomson.
Stations:- Inverurie Westhill Kemnay Inch.
- **Kincardine and Mearns** - Inspector Jim Gordon.
Stations:- Stonehaven Portlethen Laurencekirk.
- **Marr** - Inspector Stuart Ednie.
Stations:- Banchory Aboyne Ballater
Braemar Alford Huntly.



Matters can be reported, enquiries made or Officers and Staff contacted by the following means:

- In cases of Emergency dial: **999**
- All non Emergency calls: **0845 600 5 700**
- Email: **servicecentre@grampian.pnn.police.uk**
- Text: **07739 93 4444**
- Via Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**

For further information regarding policing in Aberdeenshire see the separate page inside or visit us at:

www.grampian.police.uk