

Useful Information

Banff and Buchan West Local Policing Team

Our team covers the Banff and Buchan West area including the main population centre of Banff where our Police Station is located. My staff are committed to provided the best service possible to all in our communities, through engagement and Involvement to continue to work with you in keeping our communities safe.



Inspector Mark McLaughlin
Area Inspector
Banff and Buchan West
Banff

Contact Details

Banff Police Station
High Shore
Banff
AB45 1HN

Portsoy Police Station
Church Street
Portsoy
AB45 2QB

Inverurie Police Station
Divisional Headquarters
Blackhall Road
Inverurie
AB51 3QD

We are here to help.

We will continue to keep in touch with you in relation to our ongoing work in your community as we continue to tackle issues which impact on your quality of life as we work together to

KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

If you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss please contact your local Police Station where your local staff will discuss these with you and take any appropriate action.

If there is an emergency situation which requires immediate police attention please dial 999.

For non-emergency contact please call our 24 hour non-emergency Service Centre on

0845 600-5-700

or by e-mail to

mylocalpolicingteam@grampian.pnn.police.uk

or you can send us a text on

07739 93 4444

If you have information about crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



**Local Policing.
Closer to you.**

April 2012



Banff & Buchan West Local Policing Update

**Local Policing.
Closer to you.**

BANFF AND BUCHAN WEST Local Policing Update

In Banff and Buchan West our Policing priorities are informed by understanding what communities need through consulting, listening, responding and providing feedback.

Your local Policing Team are focussed on dealing with local issues and through research, analysis and consultation four local priorities have been identified within Banff and Buchan West. These are namely Anti-Social Behaviour, Controlled Drugs, Community Visibility and Road Casualty Reduction.

Through our regular attendance at local Community Meetings, it remains clear that these concerns remain the priority in terms of providing a valuable policing service to our Towns and Villages

1. Anti Social Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour remains an issue in our larger Towns and Villages, in particular where large groups of young people tend to congregate, a minority of whom may be involved in underage drinking, alcohol related disorder, general annoyance or vandalism. In general, we have seen a reduction in antisocial behaviour and vandalism incidents across the area. Undoubtedly, after school hours activities organised by partner agencies such as Community, Learning and Development and Alan Still and his staff at Princess Royal Park, continue to impact on the low levels of anti-social behaviour we have been experiencing of late. Operation Aberfeldy took place over February and March in Macduff in an effort to further reduce anti-social behaviour in this area.

2. Controlled Drugs

Banff and Buchan West continues to have generally lower levels of drug abuse and drug related crime in comparison to the larger populated area's in the Division. Operation Hotspur is a Divisional initiative targeting those individuals that supply and/or abuse controlled drugs in Aberdeenshire, including Banff and Buchan West.

3. Community Visibility

We know that a visible Police presence is important, both to enhance community safety, provide reassurance and to allow access our service. This is especially true amongst our outlying Towns and Villages, such as Aberchirder, Portsoy and Gardenstown.

4. Road Casualty Reduction

Speed and inconsiderate, anti-social driving continue to be concerns raised at the various Community Council Meetings that we attend. In partnership with our Roads Policing colleagues and the North East Safety Camera Partnership, we will continue to target anti-social and speeding drivers in our various Towns and Villages and where these issues arise.

What we have done so far

Anti-Social Behaviour

Operation Aberfeldy was conceived during January 2012, following a slight reported increase of anti-social behaviour and vandalism in Macduff during weekend evenings. Funding was received from Aberdeenshire Council Community Safety Partnership to provide two additional Police Officer's on a Friday and Saturday evening to carry out dedicated foot patrols in the Town over the course of several weeks. The patrol was further supplemented by a detached Youth Worker from Community, Learning and Development.

The primary aim of the operation was to prevent or reduce instances of general disorder as well as leading to a reduction of anti-social behaviour and the increased detection of vandalism offences and under age drinking.

The secondary aim of the Operation was to encourage young people off the streets and to utilise the after school hours activity's available to them, such as the Drop in Centre, the Jaffa/Jive Project, the Banff and Macduff music initiative and the Friday night football as well as other activities available at Princess Royal Park.

Where young persons were found by the Police under the influence or in possession of alcohol they were offered a referral to an Alcohol Briefing Intervention (ABI) worker through Aberdeenshire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, a pilot project between Barnardos and Grampian

Police, to specifically address alcohol misuse amongst young persons. The Operation ran during February and March 2012 and also took into account feedback from the local Community Council and the Tenants and Residents Association, who highlighted area's of the Town giving concern.

The patrols achieved their primary aim of reducing anti-social behaviour in the Town and through the course of the Operation, there was interaction with a large number of young people, who were made aware of local facilities and encouraged to use them.

With very few exceptions, the youngster's were found to be decent, law abiding young people, who engaged positively with the Police and Youth Workers. Friday evening was found to be the primary night that young people congregated in the Town and any future activity will concentrate on that day. It's of note that very few young people were found under the influence or in possession of alcohol during the course of the operation.

Controlled Drugs

Operation Hotspur is a Divisional initiative aimed at tackling the unlawful possession and distribution of controlled drugs within Aberdeenshire. During January 2012, three Drugs Search Warrants were executed in the Banff/Macduff area as part of the operation.

Personal quantities of 'Crack' Cocaine were recovered at one address and the occupant charged with unlawful possession of a controlled drug and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

A quantity of Heroin was recovered at a second address, where five persons were subsequently charged with unlawful possession of a controlled drug and reported to the Procurator Fiscal. An additional aim of the operation was to offer referral to the Substance Misuse Services. Two of the persons concerned accepted the offer.

During February 2012, local Officer's executed Drugs Search Warrants at

addresses in Banff and Macduff. Personal quantities of Heroin were recovered at the Banff address and personal quantities of Cannabis at the Macduff address. Both occupants were cautioned and charged with unlawful possession of a controlled drug and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Community Visibility

The Mobile Office continues to be deployed on a regular basis in Aberchirder and Gardenstown. Concerns around speeding motorists in Aberchirder were raised and are discussed in the next section.

Road Casualty Reduction

Issues were raised regarding speeding motorists on Cornhill Road, Aberchirder by local residents. With assistance from Roads Policing, a Road Survey was conducted. Once the results become known, enforcement action may follow.

Similarly, concerns were raised at the Cornhill and Ardiquill Community Council meeting regarding lorry's speeding through the village during weekday early hours.

A Traffic Warden continues to be deployed in the Banff and Buchan West area on a weekly basis. Liaison has taken place with the Council to arrange for yellow lines to be refreshed and signs replaced where needed, to ensure local people are fully aware of any restrictions.

What We will Be Doing in The Next Three Months

Continue to support the youth work being carried out in Banff and Macduff on Friday and Saturday nights by deploying extra patrols when required.

Target speeding and anti-social driving in our Towns and Villages. Consider the deployment of Officer's trained in the use of muniquip speed detection equipment in Aberchirder and Cornhill at appropriate times of the day or night.

Disrupt and Detect the unlawful possession of controlled drugs.

Regular Police Surgeries in our outlying towns and villages. Focus the use of Police cycle trained officers on routine patrol during the summer months and at our forthcoming events and gala's.