



Ashley and Broomhill Community Council

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the Ashley and Broomhill Community Council area during October.

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

Crime Overview

In Ashley and Broomhill there were a total of 267 calls to Police relating to the areas covered by the Whinhill Community Policing Teams,

These calls, in addition to proactive work, resulted in 50 individual charges being recorded. The vast majority of calls received by Police are concern calls, missing persons, assisting members of the public and false calls with good intentions.

Any significant incident

Crime Type	October
Drug Offences	1
Vandalism	1
Assaults	4
Thefts	14
Road Traffic Offences	18

Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder

They have included the destruction of a boundary wall to a property and setting fire to property with the intention of causing destruction. There have also been incidents of persons trying to force doors in.

In response to these police have increased high visibility mobile patrols and provided suitable advice to homeowners in the area about being vigilant and having home security. Police have also increased patrols within the area to deter further incidents.

Acquisitive Crime

They have included three occasions of housebreakings where there was an attempt or items were taken, a theft of wallet whereby a card was thereafter used without consent and six records of theft by shoplifting. A record of two expensive watches being uplifted from a property without consent has also been logged.

In response to these police have attended at all incidents and provided suitable safety advice regarding securing doors and outbuildings as well as reviewing relevant CCTV. Suitable advice has also been passed regarding private home security systems and

alarms. High visibility patrols have been increased within the affected areas.

Road Safety & Road Crime

These have included two occasions of careless driving, four occasions where vehicles that have hit a car and failed to stop and report the damage and an occasion of driving a motor vehicle without the appropriate insurance. There were also three incidents whereby drivers were found to be using their mobile phone whilst driving.

In response to these police have spoken with the involved parties and charged as required. Police have also increased their high visibility mobile patrols in the affected areas to increase their presence to deter the same kind of incidents reoccurring. Suitable advice has also been passed to those involved regarding obtaining dash cams and ensuring copies of insurance documents are kept somewhere safe within their vehicle.

Community Safety – After Dark

Housebreaking can be a traumatic experience.

Although housebreaking can occur at any time of year criminals will often take advantage of darker nights and shorter daylight hours.

Simple crime prevention measures can greatly reduce the chances of your home being targeted.

Lock the Door

Obvious, isn't it? But some people don't do it. Lock the door even if you're only out for a short time. If you have window locks, lock those too. Keep the door locked when you are at home. This stops criminals coming in if you are in another part of the house or garden. Don't leave your keys on the inside of locks or just inside the door. If you have a spare key, don't leave it under a mat, plant-pot or other easy to spot place at home. Never keep house keys and car keys on the same ring.

Safes and Security Boxes

Don't keep large amounts of gold, jewellery, and cash at home. Bedrooms and lofts are routinely searched during housebreakings, particularly if the occupants are celebrating a cultural festival.

Consider storing valuable items at your bank. Private companies offer similar services. If this option is unavailable, consider an insurance rated safe. Safes should be securely attached to the solid fabric of the building not just to a plasterboard wall or left sitting on the floor.

Lighting and CCTV

House alarms and CCTV are a great visual deterrent. Modern Wi-Fi enabled CCTV systems can be combined with bright LED lighting. Any movement detected outside your

home can trigger an alert to several mobile devices. If considering CCTV look to cover every aspect of your home. Small discreet cameras can also be used inside. Use signage to advise that CCTV is in use.

When your away use timers to turn on lights, radios, or TVs to put off unwanted visitors. Smart plugs allow times to be changed even whilst away.

Vehicles

High value cars are particularly vulnerable to theft and criminals will commit a housebreaking to obtain the true key of the vehicle. Where possible park vehicles inside a garage. Secure the keys inside your property out of sight. Avoid leaving them in obvious locations such as the hallway table or kitchen. Never leave valuables in your car. Keyless Theft or Relay Theft involves criminals using handheld technology to identify whether a parked car has keyless entry. If the car 'key' is close enough the criminals can amplify the signal and send it to a transmitter which acts as the true key and opens the car allowing it to be driven off. Keep keys and fobs well away from doors and windows and purchase a signal blocker wallet to keep them in.

Property Marking and Insurance

There are several products you can buy which contain a unique code like DNA. This code is registered to your address. They are usually clear liquids which can be applied onto your possessions.

Check you have adequate insurance cover. Photograph and record your valuables to assist any insurance claim or Police report. This will assist police in identifying any items recovered.

General Maintenance

Never leave anything that can be used by a thief to gain entry lying around the garden. Overgrown bushes prevent neighbours seeing into your garden and allow criminals to go unseen.

Social Media

Consider what you are putting on social media, especially if you are going on holiday or attending weddings, functions or posting pictures with jewellery. Criminals search for this information to create a list of empty houses. Your social media accounts should be set to friends only.

Unusual Activity








Report any unusual activity to Police. Criminals will often call offering to carry out work. This can be used as a method to identify vulnerable targets.

Community Concerns

Please take the opportunity to let us know what concerns or community issues the representatives of the community council have discussed this month and would like the Local Policing Team and the Community Action Team to address to improve your area.

Contact Us

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

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