



**POLICE**  
SCOTLAND

**CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS**

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MEETING ON**

**Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 7.30pm at The Crathes Hall**

**1. LOCAL INTEREST INFORMATION**

**RECORDED INCIDENTS/ CRIMES/OFFENCES:**

Crime remains generally low in the Portlethen and District beat area. Since the September Community Council Meeting there have been 190 incidents reported to Police Scotland in the area - and of these, 20 Crime Reports have been raised:

- 8 x Thefts
- 3 x Breach of the Peace
- 2 x Vandalisms
- 2 x Road Traffic Offences
- 1 x Drug related incident
- 1 x Domestic related incident
- 3x Miscellaneous offences.

DETECTED - 8  
ENQUIRY ONGOING - 12

**OTHER WORK:**

High visibility mobile patrols will continue to be carried out throughout the Portlethen and District area, whenever possible, to reduce the likelihood of crimes and offences occurring.

**2. FEEDBACK ON POLICE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**2. ONGOING LOCAL / FORCE-WIDE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES****GEAR UP FOR WINTER**

Every year there is a spate of collisions due to the bad weather especially when the bad weather first arrives as people still expect to walk out their front door and get to work at the same time in poor conditions.

It is imperative that people pay attention to weather forecasts and if bad weather is expected to get up earlier and allow enough time to prepare their vehicle for the journey and allow more time for the journey itself. Motorists must ensure:

<b>P</b> etrol	Make sure you have sufficient fuel for your journey and it is the correct type of fuel.
<b>O</b> il	Check oil level by using the engine dipstick. Don't rely on the oil warning light - it may be too late by then.
<b>W</b> ater	Check that you have sufficient water and screen wash in the reservoir. Check that you have sufficient coolant (water and anti-freeze).
<b>E</b> lectrics	Check all lights are clean and working (use reflections to assist you). A spare bulb kit should be carried.
<b>R</b> ubber	Check that your tyres have adequate tread depth (1.6 mm is the legal tread depth, albeit greater tread depth = greater grip).

It is also important that drivers consider:

- They clear all the snow and ice from the windscreen and other windows.
- Remove snow deposits from body panels.
- Their vehicles are prepared for winter.
- Have you thought about winter tyres?
- Put a shovel and a torch in your boot
- What clothes do you travel in and are they suitable if things go wrong?
- Have you thought about carrying extra clothes, coats and footwear?
- What about taking out a hot flask every morning?
- What about having a bag of emergency food?
- Place a sleeping bag in your boot.
- Ensure you have credit on your mobile 'phone and that it is charged.

Information about preparing for severe weather is available at the Police Scotland website and on each of the public agencies websites.

### **ABERDEENSHIRE RETAIL CRIME INITIATIVE**

Police Scotland are to be hosting a seminar this month focusing on retail crime.

We aim to support our local retailers:

- To make Aberdeenshire a hostile environment for criminals.
- To ensure criminals are aware that they are not welcome in any retail outlets who are part of the initiative.
- To protect customers, staff and stock... and profits!
- By working together to reduce and ideally eradicate the problem of retail crime, not merely move it on.
- Crime can be managed like any other aspect of business and controlled through business strategies. It is not always just bad luck that one business suffers crime and another enjoys a safe environment. A balanced prevention strategy means that a thief will give up, move on or be caught thus minimising business loss.
- We want to ensure we address the whole of Aberdeenshire and make all retail outlets a hard target and not just a few and so that criminals do not simply target what they see as a soft option or an easy target - this appears to be occurring already!
- Running this month in Stonehaven

### **ABERDEENSHIRE POLICE OFFICER RECOGNISED AT BRAVE@HEART AWARDS**

Celebrating exceptional acts the Brave@Heart awards give special recognition to staff from the 'blue lights services' and members of the public who have helped

others often disregarding their own personal safety.

PC Derek Thow, Divisional Roads Policing in Stonehaven was recognised for trying to assist a man who was knocked off the harbour wall by a large wave, into the sea at Stonehaven Harbour on a January night.

PC Thow entered the water and, in spite of the conditions, managed to take a hold of the man who by this time was unconscious and removed him from the water. On returning to shore he, along with colleagues started chest compressions until the casualty was taken to hospital by a rescue helicopter. Sadly the man died however Constable Thow's selfless bravery was instrumental in allowing all possible opportunities to be taken to save this man's life.

PC Thow said: "I was honoured to receive this award. Working in the emergency services often presents challenging and potentially dangerous situations and I know many colleagues who deal with these in a commendable way every day. I am grateful for this recognition for all those who help others every day as part of their jobs."

Pictured (left to right): Gavin Strachan, Scottish Fire and Rescue; PC Derek Thow; First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Matthew Robertson.



Police Scotland is also actively recruiting Officers and Special Constables. Details of the selection procedure can be found on the Police Scotland website.