

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



**Community Council:**

Forth and Endrick, Killearn Community Council

**Reporting Period:**

June 2021 compiled by PC Steven Graham

**Ward Plan Priorities**

## **Antisocial Behaviour**

Reports of persons within the grounds of Killearn Primary School. Police attended and moved a group of youths on. No damage reported by the school.

Report of a house party in Killearn. Police attended and the party was cleared.

## **Road Safety**

Devil's Pulpit has been busy again. We are continuing our efforts to discourage illegal parking and the Council enforcement Officers have again been out issuing tickets.

Speed checks have again been carried out in Killearn.

# **Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report**



## **Theft**

Yet another report of a theft by shoplifting at the Co-op. It is again thought to be the same person(s) that have carried out thefts there before. The previous one was detected and a male reported to the Procurator Fiscal. Enquiries are continuing into this recent case.

There was a tractor stolen from a farm near Ballikinrain so please be vigilant and if anything suspicious is seen then please contact the Police.

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



## **Bogus Traders**

Bogus traders have recently been reported in the Aberfoyle area so please take heed of the following:

Don't deal with cold callers - find local traders who have been vetted by Trading Standards at <https://approvedtrader.scot/>

Close the door on uninvited callers. Don't feel obliged to answer the door to a cold caller - it is your home and you should not let anyone in unless you feel comfortable

Take time to think before making a decision. Rogue traders may try to pressure you by saying that they have special deals which are only available today. Don't let an uninvited trader start work straight away

If an uninvited trader knocks on your door and tells you that urgent work needs done on your house or garden, don't take their word for it. Always get a second opinion from someone you trust and get at least 3 quotes before having any work carried out.

## **5 signposts to help you**

Close the Door on uninvited callers

Take Time to think before making a decision

Research - get at least 3 quotes

Verify that the caller is genuine

Report suspicious behaviour to @policescotland & scams to @advisedotscot

Sign up for @nwatchscotland free alerts to receive timely local alerts about community safety & crime prevention from Police Scotland and other partners.

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/sign-up-for-alerts/>

Rogue traders go to great lengths to appear legitimate, with genuine-looking websites, leaflets and online reviews. But they can't fake membership in a council run approved trader scheme: <https://approvedtrader.scot/>

Fed up with rogue traders? Watch these top tips on shutting out scammers from @policescotland @advisedotscot @socotss @tsscot & @nwatchscotland:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5ivvS8gJ-E>

## **Useful Links**

Find the most up to date advice on doorstep crime from Police Scotland on the website. They also have a dedicated page with advice on scams and frauds.

Call 101 to report any suspicious activity

Call 999 and ask for the police if you feel scared or threatened

To report doorstep scams to Trading Standards call Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000 or visit [scamwatch.scot](http://scamwatch.scot)

For free localised alerts from key information providers regarding incidents and crime prevention, go to [www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk)

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Get advice on consumer rights from your local Citizens Advice Bureau or by calling the Advice Direct Scotland Helpline on 0808 164 6000. Find local traders who have been vetted by Trading Standards at the SCOTSS Approved Trader Directory: [approvedtrader.scot](http://approvedtrader.scot)

This time of year also encourages people to make home improvements so here are a few security tips:

Your property can be more vulnerable whilst you're carrying out **home improvements**.

- Don't give keys to workers as they can make copies quickly and easily
- Let your neighbours know about work being carried out, where workers are likely to be and who they are
- Scaffolding may allow an intruder access to areas they wouldn't normally be able to access
- Remember to lock all accessible windows.

### **What should I do when I go on holiday?**

When you go on holiday there are a few steps you should take for security.

- Get to know your neighbours, if you trust them they might keep an eye on your home, draw curtains and remove mail from behind the door
- Consider using Royal Mail's Keepsafe service, they will keep your mail for up to 66 days
- Make sure you cancel any regular deliveries such as milk or newspapers
- Use timers on lights, make sure your alarm is set
- Don't post on social media that you're going on holiday - criminals can search for this kind of information to identify empty houses

### **Bike theft**

More than 500,000 bikes are stolen in the UK each year because they're poorly secured or not secured at all. More than half of all bikes stolen are taken from the owner's property. Due to the lockdown bikes have become more popular and thus have become more of a target for theft. Help protect your bike by following these guidelines:

#### **What can I do before I set off?**

- Photograph your bike and record all of your bike's details and distinguishing features and keep in a safe place. The serial number can be found on the bottom bracket.
- Register your bicycle securely online at the National Cycle Database, [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com). Doing this may help to recover your bike if it goes missing. On registering, you can also download a bike logbook where you can record your bike's details to keep at hand.
- Security mark your bike's frame with a UV pen or other method - the mark should include your home postcode and house number.
- Insure your bike, either on contents insurance or separately if required.

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



## **How can I secure my bike if it's kept in common close or stairwell?**

- Always keep your bike out of sight as best you can.
- Lock your bike with two locks to a secure banister or ground anchor.

## **What if I store my bicycle in a garage or a shed?**

- For tips on garage and shed security see here

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-garden-outbuildings/>

- Lock your bike with two locks to a ground anchor.

## **How should I secure my bike and its accessories when out and about?**

- Lock your bike up every time you leave it using secure locks (i.e. D-locks or thick cable locks).
- Ideally, use two different types of lock - a thief will need more tools to steal it.
- Locks are considered more vulnerable when close to the ground, so keep them off the floor.
- Fasten your bike through the frame and wheel to a fixed object.
- Lock your bike in a busy, well-lit place, in view of people or CCTV cameras.
- Lock the bike closely to the object it's attached to so it is difficult to manoeuvre.
- Lock the wheels and remove small parts / accessories that cannot be readily secured, such as lights, pumps, water bottles, saddles etc
- Vary your routine - lock up your bike in different ways & place.

# **Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report**



## **Pedal and motorbike identification forms**

The downloadable forms at the bottom of this page are a handy guide for you to record information about your bike or motorbike. These forms can be used as your own personal record about your property for the duration of time you own it. Every bike or motorbike will be unique to its owner through the serial/chassis/VIN numbers but these are not the only ways to identify your property. Modifications, stickers, repairs, damage also can be used to help identify your bike and the more information you record about your property throughout its time with you, the greater possible chance we have of reuniting you with your property if unfortunately lost or stolen. If you keep these forms up to date and in a place you remember, if you ever have to report your bike lost or stolen, you will have the perfect reference tool for making your report.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/d4jlfj4i/pedal-cycle-identification-form.pdf>

**We also have bike marking kits so if anyone wishes their bike marked in order to try and identify it if it gets stolen then please get in touch.**

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



## Community Engagement and Reassurance

It is important to you to have community officers who you know, who are accessible and who address local problems.

PC Steven Graham is based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at [ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk). It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact.

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at

[www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision](http://www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision)    [www.facebook.com/policescotland](http://www.facebook.com/policescotland)

[www.twitter.com/stirlingpol](http://www.twitter.com/stirlingpol)                      [www.twitter.com/policescotland](http://www.twitter.com/policescotland)

# Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Other Incidents /  
Activity of note

Issues raised

Community  
Council  
Feedback