

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Killearn Community Council

Reporting Period:

January 2024 Compiled by PC Matt McCammon

Ward Plan Priorities

Crime

No crimes in Killearn have been reported to Police in the month of January 2024.

Road Safety

A vehicle came off the road having skidded on ice at the Blane Smiddy Roundabout. No persons injured and no other vehicles involved. Stirling council was advised and provided further grit to the area.

A resident reported a vehicle with a loud exhausted sounded it horn outside the callers address late at night. They advised this had also happened before.

Several calls reporting wildlife encroaching on the roadway. Fortunately, none of these incidences resulted in any collisions, however, please continue to take care on the roads especially in the hours of darkness.

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Winter road safety

Where to Report Scams

Scams

In Scotland, report all scams to **Advice Direct Scotland** by calling **0808 164 6000** (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or online at www.consumeradvice.scot

Fraud

If you have been the victim of fraud, report it to **Police Scotland** on **101** or **999** in an emergency.

Suspicious Emails

You can forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk and send links from websites which you think are trying to scam the public to the **National Cyber Security Centre's** scam website reporting service at www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website

Suspicious Text Messages

If you receive a suspicious text message you can forward it to **7726**. The free-of-charge '7726' service enables your provider to investigate and take action if malicious content is found.

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Winter road safety

Advice for pedestrians

- Dress for the weather by wearing reflective or bright-coloured clothing so other road users can see you when it's dark or visibility is poor
- If you are walking home late at night, make sure someone knows where you're going and when
- Vehicles can take up to ten times longer to stop on slippery road surfaces so take extra care crossing the road
- Stick to pedestrian crossings
- If there are no crossings nearby, find a place with a clear view and wait for long gaps in the traffic before crossing the road
- Don't cross the road between parked vehicles, unless it can't be avoided then take extra care (look out for vehicles that suddenly pull out or reverse)
- Never cross the road behind a bus
- If there is no pavement, keep to the right hand side of the road so you can see traffic coming towards.

Advice for cyclists

- Make sure your bike can be seen by people on the road
- Use a good set of front and rear lights (white at the front, red at the back)
- Wear clothes that help you be seen on your bike, such as bright and light reflective items
- Pay attention to road signs, markings and particularly red lights
- Do not cycle on the pavements, they may be slippery and can also endanger pedestrians
- Be mindful of the effects poor weather can have on other road users
- Make sure you know about the dangers around you
- Cars can take twice as long to stop in wet weather
- Braking can be unpredictable in ice and snow.

Advice for drivers

- Make sure your car is ready for winter
- Check that your tyres, brakes, windscreens, wiper blades and windows are free from defects and clean
- Drive to the road conditions. Road conditions can change without warning, stopping distances will be affected by the weather
- Make sure your windows are clean and aren't misted up
- Make sure there is no snow and ice on your windows before you drive
- When the roads are icy, drive at a slow speed in a high gear
- Accelerate and brake very gently

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Phishing

Warning signs:

- E-mail that uses generic terms like 'Dear account holder'
- E-mail is threatening and states that urgent action is required
- E-mail has a link you don't recognise
- Spelling errors in the e-mail
- E-mail address is different from trusted company's website
- Unexpected e-mails from a company you have no business with
- No padlock sign on website and no 'https://' at the beginning of web address.

Keep yourself safe:

- Keep your browser software up-to-date
- Avoid risky sites, including supposed investment sites
- Never click on a link in an e-mail from an unknown person
- Use spam filters if you can
- Never give out your personal details, passwords or security codes via e-mail
- Don't leave personal documents lying around for anyone else to see
- If you're throwing away correspondence, remember to shred it first.

Fraudulent transactions and identity fraud

Purchases made without the person's consent is one of the most reported forms of cyber-enabled fraud.

This is when a fraudster gets access to their victim's accounts or uses their payment details to take money or buy things.

These offences use different phishing techniques to get a victim's account details. The fraudster also uses the victim's debit/credit card or phone. They then use these to carry out transactions online.

Access can also be gained through remote access to a victim's devices. The fraudster then gets access to their accounts.

If any transactions on your account are suspicious, contact your bank/credit card company as soon as possible. You should report this and allow them to carry out an investigation.

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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 Matt McCammon is the Ward Officer for the Forth and Endrick area. He is based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.police.uk. It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact however this should not be used to report crimes.

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

www.facebook.com/policescotland

www.twitter.com/stirlingpol

www.twitter.com/policescotland