

Marr Local Policing Team

Our team covers all towns, villages and communities within the Marr area, including the main population centres of Banchory, Huntly, Aboyne, Alford and Ballater, where our Police Stations are located. We have a further station within the community of Braemar.

Each of your officers who work from these Police Stations is committed to providing the best possible service to the entire Marr area, directed by the principles of a community focused approach.



Inspector Andrew Todd
Local Policing Team
Inspector

Contact Details

Banchory Police Station
4 High Street
Banchory
AB31 5RP

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.

If you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss please contact your local Police Station where your local staff will listen, discuss and take what action is necessary.

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 2011



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Keeping our communities safe

Marr Local Policing Update

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Closer to you.**

MARR Local Policing Update

This is my fourth quarterly Local Policing Update for the Marr area following Grampian Police's launch of the policing model "Local Policing – Closer to You" on 1 April 2010. This model of policing places community focus central to how we deliver the service of the Local Policing Team. This report will provide a short review of the last quarter of the fiscal year and an overview of how far we've come since the launch of Local Policing – Closer To You

Throughout the year the matters which have consistently been important to communities have remained as

- Community Focus
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Road Collisions and Road Safety

Given we have had the same main themes throughout the year, what have we done about them?

Community Focus

- Central to a community focused model of policing is meaningful engagement with communities. We recognise and respect the fact that it is only through engagement with local communities that the delivery of the policing service can be properly influenced by those communities. Community Councils remain central to this engagement. Over the year we have attended 96 of the 125 Community Council meetings held in Marr (77%), which means that on average nearly twice every week of the year, local officers are meeting with Community Councils and discussing community based concerns.
- As a consequence of the workshops at the Marr Area Partnership Ward forums in August, between myself and representatives of all Community Councils in the Marr area I have ensured that, as far as possible, only local Police officers attend local Community Council meetings. These officers can undoubtedly bring local knowledge to the meeting, whilst allowing members of the community to better know their local Police Officers.

- We have now held 24 Police Surgeries within Marr during 2010/11. These have been held in each of the main communities of Marr and whilst some have initially been more successful than others, we are committed to continuing to deliver these at least once per quarter in each of our main communities. These have only been staffed by local officers who Police your community. This will remain the case.

So how has this engagement directed the delivery of Policing in Marr? Here are some examples of how your Local Policing Team have responded to matters raised:

- A matter was raised by Ballater residents in September regarding unauthorised vehicles driving in the Cambus O' May, with parties being held and fires lit. This was quickly dealt with when local officers notified the land owner and a gate with a lock was reinstalled.
- In January, Strathbogie residents asked for support to recommend the installation of Deer Warning signs on the A97. We considered the matter and provided our support to the community's request.
- Throughout the year Banchory residents have brought to our attention the issue of Taxi's parking in the bus bay on the High Street. Local officers have identified a variety of solutions, including writing to all taxi operators based in Banchory. Whilst the problem has been alleviated to an extent, we recognise that traffic management within the High Street is a wider issue and have consulted upon the Traffic Management Review produced for the area, which intends to address this and other issues in the High Street.
- Residents of Torphins inform us that vehicles continue to speed in their community. The use of the speed camera van in the village is currently not supported with the evidence available from speed surveys undertaken. The community believe that the most recent survey was impacted by the poor weather and, in March, asked Police to conduct them again. We have committed to doing so and will be asking the community to

identify the location for the survey to be sited. Local officers continue to attend in the village with other speed detection equipment as part of their routine patrols and in response to the communities concern.

Anti-Social Behaviour

As reported in the 3rd quarter report, Marr does not have a significant problem with anti-social behaviour. However, we recognise that such behaviour does exist and give a high priority to enquiries involving any element of anti-social behaviour.

- Particular close attention is provided to vandalism. Between 1 April 2010 and 1 March 2011, 223 vandalism occurred within the Marr area. Of these, 60 were detected and offenders identified. The number of vandalism is a considerable drop from the same period the previous year where 263 vandalism were reported.
- Calls to the Police relating to ongoing youth disorder and underage drinking continue to decrease. Over the 1 April to 1 March period, the number of calls relating to such concerns in the entire Marr area have dropped to 216 in 2010/11 from 274 the previous year.
- Local officers have directed their patrols towards areas known, or vulnerable, to anti-social behaviour. Patrolling has included hotspot areas of our countryside, such as the banks of the Clunie near Braemar and Potarch, to promote responsible use of these areas. At times, these patrols have been with colleagues from Aberdeenshire Council Rangers Service, directly supporting an agreed partnership task in the Marr Area Community Plan 2010–14. Initial meetings have already been held to continue these joint patrols throughout 2011.

Road Collisions and Road Safety

Between 1 April 2010 and 19 March 2011 local officers were required to attend 336 reports of road collisions in the Marr area. More than 200 were damage only, meaning there was no injury, but 119 involved some injury, including serious injury. These figures clearly support road

casualty reduction as a priority for Grampian Police and our communities.

All road users have a responsibility to ensure that their driving is to the standard required and officers take time to educate drivers during their high profile patrols. At times these are dedicated patrols, such as Operation Zenith during the summer of 2010 which tackled the instances of death and serious injury of motorcyclists.

- During February, Huntly and Alford staff ran a short operation stopping drivers on country roads and providing them with a leaflet with facts on the risks of driving on country roads, as well as tips on how to minimise those risks.
- Speed checks in built up areas of all communities are now a routine part of the duties for all Marr officers. They are supported by colleagues in the dedicated Roads Policing Unit who patrol key roads at key times educating and enforcing where required.
- Between 1 April 2010 and 19 March 2011, 19 formal warnings were provided to young drivers in the Marr area for driving in an anti-social way. A further 10 were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for careless driving. 85 drivers not classed as young drivers were reported for careless driving in the Marr area over the same period.

Future Developments

As stated in the last report, I am very interested to know your thoughts on the content of the report. Feedback following the last report informed me that the inclusion of the figures relating to anti-social behaviour were appreciated. I have responded to this by maintaining the inclusion of these figures and adding further data believed relevant. It is only through this feedback that I can continue to tailor the report to meet your needs. I remain grateful for any feedback you may have and ask that should you have a comment to make you contact me at:

mylocalpolicingteam@grampian.pnn.police.uk

with "Marr LPT Update" in the subject line.

Andrew Todd
Marr Local Policing Team Inspector