

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](mailto: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.



Marr

Local Policing Update



Local Policing.
Closer to you.

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MARR Local Policing Update

We are now well into the second year of Grampian Police's Community Focused Policing Model "Local Policing – Closer to You". This model of Policing is fundamental to how we deliver your policing service within our community of Marr. All within the Marr Local Policing Team believe that we have come a long way in the last 15 months, but we continue to review, refine and evaluate our method of Community Focus to ensure that it fits with the needs of our community.

Going forward into the next twelve months it remains the case that the matters which are of most importance to communities are:

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

Whilst these three topics remain the key issues, our actions in response to them have not become stagnant and we continue to seek to develop innovative and partnership based actions to help resolve, or at least, alleviate the issues.

So what have we been involved in over the first quarter of 2011/12, and how have we reacted to the views expressed by local communities?

Community Focus

Grampian Police remains committed to delivering Community Focus. We recognise that this ethos is something our communities wish to see, but notwithstanding, it is also a successful and efficient way to direct our resources so that they focus on issues which matter to local communities. This commitment is demonstrated not only through Community Focus remaining a Force Priority for 2011/12 but also through the number of officers and Police Staff within the Marr Local Policing Team remaining the same over the last 15 months. Given these times of well documented budget restrictions, it is important to highlight this fact.

Our ability to deliver on Community Focus

is utterly dependent upon on good community engagement. Since 1 April this year we have :

- Attended 21 Community Council meetings, out of the 30 held.
- Hosted 10 Police Surgeries, throughout the Marr area, engaging with 51 members of the public at these surgeries.

It remains the case that we are formally engaging with communities in the Marr Area more than twice per week, every week.

As the Inspector for the Marr Local Policing Team I have continued to attend the Marr Community Planning Group Ward Forums, meeting with many Marr area Community Council representatives as well as key partners. These meetings give me an increased understanding of key concerns within the three Marr wards and I remain fully committed to the very successful Marr Community Planning Group.



Some short examples of matters brought to our attention through our various engagements are:-

- In April local officers in Huntly ran patrols and then an operation targeted at underage drinking in the Cooper Park. Alcohol was taken from youths over a number of weekends and an individual was charged with supplying alcohol to underage youths.
- In May, Birse & Ballogie Community Council notified us of fly-tipping within the nearby Balfour forest. We attended that night in the area and although nothing was found at that time we are vigilant to the possibility of the issue repeating itself and, therefore, give the area attention to deter any fly-tipping.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour remains very low within the Marr area, and is continuing to decrease. This can be confirmed in part through our vandalism this year being down on last year, from 56 to 49 between the period 1 April to 12 June 2011. This is

perhaps a very small number spread over a very large area, but clearly, one too many, and this is an issue where we continue to work very hard with communities and partners to address.

Whilst I wish to reassure the community that anti-social behaviour is not a significant problem, the entire Marr Local Policing Team recognise that it is a key issue for communities and we are not complacent regarding the impact when it does occur. For example :-

- Throughout the Marr area we direct patrols to areas where we believe, or have been advised, under age drinking takes place.
- Within Banchory a specific matter has arisen regarding anti-social behaviour at a play park. A partnership based approach to the issue is being put into place, with particular consideration being given to the Banchory Alcohol Project. A meeting has been held with local Councillors and those residents affected by the problem. Funding for dedicated police patrols in June and early July has been obtained from the Community Safety Partnership and these are now being implemented.
- Through our membership of the Marr Community Planning Group we have recommenced our joint patrols with Aberdeenshire Council Rangers' Service of hot spot areas in Marr's countryside, promoting responsible access to such locations as Potarch and Cambus O'May. Two such patrols have already taken place with more to be identified between the Rangers and the local Police.
- In May, Ballater Community Council raised a concern regarding broken bottles being found within Monaltrie Park in Ballater. Patrols by local officers have been made in the area and consideration is being given to a dedicated operation should these patrols not have a sufficient effect.

Road Collisions and Road Safety

We remain committed to improving road safety and reducing collisions on our roads. Within most towns and villages in Marr there have been, to a greater or lesser extent, concerns raised by

communities over the speed of vehicles within their communities. In order to ensure we have the correct focus for our speeding patrols we carry out speed surveys using technology installed at the side of the road, which helps evidence the existence of the problem and the most appropriate times of day for us to attend.

Equally, we will spend time at locations and gauge the extent of reported problems through the use of the hand held mobile speed detection equipment. Currently we have three key locations where we are undertaking additional action to focus on the concerns raised:

- Torphins
- Aboyne
- Craigievar School

and at each of these locations there is a greater probability that drivers exceeding the speed limit will be identified and dealt with appropriately.

Some young drivers remain a group more at risk than others. Where there is evidence, we will approach specific young drivers at their home and speak to them regarding our concerns. We continue to look to communities to help us identify those young drivers.

In May we ran a short operation over two nights in Banchory to identify, engage and deal with young drivers from the area who had come to our attention. Whilst it was very quiet on those nights, we intend to look to similar operations in the future.

Future Work

Over the next 3 months you will see your Local Policing Team:-

- Continue to review and develop the Police surgery model within Marr so that each surgery is fitted to the needs of the community in which it has been delivered.
- Increased patrols in select key areas as well as a number of our Shows & Games to deter anti-social behaviour.
- Along with our Road Safety Grampian colleagues run Young Driver Road Shows within Deeside and Huntly designed to improve young driver attitudes and behaviour.