



**ALLOA COMMUNITY COUNCIL 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**INTRODUCTION**

The new ward officers for Alloa are now:

PC 080 Lorna McPherson, [lorna.mcperson@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lorna.mcperson@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

PC 933 Brentt Chambers, [brentt.chambers@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:brentt.chambers@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

**CALLS TO POLICE**

During period 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to 24 April 2018, PSOS received 503 calls to incidents in Alloa;

- Beat A01 – **71** calls received for area leading from town towards Cambus.
- Beat A02 – **219** calls received for area behind Tesco out towards Clackmannan
- Beat A03 – **126** calls for town centre
- Beat A04 – **87** calls received for area leading out towards Tullibody

Calls range from public looking for advice from Police, member of the public reporting drug related issues, disturbance, road traffic offences and concern for person. Not all calls result in a report(s) having to be submitted.

**RECORDED CRIME**

During period 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018;

- **74** crimes recorded
- **35** undetected
- **39** detected

Detection rate 53%, with 86% of undetected incidents marked as having enquiries still ongoing.

**COMMUNITY ISSUES**



Additional patrols have been conducted in Alloa town centre, to deter anti-social behaviour and drug/alcohol misuse especially around Shillinghill and Forth Valley College. This is prevalent on Friday/Saturday evenings with a large number of youths congregating.

Ongoing anti-social behaviour from off-road vehicles in the “bottom end” area and Mar Policies of Alloa. Riding an off-road motorcycle or quad bike without a driving licence and insurance is an offence and all persons caught doing this will be dealt with robustly. Additional foot & cycle patrols by local officers will be carried out in the area, along with additional support from colleagues in the Roads Policing Unit.

There has been 4 persons reported for Drugs Offences.

There has been 1 knife related crime in Alloa in the last month. This is detected with a female reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Over the course of the last week, the RSPB bird watching hut at the Black Devon Wetlands, Alloa has been vandalised with the wooden structure boards being broken. Additional patrols will be carried out, however if anyone is walking in this secluded location and observes any anti-social behaviour, please contact your local community officers.

This month there was unfortunately another victim to an “iTunes Scam”, whereby a male was contacted by a fraudulent PPI company, claiming to be able to release a large sum of money to him, in exchange for £500 of iTunes vouchers, which he duly complied with. Any genuine company or government organisation (HMRC, Loan Companies, Banks, etc.) will NEVER ask for any form of payment in iTunes vouchers or similar store vouchers. Preventative work has been undertaken with large retailers in the area to ensure that they do not sell high values of these vouchers to people.

Facebook and Twitter – Community Messages can be placed on local Police sites via Community Sergeant.

Any information regarding drug dealing or other criminality can be reported to police or **Crimestoppers** and can be done so anonymously. Telephone: **0800 555 111**



## SAFETY ADVICE



### **Keep Safe from Doorstep Crime and Bogus Callers**

#### **What is doorstep crime?**

From bogus callers to rogue traders, doorstep criminals are cunning, creative, and often very convincing.

Anyone can be fooled as these people are professional con artists. However, the over 60s are often specifically targeted.

#### **What types of doorstep criminals are there?**

There are two main types:

**Bogus callers** try to get into your home or obtain personal details by pretending to be someone they're not, including council staff, charity collectors, meter readers and police officers. In reality, they are criminals trying to steal money and valuables.

**Rogue traders** usually cold-call, claiming to be workers offering to sell services, make repairs or carry out work on your house, garden or driveway. In reality they charge inflated prices for shoddy or unnecessary work.

We **DO NOT** recommend dealing with cold-callers for property maintenance and home repairs.

#### **How can I spot a Rogue Trader?**

- They may tell you the work is urgent and needs to be carried out immediately.
- They will normally ask for payment there and then and may offer to come to the bank with you if you don't have the cash at hand.

#### **How can I protect myself from doorstep crime?**



- Be on guard if someone turns up unexpectedly.
- Keep front and back doors locked.
- Use the door viewer or nearby window when answering the door.
- Fit a door chain or bar – use it and keep it on when talking to callers at the door.
- If you're not sure, don't answer the door.
- Don't feel embarrassed - genuine callers expect you to be careful.
- Only let callers in if they have an appointment and you have confirmed they are genuine.
- Always ask for identification badges of anyone you answer the door to, but don't rely on them. Identity cards can be faked – phone the company to verify their identity.
- Some companies offer a password system. Ask your utility providers if this can be used and if you have a password with a company make sure the caller uses it.
- Never let people try to persuade you to let them into your home even if they are asking for help – they may not be genuine. If someone is persistent, ask them to call at another time and arrange for a friend or family member to be with you.
- Never agree to pay for goods or give money to strangers who arrive at your door.
- Don't keep large amounts of money in your home.
- Remember, it's your home. There's no reason why anyone should ever enter your home against your wishes.
- If you're not sure, don't answer the door.

More advice can be found on <http://scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/>

### **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING**

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



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