

Police Scotland - MAKI Area Community Planning Partnership Update for April 2022

Counter Terrorism Awareness

PC Dave Burton is our local Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer and has been providing inputs to local Housing Association as an introduction to Counter Terrorism. This ensures that staff are aware of signs of radicalisation and any prevention work that can be done by them as a frontline measure.

Your Dog, Your Responsibility

As lambing season is upon us, and with new legislation launched in relation to livestock worrying, our Divisional launch of this was held on Friday 11th February 2022. The new legislation for livestock worrying now covers a wider range of animals including camelids and ostriches. The Dogs (Protection of Livestock) (amendment)(Scotland) Act 2021 includes amendments to the penalties people can face which includes a fine up to £40,000 or 12 months imprisonment. The message is clear, it's your dog and it's your responsibility. Always keep your dog in sight and under proper control when near livestock and avoid fields with sheep particularly at this time of year when any stress may cause them to abort their young. Funding from National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) has enabled crime prevention packs for those involved in agriculture and forestry work to be printed and these will be available shortly. Waterproof fence posters will also be available from your local police station in the coming weeks which can be fixed to fence posts advising people of this legislation. If you would like to become involved in promoting this or helping to display the fence posters then please let us know (Laura.evans@scotland.pnn.police.uk).

Fraud Prevention

To support Cyber Scotland Week 2022, Police Scotland in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland held a series of online seminars to raise awareness of scams and online safety. This is due to the increase in reported frauds we have seen since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. There were 3 sessions held – General Online Safety Tips, Child Protection (their safety, our responsibility) and Scams Prevention and Awareness. Neighbourhood Watch Scotland have now uploaded each presentation to their YouTube Channel so that they can be watched and shared at any time. Here is the link to view each recording:

- Online Safety Awareness - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0TmqVdyiQc>
- Their Safety, Our Responsibility - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CnFzGFPXGo>
- Scams & Digital Footprint Awareness - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKdmU7Y0fQk>

Inputs are continuing for community groups and call blockers continue to be installed for those most at risk of falling victim to scams.

Domestic Abuse Support for Holidaymakers

Last year there was a noticeable increase in the number of reports to Police of Domestic Abuse around the times of peak tourism. It was noted that due to increased alcohol intake, being contained within a holiday destination away from home and other stresses, couples visiting the area were having disputes, leading to domestic incidents.

Advice and guidance was available to hoteliers and licenced premises, requesting that they look out for the signs and contact Police.

In addition, a Police Scotland flier is now available for all premises where tourism will be a factor throughout the year, which can be displayed for visitors, providing them with support advice, should they fall victim to, or suspect someone of being victim of, domestic abuse.

Anyone interested in this can contact PC Evans, as above.

Rural Watch Signposting

In recent months there has been some good work across the partnerships in strengthening the Rural Watch scheme. Sgt Jon Watson-Russell, based at Campbeltown, is the Point of Contact for this scheme. He is currently enquiring about funding to have a number of signs posted along the A83 in MAKI and down the east side of the peninsula. It is requested that the group consider any available funding sources which could assist in the procurement of such signs.