



March 2025 Howe of Fife & Taycoast Community Council Newsletter

Introduction

Welcome to March's Howe of Fife Community Council Newsletter from your local officers, PC Mark Lowe, PC Kirstie Haddow and Sergeant Nicola Gillespie.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Police Scotland Commences National Roll Out of Body Worn Video Cameras

The national rollout of body worn video (BWV) is one of the Chief Constables Commitments and is also a key change project to improve policing in Scotland. The roll out started in Tayside in March 2025 and is expected to be complete by Spring 2026. Police Scotland has agreed a national contract with Motorola Solutions UK limited to implement BWV for officers and staff across Scotland over the next three years. BWV can help to de-escalate incidents, improve public trust in policing and reduce complaints, support officer and staff safety, and bring wider benefits to the criminal justice system.



What is body worn video?

BWV refers to small, lightweight recording devices which are attached to an officer's uniform, usually on the chest and will be visible to people you interact with. The cameras are robust enough for frontline policing and have been approved for use in the UK by the Home Office. The wearing of BWV will be mandatory for all uniformed frontline police officers and police staff. BWV will not be used covertly or for surveillance purposes.

What do the public think about BWV?

It is important that we understand the impact that BWV may have on our officers and communities.

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In 2021 we conducted one of the largest surveys that Police Scotland has undertaken in relation to the police use of BWV. Around 9,000 responses were received.

The results found that:

- **There is widespread and strong support for the use of BWV.**
A large majority (90%) of respondents felt that BWV should be worn “often” or “always”.
- **BWV has the potential to increase trust and confidence in Police Scotland.**
78% of respondents reported that BWV would increase their trust in Police Scotland, and the same number reported that it would increase their confidence in Police Scotland.
- **BWV will increase feelings of safety.**
72% of respondents reported that BWV would make them feel “much safer”.

What are the benefits of BWV?

BWV brings about many benefits to workforce as well as to the public and victims of crime.

Some of the benefits include:

- Improved level of public trust
- Improved operational effectiveness
- Supports officer safety and wellbeing
- Improve evidence in criminal/non-criminal investigations

Improve partner relationships

ROAD SAFETY

Road Safety within North East Fife continues to be a concern. We are often requested to attend specific roads where speeding is an issue for persons who both live and work in that area. PC's Lowe and Haddow have carried out speed detection sites throughout the area with 1 driver being issued with a conditional offer ticket for speeding. We will continue to carry out such checks whenever possible. #KeepingPeopleSafe



COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH INITIATIVE



Community Speed Watch is a voluntary scheme driven by members of the community and is supported by Police Scotland (Fife Division). Essentially, it is a high visibility deterrent which strives to encourage motorists to reduce their speed, thus improving the safety and quality of lives of the local community.

The scheme runs during the summer months, so work is underway to have this up and running again from April 2025.



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We currently have 10 volunteers and are actively seeking more to join our initiative in keeping our roads a safer place. We have a further 2 people who have expressed an interest.

Community Engagement

PC's Haddow and Lowe attended at Smart Cookies Nursery in Falkland to speak with the children about the role of the Community Police Officer, giving them the opportunity to dress up as police officers, explore the police van and ask questions about the protective equipment

The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were rewarded with stickers and certificates for their participation.



How to contact the Police to Report Crime

Always dial 999 in an emergency

By phone – 101 for non-emergencies 0300 426 0101 if calling from out with the UK. Network charges may apply.

Online – for issues of a non-serious nature using web address:

www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us

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In person at your local enquiry office.

Text Relay - 18001101 for deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or speech-impaired callers

In writing – to PO BOX 2460, Dalmarnock, Glasgow, G40 9BA

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

We are always keen to engage with members of the Community Council and elected members and would welcome you and the public to get in touch with us regarding any issues they wish to raise. Please contact us on our team email address.

If you are organising or intending to have any village events that you would like to see your Local Community Officers attend, please contact us at the e-mail address

HoweOfFifeTaycoastCPT@Scotland.police.uk to make us aware of upcoming dates in your respective areas and we will do our best to attend as many as possible.

Calls Received (To end of March 2025)

Since 1st March 2025, Police have received 239 calls in the Howe of Fife and Taycoast area resulting in 27 crimes being recorded. This breaks down as follows:

Auchtermuchty

30 calls to the police which resulted in

2 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of dishonesties, disorder, concern for persons and assist members of public.

Strathmiglo

36 calls to the police which resulted in

4 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of road traffic matters, anti-social behaviour, disorder, dishonesty, concern for persons and assist members of public.

It should be noted that there is an increase in calls to police from this area due to youth antisocial behaviour being reported.

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Gateside

2 calls to the police which resulted in

0 recorded crime

Calls consisted of assisting members of public

Ladybank

32 calls to the police which resulted in

7 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of road traffic matters, disorder, dishonesty and assisting members of public.

Giffordtown (Giffordtown, Edentown, Charlottetown, Kinloch)

3 calls to the police which resulted in

0 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of assisting members of the public, antisocial behaviour

Dunshalt

1 call to the police

0 recorded crimes

Call was a road traffic matter

Falkland & Newton of Falkland

10 calls to the police which resulted in

1 recorded crime

Calls consisted of road traffic matters, dishonesty and assist members of the public

Freuchie

14 calls to the police which resulted in

1 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of Road Traffic Matters, disorder, concern for persons and assist members of public.

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Kettle (Kettlebridge, Kingskettle)

29 calls to the police which resulted in

2 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of assist members of the public, disorder, road traffic matters, dishonesty and concern for persons.

It should be noted that there is a slight increase to the number of calls to this area which was due to a faulty alarm.

Newburgh

47 calls to the police which resulted in

9 recorded crimes

Calls consisted of were road traffic matters, concern for persons and assist members of the public.

Monimail (Bow of Fife, Collessie, Monimail, Letham)

10 calls to the police which resulted in

1 recorded crime

Calls consisted of road traffic matters, vandalism, assist member of public and the remainder consisted of concern for person.

Creich & Flisk (Creich, Brunton, Luthrie)

5 calls to the police which resulted in

0 recorded crimes

Abdie & Dunbog (Abdie, Dunbog, Lindores, Grange of Lindores, Den of Lindores)

1 call to the police which resulted in

0 recorded crime

Call consisted of a road traffic matter.

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Contact Details

Your local community officers are PC 442 Mark Lowe and PC 189 Kirstie Haddow. Below is the local contact email address for your local community team.

This is not for reporting a crime but if you feel you require to contact your local community officer then the email address is the best way to do so.

Email – HoweOfFifeTaycoastCPT@Scotland.police.uk

If you do not have access to the internet, then you can call 101 and the call handler can send an email on your behalf.

KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE

HoweOfFifeTaycoastCPT@scotland.police.uk

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Tel: 101 Twitter: [@NorthFifePol](https://twitter.com/NorthFifePol)

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