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Queens Cross and Harlaw
Community Council
March 2025

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This report aims to highlight emerging issues in your area, and to provide crime prevention advice and guidance to Community Council members and the residents you represent. Our focus is to reduce crime and disorder, help create safer communities and respond effectively to local concerns.

Crime Overview

We are pleased to announce improvements in the way statistics are provided to Community Councils. Previously, the manual generation of stats due to misalignment between Community Council boundaries and Police beat codes led to occasional inaccuracies and was time-consuming. Now, the North East Police division will provide data that aligns with police beat codes, some of which encompass multiple Community Council areas. Additionally, beat code maps will be available for reference. We have also updated previous data to ensure comparable statistics are readily accessible.

In the Queens Cross and Harlaw community, there were a total of 105 calls to Police during March 2025. This is a decrease of 5 calls compared to February 2025. Calls to Police predominantly related to non-criminal matters including, concern for persons, missing persons, assisting the public and false calls with good intent.

As a result of these incidents, and proactive Police activity, 34 crimes were recorded in the Queens Cross and Harlaw community during March 2025. This is an increase in 13 crimes recorded since February 2025.

Crime Type	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25
Drugs	2	2	2			
Vandalism	4	2	3			
Assault	5	4	8			
Theft	5	4	5			
RTO	10	4	8			

Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder

On 13 March 2025, there was a vandalism to a licensed premises in the area of Alford Place, Aberdeen. Two youths deliberately threw an item at a window causing it to break. The incident is captured on CCTV and enquiries are currently ongoing. The cost of damage to the window is estimated to be £300.

Acquisitive Crime

On 03 March 2025, there was a theft by shoplifting at a store on St Swithin Street, Aberdeen. A male entered the store, grabbed 3 bottles of alcohol and left without paying for same. The alcohol stolen was valued at £129.90. Enquiries were carried out however the male responsible was not identified and the crime has been closed as undetected.

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On 16 March 2025, Police received a report of a theft of a purse and contents from a church near Holburn Street, Aberdeen. The owner left the purse unattended and on returning for it, found it had been stolen. The owner later received notifications from her bank that her card had been used for several transactions. Enquiries are still currently ongoing in to this incident.

The community should remain vigilant and consider the following advice.

- Ensure all vehicles and property are secured when not in use.
- Consider the installation of CCTV cameras covering private property.
- Ensure that you are comfortable with the identity of persons before providing personal information over the telephone. If in doubt, hang up contact Police via 101 for further advice.

Road Safety & Road Crime

On 25 March 2025, Roads Policing Officers were carrying out high visibility patrols in the area of Holburn Street, Aberdeen. A vehicle was stopped and the rear passenger was identified as not wearing a seatbelt. They were issued with, and accepted, a £100 fine.

On 31 March 2025, in the area of Osborne Place, Aberdeen, a driver was found to be driving without due care or attention. The driver was cautioned, charged and issued with a conditional offer resulting in a £100 fine and 3 penalty points.

Road safety remains a priority for the North East Police Division, and local resources will continue to undertake high visibility proactive patrols to ensure your roads are safe.

Community Safety Advice

The North East Crime Reduction team are advising all bike owners to consider their bike security after a recent increase in thefts.

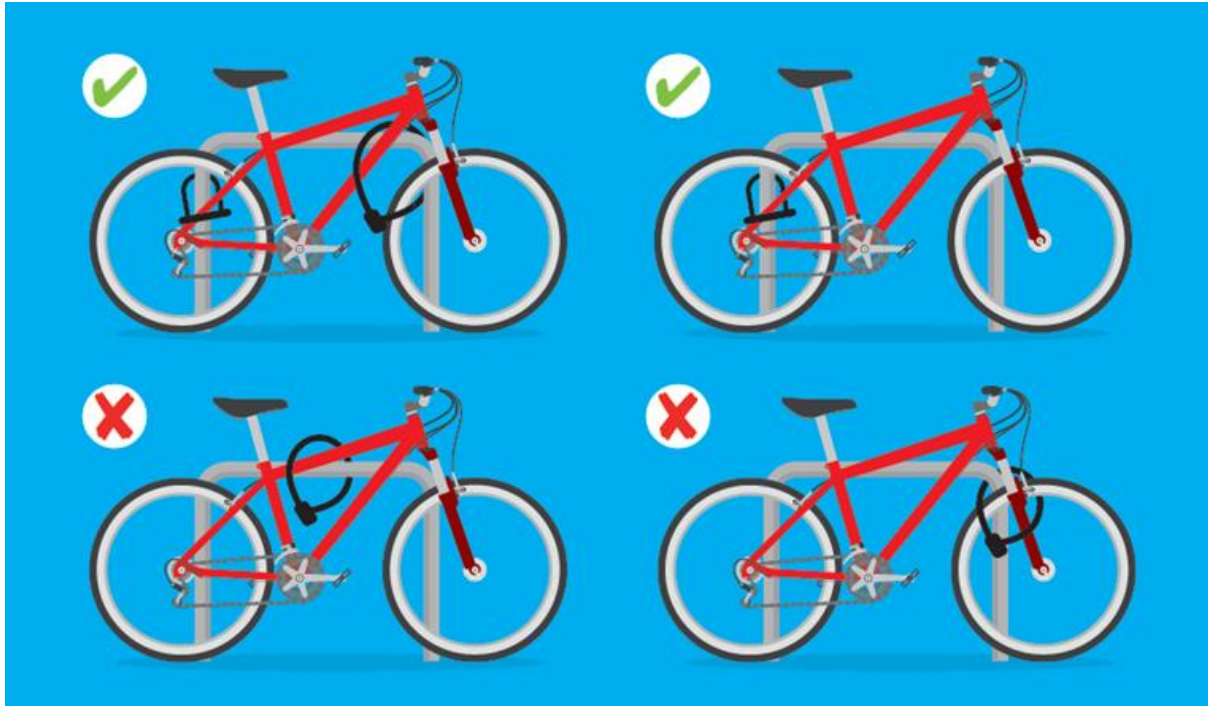
'Whether you have just purchased your first bike or are a seasoned cyclist it is worth investing in good quality cycle specific locks to secure your bike. Consider a ground anchor for securing your bike to a solid surface at home. Ideally, when out, use two different types of lock. Remember that locks are more vulnerable when close to the

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ground, so keep them off the floor.'

Thieves will routinely carry bolt croppers or even battery powered angle grinders and light weight, poor quality locks offer very little resistance and are easily overcome. As a rough guide consider spending at least 10% of the value of the bike on a lock.



Always buy the best quality lock you can afford and look out for those that have been endorsed as 'Sold Secure' or 'Secured by Design.' Invest in high-quality padlocks, hasps, and sturdy hinges. Consider using security screws or coach bolts to deter removal.

Photograph your bike and record all of your bike's details and distinguishing features and keep in a safe place. The serial number can be found on the bottom bracket. Consider using a bike registration scheme such as 'Bike Register' to mark your bicycle. Not only is this a deterrent to thieves but should you be unlucky enough to have your bicycle stolen it increases the chances of getting your bicycle back.

If you are solely relying on your home insurance policy for cover, it may be worth making contact with them if your bike is valued at over £400, policies often will only pay this amount unless the bike is specified on the policy.

We advise everyone to look at their buildings through the eyes of a thief. Start by looking at the grounds of their property and think about lighting and fencing. Are there any loose objects lying about which could be used by the thieves to help force entry to the premises? CCTV is a useful tool, but it must be remembered that CCTV on its own, is not a deterrent to criminality and should always be combined with appropriate physical security.

If you have an intruder alarm at home, consider extending it to cover sheds, garages and outbuildings and ensure that there is a visible external sounder box. If not

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consider battery powered motion detector alarms, readily available online.

Illuminate the exterior of your garage. Outdoor security lighting is an excellent deterrent for intruders, especially when you opt for a motion sensor light. It can also bring illumination to your outdoor areas, bringing you better security.

Further advice can be obtained by contacting Police Scotland Crime Reduction Officers at:

NorthEastCrimeReduction@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Concerns

Please take the opportunity to let us know of any community concerns or issues so that we can explore these issues and take action to address your concerns.

Any updates will be fed back to the Community Council in future reports.

Contact Us

Please also remember you can contact us using any of the following:

- ☎ 101 – Non emergency;
- ✉ Email - AberdeenSouthCPT@scotland.police.uk
- ✉ Twitter - @NorthEPolice
- ✉ Facebook – www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision
- ✉ Web – www.scotland.police.uk
- ☎ 999 – Emergency;
- ☎ 0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers;

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