**Introduction**

Welcome to May’s Cupar Ward Community Council Newsletter from your local officers, PC Lee Smith, PC Duncan Shand and Sgt Nicola Gillespie.

**Local News, Priorities and Useful Information**

**Road Safety**

The community officers have also been out in our ward area with Pop up Bob deployments. These areas have been highlighted to the community team by resdidents of the area of concern. If you have concerns regarding speeding then contact the community team through the email provided. Pop up Bob is for use by the entire ward area, and shall be deployed on a shared basis. Further to this, officers along with their colleuges on response have been utilising the speed gun. These deployments take place throughout the day and includeds evening times. If there are areas of concern then please contact the community officers and this wil be added to the speeding matrix. The current fine for speeding is a £100 fine and 3 penalty points endorsed on your licence.



**In this months awreness information we have details regarding keeping your Buisness safe.**

Organised criminal groups operate in Scotland. They make money through illegal activity and use innocent people to help them.

Financial crime is one of the fastest growing crimes these groups are working in.

To defraud organisations, they target people holding key positions within organisations. They are targeted by criminal networks to help them in their work.

Here are some tips for professionals to look out for:

* Customers who only want to do business over the phone or internet.  All customer validation checks should be carried out, not just an identity check. Do a background check
* Scrutinise sources of deposits to confirm validity. Do this with the use of receipts or bank statements
* Be wary of similar multiple transactions
* If an intermediary is being used always confirm their reputation and legitimacy
* Look out for organised crime indicators. These will include cash rich companies and money from invisible services.

Keep up-to-date with current legislation about money laundering and how to deal with it.

If you are in doubt about a client, their business, their funds or legitimacy of a transaction then submit a SAR. This allows the Law Enforcement Agency to look at the information and make an informed decision.

If a crime has occurred, you must inform the Police.

**Advice for businesses/employers**

Businesses/employers can take some simple steps to assist with preventing fraud. This is often committed with colluding staff. These include:

* Know your staff - check CVs and take up references
* The more sensitive their position the more detailed the search should be
* When staff move, change computers, passwords and building access levels
* Have control over access to computers, documents and equipment to stop unauthorised use
* Train staff in security systems, disciplinary policies and procedures.
* Encourage line managers to enforce this training
* Encourage whistle blowing in your organisation
* Carry out random spot checks
* Take a hard line on culprits
* Have a clear message that any colluding staff will be reported to any professional body and Police
* Limit use of USB drives and external storage items
* Consider ban on mobiles at workstations (have been used for photographing computer screens)
* Divide duties between staff - this means irregularities will be spotted.
* Introduce monitoring controls
* Encourage staff to study every transaction carefully - look out for inconsistencies and use their judgement
* Have a procedure if suspicious activity is found
* Allow managers to act quickly if crimes are in action.

**POLICING POWERS IN SCOTLAND – SELDOM HEARD COMMUNITIES**

Police Scotland has been working with partner agencies to identify ways of improving communication and building trust between the police and minority ethnic communities in Scotland.

Research found that some communities were unsure of how to contact the police and didn’t have a clear understanding of policing powers in Scotland.

To address these concerns, Police Scotland have co-designed and developed a series of videos which breakdown a police officer’s role and how to contact the police, translated into the main languages spoken by Scotland’s minority ethnic communities.

As part of the development of these videos, PCs Wallace and Cook from East Neuk

and Landward Community

Policing Team, PC Smith from Cupar Policing Team, and PCs Doherty and Brown from St Andrews Community

Policing Team were involved in the filming process and feature throughout these videos.

Policing powers in Scotland <https://orlo.uk/TCDev>

How to contact the police <https://orlo.uk/YeQAZ>

Learn more about the research <https://orlo.uk/Eew5u>

Two men in police uniforms

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**POLICE SCOTLAND COMMENCES NATIONAL ROLL OUT OF BODY WORN VIDEO CAMERAS**

A police camera attached to a vest

AI-generated content may be incorrect.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.

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

**IN THE COMUNNITY**

The community team were invited along to St Columbus and Kilmaron schools this month as part of the World at Work inputs, as well as a quick visit to Springfield Nursery. Officers spoke about the role of police, the different jobs that police officers do, spoke about the different police equipment that they use and showed the pupils the police van, including using the lights and sirens. All the pupils asked brilliant questions and enjoyed their time looking around the van.

A group of people standing in a line next to a police car

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

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The Community team would like to remind everyone that they are offering Coffee with a Cop dates in the coming months. The open events are availble to anyone and have been previously used by local community groups and local council areas. Coffee with a Cop is a very informal way of chatting to your local community offcier and ask them question sregarding any concerns you may have or information you feel they need to know. Please contact the officers on the provided community emal to ask about prospective dates to arrange one of these events.

A cup of coffee on a plate

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Useful numbers and sources of information**

NHS 24: Call free on 111

Fife Women’s Aid: 0808 802 5555

Universal Credit helpline: 0800 328 5644

Fife Council Out of hours helpline: 03451 55 00 99

Fife Housing Register Emergency Accommodation: 03451 55 00 33 (Mon-Fri 8am-6pm) or out of hours 0800 028 6231

Scottish Water: 0800 077 8778

SEPA Floodline: 0345 988 1188

SEPA Pollution: 0800 807060

Citizens Advice and Rights Fife: call 0345 1400 095 or visit [www.cabfife.org.uk](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cabfife.org.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7CDavid.McCabe%40scotland.police.uk%7Cfff4c76f6a614c3aa9ec08dcf720b95e%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638656967134895685%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JbUq74rT0VJMK4t%2Fi3r55AK27RtlkNURBfhAt768lb0%3D&reserved=0)

Contact your local councillor: call 03451 555555 ext 442320 (24 hour surgery helpline) or visit [www.fife.gov.uk](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fife.gov.uk%2F&data=05%7C02%7CDavid.McCabe%40scotland.police.uk%7Cfff4c76f6a614c3aa9ec08dcf720b95e%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638656967134895685%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=splLX22kiEktmIOIyxoYIIct%2F1tAjLW7OjgLPnIlgZo%3D&reserved=0)

Cosy Kingdom: Telephone advice service for any energy billing or supplier issues. Also provide emergency top-ups for people who have run out of gas or electric and are struggling financially. Call 01592 807930 or email [info@cosykingdom.org.uk](mailto:info@cosykingdom.org.uk).

Fife Gingerbread – Lone Parent Helpline: Support workers are available to give over the phone advice Monday to Thursday 9.00am—5.00pm and Friday 9.00am—3.30pm. Call 01592 725 210.

Age Scotland helpline: A free, confidential phone service for older people, their carers and families in Scotland. The team provide information, friendship and advice. Available Monday - Friday 9-5pm, call free on 0800 12 44 222.

Free school meals: If your child is entitled to a free school meal then you should be registered to receive a payment of £11.50 per week. Apply through Fife Council here: [www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/education2/schools-in-fife/free-school-meals-and-school-clothing-grants](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fife.gov.uk%2Fkb%2Fdocs%2Farticles%2Feducation2%2Fschools-in-fife%2Ffree-school-meals-and-school-clothing-grants&data=05%7C02%7CDavid.McCabe%40scotland.police.uk%7Cfff4c76f6a614c3aa9ec08dcf720b95e%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638656967135052004%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C83aT1WjJLLciqwXjdB8ZxD%2B%2FIDhnOMtMX4UkUkm3QU%3D&reserved=0)

Young Scot: Young people can access lots of information and advice at: [www.young.scot/campaigns/national/coronavirus](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.young.scot%2Fcampaigns%2Fnational%2Fcoronavirus&data=05%7C02%7CDavid.McCabe%40scotland.police.uk%7Cfff4c76f6a614c3aa9ec08dcf720b95e%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638656967135052004%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Flk16tRnlwEKSPdInA6MOC3tvq5EO9PdGmGox%2FXjv4w%3D&reserved=0)

**Support for mental health:**

The NHS 24 Mental Health Hub is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, on 111.

You can call the Samaritans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, on 116 123.

Breathing Space is available for advice and support on 0800 83 85 87 Monday to Thursday

6pm-2am and Friday 6pm to Monday 6am. You can also [visit the Breathing Space website](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbreathingspace.scot%2F&data=05%7C02%7CDavid.McCabe%40scotland.police.uk%7Cfff4c76f6a614c3aa9ec08dcf720b95e%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638656967135052004%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KPHymINC9ccYG9pT95%2FZ7%2B%2B9DOrH2zA%2BRIth6W2TmnM%3D&reserved=0).

The Relationship Helpline (0808 802 2088) is a free support line providing a safe and confidential space for anyone struggling with their relationship. The Helpline is open from 9.00am to 9.00pm, Monday to Thursday, and 9.00am to 4.00pm on Friday.

**Calls received.**

**During May 2025, Police Scotland received:**

North East Fife Area – **1389** calls

Cupar Ward area **178**–incidents, with **68** crime reports recorded.

**Ceres & Craigrothie**

**9 calls received by police,** covering concerns for persons, dishonesty, road traffic matters and noise complaints

**0 crime reports recorded**.

**Kemback, Pitscottie & Blebo Craigs**

**4 calls to the police,** covering road traffic matters, drugs, concern for persons and animals.

**2 crime reports recorded.**

**Dairsie**

**3 calls to the police,** covering concern-for-person and road traffic matters

**3 crimes recorded:**

**Cupar**

**136 calls to the police,** covering concern for person/missing person calls; road traffic matters/collisions; requests for assistance to members of the public; fraud, theft and vandalism reports and disturbances, and animal concerns.

**49 crimes recorded.**

**Cults & Pitlessie**

**0 calls to the police.**

**0 crimes recorded.**

**Springfield**

**26 calls to the police,** covering road traffic matters; concern for person, requests for assistance/advice and disorder and animals

**16 crimes recorded.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**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 our email address is the best way to do so.**

**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.**

**Email us at:** [**CuparCPT@Scotland.police.uk**](mailto:CuparCPT@Scotland.police.uk)

**Please Note, this email address is NOT for reporting a crime or ongoing incidents and due to our shift pattern, is not monitored 24/7.**

Thank you!

**PC Lee Smith P0588 and PC Duncan Shand P0248**