



ACHIEVING A SAFER COMMUNITY

**Moray  
Community  
Safety Strategy  
2005 - 2008**





This Strategy Document has been  
specially printed for

# The Community Safety Strategy Launch

at

Knockando Distillery

on

15 November 2005







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# Foreword

I have great pleasure in presenting the third Community Safety Strategy for Moray, which has been produced by the Moray Community Safety Partnership.

This strategy is linked to the Moray Community Plan through the theme of 'Achieving a Safer Community'. The vision for the Community Plan is to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of all sections of the community in Moray. Moray prides itself in having a low crime rate compared to other areas.

This year, the Scottish Executive have emphasised the important role of Community Safety Partnerships in improving the health and wellbeing of communities, particularly through antisocial behaviour law which has recently been introduced.

Our strategy continues to build on the successful work of the partnership, individuals and communities in the previous two strategies, and draws on a wide range of public opinion which has identified the issues that matter most to communities. In our first strategy, we worked hard to form an effective partnership which was able to tackle the important issues of the time. We developed the second strategy from this, which provided the basis for a number of community schemes to be taken further, raising the profile of community safety in Moray and making a real difference to our communities.

We are now in a position where we have a strong group of public and voluntary organisations all working together with one common goal – to make Moray safe. The main aims for the Community Safety Partnership for 2005-2008 are:

- tackling substance misuse;
- tackling antisocial behaviour;
- reducing crime and the fear of crime; and
- reducing accidents in the community.

We have developed a challenging plan for the coming years, and I am confident that we will continue to improve the quality of life for everyone in Moray.

**Alastair Keddie**

Chief Executive of The Moray Council

**Chair of the Community Safety Corporate Group**





# Introduction

This is the third Community Safety Strategy we (Moray Community Safety Partnership) have produced. The strategy clearly sets out our priorities under the Community Planning theme – Achieving a Safer Community. We are committed to improving the quality of life for everyone in Moray and recognise that improving community safety contributes greatly to that aim.

The Moray Council acts as the lead organisation for community safety. The Local Authority Liaison Officer, who has come to work with us from Grampian Police, continues to co-ordinate a strategy for a safer community and provide advice and support to the community safety partners.

To make sure that Moray continues to be a safe place to live, work and visit, we will focus on our three priorities from previous years. These are:

- tackling antisocial behaviour;
- reducing crime and the fear of crime; and
- reducing accidents in the community.

We have again secured funding under the Scottish Executive's Community Safety Award Programme. Our partnership also attracts Scottish Executive funding for schemes in Moray aimed at tackling antisocial behaviour. Activities in this area will be funded until 2008.

## Community safety in Moray

As a partnership, we need to be aware of the challenges and issues faced by Moray and its people. We also recognise the need to build on those aspects that make Moray an attractive place to live, work and visit.

Most people (almost 60%) live in the main towns of Elgin, Buckie, Forres, Keith and Lossiemouth. The overall population is low at 38 people for every square kilometre (compared to 66 in Scotland). There is a clear difference between the populated, rich agricultural land in the Laich of Moray along the northern coast and the sparsely populated upland areas to the south. The current population is around 86,000 people.

17% of the population have connections with the two large RAF bases in Lossiemouth and Kinloss. 95% of the population is white with a range of other ethnic groups making up the remaining 5%. 82% of the population was born in Scotland.

Moray has many pleasing characteristics. It includes:

- the fishing villages in the north such as Buckie and Lossiemouth;
- the agriculturally rich Laich of Moray and the main town of Elgin;
- the Spey Valley, home to world famous food processors such as Walkers and Baxters; and
- the highlands of the south which form part of the Cairngorms mountain range.

70% of the area is made up of open countryside, with a further 25% being made up of woodland.

Overall, Moray is an attractive, safe place to live.



# The partnership

We were set up in 1998. We realise that one organisation on its own cannot achieve what the people of Moray want in terms of community safety. By working together, we can make positive changes to the quality of life for everyone in Moray and help create a safer environment.

Our partnership operates on a number of levels made up of various public bodies. The following list clearly shows the structure of the partnership, including the various task groups with specific community safety aims.

## Corporate group – strategic guidance

### **Organisation**

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service  
Grampian Police  
HM Coastguard  
Highlands and Islands Enterprise Moray  
NHS Grampian  
RAF, Kinloss  
RAF, Lossiemouth  
The Moray Council

### **Representative**

Chief Fire Officer  
Superintendent (Moray)  
District Officer  
Chief Executive  
Chief Executive  
Commanding Officer  
Commanding Officer  
Chief Executive

## Steering group – co-ordination

### **Organisation**

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service  
Grampian Police  
NHS Grampian  
  
HM Coastguard  
Highlands and Islands Enterprise Moray  
The Moray Council

### **Representative**

Area Manager (Moray)  
Chief Inspector (Moray)  
Clinical Governance Lead  
Health Improvement Officer  
Sector Manager  
Business Development Manager  
Corporate Policy Unit Manager  
Senior Area Housing Manager  
Educational Resources Manager  
Youth Justice Co-ordinator  
Transportation Manager  
Senior Health and Safety Adviser  
Principal Trading Standards Officer  
Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator  
Development Officer  
Service Manager  
Community Development Worker  
Community Development Worker  
Project Organiser

Moray Drug and Alcohol Action Team  
Moray Voluntary Services Organisation (MVS0)  
RAF, Lossiemouth  
RAF, Kinloss  
Crimestoppers Scotland



## Task groups of the steering group

Antisocial Behaviour Task Group  
Moray Domestic Abuse Forum  
Moray Retailers Crime Reduction Partnership  
Moray Road Safety Group  
Police and Housing antisocial groups  
Pubwatch  
Racial Equality Subgroup  
Substance Misuse Task Group  
Wilful Fires Multi Agency Group

## Links with other schemes

Dialogue Youth  
Local Community Networks  
Moray Youthstart  
Neighbourhood Watch Groups  
Pass Plus Scheme  
Youth Crime Review





# Community Safety Strategy for Moray

Our main purpose is simple.

**To improve the quality of life of everyone who lives in, works in and visits the area by working with others and providing a safer environment for the future.**

To achieve this, our partner organisations are committed to taking account of community safety in their own day-to-day work. Through this approach, we aim to:

- tackle the main causes of community safety problems for the long term;
- improve existing schemes within partner organisations;
- target resources in the right areas at the right time;
- provide opportunities in the context of efficiency and best value;
- encourage the public to be more responsible for themselves and to take a pride in their community;
- consult the community regularly on our priorities;
- encourage communities to identify and set their own priorities for improvements through Community Plans, Local Community Networks and Local Neighbourhood Forums;
- continually develop joint working by improving partnership guidelines; and
- assess our work and realistically measure progress.





# Consultation

Current evidence suggests that the number of crimes and accidents in Moray is relatively low compared with many other council areas. While this is encouraging, we must not ignore the misery and suffering caused by crime, accidents and antisocial behaviour in the community. As well as using statistical evidence to direct our activities, we will continue to carry out public surveys.

We have recently started to use the services of a citizen's panel in Moray as a consultation method to help influence future activities. The panel will also be available for the Community Safety Partnership to consult with. The results of these consultations will help influence our actions over the next three years.

At the moment, the Community Planning Partnership is developing eight Local Neighbourhood Forums based around secondary-school catchment areas. These Forums will give communities the opportunity to raise their main issues and concerns through the Community Planning process. Where appropriate, we will be told about these issues so we can take the relevant action.

## Public survey

We surveyed the public of Moray in May 1999 to raise their awareness about community safety and to assess what they were most concerned about. We sent questionnaires to a random sample of people throughout Moray. About one-third of all questionnaires were filled in and returned.

We repeated this survey in December 2001. The main purpose of this was to measure the improvements since the introduction of the community safety strategy and to identify priorities which could influence the revised strategy. We achieved a similar response rate to 1999.

A further survey in April 2005 focused on antisocial behaviour and its effects on community safety. 41% of people responded to this.

Among other things, we asked people to tell us the three issues that they were most concerned about. In comparing the three surveys, the public have highlighted similar concerns of drugs, dog fouling and litter, and vandalism. However, the order of these three issues and other issues has changed since the first survey.

<b>Concern</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2005</b>
Vandalism	3	1	2
Dog fouling and litter	2	2	1
Drugs	1	3	6



In the most recent survey, we asked people how common they thought drug misuse and dealing was in their neighbourhood. 38% thought that it was common but only 19% had personally seen incidents of drug misuse during the previous 12 months. 42% of people who responded had personally seen instances of under-age drinking in their neighbourhood at least once a month, and this is reflected in statistics provided by Grampian Police who reported 266 cases of under-age drinking between April 2004 and March 2005. Moray is still felt to be a safe place to live, with 96% of the people who responded feeling safe or very safe in their neighbourhood during the day and 85% feeling safe or very safe at night.





# Funding

## Community Safety Award Programme

As with the previous three years, we have attracted funding under the Scottish Executive's Community Safety Award Programme. From 2002 to 2005, the main aim of the award programme was to encourage and support the partnerships that were set up across Scotland. The programme focused on strengthening local partnerships and making sure appropriate structures were in place.

For 2005 to 2008 the main aims of the award programme will focus on delivering real results on our action plan and making an impact in our communities. Partnerships are expected to follow a problem-solving approach to identifying and planning a three-year programme to tackle up to three local community safety problems.

The overall theme of our project for the next three years is 'tackling substance misuse and its effects in the community.' This theme complements many of our partners' priorities and tackles what can be a major problem.

We will receive £88,000 a year up to 2008 to fund this project and must regularly report on our progress to the Scottish Executive. Funding for the full three years has already been set aside for specific schemes.

## Antisocial behaviour

Over a number of years, we have diverted funding from the Community Safety Award towards schemes which tackle antisocial behaviour. In April 2004, the Scottish Executive made a commitment to separately fund local authorities' activities in this area. We received £250,000 in 2004 and £275,000 in 2005. This funding has helped support and develop our antisocial behaviour strategy for Moray and has allowed us to introduce the Community Warden Scheme, the local authority Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator, the 24-hour Antisocial Behaviour Helpline and the Moray Community Mediation Service, among other things.

The funding is set to continue until 2008 as follows.

**2006/2007 - £320,000**

**2007/2008 - £335,000**

This funding will continue to finance the measures already in place and will further contribute to developing skills and services within Moray, with which to tackle antisocial behaviour.

## Small projects

We will continue to fund a number of smaller projects through our partnership. At the moment, these include the Moray Domestic Abuse Conference, Pass Plus Scheme, Water Safety Education, Fair Travel Scheme (this will eventually be replaced by the Moray Access card), and the Crimestoppers anti-vandalism poster and media campaign.



# Main projects 2005 – 2008

## Community Safety Award - Substance misuse

We have put together a three-year programme with an associated action plan covering the substance misuse project, which clearly sets out our targets over the next three years. The project has pulled together a large amount of work that is already ongoing and makes sure that prevention work in this area is co-ordinated across the partnership. We have supported existing schemes through funding and greater partnership input to make sure they are as effective and efficient as possible. We will monitor regularly and assess the schemes to make sure that they are meeting the main targets. This will provide the basis over the next three years to develop our work in this area and build this focus into community safety.

The overall project has been broken down into two distinct categories.

### Young people

We are concerned about the increasing incidence of under-age drinking. The number of young people involved in under-age drinking has been rising steadily during the previous three years, as has the number of young people who go into hospital as a result of alcohol abuse.

We have also identified an increase in drug use by young people under 15, and a higher-than-average use of heroin by 20- to 24-year-olds. A recent analysis of community-care clients showed that 10% of this older age group were receiving care as a direct result of problems relating to long-term alcohol abuse. We hope that by targeting young people now, we can work towards preventing this type of problem in later life. We will give young people alternative choices, improve access to treatment services and develop a range of effective prevention measures.

### Road safety

Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (or both) is a year-round problem in most parts of the country. There is a worrying increase in the numbers of drivers being reported for related offences in Moray and, more disappointingly, schemes such as the high-profile festive drink-drive campaigns at Christmas time seem to have little or no effect. On average, four drink-drivers are reported each week in Moray.

Figures for 2002 and 2003 reveal that two people were killed and seven were seriously injured in road crashes in Moray, where alcohol or drugs was given as a cause on the part of the driver. During the same period, six pedestrians were injured in road accidents while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This may seem relatively low, but these figures may well rise when you consider the rise in the number of drink-drivers on our roads.

We will target the worst-affected areas in Moray to try to detect more of this type of offence. We also aim to raise the profile of drink-driving further in Moray to encourage the public to report more incidents.



## Project aims

Through this project, we aim to:

- **reduce accidents where substance misuse is a factor;**
- **reduce crime and the fear of crime where substance misuse is a factor;**
- **reduce harm caused by substance misuse; and**
- **strengthen our partnership approach in relation to tackling community problems.**

## Tackling antisocial behaviour

The Antisocial Behaviour Task Group are committed to tackling antisocial behaviour in Moray. The multi-agency group co-ordinates the activities and programmes developed under the recently published antisocial behaviour strategy. The Local Authority Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator chairs the group and manages the development of services and schemes.

Moray's antisocial behaviour strategy aims to effectively tackle antisocial behaviour and so:

- reduce nuisance and harassment in the communities in which we live and work;
- improve the quality of life and create a safer environment for our communities and visitors;
- reduce the time it takes to effectively deal with incidents of antisocial behaviour; and
- show our commitment to achieving continuous improvement in dealing with incidents of antisocial behaviour.

## Aims of the task group

The strategy focuses on four themes.

- Protecting communities
- Preventing antisocial behaviour by working with children and families
- Building safe, secure and attractive communities
- Effective enforcement

The main aim of the strategy will be to prevent antisocial behaviour at the earliest possible point. We will achieve this through:

- prevention;
- early involvement;
- enforcement; and
- rehabilitation.

The Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator is developing schemes to help tackle antisocial behaviour. These include:

- Community Wardens;
- the Community Mediation Service;
- the Antisocial Behaviour Helpline;
- the Graffiti-Removal Scheme; and
- fixed penalties for dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping (dumping rubbish illegally).

The Antisocial Behaviour Task Group will continue to look for inventive and professional solutions to identified problems and work with communities to improve the quality of life for everyone in Moray.



## Small projects

The small projects fund will continue to support schemes from previous years which have an effect on specific areas of work.

The Domestic-Abuse Conference is held in Moray every year. The conference is aimed at raising awareness and encouraging victims of domestic abuse to report the crime. The conference also helps us to provide multi-agency support to victims.

The Fair Travel Scheme is aimed at discouraging young people in Moray from using drugs or alcohol. By offering alternatives to young people such as discounted travel and leisure, the scheme promotes more positive forms of behaviour. Fair Travel will be replaced by the Moray Access card by 2006.

Pass Plus is a popular scheme aimed at promoting road safety by encouraging newly qualified drivers to take advanced driver training. An incentive is offered where students can claim back around half the cost of tuition when they have completed the course.

Water-safety education is provided by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency throughout Moray. School pupils receive practical safety advice to help reduce accidents around the coast and rivers of Moray.

Crimestoppers Scotland have received funding to support their 'Play the Game' campaign aimed at reducing vandalism in Moray. The campaign is aimed at encouraging exercise as an alternative, and leaflets and posters will be distributed across Moray.





# Conclusions

## Progress

Since forming in 1998, our partnership has gradually developed, coping with new ways of working, assessing your needs and tackling the main issues that you see as being most important. We now have a strong partnership, committed to improving your quality of life. This commitment is included in the strategies of all our partners and forms a large part of our day-to-day work.

A number of task groups have developed over the years too, providing even more direction in certain activities such as road safety, fire and home safety, and crime reduction. Most notably, in recent times the Moray Antisocial Behaviour Partnership has been set up to tackle related issues. This group has been responsible for driving forward the national antisocial behaviour agenda in Moray. This has only been possible through the strong links developed over the years within community safety.

## The future

The next three years are clearly mapped out for our partnership. As well as continually strengthening our links with each other, we will develop our work aimed at tackling our priorities. We will continue to support and develop schemes that make a difference to your community. Our new focus on substance misuse will include some of the work of the Moray Drug and Alcohol Action Team in community safety, which will be an important development for the future in terms of overall co-ordination and long-term success.

Through the Community Safety Steering Group and continued consultation in your community, we will maintain our awareness of the main issues of concern throughout Moray and will aim to tackle these directly.

*If you would like more information, please contact:*

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# Links with other strategies

We must make sure that our partners' activities in one area do not undermine their activities in another. So, it is vital that our Community Safety Strategy complements the other plans and strategies of partner organisations and other multi-agency groups.

## **Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2005**

The strategy aims to effectively tackle antisocial behaviour by improving people's quality of life and creating a safer environment for our communities and visitors in Moray.

## **Arts Development Strategy for Moray 2002-2005**

The strategy supports the Community Plan in increasing the quality of life for all sections of the community and developing the wellbeing of the communities within Moray. The aims include supporting and developing programmes of work that increase or improve opportunities and help young people to develop by getting them involved in the arts.

## **Community Plan**

Community Planning aims to improve the service provided to the public through closer, more co-ordinated working. The Community Plan is the main strategy which the Community Safety Partnership forms part of. Its vision is:

*“To increase the quality of life for all sections of the community and to develop the wellbeing of the communities within Moray.”*

## **Crimestoppers Grampian and Highland Strategy**

Crimestoppers develop campaigns every year based on the priorities of its partner organisations, and do so by working closely with the Community Safety Partnership.

Their strategy is to use different forms of media to make sure that people who live in particular fear of an act by criminals who they have reported, or who are involved with the criminal justice system, know, understand, trust and value the service. This raises awareness of the costs and effects of crimes as well as understanding the service in relation to partners' services.

## **Grampian Fire and Rescue Service**

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service continually promotes fire safety in the community. It has a current ongoing aim to reduce wilful fire raising (starting fires deliberately) and accidental house fires throughout Moray, with the ultimate aim of reducing the number of fires every year. Changes to recording procedures will mean any links to substance misuse can be identified.

## **Grampian Police - Force Strategy**

The Force Strategy vision is 'to make the north east of Scotland a safer place for everybody to live, work and travel in'. Working with others, Grampian Police's aims are to:

- improve community safety;
- increase public confidence in Grampian Police; and
- develop Grampian Police as an organisation.



Their priorities are to reduce street crime, road casualties, housebreaking, domestic abuse and hate crime, as well as tackle local problems.

- Force Youth Strategy – concentrates on services for young people, taking advantage of strong partnership working with other agencies to deliver services.
- Grampian Police Youth Action Plan – shows our commitment to developing strong links with young people across the area to try to work together towards a positive future.
- Moray Road Safety Plan 2004-2007.

### **Grampian Police – Platform for Success 2005 – 2008**

This document clearly sets out Grampian Police’s purpose, mission and aims over the coming three years. There is a rolling programme of key aims under specific business headings, which include operational policing, crime management and community partnerships.

### **A Smart, Successful Scotland – The Highlands and Islands Dimension Highlands and Islands Enterprise Moray**

Delivering the enterprise strategy for the Highlands and Islands effectively depends on joint working between public organisations, communities, businesses and individuals. The enterprise will work with other partners at a strategic level and through community planning partnerships to achieve shared aims.

### **Maritime and Coastguard Agency – Business Plan**

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency, in partnership with community safety groups, aims to reduce beach, shore, pleasure-diving and small boat (fishing vessels under 15 metres) accidents, through local and national safety strategies.

### **Moray Community Learning and Development Strategy**

The strategy aims to target resources towards the most disadvantaged communities and groups, and identifies young people who are at risk of being excluded from society as a priority target group. It plans to improve and develop achievement through learning for both adults and young people.

### **Moray Community Planning Partnership Strategic Regeneration Outcome Agreement 2005-2008**

The agreement aims to improve the confidence and skills of the most disadvantaged children and young people.

### **Moray Local Housing Strategy**

This strategy sets out the major priorities for housing in the Moray Council areas and supports the community safety aim to create neighbourhoods that are safe, socially mixed and supportive.

### **Moray Joint Health Improvement Plan**

A wide range of commitments in the plan targets the critical issues in relation to young people’s current and future wellbeing.

### **Moray Supporting People Strategy**

The overall aims include supporting services designed to meet local need, and to tackle the problem of certain groups being excluded from society.



### **Moray Youth Justice Strategy**

The Moray Youth Justice Partnership will support young people who persistently offend or who are in danger of becoming persistent offenders. The strategy includes a model for effectively assessing their vulnerability. The young people will be supported to move away from offending and become part of their community.

### **Moray DAAT Strategy 2003/2006**

The Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) is committed to working with the communities of Moray to provide leadership through co-ordinated actions designed to remove the harmful effects of drug and alcohol misuse through services, education, campaigning and supporting enforcement.

- The Moray Drug and Alcohol Team Strategy 2003-2006 includes commitments to influence attitudes towards drugs and alcohol, particularly among young people. It also forms the basis for action against drug and alcohol misuse in Moray, containing specific aims and actions under each aim.
- The Drug and Alcohol Corporate Action Plan sets out national priorities relating to drugs and alcohol.

### **NHS Grampian Plans**

- The Grampian Health Plan provides the three-year strategic framework and yearly actions that NHS Grampian, in partnership with others, will take to improve the health of our population. The vision for the NHS in Grampian recognises many factors that affect our health, specifically our lifestyles.  
Priorities for healthy living include reducing harmful drinking, particularly by children and young people, by promoting sensible drinking among young people and adults.
- Moray Joint Health Improvement Plan  
Some of the main actions are:
  - capacity building – includes influencing relevant people in partner organisations to take forward health improvements;
  - accidents and safety – includes targets to reduce accidents caused by carelessness, using alcohol and drugs, equipment failure, poor judgement and lack of training; and
  - drugs and alcohol – includes tackling substance misuse through targets to reduce the use of alcohol and drugs as well as raising awareness and providing support and development.

### **The Moray Council Corporate Development Plan 2004 – 2007**

The Corporate Development Plan sets out the Council's medium-to long-term development aims. It sets out how the Council will contribute to the overall community vision and strategy for the area. The social programme aims to support and encourage measures that achieve social inclusion and improve the quality of life for the residents of Moray. A priority is to work together to improve the health of the people who live in Moray.

To help them do this, the Council have made the following commitments.

- To support the work of the Drug and Alcohol Action Team and the inter-agency Drug Alcohol Service to meet Scottish Executive targets.
- To work with communities and other agencies to promote positive communities and to reduce the amount and effect of antisocial behaviour.

