

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM – 2 JUNE 2004**

### **BOGUS CALLERS INITIATIVE**

#### **Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1. To advise the Forum of the “Who’s That Knocking at YOUR Door” Bogus Callers Initiative and launch of the Nominated Neighbour Scheme that took place at the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2004.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. Concerns were raised with regard to crimes against the vulnerable and the elderly with regard to bogus callers. Whilst the figures were not particularly high, they were sufficient to warrant a fresh approach in launching a campaign to highlight the Community Safety Partnership’s concerns.
- 2.2. A steering group comprising members of Strathclyde Police, Ayrshire and Arran LHCC, the Elderly Forum, East Ayrshire Community Safety Unit, East Ayrshire Leisure Services and East Ayrshire Social Work Department, was set up to take the initiative forward.

#### **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1. Invitations were sent to various agencies, community groups, neighbourhood watch, the voluntary sector and council departments.
- 3.2. Speakers at the event included:

Bob Paterson, Victim Support  
Supt. Liz Weir, Strathclyde Police  
John Clayton, Head of Corporate Services – EA new identity badges  
Beechwood Theatre and Arts Group  
Gwyneth Guthrie

Depute Provost Tommy Farrell welcomed everyone and the day was chaired by Bill Stafford, Director of Neighbourhood Services.  
Bill Petherick, Assistant Community Safety Co-ordinator introduced the Nominated Neighbour Scheme

- 3.3. Information packs were available on the day and a number of packs were sent out to those agencies and individuals who could not attend. Posters and leaflets have also been distributed to Local Offices and Libraries.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The cost of implementing the Projects was met from Community Safety Partnership Funding.

#### **5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. Nil

#### **6. CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1. The Community Safety Unit will continue to promote this initiative in the press, on the Council website and through various publications. It is intended to conduct an evaluation of the initiative in October.

#### **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1. The Forum is invited to note the contents of this report

W Stafford  
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/AW

19<sup>th</sup> May 2004

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. For further information please contact John Crawford, Head of Protective Services, 01563 576111 [john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)
2. Implementation Officer – Ann Williams