

## **Aberdeenshire Council Property Risk Management Video**

### **Executive Summary**

The threat of theft and wilful fire raising is ever present and sadly increasing within the school sector resulting in substantial funds being diverted away from other important priorities. Aberdeenshire Council, in conjunction with Grampian Police and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service are undertaking various proactive initiatives in this area to minimise loss. One of these initiatives is the production of this Training Pack.

The aim is to encourage head teachers and others responsible within Education to take positive action to minimise the effect of loss or damage through anti-social and criminal behaviour in schools. The video demonstrates some areas of concern and indicates the range and type of options available for dealing with them. The video also highlights not only the potential financial loss but also stresses the actual human emotional consequences to staff, parents, pupils and others on the loss of a school.

The Video/DVD is in three sections:

- Section 1 gives the viewer an insight into the problems, emotions and thoughts of teachers, pupils and parents.
- Section 2 is an interactive workshop where participants are invited to identify various risks within an Education and Recreation environment.
- Section 3 allows the participants to see how many risks they identified as it goes back through Section 2, giving the answers

Since being produced the video has been used extensively by Aberdeenshire Council, Grampian Police and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service in a series of road shows. The road shows have taken place at a number of venues (including schools) throughout Aberdeenshire and make use of customised safety displays i.e. Two 6-foot matchboxes (one with a screen showing a 2-minute loop of the video and the other displaying fire safety information) along with a 6-foot electrically powered 'flame' displaying the logo 'Don't be a fool, Fire's not Cool'

The display materials are being used as part of a planned programme of visits and also reactively in areas where fire raising has recently been an issue.

The video has already won a Zurich/IOSH Certificate of Merit at the Zurich Municipal Public Service awards 2006 and has significantly contributed to changing the culture of staff and pupils towards fire raising in schools.

This application is fully endorsed by Mr Bruce Robertson, Director of Education, Learning and Leisure.