

fearless

Part of Crimestoppers



#BeFearless

Contents

About Fearless	What is Fearless?	04
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Reporting Service	Online Form	05
	Anonymity Promise	06
	Intelligence Journey	07
	Reports	08

Awareness	Are you Fearless?	09
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Introduction

This resource has been created to equip professionals working with young people in Scotland with more information about our charity and suggestions to support raising awareness of our unique service among young people aged 11-18 years old.

What is Fearless?

Fearless is the youth programme of the independent charity Crimestoppers.

Developed through consultation with young people, the Fearless website provides accessible, credible and relevant information about crime and criminality.

What makes this site unique is that it also provides young people with a safe place to give information to us about crime 100% anonymously.

Young people told us:

“I’m not a grass but if I thought my mate was involved in something serious or someone was going to get hurt... I’d tell Fearless. It’s a good idea”

“Sometimes you want to say something but you can’t... this lets you...”

“I’ve never called 999 but I still know it exists – Fearless should be the same.”

Professionals told us:

“A really valuable addition to our young people’s life toolkit”

“I like that we can mention Fearless for all different crime types... there’s a continuity that the young people recognise”

“We would like to make Fearless part of the DNA of our school.”

Anonymous Online Form

On our website, young people will find a dedicated page where they can give information about crime 100% anonymously.

In order to get as full an intelligence picture as possible, we've created a short form which the young person completes - prompting them with simple questions.

We don't ask for their name, address, phone number, school etc

They should put as much information as they can because we can't ask them for any more.

We can't trace their computer or IP address.

THE INCIDENT

* What is the crime or incident you would like to tell us about?

Please let us know what happened, and in as much detail as you can remember

* Where did it happen?

Street, town or postcode

* When did it happen?

dd/mm/yyyy

THE PERSON(S) INVOLVED

* What is their name or nickname?

Full name (if known) or any nickname

* What do they look like?

Facial details, hair colour, tattoos etc

Do you know their address?

Yes, I know their address

Do they have access to weapons?

Yes

Do they use Facebook or any other social networking sites?

Yes they do

Do they attend a school/college?

Yes they do

In an emergency ALWAYS dial 999
This form should NOT be completed by victims of crime.

Anonymity Promise

Anonymous means that your identity is completely unknown.

Our promise of anonymity is vital to us as it is what makes our charity unique.

We guarantee to young people that:

- ◆ They can give us information about crime without giving their name or any personal details.
- ◆ They will not be asked for their gender or age.
- ◆ We will not record any personal details they might mention.
- ◆ We physically cannot trace their email or IP address as our system is designed to protect their identity.

What happens with the information we receive?

After we receive the anonymous online form, we create a report that brings together all the information given to us, making sure it doesn't contain any information that could identify the young person.

The report is sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

This could be Police Scotland or an agency such as HM Revenue & Customs.

When the report is given to law enforcement, they need to:

- thoroughly research the information received in order to act on it
- make sure that information is accurate and not given with the intention of 'setting someone up'
- have other intelligence that supports the information received from us.

The police cannot get a search warrant or make an arrest based solely on anonymous information.

It takes time to research and investigate a crime, but the information given to Fearless.org goes a long way to helping the police make arrests.

Once the information has been researched, law enforcement will allocate this to an appropriate officer or team to deal with. This could mean more research, or action may be taken.

Why is it so important?

Young people tell us that they often don't feel able to speak up about crime for fear of retribution or reprisal. They also worry that they will be labelled a 'grass' and suffer the stigma and social consequences.

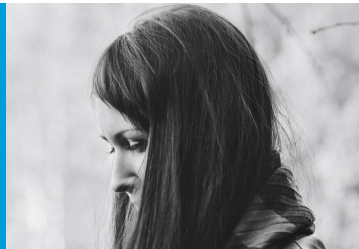
Without our promise of anonymity, crime would go unreported.

Anonymised examples of information received from Scotland:



"Two young children are being abused and left alone for long periods of time."

"Young person carries a knife and regularly threatens people with it."



"Class A drugs are being sold from this address."

Are you fearless?

It's easy to embed Fearless within your school, youth group or organisation. Our positive call to action can be easily slotted into existing health and wellbeing topics and awareness days.

#FearlessFive top tips

1. Ask IT to add Fearless.org to the list of secure websites that staff and young people can access.
2. Add our homepage as an icon to all computer desktops/tablets.
3. Follow us on twitter @Fearless_Scot and retweet our campaigns.
4. Include information about our service within parent newsletters.
5. TELL young people that our service is there for them.

Remember to showcase the Fearless work you're doing within your community on twitter using #FearlessScotland

Resources & Campaigns

Promotional resources and geo-targeted digital campaigns can be arranged upon request.

Please contact Lyndsay.mcdade@crimestoppers-uk.org for more information.

Notes

Notes



 [Fearless_Scot](#)

 [Fearless_Scot](#)

 [FearlessAgainstCrime](#)

Crimestoppers Trust is a company limited by guarantee (registered number 05382856) and a charity (registered charity number SC037960)