

STATEMENT FROM:



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Armstrong condemns ongoing vandalism in Moneymore

Mid-Ulster MLA Billy Armstrong has condemned the ongoing vandalism which is taking place in Moneymore.

The most recent incidents took place over the weekend and included one car being written off after hitting stones which had been placed across the road and the Police themselves being attacked by stone-throwers.

The Ulster Unionist representative said;

“For some time now I have been making representations to the Police about the activities of some youths in Moneymore. Some people may call this anti social behaviour, but as far as I am concerned this is too kind a way of describing it.

It is what used to be described as vandalism and pure badness, and incidents have ranged from vandalising property to intimidating the elderly.

In the most recent incident at the weekend, a motorist drove into large stones blocking across the Springhill Road and the damage to his car was so severe that the vehicle has had to be written off. As the driver had a child in the car he is just thankful that they were not injured or even worse.

It is sickening to hear reports that the youths responsible for this accident hid undercover to watch the accident take place!

Clearly these individuals have no respect for anyone else. They have refused to pay heed to numerous calls for them to behave like human beings who can live peacefully with their fellow citizens.

The people of Moneymore have suffered enough. It is time for the Police to catch these people and for the Courts to ensure that sentences fit the crime. A spell

behind bars where these louts cannot cause any more damage to innocent people or their property would appear to be the only thing these individuals understand.

However, the Police can only do their job if local people are prepared to make a statement and help them to make arrests. I would therefore urge people to come forward and work with the Police to make their own communities safer. The Police cannot do it on their own.

ENDS