# Fife man convicted of indecent exposure but health issues considered in sentencing



A man from Fife has been found guilty of causing alarm to his neighbours by indecently exposing himself at his front door. Douglas Keir, 68, was seen committing this act on two separate occasions, with a trial at Dunfermline Sheriff Court revealing the concerning details of the incidents. Keir claimed he had a reasonable excuse; he asserted that he was urinating due to mobility issues that prevented him from accessing the toilet on the second floor of his home. However, this explanation was met with scepticism by the court.

The first incident occurred in February last year, when a couple returning from the cinema witnessed Keir standing at his door, trousers partially unfastened and exposing himself. The woman recounted her shock, noting, “I just blurted out ‘he has his c\*\*k in his hand’.” Her partner corroborated that he turned to see Keir in the same state, prompting them to react vocally. Alarmingly, this incident was not isolated; nearly ten months later, another witness reported seeing Keir in a similar position, prompting him to feel uncomfortable and subsequently alert the authorities.

Keir's defence leaned heavily on his deteriorating health and mobility, as his support workers testified to his struggles. They indicated that getting to an upstairs toilet had become increasingly difficult, with one support worker stating that a commode had only recently been provided to facilitate his needs. Although the defence suggested Keir was attempting to urinate at the front door, the sheriff highlighted the overarching community concern around such behaviour, emphasising the necessity for modesty in residential areas.

Sheriff Paul Ralph expressed some reluctance in convicting Keir but ultimately deemed the evidence credible and consistent. He indicated a willingness to be lenient, suggesting that if Keir demonstrated good behaviour in the lead-up to sentencing, he might face a lighter penalty. The implications of this case highlight broader societal concerns regarding public decency and individual health challenges, facing a delicate balance between understanding personal hardships and respecting community standards.

Incidents of indecent exposure have prompted community unease in Fife, with reports of similar occurrences surfacing recently. Just months after Keir's conviction, a woman in the region reported a terrifying experience after being approached by a man who exposed himself early in the morning, showcasing a troubling pattern of misconduct. Similarly, other reports from areas like Dunfermline and Dundee have highlighted public indecency, prompting police to appeal for witnesses and raise awareness about personal safety in public spaces.

As Fife grapples with these incidents, the legal and social ramifications are significant, painting a picture of a community trying to address complex issues of behaviour, health, and public safety. The gravity of the situation is underscored by a need for support systems that can aid those with health challenges while also maintaining public decency and respect for community standards.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5253037/guilty-alarming-exposing-himself-fife-house/), [[2]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/970088/woman-51-left-terrified-as-man-exposes-himself-to-her-in-fife-town/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5253037/guilty-alarming-exposing-himself-fife-house/), [[3]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/859547/man-exposed-himself-to-neighbour-during-bizarre-confrontation-in-fife-town/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5253037/guilty-alarming-exposing-himself-fife-house/), [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-32190733), [[5]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/276157/police-appeal-man-indecently-exposes/), [[6]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-40106399)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5253037/guilty-alarming-exposing-himself-fife-house/), [[2]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/970088/woman-51-left-terrified-as-man-exposes-himself-to-her-in-fife-town/), [[5]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/276157/police-appeal-man-indecently-exposes/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/5253037/guilty-alarming-exposing-himself-fife-house/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/970088/woman-51-left-terrified-as-man-exposes-himself-to-her-in-fife-town/> - A 51-year-old woman in Fife was left terrified after a man exposed himself to her in the Abbeyview area. The incident occurred between 5:20 am and 6:00 am on August 22, when the woman was approached by a man in a yellow t-shirt who indecently exposed himself. The suspect is described as white, aged between 30 and 40, with a slim build and short brown hair. Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward. ([thecourier.co.uk](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/970088/woman-51-left-terrified-as-man-exposes-himself-to-her-in-fife-town/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/859547/man-exposed-himself-to-neighbour-during-bizarre-confrontation-in-fife-town/> - George Keiron Smith, 26, was involved in a bizarre confrontation in Markinch, Fife, where he spat at his neighbour and exposed himself during a dispute. The incident escalated when Smith dropped his trousers and grabbed his genitals before 'waving' them about. He admitted to assaulting his neighbour by spitting on him and exposing himself in the street. Sheriff Grant McCulloch deferred sentencing for background reports and considered placing Smith on the sex offenders register. ([thecourier.co.uk](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/courts/859547/man-exposed-himself-to-neighbour-during-bizzare-confrontation-in-fife-town/?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-32190733> - Police in Fife are appealing for witnesses after a man indecently exposed himself to two women in Cowdenbeath. The incident occurred in Craigbeath Court at about 10:15 pm on a Thursday. The suspect is described as white, in his 20s or 30s, about 6ft tall with a slim build, short or shaved hair, and wearing a white T-shirt and light grey jogging bottoms. Detective Sergeant Kelly McEwan stated that the victims were extremely shaken and upset by the man's actions. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-32190733?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/276157/police-appeal-man-indecently-exposes/> - Police are appealing for witnesses after reports of a man indecently exposing himself in Dunfermline. The incident happened on Transy Place at around 5 pm on a Saturday. The man is described as possibly Eastern European in appearance, early 30s, broad build, short dirty blond hair in a 'buzz' cut with a broad nose. He was wearing a black long-sleeved T-shirt with a white logo or word written on the front, sleeves rolled up, and grey jogging bottoms. Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. ([thecourier.co.uk](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/276157/police-appeal-man-indecently-exposes/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-40106399> - Police are hunting a man who indecently exposed himself to a woman in Dundee. The woman was looking out of the window of her Magdalen Yard Road home at about 2 pm on a Sunday when the man flashed at her from the communal garden. The man is described as in his mid-20s, about 5ft 8in tall, of average build, with short fair hair, clean-shaven, and wearing a red T-shirt. A man of a similar description was seen acting suspiciously in the same street on Tuesday at about 7 am. Police said the man, who was wearing grey jogging bottoms and a blue T-shirt at the time, was standing in a garden outside a bedroom window and was asked to leave by the female occupier. ([bbc.co.uk](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-40106399?utm_source=openai))