



‘Visions and Priorities’ for Justice

An ambitious new strategy to create safer, just and more resilient communities across Scotland was unveiled by Justice Secretary Michael Matheson in July.

The ‘Vision and Priorities’ for Justice was launched as demolition work began at Cornton Vale women’s prison and the areas that will host Scotland’s first community-based custody units (CCUs) were announced.

Developed and agreed by the leaders of Scotland’s justice system, and drawing on latest evidence, the Vision paper identifies effective approaches and emerging challenges. A delivery plan, detailing how justice professionals will work with the wider public and third sector to achieve their vision, will also be published annually.

The Vision and Priorities for justice outlines seven priorities, stating that:

- We will enable our communities to be safe and supportive, where individuals exercise their rights and responsibilities
- We will enable our people, economy and infrastructure to respond to major risk, recover from emergencies and adapt to emerging threats
- We will modernise civil and criminal law and the justice system to meet the needs of people in Scotland in the 21st Century
- We will work with others to improve health and wellbeing in justice settings, focusing on mental health and substance use
- We will work to quickly identify offenders and ensure responses are proportionate, just, effective and promote rehabilitation
- We will improve the experience of victims and witnesses, minimising court attendance and supporting them to give best evidence
- We will use prison only where necessary to address offending or to protect public safety, focusing on recovery and reintegration.

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Unintentional Harm: Outdoor Safety



Each month, we’re focussing on a key theme from the National Strategic Assessment on Unintentional Harm.

Unintentional harm in Scotland is a large burden on the population in terms of death, with around 1,250 – 1,400 deaths from physical unintentional harm per year. The National Strategic Assessment for Unintentional Harm has sought to set out the research data on six key themes in thematic papers; suggesting actions which could be taken to prevent unintentional harm from occurring. Among these key themes is Outdoor Safety, including air safety, injuries on Forestry Commission land, water safety, mountain rescue and safety during sports and play.

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Practice Sharing Event - 24 August **Last chance to book!**

Booking is still open for our Practice Sharing Event where we will consider and discuss presentations from expert speakers on current and emerging community safety themes, such as:

- ⇒ Community Justice
- ⇒ Co-production and participatory budgeting
- ⇒ LOIPS
- ⇒ Missing Persons
- ⇒ Contest - Prevent

You can book your place at: safercommunitiesscotland.org/practice-sharing-event/

Evidencing Impact Training - 5 September, Perth

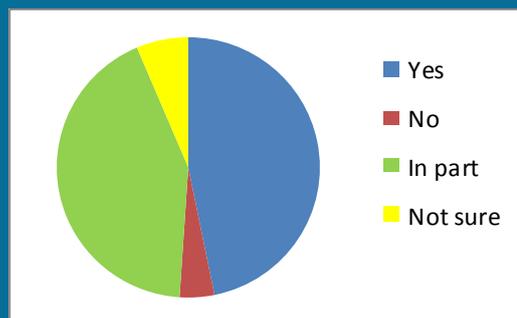
Spaces are also still available for our upcoming Evidencing Impact training. The aim of this course is to look at how we evidence impact, beyond statistics and performance, towards telling the story of what difference a project or initiative has made to the lives of individuals and communities.

Book your place at: <http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/evidencing-impact/>

Question of the Month

Last month, in relation to the Building Safer Communities Unintentional Injury theme of 'Older People', we asked, ***'Do you believe that it is possible to prevent falls among older people?'***

91% of respondents answered either 'Yes' or 'In part', with only 4% saying 'No'.



Our **Question of the Month for August** comes in the wake of new penalties coming into force for sharing intimate images of another person without their permission.

You can take part in this month's poll by visiting:

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/2017/08/01/question-of-the-month-august-2017/

Sharing images without consent

Provisions of the Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Act 2016 came into force in July making it easier to prosecute people who share intimate images without consent.

The Scottish Government launched a hard hitting public awareness campaign aimed at driving home the serious consequences of sharing an intimate image or film of someone without their permission.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said:

“Modern technology gives us the potential to link up or keep in touch with friends and loved ones around the world and opens up incredible opportunities, but the scale of its reach means that when it is abused to intimidate, harass or expose someone in this way, the impact can be hugely damaging.



“There is no place for this abusive and manipulative behaviour in Scotland, and the threat of sharing images without consent will be viewed just as seriously as the act of sharing. The maximum penalty of up to five years reflects the serious nature of this crime and anyone who shares or threatens to share an intimate image without consent will feel the full force of the law.”

The campaign has been developed in partnership with Scottish Women's Aid, Rape Crisis Scotland, Zero Tolerance, Police Scotland and the Crown Office, all of whom are involved in dealing with the crime and its consequences.

New research shows over three quarters (78%) of Scottish adults believe it should be illegal for someone to share an intimate image they've been sent. This rises to 82% of people in agreement that it should be illegal for someone to share an intimate image they've taken of their partner.

You can find out more about the campaign at:

<http://notyourstoshare.scot/>

Early Action Fund

A new Big Lottery fund is seeking proposals to help make a fundamental shift towards effective early action in Scotland. An

early action approach aims to build a society that prevents problems from occurring rather than one that copes with the consequences. It also means changing the systems of services and support that are in place now. The fund will make a small number of grants that help organisations come together to do this.

They are interested in the overall system you want to change and the particular areas where there are opportunities to act earlier.

The grants will fund change programmes that bring together people and organisations from the voluntary and public sectors to plan for the future and collaborate to make early action central to their work. This change should fully involve the people who benefit from and



participate, and those who work to deliver support and services.

The fund focuses on three areas where it believes there is an opportunity to make a significant impact in the next five years. These are:

- Healthy diet and active lifestyle
- Children, young people and families
- Women and criminal justice.

You should focus on one of these three areas and tell us how your proposal will deliver change in a definable geographic area, which could be as large as a local authority or as small as a single city neighbourhood or district.

The deadline for applications is 2 October 2017.

You can apply here:

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/easc>

Action on Human Trafficking

Toughening action against traffickers

Police and courts in Scotland will have greater powers to protect the public from human trafficking and exploitation after the Scottish Government introduced Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention Orders (TEPOs).

TEPOs can introduce a range of restrictions like stopping someone employing staff, working with children/vulnerable people or travelling to certain countries for a minimum of five years. Breaching a TEPO will be a criminal offence.

Trafficking and Exploitation Risk Orders (TEROs) – which can be granted where a person has demonstrated a risk of committing a relevant offence – will come into force in October.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said: “We will continue to make Scotland an increasingly hostile place for those who treat other human beings as commodities. These new powers for the police and courts will help to further protect the public from harm.

“We have already strengthened the law, creating a specific offence of human trafficking for the first time. Now we are making sure that action can be taken when a person poses a continuing risk.

“We are working hard to eradicate trafficking and exploitation in Scotland and providing high quality support for victims who have suffered physical and psychological harm.”

Free carbon monoxide awareness workshop

23 August, Inverness



The Gas Safe Charity is running a series of free morning workshops across the UK aimed at ANY organisation that delivers services in the homes of vulnerable people. High levels of carbon monoxide have been linked to increased risk of falls and dementia. Front line staff and volunteers have a key preventative role but there is also a **duty of care** for employers. A range of organisations have attended past ThinkCO workshops and

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

This international awareness day was celebrated on 30 July.

Human trafficking is a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labour and sex. The International Labour Organization estimates that 21 million people are victims of forced labour globally. This estimate also includes victims of human trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation.

Every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit, or destination for victims. Children make up almost a third of all human trafficking victims worldwide, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. Additionally, women and girls comprise 71 per cent of human trafficking victims, the report states.

You can download the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons here:

http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2016_Global_Report_on_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf



have now introduced carbon monoxide awareness into their induction and general training. There is usually only one place per organisation per workshop and each participant will receive a training pack, buffet lunch and a free CO detector for each organisation. To learn more and to get a booking form please visit:

<http://www.gassafecharity.org.uk/media/1082/leaflet-3-edited-on-070317-small.pdf>

or email thinkco@gassafecharity.org.uk

Proposals to transform planning

Proposals to transform the approach to planning for homes and infrastructure projects have been put forward by the Scottish Government.

The 'Places, People and Planning' position statement sets out aspirations for a more effective system, which supports business while working with communities to ensure development happens in the right places.

The statement takes account of views put forward in an extensive consultation exercise, which found widespread public interest in how to improve planning. It provides an update on proposals for improving development planning, empowering communities and streamlining the planning process.

Meanwhile, the results of a national survey by YoungScot have also been recently published

and will inform future reforms. This found that many young people are keen to have a say in planning their local communities.

Kevin Stewart, Minister for Local Government and Housing, said: "We want to take forward changes that make a real difference to planning in Scotland – ensuring we have a system that can deliver the quality homes, buildings and modern infrastructure we need to make great places in the future.

"We need to strike a balance in addressing the many issues raised. It is crucial that planning helps drive forward inclusive growth by enabling high quality development in a way that involves local people as fully as possible."

Read the 'People, Places and Planning' position statement here:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/places-people-and-planning-position-statement/>

No Knives, Better Lives Unconference – Positive Prevention: Youth Work and Community Safety

29 September, Glasgow
9.30am - 3.30pm

No Knives, Better Lives are hosting an unconference on **Positive Prevention: Youth Work and Community Safety**.



They want to explore how we recognise the contribution of youth work at a policy level and in the process of local community safety planning, and to consider the next steps to fully integrate youth work as a key approach to prevention.

Unconferences are different than your usual conference. NKBL has set the theme, but the content of the conference will be decided by attendees on the day!

Registration will open at 9.30am and the unconference will start at 10am. The event will close at 3.30pm.

Tickets are free but will be subject to a late cancellation fee of £50.

Book your place by visiting:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/no-knives-better-lives-unconference-positive-prevention-youth-work-and-community-safety-tickets-35720666475>

International Youth Day

12 August is International Youth Day. This year's theme is Youth Building Peace. The World Programme of Action for Youth, which provides a policy framework and practical guidelines to improve the situation of young people, also encourages "promoting the active involvement of youth in maintaining peace and security".

Find out more at:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/youthday/>

Outdoor Safety in Scotland



There is limitation on the true picture of unintentional harm in outdoor spaces due to a lack of consistent injury surveillance data. At the moment certain bodies for certain activities must collate data, but not all of them and as such there may be other unintentional harm that occurs within outdoor spaces of which we are unaware or can only be found within larger data sources e.g. mortality data from NRS, emergency hospital admission data from ISD etc. Unfortunately, within these larger data sets, detailed analysis for 'outdoor safety' alone cannot be undertaken.

Overall, location data for unintentional harm is poorly collected and there is no information captured during injury surveillance which indicates what the injured party is doing at the time the injury was sustained. From what data is available, there could be as little as 15%, or as much as one third of all unintentional harm that takes place in the outside environment (excluding the road/transport environment).

Water Safety Focus

A 2014 report by RoSPA into the management of water safety by Local Authorities showed managing water safety ranked as being very/quite important in relation to other service demands among 70% of authorities, however, less than half had a policy level commitment on the issue.

Among key points listed in the BSCP thematic paper on water safety are:

- Relative to population, Wales and Scotland both carry a disproportionate burden; compared to the UK, Scotland has 8% of the population but 15% of the deaths by drowning (though Scotland is home to around 90% of standing freshwater in the UK and including islands, accounts for 52% of the UK coastline, as well as having higher levels of non recreational water use e.g. fishing)
- Specific risk factors pertain to all age groups, e.g. young children reliant on constant supervision or straying from parents; adolescents through thrill seeking

and cognitive development (particularly in males) making them less perceptive of risk; middle aged adults due to increased participation in recreation, more leisure time and available income; and older people through pre-existing health conditions

- Males are much more likely to be a victim of drowning than females - almost three times as likely in particular age groups and six times more likely for all age groups taken together
- In almost half of all fatal incidents (44%) in the UK, the person had no intention of entering the water and were taking part in everyday activities
- Recreational activity near or on water accounted for 45% of fatal incidents

Among the main risk factors that increase the risk of drowning or being involved in an accident associated with water included a lack of knowledge or underestimating risk and a lack of competence. Alcohol consumption was a particular risk factor among men, with 1 in 3 drownings in the UK suspected or confirmed as involving alcohol.



Our focus on the Water Safety element of the Outdoor Safety Thematic Paper on unintentional injury, comes as the Community Safety Minister Annabelle Ewing highlighted the dangers of taking part in activities in and around water during the summer at a visit to Aberdeen Lifeboat Station and Water Safety Scotland.

You can find out more about water safety during the summer by visiting the websites below:

<http://www.watersafetyscotland.org.uk/>

<https://rlii.org/safety>

Forestry Commission

According to data provided by the Forestry Commission there were 209 injuries to members of the public in Scotland (from a total of 9.1 million visitors).

This is likely to be an under estimate as the Commission in Scotland has a more limited injury surveillance programme in England. Most injuries involved slipping/tripping/ falling on the same level.

Mountain Rescue

Since the mid 2000s there have been around 550-580 incidents per year; with mountaineering accounting for around 400 of these. Almost two thirds of casualties are considered to be experienced mountaineers.

Two particular causes of preventable incidents have been highlighted, particularly in those less experienced - poor navigation and poor planning.

Sports and Play

Injury sustained whilst participating in sport is not routinely recorded by ISD or NRS for deaths or emergency admissions, though A&E attendance data from one health board indicates that it is an issue.

Sport and play injuries are more likely to be sustained by young people, with risk decreasing markedly with age and dependent upon which sport is being participated in.

Air Safety

This applies to non-public transport operations in the UK which includes aircraft not engaged in ambulance, cargo, passenger, police support or search and rescue operations.

Just 2% of reports made to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) per year are 'accidents' with only five 'serious incidents' per year.

Key Actions

Water Safety

The European Child Safety Alliance has recommended increasing drowning prevention efforts by introducing laws requiring fencing around public and private pools and the use of personal floatation devices/life jackets while on the water as well as making water safety education (including swimming lessons) a compulsory part of the school curriculum - a recommendation also supported by the UK Drowning Prevention Strategy. The Drowning Prevention Strategy also recommends all recreational activity organisations should have a clear strategic risk assessment and plans that address key risks - whilst also calling for a better understanding of water-related self harm.

National Strategy

The National Strategic Assessment for Unintentional Harm makes strategic national and local level policy recommendations for action to reduce unintentional harm. Among recommendations particularly pertinent to outdoor safety, it recommends the gathering of more evidence in the form of injury surveillance, including basic information on injuries sustained, where they were sustained and what the individual was doing at the time.

The Strategic Assessment also strongly recommends the development of a National Strategy on Unintentional Harm, citing evidence that this delivers greater improvements than the absence of such a strategy.

The thematic paper on outdoor safety provides a number of recommendations on each of the key Outdoor Safety areas.

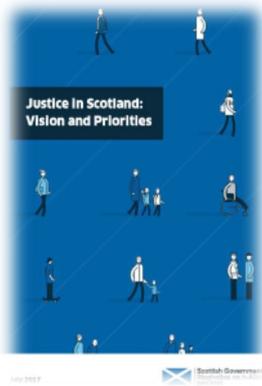
You can read the National Strategic Assessment and supporting thematic papers on the Building Safer Communities Programme website at:

<http://www.bsc.scot/publications.html>

Updated Justice Vision for Scotland

The Scottish Government has updated its Vision and Priorities strategy, first published in 2012.

Using the latest evidence it describes recent successes, highlights key challenges and sets out key priorities for the future. These shared priorities are for everyone involved in keeping communities safe and delivering civil, criminal and administrative justice. The strategy outlines how they will be achieved by people and organisations working together across the justice system and beyond to deliver improvement and focus on shared outcomes.



2017-18 Delivery Plan

Whilst the Justice Vision and Priorities sets out our longer term vision, the accompanying Delivery Plan sets out the key actions that Scottish Government, justice organisations and partners will take in 2017-18. This plan will be reviewed and updated annually.

You can download the updated 'Justice in Scotland: Vision and Priorities' document at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/07/9526/downloads>

You can download the 2017-18 Delivery Plan at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/07/8431/downloads>

Consultation: supporting child witnesses

Views are being sought on the best way to spare child witnesses from having to give evidence during criminal trials.

The consultation seeks views on the Government vision that all child witnesses will have their evidence recorded as early as possible, and asks how a model for prerecording evidence could work best for Scotland.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said:

"Giving evidence to a court can be extremely difficult and emotional for anyone, particularly a child or vulnerable witness. Making sure those witnesses feel safe, secure and able to share their account of events effectively not only protects them from ongoing risk, but helps them give the best evidence."

You can submit to the consultation at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/news/supporting-child-witnesses/>

Howard League Briefing Paper on reducing criminalisation of children in residential care

The Howard League has published the first in a series of briefing papers to be published alongside a programme of research and campaign work to end the criminalisation of young people in residential care.

The project builds on research published in March 2016, which found that children living in children's homes were being criminalised at much higher rates than other children, including those in other types of care.

This issue also affects children in residential care in Scotland, with the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice publishing a study suggesting that better relationships could reduce the criminalisation of looked after young people.

You can read the Howard League briefing here:

<http://howardleague.org/publications/ending-the-criminalisation-of-children-in-residential-care/>

View the CYCJ study here:

<http://www.cycj.org.uk/news/better-relationships-could-reduce-the-criminalisation-of-looked-after-young-people/>

Consultation on sentencing guidelines

The Scottish Sentencing Council has launched a consultation on new sentencing guidelines which aim to set out the principles and purposes of sentencing for all offences. The new guidelines are intended to provide judges and the public with a clear statement about the aims of current sentencing practice in the Scottish courts, to increase transparency by providing the public with an understanding of the approach taken by judges, and to promote consistency in approaches taken by judges to sentencing.



website explaining how judges decide a sentence. This includes videos and an interactive scenario that lets people choose what happens next in a realistic court case, and then select the sentence they would give - if they were the judge.

Campaigners had called for the introduction of the guidelines to ensure that prison was not used as a 'last stop shop' alternative to the welfare state.

You can read the consultation documents and participate by visiting the Scottish Sentencing Council website at:

<https://www.scottishsentencingcouncil.org.uk/consultations/principles-and-purposes-of-sentencing/>

The sentencing council has also created a

Call to end Jail terms of less than 12 months

The Chief Inspector of Scottish Prisons, David Strang, has called on the Scottish Government to end prison sentences of less than 12 months and show a "creative approach" to using community based options instead. Mr. Strang said that the evidence was clear that such sentences did not cut crime.

Since 2010, the Scottish courts have operated a presumption against prison sentences of three months or less with the Scottish Government yet to publish its' response to a consultation on extending that to 12 months.

Speaking on BBC radio, Mr. Strang said, "The evidence is very clear that if you want to reduce crime then you don't send people to prison for a short time.

"People who are released from a short sentence of less than 12 months, over half of them are reconvicted within one year. So I would have thought that one purpose of the criminal justice system is to prevent future crimes, to reduce reoffending, and that if you send someone to prison then the damage that that does leads to them reoffending more than if you had given them an alternative."

Among more creative approaches to the use of community-based alternatives to prison suggested included the use of community payback orders and fines, which he said were much cheaper and far more effective. He pointed out that keeping a convict in prison for a year costs between £30,000-40,000 in Scotland, whereas a community payback order costs less than £10,000 a year.

Parole Reform in Scotland – Consultation

The Scottish Government is consulting on the newly formed Parole Reform Programme Board. The consultation aims to gather views on potential legislative changes relating to the:

- ◆ Governance of the Parole Board;
- ◆ Involvement of Scottish Ministers in the parole process;
- ◆ Tests that the Parole Board apply in determining whether to release;
- ◆ Timescales for subsequent reviews following initial consideration for parole;
- ◆ Way in which information is supplied to the Parole Board; and,
- ◆ Administrative procedures for considering cases as set out in the Parole Board (Scotland) Rules 2001 ("the Rules").

You can view the consultation and submit responses by visiting:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/justice/parole-reform-in-scotland/>

In other news...

news

Human rights concerns raised over controversial use of anti social behaviour intervention

A controversial sonic device which violates EU torture laws and is used to disperse teenage gangs has been installed at a Scottish train station frequently targeted by marauding youths.

Known as a "mosquito", the anti-loitering device emits a high-frequency sound normally audible to under-25s in a bid to stop them congregating.

It has now been confirmed that a device has been installed at Hamilton Central railway station in a bid to tackle anti-social behaviour.

However campaigners have said the move is discriminatory towards young people, regardless of whether they are misbehaving. Children's Commissioner Bruce Adamson said he would be raising the issue directly with ScotRail.

He added: "International human rights bodies, and my office, have long called for these devices to be banned. The use of such devices is a breach of children's rights to go about their lives free from discrimination in a healthy and safe way when they use public transport, visit shops or meet their friends. These devices are a disproportionate and degrading approach that acts without discrimination, causing discomfort to any children and young people who encounter them."



Community Groups driving a revolution in pub ownership

A recent Guardian newspaper piece has looked at the growing trend of community owned pubs in England, with community groups clubbing together to run their own local and reverse the trend of pub closures.



The article features reports from the Plunkett Foundation looking at the thriving community owned business scene. You can read the Guardian article here:

<http://bit.ly/2tBysnl>

Read the Plunkett Foundation Reports here:

<https://www.plunkett.co.uk/news/communities-continue-to-co-operate-highlights-national-report-launched-today>

Glasgow's Participatory Budgeting Evaluation Toolkit

This toolkit is intended to support any individual or group organising a PB activity to plan how to evaluate their PB process, and to collate the evidence and information required. It offers a 'pick and mix' approach so that PB organisers can select what should be evaluated depending on the size and scale of the PB activity they are leading. It allows PB organisers to determine how best to assess how their organisation or community group did at:

- leadership and governance of the PB activity (planning)
- delivery of key PB processes (process)
- Outcomes from PB activity (impact)

Download the toolkit at:

<http://whatworksscotland.ac.uk/publications/glasgows-participatory-budgeting-evaluation-toolkit/>

Digital Towns Pilot Programme: Call for Applications



Scotland's Towns Partnership is seeking applications from Towns, City Neighbourhoods, Business Improvement Districts and other town stakeholder organisations to participate in the national Digital Towns Pilot Programme, which is being supported by Scottish Government.

This is a competitive process in which successful applicants will be awarded a combination of potential grant funding as well as access to a free and impartial "industry expert advisor" to encourage local strategic partnerships and to offer best practice advice around digital skills, participation, design, procurement and sustainability.

The pilot programme is intended to encourage new strategic collaborations, improve digital participation and skills, and create scalable best practice models for digital deployment in Scotland's towns/town centres and city neighbourhoods.

If your application is successful, an appointed advisor will provide consultancy and advice for your digital strategy, for example around skills, participation, design, procurement and sustainability. Each advisor will be available for a determined number of consultancy days as part of the award. Available awards are:

- 5 consultancy days from an expert industry advisor and £5,000 funding support.
- 3 consultancy days from an expert industry advisor.

Applications which are not successful will also be guided to sources of support and advice for their strategy.

Applications are due by **5pm, Thursday 31 August 2017**.

Find out more and apply at:

[http://www.scotlandstowns.org/digital_towns?
utm_campaign=digital_pilot&utm_medium=email&utm_source=scotlandstowns](http://www.scotlandstowns.org/digital_towns?utm_campaign=digital_pilot&utm_medium=email&utm_source=scotlandstowns)

The SCSN website has a wide range of useful information and services which are free to access, including case studies, briefing papers, policy and strategy documents, free eLearning courses, toolkits and guidance documents on a variety of topics and much more besides.

Visit our website at www.safercommunitiesscotland.org

Visit our eLearning website at www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/training/elearning



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The closing date for the September newsletter is 1 September



34b Thistle Street, North West Lane

Edinburgh, EH2 1EA

0131 225 8700/7772

Email: info@scsn.org.uk

Company Ltd. SC357649

Charity No. SC040464

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org