The 7th Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Community Safety Network was held on 16 June 2016 at the Grosvenor Hotel in Edinburgh. The AGM was well attended and facilitated some interesting debates on the future challenges and opportunities for the community safety sector.

It was no great surprise to find that members were grappling with how the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 is further changing the range of structures, roles and responsibilities of CSP’s in Scotland. Keen as ever to ensure that community safety could influence the course of developments it was recommended that SCSN look to establish a Community Justice Forum to support sharing of practice. We will be calling an inaugural meeting in the near future. If you or a colleague would like to be added to the mailing list please email us info@scsn.org.uk.

Due to funding cuts and supporting a secondment to the Scottish Government to development of a Strategic Assessment to direct BSCP phase 2 on unintentional injuries, for much of the year we operated on the equivalent of 3.5 staff. Despite the reduction in staffing SCSN has made good progress against its business plan, delivering services and resources to support the capacity of local partners in community safety.

The AGM is a great opportunity to celebrate the work of an organisation and to reflect on the outputs and outcomes delivered. The Annual Report provides a brief summary of the collective achievements of our staff, board and members over the last year, all of whom deserve recognition for their contribution. An extract from the annual report is available on pages 12 and 13 of this newsletter or full copies are available on line at http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/home-2/about-us/

A key and important role of the AGM is to appoint the Board of Directors who will provide governance and leadership for the company over the next 12 months. All the Directors below were unanimously elected to the Board.

**Directors 2016/17**

- Mark McCall, Fife Council, Chair
- Ian Hanley, Inverclyde Council, Vice Chair
- Andrew Mitchell, City of Edinburgh Council
- Diane Kane, East Dunbartonshire Council
- John Irons, Perth and Kinross Council
- Paul Richardson, Scottish Borders, Treasurer
- Martin Millar, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Barry McEwan, Police Scotland
- Ann Fehilly, Community Safety Glasgow
- Lorraine Gillies, West Lothian Council

**2017/18**

Membership fees to remain at £375 for the eighth year in a row.

Date of next AGM
Thursday 15 June 2017
SCSN welcomes David Barbour as new Communications Officer

The Scottish Community Safety Network is pleased to introduce David Barbour as their new Communications Officer. David previously worked as Communications Officer at Hepatitis Scotland where he played a major role in the development of awareness raising work around World Hepatitis Day in Scotland, including the ‘Ever Injected? Get tested/HepCscot’ campaign. He has also previously worked or volunteered for a wide variety of third sector organisations in sexual health and blood borne viruses, drugs and alcohol and LGBT health and wellbeing.

David will continue to develop SCSN’s highly rated monthly newsletter as well as continuing to build our social media presence and engagement.

‘I am excited to take up post with SCSN and support work around community safety in Scotland. Many of my previous roles have a lot of crossover with community safety, so I will look to bring my knowledge to bear whilst I get to grips with this broad and interesting policy area. I look forward to working with our members and partners in the future.’

Question of the Month

In our most recent newsletter, published in May, you may have read about a pilot project run by Trading Standards Scotland, which trialled new call blocking technology to tackle the problem of nuisance and scam phone calls. The project also sought to gather intelligence on the scale of nuisance call problems in Scotland.

We asked - ‘Have you been affected by scam and nuisance calls in the last 3 months?’

Thanks to all those who took the time to answer! 82% of you reported having been affected by scam or nuisance phone calls in the past 3 months, with the remaining 18% being unaffected. Turn to page 16 to find out more about the Scottish Government’s work to tackle nuisance phone calls.

JULY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

This month we will be asking -

Do you think Participatory Requests will support greater engagement from communities on service development?

Visit our website to take part at www.safercommunitiesscotland.org
60 Seconds with….Paul Richardson, Newly Appointed SCSN Treasurer

**Why did you want to become involved with SCSN?**

I’ve spent my entire working career in community safety so becoming involved with SCSN just felt like a natural progression.

**How has being an SCSN Director shaped your approach to your work?**

It has helped to give me a wider perspective. I have learnt about areas that I have been less involved in such as crime prevention. It is really useful to see what other areas are doing and how they are approaching challenges.

**Tell us a little bit more about Home Safety Scotland?**

Home Safety Scotland was founded in the 1990s, it is a group of professionals, Local Authorities and other bodies. It’s intention is to reduce the number of accidents in the home through information sharing and raising awareness.

**Why are you involved in Home Safety Scotland?**

From accident statistics, I have seen first-hand the real need to prevent accidents in the home and no one else was actively promoting this. I started to become involved and over time my involvement has grown – I am now the Chair of Home Safety Scotland.

**If you could only share one safety message, what would it be and why?**

Accidents don’t just happen – they are preventable.

**If you were giving advice to another local authority about how they could share messages on home safety, what would you tell them?**

I would tell them to establish key targets early, remember that improving home safety is reliant on partnerships and cross-referencing of services.

**How can community safety partnerships improve Home Safety?**

I think it is really important that community safety partnerships work to identify the problems that exist now, but also what is likely to be a problem in the next 5,10 even 15 years. It is really important to plan forward, rather than wait for the problem to become real.

**What was your favourite toy when you were younger?**

A Johnny 7 gun – it was a super spy gun where bits came off it and it could be folded down into a smaller gun. It also had a telescope attached to it. James Bond was incredibly popular when I was a youngster and this definitely influenced the toys I liked.

**If you had one word to describe yourself, what would it be?**

Friendly
The National Community Safety Convention is expected to attract approximately 150 delegates from across Scotland’s public, private and third sector. This is a major event for the community safety sector and this year’s theme of Reflecting on progress – Shaping the future is particularly timely with many partnerships in the process of developing frameworks to support the implementation of new legislation such as the Community Empowerment and Community Justice Acts.

Through a series of keynote addresses and workshops delegates will be encouraged to share practice and to reflect on what has worked and consider how we transfer the learning, processes and skills to inform the delivery of future.

**Reflecting on progress – Delivering the future**  
Annabelle Ewing MSP  
Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs

A resume of the successes and developments within the sector; highlighting opportunities for further engagement on the national agenda.

**Implementing Christie - what does the future hold?**  
Derek Crichton  
SOLACE

Reflecting on the journey so far and the future paths required to truly embed prevention and integration of public services to improve performance.

**Community Planning - Shaping the future**  
Tim Kendrick  
CPP Forum Chairperson

Tim will highlight the widening role of CPPs in the light of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. He will discuss how the strengthened role for community planning provides new opportunities for community safety partnerships to help shape outcome delivery and deliver the prevention agenda.

**Asset Based Approaches in Practice**  
Andrew Magowan  
Inspiring Scotland

Asset-based working is seen as a vital part of our response to the challenges faced by our most vulnerable communities. In this session we will use Inspiring Scotland’s Link Up programme to explore what impact such approaches can have, how that impact is achieved and their relevance to the evolving policy environment including community empowerment and inequalities.
Delegates will be able to attend two workshops and can choose from the following topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORKSHOP</th>
<th>Workshop outline</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Empowerment</strong></td>
<td>This workshop will introduce the Community Empowerment Act and the revised Standards for Community Engagement. We will discuss the implications of the Act’s ‘Participation Request’ and the revised Standards for Community Engagement for community safety practitioners. Both of these frameworks will go some way to realising the Scottish Governments ambition of allowing communities to be more involved in decision making and will have implications for practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unintentional Injuries</strong></td>
<td>Presenting the evidence base and strategic priorities to shape the future direction of BSCP Phase 2 which aims to reduce unintentional physical and psychological harm that could be predicted and/or prevented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evidencing Impact</strong></td>
<td>Introducing SCSN new toolkit to support evidencing impact through continuous programme evaluation. This workshop will look how we ‘tell the story’ and evidence the impact of projects and interventions using qualitative and quantitative data to evidence progress and shape future initiatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equally Safe Strategy-Draft Action Plan</strong></td>
<td>A logic modelling workshop to inform the content and delivery of the Capacity and Capability work stream draft action plan aimed at ‘non-specialist’ mainstream services, which aims to support employers/officers to identify and respond to employees and service users needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The journey back to citizenship’ –</strong></td>
<td>An interactive session involving people with convictions, a stage set prison cell, an inflatable elephant and others. How can the barriers that obstruct someone’s journey back from punishment to citizenship be recognised, reduced and removed? Using the Forum Theatre method we will seek to involve the audience in achieving positive outcomes to the situations we present.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCSN are pleased to announce the Safer Communities Awards 2016 Shortlisted projects. The projects below have all been shortlisted under different categories including:
- Early Intervention and Education
- Innovative Media Campaign
- Strengthening Community Engagement and Resilience
- Wider Partnership

The winners in each category will be announced at the Awards Dinner on the 5 September 2016.

All shortlisted projects have now been entered into the Peoples Choice Award. The Peoples Choice Vote allows you the opportunity to vote for the project you think should win across all categories. To vote simply click on the link at the end of the project briefs and choose who you think should win £2000. Voting is open until midnight on the Sunday 14 August 2016.

**Safety Advisor Group**

The Safety Advisory Group process provides a structured process for event organisers to follow to ensure that the safety of participants and members of the public is treated as a priority.

**#Stronger North**

We created genuine multi-agency working, putting professional differences aside and really working together to make things happen on the ground, while harnessing the enthusiasm and commitment of the community to make a difference.

**Freestyle Environmental Visual Audit (FEVA)**

FEVA is a collaborative, inclusive initiative and led by young people, making real, positive, immediate impact to our environment. FEVA continues to promote positive environmental and safety messages in our community.
Child Exploitation and Online Protection

Vote for this project to show your support for a preventative, interactive, educational campaign that protects Scotland’s children/young people from the online dangers of child sexual exploitation, cyberbullying and radicalisation.

Perth and Kinross Community Watch

This initiative has given communities and organisations a bespoke messaging platform to share information which has improved community engagement, helped prevent crime and as a result people feel safer.

Fife Water Safety Initiative

This initiative helps young people understand risks around water, the impact of their behaviour and has developed a sustainable way of protecting themselves and the community.

Scottish Borders Rural Crime

We took theft prevention to the heart of our farming community resulting in a 62% reduction in the value of theft. We want to continue making an even bigger impact.

You’re Asking for It

Protecting children from exposure to alcohol is a priority. ‘You’re Asking For it’ made adults aware of the consequences, not just for our children’s wellbeing but for the wider community.

Edinburgh NPS

Edinburgh’s Community Improvement Partnership identified innovative solutions to the issue of New Psychoactive Substances, influencing local and national legislation and delivering the best possible outcomes for the communities we serve.
Social Media Campaign and Training

A Call to Action!

YouthLink Scotland has launched a new No Knives, Better Lives social media campaign. The aim of the campaign is to communicate the risks and consequences of knife carrying to young people across Scotland.

Partners can help to ensure that we’re reaching as many young people as possible by signing up to support the campaign. If you have direct social media contact with young people all you have to do is share the content we put out with them.

Between June and March we’ll follow Marks’ Story and the devastating consequences for his and the victim’s family, friends and community. Follow the full story here - bit.ly/1W72dF0

View ‘Mark’s Story video’ at - bit.ly/2987A28

For more information on this campaign, visit the website noknivesbetterlives.com

No Knives Better Lives Practitioner Training

24 August in Edinburgh: Rosebery House 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5EY
8 September in Glasgow: Princes Trust, Cumbrae House - 15 Carlton Ct, Glasgow, G5 9JP

This new training is designed to support anyone working directly with young people to develop and deliver knife crime prevention sessions and programmes using a youth work approach. The training includes:

- An introduction to youth work and prevention
- Familiarisation with all of the NKBL resources available to support practice
- The opportunity to have a go at developing and delivering a session using the NKBL toolkits and resources

The training should be useful to youth workers, campus officers/ community liaison officers, teachers, youth justice workers, sports coaches and anyone else working directly with young people and with a prevention role. Local training can also be arranged by contacting Orielle Taylor, National Coordinator, YouthLink Scotland at otaylor@youthlinkscotland.org or by phone on 0131 313 2488.
Spotlight on Equality

Big Increase in Reported Hate Crime

The Crown Office has published a report detailing reported hate crime in Scotland in 2015-16. Whilst there was a slight increase in overall reported hate crime, reported crime aggravated by prejudice against Islam, sexual orientation and disability rose by 89%, 20% and 14% respectively. Reported hate crime where race was the aggravating factor fell slightly by 3%.

The report was published one week before the tragic events in Orlando, Florida, where 49 people were killed and many more injured in what President Obama described as a terrorist attack and hate crime, and Scottish Equalities Secretary Angela Constance called ‘the worst targeted attack on LGBTI people that we have seen in the western world in recent times’.

Commenting on the report, Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said, ‘There is no place in Scotland for any crime motivated by prejudice, be it racial, religious, homophobic or any other form of intolerance.’

‘While I am concerned at an increase in the number of charges on last year, including the rise in alleged offences against Islam, it does indicate an improvement in the willingness of the public to report these crimes, and that should be welcomed.’

‘I want every victim of such crimes to be willing to come forward and work with the police to ensure the perpetrators can be pursued and punished appropriately.’

LGBT people face discrimination in palliative care

A recently published report from terminal illness charity Marie Curie has found that three quarters of LGBT people are not confident that health and social care services provide adequate end of life care for their needs. The report found that 74% felt that palliative care services were not sensitive to their sexuality.

Listed among the main barriers to accessing appropriate end of life care for LGBT people were:

- Accessing services late or not accessing services at all based on anticipated discrimination or stigma
- Complexities of religion and LGBT end of life care with spiritual needs not being met
- Assumptions made by care staff about sexual identity and gender and family support structures
- Lack of appreciation of varied support networks

£20 million funding boost to Scotland’s equality agenda

224 projects working with individuals, families and communities to address inequality and discrimination, will benefit from more than £20million in funding to drive forward Scotland’s equality agenda in 2016-17.

The figure includes £3million in funding to national bodies including the Equality Network, BEMIS, CEMVO, Inclusion Scotland and the Scottish Refugee Council. The money will also support over 80 projects working to improve outcomes for people and communities, including the LGBTI Helpline, Equate Scotland and the Muslim Women’s Resource Centre, with £3.5 million of funding to be allocated to frontline services to women and girls who have experienced violence.

EU Referendum Sparks Hate Crime Rise

There have been reports from across the UK of big increases in racially motivated Hate Crime since the EU referendum. If you are a victim of Hate Crime or witness a Hate Crime, find out how you can report it at www.hatecrimescotland.org

Hate Crime in Scotland 2015-16

3,712 reported hate crimes in Scotland based on race with Sexual orientation second most common type of hate crime with 1020 reported cases
What we did

Supported effective local partnership working by collecting and promoting evidence of good and emerging practice; and extended the range of Case Studies and Briefing Papers to support local practice and learning. In collaboration, SCSN also produced community assets reports on the five BSCP pilot areas.

Provided local support in relation to Partnership, People, Performance, Prevention and Evidence through:

- Bespoke support to CSP’s in relation to Priority Setting and Evaluation
- Facilitating CSP Self Assessments
- Providing support in developing cost benefit analysis to a number of organisations

Provided current and timely information on a broad range of topics that impact on community safety using a range of media sources:

- Produced 12 newsletters, estimated circulation over 1000
- Increased Twitter followers from 98 to 482, averaging 154 engagements per month.
- Increased Facebook followers slightly from 56 to 77

Refreshed the safer communities website to be more interactive and made more user friendly. The website continues to attract an average of 1010 unique visitors per quarter.

Developed links with ‘cross cutting’ partners to co-produce four learning events on current and emerging community safety issues, attracting 137 delegates/officers from a range of charity and public sector organisations.

Delivered training inputs at other public sectors courses (i.e. Police College ta Tulliallan) and provided inputs at partners events.

Increased % rating seminars and events as good-excellent - 95% (2014) to 96% (2015)

To provide leadership and be a centre of excellence for the community safety sector

What we did

Proactively sought to influence, share and contribute to the development and implementation of national frameworks and strategies by representing the sector at a national level, attending various meetings and advocating on behalf of the sector across a range of community safety related themes.

To champion community safety and influence the shaping and development of national policy and local delivery
Continued to champion the Building Safer Communities Programme (BSCP) ensuring the sector is engaged and updated on developments; and significantly contributed to the development of a Unintentional Injuries Strategic Assessment, through a six month staff secondment.

Continued to promote community safety issues/themes at other partners groups and events, and worked closely with SPA, Police Scotland, SFRS, COSLA, Improvement Services, Trading Standards, ROSPA, Home Safety Scotland, Inspiring Scotland, Youthlink Scotland etc.

Continued to work closely with Network Rail in the delivery of small grants that support cross cutting issues, and produced a comprehensive report on the contributions these projects have made to national strategies and frameworks, available on our website.

% who rate promoting community safety at a national level as useful to extremely useful; 81% (2014) to 84% (2015)

% who rate SCSN role in representing the sector at national level as useful to extremely useful; 81% (2014) to 84% (2015)

What we did

Consulted with members and partners agencies seeking their views and guidance in relation to work plan delivery and development of new resources.

Provided networking opportunities through meetings, and forums which facilitated peer learning and sharing of practice, In addition to SCSN co-ordinated meetings (Partnership Analysts Forum, Link Officer meetings and National Operational Group Meetings) we provided administration support to the Wardens Network and ASBOF.

Provided relevant training and continuous professional development opportunities:
⇒ Extended the range of training available, delivering 11 training courses and one bespoke training course, (over 100 delegates)
⇒ Promoted and increased numbers completing eLearning courses. Designed and produced four new eLearning modules to improve access to training.

Promoted the use of existing guidance and toolkits, and developed two new resources to increase resilience and support the sector to be legislatively compliant:
⇒ Using and Handling intelligence data guidance
⇒ CCTV Operators Induction Manual

Established an Action Learning Set to further support members to evidence the impact of community safety interventions with communities, across partnerships and nationally.

Over 90% rate training and resources as good to excellent

Between 83% and 100% respondents rate SCSN forums as useful to very useful.
Scotland world’s worst for binge drinking damage

Data from the recently published *Global Drugs Survey* has revealed that Scotland has been named top of the global table when it comes to alcohol related visits to Accident and Emergency. The report surveyed 100,000 people from around the world to find out their drink and drug habits. About 2.4% of Scots surveyed (647) had received emergency medical treatment, more than double the global average of 1.1%. Ireland and Norway follow closely behind on 2.2%, with the rest of the UK on 1.9%.

Alison Douglas, Chief Executive of Alcohol Focus Scotland, was not surprised by the figures and said: “Last year there were over 35,000 alcohol-related hospital stays in Scotland, the vast majority from emergency admission.”

Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI) targets exceeded

*Figures* published by NHS Information Services have shown that NHS boards are exceeding targets for Alcohol Related Brief Interventions delivery and expectations of delivery in primary care settings. 97,245 ABI were carried out in Scotland in 2015/16, 59% more than the 61,081 set out in Local Delivery Plan (LDP) standard for the year. The target of 80% of ABIs taking place in primary care settings has also been met. The report also notes a three-fold increase in the number of ABIs delivered by ‘wider’ settings (other than priority settings) over the last three years.

Scottish Government proposes limit on alcohol sales

Scottish Ministers have outlined a plan to create a national target for reducing Scotland’s drinking levels which would see restrictions placed on the amount of alcohol sold by pubs and supermarkets. The proposals are being considered as part of a national campaign to reduce alcohol intake across Scotland.

The plan would require all businesses, regardless of size, to declare the volume of alcohol they sell in an attempt to establish the quantities of alcohol being purchased, in what areas and by which demographics.

**Scottish Alcohol Industry Partnership launches a 125ml consumer choice campaign**

Over 90 licensees in East Dunbartonshire have signed up to a trial consumer choice campaign which encourages the on-trade to offer smaller wine measures. The campaign is based on survey results from the locality which showed that 71% of respondents would support the introduction of the smaller wine measure – and seeks to ease the strain on the NHS and other public services. 46% of those interviewed said they do think about the amount of wine in the glass when buying a drink.

The survey was coordinated on behalf of a partnership working initiative involving the Scottish Government, the Scottish Alcohol Industry Partnership and Licensing Advisors at East Dunbartonshire Council who work hard engaging directly with licensees across the region.

“We remain determined that Scotland plays its part in helping the WHO achieve its global reduction of 10 per cent in alcohol harm by 2025” - Shona Robison MSP, Health Secretary
Toolkit launched for children affected by parent’s problem drinking

Alcohol Focus Scotland is offering a new support kit for children whose parents are harmful drinkers. The Children Harmed by Alcohol Toolkit (CHAT) is to be used in social work, family support and specialist alcohol services to assist children aged 3-16. It can also be used with parents and other family members to demonstrate how alcohol is affecting family life.

Harmful parental drinking can have a serious impact on all aspects of children’s lives, affecting their health and wellbeing, relationships and school life, says the charity.

Global Drug Survey: Legal highs seen as affordable alternative drugs

Findings published in the 2016 Global Drug Survey, which includes the views of 4,500 drugs users who have used novel psychoactive substances (NPS or so called ‘legal highs’) in the past 12 months, shows that legal highs are not seen as safer compared with traditional drugs, but are considered a value for money alternative that can be bought online.

Nearly 1 in 20 (4.8%) of those taking part in the survey reported buying NPS in the past 12 months, up from 4.2% in the 2015 survey.

The report goes on to say that greater importance is being placed on perceived value for money and ease of online access. It says that based on all GDS surveys and publications, it is clear that NPS generally do not have an effect profile that is preferred to traditional drugs by the vast majority of users and importantly they are not seen as safer. As such wealthier drug users are continuing to opt for traditional illicit drugs – seeking the drugs which provide the ‘nicest effect with the smallest risk of harm’.

The report cautions that this suggests it will be poorer and more marginalised drug users who are most likely to take NPS, noting that poverty acts to further complicate serious drug problems by hampering access to better quality drugs, healthcare and, when needed, legal advice.

The survey authors say the policy implications of these findings mean that governments need to focus on educating younger people about the elevated risks of NPS and have to accept the need for more honest discussion of the risks associated with traditional drugs as part of that dialogue.

Drop in anti-social behaviour and violence after Edinburgh ‘Legal High’ ban

A pre-emptive ban on the sale of ‘legal highs’ has led to a reduction in ‘bizarre anti-social behaviour and extreme violence’, according to a report due to go before the City Council. The UK Government’s New Psychoactive Substances Bill, banning the sale of NPS across the UK, came into force on May 26th.

‘Local evidence suggests that between January and October 2014, there were 39 incidents where the police were called and the person was taken to A&E, as well as a number of incidents of violence linked to extreme behaviour.’

Police are leading the enforcement of the new law but are working with trading standards officers around Scotland.
Targeting crime hotspots with Community Support Officers could yield massive returns

Findings of a year-long criminology experiment in Peterborough, published in the Journal of Experimental Criminology, suggests that investing in proactive Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) foot patrols targeting crime ‘hotspots’ could yield a more than five-to-one return: with every £10 spent saving £56 in prison costs.

Researchers from Cambridge University randomly allocated 34 crime prone areas to get 21 minutes of extra PCSO patrols a day. The offences before and after the experiment with 38 hot spots that received no increased patrol and 34 with the increase using the Cambridge Crime Harm Index: a new tool that measure ‘harm caused to victims’ by modelling severities in sentencing for different offences, rather than just totting up overall crime figures.

The research team calculated that targeted patrol time equal to two full-time PCSOs would prevent 86 assaults a year, or incidents of a the equivalent ‘crime harm’ value, saving potential costs to the public of eight years imprisonment.

Strategic Police Priorities Consultation

Following on from our initial programme of engagement centred around the question ‘What are your priorities for your police service?’ the Scottish Government has today launched its formal consultation on draft Strategic Police Priorities. The consultation sets out draft priorities which will set the future strategic direction for policing in Scotland.

Full details on the consultation can be found on the Scottish Government website at - //www.gov.scot/Topics/Justice/policies/police-fire-rescue/police-scotland/StrategicPolicePriorities

For more information call 0131 244 7923 or email ScotPolicePriorities@gov.uk
£1 million in funding to tackle sectarianism

Community Safety Minister Annabelle Ewing has announced that community projects working to eradicate sectarianism will share £1 million in funding, taking the total Scottish Government investment in work tackling the issue to £12.5 million over five years.

The work will also take forward the recommendations made by the independent Advisory Group on Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland. In its’ final report, the Advisory Group concluded that sectarianism needs to be tackled with the same conviction and confidence as racism and homophobia.

The boost in funds comes as reported hate crime aggravated by religious prejudice increased slightly in 2015-16. Of 581 (up from 566) reported cases 51% were against Roman Catholics, 24% against Protestants and 23% against Islam. Reported cases based on prejudice against Islam almost doubled, from 71 in 2014-15 to 134 in 2015-16.

Dave Scott, Nil by Mouth Campaign Director, said, ‘We are delighted that the Scottish Government is making this investment in our workplace and schools programme. Education is key to tackling prejudice and through our ‘Beyond Religion and Belief’ project we can go into workplaces and schools to remind people that difference should be celebrated, not feared.’

‘Scotland is bigger, better and brighter than bigotry and this funding will help groups like Nil by Mouth continue to press home this message right across the country.’

Nil by Mouth are currently running an anti-bigotry campaign, #KissBigotryGoodbye. You can find out more and join in the campaign by visiting the website below, or by following @NBMScotland on Twitter.

http://nilbymouth.org/kissbigotrygoodbye/

Action on Sectarianism: AoS Live - 28th July 2016

An event for anyone working in communities and with young people who would like to gain a better understanding of how they can address sectarianism and prejudice through their work.

The day will include mini CPD training sessions from experienced practitioners who have developed and delivered resources and work tackling sectarianism in communities in Scotland. This event is an opportunity to get new ideas and a better understanding of how to address this often controversial topic.

For more information and to register go to: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/-aos-live-tickets-26219801131

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

If you would like to include an article, request information or share good practice in our newsletter, please get in touch. Email info@scsn.org.uk

Closing date for August edition is 29 July
Nuisance calls summit

Scotland is holding its first ever summit on tackling the issue of nuisance calls – in a bid to address the higher number of problem calls received here compared to the rest of the UK.

Evidence shows that Scots registered with call blockers are being targeted by 37 unwanted calls every month – 11 more than their counterparts in other parts of the UK. At best nuisance calls can be an irritant; at worst they can be a blight on the lives of some of the most vulnerable in society. Recognising the severity of the issue, the Scottish Government is bringing together experts with the joint aim of ending the scourge of nuisance calls.

Opening the summit, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Keith Brown said:

‘Too many Scots are plagued by nuisance calls and it is time this stopped. The Scottish Government takes this issue extremely seriously and that’s why we have called this summit. I want to see everyone round the table – regulators, consumer groups and industry - working together to clamp down on this problem.’

‘We will use our new consumer powers as a catalyst to protect Scots from the blight of these unwelcome calls. We look forward to putting a taskforce in place to focus on practical ways of empowering and protecting consumers. With some key powers also remaining reserved to Westminster, we will also be considering what more the UK Government could do, and how we best work with them to take concerted action.’

Evidencing Impact

Through continuous programme evaluation

SCSN recently conducted research, which looked at how impact was identified and reported. Recognising that there is always a need to be able to evidence the impact of our work whether in relation to funding agreements, or to evidence effective outcomes, SCSN established an action learning process with the aim of creating a toolkit that could, no matter the level you are working at or experience you have, measure impact and show the effectiveness of a project.

The toolkit will be launched at the National Community Safety Convention in September and delegates will have the opportunity to participate in a workshop on how to use the tool to demonstrate the impact and outcomes of your work.

The toolkit takes you through a process, broken down into six phases, which provides a journey through a project from the initial identification of what the need is through to collecting the supporting information, the analysis of the information, the identification of what impact the project has had and the formulation of a written report that links all the phases together.
Briefing Paper
Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000

Throughout 2015-16 there was a great deal of debate over the use of Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 (RIP(S)A) which provides legislative guidance and direction on how to conduct covert surveillance in Scotland. In response, SCSN produced a briefing paper to explain the history and context of the act, the different types of covert surveillance, the governance, authorisation, renewal and appeals processes.

The briefing paper clearly defines the difference between overt and covert surveillance and provides insight into covert surveillance methodologies such as directed and intrusive surveillance and the use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources (CHIS). In addition to the briefing paper, SCSN has produced an online course which will be available shortly with details published in the newsletter and on the SCSN website.

Building on the success and demand for SCSN’s Community Engagement and Resilience training we are now developing an eLearning module to improve accessibility.

We hope to have the eLearning module live by the end of August.

Community Engagement and Resilience Training
6 December 2016
Perth

The training aims to provide delegates with an understanding of the core principles of community engagement will assist in developing knowledge of policy and practice and will explore the links to other cross cutting areas such as asset based approaches.

Check us out on social media!

/ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork
@scsn2
On 24 July 2015 the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act received Royal Assent and was adopted into Scottish legislation.

Part 3 of the Act deals with ‘Participation Requests’, that have introduced to provide communities with an opportunity to establish formal dialogue with organisations in situations where they often found it hard to be heard or recognised or where they wanted to proactively influence an agenda.

Although the Act has been passed, a consultation process around the formulation of the regulations and statutory guidance for Part 3 still needs to be finalised. This is to be completed by October 2016 with the regulations and statutory guidance consultation running from March to August. The Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) in consultation with the Scottish Government will be undertaking this task examining the scope of the regulations and content of the statutory guidance.

The new ‘Participation Request’ is potentially of great value to communities that have identified a need, are looking to tackle inequality, are engaged with regeneration and economic restructuring or are interested in improving health and wellbeing. In addition the requests also provide a community with the opportunity to establish how they would like to become involved in change and improvement within their own communities.

The new legislation enables a community to request an outcome to an issue. The only limitations are the request must be submitted by a community led organisation that is made up of community residents. The group does not need to be a legally constituted group but must be open to all community members with any benefits fed directly back into the community. Participation Request will be submitted to a range of organisations which includes local authorities, colleges and universities, health boards, Scottish enterprise (including Highland and Islands), Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Natural Heritage, Regional transportation partnerships, National Parks and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Some agencies such as employment, welfare, immigration and defence are exempt.

To provide more information on Participation Requests and the consultation process for the regulations and statutory guidance to Part 3 of the Act, SCDC have produced a briefing paper which explains Part 3 of the Act, outlines the consultation process and provides details of the up and coming consultation and awareness raising event dates over the summer of 2016.

The full consultation paper on Part 3 Participatory Requests is available on the SCDC website at http://www.scdc.org.uk/news/article/community-empowerment-scotland-act-consultation-pa/ If you wish to take part in this consultation visit https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BBTDVVR

Alternatively book into this workshop at the National Community Safety Convention to find out more.
The Government Protective Marking Scheme (GPMS)

The UK Government Protective Marking Scheme is the administrative system used to provide official documentation and media with a security classification which directs the level of protection that the data requires.

The scheme is not a statutory scheme but it operates within the framework of domestic law including the requirements of the Official Secrets Acts (1911 and 1989), the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and the Data Protection Act (1998).

In 2013 the Government Security Classification system was reviewed providing guidance which stated that all users of data, whether protectively marked or not, must receive appropriate training.

In response to this SCSN formulated the Handling Intelligence Products guidance document and eLearning package, which examines the history of intelligence management and the national intelligence model; looks at information sharing, protective marking and confidentiality and introduces delegates to the handling, storage, requests for and protection of intelligence; whilst constantly stressing the consequences of compromised or lost.

The SCSN training course takes into account the governments review and the implications it has on producers and users of intelligence products. The primary changes in this area were based on four distinct principles:

- ALL information that the government needs to collect, store, process, generate or share to deliver services and conduct government business has intrinsic value and requires an appropriate degree of protection.

- EVERYONE who works with government (including staff, contractors and service providers) has a duty of confidentiality and a responsibility to safeguard any government information or data that they access, irrespective of whether it is marked or not, and must be provided with appropriate training.

- Access to sensitive information must ONLY be granted on the basis of a genuine ‘need to know’ and an appropriate personnel security control.

- Assets received from or exchanged with external partners MUST be protected in accordance with any relevant legislative or regulatory requirements, including any international agreements and obligations.

The handling protectively marked intelligence resources provide users and producers of intelligence with the necessary skills to tackle the challenges that this review will bring and can be found on the SCSN website.