



Unintentional Harm and Older People

Statisticians project a large increase in Scotland's population of older people; with a projected increase in the over 75s alone estimated from 1.25 million (2012) to 1.78 million (2037). Our older population are already over-represented in relation to unintentional harm statistics and without effective interventions to prevent unintentional harm the impact on public services in terms of response and treatment costs is likely to increase significantly.

It is not really surprising then to find that one of the six priorities for BSCP 2 – reducing unintentional harm, is focussed on older people. Older people are disproportionately affected by unintentional harm and most likely to be hospitalised and die as a result of unintentional harm. Indeed in 2014 there were 160.4 deaths per 100,000 population in those aged over 75 compared to 12.3 deaths per 100,000 population in the under 75s. Home safety is particularly important for this age group as 90% of physical unintentional harm incidents occur in the home. While falls are the most common emergency admission, over 75s are also at risk of burns and scalds within the home.

Unintentional psychological harm is also higher in this age group and a number of academic sources estimate that around 10% of UK residents aged over 65 years of age are lonely most or all of the time. The links between loneliness and poor health are well established. In their recent review of the evidence on loneliness and social isolation, the Social Care Institute for Excellence highlighted that being lonely is associated with depression, and linked to higher incidence of dementia.

These effects are particularly important when we consider some of the contributory factors associated with unintentional injuries in the home.

Continued on page 4



Grenfell Disaster



Our 60 second interview this month is with Stuart Stevens, new SCSN board member and Area Manager for Prevention and Protection with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Read his responses to our questions on measures being taken by SFRS to reassure the public in the wake of this terrible tragedy. Page 3.

Unintentional Harm
and Older People
Page 4

6VT CAIRN Project
New Support Service for
Victims of Crime
Pages 6-7

Community Choices Fund
Open for applications and
other funding
Page 8



PRACTICE SHARING EVENT

24 AUGUST 2017, EDINBURGH

Booking is now open for our practice sharing event where we will consider and discuss presentations on current and emerging community safety themes, such as:



To book your place visit:

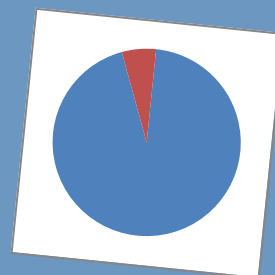
<http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/practice-sharing-event/>

Or email info@scsn.org.uk

Members Free/Non-members £50

Question of the Month

Last month's QOM focussed on the launch of the National Strategic Assessment for Unintentional Harm. Thank you to all those who took part! You can see the results in the box on the right.



94% Yes
6% Not Sure
0% No

Do you believe that it is possible to prevent falls amongst older people?

Yes

No

In part

Not sure

This month's question relates to the Older People strand of the National Strategic Assessment on Unintentional Harm.

You can take part in our poll by visiting our website at:

<http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/2017/07/05/question-of-the-month-july-2017/>

60 seconds with...Stuart Stevens Scottish Fire and Rescue Service



Tell us a bit about your job.

I am currently temporary Area Manager for Prevention and Protection with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. I oversee the national delivery of the various Prevention & Protection Functions which include Community Safety Engagement, Fire Safety Legislative Enforcement, Fire Engineering and Fire Investigation.



You were recently co-opted as a Director on SCSN's Board, what do you think the biggest challenges are for the Community safety sector over the next 5 years?

In Scotland we have been really successful at working in partnership in order to improve Community Safety outcomes, but we need to ensure that we are evolving and planning ahead to identify and meet future challenges. For me, the key challenges facing the sector will be in relation to proactively tackling social inequalities, the challenges associated with mental health and also ensuring we are appropriately prepared to manage the significant challenges which will arise from an ever increasing aging population.

We need to ensure that communities are empowered and have a voice in the determining priorities and the delivery of services.

What are some of the opportunities you see in the Community Safety Sector, particularly in light of BSCP Phase 2 focussing on Unintentional Harm?

I think there is a very real opportunity to develop an effective approach to data sharing in Scotland, particularly in relation to accessing and utilising Health and Social Care data. The panacea would be the introduction of a single public sector 'vulnerable person's database' that all agencies would feed into, enabling an intelligence led and targeted approach to the delivery of preventative interventions, ensuring those most vulnerable are prioritised.

I also think there are opportunities to identify, champion and support community safety innovation and proactively embrace new

technologies to improve community safety.

What are your early thoughts on the Grenfell Tower Disaster and its implications for fire safety in Scotland?

The incident at Grenfell Tower is an unimaginable tragedy, and my thoughts are truly with all those involved, including colleagues from London Fire Brigade.

The Scottish Government has convened a Ministerial Review Group, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities, Angela Constance MSP, and SFRS are members of this group. This group will examine current fire safety and building regulations, to ensure such a tragedy never happens in Scotland.

What message of reassurance would you give to people in Scotland who are living in multi-story buildings?

Local Authorities have confirmed that there are **no high rise blocks in Scotland** which use the type of cladding used on Grenfell Tower.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service carries out a routine programme of Operational Intelligence and Reassurance visits. This means that each and every high risk domestic block in Scotland is visited four times per year by our operational personnel, allowing them to familiarise themselves with the layout of the premises, access points and facilities provided to assist firefighters in identifying and reporting any defects associated with equipment provided.

Following the tragic incident in Grenfell Tower, the SFRS has commenced an additional and concentrated programme of Operational Intelligence and Reassurance Visits.

To book a free home fire safety visit call 0800 0731 999, text 'FIRE' to 80800 or visit www.firescotland.gov.uk

At the YouthLink awards in March you presented an award, 'dancing' to the stage to the tune of 'you can keep your hat on' ... if you could dance, what dance would you do and why?

What do you mean "if I could dance?!?!?"

Unintentional Harm and Older People Continued

For example, poor mobility and health can lead to falls whilst cognitive impairment can lead to poor decision making and forgetfulness e.g. leaving cooking unattended, alcohol consumption and smoking which are key contributors to house fires.



Leaves
are supposed
to fall.
People aren't.

The thematic paper makes some recommendations on future actions to prevent unintentional harm in older people:

- The link between deprivation and unintentional harm highlights the importance of considering and explicitly mentioning unintentional harm when developing strategies to tackle inequalities and poverty etc.
- The link between older people and unintentional harm highlights the importance of considering and mentioning unintentional harm when looking at policy and prevention in the areas of older people, health and social care integration and ageing well.
- Evidence suggests that offering home safety audits in the course of routine home visits, particularly to disadvantaged families, could result in improvements to unintentional harm rates. Access to follow-up equipment in addition to education is a necessity.
- A coordinated approach should be adopted to focus on early education and intervention in the prevention of unintentional harm in older people and there is a shift in the allocation of resources towards upstream engagement and identification of risk. For example primary prevention (strength and balance exercises, medication checks etc.) are important for the 'younger old' (those over 60) as well as those over 75 and 85.

In addition, Scottish Parliament's Equal Opportunities Committee Inquiry into Age and Social Isolation made a number of recommendations in relation to a national strategy, embedding the issue within health and social care strategies and considerations for housing; in addition to publicity campaigns, training and education and further research into those most at risk and the impact on individuals and communities.

You can download the Thematic Paper using the link below:

http://www.bsc.scot/uploads/1/9/0/5/19054171/bsc_phase_2_unintentional_harm_-_thematic_paper_-_older_people.pdf

Government to review SPA support



The Scottish Government has announced a review of the support provided to the Scottish Police Authority Board.

Cabinet Secretary for Justice Michael Matheson confirmed the review today as Andrew Flanagan also announced that he is to step down from his position once a new chair of the SPA board can be appointed.

The Cabinet Secretary added: "The review will consider how the executive of SPA can best support the Board to take informed, transparent decisions. This will be jointly led by the SPA deputy chair Nicola Marchant and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Chief Executive Malcolm Burr, who will provide an independent perspective.

"Issues covered will include how the executive can best work with Police Scotland to support the Board, how arrangements for engaging stakeholders in the work of the Authority can be strengthened and the consequent staffing and operating structure.

Police Scotland Anti-Terrorism Awareness Week

Police Scotland held a targeted week of action to promote counter-terrorism activity across the country between 12-18 June.



The Counter Terrorism Awareness Week forms part of the UK Counter Terrorism Policing Networks Initiative and is co-ordinated by the National CT Policing Headquarters.

Local officers worked together along with a number of partners to undertake a range of activities aimed at providing the public with useful information to help deter terrorism and keep them safe in the event of a terrorist incident.

In response to the tragic events in Manchester and London and other recent incidents, which have occurred across the world, Counter Terrorism Awareness Week focussed on safety

and security in crowded public spaces.

Key Themes

The key themes promoted were:

- Action Counters Terrorism (ACT)
- REACT (a form of behavioural detection training)
- Run, Hide, Tell (Police guidance for the public in the event of a firearms and weapons attack).
- International Protect & Prepare (how we can help protect UK citizens and UK interests overseas)
- Citizen Aid (a downloadable app for use by the public to help save lives in the event of a terrorist attack).
- Festivals and Events Safety (Safety at Festivals/Events)

Assistant Chief Constable Steve Johnson said, "I have said before that 'Communities Defeat Terrorism' and Scotland's greatest defence against the terrorist threat is our close-knit communities and the relationship police and partners have with the public.'

Modernising Fatal Accident Inquiries

Major changes which will modernise the way Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAIs) are carried out came into force in June. The changes were introduced by the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016 and the Scottish Government say they will ensure a system that is effective, efficient and fair.

The power to hold an FAI into the death of Scots abroad will be introduced for the first time, whilst FAIs will also have to be carried out for military service deaths in Scotland, as well as new categories of deaths including children in secure accommodation and deaths under police arrest regardless of location.

You can read more on this at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/news/modernising-fatal-accident-inquiries/>

British Transport Police Integration



Railway policing will come under the command of Police Scotland after legislation was passed by the Scottish Parliament.

The expertise of British Transport Police officers and staff will be backed by the specialist resources of Police Scotland, including counter terrorism, air support and armed policing.

Strengthening the already high standards of safety and security on Scotland's railways will

be the key priority of integration.

British Transport Police's 224 officers and staff will join Police Scotland with a statutory guarantee that they can stay within railway policing under the new arrangements, which come into force in 2019.

Deputy Chief Constable Johnny Gwynne said:

"Police Scotland acknowledges the decision of the Scottish Parliament and will look to build on the good work of BTP to sustain and improve the delivery of policing services and meet the needs of the travelling public and rail industry across Scotland."

WHY DO THEY SUFFER IN SILENCE?



New support service for Young Victims of Crime

On Thurs 15th of June, Justice Secretary Michael Matheson MSP formally launched a new support service for young victims of crime.

He said, "Being a victim of crime at any age can be a distressing experience, but particularly frightening for young people. I welcome this new initiative, which will support young people who find themselves navigating our justice system and help to build their confidence, resilience and self-esteem. We recognise the critical importance in ensuring all victims of crime have the right information and support to meet their individual needs. We have introduced a range of measures to protect vulnerable witnesses and help them through what can be a very difficult time."



He went on to highlight the challenges of supporting and protecting young people who are being victimised in their homes through cybercrime.

Powerful evidence was heard on the impacts of crime and in particular the link to offending given by Professor Susan McVie Chair of Quantitative Criminology at the University of Edinburgh, "As a Criminologist, I have spent most of my career studying and understanding young people who are involved in committing crime. What has become apparent to me, and which is well known amongst those who work with such young people, is that they are just as often victims of crime. Now, that is not to say that all young victims are also offenders – that is certainly not the case – but one thing that is true is that young people who become

the victims of crime often share the same underlying problems, insecurities, vulnerabilities and needs as young people who become involved in committing crime – therefore it is very appropriate that an organisation like 6VT that has a vast experience of working with young people should take on the additional role supporting our young victims of crime.

My own work includes the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime – a longitudinal study of young people, and involved many people who have come through these very doors. In that study, we found that offending behaviour amongst young people was one of the principal predictors of being a victim of crime. However, being a victim of crime was also one of the biggest predictors of going on to offend. Therefore, there is a complex loop between these two ends of the spectrum – and support is needed for *both* if we are to break the cycle.

We also found that the most victimised young people were also the most likely to be subject to a range of other vulnerabilities, difficulties and disadvantages – including socio-economic deprivation, poor educational attainment and a range of mental health conditions.

In my more recent work with the Applied Quantitative Methods Network (AQMeN), we have studied the changing profile of victims of crime over the last 20 years, and although crime has reduced significantly for victims of all ages, younger people have become more likely to be repeat victims and to experience more violent crime compared to older people.

Young victims can often act out in extremely risk, ways (e.g. they self harm, they participate in under-age sex and they show signs of parasuicidal behaviour) – especially, when they don't get the help that they so desperately need. Unfortunately, for all too many young victims, they only get the help they need when they become an offender and are referred into services on that basis. A recent study of 103 young people in Polmont Young Offenders Institution found that the levels of victimisation were extremely high.

Continued overleaf ->

- 76% had been threatened with a weapon;
- 64% had been assaulted within their community;
- 36% had experienced a traumatic head injury;
- 15% had suffered physical abuse
- 10% had been abused sexually.

Few of them had received any support, counselling or therapy to deal with often longstanding and ongoing experience of victimisation.

Why do young people suffer in silence? Part of the problem is a reluctance to speak out. This is not just common to young people. The most recent Scottish Crime and Justice Survey conducted in 2014/15 found that only **39%** of all crimes were reported to the police, but for those aged 16-18, the figure fell to just **29%**. In particular, young people were less likely than people of all other ages to report their experience of violence.

What are the reasons for this lack of reporting crime to the police? They are numerous and varied: fear of retribution, a perception that the police cannot or will not do anything, and often it is due to an unwillingness to accept the

label of 'victim' which is often insinuated as representing weakness, failure, and – in the case of boys living in a very macho culture – unmanliness.

I very much welcome the 6VT Cairn Project. We must ensure that the first offer of support that a young person receives for their experience of victimisation is not through the criminal justice system. We must avoid adopting a polarising position between 'victims' on the one hand and 'offenders' on the other – many of the most victimised people in our society are both and the most important point about them is that they are in need of various forms of support. However, we must also allow young people to self-define – they may not want to be known as a 'victim', but they must be able to access support or advice services on the basis of their adverse experiences.

Failing to help a young person when they are a victim of crime can have a profound impact on their immediate health, wellbeing and coping abilities; however, it can also have a longer term impact on their educational outcomes, their mental health, their future labour market outcomes and their adult life chances. The scars of victimisation, whether visible or invisible, can take many years to heal. “

New National Standards for prisoners families support

A new National Performance Framework for Prison Visitor Centres has been unveiled which aims to address the support needs of families affected by imprisonment.



Dr. Andrew McLellan, Chair of the National Prison Visitor Centre Steering Group, said, “Prison Visitor Centres provide a vital service to families visiting prisons in Scotland. Run by charities independent of the prison service, Prison Visitor Centres make families' experience of visiting someone in a prison easier. They provide a welcoming environment, refreshments and toys for children before a prison visit and a place where visitors can access emotional, practical

and financial support. These services are hugely important to all family members during what can be a very stressful time. For children, the right support is essential to reduce the effects of toxic stress associated with parental imprisonment from having life-long consequences for their health and attainment.”

Commenting on the Framework, Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said, “Improving the support for prisoners' families not only helps to reduce reoffending but it also improves the health and life chances of prisoners and their families.”

You can download the strategy at:

<https://www.familiesoutside.org.uk/national-performance-framework-for-prison-visitors-centres-in-scotland/>

Community Choices Fund Launched

The Scottish Government has announced that the 2017/18 Community Choices Fund is open for applications. First launched in 2016/17, the Community Choices Fund is a new fund to support participatory budgeting (PB) in Scotland. PB is recognised internationally as a way for local people to have a direct say in how public funds can be used to address local needs. Targeted particularly at work in deprived areas, the fund aims to build on the support provided by the Scottish Government for PB since 2014 as part of a broader agenda around democratic innovation and engaged citizenship.



Community Choices supports one of the principles of Public Service Reform, that people should have equal opportunity to participate and have their voice heard in decisions shaping their local community and society. It complements the Scottish Government's aspirations for the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which will help give communities more powers to take forward their own ambitions.

Fund for Applications - 2017/18

£1.5 million of the Community Choices Fund is available in two categories of £750,000 each. Category one is for Public Authorities which includes Local Authorities and other Public Bodies. Category two is for Community Organisations and Community Councils. The fund's aim is to support PB activity which will significantly expand opportunities for more local people to make decisions on local spending priorities and contribute to local participatory democracy.

The closing date for applications is midnight 21 July 2017.

For more information and how to apply, visit the [Community Choices Fund page](#) on the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/engage/CommunityChoicesFund>



The Scottish Land Fund supports communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and assets, offering grants of up to £1 million to help communities to take ownership of the land and buildings that matter to them, as well as practical support to develop their aspirations into viable projects.

Find out more at:

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

Bags of Help Funding for Community Projects



Bags of Help is Tesco's exciting local community grant scheme where the money raised from the 5p bag charge is being used to fund thousands of local projects in communities right across the UK. Projects that bring benefit to their community will get the green light – these range from improving community buildings and outdoor spaces to buying new equipment, training coaches or volunteers and hosting community events.

Administration of the local funding is being managed by the community charity with a green heart, [Groundwork](#), which specialises in transforming communities and the local environment for the better.

Find out more at:

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme>

Fast Forward 'Ask Dad' workshops Launch Event

Fast Forward are currently developing FREE 'Ask Dad' customised workshops and educational sessions that will help fathers respond to their children's queries, and understand how their own risk taking behaviour may influence their children.



Fast Forward is an established and well-respected organisation that exists to give young people the skills, education and support to live healthier lives. The organisation works with young people and practitioners across Scotland to support them to understand the facts about health and wellbeing, alcohol, gambling, substance misuse, smoking, mental health and online safety. The Ask Dad Project will work with fathers to improve their knowledge of these issues so that they can talk to their children with more confidence and give sound information and advice.

Launch Event

28 June, between 10:30am and 1:15pm

Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ

The event will provide an opportunity to:

- Find out more about the project and how you can access this FREE training
- Find out how to get involved with shaping the training packages so they are relevant to dads
- Meet other people from across Scotland who are working with dads.

To find out more and RSVP visit the event page:

http://www.fathersnetwork.org.uk/ask_dad_launch

If you can't make it along to the Launch but would like to find out more about the Project, please contact Mark Hunter, the Ask Dad Project Officer.

0131 554 4300

mark@fastforward.org.uk

£20 million to advance equality and tackle discrimination

Over two hundred projects working to promote equality and address discrimination will benefit from more than £20 million investment over the next year.

More than £5 million will be provided to organisations supporting engagement with communities experiencing prejudice on the grounds of age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation – while £2.7 million will go to frontline projects promoting equality and tackling prejudice.

Current funding levels of £11.8 million will be maintained to tackle all forms of violence against women and girls - including domestic abuse, sexual assault, and honour based violence including forced marriage and female genital mutilation. This will include £700,000 for Scotland's local rape crisis centres to provide specialist services, information and support to rape and sexual abuse survivors.

View the full list of projects to benefit at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/news/20-million-to-advance-equality-and-tackle-discrimination/>

In other news...

news

20's Plenty For Us - #20Scotland - Pre-legislative Consultation

In the May edition of our Safety NETWORKS newsletter we covered the 20s Plenty for Us campaign. Mark Ruskell MSP has launched a pre-legislative consultation on the introduction of a standard 20 mile per hour limit in built up areas across Scotland.

Reducing speed cuts accidents and saves lives, while encouraging walking and cycling and lowering air pollution. However, there is currently an incomplete patchwork of 20mph zones across Scotland as the process for creating discrete 20mph zones remains costly and time-consuming for councils.

Mark Ruskell MSP is now consulting on a Members Bill to change the default speed limit in built up areas across Scotland from 30mph to 20mph.

<http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/20mphSpeedLimits/>

20's Plenty for Us

...making your place a better place to be

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (GGC) issues update on Safer Injecting Facility

NHS GGC has issued an update on the proposed safer drug consumption and heroin assisted treatment facility in Glasgow, with a site having been agreed between the NHS and City Council in the South East of the city centre. The city's Integration Joint Board (IJB) will also discuss the provision of medical grade heroin for some addicts. The IJB is currently working with the Lord Advocate on exemption from some aspects of the Misuse of Drugs Act. You can find out more about the safer injecting facility, including the potential benefits to communities in Glasgow, by visiting:

<http://www.nhsggc.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/news/2017/06/proposed-sdcf-and-hat/>

Contents of Baby Boxes confirmed as registrations begin

The list of contents for Scotland's Baby Box is now available online as registration for the nationwide roll out begins.



All babies due on or after 15 August 2017 will receive a box of essential items to support parents and promote a fair and equal start for all children in Scotland. The final research of the successful pilot which took place in Orkney and Clackmannanshire has also been published today. The findings have informed the logistics and contents of the initiative and responses have been positive, with some suggestions for improvement already implemented for national delivery. You can view the contents of the Baby Box at: <http://www.parentclub.scot/baby-box#>

New Hate Crime Catalogue launched

Following a fivefold increase in anti Muslim hate crime since the London Bridge terror attack, C5 Consultancy Ltd has launched a new pocket sized booklet to provide help and support to victims. The book has been localized and produced for many police forces and councils, including The Met, Police Force of Northern Ireland, 3 of the 4 police forces in Wales and many others around the country. You can browse the C5 Consultancy booklet catalogue here: <http://c5consultancy.co.uk/NewsLetter/mobile/index.html#p=16>

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

SCSN Training Dates 2017/2018

Evidencing Impact

5 September, Perth

Applying for Awards and Funding

17 October, Edinburgh

Evidence Based Strategic Planning (Modules 2-4)

7-9 November, Edinburgh

Evidence Based Strategic Planning (Modules 5 & 6)

14 - 15 November, Edinburgh

Effective Evaluation

5 December, Edinburgh

Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Analysis

25 January, Dundee

Community Engagement and Resilience

22 March, Perth

Book your place by visiting our website at:

<http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/training/>

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



info@scsn.org.uk



[@scsn2](https://twitter.com/scsn2)



[/ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork)

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

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



The closing date for the August newsletter is 28 July.



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