Safer Communities and Lasting Legacies with Network Rail
The partnership between SCSN and Network Rail was initially established to raise awareness of cross cutting themes shared by both organisations, however the partnership has had a wider impact in improving public and staff safety around the rail network.

By working in partnership we can evidence success in reducing rail crime and increasing awareness of safety in and around the rail network. Much of this success can be attributed to how limited resources have been targeted using data from the Community Safety Partnership Group and using SCSN contacts in local communities.

SCSN has provided a vehicle for local engagement which has enabled Network Rail and other key rail contractors to build closer links to communities; and to work with them to find lasting and sustainable solutions to local problems.

The success of the partnership goes well beyond reducing rail crime and rail incidents; by incorporating important rail safety messages within wider programmes we have supported people into employment and education; skilled staff to save lives through suicide intervention training; provided volunteering opportunities to young people; given individuals skills to make informed life choices; and much more.

SCSN has added value in the promotion of new services (EGiP and Borders Rail) and the opportunities these services bring for those living in the communities. Together we have left a legacy of learning and community resources in areas affected by rail construction. Funding has enabled us to raise travel safety awareness with new rail users and in particular addressing the concerns of those with special needs by finding alternative mediums to present safety information.

This booklet highlights not only the range of diverse, interesting and educational projects that Network Rail have supported but show links to national agenda and the contribution Network Rail has made to delivering on national strategies.
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and the Scottish Community Safety Network</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Safety and the National Agenda</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Wellbeing</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Sport</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and the Scottish Football Association</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Youth</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Education</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Outdoor Play</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Rail and Community</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2011 the Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN) and Network Rail embarked on a partnership to help raise awareness of cross cutting themes shared by both organisations and its partners. Through the administration of three grant funds; Community Engagement, Borders Rail and Community Safety Partnership Group (CSPG) funding, collectively we have helped to highlight key rail safety messages:

- Trespass and vandalism
- Assaults on staff and customers
- Level Crossing Misuse
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Crime against people and railway assets
- Suicides

The grant funds were established to broaden awareness of key safety messages through collaborative working with public, private and voluntary sector organisations, increasing reporting and reducing injuries and fatalities. With the introduction of the Borders Rail Fund in 2013 the remit widened to include the promotion of the new service and creating a positive legacy to areas affected by the construction.

Over the last 5 years, Network Rail funding has supported 156 projects, each receiving between £250 and £3000. Many of the projects were targeted through Network Rail’s quarterly Community Safety Partnership Group meeting and through local partnership and relationships to ensure maximum impact and as such have collectively contributed to:

- reduction in incidents at level crossings
- reduction in graffiti
- reduction in metal theft
- reduction in route crime incidents (trespass, damage, vandalism etc.)
- reduction in suicides

This partnership has added value to the work of Network Rail by:

- Establishing them as a partner within the community safety sector
- Creating working partnerships with national community safety agencies
- Linking in with local and national community organisations
- The development of community based resources

Success for both organisations was recognised when we were shortlisted for the SCVO Scottish Charity Awards, Partnership Category in 2013. Being shortlisted for this prestigious award adds value to the work of both organisations and the staff involved. This was further enhanced by the support given from the then Chief Superintendent Ellie Bird, British Transport Police (BTP):

“Reducing anti-social behaviour on trains and at stations is a priority for the Scotland area and its rail industry partners. This partnership has contributed to British Transport Police seeing a significant reduction in this sort of behaviour on the network and has afforded opportunities to engage with communities in otherwise hard to reach areas.”
“Activities have resulted in wider community awareness and encouraged incident reporting. Local intelligence is critical in allowing BTP to tackle crime, make the railways safe, free from disruption and the fear of crime. I commend the partnership approach and the impact it has in creating safe and strong communities.”

In 2013, the partnership was further enhanced when Network Rail (EGIP) supported the Safer Communities Awards by sponsoring the inaugural People’s Choice Award. Network Rail were promoted at both the Safer Communities Awards ceremony and the National Community Safety Convention, with Roseanna Cunningham, Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs acknowledging their contribution at the opening of the convention. The events were attended by over 200 delegates.

The voting for the People’s Choice award was carried out through SCSN’s website, which received over 1000 votes and 190 supportive comments. As part sponsor of the event, Rodger Querns, Programme Director EGIP, Network Rail gave the opening address at the annual dinner and also presented the People’s Choice award. The winner of the 2013 Peoples Choice award was Fast Forward’s No Knives Better Lives project.

“For some, the significance of this working relationship may not have been immediately apparent; but jointly we have tackled shared issues including graffiti, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, rail safety and, with all the current rail improvements, construction safety. Working in partnership with SCSN has provided Network Rail with a gateway to local organisations and helped facilitate meaningful working relationships with a number of statutory and voluntary organisations.

Network Rail values the partnership with SCSN, in particular the role SCSN plays as a conduit between government and local authorities, which has helped to create a positive name for their work within the community safety sector and allowing Network Rail to become part of the diverse, initiative and progressive sector.”

Rodger Querns
Network Rail, Programme Director EGIP
Community safety can be difficult to define as it encompasses a wide range of issues and is constantly evolving. There is no universally accepted definition of community safety, however, the most commonly accepted definition was devised by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and states that community safety is about “protecting people’s rights to live in confidence and without fear for their own or other people’s safety.”

SCSN believe that effective community safety activities not only make people feel safe at home, at work, at leisure; but support increased engagement and resilience with communities empowered to take responsibility for creating safer communities. The ethos behind the Network Rail grant funds reflected the SCSN vision that:

People are safe from crime, disorder, danger and free from injury and harm; and Communities are socially cohesive and tolerant; are resilient; and able to support individuals to take responsibility for their wellbeing.

Community Safety is underpinned by a plethora of frameworks, strategies, legislation and guidance covering the broad range of themes within community safety and cross cutting themes that impact on community safety. The main national drivers are:

- The Scottish Government’s National Performance Framework which is supported by sixteen National Outcomes
- The Justice Strategy for Scotland
- Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 vision
- The Christie Commission on the future delivery of public services

The national drivers emphasise co-production of local services that are built around people and communities and support increased resilience, prioritising prevention and early intervention work to reduce demand and long term costs, and working together to achieve better outcomes.

Throughout this document we will demonstrate how Network Rail funding has contributed to these national drivers and other national strategies.
The projects highlighted in this section help address:

- **We live longer, healthier lives** - National Outcome 6
- **People take care of their health and wellbeing and levels of both are improving** - Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 Vision
- **Reducing the damaging impacts of drug and alcohol problem, increasing public confidence and reducing fear of crime, supporting victims and witnesses** - Justice Strategy for Scotland
- **More people recover from problem drug use so they can live longer, healthier lives realising their potential and making a positive contribution to society and the economy/communities that are safer and stronger places to live and work because crime, disorder and danger related to drug use has been reduced** – The Road to Recovery National Strategy
- **Supporting families and communities: positive public attitudes, positive choices; and improved treatment and support** – Changing Scotland’s relationship with Alcohol Framework
- **Embedding more peer to peer work and support/ increasing the support for self-management and self-help approaches** – The Mental Health Strategy
- **Prevention – A shift toward prevention to reduce costs in the long run** – Greater Investment – enhanced workforce/leadership – Christie Commission

‘Network Rail is committed to reducing stigma relating to mental health and providing more opportunities for people across the business to develop their mental wellbeing. With good mental wellbeing we are likely to cope better with the obstacles of daily life, fulfilling our potential both at work and at home.’ https://www.safety.networkrail.co.uk/healthandwellbeing/Mental-Wellbeing/

In addition to supporting staff members, Network Rail are proud to help support those organisation working alongside communities and individuals to help create an environment of safe and strong health and wellbeing.
Samaritans

In 2011 Network Rail and the Samaritans created an alliance to tackle railway suicides and provide support to those affected by suicides.

A National Suicide Prevention Group was formed and supported by other partners including: British Transport Police, Train Operating Company representatives and the wider railway industry, Rail Safety and Standards Board and the Rail Unions.

Two bespoke training courses for staff were developed and delivered. These courses were designed to help staff deal with the issue of suicide in different ways:

- Managing Suicidal Contacts training was designed for rail staff from across the industry and officers from the British Transport Police, to give staff the skills and confidence to approach a person in distress and provide emotional first aid, before referring them for further support.

- Trauma Support Training was tailored specifically to the needs of those supporting train drivers or others following a suicide (ie managers and ASLEF Union Reps), and to provide them with techniques to support their staff or colleagues after a traumatic event.

The partnership also involved a roll-out programme of suicide prevention and post-incident support activities with the support of train operators and the British Transport Police, including:

- A two phase nationwide public awareness campaign
- Post incident support to station staff provided by local Samaritans branches
- A Samaritans call out service to people in distress at railway locations
- A programme to encourage responsible media reporting of suicides
- An outreach programme which involves developing links with local community and mental health services, to promote referrals to Samaritans

The project, and training, prevented 1,000 suicide attempts due to the intervention of rail staff who underwent the above training to help spot vulnerable people at risks and more than 10,000 frontline staff have completed the course on managing suicidal contacts.

“Before I took the course with Samaritans I wouldn’t have approached a person in suicidal crisis for fear of saying the wrong thing. The course has equipped me with the skills, ability and understanding of how to help and what to say in these difficult situations.”

“This project combines the core business of Network Rail and that of Samaritans, and provides a solution to both the company’s business problems and the charity’s mission.”

Marge Mayne, Chief Executive of VSO and Charity Partnership judge
Venture Trust

A grant from the Community Safety Partnership Group supported Venture Trust’s work with people who feel their lives are in turmoil – involved in offending, facing drug/alcohol issues, struggling with unemployment or feeling isolated. Network Rail and partners recognised the work that Venture Trust does in supporting people to make sustainable positive change in their lives.

This grant helped provide intensive support to help individuals develop their confidence, motivation, aspiration and the core life skills they need to make change possible. Time, space and carefully designed support in wilderness environments away from day-to-day pressures has helped participants recognise and unlock skills that many of us take for granted, recognising the “triggers” that wind them up and how to avoid them; communicating effectively with other people and build positive relationships; and how to set goals and stick with them.

Whilst funding for these personal development programmes has formed a vital component, the partnership with Network Rail developed beyond that; offering people employability opportunities and broadcasting rail safety messages.

Through use of social media, Venture Trust disseminated the 10 rail safety messages and issued the rail safety pamphlet to all Venture Trust outreach staff and wilderness teams, enabling rail safety messages to be integrated into sessions with participants, as and when appropriate.
The Coach House Trust

The Coach House Trust established in 1998 is an innovative voluntary organisation working mainly in the fields of mental health, environmental sustainability and social justice. Their aim is to assist people with multiple barriers move into employment, training or education support.

The project, Journey to Recovery, built on existing good practice and expertise in mental health provision by introducing and developing 'Journey to Recovery - Health and Well Being' activity/workshops with an underlying theme of suicide prevention. Working with people who have attempted suicide in the past, the project help them recognise that they are of value to society and do have a purpose in life. The workshops covered:

- The symptoms of mental health
- What creates suicidal ideation
- How to prevent suicidal ideation
- The effects of completed suicide
- Achieving self-awareness
- Increasing self esteem

In total 95 service users participated in the programme and around 200 people attend the art exhibition with two pieces of art being sold to members of the public. As part of the evaluation process, the following feedback from received from participants:

- “My mood is better and I’m more happy with life”
- “I’m very confident I’ve had no lapses”
- “I feel a lot brighter, I feel happier in myself”
- “I am very positive, In fact I feel better”
Glasgow's Helping Heroes

Glasgow’s Helping Heroes applied for support to run a course to aid 16 veterans struggling with addictions. The course aimed to improve participants understanding of the health and social impact of drugs and alcohol, and to recognise the effects of their addictions not only on them but on their families and friends. Participants also considered their lifestyle choices and were supported to re-engage with their communities.

In addition to lifestyle skills each person was given the opportunity to gain a Level 1 coaching for kids certificate. This qualification allowed them to give back to their communities by assisting in running kids football programmes; which in turn increased opportunities for children to learn new skills, interact with their peers and keep healthy.

Glasgow's Helping Heroes and Network Rail

Evaluation from the project highlighted:

- 80% completion rate - above average for most addiction services
- 7 participants are now volunteering
- 3 participants have gone on to further education and employment
- 2 participants have stopped smoking

All participants felt the project had a positive impact on their mental health.
The projects highlighted in this section help address:

We live longer, healthier lives - National Outcome 6

Participate in activity to improve local area, range of local community groups, support networks and social clubs, children regularly play outside, groups of young people are not seen as trouble-makers, local schools and its sports facilities are available outside of school hours – Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 vision

Reducing reoffending, reduce damaging impacts of drug and alcohol problems, preventing offending by young people, strengthening community engagement and resilience - Justice Strategy for Scotland

Prevention – A shift toward prevention to reduce costs in the long run - Christie Commission

The Active Scotland Outcomes Framework describes Scotland’s ambitions for sport and physical activity. Active Scotland Outcomes contribute to the delivery of National Outcomes and ultimately to the Scottish Government’s overarching purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all to flourish.

The framework describes the key outcomes desired for sport and physical activity in Scotland over the next ten years. It recognises that success will rely on the collective efforts of communities, individuals and a wide range of partners. Network Rail can demonstrate it has contributed to this framework through its grant schemes in the following areas:

- We support wellbeing and resilience in communities thorough physical activity
- We improve our active infrastructure – people and places
- We improve opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport

Sport and play are a crucial part of every child’s life. By taking part in sport, children learn to develop self-confidence, motivate themselves and lead active lifestyles; sport has the power to change children’s lives. (Unicef)

Working alongside specialist organisations, Network Rail appreciate the value of sport in developing team skills, growing individuals, enhancing community responsibility while providing diversionary activities for young people and helping reduce levels of anti-social behaviour within communities.
Clydesdale Cricket Club delivers cricket taster sessions to schools and other local organisations, with the aim of attracting new players and providing a safe environment to play cricket. Being a community sports club they also aim to develop and build life skills and encourage good lifestyle choices.

Support was sought to offer blocks of sessions and one-off taster sessions to local schools, youth / community organisations, and school holiday programmes. Young players were involved in delivering the sessions, which provided opportunities for the young players to learn about the importance of off-the-field aspects such as lifestyle choices, respect for your environment, respect for your community etc.

The support provided enabled the club to offer cricket while promoting and engaging participants in the promotion of rail safety message. Thanks to the support of Network Rail 1,920 people were reached, an increase of 673 on the previous year, which is also the highest number of people delivered to in 10 years of running the programme.

By giving young people, who live in and around three main Glasgow railway lines, the opportunity to have increased access to a sporting activity, the club have been able to show how sport (and cricket) can engage young people in constructive activities – both from a general health and well-being angle but also by providing a regular activity in a safe environment. The taster programme enabled the club to play a part in building community cohesion and tolerance – something which is key a Community Sports Club.

Stirling 10K Run

Central Athletics receive support from Network Rail towards Stirling’s 10k Road Race and a 2k fun run for the younger children. As sponsors of this event Network Rails logo was prominently displayed on the website and on other promotional materials.

As well as engaging in a community event, participants were able to collect information on rail safety message. As a result of this support provided by Network Rail, staff were encouraged to take part through the allocation of five free places.

Fife Performance 124 Swimming Gala

In May 2014 the ‘Fife Performance 124 Gala’ took place at the Carnegie Sport Centre with support from Network Rail. Over 137 swimmers aged 10 – 17 from all over Scotland took part with many swimmers achieving qualifying times for the Scottish National Age Groups.

Rail safety guides were handed out to participants and spectators to enhance the rail safety message.
Lasswade Rugby Club Mini Tournament

Funding was given to Lasswade Annual Rugby Tournament to run a children’s mini rugby tournament for children P1-P7.

The Lasswade Rugby Club is a community club that operates an open door policy for any child who wants try out the great game of rugby. They actively promote an all inclusive policy regardless of ability or stage of development with the key words being TEAM and FUN. They are proud members of Positive Coaching Scotland in association with the Bill McLaren Foundation.

Through the support of Network Rail all 500 young people that took part in this annual event were provided with a healthy food pack. In addition, the support provide allowed the organisers to purchase medals and trophies to commemorate the event for the participants.

On the day, both Network Rail and British Transport Police were present to engage with families and deliver key safety message on railway safety.

Wrestlers

During the construction work in the Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine area, Network Rail identified a local wrestling group working in the area, which had also been identified as an area of social deprivation. At the time of initial engagement, membership was low and facilities were limited. Through engagement with Network Rail membership increased, facilitates improved which all helped to create a long term legacy for the club and the area.

In addition to this support, Network Rail also provided training and travel scholarships for two talented wrestlers identified by the club coaches. The aim was to see the young wrestlers achieve their dream to appear at a large event and this was realised when both wrestlers were chosen to represent Scotland at the Commonwealth Games. The other members in the club received wrestling boots to recognise all the club members’ achievements.
Bonnyrigg Rose Football Club (FC) actively engages with the local community by providing football coaching for young children of all abilities. The club works closely with the Scottish Football Association (SFA) and Network Rail to help promote community safety in and around not only the new Borders railway but existing routes in the East of Scotland through prominent displays at community events.

The project was formed as a result of young children engaging in anti-social behaviour, trespassing and vandalism in the area. Many children do not engaged with safety messages as they see it as boring, but teaming up with the SFA and using football to promote safety message was seen as a fantastic way to get the children engaged and deliver a positive message to drive results.

Bonnyrigg Rose FC held Youth Gala Days, competitions, award ceremonies and event nights which include Network Rail safety messages helping to get safety messages out to over 350 children each year, with membership increasing.

In the last two years Scottish FA football programmes have benefitted so much due to the fantastic partnership between Midlothian Council and Network Rail.

With great support and funding from Network Rail various programmes have been extended. Attendance in Midlothian has increased in our youth diversionary and community sessions with important safety messages given to all attendees.'

Keith Wright, Scottish Football Association

Over the last 3 years, our partnership with Network Rail has been an overwhelming success. Supporting both player participation and club development initiatives, the partnership has allowed us to develop and grow the game, meeting two of our primary objectives at the Scottish FA.

By working across the South East of Scotland, the programmes have seen more young people access the game as well more volunteers engage with and supported into club football with the importance of rail safety shared through the power of football.'

David Drummond, Regional Manager
South East Region, Scottish Football Association

Bonnyrigg Rose
Pollock United Soccer Academy

Pollock United Soccer Academy opened in 2013 and, through time, has seen its number rise from approximately 150 to **400 young people** attending weekly football coaching sessions. The grant from Network Rail was used to purchase new goals for the park.

The academy now runs 15 different age groups from mini kickers to under 18’s, girls section with 70 members, disability inclusive groups, amateur / junior teams, over 35’s team who play monthly charity matches for local good causes, they also run a Friday Night initiative to help get kids off the streets for a few hours and get involved in sport.

Pollock United Soccer park is now also used by the local Clyde College on a daily basis to help students who are taking HND / HNC courses in sports development. Through the partnership with the college, they now supply around 10 students who come along as volunteers to gain practical experience in coaching. In July 2013 the academy gained charitable status.

‘On behalf of Pollok United Soccer Academy thank you again for your help. Network Rail came to the rescue to purchase this vital equipment.’ – Feedback from the club.

Fife Council Football

Fife Council was supported to create a youth diversity programme providing young people with the chance to play and enjoy football in a safe environment. With a history of anti-social behaviour in the area, the project aimed to provide diversionary activities at a time when little else is on offer and antisocial behaviour is at a peak. With the use of floodlighting the sessions where held on a Friday and Saturday evenings and has to date engaged with **over 150 young people** in three locations; Balwearie High School, Lochgelly High School and the Beacon Leisure Centre in Burntisland.

Network Rail and British Transport Police supported an educational night highlighting the risk of misusing the local railway line. Marketing on sports bibs have also helped to pass on key rail safety messages to the young people taking part.

*Having this programme available to so many young people greatly reduces the risk of anti-social behaviour in these areas.*

“This support has helped us to help run the Midnight League’s to a high standard alongside funding received by Fife Council’s local area committee’s and partners such as community use schools and Fife Sport and Leisure Trust. Network Rail has also helped us to provide an educational slant to the programme which has been one of key aims, to provide free football for young people whilst educating them at the same time.”

Michael Forsyth, Assistant Football Development Officer
Football Fours Festival

Big Hearts Community Trust applied for support to create a Football Four Festival to be held over two nights at Tynecastle Stadium. The project aimed to encourage participation from 18 community based teams from throughout the Lothians, attracting around 200 young people.

A total of 216 young people took part in the festival with an additional 600 spectators.

Clubs and teams arrived from all over the south east of Scotland from Scottish Border’s, Mid/East/West Lothian and Edinburgh. Without the support of Network Rail this event would not have taken place.

Rail Life was promoted at the event and Network Rail representatives attended and delivered rail safety messages and distributed safety literature at registration.

Just sending an e-mail of thanks from Leith Athletics 2006s and 2007s for organising the Football 4s Festival over the last 2 nights at Tynecastle. All the kids, coaches and parents that I spoke to over the 2 nights thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and it’s great credit to yourself and the coaches for putting the time and effort in to make it so successful, not forgetting Network Rail for their contribution also. Thanks again’

Arniston Rangers YFC

With the launch of the new Borders Railway, Network Rail and its partners were keen to engage with local clubs and organisations.

Through a partnership with Arniston Rangers, Network Rail gave support to help purchase new training equipment including markers poles and ladders. The provision of the new equipment has allowed the club to reach its aim of:

‘more kids off the street, not hanging around the work sites or playing computer games but out in the fresh air playing a sport’
Network Rail and Youth

The projects highlighted in this section help address:

Children regularly play outside in the neighbourhood’s well-kept green spaces and groups of young people are not seen as trouble-makers. The local school and its sport facilities are available outside of school hours and are well-used, as are other community resources - **Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 vision**

Reducing Offending, Preventing offending by young people, Strengthening community engagement and resilience, tackling hate crime and sectarianism – **Justice Strategy for Scotland**

Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens(4) and We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk (8) **National Outcome(s)**

Network Rail is keen to support prevention and early intervention work with young people. This type of work focuses on identifying and challenging root cause of problems and associated underlying issues. This approach aims to make behavioural changes which in turn will help to reduce further risk, or offending, for both the individuals and the rail industry. Supporting youth projects allows Network Rail the opportunity to engage directly with young people and help raise awareness of how their actions can impact on not only themselves, but the wider community.

**Gorebridge Guides – Working in Years Gone By**

With the arrival of the Borders Railway into the community the Gorebridge Guides decided to investigate what working on the railway and local mines was like in years gone by. Through their activities the guides learnt how the railway system has evolved. The funding assisted with an educational visit to York Railway Museum.

**Gorebridge Rainbows**

The Rainbows work with children aged 5 – 7 years old. Their project looked at ‘who helps to keep us safe in our communities’ and knowing hazards in the areas. Part of the project let the Rainbows to build a model railway to help visualise issues and potential hazards. Quote from the evaluation:

The girls loved the building and placing up of all the elements that included rails, towns and farm animals. They worked together and need very little direction and could independently spot where the trains should go slow and where people should be careful, bearing in mind most of the girls are only 5 it was great to see them use their imaginations to make real connections and link it up with what
Young Scot

Young Scot is the national youth information and citizenship agency, supporting young people across Scotland aged 11 - 26 to make informed decisions and choices and to access opportunities. They do this through a variety of information channels, including books, magazines and online services such as the national youth information portal for Scotland – www.youngscot.org.

Young Scot currently has 425,000 members and has an active network across all 32 Scottish local authorities through the Dialogue Youth Partnership Network, linking in to Community Planning Partnerships and associated Single Outcome Agreements.

Young Scot have promoted rail safety at various events in Scotland and successfully recruited 35 Young Scot Rail Ambassadors in Stirling, East Dunbartonshire and Edinburgh who worked in partnership with local authority Youth Services to promote safety on the local level crossings and railways in their areas. The Rail Ambassadors understand the risks and issues that affect young people relating to the railways and level crossings and agreed to take on more ownership over these issues through delivery at peer level sessions. This has helped to promote positive behaviour and increased awareness from young people when travelling by rail.

Working in partnership with Network Rail and the British Transport Police, Young Scot held promotional events in Edinburgh Waverley and Glasgow Central stations to promote and engage in positive behavior with young people who use the railways and to raise awareness as well as the profile of Network Rail with these young people.

In addition, Young Scot carried out a Level Crossing Awareness campaign to schools within a 5-10 mile radius of the six worst level crossing areas within Scotland. As part of this programme they facilitated classroom sessions using school packs provided by Rail Life which helped encourage young people to look at the key issues in using the railways and level crossings.
Indepen-dance

Indepen-dance is an inclusive dance company based in Glasgow. They work with children, young people and adults of diverse abilities, enabling these individuals to be included in a constructive, creative and beneficial activity. Building on previous success within North Lanarkshire, the group aimed to expand and targeted new services in Network Rail Improvement areas where the need for rail safety education and awareness was a priority.

The three areas (Midlothian, Falkirk and Stirling) were identified as they were in close proximity to the railway/railway construction sites. Each school received eight hourly workshops which were tailored to meet the specific needs of the target group, a total of 24 sessions were delivered to around 60 young people.

For people with diverse abilities, rail travel is an exciting venture offering new experiences and independence. But it can, for many, be an over stimulating environment and it is important that appropriate instructions on rail travel and how to stay safe are designed and delivered. Therefore, to deliver the rail safety messages to this diverse audience alternative methods were developed including: The use of colour images to offer visual prompts (such as images of trains, yellow lines at a station, danger signs, level crossings) and relevant sounds were recorded onto communication switches, allowing participants to explore the sounds they may hear within a station environment; train doors opening, and a fast train.

Newtongrange Skate Park

Newtongrange Community 1st applied for match funding to build a skate-park for Newtongrange village to divert them away from the makeshift skate park they were using on land that would become part of the Borders Railway. The introduction of a new skate-park into the area aimed to:

- Divert young people from crime and anti-social behaviour
- Divert young people from risk taking activity on rail development
- Provide a safe play area for the community for decades to come
- Provide opportunities for peer education

The skate-park was official opened on Friday 10 October 2014. This contribution helped contribute to a lasting legacy within a small mining village.
**Our Bit**

Renfrewshire Council Community Safety worked with partners to develop and deliver a youth awareness project called ‘Our Bit’. The 12 week pilot initiative tapped into an already existing youth diversionary programme delivered by St Mirren Football Club to local youths every Friday night at their stadium. Partners used this established forum to deliver key safety messages to the youths.

Topics discussed at ‘Our Bit’ included railway safety, knife crime, fire safety, domestic abuse, first aid and drugs and alcohol. Each young person was provided with a loyalty card which was stamped on successful completion of each workshop. Once full, the young person received a reward for their attendance, eg cinema tickets.

Following the success of the pilot project, a grant was provided through Network Rail to support a further three 6 week sessions which were attended, on average, by 10-12 young people each week.

Feedback from the project, and the young people involved highlighted:

- Majority of them enjoyed the group and would recommend it to a friend
- There were a few workshops that that a couple of the young people did not enjoy however they indicated that they enjoyed the other sessions
- Feedback from the Police Analyst reported that of all the young people that attended the programmes only 2 have had further involvement with the police

Renfrewshire Council stated that without Network Rail’s assistance they would only have been able to provide 1 x 6 week session and no incentive would have been available to the young people.

The safety message for the railway was enhanced by British Transport Police who went along to the sessions and provided a specific workshop on rail safety by means of a hard hitting DVD.

**Aircadets Galashiels**

2180 (Galashiels) Squadron ATC applied for a grant to support eighteen young people between the ages of 13-17 to achieve their Workplace Hazard Awareness Entry Level Award which is awarded by the British Safety Council.

The squadron adopted the new Borders Railway as a theme. Additional support was provided by British Transport Police (BTP) who visited the Squadron and delivered a presentation on Borders Railway.

This type of project, and engagement, allows organisation like BTP to develop relationship with young people in their own environment.
Cooldown Crew and Phoenix

Network Rail provided support to Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in Midlothian to help facilitate their Cooldown Crew and Phoenix youth diversionary programmes.

The programmes are both targeted at young people aged 12-16 years who are involved in anti-social behaviour and/or fire raising. Participants were referred to the programmes by various partners including Social Services, Education, youth workers and Police. The project aimed at assisting young people to work towards realising their full potential and promoting good citizenship by encouraging effort, teamwork and good behaviour.

This project provided Network Rail and BTP the opportunity to work with young people who were on the periphery of anti-social behaviour in an area where a new local train service would be arriving. The young people involved were at risk of exclusion from school, suffering from lack of confidence and self-esteem and had been drifting into a pattern of escalating anti-social behaviour.

Other topics covered included; drug and alcohol awareness, Healthy Living, and First Aid. With all participants receiving a “Heart Start” certificate by the end of the session.

TD1 Youth Hub

The TD1 video project set six young people the challenge of making their own short film about the dangers of trespass on the railway. Network Rail and BTP worked closely with the young people in relation to story boarding the safety messages. The process also introduced the young people to the technical skills in making a short film; camera use, planning and editing. They also learnt about teamwork and project management.

The initial aim of the project was to increase both young people’s awareness, and that of younger primary aged children, of the dangers of vandalism and trespass on and around the railway in Eildon West. The video will be made available to all young people in the area.

This project was made possible by the support given to purchase a video camera.

Edinburgh City Youth Café (6VT)

6VT is an Edinburgh city wide youth service which aims to provide a safe environment where young people can meet and social issues addressed.

6VT offers a quality advice/info services helping service users make informed choices to help them become more effective as individuals and enhance their life experiences.

In partnership with Network Rail, the project aimed to undertake a series of Railway Risk Awareness and Prevention workshops that were integrate into the existing drop-in programme and Family Café. In addition, the programme was also targeted at working with young people that were being prosecuted for criminal damage to railway property.
Mayfield and Easthouses Youth 2000 Project (Y2K) is a community based informal education facility for young people aged 11-18. Y2K offers a programme of projects six days a week, including; Drop-ins, Young Women’s Work, Young Men’s Work, Midlothian Gardening Services (Social Enterprise), Detached Street Work, 1-2-1 Support and school based work. The purpose of Y2K is to provide a facility dedicated to the needs of the young people of Mayfield and Easthouses.

Following the success of a summer bike initiative between Y2K and Community Police, a request was submitted to Network Rail to fund another similar programme. The new programme was to be delivered in two stages; stage one was the delivery of informal bike workshop and the second stage was a mountain bike trip to Glentress.

The programme was attended by eight young people, all of whom were identified as hard to reach individual, some of whom had been involved in some of the cross cutting issues shared by Network Rail and its partners, including; violence, graffiti and vandalism. The trip to Glentress was attended by seven of the young people.

Through the project a number of aims and outcomes were achieved including:

- Establishing of individual aspirations
- Development of behavioural self-awareness
- Develop strategies to solve intergroup issues

The funding from Network Rail enabled Y2K to progress its ambition of getting young people into healthy activities. Since running the programme, Y2K has now secured additional funding to set up a local bike project.

**Junior Fire Reach**

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) secured funding for the provision of eleven Junior Fire Reach courses in the Strathclyde area. The project is an amalgamation of various activities designed to raise awareness of safety issues including fire, water, road, rail and home safety. The delivery is through classroom activities in which video presentations are delivered and backed up by on hand demonstrations, such as CPR from qualified personnel. Each class has around 12 pupils which allows the programme to be focussed and targeted.

British Transport Police delivered a presentation which highlighted how dangerous railways and level crossings can be. The students also took part in physical drills based on actual fire service working methods including:

- Road traffic collisions
- First Aid
- Breathing apparatus search and rescue techniques
- Handling and using pressurised hose in the extinction of fire
Midlothian Association of Play

Midlothian Association of Play (MAP) works to ensure that children in Midlothian can enjoy more and better play opportunities in their communities. They provide:

- Play practice development for professionals including an annual conference and training on a range of topics
- An annual ‘Play Day’, open to clubs and families to come and play
- Play schemes during school holidays
- Hands-on support and advice to play providers and community projects
  - Projects to develop play in Midlothian
  - Advocacy for play in Midlothian
  - Resources for hire and access to free Dynamic Earth trips (members-only benefits)

The project asked for assistance to produce a range of advertising materials to promote the work of the project. Through this partnership, the organisation engaged the young people and their parents on how the new train service will affect them and how to keep themselves safe around the railway.
Network Rail and Education

The projects highlighted in this section help address:

- **People feel part of and proud of their neighbourhood, know their neighbours, and are willing to participate in activity to improve their local area. Public spaces are clean and accessible and vandalism is rare. There is a strong element of self-policing in the local neighbourhood. People rate their neighbourhood as a good place to live and want to stay within the community** - Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 vision

- **Reducing offending, reduce the damaging impacts of drug and alcohol problems, preventing offending by young people, reducing the harm from fires and other emergencies, strengthening community engagement and resilience** - Justice Strategy for Scotland

- **Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens** – National Outcome 4

Curriculum for Excellence is designed to achieve a transformation in education in Scotland by providing a coherent, more flexible and enriched curriculum from 3 to 18. The curriculum includes the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated. The purpose of the curriculum is encapsulated in the four capacities - to enable each child or young person to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor. The curriculum aims to ensure that all children and young people in Scotland develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they will need if they are to flourish in life, learning and work, now and in the future, and to appreciate their place in the world.

Network Rail is proud to be participants in growing the young people of Scotland today by contributing to the Curriculum for Excellence through interactive education, alternative classroom environments and through participation in school projects.

**North Lanarkshire Railway Safety Awareness**

This joint agency initiative involved Scottish Fire and Rescue (SFRS), North Lanarkshire schools, British Transport Police (BTP), Young Scot and Network Rail targeted all primary and secondary schools within the catchment of the electrification of the Whifflet Line, reaching 2900 pupils.

SFRS, in conjunction with their partners, produced an educational presentation incorporating Network Rails values and key priorities. The project raised awareness of the dangers on the railway including the consequences of trespassing on railways, dangers of electrocution and the hidden dangers of metal theft (train delays, collisions etc.)

This project contributed to the reduction of instances of trespassing on railways while promoting awareness of the dangers of electrocution. It raised awareness of train speeds and overall awareness in relation to railway safety among the youth of North Lanarkshire.
Hazard Heroes

Over the last 15 years Carrick Crime Prevention Panel (South Ayrshire) has organised the ‘Hazard Heroes’ event which is attended by over 1400 primary P7 pupils and provides interactive learning across a range of safety issues. In addition they also organise Substance Abuse Awareness Days at Queen Margaret and Girvan academies, which is attended by every third year pupil (approximately 500 pupils). These events compliment the Curriculum of Excellence:

- Effective contributors
- Responsible citizens
- Successful learners
- Confident individuals

Partners include; Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, British Transport Police, Domestic Abuse Team, School Nurse and Carrick Crime Prevention Panel. Support has also been provided by Sandra Osbourne MP and Adam Ingram MSP.

By supporting this project, Carrick Crime Prevention Panel has extended their reach with in the local community to help raise awareness rail safety and in particular level crossing safety. An additional outcome from this project came as a result of an incident involving farm animals on rail line. The panel proactively engaged with the farming communities through Farm Watch to raise awareness of the dangers and consequences associate with rail track incidents.

The Risk Factory

The Risk Factory is an interactive safety education centre and one of only a handful in the UK. It was developed to provide experiential learning through interactive community safety scenarios and builds on the highly successful Crucial Crew project which had operated nationally since 1990. The centre primarily serves Edinburgh and Lothians primary schools but includes sessions with uniformed organisations and vulnerable adults. The programme attracts around 7,000 visitors a year and has attracted over 64,000 Primary 7 pupils since opening in January 2007.

The rail safety area which was developed at the time of opening in consultation with Network Rail and British Transport Police focusses on trespass, vandalism, antisocial behaviour and platform safety. The rail safety messages are further supported in the activity packs each child receives at the end of the visit.

The centre received support from Network Rail to develop the rail safety scenario, and have recently added a TV/DVD in the reception to promote additional safety information ie No Messin! And High Speed Danger films; to visitors using the centre for meetings.
Dalry Primary School

Dalry Primary School is a multi-cultural school in Edinburgh with 300 pupils and 80 nursery pupils, of which 74% have English as additional language (EAL). The school building is situated very close to both Haymarket station and the railway track, and therefore rail safety is high on the education agenda for this school.

With a high percentage of EAL students, Dalry Primary School undertook a project to engage pupils in the process of developing multi lingual leaflet on railway safety which was distributed to all pupils. Drama was used as part of the learning process and the production was shown to the whole school. By involving the whole school in the process the project was also able to engage the parents in the learning.

One Life, Your Choice

Due to high numbers of young people being admitted to Accident and Emergency with alcohol related issues, Police Scotland applied for support to deliver alcohol education to 1,900 secondary school pupils in South Ayrshire. South Ayrshire has vast areas of rail network and despite warning signs and tracks being fenced off the system experiences significant levels of trespass. The project aims to reduce in the number of incidents of trespassing and vandalism on the railway by educating young people.

The education input used video clips interspersed with young actors depicting a real life story based on a 17 year old pupil. The pupil had been drinking heavily and becomes separated from friends. He staggers to the local train station where he falls onto the track sustaining severe injuries. The young person depicted was very keen to share his story with other young people in the area in order to prevent others from doing what he done.

The project covered the following community objectives:

- Improved safety and raised awareness of the dangers of misusing the railway
- Promoted positive behaviour
- Engaged with young people in constructive activities
- Reduced crime and anti-social behaviour
- Built the reputation of Network Rail as a key community partner

The project helped raise awareness of the dangers of misusing the railway and in turn encourage positive behaviour.

Stay on the Right Track

St Margaret’s School worked alongside local community police officers to raise children’s awareness of rail, road and site safety. Children created advertising campaigns to promote safety in these areas which they shared across their local community in conjunction with local shops and businesses.
**Burgh Big Railway Project**

Support was given to Burgh Primary School to purchase play, art and stationary material for pupils to complete a whole school project on the railway. The school released two members of staff to create a plan to educate the pupils around Rail Safety. The plan identified different areas of rail safety for each class to focus on and covered all safety topics including; safety while waiting for a train, staying safe from electricity and stranger danger. Each class was given a range of ideas for delivering their specific area of rail safety, however in order to allow pupil choice and flexibility it was up to each class how they presented their knowledge and understanding to the rest of the school.

The project concluded with a showcase event where parents were invited along to learn with all the other children about each aspect of rail safety. Using this approach allowed pupils to develop a thorough understanding about a specific area of rail safety, and the showcase sessions, also allowed them to develop understanding about other areas of rail safety. With a school role of over 240 pupils, this project reached beyond just the pupils and teaching, with lessons learnt being taken back into the community and homes of the pupils.

**Construction Traffic Safety Poster**

Linked to the construction stage of the Borders Rail Line, Midlothian Council received funding to support local authority wide poster competition to highlight construction site safety. The competition was open to all 31 primary schools in the area, and engaged the children in learning not just about the new railway but safety around construction sites.

The two winning schools were: Lasswade Primary School and Newtongrange Primary School.

**Walk to School Footprints**

As part of the Safer Route to Schools initiative, Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) from Newtongrange Primary School identified, through a local survey and risk assessment, holes in the road and deteriorating road safety markings. Through support, new yellow footprints were painted within the village increasing awareness of how to keep safe going to school.

Feedback from the school was very positive:

> Children got a real sense of having changed something out with the school. They presented their work the whole school at an assembly. JRSO have also identified their next project, to get the green road safety crossing re-painted.
Victim Support Scotland

Victim Support Scotland approached Network Rail for support to organise a regional school speaking competition aimed at secondary schools across North and South Lanarkshire.

The competition was aimed at raising awareness amongst Lanarkshire young people around the impact of Anti-Social Behaviour and vandalism on railways and railway property. To help target the competition around Network Rail’s priorities, the young people were asked to form speaking teams to debate topics around trespass and vandalism. For the heats, the young people were asked to consider:

"Perceptions of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour: Why are young people attracted to railway areas and properties; why do they commit vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour on trains and around railway stations, and what might the impact of these actions be?"

The final event, young people were asked to consider:

"Teenagers of today are irresponsible and should be kept indoors until they are too old to indulge in Anti-Social Behaviour..... discuss"

Participation was invited from all secondary school, with eight local schools registering to participate involving around 300 young people. The young people developed new skills in researching, data gathering and the creation and delivery of presentations. Through their work the young people made recommendations and conclusions about how to effectively engage with young people, providing thought-provoking solutions and suggestions to both Network Rail and British Transport Police.

The learning from this project extended beyond the competition as one Head Teacher spoke of how their Art and English departments integrated the themes of ASB and vandalism into additional activities throughout the school, providing added value to the awareness raising exercise.

All schools that participated were asked to complete an evaluation and these are some of the comments received:

"The pupils loved the competition. They grew in confidence between heats and they were able to improve their speaking, research and writing skills. A great incentive for pupils."

"A fabulous competition, well organised, informative and a must for all pupils. Well done!"

Two of the schools involved in the debate were asked to participate in the National Community Safety Convention, with an audience including the Community Safety Minister, senior Scottish Government officials, senior representation from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. At this event the young people were asked to debate:

‘Having a single Police Force in Scotland will make for a better/worse engagement with young people in communities’
The projects highlighted in this section help address:

**The Curriculum for excellence through outdoor learning** offers opportunities for all children and young people to enjoy first-hand experience outdoors, whether within the school grounds, in urban green spaces, in Scotland’s countryside or in wilder environments. Such experiences inspire passion, motivating our children and young people to become successful learners and to develop as healthy, confident, enterprising and responsible citizens. The curriculum states that ‘The journey through education for any child in Scotland must include opportunities for a series of planned, quality outdoor learning experiences’.

As well as offering quality play and rail safety education, the development of outdoor play areas have help divert young people away from the areas around new and existing rail tracks. By engaging the local community in the design and construction of the outdoor areas a sense of community ownership has been instilled, and local communities have a lasting legacy which goes beyond the construction of a new rail link.

### Outdoor Play Development

As part of their on-going work to develop an outdoor play and learning centre, the Langlee Support Centre sought assistance to purchase play equipment. The centre supports **22 children aged 3-13 years old**, all of whom have complex learning difficulties. The centre helps develop the children’s physical co-ordination of skills and play. Play is a key learning tool for all children but especially those with learning difficulties.

The purchase of road signs for the play area provided a vehicle to teach children about travel safety and resulted in road and railway safety becoming an integral part of the summer transport topic. This has helped the young people gain an understanding of vocabulary around transport and introduced the children to different aspects of transport safety.
Playground Upgrade, Stow

With the introduction of the Borders Railway into this area, Stow Primary School worked in partnership with Borders Railway to create a safer environment in and around the school, as well as a number of educational programme supported by British Transport Police, BAM Nuttall and Network Rail.

Through support from Borders Railway a new outdoor space was created to encourage active learning for all pupils, in order to detract them from the track side. The new play area encouraged children’s imagination to create play opportunities for themselves incorporating a sand area, building area, problem solving area and imaginative play areas. In addition, support was also provided for the purchase of a yurt, for the school, as an outdoor learning area.

Balmoral Primary School - Sensory Garden

The Young Persons Project supports young people with learning disabilities who are in transition between school and adult life. The countryside rangers entrusted the group with the task of revitalising and maintaining a previously established sensory garden which had become neglected.

Through this project the group developed individuals’ confidence, social skills, life skills and work-related skills. The creation of this now looked after space, not only greatly benefit visitors to the estate but, especially those with a sensory disability. Through support from Borders Railway the group were able to purchase good quality garden tools in order to achieve their goal.

Through their connection with this project, Borders Railway were able to reach a small community group and provide seed money for the start of a new project in the area.

Langlee Woodland Development

Langlee Primary School received funding to create a safe woodland area that was wheelchair accessible and accessible to children with additional needs.

The woodland area adjoins the school and is in the vicinity of a railway line. While creating this space rail safety messages were promoted. The new outdoor space provides opportunities to enhance outdoor learning in relation to wildlife and the environment; and creates a safe environment for children to watch trains at a safe distance.
**Balmoral Primary School - Play Area**

The Parent Council at Balmoral Primary School approached Borders Rail fund for help and assistance with the development of a new look play area for the school.

The area was completely covered in concrete, with no grass and no resources for the children to play on. The playground also had to appeal to those pupils who were blind and with some disabilities; this meant the playground had to stimulate other senses in the young people while being a safe environment.

Through the support provided, the school were able to recycle some of their existing equipment, creating a new vibrant area for the children. A number of educational resources, around rail safety, were also provided to the school, to help raise awareness of rail safety.

**Newtonrange Cycle Playground Enhancement**

Each year Primary 6 children attending Newtonrange Primary take part in cycle proficiency education. The current line markings were no longer fit for purpose. The school had actively fundraised at the local Gala Day and through bake sales and sought match funding from Network Rail. The match funding was acknowledged in the school newsletter along with rail safety messages.
The projects highlighted in this section help address:

People feel part of and proud of their neighbourhood, know their neighbours, and are willing to participate in activity to improve their local area. Public spaces are clean and accessible and vandalism is rare. There is a strong element of self-policing in the local neighbourhood. People rate their neighbourhood as a good place to live and want to stay within the community, – Building Safer Communities Programme 2020 vision

Links with the – Strengthening community engagement and resilience, supporting victims and witnesses, increasing public confidence and reducing fear of crime - Justice Strategy

We have strong resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their actions and how they affect others National Outcome (11)

The word 'community' is a very broad term used to define groups of people such as; stakeholders, interest groups, citizen groups, etc. A community can also be defined by its geographical location, a community of similar interest or a community of identity. Working with these diverse and wider reaching community groups has given Network Rail the opportunity to engage with not only a number of communities but also individuals. Through some of these projects Network Rails has aimed to leave a lasting legacy for the future of the communities.

Women's Aid

‘It is important to recognise that domestic violence is a widespread problem that cannot be ignored. It is as serious as other forms of violence, harassment or abuse. It is unacceptable and is not to be tolerated, because everyone has the right to live free from violence and abuse in any form.’

https://www.safety.networkrail.co.uk/healthandwellbeing/Mental-Wellbeing/Mental-wellbeing/Domestic-Violence

Network Rail was delighted to provide support to Women’s Aid to purchase lip balms for the Children & Young Peoples Support Workers. The merchandise provided an encoded phone number as part of the bar code. The resources were distributed among schools as part of an awareness raising project to help encourage young people experiencing domestic abuse to access support without any risks to themselves.
**Gylemuir Primary School Parents – Community Initiative**

This initiative created a partnership between Network Rail, Police Scotland and the pupils and staff from Gylemuir Primary School with an aim to raise awareness of rail and personal safety for those children going to and from school. The project particularly focussed on those passing and playing in the vicinity of railway lines / bridges and associated areas of the rail network.

The initiative raised awareness through talks, literature and also sponsorship of the P6 pupil football team. The 6’s then went on to act as mentors and ambassadors to other school children. They organised school events including compiling ‘do’s and do not’s’ around the railways to raise rail safety awareness with children and parents.

The support provided **12 children’s full football strips and kits** emblazoned with the Rail Life Logo.

**The impact has been great. Rail ambassadors have been formally identified to interact with school children and have embraced this role. Such was the engagement of the pupils and school that Waverley Station adopted them as their preferred school culminating in the school visiting the station and the choir being invited back to sing and turn on the Christmas lights in the station.**

**Evaluation Feedback**

---

**Level Crossing Professional Drivers and Business Awareness Initiative**

The aim of the initiative was to reduce the number of deaths or injuries due to vehicle driver misuse at crossings. Scottish Business Resilience Centre (SBRC) launched an educational programme aimed at drivers and employers to highlight the different types of level crossings, correct procedures to be used at each specific type and the penalties that can be incurred when drivers do not obey the correct procedures. The work was carried out in conjunction with Distribution Industry Project Scotland, Diageo, Grants, Amazon, Scotmid, Federation of Small Businesses, National Federation of Retail newsagents, and the Road Haulage Association etc. This group was used to ensure a maximum target audience.

Additional use was made of the Scottish Business Alert System to send electronic safety messages to those business taking part in the initiative.

The funding supported the purchase and distribution of information materials throughout Scotland and contributed to:

- Enhanced road haulier’s knowledge of the correct procedures for each type of level crossing and how to proceed safely
- Enhanced the knowledge of employers as to their duty of care and potential reputational damage to their company should one of their drivers ignore the correct crossing procedures
Grandparent Kinships

Grandparent Kinships is a unique voluntary community support group for kinship carers established in 2005 in Midlothian. Kinship carers raise their ‘kins’ children (grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews) 24 hours, seven days a week. 99% of the children in their care are placed through Social Services due to their parent’s substance misuse. The group membership is 39 families over Midlothian.

The support provided allowed this group a day out during the school summer holidays.

*It is important for children to know that they are not the only ones who do not live with their mum and/or dad. Having a trip brings the children together and also allows the carers to “step out” of their situation for a short period of time.*

St David’s Bradbury Day Care Centre

St. David’s Day Centre is an established voluntary organisation and charity with a high reputation for providing a welcoming, stimulating, non-institutional social and health care service for frail elderly people with multiple mental and physical health problems, or older people who have become isolated and lonely. In 2013 the centre celebrated its 25th anniversary with a birthday party for old and new residents.

The day was attended by **140 elderly and vulnerable older people**, both old and existing service users. As well as providing the service users with a fantastic day, it also allowed the service users carers to have a short break from their caring role.

Tweedbank Fair

Tweedbank is a relatively young community initially founded in the 1970s, which saw a population expansion in the 80s/90s that fragmented the community. The Tweedbank Fair was first established as a way creating an identity for the area and has now been running for nearly 20 years and in that time has helped to bring the community together as one.

The continuing growth of the Fair and consequently the community groups and charities that benefit from it, has helped the community form stronger links, create a history and traditions for local residents and forge stronger links with the community generally. The community as a whole benefit from the Fair, as it brings together all generations from young children, teens, adults and the elderly and encourages the community to work and engage together.

By supporting this project, Network Rail and its partners were able to:

- Include their logo and safety messages within the programme, the programme was delivered to **over 800 homes and over 2000 people**
- Main sponsor of Fancy Dress Parade, which is a highlight of the event
- Provide a stall on the day, giving out relevant safety information and building relationship with this local community
Clyde Shopping Centre

With a rail station based at both North and South exits, Scottish Business Resilience Centre formed a partnership with Clyde Shopping Centre to help educate children and parents on rail safety matters through a number of initiatives. The projects aim to educate children from the 25 primary schools within the West Dunbartonshire area. The initiatives are:

- Assisting the Clyde Shopping Centre with its environmental educational programme on waste management which aims to recycles food and wood waste into mulch which is then distributed free of charge to schools, hospitals and other community projects within the area.

- Following a success poster design competition among the local schools, the top six schools were given the opportunity to take charge of a raised garden in which they grew either flowers or food. The raised beds were situated between the rail track and a service road and provided an opportunity to discuss and education the pupils on road and rail safety. In addition rail educational signage was installed behind the raised gardens alongside the protective trackside fencing which is visible to all visiting the centre.

- Electronic advertising boards were used to display safety messages to shoppers throughout the centre. In addition the winning poster designs were also included in the visual display.

- Clyde Shopping Centre currently runs a child safety initiative within the centre and as part of the safety package Network Rail has been invited to be a core contributor along with Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. As such they will provide electronic rail safety educational material to the 1,500 young members of the “Harry the Otter Club”.

This initiative aims to:

- Contribute to the reduction of the number of deaths and injuries due to children trespassing on the railway line
- To educate parents as to their duty of care and to ensure they have a full understanding of the dangers of trespassing on the railway line through interactive activities with their children
- To highlight to parents and children alike the cost to the community such accidents can incur

Rail Watch

Rail Watch is collaboration between Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, British Transport Police and Network Rail. A dedicated Rail Watch Scotland website has been set up to provide information and issue alerts. Rail Watch is an information sharing and crime prevention project relating specifically to railways and stations.
Crafty Parents

This intergenerational group has been running for six years and open to anyone within the community. They currently fund-raise through small weekly entrance fee and selling craft goods made by members at local events. By providing support to cover their yearly rent, it allowed the money collected by the club to be used to purchase new craft equipment and materials.

Pit Pony Productions

Pit Pony Productions in Newtongrange was established in 2014 to encourage local people and children to come together through drama. Network Rail funding helped to purchase materials and supplies to produce their first production ‘The Steamie’ in August 2014. None of the group knew each other before attending the drama group and this has helped establish new links to the village and formed a new group of friends.

Scams – Information Pamphlets

Network Rail provided resources to produce an information pamphlet on consumer scams, with an emphasis on cold calling, e-mail frauds and doorstep selling. The leaflet also provided advice on how best to avoid being scammed and was targeted specifically at the elderly and vulnerable. Partnership group involved were: Midlothian Council Trading Standards, Police Scotland, Midlothian and East Lothian Financial Harm Working Group.

Victim Support Scotland – (Edinburgh and Galashiels)

Through support from Network Rail, Victim Support Scotland based in Edinburgh and Galashiels were given funds to purchase 200 personal attack alarms. The alarms were given to people affected by crime or anti-social behaviour. Through this partnership, Victim Support Scotland also established links with British Transport Police to not only raise awareness of their service but to work alongside both Network Rail and British Transport Police to create safe environments for all train users.

Inspire Awards

The Volunteers Centre in Scottish Borders received support for the Inspire Awards. The awards were established to recognise young people achievements and contributions to their communities. Five young people were recruited to plan and host the awards including: developing a communications plan, arranging promotions, designing nomination form, judging nominations, arranging catering, music and managing finances. In total over 500 people attended the event.

“It has been a privilege to work with the team who have arranged this awards event. Their contribution has been significant and has allowed us to celebrate all that is good about young people across the Borders. It has been an uplifting experience for everyone.”

Susan Swan, VCB Executive Officer
Millfriars Eco Group

An application was received on behalf of the Millfriars Tenant and Residents Group in South Ayrshire. The aims of the project included the removal of graffiti from the area, replanting and maintaining the run down raised beds and pruning overgrown shrub borders around the railway.

This project not only enhanced the area for residents, pedestrians, motorist and passengers accessing the area but also gave the volunteers involved self-confidence and pride in their local neighbourhood. The project is now sustained through the Millfriars Eco Group who have adopted the targeted areas and introduced an organised maintenance programme.

Through this project the residents group was able to engage with the young people of the area through the graffiti project and since the graffiti clean-up operation there have been no reports or incidents within the targeted areas.

With this project there are no specific numbers that can be attached to how this has impacted on the community but, in addition to improving the appearance of the area, it has also help to increase people's perception of safety, through the removal of overgrown shrubs and trees which have allowed areas to become more accessible for all. Network Rail have benefitted from the removal of unsightly graffiti within the area of the bridges and local residents gained an understanding of the role of Network Rail and their involvement in community projects.

Railway Graffiti Initiative

Unsightly and offensive graffiti is an ongoing concern for both the railway industry and Community Safety Partnerships.

Following a successful graffiti project, a second site was identified in an area synonymous with vandalism and unsightly tags. To date this project has resulted in a significant reduction in graffiti related incidents with further projects planned throughout Scotland to be delivered in collaboration with community safety partners.

Since the completion of the project, there have been no other reports of graffiti within the area.
This booklet focuses on the contribution of Network Rail to community projects however this work would not be possible without the cooperation and assistance of many partners including:

- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Police Scotland
- British Transport Police
- Local Authorities across Scotland
- CSPG Partners