



Safety NET-works

December 2017

www.safercommunitiesScotland.org

Ready for Winter this year?

Scottish Government urges preparation during Resilience Week

People across Scotland are being encouraged to think about their readiness for a range of emergencies – from severe weather to travel disruption, from keeping warm to keeping safe online.



Resilience Week 2017 saw the Scottish Government, emergency services and other key agencies join forces to raise awareness of the steps we can all take to get ready and stay resilient to a range of threats, including severe winter weather.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney, said:

"I would urge everyone to take just a few minutes to think about how prepared they are for the unexpected. Every one of us has the power and ability to make a real difference right now both for ourselves and for others."

"Take a moment to think about your home, your families, your neighbours, your friends, and about anybody you know who may be particularly vulnerable. Think about what would be useful to have in an emergency, and

what simple steps you could take now to get ready and keep safe."

Bernard Higgins, Assistant Chief Constable for Operational Support at Police Scotland, said:

"Police Scotland, as a Category 1 Responder, fully supports the Scottish Government Resilience Week and is actively involved in planning for and responding to the array of emergencies that will be referenced over the course of the week."

"Police Scotland often co-ordinates the response to emergencies, but that response is delivered in partnership with other emergency services, wider Civil Contingency Partners, the voluntary sector and importantly, Community Resilience Groups and the wider public."

You can find out more about keeping safe this winter by visiting the Ready Scotland website at:

<http://www.readyscotland.org/>

Winter Road Safety

Police Scotland are also urging people to think about their preparedness and safety for using the roads over the winter months, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists.

You can get all the information you need to stay safe on the roads at:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/road-safety/winter-road-safety>

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Hannah Dickson returns!

Our National Development Officer Hannah Dickson has now returned to work at SCSN after a lengthy period away, first on secondment with the Scottish Government and then on maternity leave. We are delighted to welcome Hannah back and she has already been busy at work across the country.

Strategic Lead Officer update

Hannah's return comes just as we are almost in a position to announce the appointment of our new Strategic Lead Officer in the new year.

These developments will allow SCSN to move forward after a year of changes and upheaval with our staff team as part of an ongoing strategic review of the business. We regret that at times we have been unable to offer our usual service to members, but we greatly appreciate your patience and hope that you share our excitement about the possibilities and opportunities that lie ahead for 2018!

If you have any enquiries about these changes, email us at info@scsn.org.uk.

Question of the Month

Last month, in relation to the Scottish Government saying that it would not stand in the way of legislation to ban physical punishment of children, we asked:

'Do you think that smacking children should be banned in Scotland?'

- 76% of respondents agreed with the incoming legislation
- 10% disagreed
- 14% were unsure

A huge thank you to all of those who took part!

December Question of the Month

After successfully introducing Minimum Unit Pricing for alcohol, the Scottish Government should now pursue measures such as an alcohol advertising ban and reduced licensing hours?

Agree

Disagree

Not sure

Take part in the poll at:

[http://
www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/2017/
12/04/question-of-the-month-december-
2017/](http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/2017/12/04/question-of-the-month-december-2017/)

60 seconds with...

Hannah Dickson, SCSN



After a short spell in the wilderness, our 60 second interviews return, and after a slightly longer spell away, our December 60 second interview is with our returning National Development Officer Hannah Dickson.

We asked her about her thoughts on developments in the community safety sector.

You're recently back from maternity leave. How did it all go?

It went really well – it was great to be able to take a whole year off to spend time with my baby girl and my four year old son. That said, I'm really pleased to be back at SCSN, particularly at such a time of change – I'm excited to see what 2018 and beyond holds for the organisation and our partners and members!

Before maternity leave you were on secondment with the Scottish Government. Tell us a bit about that.

This was the second 'half' of a secondment I undertook with Phase 2 of the Building Safer Communities Programme to write an evidence base on unintentional harm in Scotland and highlight some priorities and recommendations for the future work in this area. I also produced an executive summary document and some thematic papers on the priority areas of:

- ⇒ Children and young people
- ⇒ Deprivation
- ⇒ Older people
- ⇒ Road Safety
- ⇒ Home Safety
- ⇒ Outdoor Safety

These can all be found on the BSC website <http://www.bsc.scot/publications.html>. Although I've written many strategic assessments before, this was a great opportunity to work at a national level in an area of business I was less familiar with. I also made some great contacts across the sector, relationships which will be great to continue

now I'm back at SCSN. I look forward to seeing how this work progresses.

There have been a lot of changes to the SCSN staff team in the time you've been away. What opportunities can you see going forward with the new look set up?

I've said it already but I am excited for 2018 and to see what it holds for SCSN and the wider safer communities sector. With the appointment of the new member of staff to drive the review and development of SCSN I think there are a host of opportunities for SCSN's Board, partners, members and staff to be the national voice for the sector and continue the support we have always striven to give our members. Watch this space!

We recently held a practice sharing event discussing issues in community safety. What would you say are the biggest issues or opportunities in community safety at the moment?

Gosh you've really hit me with the hard questions: opportunities for change and now the biggest issues and opportunities for the sector – I've been away for a year and only been back a few weeks!

All joking aside I think one of the biggest issues is to determine what the landscape of the sector is with the advent of the Community Empowerment Act, Local Outcome Improvement Plans and Community Justice Scotland to name but a few. The opportunity here is for the sector to reflect on what these – and other policies - mean for community safety in Scotland and position ourselves to continue to create safer communities in Scotland in partnership. I have no doubt SCSN will be at the forefront of this and I hope our partners and members will support us in doing this.

2017 Participatory Budgeting Conference Report

A report on the 2017 Participatory Budgeting Conference was published in November.



The Conference theme was: *'How far have we come with Participatory Budgeting in Scotland?'*

The conference recognised Scotland is at a critical point, where we need to reflect on how transformational PB has really been. There are legitimate questions around the extent of the impact PB has had on communities, how equality has been accounted for and whether institutions are really ready to share power in the way that PB is designed to do.

To address these issues, the conference broadly agreed on the following five actions:

1. Learning and evaluation with communities, with a focus on outcomes, that is useful for practitioners and suggests best practice.
2. Ensure that community-led organisations and the third sector have the same capacity building support for PB.

3. Training and evaluation that focuses on the process outcomes of PB.
4. Focus on the 1% commitment as the vehicle for a move to transformational practices.
5. Co-produce - with community third sector, local and national government - a charter of principles for PB in Scotland.

Prior to getting underway, 54% of delegates said that they were 'sold on' PB, with 36% saying that they were 'enthusiastic but worried.'

Minister for Local Government and Housing, Kevin Stewart, shared some key indicators as to how far PB has come in Scotland. For instance, in 2016/17, 39,484 people in Scotland voted at 122 local PB events & online.

He also highlighted the £4.7 million invested in PB by the Scottish Government since 2014, as well as the recent commitment from COSLA and the Scottish Government to disburse 1% of local authority budgets through PB by 2021.

A variety of panel discussions and workshops also took place throughout the day. You can read all about these in more depth and find out more about Participatory Budgeting by visiting:

<https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2017/11/17/how-far-have-we-come-report-from-the-pb-scotland-conference-2017>

Co-Production Week 2017

Following last year's campaign, the Scottish Co-Production Network (SCN) will be bringing people together again for another week of events, ideas and discussion about how we make co-production happen. This year the SCN will be focusing around the theme 'POWER' and asking people:

- How can we address power imbalance through co-production?
- What are the barriers that inequality of power brings?
- How do we ensure power is shared equally?

The week will feature events organised by Network members, new resources and a social media campaign asking people to contribute their thoughts and ideas about this year's theme.

You can find out about more about Co-Production week at:

<http://www.scdc.org.uk/news/article/Co-pro-week-2017/>



New Cyber Resilience Action Plan published

Scotland's public sector will be better protected against cyber attacks following the publication of a new action plan.



The Public Sector Action Plan on Cyber Resilience will encourage all public bodies to implement the same baseline standards of cyber security in their organisations.

These include active threat intelligence sharing, clear cyber incident response protocols and appropriate independent assurance that critical protection against the most common forms of attack is in place.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney said:

"I want Scotland to be a world-leading nation in cyber resilience by 2020. The Scottish Government recently committed to developing a range of action plans to help

meet this ambition, including in the key areas of learning and skills, economic opportunity, and public, private and third sector cyber resilience."

"Today marks the first of those plans being published. Our public sector action plan will encourage all public bodies, large or small, to achieve common standards of cyber resilience."

"I want our public sector to lead by example on strengthening cyber security, to help ensure Scotland is ready to deal with all emerging threats."

Dr Keith Nicholson, Joint Chair of the NCRLB Public Sector Steering Group said:

"All public bodies can follow the Action Plan to achieve a common base level of cyber security resilience ensuring that Scotland's public sector will be better protected against cyber-attacks to the benefit of both the organisation and the citizens of Scotland."

You can download a copy of the new Action Plan at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/cyber-resilience-strategy-scotland-public-sector-action-plan-2017-18/>

Fire Safety Consultation

The Scottish Government are currently running a fire safety consultation, reviewing the guidance for residential accommodation.

The review of the safety advice was agreed by the Ministerial Working Group (MWG) on Building and Fire Safety in Scotland, formed in the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, Ms Annabelle Ewing said: "After the awful loss of life at Grenfell we are determined to do all we can to ensure that the fire safety advice and standards expected in the buildings we live in are as strong and effective as they possibly can be.

"The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Government and local authorities have

moved quickly to identify any potential risks. Since Grenfell, firefighters have undertaken over 1,000 Home Fire Safety Visits to those in high-rise buildings in Scotland; these are essential in helping detect risks in the home."

"This review and consolidation of existing guidance will look at what we can do to simplify or strengthen the fire safety advice for any residences where people sleep, provide the best possible resource for building owners and emergency services and reassure members of the public of their safety."

You can take part in the consultation by visiting:

<https://consult.gov.scot/fire-and-rescue/premises-with-sleeping-accommodation/?ga=2.49808870.1906388263.1511620090-1826983904.1508164144>

Year of Young People launched

A major programme of events and activities to celebrate Scotland's young people will take place in 2018.



A global first, the Year of Young People 2018 will provide a platform to showcase the personalities, talents and achievements of Scotland's young people.

It will give young people, aged 8 to 26, new opportunities to influence decision making on issues affecting their lives and be involved in cultural and sporting opportunities across the country.

Young people have been involved in designing the programme, with more than 500 signed up to volunteer as Year of Young People 2018 Ambassadors.

EventScotland will deliver a programme of events for all ages, and Young Scot, Children in Scotland, the Scottish Youth Parliament and YouthLink Scotland will lead youth participation and involvement in the Year.

Ahead of meeting young people in Dumfries the First Minister said:

"This is an opportunity to shine a light on the fantastic contribution young people make to life in Scotland."

"The Year of Young People will give young people a new platform and new opportunities for their voices to be heard in all parts of our society and hopefully help to foster a better understanding, co-operation and respect between generations."

A year of events

To celebrate the Year, EventScotland, part of VisitScotland's Events Directorate, has developed a nation-wide programme which

for the first time, is co-designed by young people and the events and festivals sector.

The programme includes both new events and new programme strands for existing annual events.

You can find out more by visiting:

<http://yoyp2018.scot/>

ACT For Youth Campaign Video launched



ACT (Action for Terrorism) for Youth's key message is to inform young people, particularly those aged 11 to 16, that in the event of a firearms, weapons or terrorism attack to RUN TELL HIDE until the police turn up.

Whilst such messaging has been established and followed for some time now, it doesn't always reach a younger audience, hence the need to educate in the event of an attack.

It's the first time Counter Terrorism information has entered the classroom and this has been supported by the launch of a new animated 'What to do in a weapons attack' video. This is aimed specifically at young people caught in potential terrorist situations and what they should do if they come across any suspicious behaviour.

You can learn more about the campaign by following @TerrorismPolice or visiting:

<http://www.npcc.police.uk/CounterTerrorism/actforyouth.aspx>

Expert group on Sexual Offending

Focus on prevention

Former Crown Office chief executive Catherine Dyer will head up an expert group on preventing sexual offending involving young people.

The group, which brings together a range of interests including the Scottish Youth Parliament, Youth Link and Rape Crisis Scotland, will have its first meeting early next year.

Plans for an expert group were announced by Justice Secretary, Michael Matheson, following the publication of research on sexual crimes in September.

Mr Matheson said: "Catherine brings a wealth of experience. Her leadership, and the collective expertise of the group, will help us put a stop to what is a growing area of concern among young people."

"Advances in technology are greatly beneficial for the way we all live our lives, but also present new risks for harm. We have responded through new laws criminalising the sharing of intimate images as well as strong public information campaigns."

"Prevention is key, with figures showing more must be done for young people now. In the last year, more than 80% of victims of online sexual crime were female, with an average age of 14, and 96% of perpetrators were male. We need to better understand why some young men are motivated to behave in this way, and how we can prevent it."

The group's remit includes all sexual offending and harm, with a particular focus on cyber-enabled offending involving young people. It is expected to report in Spring 2019.

Planned membership includes representatives of the Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland, Child Protection Committees Scotland, Police Scotland, Young Scot, Stop It Now!, Crown Office, Social Work Scotland, as well as expertise from the health sector and academia.

Debate to mark 16 days of Activism on Violence Against Women



Everyone has a role in stopping fundamental violations of human rights against women and girls. Equalities Secretary, Angela Constance will tell parliament.

Ahead of a parliamentary debate in recognition of the United Nation's 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, Ms Constance is calling for men everywhere to stand shoulder to shoulder with women in sending a clear message that violence against women and girls is never acceptable.

Ms Constance said: "If the reaction to #metoo has achieved anything, it is to shine a spotlight on men's violence against women and emphasise that we cannot take our foot off the gas when it comes to gender equality and safety. Women should feel safe in every space they wish to inhabit – this is a matter of fundamental human rights."

"Tackling violence against women and girls is the role of every individual, community and institution in Scotland and to achieve this, men and women must work together to create a better, more equal society."

"The Equally Safe Delivery Plan I launched recently outlines 118 actions we are taking in partnership with others to achieve the change needed. We have undoubtedly made progress, but there is more we can all do to ensure that every woman and girl in Scotland lives free from violence and is given the opportunity to prosper."

Scottish Government wins fight to introduce Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) for alcohol

The UK Supreme Court has ruled that a minimum unit pricing for alcohol, which was passed overwhelmingly by the Scottish Parliament in 2012, can now proceed.

Annual alcohol deaths statistics published in August show there were 1,265 alcohol-related deaths in 2016. This is up from 1,150 in 2015, an increase of 10%.

Following the unequivocal backing of the highest court in Scotland – and a referral to the European Court of Justice – the UK Supreme Court has now dismissed an appeal by the Scotch Whisky Association and others, ruling that the proposed minimum unit pricing policy is appropriately targeted, lawful and proportionate.

Prior to implementing the policy, Ministers will now conduct a consultation on the proposed 50 pence per unit price and refresh the Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment

(BRIA) that is required by Parliament. The Scottish Government anticipates setting the minimum unit price at 50 pence per unit, subject to the outcome of the consultation and the refreshed BRIA.

Ms Robinson said: “This is a historic and far-reaching judgment and a landmark moment in our ambition to turn around Scotland’s troubled relationship with alcohol.”

“This has been a long journey and in the five years since the Act was passed, alcohol related deaths in Scotland have increased. With alcohol available for sale at just 18 pence a unit, that death toll remains unacceptably high.”

“Given the clear and proven link between consumption and harm, minimum pricing is the most effective and efficient way to tackle the cheap, high strength alcohol that causes so much damage to so many families.”

Ms Robinson made a statement to parliament to announce that MUP will come into force on 1 May 2018.

Glasgow Drug Consumption room will not go ahead

The Lord Advocate for Scotland has blocked plans by the Glasgow City Health and Social Care partnership to introduce a safer drug consumption facility in the city.

The facility would have provided a safe place for people to inject drugs under supervision, getting help with injecting technique and being provided with information, advice and testing for blood borne viruses such as Hepatitis C and HIV, and would have been the first in the UK - with many such facilities already open in countries including Germany, Canada and Australia.

However, with drug laws being reserved to Westminster, the Lord Advocate said that a change in legislation would be required to allow the facility to go ahead.

Criticising the decision, David Liddell, CEO of Scottish Drugs Forum, said: “This is a hugely depressing decision. It means that a drug consumption room cannot be delivered in a timescale that will respond to the pressing needs of a group who are among the most vulnerable in our society.”

“One of the benefits of this service would have been to help contain Glasgow’s HIV outbreak. We have spent a year awaiting this decision. We should redouble our efforts and deliver heroin-assisted treatment now to this population. There are no legal barriers to this provision.”

The Scottish Government has since announced that health officials will meet with the Glasgow Health and Social Care partnership to discuss the proposal, its objectives, and how these might best be met.

Combined drug and alcohol treatment strategy to be published next year

Drug and alcohol treatment will be improved through a Substance Misuse Treatment Strategy, Public Health

Minister Aileen Campbell has announced.



The new combined approach will be published in Spring 2018 and will recognise the many shared underlying causes and similarities in treatment services.

This, and the £20 million a year committed in the Programme for Government, will ensure services to reduce alcohol and drug related harm reach people who are currently not receiving the treatment they need, with a greater focus on responding to the individual.

Ms Campbell said: "In the last ten years, our understanding of the underlying causes of addiction and substance misuse has

developed, recognising that deprivation, poverty, trauma and adverse childhood experiences can cause people to turn to alcohol and drugs. While there are clear differences between the two, the root causes and response by services have too much in common to be kept apart."

"Treatment can no longer just be clinical, but must also address some of the deep rooted social and economic circumstances that people face. It is fundamental that we join the dots better and ensure addiction services address issues such as social isolation and stigma that remain major barriers to recovery."

"This renewed approach, and the introduction of minimum unit pricing show the range of measures we're taking to address addictions that devastate lives and communities. Our commitment in the Programme for Government will mean £60 million for alcohol and drug treatment over the remaining lifetime of this Parliament to transform services and ensure they are focused on the patient, rather than the addiction."

Action to tackle rough sleeping

New actions will be put in place to further tackle rough sleeping this winter, as recommended by the Scottish Government's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group.

Backed by an initial £328,000 worth of investment from government and group members, the measures include increasing emergency accommodation in areas with the greatest numbers of rough sleepers, making personal budgets available to front line workers to meet immediate housing needs, and supporting greater use of the emergency Nightstop service.

Since its first meeting on 5 October, the Action Group has worked at pace, and closely with local authorities and partners, to identify areas where there is the greatest need and actions that can have the most impact.

First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon was joined by Housing Minister, Kevin Stewart and Action Group chair and Chief Executive of Crisis UK, Jon Sparkes, to announce the plans on a visit to homelessness charity Streetwork.

Jon Sparkes said:

"The effort and energy of Action Group members to work quickly to identify practical support along with the willingness of council leaders and sector colleagues to commit to more flexible practices at short notice has been remarkable."

You can read the full recommendations of the Action Group online at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/homelessness-rough-sleeping-recommendations/>

In other news...

news

Violence Prevention and Public Health

The Scottish Directors of Public Health have formed the Violence Prevention Public Health Group to progress work to prevent violence through Public Health action.

They are using an online questionnaire to map violence prevention and reduction projects across Scotland to support development of a violence prevention strategy and are asking stakeholders to contribute information about violence prevention projects delivered by their organisations/partnerships. The questionnaire is mainly tick box with several open ended questions and should take a few minutes to complete. It can be accessed via the following link:

<http://surveys.healthscotland.com/index.php/184454/lang-en>

First progress report on Fairer Scotland Action Plan

Public sector bodies now have a duty to consider what more they can do to reduce poverty and inequality when making key decisions.

The Fairer Scotland Duty, the first action in the Fairer Scotland Action Plan and the first of its kind in the UK, comes into force in April 2018. Public sector bodies including the Scottish Government, NHS and local authorities, will all have a duty to tackle social and economic disadvantage in local areas.

You can read the progress report in full at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/11/7078>



FREE Equality, Diversity & Hate Crime Awareness Training in Stirling

Central Scotland Regional Equality Council, in partnership with Stirling Voluntary Enterprise, are delivering a free Equality, Diversity & Hate Crime Awareness Training session in Stirling.

You can book your place at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/equal-div-hate-crime-awareness-session-tickets-38431166654>

CSR  C
Central Scotland Regional Equality Council



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

A festive banner with a dark blue background. On the left, there is a white oval containing the SCSN logo. To the right, the text "Merry Christmas!" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below this, a white snowman wearing a black top hat with a red band is depicted. The snowman has stick arms and a carrot nose. In the bottom left corner, there is a small holly leaf and red berries. In the bottom right corner, there is another small holly leaf and red berries. The text "We'd like to wish all of our partners, social media followers and friends a very happy Christmas, and a fabulous, prosperous and healthy new year! Stay safe!" is written in a white, italicized font. At the bottom left, the text "The SCSN team" is written in a white, sans-serif font.

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The closing date for the January newsletter is 28 December.



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