



SCSN welcomes new Chief Officer, Lorraine Gillies, into post

Over the past year, a variety of staff changes to our staff team and board has allowed SCSN to reflect on the evolving community safety landscape. Hayley Barnett has been seconded since April 2017 to the role of Improvement and Partnership Manager in collaboration with Scottish Government and COSLA and some of the work she has undertaken as part of this will assist SCSN to better understand the current and future landscape of community safety.

SCSN's Strategic Plan ends in March 2018 and as well as redeveloping this we are undertaking a review of our governance and organisational structure to ensure we remain at the forefront of tackling community safety issues in line with the Building Safer Communities Programme.

This review has led to the removal of the SCSN manager's post and Jacqui Doig has left the organisation after seven years at the helm. The manager's post was critical to the development of the SCSN to be the leading membership organisation that it has become, however the board felt that in order for SCSN to be at the forefront of influencing national policy, diversifying to meet the changing landscape and supporting local delivery in the future an enhanced focus on strategic development was required.

With this in mind we are pleased to announce Lorraine Gillies as our new Chief Officer who will be working with SCSN's Board, staff, members and partners to:

- Identify and progress a clear remit, role and structure for SCSN
- Review SCSN's Strategic Plan
- Identify opportunities for SCSN to support and influence the community safety and community planning sectors in Scotland

I'm sure you will welcome Lorraine as she begins this role and I hope you agree that this is a very exciting time to be a member of SCSN. We undoubtedly have the support of the Scottish Government and members are encouraged to play an active role in the coming months as we enter a new period of development and growth. The Directors and staff are looking forward to continuing supporting our partners and members and welcome your feedback and reflections on these plans and the future.

Mark McCall, SCSN Chair

You can download a copy of the SCSN Annual Report from our website at:

<http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/home-2/about-us/>

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Happy New Year from SCSN!!

We'd like to wish all of our partners and readers a happy new year for 2018!

This year promises to be an exciting year for SCSN with many changes afoot, not least the appointment of our new Chief Officer Lorraine Gillies, who started work with us on 8 January.

You can read more about Lorraine and her hopes for SCSN and the community safety sector in the coming year, as well as all of the latest updates and news from the sector in this first Safety Networks of 2018.

You can also follow our new boss on Twitter at:



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/lorraine-gillies-frsa-27b08833/>

@GilliesLorraine

Question of the Month

Last month, in relation to the Scottish Government's successful introduction of Minimum Unit Pricing for Alcohol, we asked: **After successfully introducing MUP, should the Scottish Government now consider interventions including an alcohol advertising ban and/or changes to licensing hours?**

We received a large number of responses and the results were:

- **56% were in favour of considering extra interventions**
- **36% were against**
- **8% weren't sure**

Question of the Month for January

This month's question relates to recent research from Sustrans (page 7) and concerns parents have regarding children walking or cycling to school. We're asking:

Do you believe that safety is a barrier to children walking or cycling to school?

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

<http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/2018/01/11/question-of-the-month-january-2018/>

60 seconds with...

Lorraine Gillies, SCSN Chief Officer



We begin our 60 second interviews for 2018 with our new Chief Officer Lorraine Gillies, who started work with SCSN on 8 January.



For those who don't know, tell us a bit about yourself and your background.

My specialism is in strategic planning and development, operational management of complex services, prevention and early intervention and being able to unpick the activities that make best impact and managing change. I've recently been working with Audit Scotland to develop an approach to measuring and understand the key benefits from the Community Empowerment Act and leading on several pieces of improvement activity around 21st century audit models.

Before that, I spent some time in West Lothian leading on community planning and regeneration. My career began in the third sector – straight out of a housing degree and into advice and support services for homelessness people. I'm delighted to be back in the voluntary sector. My own values include constantly striving for fairness, openness and tolerance. I'm a high achiever with high expectations. I believe in working towards better outcomes and a fairer society.

What are some of your initial thoughts on the SCSN's remit and role in community safety?

Building Safer Communities Phase 2 - The aim of phase 2 is to reduce unintentional physical and psychological harm that could have been predicted or prevented. Clearly, there is a role for SCSN in the continuation roll out and delivery. I'm keen to have some early discussions with our members and stakeholders to help us further define what that should look like and also to help us develop our new Strategic plan for 2018 onwards. Watch this space...

Give us a flavour of some of the opportunities you see for SCSN to support and influence the community safety and planning sectors.

The landscape is changing. There is an new empowering policy landscape that encourages people to be involved in designing, developing and co-producing the services they want and need. That's about safe and resilient communities, partnerships and collaboration. This new landscape gives SCSN a real opportunity to support the development of new practices that put people first and centre – whether that's through supporting Community Safety Partnerships or Community Planning Partnerships, practitioners or policy makers – we have real opportunity to be part of a movement for change.

Historically, SCSN has made an effort to recognise and disseminate good practice through our Safer Communities Awards. How important do you feel it is to celebrate and share good practice?

It's incredibly important to recognise good work. The work that's done in the world we inhabit is often difficult to measure and how people *feel* about the services they receive is often the only way to understand impact. It's the stories about how organisations are working together with individuals and communities that need to be highlighted. I'm delighted that we can contribute to telling these stories and promoting good practice through our network and via the awards.

Finally, what are your three favourite things to do in your spare time?

OMG, what a question.... Walking my dog is actually a fun thing to do, I love to travel and am off on a Thailand adventure with my daughter and grandson in July and (if I had more time) I'd love to do more baking...

Do you have a colleague who goes the extra mile or know of a safety champion within the local community?



The RoSPA Guardian Angel Awards is your chance to get them the recognition they deserve. These unique awards celebrate the work of individuals who have gone 'above and beyond' to improve the safety of others.

It could be a member of staff who gives up their own time to volunteer in the community or a safety manager who has gone the extra mile to protect their colleagues or the general public. Or perhaps you would like to nominate someone from outside your organisation who works to keep the community safe? Either way, the RoSPA Guardian Angel Awards seek to reward the actions of those who would otherwise go unnoticed – in doing so motivating others to take up the torch and help shape a safer society for all.

Submitting a nomination for the RoSPA Guardian Angel Awards is your opportunity to reward an employee or member of the community for a contribution to safety for which they would otherwise not be recognised. As well as being a major boost for the individual, there are also rewards for your organisation:

- Recognition of outstanding achievement
- Reward commitment and hard work
- Give team morale a boost
- Demonstrate corporate social responsibility
- Fantastic PR opportunity
- Improve reputation

Should you require and help or assistance please call 0121 248 2089 or email awards@rospa.com

You can find out more about the Guardian Angel Awards, including downloading a guide to the categories, by visiting the RoSPA website at:

https://www.rospa.com/awards/categories/guardian-angel-awards/?utm_source=Communicator&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=Guardian_Angel&utm_campaign=Snow+is+falling

Family Safety Week 2018 - Save the date!

Family Safety Week, run by ROSPA, will take place from the 23-27 April this year.

Every week at least one child under five is killed because of an accident, with disadvantaged children most at risk.

Last year's Family Safety Week provided a wide range of free resources for families and

businesses which can be downloaded from the ROSPA website at:

<https://www.rospa.com/campaigns-fundraising/family-safety-week/>

To keep up to date with developments and plans for Family Safety Week 2018, you can sign up to the ROSPA newsletter at:

<https://www.rospa.com/campaigns-fundraising/newsletter/>

Gas Safety Week 2017 - Report

A record 7,831 supporters came together for the seventh Gas Safety Week, which took place on 18-24 September 2017. The annual awareness week – co-ordinated by Gas Safe Register – provides a platform for the gas industry, consumer organisations, charities and individuals to focus all our communications about gas safety in one week.



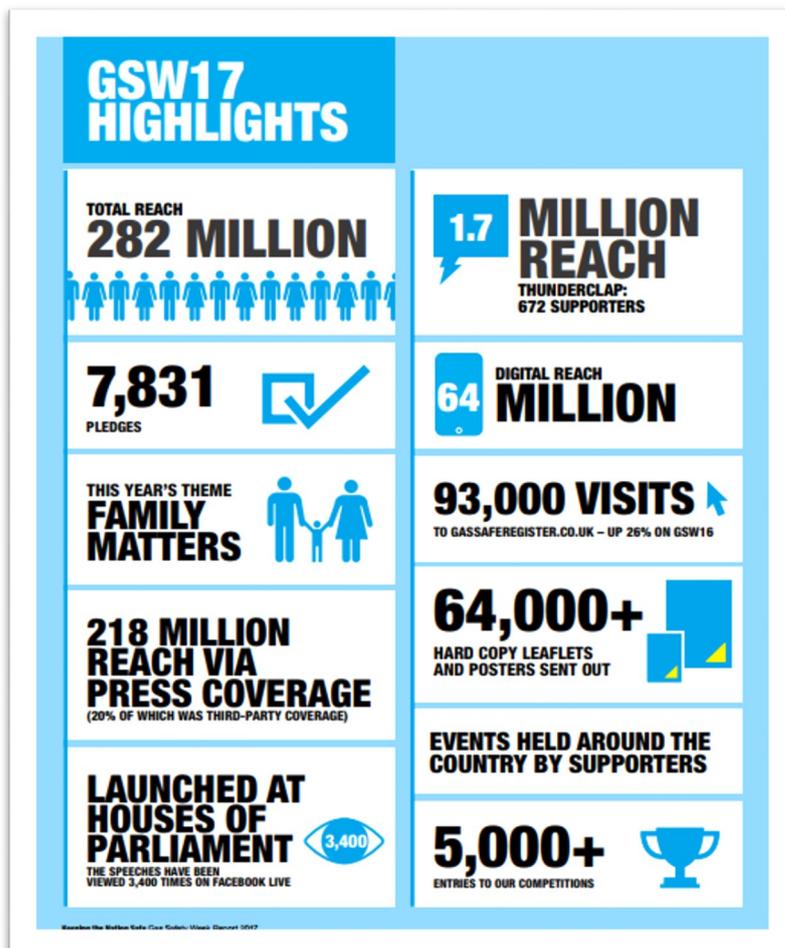
This Gas Safety Week there were over 282 million opportunities to see gas safety messages, generating interest in the media and having a greater impact amongst the public. The theme this year was “family matters”. We drove the message home about the importance of having your household’s gas appliances safety checked every year to help protect your family from gas leaks, fires, explosions and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Scottish Gas Network and IGEM

Events took place all around the UK, including an event in Scotland in partnership with SGN and IGEM.

Hosted by MSP Clare Adamson, the SGN exhibition highlighted the development of a vulnerable customer package; the risks of CO and locking cooker valve campaign. In addition IGEM’s event focused on the SGN study into appliance servicing and installation. The study involved a team of Gas Safe registered engineers and inspected nearly 8,000 properties and almost 11,000 appliances across four towns in Scotland. This has provided a unique insight into appliance health, servicing and messaging around CO.

You can download a copy of the report here: https://f.datasrvr.com/fr1/317/24173/GasSafetyWeekReport_2017_web.pdf



Gas Safety Week 2018 will take place between 17-23 September

Is your area gas safe?

The Gas Safe Register hosts an interactive map which allows you to view how gas safe your local area is. You can access this useful tool at: <https://www.staygassafe.co.uk/>

£14 million for Young People and Communities

More than £14 million of funding will support the work of 117 charities helping children and young people throughout Scotland.

The money, from the 2018/19 Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention and Adult Learning and Empowering Communities Fund, will enable a wide range of projects aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people and supporting adult learning to be delivered.

Barnardo's, Cyrenians, Scouts Scotland, Learning Link and Save the Children are just some of the recipients who will receive a share of the funding.

Minister for Childcare and Early Years Maree Todd said: "The third sector has an essential part to play in helping us to improve the lives of young people and families. That is why I am pleased to be able to confirm our continued support for the vital work these organisations do through this 2018/19 fund.

"Day in and day out, the voluntary sector supports thousands of children, young people and their families in communities across the country, often the most vulnerable or disadvantaged. The projects and organisations we are funding are making a real difference, ensuring that more children get a better start in life and I am proud to support them.

"As we approach Scotland's Year of Young People 2018, it is more important than ever to encourage and empower the next generation and I am confident that recipients of this funding will help to do just that."

Final decisions on funding were made by a board including third sector representation. Chair of the board and former National Head in Scotland of Children in Need Fraser Falconer said:

"This fund is helping more than a hundred third sector organisations to deliver the right support

at the right time to those who need it most. Through it, thousands of children are getting a better start in life, vulnerable families are getting the support they need and young people and adults experiencing disadvantage are building skills and fulfilling their potential.

"It is also helping to make voluntary organisations more sustainable in the longer term through its focus on building stronger partnerships, collaborative learning about approaches that have been proven to improve outcomes and effective evaluation techniques."

Jackie Howie Lead Officer of Learning Link Scotland said: "We are delighted to receive continued funding from the Scottish Government for our core activity of supporting the important work of third sector adult learning across Scotland. This will allow us to continue to ensure equal opportunities for people to access adult learning opportunities, tell the story of the wealth of adult learning provision and its life changing effects and support voluntary organisations to build local and national partnerships and influence policy and practice."

Year of Young People 2018

Year of Young People 2018 is an opportunity for generations to come together and celebrate our nation's young people.

It is a platform for our young people (8 to 26). It will give them a stronger voice on issues which affect their lives, showcase their ideas and talents, and ultimately, aim to challenge status quo and create a more positive perception of them in society.

We'd love to hear if you are planning or organising any events or activities around Year of Young People 2018, particularly where it incorporates the Building Safer Communities themes.

Email us at info@scsn.org.uk

People to Have a Say in Designing Their Communities

Community projects from Argyll and Bute to Shetland will share around £312,000 to regenerate their neighbourhoods, Local Government Minister Kevin Stewart has announced.



As part of the Making Places Initiative, 19 projects will receive funding to bring people together to agree priorities for their area and shape future planning and design.

The funding will support events that bring local people together with design professionals to identify how their places and communities can be improved.

The 19 projects awarded funding include workshops to develop physical and environmental improvements to the Woodside area of North Glasgow, creating a development plan for Scalloway in Shetland and a plan to improve a shopping centre in Wester Hailes in Edinburgh.

Minister for Local Government, Kevin Stewart said: "I am pleased we received so many applications from a mixture of local authorities and community groups, keen to get local people involved in plans to improve their area.

"This scheme and every project supported by it creates more opportunities for communities to choose what works for them.

"Each project has its own design challenge, whether it is a plan to regenerate an area of a city centre or looking at a smaller site in a rural community. All of these projects should lead to improvements that will create benefit for hundreds of people."

'Conflicting messages' stop children walking or cycling to school



A survey by Sustrans and the Scottish Parent Teacher Council found 42% of parents felt safety was a barrier to travelling actively to school. Just 3% said their child cycled to school, but almost half already walked.

Eileen Prior, executive director of SPTC, said: "Parents often get conflicting messages."

She added: "They are expected simultaneously to be responsible for keeping their children safe, for ensuring they are fit and active, and very often, for getting to work on time.

"These pressures often lead to a vicious circle of competing imperatives. For instance, we know driving too close to schools to drop off children actually creates danger in many ways."

Of those questioned, 42% said safety was a barrier to their child walking or cycling to school, followed by a lack of cycle routes (29%), too much distance (22%) and not enough time (17%).

Parents said safer walking and cycling routes and slower traffic speeds were most likely to encourage active travel.

You can find out more about the School Travel Survey for Parents and download a copy at:

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/news/safety-fears-cited-main-reason-why-more-children-dont-travel-actively-school>

Police Prepare for New Domestic Abuse Law



Around 14,000 Police Scotland officers and staff are to receive enhanced training to assess for instances of psychological abuse and coercive control in domestic abuse settings.

The Domestic Abuse Bill, which will reach the final stage of the parliamentary process early in the new year, will criminalise psychological abuse and coercive control and create a new offence if passed by Parliament.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson introduced the Bill to Parliament in March this year and has now committed to provide additional funding specifically to train frontline officers and staff. Subject to completion of the Police Scotland tendering process, it is likely that Scottish Government funding of the training will be in the range of several hundred thousand pounds.

He said: "It's important that as we grant new powers to police to investigate one of society's most despicable crimes, we help ensure frontline officers and call handlers are equipped to do this. Police deal with the damage caused by domestic abuse day in day out, and this training will help them to identify some of the more insidious and damaging behaviours that perpetrators use to control their partner or ex-partner which are covered within the new offence.

Assistant Chief Constable Gillian MacDonald, Police Scotland, said: "Police Scotland is committed to reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse and is working with partners to eradicate it from Scotland.

"With the passage of the new bill through Scottish Parliament it is important we plan now to ensure that officers and staff are suitably equipped to make best use of the proposed legislation.

"We know that the controlling behaviours, used by perpetrators to maintain power and control over victims, can be both devious and devastating. However to those out with the relationship, the ways in which a perpetrator will conceal their actions can often make them appear innocuous in isolation. We have committed to this critical training to address these issues so our officers and staff can better recognise the signs of controlling behaviours in domestic abuse, support victims and bring perpetrators to justice."

Rape Services to be Improved

Services for people who have experienced rape or sexual assault are to be improved. The first national standards for forensic medical examinations will be backed by £2.25 million funding to help NHS Boards implement them, ensuring a consistent service across Scotland.

Published by Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS), the standards will ensure that victims – regardless of age, personal circumstances or geographical location – will experience a level of care to a high standard that aims to reduce the likelihood of further trauma.

Sandy Brindley, Rape Crisis Scotland, said:

"Rape is a crime which can have a significant and long lasting impact. The immediate response from agencies and the quality of help available can make a big difference to someone who has just been raped or sexually assaulted. The new standards released today have the potential to transform the support and care people receive after a rape or sexual assault. The funding to help implement the standards across the country is very welcome."

For more info, visit:

<http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our-work/person-centred-care/resources/sexual-assault-services.aspx>

Scottish Government response to the Interim Building and Fire Safety Review

Communities Secretary Angela Constance has welcomed the publication of an interim report into UK building regulations and fire safety.

Dame Judith Hackitt was commissioned to carry out the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety following the Grenfell Tower fire.

The interim report looks at the culture of the construction sector and how the regulatory framework could be more effective. The Scottish Government has worked with Dame Judith's team and shared information from the Ministerial Working Group established to consider building regulations and fire safety in Scotland.

Ms Constance said: "This is the first of a number of important reports, from which we can start to learn lessons from the Grenfell tragedy. I welcome the engagement that Scottish Government officials have had with Dame Judith and her team on this report.

"We are pleased that Dame Judith recognises that the situation in Scotland is different. We believe our system is robust but there is always room for improvement. We also specifically welcome the work being done and recommendations being made on building industry products and the system of accreditation, which is shared across the UK as a whole.

"We have commissioned two building standard reviews – into fire regulations and compliance – which will ensure that our system of building standards remain clear. The Ministerial Working Group will now look in detail at the recommendations within the interim report and ensure the scope of our reviews are consistent with the issues being considered by Dame Judith. We look to continue our ongoing engagement and will seek to work with the UK Government on a number of possible actions resulting from the report."



Dr Paul Stollard, Chair of Fire Regulations in Building Standards Review Group, said:

"We have already made good progress on identifying where changes might be required to the fire sections of the Scottish Building Standards, with our second Review Panel meeting planned for January and our international comparison group meeting again in February. It is now very helpful to see the proposed areas of change to the English building regulations system as set out in this interim report and it appears that there might be some opportunities joint work on certification schemes which could cover the whole of the United Kingdom."

Professor John Cole, Chair of Compliance and Enforcement in Building Standards Review Group, said:

"I welcome Dame Judith Hackitt's report. From her initial findings I recognise there are many common themes to the work I am currently undertaking for the Scottish Government. In particular, the need to ensure that all involved in procuring designing and constructing buildings play their part in delivering buildings compliant with regulations and are safe for building users."

You can find out more about the Ministerial Working Group on Building and Fire Safety at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/groups/building-and-fire-safety-working-group/>

In other news...

news

Volunteer Management Course

During the course you will be challenged to think beyond what's needed for the traditional volunteer, gaining an understanding of today's volunteers and what your organisation needs to have in place to give them a great experience. The sessions will cover preparing for involving volunteers, attracting the right volunteers and getting them started. This course will also discuss supporting volunteers, managing challenging situations, reward and recognition and evaluating your volunteer programme.



By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Explain what volunteering is, why people do it and what they can do.
- Plan a recruitment process to get volunteers involved.
- Design an induction and support process to get volunteers started.
- Feel confident in dealing with challenging situations surrounding volunteers.
- Identify where you can recognise and reward your volunteers as well as identify opportunities for further development.
- Critically assess your policies and procedures that support volunteering.

Drive forward volunteering in your area of work.

You can book your place by visiting:

<https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/events/february-2018/volunteer-management-the-essentials/>

Health Improvement Scotland seeking public partners

Are you passionate about making care better in Scotland? Would you like to strengthen the voice of people who use health and social care services? Would you like to gain experience volunteering?



Health Improvement Scotland are currently seeking volunteers, known as public partners, to ensure that people's experiences of care are used to make care better.

Find out more and how to get involved at:

http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/about_us/involving_the_public/public_partners_recruitment.aspx

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

January featured Case Study - Safe as Houses

We regularly use our newsletter to highlight case studies of projects that are featured on our website, with a topical theme. This month, as new provisions of the Domestic Abuse Bill come into force early in 2018, we're featuring an Edinburgh based domestic abuse initiative, 'Safe as Houses'.

The Safe As Houses project is included within Edinburgh's Violence Reduction Programme, a multi agency five year violence reduction strategy. The project is aimed at female council tenants in Edinburgh experiencing domestic abuse and provides additional safety measures for those tenants at risk of domestic abuse and allows them to stay in their current accommodation. This is a valuable option for women who may have otherwise been made homeless due to domestic abuse.

You can download the case study here:

<http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/wp-content/uploads/safe-as-houses.pdf>

You can view all of our case studies at:

<http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/publications-overview/case-studies/>

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SHARE YOUR NEWS!

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



The closing date for the February newsletter is 30 January.



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