



Safety NET-works

October 2018

www.safercommunitiescotland.org

Governance Edition



Open Government Action Plan: Report of public discussion events and engagement



The Scottish Government has been working with the Civil Society Network in Scotland to create a future where the government is more open, transparent and accessible, involves people and helps them to hold government to account.

The Government are currently working to create a new plan for the government to commit to delivering over the next two years. They wanted to hear from people across the country about what improvements they would like to see and their ideas on how the government could be more open and accessible.

This report provides a summary of all ideas that were heard from public discussion events and engagement over the summer of 2018.

You can download the report [here](#).

THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW: What does this mean in the context of Safer Communities?

A seminar for community safety partners, and anyone with an interest in finding out more about the Local Governance review and increasing participation and decision-making of communities; particularly within the context of safer communities and justice work.

Hosted and sponsored by the Scottish Community Safety Network with support from The Local Governance Review Team at the Scottish Government
Venue: Holy Trinity Church, 6 Albert Pl, Stirling FK8 2QL
Time: 10am – 1pm (registration from 9.30am)
Date: 30th October 2018
Cost: FREE but booking is essential. [Book HERE](#).

In December 2017, the Scottish Government and COSLA jointly launched a Local Governance Review, which aims to make sure local communities have more say about how public services in their area are run. The review will consider how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government, and with communities. You can read more about the review [here](#).
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You can book your place on the latest **#SCSNMasterclass** [here](#).

The SCSN Stakeholder Consultation Report has now been published in full. Read more on pages 6 & 7

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SCSN AGM 2018 Review

We held our 2018 AGM on 12 September at Brodies LLP in Glasgow. The event was a huge success with a high turnout. Aside from the usual AGM business, attendees saw presentations delivered by Gordon Smith from Scottish Government on the Human Trafficking Strategy, Elinor Findlay—Deputy Head of Building Safer Communities Programme, Rachel McDill from Shetland Islands Council on Remote and Rural Community Safety Partnerships and from Hannah Dickson, our National Development Officer on our stakeholder consultation results.

A huge thanks to Brodies LLP for being wonderful hosts and to all the speakers and attendees who made it a really interesting event!

Our members elected the following to serve as SCSN Directors for 2018/19:

Mark McCall (Chair), Ian Hanley (Vice Chair), Shirley McLaren (Treasurer), Ann Fehilly, Stuart Stevens, Cheryl Smith, Gemma Fraser, John McKenzie, Andrew Wilson and Jennifer McOmish.



Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for September came from Frank Creighton, Community Safety Lead in the Western Isles. His question was around work on Equally Safe and funding for a uniform approach to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences.

He asked:

"Do partners think a dedicated funding resource should be established to support a uniform approach to the provision of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) nationally?"

71% of respondents said yes with 29% saying no.

October Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for October comes from Oliver Escobar of Edinburgh University and is around the Community Empowerment Act. We're asking:

Is the Community Empowerment Act making a difference in your context?

Yes

No

Not sure

Take part in our poll [here](#).

60 seconds with...

Oliver Escobar



This month, we spoke with Oliver Escobar of Edinburgh University. Aside from being a lecturer by day, Oliver has been heavily involved in a lot of work in Scotland, with public participation, public services, policy processes and participatory and deliberative democracy among his core areas of interest!



Tell us a bit about your role. What's the best bit about what you do?

I hold a Lectureship in Public Policy at the University of Edinburgh and I also co-direct 3 research programmes: [What Works Scotland](#), [Smart Urban Intermediaries](#) and [Distant Voices](#). The best bit about my work is that it allows me to combine research, teaching and public engagement. Most of my work relates to how to improve democracy, governance and policymaking.

As a national network organisation we sometimes hear that citizens are happy to complain about issues affecting their local community but rely on (often stretched) public services to sort it out – what do you think partnerships (and individual organisations) can do to support citizens to do more?

I think we should be cautious about the demands we place on people and communities. I also oppose 'big society' approaches that are used as a fig leaf for rolling back basic public services. However, I do believe there is huge potential for community-led public services, for example through the role of community anchor organisations -which we studied in this [research](#).

There is plenty that can be done to support this agenda, but I'd highlight investing in civic

infrastructure and community organisers; and exploring whether things like the Universal Basic Income may help to support more active forms of citizenship.

Is there anything you think Scotland does particularly well in terms of partnership working within local areas?

I'm increasingly seeing good examples in the field of participatory budgeting, although it's early days to have a fuller picture -despite our recent attempts at offering an overview of [PB across Scotland](#). I'd also highlight the role of community anchor organisations, as noted in my previous response.

What do you think are some of the opportunities for Community safety / Safer communities and Justice partnerships to have more a) citizen participation and b) citizen decision-making. How do you think this squares with local elected member participation and representation?

I think there is much room for improvement in this area, perhaps taking inspiration from current developments in the field of democratic innovation. See for example [Participedia](#) or some of our work on [mini-publics](#). Elected members should be at the heart of the democratic innovation agenda - they are crucial to connect participatory processes and formal institutions. There is not incompatibility between public participation and elected representation --they can and often work well in tandem.

When you're not working how do you like to spend your time?

Long walks with my wife Paula and our wee dog Marcel. Also love playing football weekly with my Leith pals -we're a lively bunch of local Scots, Spaniards, Poles, Italians... We've been doing this for over a decade, and it's a refreshing mix in Brexit times.

Measuring Outcomes and Learning in Complex Systems #SCSNMasterclass: Learning Report and videos

On 5th September 2018 we hosted a *sold out* Masterclass on 'Measuring performance and outcomes in complex systems'. This was the second in our Masterclass series and was aimed at community safety partners, policy makers, performance and evaluation professionals and those working within community engagement and empowerment.

This seminar covered a different approach to performance management – one informed by the complexity of the systems in which we operate. We also heard from people and organisations that are putting these principles into practise, and participants had the opportunity to explore these ideas and provide opportunities to discuss how they could apply them to their own team, organisation and partnership.



On the day we had 33 participants. We had some great questions, really interesting conversations and positive feedback from participants; with the sense that this is only the beginning of the journey for this approach within the safer communities sector.

We heard from *Dr Toby Lowe, Newcastle University Business School* on how using "impact" or "outcomes" for performance management can create worse outcomes and increase costs and considered how we might improve performance in complex systems and 'performance manage' differently. *Elaine Wilson, Corra Foundation* and *Marie-Amelie Viatte, Inspiring Scotland's LinkUp team* shared how they are managing performance, funding and commissioning differently by using reflective practices (amongst other things). We also had some conversation space to talk about performance measures, qualitative vs quantitative evidence and where people are in these systems and frameworks.

Event Videos Published!!

As part of our commitment to using technology - we are delighted to bring to you some of our first Youtube video content in a long time - starting with presentations and VOX Pops from the Measuring Outcomes Event. You will soon be able to download all presentations here. For now, you can watch the first and second parts of Dr. Toby Lowe's presentation, as well as one VOX pop. More will follow very soon - keep your eye on our Twitter account!

You can also get these videos and download a copy of our learning report on the event [here](#).

Scottish Co-production Week 2018

Co-production Week Scotland is a chance to learn, discuss and celebrate how co-production puts people and communities at the heart of the support and services they're part of.

This year the Scottish Co-production Network want to make co-production all about the stories, big and small, that you can tell about co-production.

Stories are a key part of how we learn and sharing them with each other helps us make connections, as well as understanding the

opportunities and challenges we face together.

The Network has been developing 100 Stories of Co-production over recent months, building on a set of stories which show the relationships, ideas and, sometimes problems that can crop up.

For more information on Scottish Co-production Week and how you can get involved, visit their website [here](#).



Continued from front page....

There are two strands to the review:

Strand 1 - Community decision making

There is a growing recognition that it is often better for decisions about the issues that affect different communities in Scotland to be taken with more active involvement of those communities. The Scottish Government wants to make changes to the way decisions are made in communities.

Conversations, badged as 'Democracy Matters' have been happening since June and this first part of the process will finish up at the end of November 2018. There has been a [consultation document](#), postcards on which people can submit their ideas and an [online portal](#) for people to upload ideas and have a conversation about it. There are also materials to assist you to have these conversations within your own community.

Strand 2 - Public Service Governance

This concerns whether there are decisions currently taken nationally which would be better taken locally, and a recognition that outcomes for citizens and communities are best when decisions are taken at the right level of place. There are already some good examples of this, but the review team would like to hear how these approaches could be strengthened, whether there are new powers that are required for progress and how to hardwire better local governance arrangements into places.

A joint letter to public sector leaders was sent in June 2018 inviting them for ideas – this stage

runs from June to December, and initial ideas were to be submitted by September.

You can read the full letter [here](#).

This seminar will explore the two strands of the Local Governance Review, share some examples of early suggestions being put forward and provide opportunities to discuss how you can apply the principles to your own team, organisation and partnership. We also want to equip you with the tools to have these conversations on strand one with the communities that you work with.

Discussion at the seminar will inform a short briefing report that will be shared by the Scottish Community Safety Network and contribute to the Local Governance Review process.

How Participants will benefit:

Participants will gain an understanding of the Local Governance Review aims and process. Participants will have the space to explore how decisions on community safety could be taken with citizens and what national decisions could perhaps be taken more locally.

Participants will have time to consider and discuss what opportunities there are to explore the Local Governance Review with their own communities.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our #SCSNMasterclass on the Local Governance Review. Please email info@scsn.org.uk with any questions.

PB Festival - 24th-25th October

Taking place across the country, the PB Festival is two days of events, discussion and ideas around participatory budgeting in Scotland.

The Festival will be made up of [PB Scotland Network](#) members from across the country. PB Scotland are asking you to hold discussions, events, or just invite others to learn about your PB experience.

The Festival will be a chance to learn from what's been happening and hear from the people who have been planning, running and voting in PB processes across Scotland. So get involved and be part of [#PBFest18](#).

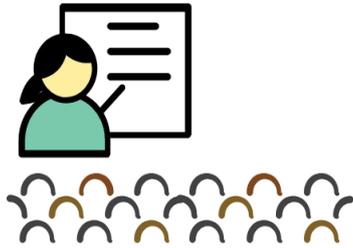
Find out more about the PB Festival [here](#).



Full SCSN Stakeholder Consultation Report

Your Network Your Views was our stakeholder consultation which we held earlier this year. It was more wide-ranging than anything we've done before and signals our commitment to openness and participation.

Respondent Profiles



76 respondents



From 29 Local Authority Areas



84% Public Sector (mostly Local Govt)

11 third sector orgs.

1 academic inst.



"I do believe that as community safety tries to find its way...a strong voice is needed to champion it within the sector and with other disciplines..."
Your Network Your Views participant



Most of our services rated as very good/excellent



80% rated our championing of community safety as excellent/very good/good



90% rated our newsletter as excellent/very good/good

Highlights

1. Positive views on past activity
2. Support for someone to be the voice of the sector
3. Confidence in new leadership, diverse Board and staff team

▶ Reflection on cluttered visions and outcomes required

▶ Expert advice valued but need for connections to wider networks

▶ Need to better understand changing landscape and what this means for the sector

"Everyone does training and events. Expert advice and guidance is a rare commodity."
Your Network Your Views participant

So what have we done?

1. Used it to inform the work we've been carrying out in the last 4 months and in planning future activity
2. Used it to shape our new Business Plan 2018-19
3. Will use it to inform the development of our 5 year strategic plan 2019-

OUR VISION

People we work with are supported to deliver their community safety outcomes and community safety is integrated across the policy landscape

We Will Do This By

1. Informing
2. Engaging
3. Championing
4. Influencing

We Will Work

1. Collaboratively
2. Approachably
3. Openly & transparently
4. Using technology
5. Without boundaries
6. Accountably

We Value People before process,
Innovation & Creativity, Equality & Integrity

Available on our website

This two page report is also available on our website alongside a PowerPoint presentation. You can access either of these [here](#).

SCSN continues to welcome feedback or suggestions on our work and services. If you would like to give us any feedback or suggestions, please email info@scsn.org.uk.

You Said, We Did

We have re-focused our vision, de-cluttered our layers of outcomes/objectives/aims and set out some clear values about who we are and how we work.

We are out and about building new relationships with other networks, partners and policy areas including the Human Trafficking Strategy Group, Cross-party Group on Women in the Justice System and Falls and Fragility coordinators. We are also doing some joint work with Community Justice Scotland and the Violence Against Women and Girls Network.

We are supporting learning by developing a series of Masterclasses including Participatory Budgeting, Local Governance Review and Measuring Performance in Complex Systems.

We have plans for a series of round tables on youth work, housing and place to explore the cross-policy areas of interest.

We are providing more networking opportunities through regional groups and the partnership analyst forum.

We are providing more local support by providing some project time from the National Development Officer and supporting practise exchanges between partnerships, supporting VAWG Network and CJS joint work and project support.

We are doing some work focusing on Remote and Rural partnerships and safety to better understand these places and how we can support them better. Linked to this we sit on the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and our move to new office space in May 2019 gives us desk space in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Inverness.

Delivering for Today, Investing for Tomorrow - Government Programme for 2018-19 published

On 4th September 2018 the 2018-19 Programme for Government (PfG) was published. **Delivering for Today, Investing for Tomorrow** is the 12th PfG for the SNP and sets out the actions the Government will take in the forthcoming year.

Feedback on the PfG from a number of sources has been that it is fine, but lacks ambition; and is 'prose rather than the poetry' of earlier programmes.

The PfG introduces 12 new Bills which, with 13 Bills from the last programme still complete, is quite a legislative undertaking.

There were some announcements on child poverty and social security such as the Carer's Allowance, Best Start Grant, investment in Parental Employment Support Programme and investment to tackle food insecurity and holiday hunger in children.

There were also announcements on continued investment in the Community Land Fund, commitment to a Good Food Nation programme of measures (potentially a Bill in the future), more mental health counsellors and support in schools and higher/further education facilities and more support for women's mental wellbeing during pregnancy.

In terms of Justice, there are commitments to enhance protections for victims and witnesses including:

- Support services to help families bereaved by murder
- Investment to deliver support for victims of rape and sexual assault
- Consultation on protective orders to bar domestic abusers for victims' homes

Plus the Female Genital Mutilation Bill and Consumer Protection Bill to establish a new statutory consumer protection body. There will also be an accreditation scheme for employers to tackle gender-based violence in their workforce.

At the SNP conference, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice announced that a new Victims Task Force would be established and in their consultation on Hate Crime they will ask a specific question on whether to make hate motivated by misogynistic harassment an offence, just as hate based on religion and race is.

Read more on the Scottish Government Programme [here](#).

Bills for introduction in 2018/19

Biometric Data Bill

Budget Bill

Census(Amendment) Bill

Consumer Protection Bill

Disclosure Bill

Electrical Franchise Bill

Electoral Reform Bill

Family Law Bill

Female Genital Mutilation Bill

Non-Domestic Rates Bill

Scottish National Investment Bank Bill

South of Scotland Enterprise Agency Bill

PB Charter for Scotland: invitation for contributions

At the National Participatory Budgeting (PB) Scotland Conference in November 2017, participants recommended developing a PB Charter for Scotland. As we move towards increasing numbers of people being involved in the small grants models for PB, and the introduction of the potentially more far-reaching mainstreaming models, we need to define what we mean by PB.

It's hoped a PB Charter will set out clear principles which can be used by strategic managers, those involved in planning PB and by people attending PB events or voting online to ensure that positive outcomes are achieved, and that good quality democratic participation is promoted in every community.

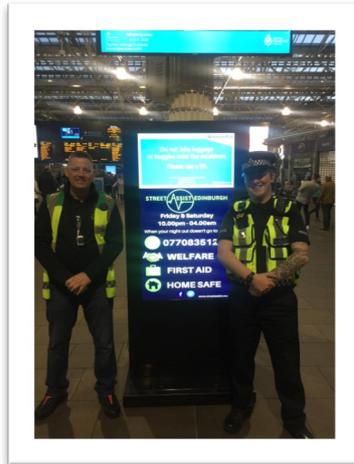
You can submit a contribution to the PB Charter, and find out more, [here](#).



PB Scotland

Guest Article: Neil Logan, Trustee at Street Assist Edinburgh

Collaborations and Partnerships are always talked about and encouraged within the Third Sector, the Christie Commission Report even went as far to say it should be encouraged across sectors especially where there was a social return in investment.



In reality, it is easier said than done! For a small charity with limited resources it can often be a challenge trying to engage with the relevant person in the multi layered management structures that exist within Government, Local Government, Public Services, Business and even larger charities.

I have had experienced good and bad Collaborations and Partnerships working across sectors over the years, some take a lot of time and effort to develop and some happen by the stars aligning and being in the right place at the right time.

Street Assist Edinburgh being a small charity with limited resources means that we often can't afford the conference attendance fees in order to Network with the right people and because of that we are quite strategic in inviting people to come along and visit our project which isn't always appealing as we operate from 10pm to 4am every Friday and Saturday, so it takes a hardy soul to agree to visit.

When I saw Lorraine Gillies appointment as Chief Officer of the Scottish Community Safety Network I knew this was someone I wanted to engage with given our work within Community Safety and Unintentional Harm. A couple of introductory tweets, an email and a phone call later Lorraine turned up at our Street Assist base wrapped up warm for the cold night ahead to see for herself what we do and to chat to our many volunteers.

It gave me an opportunity to inform Lorraine of the many challenges we face in terms of funding and support and how small offers of

support can go a very long way when your funding amounts to only £20,000 for the year.

Lorraine left Street Assist that night probably colder than she was when she arrived but enthused enough to say she would spread the word about Street Assist across her Networks.

Just a few short weeks later I received an email from Lorraine copying in Mark Henderson, Senior Community Engagement Manager from Network making an introduction suggesting that we meet to see what scope there would be in terms of potential support.

Meeting Mark has already proved that speaking to the right person can open up so many new avenues of Collaboration and Partnerships. Issues surrounding where we parked our vehicles meant our fuel costs were quite significant, through Mark we now have access to the Network Rail Depot at The Gyle, which has significantly reduced our fuel bill. If you ever find yourself in Edinburgh's 2 railway stations between 4pm and closing time on a Friday or Saturday night you will see information about Street Assist on the digital display boards, again something we could only have dreamt about prior to meeting with Mark. In normal circumstances Mark wouldn't have been someone I'd have bumped into at a conference or networking event but through his collaborations with Lorraine it has been a door opened fully and the opportunities have reduced costs and increase awareness.

From the digital display board information I then received an email from British Transport Police who wanted to meet to discuss the wider benefits of collaboration with Street Assist. We now take calls directly from Transport Police to help individuals who become vulnerable in and around the 2 railway stations in Edinburgh and very much part of their social media campaigns surrounding responsible drinking and safety on the rail network, again this would have taken some time for me to do organise had it not been for Lorraine taking the time to visit Street Assist.

So, Collaborative and Partnership work is key to the charity network, in-kind support can make a huge difference, especially to small charities like Street Assist.

In other news...

news

Draft Drug and Alcohol Strategy published

The Scottish Government recently published its new draft drug and alcohol strategy document, *'All together now: Our strategy to address the harms of alcohol and drugs in Scotland.'* The draft strategy has been out for consultation and responses will now be considered before a final strategy is published.

The Government has committed that there will be a £17 million per annum investment in drug and alcohol treatment and support services. The new drugs strategy, an 'overhaul' of Scotland's nine year old [Road to Recovery](#), is announced as drug issues move from Government departments for Justice to Health and will be guided by a principle of "ensuring the best health outcomes for people who are, or have been, drug users".

Within the new strategy is a particular focus on young people and addressing ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) which increase the risk of drug and alcohol problems in later life, with the strategy also taking a human rights based and public health approach to drug problems.

You can download a copy of the draft strategy [here](#).

NHS Health Scotland: Place Standard Survey

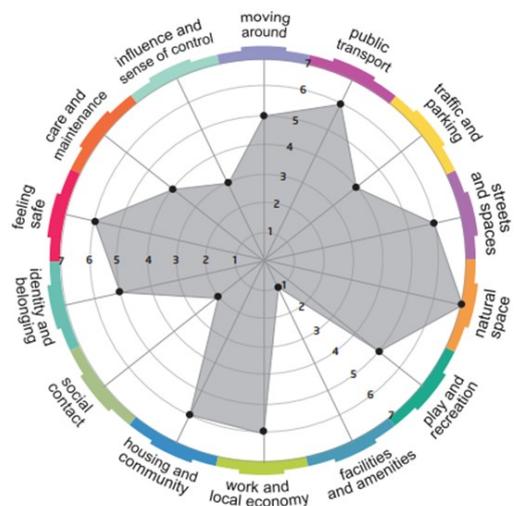
The Place Standard is delivered by [NHS Health Scotland](#), a national NHS Board, together with Architecture and Design Scotland and Scottish Government. The Place Standard tool helps communities, public agencies, voluntary groups and others to work together to design places and spaces that improve health and reduce health inequalities by providing a simple framework to structure conversations about place.

Having been widely used across Scotland and Europe over the last over two years, it's now time to find out what is working well and whether there are any areas that can be improved. The Place Standard Team are undertaking an improvement programme to help us to improve the user experience and increase user access and application.

They want to hear from organisations, groups and individuals who have used the Place Standard, and also want to hear from people who haven't used the tool. There are two ways you can provide feedback, (i) complete this questionnaire, or (ii) arrange to talk to the [Place Standard Team](#). It will take approximately 30-45 minutes.

You may find it useful to have a copy of the Place Standard when completing the questionnaire. This is available to download [here](#).

Take part in the survey [here](#).



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

Building Safer Communities Programme: Unintentional Harm Online Hub Engagement Event



central Edinburgh on Tuesday 23rd October to seek the views and thoughts of partners to ensure that it is developed in a relevant and useful way. We are keen to have representatives there from each local authority area in Scotland to hear what would make the hub useful and engaging to them.

As part of the Building Safer Communities unintentional harm work-stream, a national web-based tool is being developed to gather and share existing practice across Scotland that supports the reduction of unintentional harm and injury. **An event is being held in**

Specific details, including venue, will be confirmed in the coming days. If this is something that you are interested in coming along to, please contact Hollie Gibson (hollie.gibson@gov.scot).

SCSN Communications 6 monthly report highlights

improving performance and engagement!!

Aside from having reached a long term aim of our current and previous Marketing and Communications Action Plans recently through the purchase of video editing software and the publication of some new Youtube videos (SCSN Masterclass Presentations), our 6 monthly communications report showed some fantastic increased engagement stats that evidence and demonstrate the fact that SCSN has dramatically increased it's output and engagement over the last 6 months or more.



Website sessions up 24%
27% increase in website users
13% increase in page views



8.5% increase in followers
66% increase in Reach
62% increase in Engagement



3.5% increase in Page Likes
Continued regular posts and interaction



Moved to electronic only
Increases in Open Rates and Click Rates

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



info@scsn.org.uk



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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 next newsletter is 8 November.



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