



BSCP Focus on Children and Young People

Each month **Safety NETworks** has been covering different aspects of the Building Safer Communities Programme. The findings of the National Strategic Assessment for Unintentional Harm have now been launched and are available online (<http://www.bsc.scot/publications.html>). The strategic assessment provides extensive research data to support Phase 2 "reducing unintentional physical and psychological harm that could have been predicted and prevented".



In addition to this, six thematic papers have also been produced covering Children and Young People, Older People, Deprivation, Home Safety, Road Safety and Outdoor Safety. These papers are designed for practitioners with an interest in particular aspects of unintentional harm and aim to provide some key facts about each issue to support practitioners to tackle unintentional harm locally, using the further reading/support links and case studies. In this edition we will summarise some of the key points from the Children and Young People briefing paper.

KEY FACTS

Children and young people, particularly the under-fives in Scotland, are disproportionately affected by unintentional harm. Home safety is particularly important in this life stage with between 70% and 85% of all unintentional harm

to under-fives occurring in the home. There is also a strong correlation between injury risk and social deprivation.

The child death rate from unintentional injuries in Scotland is 30% higher than in England and Wales, with around 8% of deaths in those under the age of 15 being the result of unintentional harm. In addition, a large number of children and young people each year are affected by non-fatal injury. Every year in Scotland, one child in five attends A&E departments following an unintentional injury. Research identified that 60% of children had at least one accident or injury during their first 5 years, for which their parent had consulted a medical specialist (doctor, dentist, health centre or hospital). Most injuries to pre-school children occur at home (e.g. falls, burns and scalds, choking and asphyxiation), while school age children are injured on the roads or at play.

A high proportion of children and young people either think they already know all they need to know to stay safe or reject the whole idea that accidents can be prevented, and a significant percentage of respondents to the survey admitted engaging in behaviours that they knew could result in a serious injury.

KEY ACTIONS

The report recommends that the main areas of focus should be on parenting and a safe home environment and safe play, highlighting evidence that having a strategy to prevent unintentional harm can deliver greater improvements in unintentional harm than the absence of such a strategy.

For more examples of proposed actions go to **page 9**

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National Operational Group (NOG) - 13 July 2017

The next NOG will be held on Thursday 13 July in Edinburgh. The NOG is the Community Safety Officers forum providing an opportunity to discuss current issues and themes relevant to the sector. Suggested topics include: Community Justice, Missing People, and Unintentional Harm.

If you have any suggestions and or wish to attend please email info@scsn.org.uk.

AGM and Practitioners event—24 August 2017

Due to staffing issues, our AGM will now be held on Thursday 24 August 2017 in Edinburgh. It is our intention to include the AGM as part of a Practitioners event at which key speakers will present on a variety of topics relevant to the sector.

NEW: Evidencing Impact training 5 September, Perth

Following the launch late last year of the Evidencing Impact Toolkit, a new training course has been designed to support its implementation. The 1 day course will be held in Perth on Tuesday 5 September 2017. Booking is now open. Book your place by visiting our website at

<http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/booking-form-evidencing-impact-sept/>



Question of the Month

Last month, we asked if you thought that increased use of Community Payback Orders rather than custodial sentencing would reduce crime. We had a record 122 responses so thanks to all those who took part! Results are in the box on the right ->



A national strategy is essential to really make an impact in reducing unintentional harm?

Yes

No

Not sure

Our Question of the Month for June relates to the new Building Safer Communities Programme Phase 2 . You can take part in the poll by visiting our website at:

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/2017/06/12/question-of-the-month-june-2017/

60 seconds with...Dawn Exley SCSN Business Support Officer



SCSN is pleased to welcome Dawn Exley to the team. Dawn joined the team on the 16 May 2017 as Business Support Officer. She will be working three days a week Tuesday—Thursday. We thought we would take this opportunity to introduce her to you our network;



post for six and a half years. It was challenging in that I was run off my feet most days, given that I had an enormous breadth of responsibilities, with it being such a small organisation. It was also challenging, working for an organisation at the forefront of supporting a community facing poverty and disadvantage and witnessing the impact of that. It was immensely rewarding however, to work alongside such dedicated and professional colleagues and to see the huge difference they made to the lives of young people as well as learning what an important and vital service community-based youth work is, especially for those children and young people who are facing difficulties.

What attracted you to work in the Community Safety Sector?

I was attracted to work in the community safety sector primarily because of my previous experience in the youth work sector and my subsequent understanding of the importance of championing socially cohesive, safe, resilient and tolerant communities. I liked that the community safety sector has many organisations working together in partnership from all sectors to achieve a common goal.

Partnership working is central to our work and you will be working closely with our members and partners. How important do you think partnership working is?

I think partnership work is really important as it encourages people and organisations to look outwards, be inclusive and learn from each other. I also think working in partnership maximises the impact an organisation can make through networking and exposure to diversity. I would imagine that sharing information and ideas and discussing issues together can only help to drive a sector forward.

Of your previous roles what one did you find most challenging and rewarding?

It has to be my last role as Office Manager within the Citadel Youth Centre, where I was in

I understand you had time out traveling- of the countries you visited which one would you want to go back to and why?

I would like to go back to Vietnam, as I was ill the entire time I was there and so missed a lot! I never got to properly sample the cuisine and there were really important parts I wanted to see, like the War Museum. I'd also like to go back because I never tired of the beauty of the place, their fantastic sense of style and the warmth and humour of the local people. Next time however, I would happily forego the arduous bus journeys!

If you could be a cartoon character – what would you be and why?

As a cat lover, it would have to be Puss in Boots! I'd love to be that suave, agile and witty whilst also being totally adorable – and a velvety Spanish accent would be pretty cool too!



Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Week 2017

16- 26 June

One person drowns every 20 hours in the UK and hundreds more suffer life changing injuries through near drowning.



By spreading water safety advice far and wide, Drowning Prevention Week aims to teach people how to stay safe near water.

The campaign encourages schools, clubs, leisure centres and communities to promote water safety through events, lessons, games and activities in a bid to make people more aware of the dangers of water.

Visit the RLSS website to get involved by:

- Registering your leisure centre or swim school for drowning prevention week
- Registering a Youth Group for Drowning Prevention Week
- Adopting a school
- Downloading a fundraising pack or purchase water safety leaflets and posters.

If you require further information about Drowning Prevention week, please email dpw@rlss.org.uk

Or visit www.rlss.org.uk/water-safety/drowning-prevention-week/

Featured Case Study:

Fife Water Safety Initiative

Winner of the 2016 People's Choice Award



Following the deaths of two young males at a known swimming spot in an abandoned quarry there was a great deal of public pressure to tackle the issue.

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) used their expertise in youth education, formulating a partnership with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, the local authority and education services to develop a project that educated young people about the dangers of open water drowning, cold water shock and the harsh realities associated with the limitations of performing rescues and the emotional impact following a death from drowning.

You can download the case study at:

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/safer-communities-awards-2016-case-studies/

Offences to combat underage drinking in public come into force



As of May 16 it is an offence to give or make alcohol available to a child or young person for consumption in a public place.

The provision is part of the alcohol licensing section of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 and is in place to help Police Scotland better tackle outdoor drinking dens.

Other measures now in force include:

- A 'fit and proper person test' will now form

part of the alcohol licensing regime

- Licensing boards will be required to produce an annual income and expenditure report on their alcohol licensing activities to increase their accountability and transparency.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said: "While many young people will not undertake underage drinking, we know that groups of young people drinking outside can be an intimidating sight to members of the public and are often linked with a number of public order offences.

Furthermore, underage drinking can cause short and long term harm to health, as well as put young people in dangerous situations when drunk.'



The programme is now being finalised and includes a fabulous range of topics, speakers and international representation. The latest version of the programme along with a first draft of the accompanying book of abstracts can be viewed at:

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/media/draft%20programme%20v3.1.pdf>

Registration is open until the **5 June** – so please do share this information far and wide with colleagues who may be interested in attending.

Welcome message from Principal Nigel Seaton

Organised in collaboration with our partners, the Scottish Institute for Policing Research, Police Scotland and the Centre for the Study of Missing Persons at Portsmouth University, the conference provides an opportunity for the sharing of knowledge and expertise in this extremely important and complex field.

Scotland's first missing persons framework launched

Cooperation key to helping 30,000 people that go missing every year

The National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland, launched at a conference on 'Returned Missing People', brings together Police Scotland, local authorities and the third sector to deal consistently and appropriately with incidents of people going missing, and will:

- introduce preventative measures to reduce the number of episodes of people going missing
- provide the best possible support to missing

The challenges faced by those who have gone missing, their friends and family, and those charged with responding to the disappearance of a person, are varied and diverse.

By coming together to exchange best practice models we can ensure those working on the frontline of missing persons' cases are fully equipped with the most relevant and up-to-date tools.

CONTACT

If you have any questions or comments regarding the call for papers, or about the conference contact:

Chair: [Dr Penny Woolnough](#)
 Co-chair: [Dr Karen Shalev-Greene](#)

To register your interest, send an email to missing@abertay.ac.uk

people and their families

- protect vulnerable people to reduce the risk of harm.

Barnardo's Scotland Director, Martin Crewe said: "Runaway and missing children and young people put themselves at considerable risk and are a prime target for sexual predators. They are also much more likely to suffer physical abuse, become a victim of crime or get involved with drink or drug abuse. We therefore, very much welcome the introduction of the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.

You can view the framework at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/05/1901>

Violent crime moving into homes



Papers obtained by the BBC via the Freedom of Information Act show that more violence is happening behind closed doors in people's homes. They also show that police believe that certain types of violence may be down to new psychoactive drugs and increases in alcohol consumption; and that there could be a "perception" that Police Scotland is doing less "intervention work".

The papers were obtained from the Police's own Violence Reduction Board, a new body set up a year ago, which highlights a shift in violence away from city centres and public areas. The papers say : "Since 2009/10 we've seen a big swing in the balance from public space to private space, meaning the increasing number of violent crimes in private space is now becoming a concern (increased from 34% in 2009/10 to 43% in quarter one of 2015/16)." Police Scotland said violent crime was down over the past five years and crime overall was at a 40-year low.

However, concerns have been raised about why recent increases in some crimes have taken place. The VRB papers questioned whether it could be related to the police significantly reducing their use of stop-search tactics but found "no conclusive correlation".

The papers also revealed that senior officers were concerned that there were a number of potential reasons to "explain the increases" including:

- the "re-definition and classification of crimes"
- "new psychoactive substances causing violent behaviour"
- an increase in "people consuming alcohol in private spaces"

- and the "perception that intervention work is decreasing"

The documents also said that the police's own draft Violence Strategic Assessment "shows analysis indicating there is an increase in the use of weapons in violent crimes in West Central Scotland". Figures for the past nine months indicate a 4.4% increase in handling bladed weapons.

Will Linden, acting director of the Violence Reduction Unit Scotland, said Scotland had seen a massive reduction in violent crime committed by young people over the past decade by concentrating on tackling knife crime.

Mr Linden said an increase in violence levels had been identified among those aged 21 to 30 and that was the age group that now needed to be targeted. He said: "We won't address violence solely by policing because if the violence is now not happening on our streets but happening in our houses then policing isn't going to help that."

The VRU director cited tackling alcohol as key, saying, "The relationship between violence and alcohol has long been toxic for Scotland. Over the past few years we have been lucky to see decreases in the level of alcohol consumption which is correlated to decreases in the level of alcohol-related violence. However, in the past two years we have seen a reversal of that trend."

VRU backs new approach to cutting alcohol related crime

The VRU has also recently given it's backing to Minimum Unit Pricing and called for tougher licensing laws to help tackle violent crime. They said that police should be given a bigger role in licensing decisions and that those who commit acts of violence under the influence of alcohol should have their right to drink taken away.

The VRU is calling for an evidence based approach to licensing, with consideration of the impact licenses will have on a community or local area, looking at levels of crime, deprivation and health.

Community Justice Scotland Events

Community Justice Scotland are hosting a number of events across Scotland during May and June in a number of different venues. If you want to engage in a conversation about what we want justice to look like in Scotland, come and join us. Think about:

- What do we think is happening?
- Where are our challenges?
- What can we change?
- What is **your** responsibility?

We have some of the best thinkers in this area in the UK. Let them tickle your brain, provoke debate and light a fire in you about what we could do for our communities if we set our minds to it. Come join our movement for smart justice that solves problems and improves lives – and stop repeating the mistakes of the past.

Each event will be different and we will be hosting different speakers, please keep checking back to our website for more information on the guest speakers.



[21 June – Aberdeen](#)

[29 June – Glasgow](#)

[30 June – Edinburgh](#)

For more information on these events, call Community Justice Scotland on 0131 244 8245 .

Visit www.communityjustice.scot for more information on the work of Community Justice Scotland.

Offenders need positive role models

After spending almost two decades in and out of prison for drugs and violence offences, Eddie has turned his life around and now works as a mentor to young offenders.

"I was involved in crime from a young age and I got involved in more violence as I got older.

Because of the lifestyle I was living, I ended up spending 18 and a half years behind bars. Looking back it was really dark times in my life but I never realised the impact my behaviour was having on society as a whole."

On his release he got support and kicked the drugs that had been a feature of his life for 20 years. Eddie is now involved with social enterprise Braveheart Industries (BHI), which operates an airstream-style food truck providing training, mentoring and support for

offenders. It is supported by Police Scotland's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

Eddie mentors 10 men and women, providing a "positive role model" in the same way as the group that helped him on his release.

"They listen to what I'm telling them because it comes from someone who has had the same experiences as them," he says.

"We try to build their self-esteem and their confidence, give them a bit of routine and discipline and try to create some awareness in them about how their behaviour is impacting on society."

Read more on this story at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-39791682>

eLearning with SCSN: Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Analysis

In a time of budget cuts, efficient use of resources is increasingly important. Why not try out this free eLearning Course? Click on the link below.

<http://elearning.scsn.org.uk/login/index.php>



Child Safety Week, June 5-11

Child Safety Week is the flagship annual campaign run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust. They are the UK's leading charity committed to reducing the number of children and young people killed, disabled or seriously injured in preventable accidents.

The aim is to secure a safer environment for children of all ages, so they can live life to the full while protected from serious injury or death. Child Safety Week brings together individuals and organisations around the UK to promote safety messages to families in a fun and engaging way.



An opportunity for partnership working

Child Safety Week is a great opportunity to establish or continue partnership working. It also offers a way of sharing budgets and resources, and reaching more parents, carers and children. There are many different professionals and organisations with an interest in child accident prevention. We have listed some of them here, along with ideas of how to contact them or how they might get involved in Child Safety Week activities either now or in the future.

Local Councils - including road safety officers, child death overview panels, Trading Standards, libraries and information centres

Public Health - GP surgeries, hospitals, ambulance staff and paramedics

Fire and Community Police Services - Fire and Rescue Services, Neighbourhood police and community support officers

Children's Services - including children's centres, childminders, nurseries and playgroups

Other groups and agencies - e.g. Brownies and Scouts, interactive safety centres or 'lifeskill centres', housing associations, community centres, neighbourhood and tenants organisations, faith groups and charities

Local businesses - Child Safety Week is also a great opportunity for local businesses to raise their profile in the community. – and they may be willing to sponsor activities

Accidents are a leading cause of death, serious injury and acquired disability for children and young people in the UK. They account for three deaths every week and over 2,000 hospital admissions. Many of these accidents can be prevented. By their nature accidents often happen when they are least expected. Child Safety Week aims to help families understand the risks, as well as the consequences – but most importantly, the simple ways that accidents can be prevented.

Empowering families to change

CAPT have produced a wide range of useful resources aimed at improving child safety for parents and professionals. Among them is a resource on empowering families to change.

Parents can feel overwhelmed by the ever-mounting pressure of demands for their time and attention. Motivating parents to make changes to improve child safety and empowering them to sustain those changes can be challenging for practitioners working with families.

The resource provides some excellent practical tips for parents on how they can make small changes to improve their child's safety.

You can download this resources and others on a range of specific safety areas, as well as some useful activity sheets by visiting the CAPT Child Safety Week website at:

<http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk/>

Actions to reducing unintentional harm—Children and young people



The European Child Safety Alliance report cards published in 2012 assessed Scotland as performing well on particular

aspects of child and adolescent safety (particularly road safety issues) and poorly on others (home safety including falls, poisonings, burns and scalds, choking/strangulation and drowning are mentioned specifically); though it recognises that progress of child injury prevention may be limited due to current levels of legislative powers.

The Children and Young People's briefing paper recommends a number of local and national actions to reduce unintentional harm. Here we highlight some of proposed legislative changes.

- ⇒ Enhancing pedestrian safety by introducing laws placing the burden of proof on the vehicle driver in crashes involving a child pedestrian and supporting efforts to modify European vehicle design standards to reduce risk of injury to children (e.g. pedestrian friendly bumper heights)
- ⇒ Enhancing passenger/driver safety by introducing national laws requiring that children remain seated rear facing in cars until age 4 years and that children and adolescents be seated in the back seat of a motorised vehicle until 13 years of age and by introducing graduated
- licensing for newly licensed drivers
- ⇒ Enhancing cycling safety by the introduction of a law requiring bicycle helmet use while cycling for all ages
- ⇒ Increasing drowning prevention efforts by the introduction of laws requiring fencing around public and private pools and the use of personal floatation devices/life jackets while on the water and a policy making water safety education (including swimming lessons) a compulsory part of the school curriculum
- ⇒ Enhancing fall prevention by increasing enforcement of the national safety standard for playground equipment and banning the marketing and sale of baby walkers
- ⇒ Enhancing poisoning prevention by continuing to support the educational efforts of poison control centres. Other research has indicated the importance of continuing to work with manufacturers regarding childproof containers for medicinal and household items.
- ⇒ Enhancing burn prevention by expanding current national law requiring a scald preventing maximum temperature (not higher than 50°C) for tap water in new and refurbished dwellings to all domestic settings
- ⇒ Enhancing choking/ strangulation prevention by introducing/enhancing standards and regulations governing product safety for children such as a ban or redesign of specific products such as latex balloons and blind cords

Free Locking Cooker Valve for vulnerable people



SGN are offering free locking cooker valves to vulnerable people, such as someone with Alzheimer's or autism, to help them stay safe in their homes. If you are a carer or health service provider you can refer a vulnerable person and following referral, an SGN engineer will arrange a home visit to fit the device. A carer or relative will need to be present at the visit to agree the valve's position.

When the valve is locked, the cooker can't be unintentionally turned on or left on when the carer or relative is out of the room.

Find out more about the scheme by emailing locking.valve@sgn.co.uk

You can also call SGN on 0800 975 1818 or visit the SGN website www.sgn.co.uk.

In other news...

A graphic consisting of four white rectangular cards with blue pushpins at the top, arranged to spell out the word 'news' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Here we take a quick look at general news, activities and events taking place in the community safety sector throughout Scotland.

Barriers to Community Engagement in Planning study published

Scottish Government has published a [research study](#) following four workshops and an online survey looking at the barriers to community engagement in the Scottish planning system, which was conducted in December 2016. The survey sought views on how community involvement in the planning process can be encouraged, diversified, and strengthened.

You can download the study at:

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/barriers-to-community-engagement-in-planning-research/>

National Standards for Community Engagement now available in Accessible formats

The Glasgow Disability Alliance has produced new Accessible versions of the National Standards for Community Engagement in Easy Read and Audio formats.

You can access these at <http://www.voicescotland.org.uk/accessible-formats/>

Cyber Resilience Action Plan for Scotland to be accelerated

An action plan to help the public sector defend against cyber-attacks, including preventative guidelines for all organisations, is being accelerated following an urgently convened key cyber-resilience meeting.

The National Cyber Resilience Leaders' Board was chaired by Justice Secretary Michael Matheson. Mr Matheson discussed the impact of the global cyber attack on Scotland, the

multi-agency response and the steps that can be taken to boost cyber resilience across all sectors.

He also committed to take forward the public sector action plan, which includes:

- Developing a set of guidelines and standards for all Scottish public sector bodies to achieve by 2018
- Support for all 121 public sector organisations to achieve accreditation to the Cyber Essentials standard as a minimum requirement
- Production of a public awareness strategy for public sector organisations.

Glasgow Homelessness Network: Engaging people in the Participatory Budgeting process

In this blog featured on the PB Scotland website, David Ramsay, Development Worker, Glasgow Homelessness Network, goes into detail about his work getting people involved in the [Glasgow community budgeting](#) events which took place last year.

Read the blog here: <https://pbscotland.scot/blog/2017/5/2/glasgow-homelessness-network-engaging-people-in-the-pb-process>

Visit the PB Scotland website for the latest Participatory Budgeting Updates: www.pbscotland.scot

The SCSN website has a wide range of useful information and services which are free to access, including case studies, briefing papers, policy and strategy documents, free eLearning courses, toolkits and guidance documents on a variety of topics and much more besides.

Visit our website at www.safercommunitiesscotland.org

Visit our eLearning website at www.safercommunitiesscotland.org/training/elearning

SCSN Out and About:

Falls Awareness and Prevention Event, Glasgow

By David Barbour, Communications Officer

A rare trip out from behind my desk at Thistle Street took me to this highly informative and thought provoking event run by the Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership and GCVS.



Presentations were delivered by a wide range of organisations and experts including the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Falls Prevention Service, Glasgow Life and Dawn Skelton, Professor of Ageing and Health at Glasgow Caledonian University.

Notable discussion and points of interest included:

- Falls are everybody's business and there is a need to raise awareness, e.g. education on bone health particularly in later life, and for post menopausal women
- Prevention of falls is best achieved by identifying risk factors early on
- Difficulty in measuring impact of interventions due to lack of complete information (NHS does not record falls as a diagnosis)
- Exercise is the most effective intervention to avoid or reduce incidence of falls
- 5 -10% of falls result in a fracture and long hospital stays can exacerbate risk factors for falls through loss in muscle mass and overall functional decline
- Partnership working highlighted as being important as cuts to services bite. Individuals can also try to self-manage, or concerned relatives and friends should be aware of signs and seek information on how to help

You can find lots of useful information on falls prevention on the Age UK website at:

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/professional-resources-home/services-and-practice/health-and-wellbeing/falls-prevention-resources/>

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The closing date for the July newsletter is 4 July.



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