



Latest Unintentional Injury Data Published

The UI publication was released today. All the reports, summary findings and a link to the dashboard can be found [here](#). It reports on emergency hospital admissions and deaths as a result of unintentional injury.

Headlines:

- In 2018/19, there were just over 60,000 (60,347) emergency admissions for unintentional injuries. This represents 1 in 10 of all emergency admissions in Scotland. The proportion of all emergency admissions that UI accounts for has not changed much over time, but the number of admissions has been increasing in the last few years: 58,533 2017/18, 58,876 in 2016/17, 56,283 in 2015/16.
- There were 53,142 emergency admissions to hospital for adults in the financial year ending 31 March 2019.
- There was an increase of 7.4% in the number of deaths in Scotland of adults as a result of unintentional injury in 2018 (2,498) compared to 2017 (2,325) – much of this increase is likely due to an increase in drug-related deaths - and an increase of 3.5% in the number of emergency hospital admissions in 2018/19 (53,142) compared to 2017/18 (51,326).
- Deaths, by unintentional injury, in children aged under 15 are at their lowest in 10 years with only 6 deaths in 2018. This corresponds with a decreasing trend in emergency admission rates for both males and females in this age group over the same time period.
- Falls were by far the most common cause of emergency admissions for unintentional injuries in children, for both males and females, accounting for almost half (46%) of the 7,205 emergency admissions in 2018/19.

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Event to develop a Framework for Injury Prevention in Scotland



The Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) are co-hosting an event to develop a framework for injury prevention in Scotland.

The aims of the day are:

- In support of the BSC Action Plan, develop a national framework for a population approach to injury prevention, considering supporting data and evidence.
- Consider a whole system collaboration approach to implementation of the framework.

You can register for the event via our website [here](#).

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Hate Crime & Equalities Event: 21 April

Join us in Dundee on Tuesday 21st April 2020 to increase your awareness of the impact of hate crime, discuss partnership responses to hate crime including supporting victims and consider approaches to prevent hate crime.

Hosted and sponsored by the Scottish Community Safety Network and Dundee Community Safety Partnership

Venue: The Steeple, Nethergate, Dundee DD1 4DG

Time: 10am – 3.45pm (registration from 9.30am)

Date: 21st April 2020

Cost: FREE but we are expecting a lot of interest in this event. **We will therefore be operating a process of registration and then will be in touch if you've secured a place. Register your interest by emailing info@scsn.org.uk.**

Find out more about the event on our website [here](#).



We're on the move....again!

It's only a year since we moved offices, but due to circumstances outwith our control, we've had to arrange another move. We're staying with SCVO, but we're moving from Hayweight House to the Mansfield Traquair Centre, 15 Mansfield Pl, Edinburgh EH3 6BB.

We'll provide more updates on our moving date as we have them.

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for February was based on our Anti-Social Behaviour theme and came from Fiona Alder, Chair of the Anti-Social Behaviour Officers Forum. The newsletter accompanied our #LetsTalkASB event on 3rd February, which you can view on our Youtube channel [here](#) and [here](#).

Fiona asked:

'Do you think the current ASB legislation is fit for purpose to enable you to tackle ASB in your communities?'

- Nobody said Yes
- 90% said No
- 10% said Not Sure

Question of the Month

April 2020

This month's Question of the Month relates to the SFRS Older People Month of Action. We're asking:

'Will you be organising a Home Fire Safety visit for an older person you know?'

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

A day out at The Gathering (SCVO)



We were delighted to attend SCVO's The Gathering last month to hear the latest about what is going on in the third sector and how this might relate to the wider community safety landscape. The Gathering is Scotland's largest free event for charities, social enterprises and voluntary organisations and is a fantastic opportunity for all working in the third sector to network, showcase what they do and learn from each other. We joined 3,000 visitors from across Scotland to explore The Gathering's bustling marketplace, workshops and seminars.

On the day we attended various seminars – of particular interest was an inspiring conversation hosted by Scottish Federation of Housing Associations around social housing with a social purpose called 'Much more than bricks and mortar'. We heard about the fantastic community development work taking place at [Cassiltoun Housing Association](#) including training, benefits and debt advice, apprenticeships and many community events as well as the innovative Castlemilk Park project bringing the housing association tenants and the wider community together to keep their local park a safe and pleasant place to be.

We heard about SCVO's new '[Manifesto for the Future](#)' as it was launched. This document, produced by the SCVO Policy Forum, outlines a number of future-focused recommendations which aim to address some of the most profound social, economic, political and environmental changes in living memory – it is a 2030 blueprint for Scotland's future. Within discussions on citizenship, they made particular note that 'improved focus [should be] on the community planning process instead of budgetary issues taking precedence' in future as well as encouraging 'stress-testing' on all policies and procedures with regards to the Human Rights Approach. They have also started 'The Manifesto for the Future's Best Practice Bank' which highlights activity that is making a significant difference in Scotland and has the potential to be replicated on a wider basis.

We also went to a session on the value of reflective practice in housing. This resonated with our own thoughts on how to become learning organisations and the role that reflective practice plays in supporting healthy systems and therefore better outcomes.

We attended a session on measuring the third sector's contribution to health inequalities where they shared a new evaluation tool coproduced by third sector organisations with support from Evaluation Support Scotland.

Our Comms Officer attended a session run by Media Co-op on participatory video and co-production where Media Coop showed off two projects they'd worked on, one with primary school pupils and the other on human rights - working with people to create community-led video content to get important messages across, whilst also teaching participants useful new skills!

At the marketplace we connected and learned more about many organisations. Some community safety areas of interest/people/orgs to check out are: [Age Scotland's](#) innovative work around unintentional harm in their '[Carers Guide to Early Dementia](#)'; the work of [Ready Scotland](#); and [Scottish Rural Health Partnership](#) and organisations helping to promote community cohesion and lessen isolation such as [Neighbourhood Networks](#), [Men's Sheds Association](#), [Police Scotland Youth Volunteers](#). You can also hear about plans for the [National Planning Framework 4](#) here as well as funding for community groups.



Social Capital in Scotland - Report

A joint report on measuring Scotland's social capital has been published by the Scottish Government, Social Research and the Scottish Household Survey. The report examines how we measure and understand Scotland's social connections.



In this report, 'social capital' refers to the social connections that contribute to people's quality of life, health, safety, economy and wellbeing in the neighbourhoods where they live. These social connections are a source of support throughout people's lives, for instance, in education, workplaces, retirement and leisure.

Using a range of data and stories from people and places, this report examines neighbourhood and social relationships in more detail. This provides a deeper insight into the nature of communities in Scotland and what can be done to make them stronger and more inclusive.

This report looks at four inter-related aspects of social capital:

- **Social networks** – The quality of friendships, relationships, and contacts; the help that

people provide and receive from neighbours; and how connected and supported people perceive themselves to be.

- **Community cohesion** – The features of neighbourhoods and communities including safety, trust and kindness; the places and spaces for people to meet; and to meet people from different backgrounds.
- **Social participation** – The time given up to support local clubs, groups, organisations, or improve the local environment.
- **Community empowerment** – The control that people have, and feel they have, over their circumstances; their influence on local decision-making; and their actions to improve the local community.

How strong is social capital in Scotland, and how is it changing over time?

The most recent findings in the Scottish Household Survey (Fig 1) provide evidence of strong community connections, including supportive relationships with neighbours, positive ratings of neighbourhoods and high levels of volunteering.

The findings also show evidence that is of more concern. Twenty one percent of people said they experience loneliness regularly; and only twenty percent said they feel they have influence over local decisions. This means 4 out of 5 people feel a lack of influence over what happens in their community.

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

Life Expectancy stalling; declining for poorest women - Marmot: 10 years on

Ten years since the publication of [The Marmot Review](#), for the first time in more than 100 years life expectancy has failed to increase across the country, and for the poorest 10% of women it has actually declined. Over the last decade health inequalities have widened overall, and the amount of time people spend in poor health has increased since 2010.

Releasing the findings of an update on the Marmot Review, published the Institute of Health Equity, Sir Michael Marmot said on Twitter, 'Evidence from around the world shows health is a good measure of social and economic progress: if society is flourishing, health tends to flourish; health stops improving, society has stopped improving'.

You can view the Marmot Review 10 Years On report [here](#).

Rough sleeping 5 times higher than official figure

More than 28,000 people in the UK were recorded sleeping rough in 12 months, research by the BBC has suggested, with homelessness having more than doubled over the past decade in England.



In England five times as many rough sleepers were seen by councils in the year than reported in official figures, which are a one-night snapshot.

Labour's shadow housing secretary John Healey has called for an investigation into the government's published statistics, calling them "misleading". The government said it was providing £437m this year to tackle homelessness.

It said it believed the official snapshot was a "good estimate" of rough sleeping "on a given night."

Data [for 2018 showed 4,677](#) people slept rough in England on the one night the snapshot survey was taken, down 2% on the year before but 165% up on 2010. However council responses to the BBC showed nearly 25,000 people were recorded sleeping rough at least once in England during the latest year on record.

Mr Healey said he had written to the UK Statistics Authority to ask them to investigate the accuracy of the government's statistics.

Read the story in full on the [BBC website](#).

Drop in the use of short term prison sentences

[Statistics](#) showing a drop in the use of short prison sentences of 12 months or less in the second half of 2019 have been welcomed by Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf.

The proportion of all court disposals which are prison sentences of 12 months or less fell from 12.8% in April to 9.5% in November according to the first data published since the statutory presumption against short sentences was extended.

While only a small number of offences that would be subject to the extended presumption have been disposed by the courts in the period covered by the publication, future publications will provide more detailed analysis.

Communities benefit from 8 million hours of payback

Scotland's communities have benefitted from around 8 million hours of unpaid work carried out by people serving community sentences since 2011.

[New figures](#) also show the number of people given supervised bail rather than being remanded in custody increased 26% between 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Unpaid work by people serving community payback orders (CPOs) supports a wide range of local needs including maintaining footpaths and clearing drains, making furniture for foodbanks and schools, work to preserve natural landscapes and redecorating community halls.

SCSN out & about: Scottish Fire & Rescue Youth Volunteer Scheme Launch

On Wednesday 19th February, we attended the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Youth Volunteer Scheme launch in Cambuslang. This was an opportunity to come together to learn more about the scheme and celebrate the excellent work undertaken by youth volunteers.

The Youth Volunteer Scheme is open to teenagers aged between 12 and 18 and is designed to deepen and broaden knowledge, resilience and confidence whilst contributing towards safer communities. It is the first nationally integrated scheme that SFRS have established, and it was co-designed by young people. The Youth Volunteer Scheme also supports the Scottish Government's agenda to reduce social inequality as SFRS aims to engage with at least 25% of young people who may be considered vulnerable. The demographics of young people within each scheme also tries to mirror the diversity of the local community.

On the day we heard from young people involved in the scheme about what this experience has meant to them, such as opportunities to learn new skills, take part in physical activities, and keep safe. They also showcased some of their skills to the audience through a CPR demonstration. Some volunteers recently had the chance to attend a youth exchange in Berlin as well as a national competition in London.

We also heard from the Minister for Community Safety, Ash Denham, who said it was a great achievement that she and the Scottish Government are very supportive of.

SFRS have 10 schemes either already in operation or being developed this year. These are in Alloa, Campbelltown, Dunbarton, Helensburgh, Kilmarnock, Livingston, Methil, Peterhead, Tobermory and Wick. However, 5 new locations are being announced between April and May so keep an eye on @SFRSYVS on twitter for developments.

Follow the SFRS Youth Volunteer Scheme on Twitter [here](#).



Continued from front page

- The rate of falls in those aged 65 and over has increased from 19.8 per 1,000 in 2009/10 to 22.5 in 2018/19. 85% of unintentional injuries in this age group were due to falls.

Within this publication are deaths by poisonings (showing large increases, due to the increase in drug-related deaths), and some assault data which are included within the UI ISD publication but considered out with the scope of the BSC.

Tables of data including the option to filter by health board and Local Authority area are available, as is an interactive dashboard.

Domestic Abuse Cases Rise in latest figures

Figures published for 2018/29 show that there were 60,641 recorded cases of domestic abuse in Scotland, a rise of 2% on the previous year.

The type of crime or offence that was most frequently recorded as part of a domestic abuse incident in 2018-19 was common assault (accounting for 36% of all crimes and offences recorded). This was followed by breach of the peace, accounting for 29% of crimes and offences.

There were 112 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police in Scotland per 10,000 population in 2018-19. At a local authority level, Dundee City (157), West Dunbartonshire (148) and Glasgow City (147) recorded the highest incident rates per 10,000 population. The Shetland Islands (52) and East Renfrewshire (54) recorded the lowest rates per 10,000 population.

Where gender information was recorded, around four out of every five incidents of domestic abuse in 2018-19 had a female victim and a male accused. This proportion has remained very stable since 2011-12.

Recorded incidents of domestic abuse were higher on a Saturday or Sunday than on any other day of the week (with these two days together accounting for 35% of incidents in 2018-19). 88% of all domestic abuse incidents occurred in a home or dwelling.

You can download the full statistical publication [here](#).

Prioritising Prevention? Opportunities and barriers to inclusion, prevention and early intervention in Scottish Youth Justice

The Centre for Youth Criminal Justice has recently published a new scoping study on crime prevention in young people.

Inclusion as Prevention (IAP) aims to support the re-design of services for children involved in offending, or at risk of negative outcomes, and their families - by shifting from the often acute and crisis-driven approach, to providing earlier support when they are at risk of becoming involved. It is not about developing another system or reinventing the wheel; rather, it is about fundamental system change. This may involve rethinking how services are delivered or the introduction of new services and supports.

Download the scoping study [here](#).

EQUALLY
SAFE

Scotland's strategy for preventing
and eradicating violence against
women and girls

Equally Safe Fund Open for Applications

Services to protect women and girls from gender-based violence will receive an extra £1 million this year with the launch of a £13 million fund.

The Delivering Equally Safe Fund – which brings together a number of previous funding streams – supports frontline organisations, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.

The Delivering Equally Safe Fund is now open for applications and will close at midnight on Sunday 17 May 2020.

The purpose of the Delivering Equally Safe Fund is to develop and deliver work which directly contributes to delivering the ambitions of the [Equally Safe Strategy](#).

Application forms for single and joint applications as well as other supporting documents and information can be found [here](#).

Lack of awareness of Human Trafficking helping fuel exploitation

A lack of awareness of human trafficking is helping to fuel exploitation, survivors have told the Scottish Government.

A group of survivors of human trafficking met with Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf today following a recent Scottish Government consultation on plans for a new duty on statutory authorities to notify the police where there are concerns around trafficking.

One survivor told Yousaf: "If there was greater awareness, someone like me would not have suffered. I was only in the situation for a few months but the impact is long lasting on my life. Human trafficking is real and it is happening right here in Scotland."

The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act, passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament in 2015, introduced a single offence for all kinds of trafficking for the first time, while raising the maximum penalty for trafficking to life imprisonment and giving police a new set of tools to prevent and detect trafficking.

Following the meeting with the Justice Secretary, human rights groups warned that survivors of trafficking must play a meaningful role in the response.

Kirsty Thomson, director of the Scottish Anti-Trafficking and Exploitation Centre at JustRight

Serious Organised Crime Progress Report 2020

The Serious Organised Crime Taskforce has just published its most recent progress report for 2020.

The report defines Serious Organised Crime (SOC) and provides a breakdown of SOC across Scotland, with the majority of SOC Groups operating in the West of Scotland.

Scotland, said: "Survivor engagement and leadership is increasingly being viewed at an international level as a key component of any holistic and effective anti-trafficking response.

"We are delighted that the Scottish Government has led the way in ensuring that survivors of human trafficking in Scotland are supported to play a meaningful role in this response – with the meeting today just being one example of this."

JustRight Scotland's support for survivors of trafficking is funded by the ASSIST Project, a two-year EU-funded programme focusing on the long term integration of trafficked women recovering from sexual exploitation, as well as empowering survivors to play a leadership role in creating protections.

Cabinet Secretary for Justice Humza Yousaf said: "The accounts I have heard from human trafficking survivors demonstrate the serious, lasting impact this complex crime can have on victims. We want to engage and empower survivors as they play a meaningful role in informing the response to trafficking in Scotland.

"Victims may not feel able to reach out to authorities and lack awareness of their rights and how to get help or advice, which plays into the hands of traffickers. By listening to the views of survivors we can ensure that the duty to notify process protects victims' human rights and that the information gained is helpful in breaking the cycle of trafficking and exploitation."

The report provides an update on work being undertaken including in:

- Communications
- Research
- Divert, Deter & Disrupt strategy strands

You can download a copy of the SOC Report [here](#).

Last month, a meeting was held between Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, Home Safety Scotland and SCSN - all now part of one community safety umbrella!

The meeting focussed on joint working, especially around better integrating our communications work, and from this month on, we'll now be hosting a monthly page of news and updates from Neighbourhood Watch Scotland to compliment their main quarterly newsletter.

Are you signed up to the Neighbourhood Watch Alert System?

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland run a Neighbourhood Alert System which provides regular alerts on a variety of areas of interest in your community and across Scotland - including alerts on flooding, travel, business, crime and much more.

You can sign up to receive email alerts, choosing how frequently you receive them, for which subjects, and for which areas of the country. Thousands of people and organisations across Scotland are signed up and value this service highly. You can join them by visiting the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland website [here](#).

ALERT Update

There are currently now 23,200 direct registered users on the Neighbourhood ALERT platform across both urban and rural communities. There are currently 1862 community groups registered. Since February 75 ALERTS have been sent out by key information providers to 228,837 direct recipients and has reached 686,511 through propagation not including localised social media platforms and direct community engagement.

These ALERTS refer to crime, safety and resilience issues / advice.

Rural Watch Scotland Supports Recent Launch

The Midlothian Partnership Against Rural Crime (MidPARC) was launched at Preston Hall Farms, Rosmains Farm, Pathhead, Midlothian on 25th February 2020. (some of the partners pictured above). The event included a "walk and talk" where advice and demonstrations were given to attendees on a range of rural crime prevention and fire safety issues from key partners. This event officially launches the formal partnership which includes Rural Watch Scotland as a key part and supports the national strategy Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC)



There are now 9 localised PARC partnerships across Scotland.

Safer Communities – Safer Scotland booklet

NWS have recently updated and published the latest version of this booklet which contains practical advice, information and support regarding crime, safety and resilience. Download the booklet [here](#).

Latest Home Safety Scotland & partner updates



March is the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Older People Month of Action!



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Over the last five years 70% of fire deaths in Scotland were people aged 50 years or over, and 27% of people injured through fire were aged 60 or over. This group are at a higher risk of fire due to a number of factors including living alone, poor health (including mental health) and mobility, with smokers' materials and alcohol often recorded as contributing to the cause of the fire. Over the past year SFRS has also piloted an initiative which delivers fire risk awareness training for care providers. In Scotland over 30% of fire fatalities occur in homes where the person receives provided care from the health and social care sector.

As a result, SFRS are embarking on a pan Scotland '**Older People Month of Action**' which will focus on delivering Community Safety Engagement activity directly at this target group.

To assist, SFRS has developed a [toolkit](#) which outlines how you can help us to promote fire safety and work in partnership with SFRS to reduce fire deaths and injury, including developing a referral process for a [Home Fire Safety visit](#). Throughout the campaign messages will be posted on the dedicated [@SFRSYourSafety](#) Facebook and Twitter channels. Please share the toolkit widely to help spread the key messages and promote the week!

Residents to accompany Fire Officers, Police and Council to inspect multi-storey buildings in Aberdeen

The inspections will examine fire and general safety in the buildings, for instance checking whether there are any materials that could be a fire hazard or trip hazard for SFRS officers in

corridors and on landings.

Other issues expected to be highlighted are general repairs needing to be carried out, cleaning issues, vandalism, and potential criminality for the police to investigate.

The inspections came from work carried out by a multi-storey fire safety group which includes representatives from all three organisations.

Read more [here](#).

Electrical Fire Safety Fund Open for Applications



Electrical Safety First has made up to **£80,000** available to help fund electrical fire prevention initiatives through partnership working at local level.

The Fund aims to provide direct benefit to local communities through project-based partnerships which will deliver outcomes that, in the long term, will contribute to a reduction in the number of electrically-related accidental fires and associated injuries in UK homes.

Grants of £5,000 per organization are available to consumer safety organisations in the community, such as Fire & Rescue Services, Trading Standards teams and charities, to deliver effective fire prevention measures at local level aimed at tackling the causes of fires in homes that are started by electricity.

Find out more about the application process and how applications will be prioritised [here](#).

See also this [useful guidance](#) on how to make your smart home a safe home.

In other news...



New research: LGBT young people shut out of education & employment, devastating effect of bullying

A [new report](#) by lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender equality charity Stonewall and BritainThinks – *Shut Out* – reveals for the first-time what life is like for LGBT young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

The research shows that anti-LGBT bullying, lack of support at home or lack of visible role models can have a devastating impact on LGBT young people's mental health, and leads many to being 'shut out' of higher education and work. The report finds that once out of school and employment, LGBT young people are slipping through the gaps and face significant obstacles to re-entering education and work.

Through in-depth interviews and workshops, 30 LGBT young people were asked about their experiences of being not in education, training and employment, their mental health experiences and what would help them in the future.

Key findings show why these young people left education, training and employment, including:

- Experiences of familial rejection after coming out as LGBT

- Isolation at school and college due to anti-LGBT bullying and a lack of LGBT-specific support

- Negative experiences in the workplace, including anti-LGBT harassment

The report goes on to show that once out of education and employment, mental health struggles and difficulties accessing opportunities continue to hold LGBT young people back and prevent them from reaching their full potential.

Research: Alcohol Services & the LGBT Community

Glasgow Caledonian University's School of Health & Life Sciences are currently conducting research aimed at improving LGBT+ people's experiences of accessing alcohol services.

You can take part if:

- You identify as LGBT+
- You have used an alcohol service in the past
- You can spare some time to talk to a researcher in the spring/summer of 2020

Participants will receive a £15 Love2Shop voucher for taking part.

Email elena.dimova@gcu.ac.uk for more info.

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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 April newsletter submissions is 3 April.





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