



Safety NET-works

May 2020 Bulletin

Keeping you informed during the Covid 19 pandemic

www.safercommunitiesScotland.org

Covid 19 Survey Results Briefing Paper

This briefing paper pulls together some of the statistics related to community safety that have been emerging over the last few weeks. In doing so we have been able to identify some notable trends with regards to support for lockdown measures, financial concern, mental health and wellbeing and community spirit. This is an ongoing and rapidly changing situation and we will continue to update this as new findings are identified.

Some of these findings support other research about the effect the pandemic will have on widening inequalities, the disproportionate effect on particular groups and the concerns that human rights groups have on the effect of emergency legislation on the standards of care and control over their care that certain groups receive. The impact of the pandemic on family and individual stress, mental wellbeing, isolation, drug and alcohol use, invisibility of vulnerable and at-risk people is relevant to anyone working in community safety. The continued uncertainty about income, precarity of housing and accessing essentials affects community safety outcomes too.

Trust in public services plays an important role in communities continuing to be supportive of measures taken to control the pandemic. What partners do and how they do it will be key to maintaining that legitimacy and support and cooperation of communities. Partnerships play a valuable role in coordination and providing resilience in the local systems.

Continue reading the Briefing Paper in full [here](#).

You can also find part I of our Community Safety Partnerships survey [here](#), and we will be sharing part II in due course.

Covid 19 Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance Published



Councils will get more support to deal with increased levels of domestic abuse and gender-based violence during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

New guidance developed in partnership with COSLA will help women and children continue to get the best support that they deserve.

The guidance signposts to local resources, and assists decision-makers in identifying women and children at risk as well as the short, medium and long term steps they can take to support their recovery and wellbeing.

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SCSN has contributed to the joint submission to the Parliament Equalities & Human Rights Committee COVID-19 inquiry

The emergency legislation from the UK and Scottish Governments in response to the pandemic, whilst necessary to ensure the effective provision of vital public services at this time makes some sweeping changes to life in Scotland, some in relation to justice and policing. There were a number of human rights implications from the emergency legislation in Scotland, particularly in relation to justice, policing and safer communities, and we were pleased to contribute to the Scottish Human Rights Consortium's submission to the EHRiC inquiry.

"Our contribution highlights some of our concerns and considerations regarding proportionality of parts of the legislation, compliance with human rights principles and disproportionate impact on particular groups, and the ensuring the processes are transparent and accountable.", Hannah Dickson, Development Manager.

You can read the joint submission in full [here](#).

Mental Health Awareness Week: Staff wellbeing

We believe that staff wellbeing is crucial to our ability to work effectively as an organisation. Mental health awareness doesn't just mean being aware that mental health problems exist, but also how they might impact on how people work best and how through 'compassionate inquiry' we can be genuinely supportive of our staff, and be flexible to accommodate their needs.

To this end we recently used this [employee wellness resource](#) from the mental health charity Mind, asking our staff to fill in what they were comfortable with so that we can have compassionate conversations around their support needs.

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for May looks ahead to life after Covid 19. In so many ways and in so many areas of life, the current crisis has provided opportunities for learning and thinking differently, as well as for partnership working and new ways of working. With that in mind, we're asking whether you are feeling hopeful for a better 'new normal' in community safety post Covid 19.

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

Question of the Month May 2020

Are you feeling hopeful for a better 'new normal' in community safety issues post Covid 19?



Child Safety Week 2020

by Pam Prentice, Child Accident Prevention Trust

Serious accidents in lockdown

Child Safety Week is the Child Accident Prevention Trust's annual campaign to equip anyone working with families with essential, practical child safety advice they can share. It will be different this year but as important as ever.

90% of serious accidents to Scottish children under five happen in the home. This has obvious implications for children during lockdown and as it begins to ease.

Challenging as current circumstances are, they also bring great opportunities to harness practitioners' energy and determination to support and engage with families in need.

So we're offering more free content than usual, which we've made really quick and easy to share – it's crammed with practical safety advice for families during lockdown and beyond.

Child Safety Week (1-7 June) is a great opportunity to share it. But if you can get our advice out sooner please don't wait, as the need is now.

Lockdown help

We have developed a range of new content that you can use to support families under pressure in lockdown. This includes articles, fact sheets, illustrations and social media posts.

So far we've focused on our top tips for lockdown safety plus burns and poisons – two risks that may be heightened during lockdown – with more topics to come.

Safety in lockdown – free content to share

We've also developed a Parents Pack for practitioners to refresh their knowledge and share with families far and wide.

Parents Pack – free to read and share



Child Safety Week, 1 to 7 June

Throughout Child Safety Week we will have a focus on social media, with lots of posts and tips to share, making it easy for families to get relatable, helpful advice to keep children safe.

Make sure you get them by following

www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust or
[@childsafetyweek](https://twitter.com/childsafetyweek)

Beyond Child Safety Week

We are reworking the Child Safety Week Action Pack as an essential year-round resource. Once people are able to do face-to-face group work again, contacts across Scotland can receive a free printed copy, thanks to support from Building Safer Communities in the Scottish Government.

Sign up for your free action pack and CAPTs free safety campaigns, advice and resources at <https://www.capt.org.uk/csw-sign-up>

Parent Club publishes new accident prevention webpage

Parent Club have created a new webpage for parents with tips on how to stay accident free at home during the Covid 19 lockdown. Visit the webpage [here](#).



SPARC
SCOTTISH PARTNERSHIP AGAINST RURAL CRIME

SPARC Rural Crime Update

Despite the current COVID-19 restrictions in place, it has been heartening to have had regular correspondence with so many of the SPARC partners over the past 7 weeks. It has also been encouraging that SPARC has been involved in various discussions during this time including National Police Chief's Council on Heritage matters, cross border liaison on criminality specialising in rural crime both sides of the border, various joint media releases plus excellent utilisation of the Rural Watch Alert system by internal and external partners as a means to communicate key messages throughout Scotland.

In terms of rural crime, with the exception of flytipping which has and continues to spike, rural crime across Scotland has significantly decreased, obviously due in the main to current COVID-19 restrictions plus hopefully as well to recent apprehensions north and south of the border and increased visibility of police patrols in rural locations. From all estimated and actual costs quoted, the total cost of reported rural crime across Scotland for **April 2020** was **£188,390**. A total of **£114,000** was recovered, the majority of which relates to stolen agricultural plant, machinery and quad bikes. This compares to a total reported rural crime figure of **£440,255** and a total of **£77,626** recovered for **April 2019**

Read this article in full [here](#).

Improvement Service Case Studies

The Improvement Service are building up a collection of case studies showing how councils have rapidly redesigned services, created innovative solutions to new problems, and collaborated with communities and other organisations throughout the crisis.

It is hoped councils find it useful to see what others are doing to feed into their own response, as well as showing the range of work being carried out by local government. You can help improve this collection of case studies by sending them your own examples of council-led good practice.

Please email info@improvementservice.org.uk with an outline of the work taking place and the names of the council(s) and partners involved.

Supporting Communities Safely

This free, online resource, developed by SCDC and Public Health Scotland, features a range of practical information and advice, such as:



- How to safely promote an organisation's services
- Keeping volunteers safe and fit to provide services
- How to get help with complex care needs
- Safely collecting and delivering items
- How to cook and transport hot meals

In towns and villages across Scotland, community organisations and volunteers are fighting COVID 19 and this resource is designed to help them do this as safely as possible.

Whether groups are starting up, or taking stock of an existing service, following this advice reduces risks of indirect transmission of the virus on packaging or other forms of contact when we support people in their homes.

You can view the resource [here](#).



Connecting Scotland initiative seeks to keep people connected during Covid 19 pandemic



Whilst we're at home throughout the coronavirus crisis, the internet is keeping us connected to friends and family, informed and entertained, and able to learn, work, shop and access health information and other public services.

However, some people can't access these benefits because they don't have the confidence, kit and connectivity at home.

The [Connecting Scotland initiative](#) aims to connect up to 9,000 more people on low incomes who are considered clinically at high risk so they can access services and support and connect with friends and family during the pandemic.

You can find out more about the initiative and how to apply for help and support [here](#).

European Forum for Urban Security Webinars

Efus invites you every Tuesday and Thursday at 2pm for a series of one hour thematic webconferences. Moderated by their team with contributions of one or more local actors and experts, these online debates will be the opportunity to share your experiences of the crisis on the following topics:

- Using technologies to control the pandemic: Could privacy also be a victim of Covid 19
- How to adapt the end of lockdown to the specific needs of disadvantaged neighbourhoods

Find out more & sign up to these webinars [here](#).

North Ayrshire Council announces radical new approach to economic recovery after Covid 19



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

North Ayrshire Council will take a "radical" new approach to economic recovery after COVID-19, the council has announced.

The approach is based on community wealth building (CWB), which involves spending public money locally, keeping wealth generated within the local area, encouraging community ownership and using land and property in a socially just way to boost the local economy and tackle poverty and inequality.

Read this story in full on the Holyrood Magazine website [here](#).

Supplementary National Violence Against Women Guidance *Continued from front page*

The guidance is part of a range of measures introduced to tackle higher levels of abuse and violence, including a £1.5 million funding package for the women's aid and rape crisis network. It will help to maximise the effective protection and provision of support for those experiencing gender-based violence, both during this immediate crisis period and in the longer term.

Councillor Kelly Parry, COSLA's Community Wellbeing Spokesperson, said:

"We know that this pandemic has heightened the risks to women and children living with domestic abuse and other forms of gender based violence globally. This supplementary guidance is informed by the expertise of a broad range of committed services and partner organisations in Local Authority areas across Scotland."

Download the guidance [here](#).

Scottish Flood Forum

Covid 19 (CV19) is changing the way we think about resilience for flood risk communities. The SFF are conducting a community survey as its important, that we review actions that groups may take to manage flooding locally to ensure they can be undertaken safely such as:



- Flood Wardens Schemes
- Implementing Community Flood Plans
- Community Flood Volunteers
- Setting Up Recovery Centres
- Placing Flood Defence Equipment.

Volunteer health and safety is vital to ensure that community action to respond to flooding can take place in the safest possible CV19 environment. Has your community group identified how many volunteers are available, shielding or self isolating during CV19? If your plan involves assisting individual properties, how will this work during CV19?

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

Hate Crime Bill launched: call for written submissions

The [Hate Crime and Public Order \(Scotland\) Bill](#) Call For Evidence has now been issued by the Scottish Parliament. If you wish to make a written submission please visit the [Scottish Parliament](#) website for further details.

Following the launch of the Bill you received an email with an attached general overview note on the Bill and its key provisions. The Scottish Government has now produced eight topical notes covering the main provisions of the Bill in more detail. These can be found on the Scottish Government's [hate crime webpage](#).

The Scottish Government welcomes your views on any aspect of the Bill as it begins its passage through Parliament. Please send any queries titled 'Hate Crime Bill' to ConnectedCommunities@gov.scot.

You, Coronavirus and staying safe online.

GetSafeOnline has launched its #SaferOnlineLockdown campaign, inviting individuals to contact its experts for online advice during the pandemic. Experts will be featuring live on the Get Safe Online Facebook page every Thursday at 11am to offer weekly top tips and answer any questions that viewers have.

For those unable to look in on the Facebook Live sessions, Get Safe Online has set up an email Coronavirus hotline: covid19@getsafeonline.org, where queries will be answered by online safety experts within 48 hours.

For regular updates on Cyber Resilience during the current pandemic, please visit the Scottish Government Cyber Resilience Online Bulletin page [here](#).



Neighbourhood Watch SCOTLAND

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland welcomes Selecta DNA in new partnership to tackle housebreakings

Housebreaking is an ever present threat to households across Scotland. Neighbourhood Watch Scotland are excited to bring you information on our new partnership with SelectaDNA that brings you an excellent discounted price.

The SelectaDNA Neighbourhood Watch Kit offers the ultimate property marking solution to mark and protect your home, used in conjunction with the warning stickers supplied. SelectaDNA is proven to reduce housebreakings by up to 83%.

SelectaDNA work with hundreds of Neighbourhood watches across the UK to reduce crime within local communities. Police Scotland work widely with SelectaDNA on crime prevention projects within communities across Scotland.

The kit is available to every household whether within a Neighbourhood Watch, Rural Watch area and Neighbourhood Alert members. By using our unique code NHWSCOT25 you can purchase a kit for £25.00 including VAT and delivery. the normal retail price of this kit is £59.50.

To purchase the kit go to <https://www.selectadna.co.uk/nhw> and use the code NHWSCOT25 and the kit will be delivered straight to your door.

We hope you find this offer of benefit to you, your family, friends and communities. Please feel free to circulate this information and attached flyer across your community networks and social media.

You Police Your Views Survey

"Police Scotland launched its "Your Police 2020-2021 Survey" earlier this year which will run continuously throughout the year. The survey has some specific questions relating to the current Coronavirus Emergency and looks to gain understanding from fellow citizens about their feelings of safety during these times and how they feel Police Scotland's approach to the new legislations are. So far there have been 16,300 responses which has really helped, but Police Scotland would look to continue to engage with the public as the year goes on and situations change. Police Scotland will soon publish some of the results to date and let our contributors know how their comments are helping shape our future approach.

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



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Latest news from Home Safety Scotland



Bridging the Gap: Injury Surveillance 2020

RoSPA has published its analysis on the most recent data related to Home Injuries in Scotland. Pleasingly, hospital admissions for those aged under five fell, although worryingly, they rose for those aged 65 and over. The rise in hospital admissions for older people underscores the importance of continued support and interventions for older people, particularly during the Covid 19 situation and around isolation and falls.

Overall

- In 2018/19, There were 2,504 fatalities due to an unintentional injury in Scotland – 46 per cent of these were in the home
- Deaths in the home were up by 43 per cent compared to the five year average
- There were 18,600 hospital admissions in the home last year, a six per cent increase on the five year average
- In terms of rates, there has been a five per cent increase in unintentional injury admissions in the home.

Under fives

- There were four fatalities last year due to unintentional injuries – one of which was in the home
- Hospital admissions for injuries in the home decreased last year by 23 per cent in comparison with the five year average
- In terms of rates, there has been a 20 per cent decrease in admission rates of unintentional injuries within the home.

Over 65s

- There were 141 fatalities last year due to unintentional injuries in the home. This is seven per cent below the five year average
- There was a 12 per cent increase in hospital admissions in the home
- In terms of rates, there has been an eight per cent increase in admission rates within the home.

Download the full analysis [here](#).

RoSPA Annual Report Published

RoSPA has just published their most recent Annual Report, providing an overview of the work they have been doing over the past year to contribute to their vision for 'life free from serious accidental injury'.

You can view the Annual Report [here](#).

National Unintentional Injury Learning Event Postponed



This year's Unintentional Harm and Injury Learning has unfortunately been postponed until further notice due to COVID-19. The Building Safer Communities National Executive Group are hoping to run the event later in the year, and will keep you updated as soon as a new date has been secured.

In other news...

news

SafeTea resources on preventing burns and scolds

The SafeTea campaign ran from October 2019 to January 2020, but the prevention of burns and scolds is arguably all the more pressing an issue during the current crisis when we are spending much more time in the home and the risk to children of burns and scolds is greater.



**KEEP HOT DRINKS
OUT OF REACH**



#SafeTea www.SafeTea.org.uk

You can still access information and resources to prevent burns and scolds at www.safetea.org.uk

CLiCK launch new helpline for women who sell sex online

CLiCK has launched a new helpline that women who sell/exchange sex or images online can use to get in touch with a CLiCK Women's Worker.

The Helpline number is **0300 124 5564** and is available during the following times:

- Tuesday: 3pm-5pm
- Wednesday: 11am-7pm
- Thursday: 6pm-9pm
- Saturday: 12pm-2pm

You can follow CLiCK on Twitter [here](#).

THINK! Take Extra Care Campaign

THINK! is supporting a campaign from Road Safety Great Britain encouraging all road users to help reduce the strain on the emergency services during the coronavirus pandemic by taking extra care when making essential journeys.

The pressure being placed on the NHS due to the coronavirus pandemic is well known.

While early evidence suggests measures to delay the spread of the virus are reducing the number of vehicles on the road, some still need to use the roads for essential journeys such as getting to work and for food shopping.

Read more about the campaign [here](#).





Level 4, Hayweight House,
23 Lauriston Street,
Edinburgh, EH2 1EA
0131 225 8700/7772
Email: info@scsn.org.uk
Company Ltd. SC357649
Charity No. SC040464

www.safercommunitiescotland.org