



Celebrating
— 25 YEARS —
1997-2022

Safety NET-works

**Community Engagement/
Participation Edition**

www.safercommunitiesScotland.org

SCSN 'Collaborating with People' Webinar Learning Report Published

On Wednesday 30th March, SCSN hosted the online webinar 'Collaborating with People'.

The event was an opportunity to learn more about ways to enhance and increase community engagement when working within the field of community safety. Over 15 people attended on an online Teams event, all of whom were professionals working across Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland.

The event was in response to various research that indicates an increased need and importance for community safety practitioners to continue to engage with their local communities on a range of issues. Community safety practitioners themselves have also highlighted the importance of having the skills and resources in the area of citizen participation and community engagement. In addition, following the previous SCSN participation webinar, feedback suggested a need for more practical resources and events, using real life scenarios within the area of community engagement and community safety.

The workshop began with a presentation from Josh Box (SCSN). First, a definition of Collaborating with People was provided.

Read the Learning Report in full on our website [here](#).



**'COLLABORATING
WITH PEOPLE'**

SCSN Annual Member & Stakeholder Survey

We are the strategic voice for community safety in Scotland and through working collaboratively with our members and partner agencies we work so that:

- Leadership is improved across the community safety sector
- Community Safety is valued and integrated across relevant policy areas
- Our members feel they are able to deliver their community safety outcomes and have the support from us that they need

Each year, we publish a Member & Stakeholder Survey. This is your chance to tell us what you think about our work & services - and our chance to improve on those based on the feedback we get!

You don't have to be an SCSN member to complete the survey, we welcome views from all stakeholders! Deadline for submissions is 19 May.

Take part in our Annual Member & Stakeholder Survey [here](#).

SCSN Updates & Question of
the Month - Page 2
SCSN Conversations With...
Lynn Black - Page 3

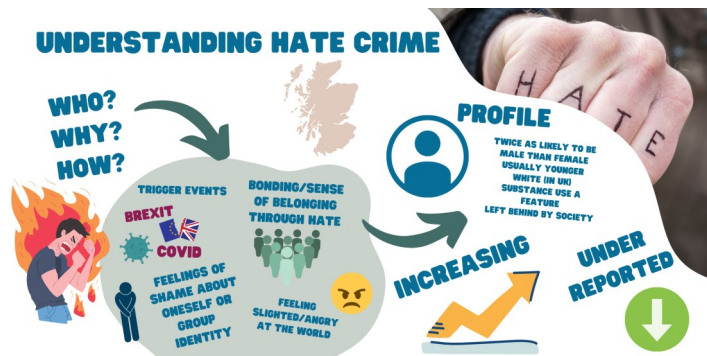
Focus on Community
Engagement - Pages 4-5
Water Safety Action Plan
Published - Page 6

Latest news from
Home Safety
Scotland -
Pages 10-11



Understanding Hate Crime Webinar Learning Report Published

On Thursday 10th February, we hosted an online webinar on Understanding Hate Crime. The event was an opportunity to learn more about hate crime with inputs from those on the front line in communities as well as some of the latest research.



Over 100 people attended – the largest webinar the SCSN has hosted to date!

The driver for the event was in response to increasing numbers of hate crimes in Scotland today. We know that these types of crimes do not only affect the individual but can have a pervasive impact on entire communities. We also know that we have a lot further to go to adequately address this issue in Scotland. With this in mind, the SCSN felt the community safety sector need to continue to work together to better our understanding of hate crime and improve this national picture.

Download and read the webinar learning report on our website [here](#).

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for March - April related to our recently completed 6 month trial of a four day working week for the SCSN staff team.

We're currently in the process of collating feedback from our staff team, members and stakeholders before making a final decision on whether to adopt a four day working week going forward.

We asked:

"Have you noticed any negative changes in our engagement or output over the past 6 months?"

- 0% said Yes
- 66.66% said No
- 33.33% said Not Sure

Question of the Month April-May 2022

Our Question of the Month for April-May is based around our theme of Community Engagement.

We're asking:

"Is community engagement the same as co-production?"

You can take part in our poll [here](#).

SCSN Conversations with...

Constable Lynn Black, SPARC

SCSN CONVERSATIONS WITH...

CONSTABLE
LYNN BLACK



SPARC
SCOTTISH PARTNERSHIP AGAINST RURAL CRIME

For our '**SCSN Conversations With...**' interview this month, we chatted with Constable Lynn Black, of the National Rural & Acquisitive Crime Unit, and members of SPARC - Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime.

We chatted about the work of SPARC in tackling crime in rural areas, with SPARC having seven priority areas of focus.

We also discussed the effect of the Covid pandemic on rural crime issues, in particular increases in fly tipping, littering and dangerous dog control incidents.

You can watch the interview with Lynn on our Youtube channel [here](#).

Housing and women involved in selling or exchanging sex

Thursday 26th May



Housing is a key issue for everyone. However, women who experience any form of violence against women such as domestic abuse and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) face very specific issues and challenges.

Women who sell or exchange sex can experience barriers to accessing housing support, and these issues can in turn push them into exploitation, will remain an issue whilst involved and can prevent them from moving on from this experience when they choose to.

Moreover, women who sell or exchange sex regularly engage with a range of services and agencies for support – from housing to sexual health, problematic substance use to money advice, among others, and they may disclose housing issues and needs with any of these services.

Therefore, it is essential that staff have a

good understanding of the issues that women encounter, such as precarious tenancies, survival sex, sex for rent, homelessness and exploitation and the impact of No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF).

Organised by [CSE Aware](#), this event will explore the housing needs of women involved in selling or exchanging sex in Scotland, highlight good practice in local strategic approaches and use case studies to consider how to respond to women's housing needs in practice.

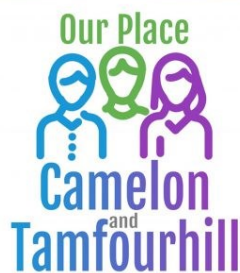
The event will cover:

- An overview of women's housing issues and needs
- An example of good multi-agency approaches in a local area
- Inputs from workers engaging with women selling or exchanging sex and how to support them.

This event will be recorded. You can request the recording and a copy of the resources shared during the session to natalia@womenssupportproject.org.uk

Find out more and book your place [here](#).

Camelon & Tamfourhill seek to emulate SCSN Manifesto for Safer Communities Mantra in Community Safety Strategy



We were delighted to be made aware that Our Place Camelon & Tamfourhill cited and used our [Manifesto for Safer Communities](#), published prior to the Scottish Parliament elections last year, in their Community Safety Strategy.

On 26 April 2021, the Camelon & Tamfourhill Community Safety Engager John Hosie launched their Community Safety Strategy. This was based on his first year of work including research, conversation, group engagement and listening to the real needs of the local community. The main aim of the strategy is to work on various different activities so that "Camelon and Tamfourhill will be a safer, happier, and more attractive place to live".

John writes the following in his strategy introduction:

"The process for confirming this community safety strategy has been focussed upon identifying the communities' priorities and aspirations for making their community a safer, happier, and more attractive place to live. The resultant strategy represents the voice of local people and this has been set within the wider national context and with an awareness of the central driving forces and policy targets of our main partners.

The methodology of the community consultation period involved: a detailed survey, 1-1 interviews, Focus groups and meetings with key stakeholders and partners. The approach sought to emulate the Scottish Community Safety Networks Manifesto 2021 assertion that: Communities will be safer if there is more involvement of people in communities in the planning, delivery, and development of the services that they use. This is often referred to as co-production but additionally this document should be viewed as a community development and engagement framework where the key outcomes are underpinned by the notion of community empowerment and capacity building."

Read more, including the Community Safety Strategy for C&T [here](#).

Authentic Voice Discovery Report

Authentic Voice: Embedding Lived Experience in Scotland is a programme led by SafeLives, Improvement Service and Resilience Learning Partnership in partnership with survivors of domestic abuse and trauma and funded by the Scottish Government. The programme aims to:

- Support women with experience of domestic abuse and other forms of complex trauma to use their experiences to help shape the pathways to support and service delivery
- Enable professionals working across a wide range of policy areas to embed survivor voice and lived experience into system and service design processes in a high quality, sustainable and trauma-

informed way

- Help decision-makers to see how meaningful change can be achieved and compel them to act, through seeing living examples, having access to evidence and hearing diverse voices of people with lived experience.
- Work with the Authentic Voice Panel who will provide oversight, guidance and ensure all our activities are rooted in survivor voice.

This Discovery Report is the culmination of the first phase of this programme, where the Improvement Service learnt how survivor voice and lived experience is currently used in organisations across Scotland.

Find out more & download the Authentic Voice Discovery Report [here](#).

Future Priorities for Participatory Budgeting in Scotland



The [National Participatory Budgeting Strategic Group](#) has published a framework for the future of participatory budgeting (PB) in Scotland. The framework sets out shared intentions and ambitions for PB and, looking ahead, outlines a series of priority recommendations to be carried forward.

This [strategic framework](#) is a key document that underlines how we can evolve PB into a central way for decisions to be made in Scotland.

Among the 16 priorities in the framework are:

- A shared understanding of PB
- Making the links to the National

Performance Framework

- Addressing Inequalities
- Continuous learning
- Climate Justice;
- And public sector collaboration

Read more [here](#).

Institutionalising Participatory and Deliberative Democracy Working Group: report

This report explores how the Scottish Government's ambition for change can be delivered to make Scotland's democracy more participative and inclusive, and proposes next steps as it incorporates processes for participatory and deliberative democracy into the democratic system.

Read more [here](#).

How local Gannett sites embraced a whole-community approach to public safety stories

Published in Better News, the American Press Institute

Here's an idea to steal and adapt: Local news sites nationwide rely too heavily on law enforcement sources, and crime stories dominate their news coverage. Gannett newsrooms committed to repairing relationships and building trust with members of marginalized communities by rethinking

community justice and public safety coverage.

Question: What was it about your newsrooms and your communities that drove this change?

Answer: Gannett's Public Safety Mission Statement emerged locally and then regionally before being scaled nationwide in spring 2021, as multiple newsrooms recognized that traditional crime reporting was not serving our communities' interests, nor our own.

Read the full article [here](#).

Investing in Communities Fund Round 2 Open

The Investing in Communities Fund (ICF) is a streamlined communities fund that is delivered as part of the Empowering Communities Programme. The fund reflects our commitment to investing in communities so that they can develop the resources and resilience to decide their own aspirations, priorities and solutions in response. The fund supports our most disadvantaged or fragile communities to tackle poverty in all its forms on their own terms. The fund also helps to meet our targets as set out in the [child poverty delivery plan](#) and to underpin the [Place Principle](#) by encouraging more joined up collaborative approaches to services and assets to achieve better outcomes for people and communities.

Find out more [here](#).

Scotland's Water Safety Action Plan published

Extra funding, improved signs and lesson plans for pupils are all part of a new [Water Safety Action Plan](#).

The plan has been drawn up by the Scottish Government and a range of key organisations following a number of tragic water deaths.

Partners on the Water Safety Stakeholder Group have committed to further develop partnership working to help prevent drownings and agreed a range of key actions including:

- new water safety promotions targeted at areas with a higher risk of drowning, improved signage at popular locations including lochs and reservoirs and a risk assessment of beaches
- additional funding of £60,000 for Water Safety Scotland to develop its co-ordination role for all organisations with an interest in water safety
- roll-out of a drowning incident review scheme to ensure lessons are learned from all fatal and non-fatal incidents
- lesson plans on water safety for pupils
- continued development of the National Learn to Swim Framework delivered with local authorities
- Scotland's Water Safety Code developed to ensure consistency of public messages on key issues including hidden hazards and cold water shock
- training for businesses and the public on how to use rescue equipment and review of 999 procedures

Community Safety Minister Ash Regan – who chaired the stakeholder group – said:

"The Scottish Government takes water safety very seriously and this Action Plan includes a range of key steps agreed with our partners to further mitigate the risks from Scotland's coastal and inland waters.

"Scotland's beaches, rivers, reservoirs and lochs are amongst our finest natural resources, but beautiful as they are they can be a source of lethal danger and we continue to see the tragic consequences of that.

"The actions in the plan are targeted at creating a safer environment in Scotland. But whether it's sailing, swimming, diving or fishing, anyone undertaking recreational activities in and around water must be fully aware of the risks and take every possible precaution."

Background documents

[Interim Review of Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy](#)

[Staying safe in and around Scotland's waters](#)

Water Safety Conference - Summary

On 7th April, our friends and partners at RoSPA Scotland and Water Safety Scotland held a joint Water Safety Conference which we were pleased to attend.

Among topics discussed were

- The new Drowning Incident Review process, aimed at getting a better understanding of water safety risks in local areas
- New Water Safety educational resources which will be published on WSS website on 25 April for schools and those working with children and young people
- PAWS groups - Partnership Approach to Water Safety Groups. These work in local areas feeding into Community Planning Partnerships, drawing on local communities knowledge & experience to improve emergency response and post incident plans to inform learning.
- Suicide Prevention Sub Group of Water Safety Scotland. Provides members with access to a wealth of data & expert knowledge to help inform prevention – great resources at www.zerosuicidealliance.com



Campaign to urge reporting of sexual harassment on Scotland's railways



Crimestoppers Scotland, BTP Scotland, Network Rail and the Rail industry raise awareness about what constitutes sexual harassment, encouraging reporting and helping to make sure there is no unsafe space on Scotland's railways.

Research shows people don't realise that behaviours like wolf whistling, leering/staring or deliberately invading personal space are forms of sexual harassment.

Crimestoppers Scotland on 31st March 2022, joined with Network Rail, BTP Scotland and the rail industry to tackle sexual harassment by ensuring people

understand what constitutes such behaviour. The campaign will also inform people of the action they can take to report sexual harassment if they witness it and thereby help to combat it.

New research shows a lack of awareness about the seriousness of non-physical types of sexual harassment, which can be distressing and frightening for those who experience them. The survey of over 2,500 people, carried out for the Rail Delivery Group by 2CV, reveals just a minority of rail passengers realise that wolf whistling (30%), inappropriate staring (37%) or someone sitting/standing too close on an otherwise quiet carriage (39%) is sexual harassment.

[Government research](#) shows that 84% of women and 60% of men in the UK population have experienced sexual harassment in their lifetime. To tackle this, the rail industry is raising awareness about what constitutes sexual harassment with a Scotland-wide social media campaign, information distributed at Scotland's stations – including big screens – to report instances where they feel unsafe. This will make it clear to perpetrators that their behaviour is not tolerated on the railway.

Read more about this campaign on our website [here](#).

Awareness raising campaign of NHS rape and sexual assault service launched

A marketing campaign has been launched to ensure people know about a dedicated national NHS service that offers choices in healthcare, forensic examination and support after a rape or sexual assault.

The national service, which is to be implemented across all health boards, will allow those aged 16 and over to self-refer for a forensic health examination at a Sexual Assault Response Coordination Service (SARCS), whether or not they wish to report to the police.

Funding of £11.7 million has been invested by the Scottish Government alongside the unanimous passing of Forensic Medical Services Act 2021 by Parliament. This money has gone towards creating healthcare facilities for examinations across all health boards, to recruit more specialist staff and set up a single point of contact for self-referral through NHS 24.

Read more on this story [here](#).

National Strategy for Community Justice - review: consultation analysis

On 27 September 2021, the Scottish Government published a targeted [consultation](#) seeking views on the current [National Strategy for Community Justice](#) (the strategy). The consultation formed part of the statutory review of the strategy.

The consultation closed on 8 November 2021, and 52 responses to the consultation were received.

The responses contributed to the Scottish Government concluding that a revised strategy was required and the responses will help to inform the development of a new strategy.

This report presents an analysis of the responses to the consultation, and sets out the Scottish Government's next steps.

You can read the consultation analysis document on the Scottish Government website [here](#).

Dumfries and Galloway emergency services pledge to reduce attacks on staff

Dumfries and Galloway's emergency and front line services and Local Authority have made a collective vow to reduce attacks of violence and verbal abuse on their staff.

They have produced the Dumfries and Galloway Assault Pledge which sets out their commitment and marks the beginning of the end of assaults on emergency and front line workers in Dumfries and Galloway. According to the latest figures released by Police Scotland, a total of 281 assaults were recorded on Dumfries and Galloway's emergency and front line workers and the pledge makes it clear that these are not simply part of the job. It also encourages those affected to report any form of abuse and ensures they will be offered the right support. The pledge brings together Dumfries and Galloway's emergency and front line responders - Police Scotland, Dumfries and Galloway Council, NHS Dumfries and

Galloway, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Fire and Rescue and Scottish Prison Service.

Read more [here](#).

Transforming Scotland's Justice System Event - videos now available

We recently attended the Holyrood Events 'Transforming Scotland's Justice System' event.

The event was held in context of the publication of the Scottish Government's [Vision for Justice in Scotland](#) last month, and with a new Community Justice Strategy due to be published in Spring 2022. Now is the time to think about what we truly want our justice system to look like and how we can transform it for the better.

You can view videos of all presentations from the event [here](#).

Fire and rescue framework 2022 published



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Improving safety for Scottish communities is at the heart of a new Framework for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS).

The Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022 provides SFRS with strategic priorities and guidance on how to deliver progress.

The overriding purpose of SFRS remains working with communities and partners to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland – including preventing fires and reducing their impact on society while maintaining the safety and mental wellbeing of SFRS staff.

The Framework also highlights the increasing impact of climate change with greater risks from increased flooding and wildfires - and it stresses the importance of SFRS making a full contribution to the Scottish Government's Net Zero emissions targets.

You can read the new SFRS Framework [here](#).

Scottish Police Authority Police Reform in Scotland - Briefing Paper

SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

The Strategic Review of Policing in England and Wales was published on 8 March 2022. This independent review, chaired by Sir Michael Barber and hosted by the Police Foundation, identified 53 reform recommendations for the 43 police services in England and Wales.

Police reform in Scotland started in 2013 with the formation of Police Scotland. The Scottish Police Authority has prepared a briefing document which outlines the background, key outputs and learnings from police reform in Scotland.

You can read the Briefing Paper [here](#).



Climate Crisis Corner

The SCSN believes the Climate Crisis is the most important issue that we all face. The existential nature of the climate crisis and global warming alone mean that it is worthy of being in all of our thoughts on a daily basis. Those of us working in Community Safety will not escape the impacts of climate change, and indeed, as our 2021 'Climate Change and Community Safety' event showed, the climate crisis is already impacting and will continue to directly impact on community safety areas of interest.

Together, working in communities, we can find solutions and save ourselves from disaster.

Conference: Communicating to create change - tackling the environmental crisis **10am - 2.30pm, 19 May 2022**

Join Charity Comms to talk about why environmental issues should become part of your charity's values, mission and brand, and the frameworks you can use to structure and direct your thinking. We'll hear from a variety of organisations who are communicating environmental crisis messages – whether they are local/grassroots, national or international organisations. Together, we'll explore:

- Why environmental issues should become part of your charity's values, mission and brand
- What framework do you need to help structure and direct thinking on

environmental crisis?

- Framing your messages
- Why visuals matter when communicating environmental crisis
- How charities are building environmental crisis awareness into their communications
- How charities are demonstrating the intersectionality of environmental crisis
- What can we learn from environmental campaigners?
- Collaboration with other charities

Find out more & book your place [here](#).

Third IPCC report gives humanity final warning on climate crisis

The world can still hope to stave off the worst ravages of climate breakdown but only through a "now or never" dash to a low-carbon economy and society, scientists have said in what is in effect a final warning for governments on the climate.

Greenhouse gas emissions must peak by 2025, and can be nearly halved this decade, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), to give the world a chance of limiting future heating to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels.

The final cost of doing so will be minimal, amounting to just a few percent of global GDP by mid-century, though it will require a massive effort by governments, businesses and individuals.

You can read the third IPCC Climate Report [here](#).



Latest news from the Home Safety Scotland Forum

SCSN urges Local Authorities to get involved in Home Safety in Scotland!

Our hosts, the Scottish Community Safety Network, have sent and published a letter to local authorities asking them to nominate a named individual to join Home Safety Scotland and help us to increase the profile of Home Safety issues in Scotland!

Home safety is critical. Falls are a growing and major public health issue. Current data highlights this.

- [Public Health Scotland](#) (PHS) speaks to 1 in 9 emergency hospital admissions as a direct result of unintentional injury (2,759 deaths in 2020). The young and elderly are most at risk, and 94% of deaths take place in our most deprived communities.
- [The World Health Organisation](#) (WHO) informs us that "falls are the second leading cause of unintentional deaths worldwide". They stress that "prevention strategies should emphasise education, training, creating safer environments, prioritising fall-related research and

establishing effective policies to reduce risk".

- [The Scottish Government](#) (SG) encourages us all to build resilience in communities, take early preventative action, collaborate to deliver evidence-based interventions, and work closely across the system to develop a joined-up approach.

The global pandemic has changed our relationship with the home. More of us spend more time working from home. For some, it's a choice. For the immunocompromised, disabled, unable or anxious, it is a necessity. It is clear that behaviours in communities have changed. But as our partners at the [Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents](#) (RoSPA) note, "because the accidents happen behind closed doors in isolated incidents, they rarely attract media attention". We anticipate this will change and the importance of home safety will become more obvious.

Read the letter in full [here](#).

Button battery tragedies - spread the word to prevent devastating deaths

If a child swallows a button battery, they can be left with internal injuries that are catastrophic and life changing. Sadly, some injuries can be fatal. A powerful button battery can have devastating effects in just a couple of hours.

17-month-old Hughie McMahon died in Motherwell on Boxing Day after swallowing a button battery. His tragic death highlights the need to spread the word to parents and carers.

Many parents simply don't know the damage that button batteries can do and are shocked



to discover how many everyday products in their homes are powered by them.

Free printed and downloadable resources

The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) has developed free button battery safety resources for practitioners to display and share with families.

The resources are free to download now from CAPT's online button battery safety hub <https://www.capt.org.uk/button-battery-safety> and printed copies are free to order from CAPT's online shop <https://www.capt.org.uk/pages/shop/department/button-batteries>.

Read more on our website [here](#).

Step Safely: Strategies for preventing and managing falls over the life course

Falls take the lives of 684 000 people each year. Beyond the death toll, 172 million more people experience disabilities arising from a fall each year. Falls are not only a significant global public health problem – they are a rapidly growing one. Fall-related deaths have risen far faster than any other type of injury over the last two decades. Many factors account for this increase – ageing populations and patterns of urbanization chief among them.

The *Step Safely* technical package provides concrete recommendations for evidence-based strategies to prevent and manage falls for children and adolescents, workers, and

older people. Among others, effective prevention measures include

parenting programmes for low-income and marginalized families, stricter worker safety regulations, and strength and balance training for older people. Preventing falls can help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals linked to health and well-being, decent work, and safe, inclusive cities. The global community should actively look for opportunities to reduce the growing harm, suffering and loss that result from falls.

Find out more & view a Step Safely Fact Sheet [here](#).

STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING
AND MANAGING FALLS
ACROSS THE LIFE-COURSE



SGN team up with Scope to support disabled customers



SGN teams are committed to supporting our customers, particularly those in vulnerable circumstances or who need extra support, and are working with Scope, the disability equality charity, to raise awareness of their energy advice helpline. This free service offers a wide range of energy and water advice and support, all tailored to individual needs.

They've teamed up with utility partners UK Power Networks and Anglian Water to give disabled customers help accessing [Scope's Disability Energy Support service](#). All SGN teams can refer customers to the service, and our funding has allowed Scope to increase the number of people they can help and expand the range of services available through the helpline.

Learn more about SGN's work with Scope [here](#).

Family Safety Week 2022

This year's [Family Safety Week](#) - the national campaign of safety charity the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) - highlighted how making simple, low-cost changes in our everyday lives can have a major impact on the most common causes of accidents, particularly those affecting the most vulnerable in society.

[Small changes can save lives](#) was the key message of the campaign.

The campaign focused primarily on preventing falls, which are the single biggest cause of accidental injuries in the home, and the largest cause of accidental death among over-65s in the UK.

Find out more [here](#).

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83 Princes Street

Edinburgh, EH2 2ER

0131 225 8700/7772

Email: info@scsn.org.uk

Company Ltd. SC357649

Charity No. SC040464

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org