



Safety NET-works

March 2022

Celebrating
— 25 YEARS —
1997-2022

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org

Local Elections 2022: A Manifesto for Community Safety & Covid Recovery

Councillors' responsibilities include executive decision making at council meetings, policy making, delivery of services and use of resources; scrutiny of decisions which can include serving on scrutiny panels or committees; regulatory functions such as those that deal with planning and licensing applications; representing their ward at meetings with residents, interest groups and the wider community.

We've produced a Manifesto for Community Safety & Covid Recovery which will be sent to candidates for the local elections taking place in Scotland this May.

In our Manifesto we have put forward our policy priorities for Community Safety under some priority headings that reflect our holistic approach to building safer communities in Scotland:

- Poverty;
- Community Safety;
- Crime & Justice;
- Unintentional Harm & Injury;
- & Guiding Principles

Read or download our Manifesto for Community Safety & Covid Recovery [here](#).



**A MANIFESTO FOR
COMMUNITY SAFETY
& COVID RECOVERY**



2022 Scottish Local Elections
1,219 seats across 32 local authorities

SCSN team up with arts and youth groups to explore perceptions of community safety in Lanarkshire



SCSN are currently working in Partnership with North Lanarkshire Arts, Tron Theatre, Youth Theatre Arts and the University of Edinburgh on a research knowledge exchange which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. The project aims to put arts at the heart of multi-sectoral strategic planning in North Lanarkshire and cut across sectors to address key issues and inequalities.

As part of this work, Josh from SCSN is delivering 'musicBox', a series of 2-hour workshops working with community members in North Lanarkshire. The purpose of musicBox is to develop people's skills in music production, field recording and podcasting as well as using music and sound to explore people's different experiences and perceptions of community safety in North Lanarkshire.

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

**SCSN Updates &
Question of the Month
- Page 2**

**Mrs Gillies goes to the Scottish
Parliament - Page 3
Police Scotland update on
Body Worn Cameras - Page 6**

**Home Safety
Scotland News &
Updates
- Pages 10 - 11**



Collaborative Community Engagement Webinar - for CSP members only

An interactive, practical workshop focussed on collaborative community engagement.

On 30th March, 10am – 12pm, SCSN will deliver an interactive, practical workshop focused on collaborative community engagement. The 2-hour session will build on attendees existing understanding, skills and confidence, and help enable them to create better dialogues with the communities they work with. **This event is for Community Safety Partnership members.**

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

SCSN Briefing: The Vision for Justice in Scotland 2022

The SCSN team have prepared this summary for information of our members and partners, and the wider community safety sector in Scotland. It speaks to the Scottish Government's (SG) recent publication of a Vision for Justice in Scotland (The Vision). It promises improvement and transformation throughout the full journey of criminal, civil and administrative justice. We hope this briefing offers helpful overview of a complex publication, and insight to how these changes might affect Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and Local Authority (LA) partners.

You can download the Briefing Paper on our website [here](#).

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for February-March related to LGBT History Month. As covered in our Equalities Edition, the UK was recently listed by the European Council alongside Russia, Turkey, Hungary and Poland as being a hostile environment for LGBT people, largely driven by increasing discussion around trans rights - with LGBT hate crime also increasing.

We asked:

"Do you feel that Scotland is a safe & welcoming place for LGBT people?"

- 37% said Yes (7 votes)
- 37% said No (7 votes)
- 26% said Not Sure (5 votes)

Question of the Month March - April

At the end of March we will conclude our six month trial of a four day working week. We've been collecting views from our staff team as we have progressed, as well as posting some blog pieces.

But we also want to know how our members and stakeholders have found this period.

We're asking:

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

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

Mrs Gillies goes to...the Scottish Parliament!

Criminal Justice Committee Evidence on the Fireworks & Pyrotechnics (Scotland) Bill

On Wednesday 16th March, our Chief Officer Lorraine Gillies went to the Scottish Parliament to give evidence to the Criminal Justice Committee on the Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Bill. SCSN has been involved in the Fireworks Review Group and contributed heavily to the consultation process on the bill. You can read the final report of the Firework Review Group on our website [here](#).

Read our response to the Scottish Government Fireworks & Pyrotechnics Bill Consultation [here](#).

SCSN has also partnered with the Scottish Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) in the past two years to raise awareness about the harms and dangers of fireworks.

Lorraine's evidence focussed around the effects of fireworks on local communities, how we can reduce unintentional harm and injury and thinking about how we tackle anti-social behaviour.

We've now published a series of video clips of Lorraine's contribution to the Committee on our Youtube Channel:

- [On SCSN support for the Fireworks & Pyrotechnics Bill & understanding/ approach to anti-social behaviour](#)
- [On fireworks, anti-social behaviour and unintentional harm](#)
- [On SCSN prioritising safety first around fireworks sale restrictions & impact on local business](#)
- [On measuring firework related ASB](#)
- [On the proposed licensing scheme](#)
- [On Fireworks Control Zones](#)
- [On proposed limitations on days/times for use](#)
- [On silent fireworks](#)

Community Justice Scotland Framing Toolkit and Image Resource Library launched

Community Justice Scotland is delighted to announce the launch of two new resources.

A free, [framing toolkit](#) is now available to support people and organisations shape how they speak, write and communicate about community justice in ways that have the potential to increase public awareness and confidence in it as a sentencing option. This is accompanied by a new [national image library](#) with real-life photographs of community justice. The new resources are designed to help everyone working in the sector talk about community justice in a consistent, easy to understand way that gets across its benefits and value to all.

Find out more & download the resources [here](#).

Scottish Government Launch Vision for Justice in Scotland Strategy

A vision to transform Scotland's justice sector through the COVID-19 recovery period and beyond has been published.

The new strategy will enshrine key priorities – making sure victims voices are heard, placing women and children at the heart of service delivery and reassessing the role that prisons and the use of imprisonment should play.

The vision will be underpinned by a requirement for the whole sector to ensure people are treated with empathy and kindness, for example by avoiding additional trauma by having to retell their stories. The plan also enshrines the need for collaborative work across public services to improve outcomes for individuals, focussing on prevention and early intervention.

Read more [here](#).

Pharmacies launch codeword scheme to offer 'lifeline' to domestic abuse victims

The UK government has teamed up with independent pharmacies and Boots to launch a domestic abuse Ask for ANI codeword scheme.

Victims of domestic abuse are now able to access much needed support from thousands of pharmacies across the UK, backed by the government.

The Ask for ANI scheme allows those at risk or suffering from abuse to discreetly signal that they need help and access support. By asking for ANI, a trained pharmacy worker will offer a private space where they can understand if the victim needs to speak to the police or would like help to access support services such as a national or local domestic abuse helplines.

As an essential retailer based on high streets across the country, and with specifically trained staff, pharmacies can provide a safe space for victims to sound an alarm if they are isolated at home with their abuser and unable to get help in another way.

The codeword scheme will be promoted using discreet social media adverts and paid search.

Pharmacies will be given promotional material to display in store to signal to victims that they are participating. Health professionals, social workers and Job Centres will also be asked to promote the scheme, alongside police, local authorities and specialist support services for victims.

The scheme will be initially available through the 2,300 Boots stores across the UK as well as 255 independent pharmacies. There will be an [on-going sign-up process open to all pharmacies](#).

Read more & find links to download the Ask For ANI toolkit resources [here](#).

Stop Abuse Together Campaign

Early this year, the UK Government also launched the Stop Abuse Together campaign and the website: stopabusetogether.campaign.gov.uk.

The campaign aims to empower parents and carers to take steps to help keep their children safe from abuse. On this page, you can download social media assets and our digital toolkit, to help promote the campaign to your wider networks. All children have a right to be safe from sexual abuse, and we all have a role to play in keeping them safe. Let's stop abuse together.

LGBT Experiences of domestic abuse

LGBT Youth Scotland recently ran an event looking at LGBT experiences of domestic abuse.

One in four LGBT people will experience domestic abuse, the same rate as for heterosexual/cisgender women.

Lack of recognition

Awareness of LGBT domestic abuse suffers from:

- domestic abuse being seen primarily through the lens of 'men's violence against women'
- A lack of visibility in relationships & sexual health education & in mainstream domestic abuse campaigns

- Negative stereotypes of same-sex relationships & transgender identities in media
- Minimisation and internalised homophobia

Transgender people were significantly more likely to experience domestic abuse, with 80% of respondents to one study having experienced some form of domestic abuse.

LGBT people also several experienced barriers to accessing inclusive services - including real or perceived homo/bi/transphobia from service providers.

Download the presentation & an LGBT domestic abuse resource guide on our website [here](#).

What does Covid recovery look like for young people?

Thinking about Covid Recovery is a central plank of our recently published Manifesto for the Scottish Local Elections 2022. This blog by Dona Milne, Director of Public Health & Health Policy at NHS Lothian - writing for Youthlink Scotland - is a timely contribution to our thinking on our collective recovery from Covid.

Indeed we've been thinking about the importance of youth work since the start of the pandemic, with our National Development Officer Dawn Exley writing her own blog piece - ['The approaching storm & why we must protect youth work'](#) back in 2020.

Dona Milne, Director of Public Health & Health Policy at NHS Lothian, and Independent Chair of the Scottish Youth Work Steering Group, argues that youth work is at the heart of a community-based response to Covid-19 - and its increasing importance needs to be reflected in policy.

Current discussion in policy circles centres around what recovery from Covid looks like. This is a broad and complex debate; for me, a key issue is how we support our children and young people during this period of societal upheaval and recovery.

I have been reflecting recently on what our children and young people have faced during the pandemic. For some, the experience has been stark. Understandably, there are concerns about loss of educational attainment

and the impact of isolation from friends and family on their mental health and wellbeing. So how are we responding and what more can we do?

Public health measures have been put in place to protect children and young people where they interact; including schools, youth work and community settings. The changes are essential for young people's development, and they have taken many of these in their stride. We don't know yet if future measures will need to be further enhanced as a result of our immediate response to new variants, but it is good to see an increasing number of measures reduced. Whatever actions we take, they need to recognise the wider influence of Covid on young people's longer term outcomes.

Read the blog in full on the Youthlink Scotland website [here](#).

Children and Young People Public Health – Covid-19 Impact Report (March 2022)

The CYPPHG, a special interest group of the Scottish Directors of Public Health, has produced a discussion paper on the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people. Further to comprehensive stakeholder engagement, it highlights some positive, but mainly adverse impacts, and suggests key areas the system (local and national) should address to mitigate these.

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

SHAAP Alcohol Occasionals Seminar: MUP: homeless/street drinkers & service providers

Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAAP) and the Scottish Alcohol Research Network (SARN) invite you to join us online on **Thursday 31 March from 12.30-14.00 BST** (UK time) for our first SHAAP/SARN Alcohol Occasionals event of 2022.

Dr Elena Dimova (Glasgow Caledonian University) will present her research "Minimum Unit Pricing: Qualitative Study of the Experiences of Homeless Drinkers, Street

Drinkers and Service Providers" and we will then open to Q+A and wider discussion.

Alcohol Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) was introduced in Scotland in May 2018. Existing evidence suggests MUP can reduce drinking in the general population, but there is little evidence regarding its impact on vulnerable groups. This qualitative study aimed to capture the experiences of MUP among homeless drinkers, street drinkers, and the support services that work with them.

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

Police Scotland update on consultation on Body Worn Cameras



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Our partners at Police Scotland have published an update on the consultation process around officers wearing Body Worn Cameras - reporting positive public support for this proposal.

The update said:

'Police Scotland is thoroughly committed to policing by consent and this means involving the public and gathering views when looking to introduce change.

With Body Worn Video (BWV) widely used throughout the United Kingdom, including in our North East Division, Police Scotland wanted to find out what people elsewhere in Scotland felt about Police Scotland's use of the technology, in more areas of policing. Public opinion was important in establishing and shaping the direction of this project.

Fairness and transparency is central to policing and these cameras provide the opportunity for incidents to be recorded to show a true picture of what is happening as it unfolds. The videos also provide a fuller irrefutable evidence of incidents which support written statements and verbal accounts from survivors and victims of crime.

With this in mind, it was crucially important that the public were engaged in our approach to understanding the factors affecting people's perceptions of BWV and key considerations for policing, especially from people who are often seldom-heard.

Following the success of our public engagement to inform the introduction of BWV for our armed policing officers ahead of COP26, Police Scotland launched a further national public engagement exercise. This

included a consultation survey which received over 9,300 responses and asked the public to give their opinions on the fuller rollout of BWV to all police officers and police staff in operational roles.

The public were asked a number of questions with the intention of enabling policing in Scotland to develop a comprehensive understanding of public opinion which was broadly representative of Scotland's people.

Results are available on the [Police Scotland Engagement Hub](#), but the key findings showed clear support for BWV.'

Read the update in full on the Police Scotland website [here](#).

For more information on the results of the public engagement activity on Body Worn Video, visit the [consultation site](#).



Scottish International Policing Conference 2022 - May 2022

Contemporary Policing Demand: Enhancing Capacity, Capability, and Resilience

SIPR's Scottish International Policing Conference (SIPC) will take place on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th May 2022 at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.

This is a triple celebration as not only is this the 10th SIPC, it is also the 15th Anniversary of SIPR as well as the 50th Anniversary of the James Smart Memorial Lectures.

Further details will be made available on the SIPR website (sipr.ac.uk) as they are confirmed.

Police Scotland Impersonation information published

How to check an officer's identity

If Police Scotland contact you, they will do so in person, by phone or by email. This will depend on the circumstances surrounding why we need to contact you. Contact in person If one of our officers contacts you in person, they'll show you their police warrant card. This is proof of their identity and authority and you can verify this by dialling 101.

Contact by phone and email If one of our officers needs to speak to you on the phone or by email, they'll identify themselves clearly.

They will never:

- ask you for your bank details or PIN
- ask you to transfer funds to another account
- ask you to hand over cash or bank cards to a courier
- ask you to pay a fine or a fee to them or a third party over the phone or online
- ask you for remote access to your computer, passwords or log on details over the phone or online
- ask you to register personal details in an attachment they send or website they direct towards
- ask you to 'assist' in an investigation by doing any of the above
- communicate in an abusive, threatening or coercive manner
- ask you to click on a hyperlink to participate in an investigation

Remember if you're unsure about whether the person you're dealing with is a genuine police officer – stop – and call us on 101 to check their identity. You should also contact 101 if you think you've been a victim of fraud.



New Poverty Alliance Report: 'Put money in our pockets' to tackle child poverty'



Cash-first payments to support families should be at the heart of the Scottish Government's efforts to end child poverty, according to a new report that outlines the views and experiences of grassroots organisations and people living on low incomes in Scotland.

As a contribution to the development of the Scottish Government's new Child Poverty Delivery Plan, due to be launched next week, the Poverty Alliance spoke to grassroots

organisations and people with experience of poverty. The findings set out in [Child Poverty Delivery Plan: Voices from our Communities](#), show a strong support for social security benefits like the Scottish Child Payment and grants to buy school clothing.

Around one in four children in Scotland are growing up in the grip of poverty, and around two-thirds of those live in working households. The Poverty Alliance spoke to people across Scotland to get their opinions on what next steps the Scottish Government should take.

Cash payments were high on the list. One participant said: "The key is putting money in people's pockets. People will make the best choices for their families."

Read more [here](#).

Road Safety Week Scotland 2022

21-28 March



Scotland's Road Safety Week will start on the 21st of March, 2022. Activities throughout the week include the Road Safety Scotland

Seminar on 23 March, Police Scotland NE division's focus on older drivers and Police Scotland East Command's focus on drug driving and speeding. All activity will be backed with a call for everyone to publicly take a pledge to say we're; 'Working together to make Scotland's roads safer.'

The Scottish Government's [Road Safety Framework to 2030](#) sets out a vision for Scotland to have the best road safety performance in the world by 2030. Scotland's Road Safety Week is a chance to bring all the work that's going on around the country to achieve that vision together – so we can regroup, refocus and really make a difference.

Events will follow many of the topics that Transport Scotland and its partners work hard on all year round; ['Safe roads and roadsides'](#), ['Safe vehicles'](#), ['Safe road use'](#), ['Post-crash responses'](#), and importantly, ['Safe speeds'](#).

Find out more about Road Safety Week on the Road Safety Scotland website [here](#).

Water Safety Conference & Open Day 2022

Thanks to generous funding from RNLI, Scottish Water and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, RoSPA, in collaboration with Water Safety Scotland (WSS), are hosting two events over the spring and summer in Scotland.

The first, is an online conference, which is suited to practitioner level and will feature information and discussion on the interim review of Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy.

The second event will be an 'in person' open day for anyone to come and see how agencies and organisations are working together to deliver water safety and drowning prevention in Scotland.

Find out more & book your place at the Water Safety Conference [here](#).

Open Day - 25th July

Join Water Safety Scotland and partners on World Drowning Prevention Day (25th July) at [The Kelpies/Helix in Falkirk](#). The day is free, open to all, and will feature an impressive programme from our partners and a number of information stands. No booking necessary - just turn up! More information will be provided nearer the time.

Take extra care and plan ahead before heading to the hills and mountains

Police Scotland is appealing to hill users and mountaineers to plan ahead and take extra care in the coming weeks.

Mountain Rescue Teams across Scotland have been experiencing a recent increase in callouts and six people have tragically lost their lives over the last two weeks.

Recently, Mountain Rescue Teams dealt with an incident on Ben Nevis when police were made aware of a number of people in difficulty. One man, aged 28 was pronounced dead at the scene and 23 people were assisted off the mountain.

Inspector Matt Smith, Police Scotland Mountain Rescue coordinator said, "The onset of spring has brought some more settled weather patterns and a welcome increase in daylight hours. We would urge those seeking to venture into the outdoors to take extra care. Challenging winter conditions still prevail in the hills with large areas totally covered in snow and ice.

Read this story in full [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.

It is for these reasons that our monthly newsletters and Media Monitors will now feature a permanent section dedicated to news, events and actions around the climate crisis and addressing the biggest crisis we have ever faced. Together, working as communities, we can find solutions and save ourselves from disaster.

Climate Skills and Positive Action for All - blog by Catherine Gee, Deputy Chief Exec, Keep Scotland Beautiful

"Climate Change is already a threat to human wellbeing and the health of the planet". That was the stark warning in the recently published [report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#) which also urged us all to take action now to secure our own futures.

The report calls for a 'decade of action' to turn things around where possible, and this is something we at Keep Scotland Beautiful strongly support.

Set against everything else going on in the world, the warnings in the IPCC report seem very bleak. People need to hear the success stories, they want to be inspired by actions being taken by others, and there is now, more than ever, a real desire to harness the energy that people have to stand up for what they value. At a recent event we hosted with YoungScot and YouthLink Scotland, as part of a [COP26 Youth Climate Programme](#), the

young people clearly had a real desire and ask for us to turn the messages into positive ones.

Read the blog post in full [here](#).

Climate change is warping our fresh water cycle – and much faster than we thought

Fresh water cycles from ocean to air to clouds to rivers and back to the oceans. This constant shuttling can give us the illusion of certainty. Fresh water will always come from the tap. Won't it?

Unfortunately, that's not guaranteed. Climate change is shifting where the water cycle deposits water on land, with drier areas becoming drier still, and wet areas becoming even wetter.

Research [published recently in Nature](#) has found the water cycle is changing faster than we had thought, based on changes in our oceans.

Read the full article [here](#).



Latest news from the Home Safety Scotland Forum

Next Home Safety Scotland Forum meeting

The provisional date for the next Home Safety Scotland Forum meeting is 5 May 2022. We will provide updates to forum members when this is confirmed.

Report shows success of RoSPA's Keeping Kids Safe project in Dundee

Jen Foley, RoSPA's Home Safety Officer in Scotland, has recently produced an evaluation report based on feedback obtained from parents involved in the Keeping Kids Safe project in Dundee.

This project saw RoSPA collaborating with health visitors and family nurses to get home safety packs and related advice to families in areas high on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). As well as providing parents with practical home safety measures such as cupboard catches and door stoppers, the project afforded health professionals an opportunity to raise the subject of child home safety in 300 households.

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



ABCs of home injury prevention for under 5s series final webinar published

Did you know that February saw the final webinar in RoSPA's current webinar series?

On Wednesday 16 February they hosted the final webinar in their series 'The ABCs of home injury prevention for under-5s' which examined current practice in Scotland.

The recording of the event is available [here](#).

Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness

The next CPG is taking place on Tuesday 29 March 18:00-20:00 and is open to requests for pitches on related subjects that can be presented to members on the night. If you want to have your 3-minute pitch considered, please contact the secretariat: elumsden@rospa.com.

Refreshed Fire Safety Guidance

Guidance on fire safety in various premises including non-residential premises, premises with sleeping accommodation, care homes, specialised housing and high rise domestic buildings.

It is important that those responsible for fire safety use this up-to-date information.

Download the refreshed Fire Safety Guidance [here](#).

British Red Cross Spring Wellbeing Calendar

Recent events may have left many people feeling uncertain and worried. British Red Cross wellbeing resources have been created to support you and in turn help you support others.

This month, they have a **new Spring wellbeing calendar** to help inspire you to be kind to yourself, learn new skills and make positive connections. It will provide ideas and activities to use throughout April and May.

You can download it and order free* colour printed copies to use at home or with groups in your community now.

Order your calendar [here](#).



Wellbeing Workshops

These free sessions aim to help you learn vital skills to build resilience, confidence and find practical ways to help you cope with challenges. Guided by a trained and experienced British Red Cross educator, you'll come away with knowledge that can make a real impact on your life and those of others.

Explore the British Red Cross Wellbeing Workshops [here](#).

Electrical Safety First safe shopping advice on Consumer Rights Day

March 15th was World Consumer Rights Day. Our forum members Electrical Safety First published this useful advice on how to shop safe online.

'We've all at some point suffered the disappointment of purchasing an item online, only to find something completely different inside the package when it finally arrives.

But what if your dud purchase ended up being deadly?

We've found that a quarter of people in the UK have fallen victim to counterfeit scams when shopping online and one in ten Brits have first hand experience of an electrical fire or shock caused by an electrical product they have purchased online.

Despite this, one in three admit that they would buy a fake electrical product for a saving of 30% or less. But, as counterfeit and substandard electrical products present a serious risk of fire or electric shock, these deals are definitely too good to be true.'

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



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



info@scsn.org.uk



[@scsn2](https://twitter.com/scsn2)



[/ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork)

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





Mansfield Traquair Centre

15 Mansfield Place

Edinburgh, EH3 6BB

0131 225 8700/7772

Email: info@scsn.org.uk

Company Ltd. SC357649

Charity No. SC040464

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org