



SAFETY NET-WORKS

APRIL 2023

"PLACE"/RURAL EDITION

www.safercommunitiesscotland.org

Rural wellbeing: a framework and guide for policymakers

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has published guidance for policy makers and evaluators on defining and measuring rural wellbeing, following a project carried out between 2020-2021.

Over the past decade wellbeing has moved up agendas across all areas of government and civil society, a trend that has only been magnified by the recent global pandemic. There is growing evidence and understanding about the impact of policy and initiatives on the wellbeing of individuals, communities and even future generations.

The emerging body of research shows that our wellbeing is influenced by numerous factors. This apparent complexity has long been a barrier to consistently valuing and measuring wellbeing as an intentional and vital outcome of policy.

There has also been little research focused on the specific influence of rurality on individual and community wellbeing, and in many cases less data to support better decision making in rural policy and practice.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) commissioned this research from Centre for Thriving Places (CTP) to begin to plug this important gap. The project set out to identify the particular aspects (domains) of the social and natural environment that influence the wellbeing of individuals living in rural areas, and their relative importance.

You can download the research/guidance [here](#).

Holding Our Own: Groundbreaking new report calls for community led solutions to youth violence

A ground breaking new report co-authored by nine human rights groups has called for a move to community led solutions to youth violence - and away from policing and other punitive and discriminatory policies.

Published by Liberty, 'Holding Our Own' calls for several bold changes in direction - including:

- Moving away from policing as a response to social problems
- Ending the practice of pre-crime policing (including stop and search)
- Ending cuts to youth services
- Developing community-based solutions to harm that allow young people's friendships, communities and cultures to flourish
- Decriminalising all drugs and investing in trauma, mental health & harm reduction services.

Read more & download the full report on the Liberty website [here](#).

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New Briefing Paper: Hate Crime Strategy for Scotland

We've just published a new Briefing Paper on the recently published Hate Crime Strategy for Scotland (see page 3).

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

New Consultation Responses Published

We recently published two new consultation responses. We submitted responses to both the Community Justice Scotland Corporate Strategy consultation, and the Scottish Police Authority's Policing Priorities consultation.

You can read the responses on our website [here](#).

Vardy Foundation become members of the SCSN!

The SCSN is delighted to announce that the Vardy Foundation has become our latest new member!

We're really pleased to welcome the Vardy Foundation, who share many of our key priorities - including early intervention, relief of poverty, supporting ex-offenders and helping the homeless and those with addictions.

We look forward to working together in the future!

You can find out more about the Vardy Foundation on their website [here](#).

Question of the Month March 2023 Results

Our Question of the Month for March related to our 'Trauma Informed Society' themed newsletter.

We published a Podcast with Aidan Martin, author & CEO of The Scheme Livi, who was also a panellist at our screening of the 'Wisdom of Trauma - with Dr Gabor Mate' film. Aidan kindly provided us with our question.

We asked:

"Is our prison system in Scotland trauma informed?"

- 13% said Yes (4 votes)
- 80% said No (24 votes)
- 7% said Not Sure (2 votes)

Question of the Month April 2023

Our Question of the Month for April relates to our 'Place & Rural' newsletter theme - but is also relevant to considerations around anti-social behaviour & other community safety issues.

We're asking:

"Do you feel that there are enough amenities and play parks for children and young people where you live?"

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

**Be good to yourself.
Don't feed the hate monster.**

#DontFeedHate



New Police Scotland Hate Crime Campaign launched

Police Scotland has launched a new anti hate crime campaign calling for people to 'ditch their hate monster'.

The campaign is primarily targeted at younger white men who have been identified as being at higher risk of committing a hate crime.

The campaign also encourages bystanders to report hate crime either to Police Scotland, or anonymously [via CrimeStoppers](#).

Police Scotland recorded 5,640 hate crimes in 2021-22 and they have also seen a rise in hate crimes committed against their officers.

You can support the campaign by sharing Police Scotland posts on social media. Find out more on their website [here](#).

New Hate Crime Strategy Launched

The Scottish Government recently published it's new Hate Crime Strategy.

It sets out our key priorities for tackling hate crime and prejudice in Scotland.

This strategy has been developed in partnership with our Hate Crime Strategic Partnership Group and the voices of those with lived experience.

You can find out more and download the strategy in full on the Scottish Government website [here](#).

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour in Scotland Conference **24 May, Glasgow**

SCSN is delighted to be presenting at this conference.

Nearly half of Scotland's population have been impacted by antisocial behaviour – yet half of these incidents are going unreported.

Whether in communities, at home, or on public transport, antisocial behaviour has a devastating impact on people's lives.

Holyrood Insight's Tackling Antisocial Behaviour in Scotland Conference will outline the priorities for tackling antisocial behaviour and showcase best practice from across Scotland.

Hear how multi-agency partners have taken steps to prevent and deal with antisocial

behaviour and showcasing best practice, policies and strategies.

The conference will focus on support for victims and ensuring that everyone who experiences ASB feels empowered to report the problem. Expert speakers will discuss how to raise awareness and tackle stigma around ASB. The conference will discuss your legal responsibilities to support victims, and ensure that reporting procedures are clear and accessible.

Bringing together the police service, criminal justice sector, fire and rescue service, local authorities, housing, and the third sector, meet colleagues and strengthen your approach to ASB.

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

For 20% discount, use code **SPKR3968**.

New Annual Police Plan 2023-24



[Police Scotland's Annual Police Plan](#) (APP) has now been launched.

Chief Constable Sir Iain Livingstone QPM presented the plan to the Scottish Police Authority Board in March. It was then laid in the Scottish Parliament as required under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

The APP uses strategic outcomes and objectives to describe the impact that Police Scotland aims to make to the lives of people across Scotland. This aligns with the Joint Strategy for Policing, *Policing for a Safe, Protected and Resilient Scotland*, and our strategic planning framework.

It was developed with colleagues from across the service and describes how Police Scotland will prioritise resources towards the issues that cause the most harm to people and communities.

Progress will be reported across all the activities featured to describe and demonstrate the impact of policing on Scotland's communities. Police Scotland's Performance Framework is being refreshed and as in previous years, will fully align to the strategic outcomes and objectives set out in the Joint Strategy and the APP.

You can read this story in full on the Police Scotland website [here](#).

Police Scotland's Strategy to tackle violence against women and girls

Police Scotland's strategy to tackle violence against women and girls was recently presented to the Scottish Police Authority Policing Performance Committee.

Based on wide-ranging and unprecedented engagement with the general public, women and girls, survivors of violence, key partners, academics and experts, the strategy builds on the Service's commitment to improve and future-proof its response.

Proposals within the strategy include:

- tackling and diverting incel culture through education
- expanding the use of sexual offences liaison officer (SOLO) led visually recorded interviews (VRI)
- delivery of trauma-informed training to all police officers and staff

Launching the strategy, Deputy Chief Constable Jane Connors, Police Scotland, said: "We are committed to creating a society where women and girls live free from violence, abuse, exploitation and harassment. "Women, girls, and men, have shared their experiences, their thoughts and their views on how we can tackle violence, create a service that is responsive to victims and how we

prevent violence against women and girls.

"We have listened and their voices and experiences thread through our strategy.

Read more and download the Strategy [here](#).

Consultation: Reforming the criminal law to address misogyny

In February 2021, the Scottish Government established an Independent Working Group on Misogyny and Criminal Justice in Scotland, chaired by Baroness Kennedy QC.

The Working Group was tasked with considering how the Scottish criminal justice system deals with misogyny, including looking at whether there are gaps in the law that could be addressed by a specific criminal offence to tackle such behaviour.

The Working Group published its [final report](#) in March 2022. That report recommends the creation of what it describes as 'gendered law' - which is specifically intended to protect women and girls.

This consultation provides you with a valuable opportunity to help shape how important changes to the criminal law to improve how the justice system responds to misogyny are taken forward.

Read more and submit a response [here](#).

Event: Take Drugs Seriously

11 May, Edinburgh

As drug deaths hit record levels in Scotland, come along to learn, and talk about the impact of drugs, and how we can better protect our communities

Join the discussion about what a new approach to drugs could mean for Scotland, Edinburgh, your family and your community with a powerful panel of affected families, ex-police, treatment groups and politicians.

Speakers include:

- **Alison Crocket**, Head, Whole Systems Unit, Drug Policy Division, Scottish Government
- **Dr Saket Priyadarshi**, associate medical director at Glasgow Alcohol and Drug

Recovery Services

- **Emma Crawshaw**, Chief Executive Officer, Crew 2000
- **Katrina Thornton**, Anyone's Child: Families for Safer Drug Control
- **Anne-Marie Cockburn**, of Anyone's Child: Families for Safer Drug Control whose daughter Martha died from an accidental MDMA overdose
- **Ian Andrew**, Law Enforcement Action Partnership, Scotland
- **Peter Krykant**, Activist and Fundraising Lead, Cranstoun.

Chaired by Jane Slater, Deputy CEO of Transform Drug Policy Foundation

Followed by a Question and Answer discussion.

Book your place [here](#).

Doctors say lack of response on alcohol deaths could spell disaster for Scotland

A campaign group of medical professionals, public health practitioners and charities are calling for new First Minister, Humza Yousaf, to show strong leadership and priority setting to address the highest level of alcohol deaths in Scotland since 2008.

More than 30 organisations are calling for increased and sustained investment in alcohol services and recovery support, in combination

with a renewed commitment to preventative policies like minimum price and alcohol marketing restrictions. They say this is essential to protecting and promoting people's right to health.

Despite the positive effect of minimum unit pricing, which was recently found to have saved 268 lives each year since it was introduced, Scotland has still seen a dramatic increase in alcohol deaths over the past few years.

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

Free handbook published to help small Scottish firms tackle cybercrime

A free new handbook has been produced to help Scottish small and medium-sized firms (SMEs) to tackle the growing threat of cybercrime.

The CyberScotland Partnership released the new 'Cyber Strategy for Small Organisations' guide aimed at people with no technical background in the subject.

Available now on the [CyberScotland Portal](#), the pamphlet was created by ethical hackers at the Cyber and Fraud Centre – Scotland, one of

the Partnership's founding partners.

Its publication comes as latest research from Vodafone reveals that more than half (54 per cent) of UK SMEs experienced some form of cyber attack in 2022, up from 39 per cent in 2020.

The guidebook outlines short, medium, and long-term priorities SMEs should consider when developing their own cyber security strategy, with tactics ranging from password protection and backups, to undergoing a security audit and obtaining certifications.

Read this story in full on Future Scot [here](#).



How Can Place Best Support Scotland's Health and Wellbeing? - Improvement Service Webinar

NHS Health Scotland, the Improvement Service Place Network and Planning Skills Programme will be hosting a webinar looking at "How Can Place Best Support Scotland's Health and Wellbeing?"

As Scotland prepares to deliver defined Public Health Priorities and consultation on National Planning Framework 4 cites improving peoples health and wellbeing as a key objective, listen in to this 30 min presentation to find out more:

- How can NPF4 best support the implementation of planning policies that enable the health and wellbeing of Scotland's population and delivery of Public Health Priorities?

- With policies on topics such as place making, active travel, housing, green infrastructure and air quality already common in LDPS, what overarching principles which would best inform a supportive national policy approach?
- How can we achieve stronger collaboration between Spatial Planners and Public Health practitioners to deliver shared objectives?

Join Matt Lowther, NHS Health Scotland, and Irene Beautyman, Improvement Service, to hear about the links between planning, places and health that inform shared national and local health objectives and the collaborative work taking place to answer these questions.

The webinar recording is now available on Youtube and can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJ3UPxzKqLI>

Places and children's health workshop

3rd May 2023

An event by The Social & Public Health Sciences Unit at Glasgow University

Places in which children live, play and move shape their current and future health. For example:

- Access to local parks and woodlands influences children's play, physical activity levels and mental health.
- Neighbourhood infrastructure can support or constrain children's active travel to school, leisure facilities, healthcare settings and other amenities.
- Exposure to alcohol, tobacco outlets or unhealthy food and drinks advertisements can

depend on the socioeconomic characteristics of where you live.

We might not realise it, but by understanding more about the role of place in children's lives, we can start to influence and advocate for population level policy change that improves our built, natural and social environment to enhance the health of children in Scotland.

Who is this workshop for?

This participatory workshop is designed for **policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and other professionals** whose work or interests lie in understanding how children's movement, mobility and experience of place can act as a lever to improving child health and reducing inequalities.

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



Top tips for driving safely on rural roads

Guest blog by Leo Clarke

With less traffic to contend with, rural roads may seem like easy places to drive, but there are actually a lot of hidden dangers and things that you need to be aware of. To make sure that you are keeping yourself and your loved ones safe, read on for some of our top tips on driving safely on rural roads.

1. Look for signs of road rage

It's common for people to drive more cautiously on rural roads, especially around bends, which may annoy those behind you who are in a rush. Road rage can easily lead to accidents, so one of the best ways to protect yourself from this is to be aware of how drivers around you are behaving.

Some of the [key signs to look out for](#) include

speeding, sudden braking, shouting (from other drivers), beeping the horn and tailgating. If you spot these signs while driving on a rural road, do your best to stay calm and let the other driver pass you when it's safe for them to do so.

2. Be mindful of your speed

Country roads are known to be particularly tricky to navigate, as they are often narrow and winding. As well as this, they can have low visibility (due to limited lamp posts/lights), especially when the weather is bad. The best way to mitigate the risks these factors present is to be particularly mindful of your speed.

Many country roads are the [national speed limit of 60 mph](#), but this doesn't mean you have to drive this fast all of the time. Drive at a speed that you are comfortable with and make sure you always slow down when approaching a bend.

3. Use caution when overtaking

With plenty of long, straight sections of road, it's not uncommon for drivers to want to [pass other road users](#) who are going slower than them.

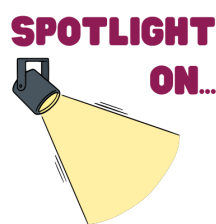
Read the full blog on our website [here](#).

The Rural Crime Strategy 2022-2025

The Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime, of which SCSN is a member, launched a refreshed rural crime strategy late last year.

The intention is to build on the solid foundations and tangible success achieved over the life cycle of the previous strategy. SPARC will continue to lead by example and be at the forefront of galvanising all our national and local partners to deliver everything outlined in this strategy with renewed focus and vigour.

Over the course of this strategy, SPARC will once again continue to drive activity designed to prevent, reduce and tackle anyone wanting to make money at the expense of hard working, law abiding people - thus



threatening the very fabric of our rural communities and environments.

You can download the strategy in full [here](#).

Rural Crime Strategy seeing early success

The Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) yearly figures – which ran from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 – have been published this week, and provided hard evidence that rural crime is going in the right direction.

In terms of the cost of it from estimated and actual figures for the period, the total figure was £3.66m, with a total of £523,837 recovered. This compared to a total cost of £5.7m and £1.2m recovered for the same period in 2021/22.

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

Big Place Conversation: Perth & Kinross Council

The Big Place Conversation aims to find out from you what is good in your town, village or neighbourhood and what could be improved, and what it might need in the future.

This will help produce the next Local Development Plan, Mobility Strategy and could also help your community develop its own Local Place Plan or Community Action Plan.

The information that is gathered will also help inform other Council departments as to what is needed in different places. Keep an eye on the [Big Place Conversation](#) webpage for more events you can take part in.

Who Is Engaging

The Council is engaging with individuals and communities in your area and this online survey is one of several ways you may give us your views.

Who Can Participate

Anyone can complete the questionnaire including, but not limited to;

- Individuals
- Groups of friends or colleagues
- Community bodies
- Third sector organisations
- Special interest groups such as climate cafes or sports groups

The Big Place Conversation will have many opportunities for people to have their say about your place, using the Place Standard tool to help hold conversations, including:

- the online place standard survey for individuals and groups
- in-person place conversations
- virtual place conversations
- groups can also carry out or be involved in their own place discussion

Find out more & take part [here](#).

Exploring place-based regeneration initiatives: SURF Awards Shared Learning Workshop – 18th May 2023

SURF and the Scottish Government work together to identify and highlight excellence and innovation in initiatives that address social and economic challenges in disadvantaged communities through the annual SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration.

This **free half-day SURF Awards workshop event in Clyde Community Hall, Govan on 18th May** provides an opportunity to explore successful current approaches towards regenerating Scotland's places with two winning projects from the 'Improving Scotland's Places' and 'Community Led Regeneration' categories highlighted in the 2022 SURF Awards process.

Workshop guests will firstly hear from a project representative in the 'Improving Scotland's Places' category winner **Living Alloa**. In response to challenges, Clackmannanshire

Council, the community, third sector and businesses have come together to shift the dial on the social, economic and environmental issues facing the town centre.

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

New Community Councils Cost of Living Hub Launched

The Scottish Community Councils project at the Improvement Service has launched a new cost of living hub.

The resource, which is available on the [Scottish Community Councils website](#), compiles a list of national resources as well as local organisations which can provide help and support, listed by local authority region.

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Find out more [here](#).



MONTHLY REFLECTIONS SCSN CHIEF OFFICER



I love April, it's the start of so much – spring, lighter evenings and mornings, new financial year, new plans.. This April though our plans have been slightly delayed. The introduction of new a core grant funding process by the Scottish Government has taken it's a toll on us and other third sector organisations.

At time of writing (mid-April) the SCSN still hasn't had confirmation of our grant award and has just completed version 3 of our new application documents. It's been frustrating for us and for our civil service colleagues as we work together to find a way to better evidence the work that we do and assure the Scottish public that funding us is money well spent. It's delayed the beginning of our strategic plan development and taken up significant officer time.

While it's understood that our transactions must be transparent and we must evidence our worth, it's been difficult jump into new systems at such a crucial time for us. There is so much expertise in the sector about evidence, outcomes based planning, monitoring and evaluating, it's disappointing to seeing an increased ask in terms of numerical outputs. C'est la vie though – we will get there! Hopefully using [this terrific resource](#) – developed by the Scottish Government Third Sector Unit, Evaluation Support Scotland and a bunch of third sector leaders (including us).

On the plus side though we are delighted to be involved in so much partnership activity around prevention. Some of you may have heard of the Icelandic Primary Prevention Model or Planet Youth. I've been working with other stakeholders in supporting the [pilot activity in Scotland](#).

Planet Youth in Scotland is a community partnership approach, led by Winning Scotland, that will help us learn more about

what is needed to keep our young people safe, healthy and happy.

[Planet Youth](#) originated in Iceland in the 1990s, and has since been used all over the world to improve the lives of children.

In Iceland, Planet Youth instigated a huge drop in teenage drinking and smoking, increased physical activity levels and supported families to spend more time together – leading to young people in Iceland being labelled '[the cleanest living teens in Europe](#)'.

The programme involves running surveys with secondary school pupils to take a snapshot of teenage life in their local area. The surveys are confidential and ask the pupils about their school and home life and how they spend their free time - including whether they use drugs and alcohol. The surveys also ask pupils about activities they would like to do at school or in their local area.

Local groups and services then work together to address the needs and issues raised by the pupils in the surveys.

By listening to local children about how they spend their time, the issues they face and what they are interested in, we believe Planet Youth in Scotland can help us learn how to help **all young people in Scotland to become ambitious, versatile and resilient.**

I'm heading to Rome in May with a bunch of interested people involved in prevention in Scotland for the [international Planet Youth conference](#). I'll have lots of exciting things for our members to learn from so watch out for that.

That's it for this month.. Thanks for reading.

Self-Harm Network launches new digital portal

Self-Harm Network Scotland (SHNS) has launched a new online self-harm support service for people aged 12+ across Scotland. The new online service is in addition to its [three existing locality-based services](#) which recently opened up across Dundee, Glasgow and the Highlands and Islands. People can visit the online service here: selfharmnetworkscotland.org.uk

The SHNS service is operated by [Penumbra Mental Health](#), a pioneering charity providing dedicated services for people with mild to serious enduring mental ill health.

SHNS is funded by the Scottish Government.

People who experience self-harm will be able to access support via the portal and receive a response within 24 hours of the team receiving

their details. From there, the team will provide and/or connect people to the most suitable ongoing support.

The portal was created to provide recovery-focussed support, tools and information that anyone can access to enable people to support themselves and others. This includes sections for those who self-harm, people supporting someone who self-harms, and professionals working with someone who self-harms.

The power of lived and living experience has helped to shape the portal from the beginning. An internal reference group was set up which consisted of people with lived experience, and practitioners and managers of self-harm services across Penumbra. Supported people were either present on these calls or gave feedback through their practitioners throughout the process of creating the portal.

Read more [here](#).

New Report: Restorative Justice and Sexual Harm - The Voices of those who have harmed

This study is exploring the views concerning restorative justice of people who have sexually harmed, who have been found guilty of such crime and are now serving a prison sentence because of it.

The authors of this study examine, among other things, what this group thinks restorative justice is, whether it is appropriate for this type of crime, whether they would want to take part and why, and what they would do if the person they harmed approached them with such a request.

This is a study mirroring one undertaken two years ago by the charity Thriving Survivors, examining the views of persons harmed sexual and domestic violence as regards restorative justice and access to it, for this particular type of harm.

The study, although small in scope, is timely and unique as there are few qualitative studies examining the topic from this side.

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

Wellbeing Economy 101

What exactly is a wellbeing economy & how do we get there? This packed webinar covers:

- The theory underpinning Wellbeing Economics
- How it relates to donut economics, degrowth and community wealth building
- Case studies of Wellbeing Economy thinking in action from around the world
- How redesigning our economy could tackle the cost of living and climate crises.
- What Scotland can do to make the Wellbeing Economy a reality.

At the end of the one hour webinar we'll open up the floor to discuss everything you've always wanted to know but were afraid to ask.

Our speakers will be the WEAll Scotland team: Director – Jimmy Paul, Policy Lead – Dr Lukas Bunse and Comms Lead – Frances Rayner. Book your place [here](#).

Climate Crisis Corner



Climate Scientists alarmed at rate of ocean temperature rises

A recent, rapid heating of the world's oceans has alarmed scientists concerned that it will add to global warming.

This month, the global sea surface hit a new record high temperature. It has never warmed this much, this quickly. Scientists don't fully understand why this has happened.

But they worry that, combined with other weather events, the world's temperature could reach a concerning new level by the end of next year.

An **important new study**, published last week with little fanfare, highlights a worrying development. Over the past 15 years, the Earth has accumulated almost as much heat as it did in the previous 45 years, with most of the extra energy going into the oceans.

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

Recognising Green Participatory Budgeting in Scotland PB Scotland

The Green PB Seal and Green PB Benefits Badge help recognise, identify and support green PB activity in Scotland.

Both the **Seal** and **Benefits Badge** show the positive impact participatory budgeting is having on Scotland's drive

to achieve a Just Transition to net-zero by 2045.

Developed by the **Green PB Action Group** and hosted by PB Scotland, groups whose work supports the climate change agenda and **Scotland's Just Transition to net-zero** are welcome to apply and highlight the positive, sustainable impact they're making for Scotland.

Read more [here](#).

Share your Highland weather & climate stories to help build resilience in the region

Live in the Highlands and Islands? Highland Adapts is looking to hear from people about their experiences of weather and climate in the highlands to help better understand future opportunities and risks.

Sharing a story today will help develop Highland's future climate resilience and will provide important evidence for the first Highland climate risk and opportunity assessment.

Find out more and share a story [here](#).

Scotland's national parks should be protected havens for wildlife survey finds

Three quarters of Scots want to see wilder national parks, with areas devoted to rewilding, according to research carried out for the Scottish Rewilding Alliance.

In an opinion poll for the alliance carried out by market research agency Survation, 74% of Scots agreed with the call to make national parks wilder, with just 6% of people opposed.

Read the full story on Third Force news [here](#).



Latest news from the Home Safety Scotland Forum

We're always on the lookout for new members to join our forum! If you work in or are interested in home safety, and would like to join or attend our forum, please contact Kevin Chase at hss@scsn.org.uk.

The next meeting of the Home Safety Scotland Forum will take place on Monday 12th of June.

You can follow Home Safety Scotland on Twitter at [@HomeSafetyScot](https://twitter.com/HomeSafetyScot)

Home Safety Scotland Quarterly Update

By Kevin Chase, National Development Officer

The last quarter has been an interesting one reaching out to groups and organisations who are providing some fantastic work within their respective communities. These organisations vary from third sector, Local Authority and national organisations.

At the end of February I met with Roar For Life in Renfrewshire. A brilliant organisation providing support for older adults in Renfrewshire by offering several services including improving mobility in older people with a nail cutting service to prevent falls and also supporting older adults by being connected and removing the concerns of social isolation by offering several clubs for people to attend. Improving mobility in older adults has been proven to reduce the number of falls they may suffer. Roar rely on volunteers and also financial support and we are backing

their Renfrew Community Grants bid at Tesco, Renfrew to support their toe cutting service. Please support this organisation if you shop at this store.

At the end of March I met with Eastern Renfrewshire Council and their brilliant Child Safety Scheme. The scheme is a coordinated approach between NHS and the local Council to provide educational advice to families who have welcomed a new born child to their home. The scheme is mainstreamed and embedded in Eastern Renfrewshire practices that the information and dangers of items such as button batteries and other key informative leaflets to new parents. There is also accident preventative advice passed during the home visits by Health Visitors. It is a brilliantly coordinated scheme and I would recommend this to other Councils looking into similar successful schemes.

Read Kev's update in full on the SCSN website [here](#).

Safety made simple for Child Safety Week 2023



The Child Accident Prevention Trust's [Child Safety Week](#) runs from Monday 5th to Sunday 11th June 2023. Sparking safety conversations and activities Scotland-wide, Child Safety Week helps give families the confidence to put safety into practise.

This year, the theme for Child Safety Week is Safety Made Simple, focusing on the practical, simple things that families can do to keep children safe.

With family life busier than ever, it can feel challenging to make time for safety at home. But even simple, quick changes can prevent children having serious accidents.

Three simple things to do now

It's quick and easy to get involved:

- Put the date in your diary.
- [Sign up for updates](#) so you don't miss out on free resources and advice.
- Encourage your colleagues to sign up too.

Find out more about Child Safety Week [here](#).

Scottish Electrical Product Safety Conference

**Wednesday 17 May
2023, Edinburgh
International Conference
Centre**



Bringing you the first Scottish Electrical Product Safety Conference - join experts and leaders from across the industry to explore critical issues, solutions and insight in safer electrical products – from conception, through manufacture and production to sale. Tailored to address issues for a Scottish audience,

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

Mark McCall Home Safety Fund winners celebrated with Scottish Parliament Motion

The SCSN, Home Safety Scotland Forum, RoSPA and Fife Council are grateful to Clare Adamson MSP for tabling a motion in the Scottish Parliament recently celebrating the winners of the inaugural Mark McCall Home Safety Fund.

Care and Repair in Lanarkshire were the worthy recipients of the £3,000 in funding for home safety equipment.

You can read the parliamentary motion [here](#).

Electrical Safety First Safety Innovation Award 2023

Showcase your innovative project or product in front of an audience of retailers, manufacturers and distributors.



Have a great safety idea, project or prototype? The Safety Innovation Award recognizes and rewards projects or projects that help protect consumers against electrical danger.

Your project or product does not need to be complete - it can be in the creation/prototype stage.

[Submit your application here](#)

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Sight Loss Resources

As of 2021, there are more than 2 million people are living with sight loss in the UK. Around 340,000 of these are registered as blind or partially sighted.

SFRS has worked with the [Royal National Institute of Blind People Scotland](#) (RNIB) to create audio versions of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service leaflets which can be played or downloaded on [Sound Cloud](#).



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