

Safety NET-works

November 2021



Climate Change & Community Safety

www.safercommunitiesScotland.org



Thinking about...



Event Report Published: 'SCSN thinking about...Climate Change & Community Safety'

In light of the COP26 global event in Glasgow, and the impact of climate change becoming ever more apparent across Scotland the UK, SCSN facilitated a workshop, to identify how climate change might affect community safety.

On Tuesday 19 October 2021, SCSN hosted and facilitated a 2-hour online workshop. Over 30 people attended from a spectrum of community safety organisations. Attendees included representatives from RoSPA, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Leads, SEPA, Neighbourhood Watch Scotland and the Scottish Flood Forum.

Structure

Prior to the workshop, SCSN identified 5 key impacts of climate change to explore in further detail with attendees. This was achieved through a rapid evidence review of policy documents, including the recent IPCC report on climate change (2021) and the UK Climate Risk Assessment (2021). The 5 areas identified and discussed in the workshop were (1) Increased Rainfall and Flooding, (2) Hotter Weather and Heatwaves, (3) Coastal Erosion, (4) Pests and Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) and (5) Extreme Weather Events.

Continue reading on page 6

Thinking about Climate Change Anxiety - Blog by David Barbour, SCSN Communications Officer



In October, we ran a webinar on Climate Change and Community Safety. Given that the climate crisis will affect literally everyone, we were aware that it might inevitably impact on community safety too. But it was only when we started giving it some real thought that we began to realise there were a huge range of potential impacts across many areas of community safety.

How we plan, design and build communities or places is also crucial to help reduce the likelihood of the worst impacts of climate change – e.g. active travel, excellent & affordable public transport, sustainable development, green spaces, safe and warm homes and more.

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

SCSN Updates - Page 2

SCSN Conversations With..
Stewart Prodger - Page 3

Light Up the Way –
Transforming Power with
Community Climate Action
(Guest blog) - Page 6

Neighbourhood Watch
Scotland News - Page 9
Home Safety Scotland
News - Page 10



New Case Study Published - Gannochy Bridge, Water Safety

We've published a new case study on our website by the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

Following a rise of water rescue incidents both nationally and locally, LALO Duncan, WC Matty Crabb and WC Michael Annal recognised that it was important to push out the SFRS Summer Thematic Action Plan (TAP) initiative and water safety advice at an area that had witnessed a spike in recent incidents.

Read the Case Study in full [here](#).

Latest SCSN Consultation Responses

We've recently submitted responses to the following consultations. Click on the links to access them on our website.

- [Covid Recovery Consultation](#)
- [National Strategy for Community Justice](#)

SCSN Environmental Impact Assessment

Our November team meeting took place during the second week of the COP26 Conference, our staff team agreed that it would be useful and desirable for the SCSN to carry out an environmental impact assessment.

We are currently at the early stages of planning how we would go about this, and recently attended the joint SCVO and ACOSVO event on how the voluntary sector can tackle the climate crisis. We'll provide updates on this as we go!

Question of the Month

Our last Question of the Month was based around the themes of crime, punishment and rehabilitation - and came from Professor Fergus McNeill linking to his article on the Distant Voices Festival.

We asked:

Are you doing all that you can and should to help reintegrate people who have served their time in prison or on community sentences?

- 20% said Yes
- 50% said No
- 30% said Not Sure

Question of the Month November 2021

Our Question of the Month for November/December is based on this newsletter's 'Climate Change & Community Safety' theme - and comes from Stewart Prodger of SEPA. See our interview with Stewart on page 3.

We're asking:

"Are you actively doing things which will improve long term community safety by reducing contributions to climate change?"

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

SCSN Conversations with... Stewart Prodger, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)



For our #SCSNConversationsWith interview this month, we sat down with a familiar face, Chair of Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Stewart Prodger, who's day job is Principal Officer for Responders & Communities with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency. Stewart is also involved with the Scottish Flood Forum.

In this interview we discussed how climate change might impact on community safety and what we can do to prepare or mitigate against the worst impacts, reflecting on some of the discussions at the recent SCSN climate change & community safety event.

Watch the interview on our Youtube Channel [here](#).

Webinar Learning Report: Tackling the Climate Crisis



A joint SCVO and ACOSVO event

18th November 2021

With the climate crisis continuing to escalate and the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) having taken place in Glasgow this year, climate change and sustainability should be a topic on everyone's mind. Voluntary sector leaders are becoming increasingly conscious of the need to be more involved in tackling this crisis regardless of your organisation's cause.

This webinar aimed to raise awareness of why climate change is relevant to non-

"Anything else you're interested in is not going to happen if you can't breathe the air and drink the water. Don't sit this one out. Do something. You are by accident of fate alive at an absolutely critical moment in the history of our planet." – Carl Sagan

environmental organisations and open up discussion about what these organisations can be doing to respond to the climate crisis and mitigate its effect on their communities. It also aimed to identify some of the challenges facing organisations in adapting to the transition to net zero.

At the SCSN we have recently begun to think seriously about how the climate crisis might impact on community safety. Like many organisations, at first this issue seemed somewhat peripheral to our work. But as we began to explore it, we realised it has implications across vast swathes of community safety issues – e.g. road safety, rail safety, flooding, forest fires, water safety, mental health (including suicide & other deaths of despair), young people, community planning, place standards, green spaces, rural isolation, protesting & police powers, poverty & inequality and justice.

You can download this event learning report in full from our website, as well as viewing previous learning reports, [here](#).



HMICS Thematic Inspection of Police Scotland Training and Development - Phase 2

HMICS committed to publishing Phase 2 of its Thematic Inspection on Police Scotland Training and Development in its Scrutiny Plan with the Terms of Reference being published in March 2021.

By the time of the publication of the Phase 1 report in September 2020^[1] (Phase 1 Report), it was clear that issues of equality, diversity and inclusion were more important than ever. At that time, HMICS stated its intention to carry out a further inspection focusing specifically on Police Scotland's recruitment, retention, development and promotion of people from under-represented groups.

This inspection focuses on the internal aspects of equality, diversity and inclusion, given the importance of a police service that is reflective

of the communities it serves in order to maintain public trust and confidence. HMICS has looked at all protected characteristics, but has compared and contrasted the progress made in relation to two, as follows:

- Sex – the representation of women in policing
- Race – the representation of people from minority ethnic backgrounds in policing

In June 2021, HMICS published a report on Police Scotland's response to hate crime, which again pointed out gaps in diversity training, and recommended that Police Scotland review its approach to dealing with hate crime experienced by its own police officers and staff.

This Phase 2 report describes the significant progress Police Scotland has made since the Phase 1 report was published in September 2020. This has been delivered in the challenging context of the coronavirus pandemic. The inspection found evidence of genuine commitment at the most senior levels of Police Scotland to ensure that the service is welcoming and inclusive.

Read more and download the Phase 2 report [here](#).

16 Days of Action on Domestic Violence (25 November - 10 December)

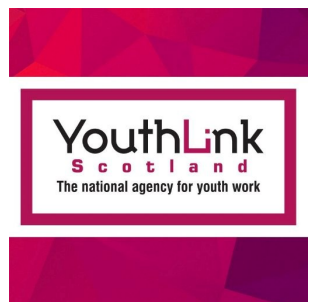


The National Violence Against Women Network have developed a toolkit of resources to add value to local 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaigns across Scotland.

This toolkit supports a number of activities which can be progressed locally and nationally to maximise the impact of this year's campaign.

The SCSN will be supporting the campaign on our social media accounts and encourage partners to do the same by downloading the toolkit [here](#).

Policy Convention on a Right to Youth Work in Scotland - Report



On September 16, 2021, almost 200 delegates signed up for YouthLink Scotland's Policy Convention on a Right to Youth Work for all Scotland's young people. Attendees arrived mainly from across the youth work industry, the children's sector, and formal education. Delegates included policy professionals from different areas of public life and Scottish Government civil servants.

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

Latest Community Safety Consultations

Police Scotland Event Engagement Survey

The Police Scotland [event engagement survey](#) is open for anyone to complete who have experienced events and protest in Scotland.

The Police are keen to use these insights to understand what the public think about the policing of protests and events in Scotland and we are committed to using this to inform learning and continuous improvement.

The results of this survey will also be reviewed by John Scott QC as Chair of the Independent Advisory Group for 'Operation Urram' (the name of the COP26 policing operation) as the group makes its assessment of the policing approach in future months.

Scottish Government Consultation: The future of recorded crime and police activity statistics

The Scottish Government is consulting on the production and dissemination of Scotland's recorded crime statistics, and on the possible development of new analysis on other types of policing activity. The responses received will help inform their long term strategy for the

delivery of crime and policing statistics.

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

Bail and release from custody arrangements

Consultation on the use of remand and arrangements around release from custody - two areas which we consider have the potential to contribute to a shift in how prison and imprisonment is used in a modern Scotland.

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

Proposed changes to Energy Standards and associated topics, including Ventilation, Overheating and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Scottish building regulations set minimum standards applicable to new buildings and to new work to existing buildings.

The recent draft Heat in Buildings Strategy sets out the SG vision for decarbonising heat and reducing energy demand across all buildings in Scotland, setting out the scale of the investment opportunity and supporting our green recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

Road Safety Scotland Annual Seminar

23rd March 2022
Edinburgh International Conference Centre



The Road Safety Framework to 2030 was published at the beginning of the year and among its many aspirations was the commitment to establishing an annual Scottish Road Safety Week (SRSW). After internal discussions within Transport Scotland, a SRSW Working Group was formed made up of TS staff and several external organisations including Police Scotland, SFRS, RoSPA and IAMRoadsmart – the

group has had its initial meeting, and March was viewed as a suitable time to host this event.

As a Team, RSS was also discussing the return of our Annual Seminar and it seemed fairly logical it be incorporated within SRSW. It was previously agreed to postpone the Seminar until we were 'on the other side' of Covid19 and, although not fully out of the woods yet, RSS would like to return to a physical event, and have started to put together a programme.

23rd March has been selected as the date and more information will be published in due course.

In the meantime, if you or any of your colleagues wish to reserve a place at the event, please email – ross.kilpatrick@transport.gov.scot



Light Up the Way – Transforming Power with Community Climate Action



By Joana Avi-Lorie, Story Weaver at Scottish Communities Climate Action Network

I know we are not powerless, but we cannot underestimate the difficulties of changing the stories that makes us think we are. This need to change the story has led many authors, speakers, and community leaders to focus on the empowerment of others, and to develop tools to enable people, particularly in deprived settings to think about power and what power means.

But can we be empowered without unpacking the idea of power itself? I believe that community power and community empowerment are a key cog in the mechanism of a just transition and of surviving and adapting to climate change. However, there's an itchy question in my mind when

thinking about power. I am reminded of images of previously powerless who used power no differently than the powerful. For those interested in change, like me, it is also intuitive to place the so-called powerless against the so-called powerful. Is it effective? Perhaps by acting on power itself and stretching the boundaries to fields of social action and social justice without reproducing that traditional concept of power, we can move beyond empowerment to transforming power.

Through my journey as a community climate Story Weaver, I began to pay attention to the stories told by and among communities in Scotland under the light of this idea of transforming power. There are three rules in creating a good story: character, character, character. Plot trumps character. So here are three plot points I pinned down through this field observation with no real method to it, only a great deal of curiosity and an even greater deal of hope.

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

SCSN thinking about...Climate Change & Community Safety

Continued from front page main article

At the virtual workshop, participants were divided into 3 groups. Each group explored the above impacts of climate change in relation to (1) Home Safety, (2) Outdoor Safety and (3) Personal Safety. Splitting community safety into these 3 key areas enabled a broad, in-depth exploration of the potential impacts of climate change on different strands of community safety.

The workshop utilised 'Jam Board' as an interactive, real-time collaborative platform whereby all participants were able to share their thoughts and learn from each other, simultaneously. The conversation was rich, creative and thought provoking, and practitioners shared their expertise in an open and relaxed environment. The findings of the

workshop are summarised in the main body of this learning report. However, for reference and context, please read the below definitions of the 5 areas of climate change that were covered in the workshop, as well as brief definition of home safety, outdoor safety and personal safety.

You can download the event report in full from our website [here](#).

You can also view the PDF of the Jam Board from the event discussions [here](#).

The Con of Carbon Off-Setting

We often hear talk of carbon off-setting as a way of helping the environment if people are going to continue to use fossil fuels.

This really [handy piece](#) by Greenpeace explains why carbon off-setting doesn't work - and also has implications for climate justice.



Artists inspired by Scotland's messages to COP26

[A set of nine artworks](#) depict why the people of Scotland care about the climate and nature emergency.

This is part of a climate change campaign that has gathered support from people around Scotland to send a message to leaders attending COP26 in Glasgow.

Climate Scotland has collected over 7,000 voices from across the nation, to show that the people of Scotland want meaningful action to protect the things they love, and create a better future for people everywhere.

Nine new mural artworks have been created to depict the messages of the people of Scotland gathered so far, and are on display at the Glasgow Botanic Gardens during COP26.

The UN climate summit COP26 is a major opportunity to re-energise efforts to tackle the climate emergency.

Through this campaign, everyone in Scotland has the opportunity to show how much they care about the climate and nature emergencies. The messages gathered online have been shared in the COP26 Green Zone and at the Scottish Government space at The Lighthouse, Glasgow.

Individuals visiting the Climate Scotland website are able to add their voice to the campaign by selecting a theme that is most relevant to them or by writing their own reason. The themes cover a broad range of perspectives, which are depicted in the artwork:

- Flourishing communities
- Future generations
- Greener, fairer livelihoods
- Wildlife and nature
- Sustainable food systems
- Protecting the world's resources
- Health and wellbeing
- Beautiful places
- Solidarity with global neighbours.

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

SCDC statement on COP26

The Climate Emergency is the most urgent issue facing humanity right now.

It's a global issue of social and economic justice, with the impacts of climate change worse for those who have the least wealth and power.

We know that climate change and inequalities share the same root cause – our unsustainable economic system, so we must address both issues together.

As we shift towards a carbon neutral economy and society begins to benefit, it's vital we don't leave anyone behind; a just transition is essential.



To do this, communities and community development approaches must play a key role in helping make the case and actively influence for a fairer and sustainable economic and social model.

The vital contribution of communities is well-illustrated by...

- Scotland's existing climate activism.
- The community-led response to the Covid-19 emergency.
- The progressive recommendations of Scotland's recent citizens' assemblies.

With time running out, governments need to be brave, act now, and involve communities from the start.

Investing in Communities Fund Webinars

The Investing in Communities Fund aims to support community anchor organisations based in the places they serve by delivering activity across the following four areas for action in our most disadvantaged and fragile communities across Scotland:

- tackling poverty and inequality;
- sustaining place-based approaches;
- community-led regeneration;
- ensuring a just transition to net zero.



The team will be holding webinar sessions for interested stakeholders and prospective applicants to provide an overview of the fund's aims, eligibility criteria and the application process prior to its anticipated opening for applications next calendar year. The webinars will also include time for Q&A. Our approach is also intended to provide time for interested organisations to develop quality collaborative place based proposals in conjunction with local partner organisations.

The webinars will last one hour and are planned for **1030-1130 on Tuesday 30 November 2021** and **1400-1500 on Wednesday 8 December 2021**, with links to the registration process as follows:

[Tuesday 30 November 2021 - 10.30am - 11.30am - Register Now](#)

[Wednesday 8 December 2021 - 2.00pm - 3.00pm - Register Now](#)

New Study: Accidents the biggest killer of 10-24 year olds

A [new study](#) published in the Lancet Medical Journal has found that globally, transport injuries, unintentional injuries & interpersonal violence were the leading causes of death for people aged 10-24. It also found that 8.2% of deaths in this group were due to self harm.

Since 1950, deaths in this age group decreased by 30.0% in females and 15.3% in males, and sex-based differences in mortality rate have widened in most regions of the world.

The proportion of global deaths in people aged 0-24 years that occurred in people aged 10-24 years more than doubled between 1950 and 2019, from 9.5% to 21.6%.

The study concludes that in order to improve global adolescent mortality, actions will be required to address the specific vulnerabilities of this age group, particularly around addressing inequality, & mindful of the impact the covid 19 pandemic has had on this group.

Wales Safer Communities launch new website



Our friends and partners at Wales Safer Communities Wales have just launched their new website.

The SCSN was very pleased to be able to assist Wales Safer Communities in the early stages of their development, based on our own organisational structure & values - citing lots of good practice across Scotland.

Check out the new website, and find out about community safety, legislation, training & latest updates in Wales at:

<https://safercommunities.wales/>



Neighbourhood Watch SCOTLAND

SPARC Rural Crime Update for October 2021



The number of rural crimes recorded throughout Scotland spiked and was the highest number recorded in a month for 2021. In terms of overall rural crimes reported, Lothians & The Scottish Borders area was the most targeted, (almost double the number of crimes compared to all other areas) followed by Aberdeenshire then Lanarkshire with once again by far and away the main crimes relating to theft of agricultural + plant machinery with a further notable rise in numbers of quad bikes being stolen. The total cost of rural crime for October totalled **£683,396** with a

total of **£120,650** recovered, the majority of which relates to stolen agricultural machinery and quads. This compares to a total reported rural crime figure of **£360,865** and a total of **£54,000** recovered in October 2020, again highlighting criminality continues to target more expensive and sophisticated machinery within rural locations.

Operation Hawkeye has confirmed and identified that the majority of targeted rural crime committed in Scotland is perpetrated via a couple of serious organised crime groups plus several key families from the criminal element of the travelling fraternity who are all linked and travel extensively throughout the Scotland, Cumbria, Northumbria, Cleveland and County Durham areas.

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

Tackling Fly-Tipping and Preventing Illegal Rubbish Dumping: Encouraging Responsible Waste Disposal and Reducing Waste Crime

22nd February 2022

During the Covid-19 crisis and subsequent lockdowns, there was a significant increase in the incidence of fly-tipping, with many local authorities having to close down waste recycling centres due to coronavirus-related restrictions. But the issue of fly tipping goes beyond the current pandemic. Instead, fly-tipping has been steadily on the rise for over half a decade. According to the most recent statistics published in 2021 by Defra and recording the period up until March 2020, fly tipping incidents have increased by 7% since 2014 (peaking in 2019).

Furthermore, large-scale fly-tipping – defined as tipper lorry load or more in size – has doubled in the last six years. Yet, during the same period, the number of fly tipping enforcement actions in England has actually decreased since 2014/15. The National Fly-Tipping Prevention Group (to which Defra provides the secretariat), estimates fly-tipping costs between £86m-£186 million every year to investigate and clear up, the majority of which is incurred by local authorities already struggling with financial pressures.

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



Latest news from the Home Safety Scotland Forum

Join the Home Safety Scotland Forum!

We're always looking for new members to join our group! If you work in or are interested in home safety and would like to join or attend our forum - please contact josh.box@scsn.org.uk. Follow Home Safety Scotland on Twitter: [@HomeSafetyScot](https://twitter.com/HomeSafetyScot)



Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week 2021: New SGN microsite & resources!

22nd-26th November

Our friends and partners at SGN have created new CO Awareness materials aimed at high school-aged children, to teach them all about the dangers of carbon monoxide and how it can affect them and their loved ones. Their new Silent Killer microsite includes an interactive 'detective' game, where the kids have to work out who the silent killer is. The aim is for this to be taught in schools and during extra-curricular groups all over the UK. All materials are also downloadable and will launch during CO Awareness Week.

Visit the new website [here](#).



Increase in dangerous toys sold online

News reports of shortages and delivery problems for children's toys this Christmas have many of us reaching for our phones to get shopping and quick!

But – if you're searching for Black Friday toy deals – how do you know if the toys you're

buying online are dangerous toys for kids?

Here CAPT explain:

- how to tell a safe seller from a dodgy dealer
- which toys are most dangerous, especially if you're buying from an online platform.

Read the full article [here](#).



New guidance on buying safe toys from the Office for Product Safety & Standards

The Office for Product Safety and Standards has published new guidance and launched a social media campaign on toy safety, using the hashtag #SafeToys2021.

The OPSS website and the campaign feature a range of key messages and advice on ensuring that toys you buy this Christmas are safe.

You can view their guidance [here](#).

In other news...

news

Webinar: Behaviour Change and Achieving Net Zero after COP: the roles of consumers, companies and public bodies

Why do some people take action on climate change in their personal lives and actions, both at home and elsewhere, while others do not? Research shows that awareness of climate change is at its highest ever level and that people do feel an obligation to act and would like to do so. So, what stops them? Do organisations in both the public and private sectors understand what motivates and prevents their customers and consumers in acting on climate change?

This webinar explores what drives consumer and customer behaviour on climate change.

It discusses what organisations can and should do to support climate change action by better communicating with people. Finally, it examines behaviour change success in other contexts in order to reflect on what works when the challenge is tough, the change is necessary, and the reward is not immediate.

Speakers will consider what consumers think and how they act (or don't) on climate change, they will discuss how organisations should act and communicate to support and benefit from changed consumer behaviour and they will reflect on approaches to behaviour change elsewhere which could assist in climate related action.

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

Findings from a Scotland wide survey to raise people's awareness and understanding of Restorative Justice have been published.

The survey – created by Community Justice Scotland (CJS) and the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) – featured an [animation](#) on Restorative Justice (RJ) in a Scottish context. People were asked to watch this and then comment on whether it helped raise their awareness and understanding of RJ.

This work was undertaken on behalf of the Scottish Government, to help meet the priorities of the Restorative Justice Action Plan. Both CYCJ and Community Justice Scotland are supporting this.

Over 300 people responded. The findings were positive and will inform future knowledge development and awareness raising methods as RJ services develop across Scotland.

An easy read version of the animation survey results can be [accessed here](#). To obtain a full report, please contact rachael.moss@communityjustice.scot.



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