

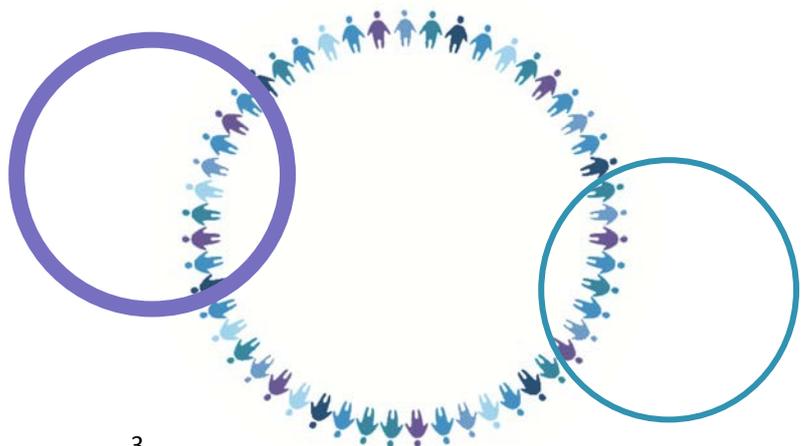
# Community Safety and the National Agenda

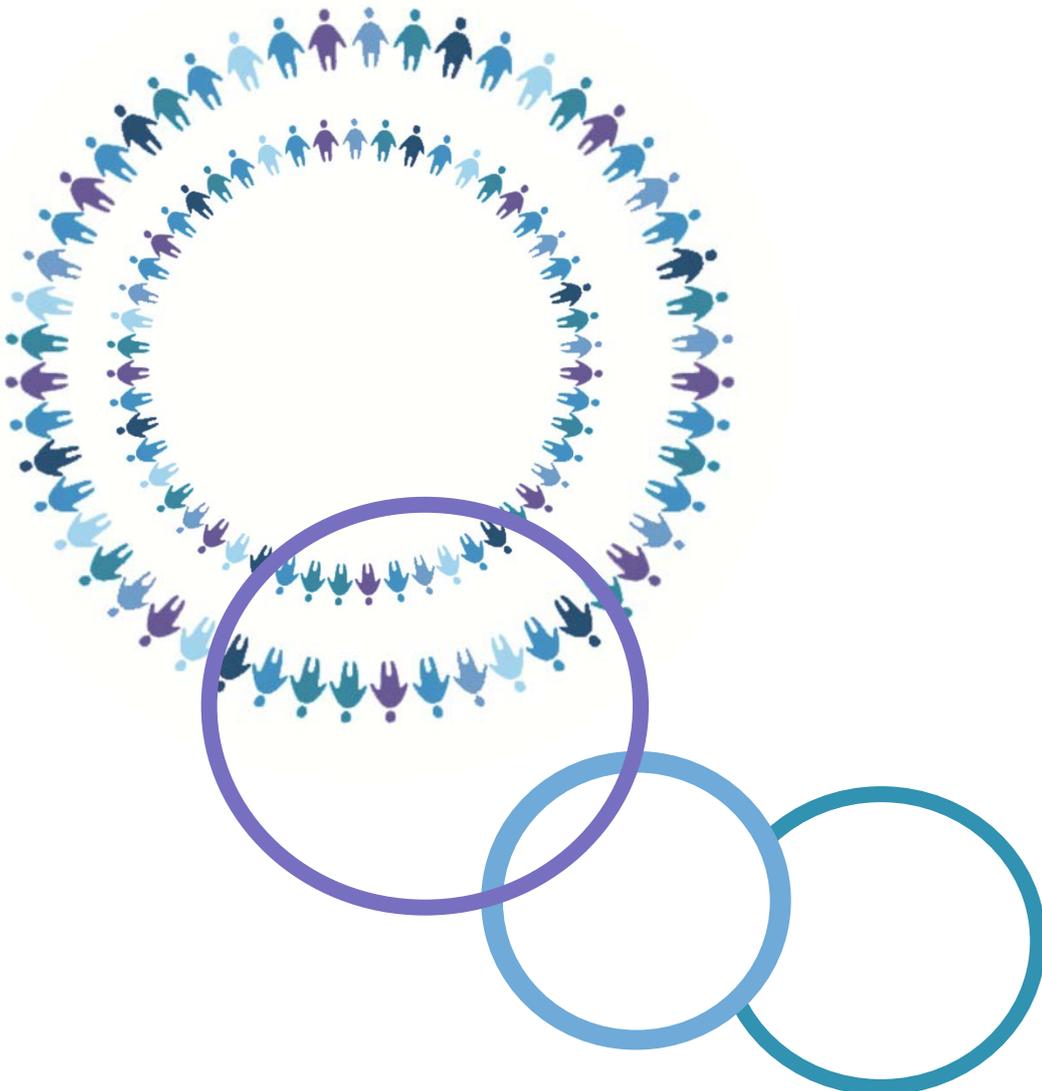




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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SCSN would like to thank those partnerships which supported this research, for giving their time and for the candid responses given. For SCSN this is the continuation of a journey to plot and maintain a picture of community safety structures, practise and issues in Scotland. With an ever diversifying range of local partnership arrangements we hope this research encourages a common sense of identity and a foundation for the sector to champion local and national practise.

With thanks to the following Community Safety Partnerships:

Aberdeen City  
Angus  
Argyll and Bute  
City of Edinburgh  
Clackmannanshire  
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar  
Dumfries and Galloway  
Dundee  
East Ayrshire  
East Dunbartonshire  
East Renfrewshire  
Falkirk  
Fife  
Glasgow  
Inverclyde  
Midlothian  
Moray  
North Ayrshire  
North Lanarkshire  
Orkney  
Renfrewshire  
Scottish Borders  
South Ayrshire  
South Lanarkshire  
Stirling  
West Dunbartonshire  
West Lothian



## PURPOSE

During spring 2014, the Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN) undertook the third phase of its on-going research, focusing on Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Scotland. The purpose of this research is to contribute to the design of an up to date and comprehensive evidence base of CSP structures, practise and partnerships, which will assist in the formulation of a repository of what works, why and how.

Reports from the previous two research initiatives<sup>1</sup> were shared with the Scottish Government's Community Safety Unit (CSU), circulated widely within the sector and are available on the SCSN website at [www.safercommunitiesscotland.org](http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org).

This report follows up on areas identified for further research from Phase I and II, focusing on:

- Organisational Structures
- Community Safety Operations
- Links to the Justice Strategy
- Public Sector Reform

The research also highlighted examples of good practise for SCSN to share and opportunities for SCSN to develop resources to support further development within the sector.

<sup>1</sup> A Current View of Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland (2012)  
A Current View of Working in Partnership in Scotland (2013)

## METHOD

During spring 2014 SCSN staff spoke to 27 of the 32 CSPs in Scotland, covering rural and urban and mixed local authority areas. The research method utilised document reviews, interviews and surveys to collect a wide variety of data relating to CSP local priorities, links to national policies and strategies and the impact that Public Sector Reform has had organisationally and operationally. SCSN also conducted desk based research to analyse local government structures and SOA priorities and their impact on CSPs across Scotland.

Of those interviewed seven were rural and small towns, eighteen were urban and two were mixed. Regionally interviews were broken down into eight in the east, six in the north and thirteen in the west. The geographical breakdown of respondents is as follows:

Western Region	Rural Urban Mixed	Eastern Region	Rural Urban Mixed	Northern Region	Rural Urban Mixed
Argyll & Bute	R	Stirling	M	Moray	R
E Ayrshire	U	W Lothian	U	Eilean Siar	R
E Dunbartonshire	R	Scottish Borders	R	Dundee	U
Glasgow	U	Fife	U	Angus	U
Inverclyde	U	Falkirk	U	Aberdeen	U
N Ayrshire	U	Midlothian	U	Orkney Islands	R
Renfrewshire	U	Edinburgh City	U		
S Ayrshire	U	Clackmannanshire	M		
S Lanarkshire	U				
W Dunbartonshire	U				
E Renfrewshire	R				
North Lanarkshire	U				
Dumfries and Galloway	U				

Data Source:  
Scottish Government Urban and Rural Classification Report  
2011 – 2012 dated August 2012

It is important to note that statistical findings vary, with the data reflecting the number of CSPs that were visited or the number of responses received. Although 27 CSPs responded to the questionnaires and interviews not all areas, within each proforma, were fully completed which creates statistical variance which may not be based on all 27 responses. In instances where no answer was recorded the CSP is omitted from the statistics for the relevant section to prevent false reporting.

The majority of CSPs (22/27) interviewed indicated they had or were in the process of conducting a review of members and structures, with this review attributed directly to Public Sector Reform. Funding was the primary driver for review and reforms, as CSPs aim to improve efficiency and effectiveness within ever tightening budgets.

Of those that have reviewed their partnerships, eight used SCSN CSP Self-assessment Toolkit<sup>2</sup> to identify partnership strengths and weaknesses. All eight indicated that the toolkit was a valuable tool in the review and reform process. A further six CSPs reported that they were considering using the toolkit in the next year to support partnership development.

In addition to structural reviews some CSPs have conducted procedural and strategy reviews, which have led to a divergence in reporting and implementation, with some strategies being amalgamated into single documents from which more holistic priorities have been extracted.

Historically Strategic Assessments, Community Safety Strategies and other strategies such as Antisocial Behaviour were the mainstay documents within the partnerships. Analysis identified that there is a move towards rationalisation of documents. This is evident with the Anti-Social Behaviour strategies which a third (9/27) of CSPs have amalgamated into the Community Safety Strategy. The remaining CSPs (18/27) continue to produce separate Community Safety Strategy.

<sup>2</sup> CSP Self-Assessment Toolkit

Data also identified that over two thirds (19/27) produced a separate Strategic Assessment and under a half (12/27) continued to maintain a separate Antisocial Behaviour Strategy.

Police data identifies 19 Partnership Analysts, with additional services obtained through Service Level Agreements, providing coverage to 12 partnerships. Where there is no dedicated analytical cover, data is obtained directly from police. Those without dedicated analysts are more likely to report difficulties in obtaining data to measure CSP performance and evidence based planning. Indeed there is a direct correlation between those with dedicated analytical staff and those CSPs which have a Strategic Assessment and deliver local tasking and co-ordination.

To support the development of strategic assessments, in 2013 SCSN designed and delivered a modular training on 'Evidence Based Strategic Planning'<sup>3</sup> to measure the future demand for this training CSPs were asked when they last attended any strategic assessment training. Out of those CSPs that provided a response just under half stated they had attended Strategic Assessment training in the last two years.



<sup>3</sup>SCSN Training and Events

## Mediation Services

The delivery of mediation services varies between councils with service provision organised internally or sub-contracted commissioned. Of the 21 local authorities who provided data on mediation three quarters maintained in house mediation services and a quarter sub-contracted the service. However of those that sub-contracted the service half were conducting reviews to bring externally provided mediation services back in house. Anecdotal data suggests that funding is the primary reason for review, however there was concern over the numbers of referrals which brought into question cost effectiveness. Of those that had mediation services half stated that the service was well received, had excellent links and established referral processes.

CSPs are also reporting a reduction in referrals to mediation services which is partly being attributed to changes in local police personnel, resulting in a reduced awareness of the local services and referral procedures. SCSN is currently working with Police Scotland and Scottish Community Mediation Network to develop a standard operational procedure and have obtained a commitment from Police Scotland that mediation training will be delivered at the Scottish Police College.



## Risk Education Projects

Research indicates that two thirds of CSPs (17/27) continue to organise primary 7 (P7) focused interactive educational projects aimed at raising awareness with school children about a variety of threats and risks to themselves and others. The titles of these educational risk projects vary across Scotland; however a commonly used project name is 'crucial crew'.

Of the CSPs that conducted 'crucial crew' events three quarters (12/17) have conducted an evaluation of the project. 'crucial crew' events tend to be locally based with a unified central theme with widely varying operations and partners.

Operationally the 'crucial crew' projects have been predominantly run in partnership with the Police, Fire and a host of partners, with the Police taking a lead role in many CSP areas. Public Sector Reform has reportedly had an impact on the availability of personnel with concerns expressed about the continued commitment of key partners to the projects sustainability. Indeed four CSPs indicated that they have had to cancel events as a result of the withdrawal of key personnel which is directly linked to the on-going reforms. CSPs are keen to maintain on-going commitments from Police, Fire and partners to ensure that these projects continue.

Three quarters of CSPs who responded (13/17) stated that they felt that a national evaluation of 'crucial crew' projects to evidence their effectiveness and impact would be beneficial. Other examples of good practice include:

The Risk Factory in Edinburgh is Scotland's first purpose built interactive safety centre, providing experiential learning on personal safety in a variety of managed settings. Since its inception in 2007 the facility has manufactured everyday risks in a safe environment with the aim of teaching children, groups and vulnerable people about how to deal with or avoid risks altogether. The centre is funded by four local authorities; City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian councils.<sup>4</sup>

Go Safe Scotland is an online interactive educational tool for teachers to use to encourage pupils to consider risks and how to keep themselves safe. Session plans are developed in partnership with education services and link to the Curriculum for Excellence with topics ranging including digital safety, water safety, home and outdoor safety.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The Risk Factory website

<sup>5</sup> Go Safe Scotland website

## Safer Streets and Night Time Economy

The outcome from legacy ring fenced government funding in support of safer streets and night time economy has resulted in a high number of CSPs having mainstreamed safe streets/night time economy programmes. Two thirds of CSPs (16/23) who responded continued to deliver safe streets/night time economy programme despite the funding having been withdrawn some-time ago. This clearly identifies safer streets and night time economy are key local authority cross cutting priorities and as a result the funding has been maintained internally.

The data identified that even after the safe streets programme, just under a half (10/27) of CSPs still maintained transport marshals despite funding reduction. In many case the service was only at peak periods within hot spot areas or was in response to seasonal demand in urban areas. Project examples of night time economy include:

In Aberdeen the ADP/CSP formulated a partnership approach to tackling alcohol and drug issues within the city centre and the impact that they have on night time economy. The collaborative project tackled the causes of alcohol and drug incidents and proved very successful which resulted in the award of Scotland's first Purple Flag for Safer Streets.

To address the night time economy issue of vulnerable people becoming the victim of crime three cities; Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow conducted a pilot of a "safe bus zone", which provided safety and support to vulnerable individuals using mobile units.





## Preventative Spend

CSPs were all familiar with the Christie Commission and the emphasis on preventative spending. The majority of CSPs (17/25) are aware of SCSN's Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Tool Kit<sup>6</sup> designed to assist partners in quantifying research, supporting project applications and evaluations. Feedback identified that all had intentions of using the resource to evidence cost benefits associated with CSP operations and would welcome training on using the toolkit.

## Cyber-crime/Internet Safety

The improvement of Scotland's internet infrastructure is a key priority within many CPP single outcome agreements as it is closely linked to the economic sustainability, viability and growth for Scottish business in coming years. Despite this only a few CSPs have in place information or internet security projects; projects that address the issue of computer safety awareness, social media security and phishing and cyber bullying. Examples of projects include:

Midlothian's Lasswade High School "Respect Us" Group produced short information films aimed at educating about bullying in all forms including cyber bullying and offer online support and advice including a Facebook page and links to anti-bullying events, information and advice.

TESSA is Argyll and Bute Rape Crisis's youth project for secondary school aged young people. The project aims to raise awareness of issues surrounding internet safety, cyber-bullying and grooming. It also seeks to challenge inappropriate behaviour and delivers a range of age appropriate interactive workshops to schools, parents groups and youth clubs.

The Strategy for Justice in Scotland (2012)<sup>7</sup> sets out an approach for making the justice system in Scotland fit for the 21 Century. This strategy is essential for community safety as it encompasses many aspects that impact on community safety issues. The data captured from CSPs identified that the majority (20/27) were aware of the strategy and its content. While not all were aware of the detail of the strategy it was clear that the Justice Strategy is a driver for multiple community safety targets. In particular interviews, surveys and document reviews looked at examples of practice against the following key areas of the strategy.

- Reduction of violent and organised crime
- Reduction of offending
- Tackling hate crime and sectarianism
- Preventing offending by young people
- Reducing harm from fires and other emergencies
- Reducing the impact of drugs and alcohol
- Increasing public confidence and reducing fear of crime
- Supporting victims and witnesses
- Strengthening community engagement and resilience

## Reducing Offending

In order to reduce offending CSPs engage with a number of partners including Community Justice Teams, Restorative Justice, Social Work and Prison Services. Within the north area, CSPs stated that they had established links to Criminal Justice System and Social Work, with a half (4/8) of east CSPs reporting similar links. In the west, half (6/15) had good links with the Criminal Justice team and other partners, however a quarter (3/15) did not have any links to Criminal Justice, Social Work or offender prevention partners.

The key projects used to reduce offending include Community Payback Schemes, referrals to schemes such as Choiceworks and a mixture of offender, community and prison schemes aimed at reducing reoffending. An example of an offender reduction project is:

The "Just Play" Project was developed by Police Scotland and Angus Council in response to a growing number of reports of pre-school children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. 'Just Play' is based on the theory that focused investment in purposeful play activities in the early years will ultimately reduce costs associated with young people who grow up in very difficult and chaotic circumstances. The theory is that the participating children will be less likely to live a negative lifestyle affected by crime, and drugs and alcohol misuse.

<sup>7</sup> The Strategy for Justice in Scotland

## Reducing Violent and Organised Crime

Two thirds of CSPs (18/27) have stated that they have a violence and/or serious and organised crime strategy either as a separate strategy or a section within the strategic assessment/community safety strategy. In only four of the 18 CSPs were the violence and/or serious and organised crime strategy incorporated into the Single Outcome Agreement.

Anti-violence initiatives vary with tackling domestic abuse, knife crime and serious and organised crime (SOC) being primary drivers within CSPs. In the north domestic abuse, knife crime and SOC were low priority, whereas in the west and east there is greater emphasis on violent crime, which has resulted in these regions in the production of specific strategies and initiatives to reduce the risk and minimise threats. In the east and west two thirds (18/27) of all CSPs have formulated specific strategies to tackle the issues. Examples of tackling violence initiatives include:



Operation Respect is a joint Highlands Council and Police operation providing a high visibility anti-violence and ASB patrol aimed at reducing night time offending. The project is a multi-agency partnership approach with the aim of continuing to keep the streets of Inverness safe for shoppers, businesses and visitors to the area during the tourist season.

Safer Aberdeen App (2013 Safer Communities Award winner)<sup>8</sup> is an innovative approach to supporting initiatives that reduce city centre crime by using smart technology to deliver traditional community safety information that is instantly accessible. The app contains useful advice on how to prepare for a night out, how to enjoy a night out by drinking sensibly and how to get home safely.



## Preventing Youth Offending

The prevention of youth offending is a priority within CSPs with two thirds (17/27) having produced a specific youth offending strategy backed up by a number of initiatives, diversionary projects and problem solving partnerships. Many of the strategies are linked to community groups and youth interventions with projects and initiatives all aiming to reduce youth offending. Some of the strategies are linked with antisocial behaviour whilst others are aiming to address the issue through early intervention strategies and diversionary projects.

Three quarters of CSPs, that provided responses (19/27), have strategies in place linked to partnership initiatives and programmes which were aimed at preventing or reducing youth offending and reoffending. An example of a youth prevention project is:

The KLC-629 project is a partnership initiative between East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust, Community Learning and Development, Environment Wardens, Streetlinks and the Police. The KLC 629 programme maximises opportunities for children and young people, particularly targeted at hard to engage groups, to access a range of quality learning activities that enables young people to achieve their potential. It also assists to engage with young people through youth work approaches and sports to increase motivation, enthusiasm, health and wellbeing and develop positive relationships with staff and peers.



## Tackling Hate Crime and Sectarianism

Less than half (12/27) of CSPs report to having a hate crime or sectarianism strategy. Those that have produced such strategies are from large urban areas such as Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. Of those that have a strategy half (6/12) have dedicated thematic groups to support the work. Initiatives implemented to assist the prevention of hate crime include such initiatives as Third Party Reporting, which was initially established in the central belt and was rolled out across Scotland. Other example of anti-hate crime and sectarianism projects include:

The Keep Safe initiative was piloted in Renfrewshire and involves a network of publicly accessible businesses who display the 'Keep Safe' sticker which offers a place for people to go if they feel frightened, distressed or are the victim of crime.

The "I Am Me" group aims to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime through the use of drama productions enacted by the PACE theatre group. The productions are powerful pieces aimed at challenging attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people.

The Machan Trust developed an initiative in the Larkhall area of South Lanarkshire aimed at reducing the incidences of sectarian anti-social behaviour through the education of P7 pupils. The initiative involved the provision of workshops in schools to address the issues of sectarian attitudes and to encourage literacy and script writing skills. Pupils utilised the medium of both art and performance to highlight key messages. The anti-sectarianism project<sup>9</sup> won the Prevention and Intervention Award at the Safer Communities Awards 2012.

## Reducing Harm from Fires and Other Emergencies

Reducing the harm from fire and other emergencies is a priority across all CSPs with numerous strategies in place to address the reduction of harm in relation to fires, outdoor safety, road safety and home safety. The prevention of harm no matter the cause is a high priority for CSPs which was highlighted by the unanimous return regarding having strategies in place to combat risk and injury prevention. Practice examples included:

Award winning road safety projects such as Safe Drive Stay Alive<sup>10</sup> (Fife) and Reckless Driving Wrecks Lives<sup>11</sup> (South Ayrshire) which aim at educating drivers about the potentially lethal consequences when not driving responsibly.

The South Lanarkshire Fire Safety Project.<sup>12</sup> This award winning project is a multi-agency initiative which assists vulnerable people in their homes to prevent unnecessary fires and other injury risks. This has been a successful project which has been rolled out across Scotland.

Orkney CSP, in consultation with Glasgow University, has developed a project aimed at assessing the safety of the Islands Water ways and improving awareness of water safety using community engagement principles.



<sup>10</sup> PN47 Safe Drive Stay Alive Practice Notes

<sup>11</sup> PN52 Reckless Driving Wrecks Lives Practice Notes

<sup>12</sup> PN44 Fire Safety Project Practice Notes

## Reducing the Impact of Drugs and Alcohol

Alcohol and drugs are a priority within CSPs with a third of those (18/25) who responded having formulated alcohol and drugs strategies with the local Alcohol and Drug Partnerships (ADP). Links to ADPs were highlighted as key to the management of alcohol and drug related strategies and initiatives. All CSPs (18) who responded stated that they had a thematic group and/or worked with their local ADP to address the issues. In addition it was evident that alcohol and drugs is a cross cutting theme with partnerships involving youth and early interventions, antisocial behaviour, health and education.

Projects and approaches varied with some thematic groups supporting educational projects to address the dangers from alcohol and drugs, whilst others looked at support to individuals and their families recovering from a misuse problem. The direction of the thematic groups and support offered was as diverse as the communities and individuals that the local authorities and the ADPs assist. Project examples included:

[Hopscotch is an Angus based project sponsored by Barnardos, which supports carers of parents who have substance misuse issues.](#)

[The award winning Managing Drug Related Litter<sup>13</sup>\(Scottish Borders\) project aimed to protect the general public from the health and safety risks associated with discarded injecting equipment. This was achieved through co-production with a multi-agency partnership and users to design and deliver a shared solution to a community problem.](#)

[The award winning New Trend Awareness Initiative<sup>14</sup>\(Scottish Borders\) and Legal Highs Project<sup>15</sup>\(Dumfries and Galloway\) both aimed to raise awareness of new psychoactive substances. The latter through a drama project with young people, while the awareness project aimed at training professionals on early identification.](#)

<sup>13</sup> PN40 Managing Drug Related Litter Practice Notes

<sup>14</sup> PN49 New Trend Awareness Initiative Practice Notes

<sup>15</sup> PN50 Legal Highs Practice Notes

## Increasing Public Confidence and Reducing Fear of Crime

The production of communication strategies varies with some having joint CSP/local authority communications strategies, whilst others have partnership or departmental strategies.

In the north two CSPs had independent communications strategies with the remainder opting to be a part of the council's strategy. In the north there were a large number of regeneration projects supporting improved engagement with local services and the improved access to information services through the internet and council portals. In the east all five CSPs who responded had strategies with the main emphasis revolving around the provision of community information and services through newsletters, bulletins and information campaigns to promote services, which mirrored the west where over two thirds (9/13) of CSPs had communication strategies in place to promote safe positive communities through engagement and regeneration.

Public confidence and the fear of crime is a national driver which is clearly identified in local planning and safety partnership strategies. However, throughout the CSPs it was evident that the platform used by many to address this issue was an online platform which provided access to information and reassurance for communities and individuals. Practice examples included:

In the Western isles the councils E-Sgìre portal provides access to information and services linking communities, citizens, customers and employees into the local authority online systems.

The Safer Communities award winning Public Reassurance Initiative in Westcliff<sup>16</sup> (West Dunbartonshire) enabled engagement with communities and the implementation of appropriate problem solving approaches in the area through restructuring local services.

The Stewart Road Action Group is a local community group which is a partnership with the local community, Police and Falkirk Council. The group looks to address key community issues such as the environment, building repairs, crime and roads. Which resulted in improved traffic system, environmental clear ups and extra funding for gardening equipment

<sup>16</sup> PN45 Public Reassurance Initiative (Westcliff) Practice Notes



## Supporting Victims and Witnesses

There was a high return for the CSPs that had links to Victim Support and associated 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations. Established partnerships were identified in all north and east CSPs and two thirds (6/13) of the west CSPs. Each engaged in a variety of programmes and projects tackling issues of violence against women, victims of youth crime, victims of hate and sectarian crime, disability hate crimes, rape crisis and youth justice.

Promoting support and assistance to victims of crime is a priority within many CSPs and covers victims and witnesses to all types of crime, supporting all ages and communities. Practice examples included:

Victims Of Youth Crime (VOYCE) is a unique service provided by Victim Support Scotland in conjunction with Dundee CSP to assist adults and young people who had suffered a crime committed by a young person.

In Fife there is an equal opportunities programme aimed at supporting minority groups who have been the victims of crime. The project aims to assist black and minority groups that have been victims of hate crime and harassment.

## Strengthening Community Engagement and Resilience

The fostering of good community relations combined with the development of resilience within communities was identified as a key priority for CSPs and CPPs. The visits identified that three quarters of CSPs (13/19) had in place practices that were aimed at supporting community engagement and resilience.

Supporting engagement and promoting resilience has been addressed in different ways, most of which are very locally orientated addressing key local issues highlighted during public consultation and feedback.

In 2013 SCSN supported the Scottish Community Development Centre to undertake research on behalf of the Scottish Government into community engagement practices in the sector. The Report 'Case studies in Community Engagement within the context of Community Safety'<sup>17</sup> was published in October 2013 and contains eight case studies. Other Strengthening Communities practice examples include:

North Ayrshire Council and the Police formulated the Safe, positive communities campaign to provide local people with a forum and to address community issues. The aims are to provide information sharing and guidance, boosting resilience through promoting engagement.

In Edinburgh, as part of the Building Safer Communities programme,<sup>18</sup> the Police in partnership with the Council, developed and delivered an innovative programme of community engagement to develop the 2013-2014 Policing Plan. Taking a targeted approach, a range of different methods were used to engage parts of the community who had not previously been involved in discussions about policing priorities

Community engagement and the co-production of local services which build on the strength, assets and resilience of individuals, families and communities is at the heart of the Building Safer Communities Programme. SCSN, on behalf of the Scottish Government, invited CSPs to provide good practice examples to inform national guidance. SCSN received 49 examples from 27 CSPs which have been submitted for inclusion in a report due to be published by the Scottish Government in 2014.

<sup>17</sup> Case Studies in Community Engagement within the context of community safety

<sup>18</sup> Building Safer Communities Case Studies

The impact of Public Sector Reform on partnership working would appear to be levelling out as CSPs report being satisfied with their level of engagement in developing local plans and are clearer about new local scrutiny arrangements. However some concerns identified as part of phase II research (June 2013) still appear to be causing some disquiet. In particular, CSPs are still reporting a high turnover of personnel in both the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland as new structures are embedded; and have expressed real concerns regarding the impact of the removal and/or change of role or focus of road safety officers.

There was a great deal of praise for Police and Fire staff who had facilitated a smooth transition, however, there were also concerns surrounding the transient nature of some Police positions. This was reported to have adversely affected the continuity of engagement within the partnerships and communities.

Conversely the formulation of Local Area Liaison Officers (LALO) by the Fire and Rescue Service has boosted engagement with partners and facilitated better input into projects and strategies. Nearly all CSPs identified that the new posts improved access and engagement.

The removal of Police Scotland Road Safety Officers (RSO) has had a varying impact across Scotland. In the west where historically road safety officers were funded and delivered by the local councils the review has had little effect, however in the east and north where the police provided the RSO with no funding arrangements in place the reform has resulted in the loss of the RSOs.



The main impact expressed was in relation to road safety educational inputs previously delivered by the police to schools. Feedback indicates that CSPs are being proactive in filling these gaps with councils and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service delivering school inputs. In addition due to the changes some local authorities are in the process of reviewing service level agreements with Police Scotland to take into consideration the requirement for road safety education. Go Safe Scotland are in the process of developing an online road safety resource for teachers to use within the classroom. Despite this there still remains some apprehension regarding the current and future service.

Co-location of services has been identified as good practice, however, what co-location means and looks like varies. It should be noted that the lack of a clear definition of co-location, meant staff have had to interpret responses. For some, co-location refers to co-location of council services and does not include partners. In other areas co-location ranges from Police LALO only, through to a number of partners (Police, Fire and Rescue, Health etc). For the purpose of this report we have focused on co-location with the Police Scotland.

Thirteen CSPs have some level of co-location. This ranges from 'hubs' with police personnel having full access to police systems; and 'hot-desks' with access to limited data only. There is also a variation on the level of co-location with the majority being operational in neighbourhoods or for specific areas ie ASB.

While in Aberdeen the development of the hub is being supported by Scottish Government as part of their Total Place<sup>19</sup> agenda; in other areas co-location is taking a backward step with the removal of central shared offices and funded officers in the neighborhoods hot-desking rather than being based in the offices. The main issue identified relates to different responses to information security across Scotland and within the three command areas.

The variance in co-location in some areas is indicative of the issues being experienced regarding access to data. During the research programme half of CSPs (13/27) expressed concerns over information sharing and access to data. It would appear that access to data, from council offices, varies from full access to all systems, to limited or no access. Indeed the majority of funded analysts are required to attend police offices to access some or all data.

<sup>19</sup> Government Total Place agenda

# CONCLUSIONS



CSPs are contributing to national solutions through delivering projects and initiatives within the context of the Governments' National Outcomes and the Justice Strategy. Partnerships are also contributing to the Building Safer Communities Programme aim to reduce the number of victims of crime in Scotland by 250,000 by 2017/18. However, while all are aware of the Building Safer Communities Programme and Justice Strategy, there is a tendency for localisation of priorities with CSPs not clearly evidencing or making the links to national initiatives. A particular example of this relates to work in neighbourhoods that clearly demonstrate co-production and asset based approaches but would not promote itself in relation to the Governments vision for Scottish Neighbourhoods in 2020<sup>20</sup> or The Christie Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services.<sup>21</sup>

As evidenced in this report there are many good examples of practice being adopted that empower local communities and service providers to work together to develop practical solutions that make best use of all resources available. SCSN has a key role to play in ensuring key decision makers are aware of this good and emerging practice so that best practice is used to influence national decisions, and the work of CSPs is understood and acknowledged.

<sup>20</sup> BSCP 2020 Vision

<sup>21</sup> The Christie Commission on the future delivery of Public Services



Further research in relation to how CSPs are implementing new Strategic Guidance for CPP's in relation to Community Learning and Development<sup>22</sup>, the Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill<sup>23</sup> and The Future Model for Community Justice<sup>24</sup> may also identify good practice and areas of training and support for the sector.

At the time of the research Police and Fire Reform was completing its first year. While feedback indicates that partnership working is on the whole improving there are still some key areas that our members have identified that they would wish SCSN to represent their views on a national level. In particular members identified:

- Working with Police Scotland to develop standard guidance and protocols for co-location, and access to data across the three command areas.
- Representing the views of the sector in relation to local funding arrangements and delivery of service ie Road Safety, CCTV and Crucial Crew type initiatives.
- Keeping members informed through newsletter articles and briefing papers so they can influence public reform locally.
- Providing opportunities through events and forums to come together and discuss national issues.

<sup>22</sup> Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships: Community Learning Development

<sup>23</sup> Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill

<sup>24</sup> Future Model for Community Justice consultation

- 1 [A Current View of Community Safety Partnerships in Scotland \(2012\) - www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/scsn/csp-research/.pdf](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/scsn/csp-research/.pdf)
- 2 [A Current View of Working in Partnership in Scotland \(2013\) - www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/publications/community-safety-partnership-research-phase-ii.pdf](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/publications/community-safety-partnership-research-phase-ii.pdf)
- 3 [CSP Self-Assessment Toolkit - www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/knowledge-hub/statistics/scsncostbenefits](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/knowledge-hub/statistics/scsncostbenefits)
- 4 [SCSN Training and Events - www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/training-and-events/scsn-training-and-events](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/training-and-events/scsn-training-and-events)
- 5 [The Risk Factory website - www.theriskfactory.org](http://www.theriskfactory.org)
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- 9 [PN53 Safer Aberdeen App Practice Notes - www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/knowledge-hub/practice-notes.html](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org/knowledge-hub/practice-notes.html)
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**Scottish Community Safety Network**

2 Hill Street

Edinburgh

EH2 3JZ

0131 225 8700/7772

[info@scsn.org.uk](mailto:info@scsn.org.uk)

Company Ltd. SC357649

Charity No. SC040464

**[www.safercommunitiesscotland.org](http://www.safercommunitiesscotland.org)**