

Safety NET-works

October 2020



Bonfire Night Edition



www.safercommunitiesScotland.org

Firework Safety: Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Smart



Firework SAFETY

Be Safe. Be Kind. Be Smart.

SCSN are delighted to, among partners working with the Scottish SPCA on a multi-agency campaign, ask people to think about #FireworkSafety.

Scottish SPCA campaign overview

Fireworks season can be a very stressful time for many people and animals across the country. This year, there will be limited public fireworks events because of the pandemic so we are asking the public to be safe, be kind and be smart around fireworks. We have taken a multi-agency approach and have formed a partnership to work together with one clear message to everyone in Scotland. Please consider #FireworkSafety. We want anyone responsible for the wellbeing of a young person in Scotland be it a teacher or youth worker, parent or carer to support #FireworkSafety and help us keep young people safe around fireworks and bonfires.

The campaign will run from the 28th October through to the 9th of November. Whoever you engage with, please promote #FireworkSafety and encourage them to visit: scottishspca.org/firework-safety (link goes live on 28th October). There are dedicated resources for both primary and secondary pupils and we want as many young people across Scotland to engage with these tools and BeSafe. BeKind. BeSmart.

Among the other main partners of the campaign are the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland, NHS Scotland, RoSPA, Fearless.org and the Scottish Government.

ROSPA

accidents don't
have to happen

RoSPA Halloween and Bonfire Night Safety Webinar

This webinar covers ways to keep children safe during the Halloween period as well as Building Safer Communities (Scottish Government) discussing firework safety and recent developments in Scotland.



This is the latest in RoSPA's series of community safety webinars. To view this and other previous webinars, or to book your place at any upcoming RoSPA community safety webinars, visit their website [here](#).

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SAVE THE DATES! New upcoming SCSN webinars

The Scottish Picture of Anti Social Behaviour - Thursday, 12 November - Find out more [here](#).

Trauma Informed Practice in Community Safety - Wednesday, 28 October - Find out more and book your place [here](#).

Measuring What Matters: Evaluation in the Covid 19 pandemic - Wednesday, 25 November - Find out more and book your place [here](#).

Experiences of Community Safety in Scotland - Tuesday, 1 December - Find out more and book your place [here](#).

Consultation Response: Raising the age of referral to the principal reporter

The Scottish Government recently ran a consultation on whether the age of referral to the Principal Reporter should be raised to enable referral of all 16 and 17 year olds offences cases.

Download our consultation response [here](#).

SCSN Chief Exec Nominated for Third Sector Award

In September, the Board of Directors were notified that Lorraine Gillies had been shortlisted in the 'Rising Chief Executive' Category of the Third Sector Awards. The Third Sector Awards are open to all UK based registered charities, social enterprises and not-for-profit organisations.

It was clear to the Board of Directors that Lorraine fitted the criteria as someone who had made an outstanding contribution to the organisation, and the wider sector in her first two years and we submitted an application to the Awards. Lorraine was shortlisted along with 5 other Chief Executive's although sadly she did not win.

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

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for September related to our most recent '[Conversations with...](#)' interview with Niven Rennie, Director of the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit.

In the interview, we discussed a public health approach to reducing violence, as well as broader themes of trauma informed justice and rehabilitation of offenders.

We asked:

'Do you believe we put people in prison too easily?'

- **62.5% said Yes (10 votes)**
- **37.5% said No (6 votes)**
- **Zero said Not sure**

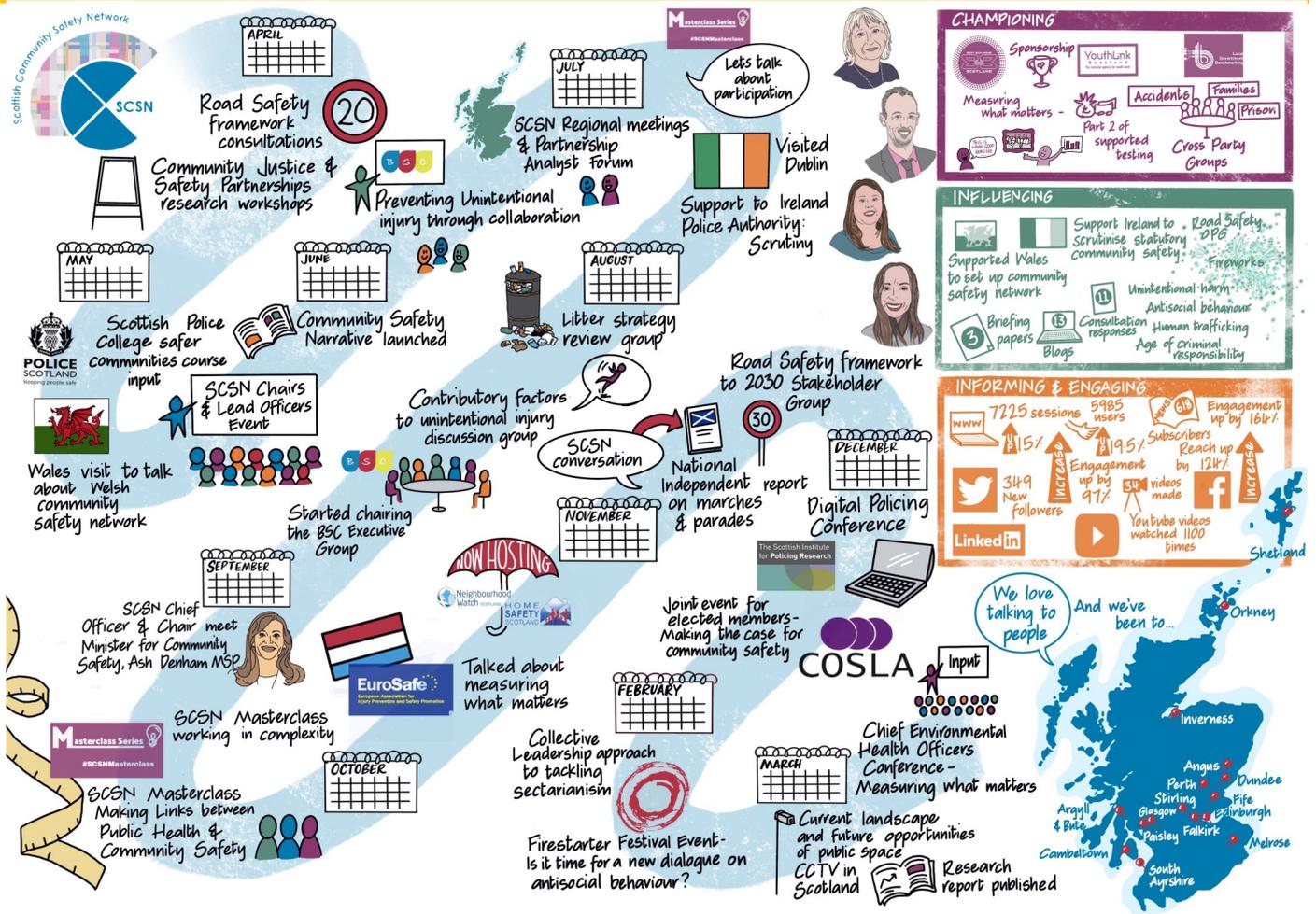
Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for October looks forward to Bonfire Night. This year will pose unique challenges for community safety partnerships and communities in light of the Covid 19 pandemic, on top of the usual issues around Bonfire Night. We're asking:

'Are you confident about partnership measures you have in place for Bonfire Night this year?'

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

SCSN Annual Report 2019/20 & AGM Highlights



SCSN Annual Report 2019/20

We were delighted to be able to publish our Annual Report and Accounts for 2019/20 at our AGM on Thursday 1st October. In keeping with our clear and simple communications, we once again present our Annual Report in graphic illustration form - our thanks once again going to Clare Mills at ListenThinkDraw for her great work!

AGM Highlights

The theme of our AGM this year was **'What makes communities safe?'** We held a discussion based around some recent media cases where young people had committed crimes which drew strong, negative, unsympathetic reactions, particularly on social media from the general public. Our expert panel discussed whether such reactions were useful in preventing crime and keeping people safe, or whether a focus on rehabilitation and public health, trauma informed approaches to crime were more likely to be successful. Spoiler alert, they are!

We will soon be uploading video highlights from our AGM on our Youtube channel, so keep an eye out in the near future for the post!

Download our Annual Report in full [here](#).

Download our Audited Accounts [here](#).

MacKay Hannah Webinar: Public Services and Public Finances after Coronavirus

Public finances have changed dramatically in just a few months. Public spending and debt is rising enormously as a consequence of the impact of coronavirus. As lockdown recedes and the emergency measures associated with coronavirus come to an end, the business of delivering core public services remains.

What will the short, medium and long-term consequences be for our public finances and the funding and delivery of our public services? Will we see cuts or enhanced investment in capital and revenue expenditure to promote recovery? How should public bodies plan for future funding?

This webinar will discuss the implications of the costs of coronavirus for the funding of public bodies and the delivery and quality of public services in the financial environment of 'new normal'. It will consider possible ways in which having to deliver services differently may affect the cost and viability of service delivery and how that challenge will sit with future funding scenarios.

Book your place at this webinar [here](#).

SCSN Briefing Paper: The State of our Social Fabric Report

The State of our Social Fabric Report, published by Onward, is the culmination of two years' research with communities across the UK. It explores the social fabric of places in the UK and makes some recommendations for policy-makers on how to support social fabric in local areas.

The researchers explored how people viewed 'community' and based on this they explored some measures that capture this 'social fabric'. They found that 'community' was narrower and deeper than the literature previously thought: people view community as entirely local and place-based (narrower than previous research would suggest); the aspects of community that people value, or long for, are not merely social and civic, but also economic and institutional, ranging from jobs to transport connectivity to the quality of the town centre (deeper than previous research would suggest).

Download our Briefing Paper in full [here](#).

Talking shops, or conversations for systems change?

Hannah Dickson, Scottish Community Safety Network

For a while I've been intrigued by the term 'talking shop' – for many working in the public sector this means a place or group regarded as a centre for unproductive talk rather than action, with endless pre-meetings, meetings and papers. For others, talking is a key mechanism for understanding and change; indeed there are a range of therapies called 'talking therapies' widely used in the field of psychotherapy. So which is it? Are conversations useful for change? Is there a point at which Good Conversations Go Bad (and morph into the dreaded – 'talking shop')?

There is a growing understanding of the role that conversation has in change, particularly in complex systems like community safety (and, let's face it, much of the work of public services). Last week I went to a couple of fantastic webinars, at first seemingly completely unrelated, but they all had a strong theme of the change that happens during and as a result of conversations. There is a process of change that happens during some conversations – you can feel it happening in the room and in yourself as people talk, listen, hear, question, understand and share.

Read Hannah's blog in full on our website [here](#).

Covid 19 Updates

We continue to update our website [Covid 19 updates page](#) with the latest publications relevant to community safety issues.

Our recent updates include the following:

Justice Analytical Services Covid 19 data report: August 2020

This pack provides information on the impact of COVID-19 on the Justice system during August 2020. Data has been gathered from a number of different sources and may be subject to future revision.

Download the report from our website [here](#).

Report: Inclusion health principles and practice

On equalities and human rights to social and systems recovery and mitigating the impact of Covid 19 for marginalised and excluded people.

Download the report [here](#).

Covid 19: Impact on communities and priorities for recovery – research

Evidence from consultation based research about changes to organisations' work during the pandemic and the impact of the pandemic on a range of themes including economic security, social interactions and loneliness, community cohesion, safety, trust in government, and skills, learning and development.

Download the report from our website [here](#).

Coronavirus Impact on Wellbeing: Survey results

This report contains the findings from a telephone survey commissioned by Scottish Government to better understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people in Scotland.

Download the report from our website [here](#).

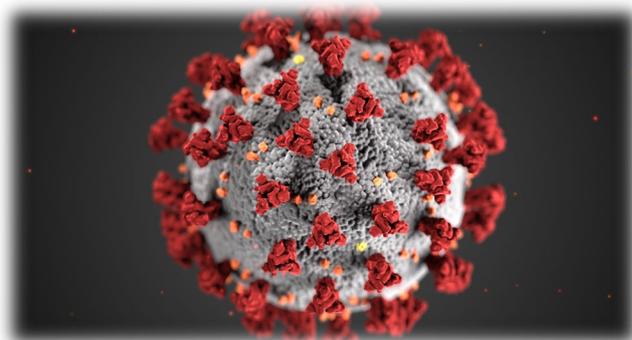
Public Health Scotland Strategic Plan

Public Health Scotland has just released its three year strategic plan. It sets out their vision to make Scotland a place where everyone thrives. A Scotland where healthy life expectancy increases, where the nation's health is protected and where health inequalities are a thing of the past.



Supporting Scotland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the wider social recovery, remains at the forefront of Public Health Scotland's work. Alongside this, they will focus on the areas where we can make the biggest difference to the public's health: mental wellbeing, communities and place, and poverty and children.

The Strategic Plan sets out our clear commitment to working with local and national partners to help deliver it. Download the Strategic Plan [here](#).



Stop your area from becoming a fireworks hot-spot.

Speak up 100% anonymously to independent charity Crimestoppers if you know or suspect who is involved in fireworks misuse.

Speak up. Stay safe.
Tell our charity what you know.

crimestoppers-uk.org



Scotland
CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

Remember! Remember!

You can help prevent your local area becoming a firework hotspot

Independent charity Crimestoppers has launched their annual campaign to tackle firework misuse.

Supported by Scottish Government's Building Safer Communities, the campaign aims to raise awareness of firework misuse and deliberate fire-setting and encourage the public to contact the charity 100% anonymously if they know or suspect someone involved.

Firework misuse can have a massive impact on communities in Scotland with some local areas experiencing serious anti-social behaviour and risk to life linked to fireworks.

The national campaign will compliment two

Scottish Government campaigns and provide extra support for areas in Edinburgh, Glasgow and West Lothian who have experienced higher levels of firework misuse. These communities have been involved in the preparations of the campaign.

Last year's campaign saw a dramatic drop in the number of reported incidents with local partners and communities joining together to share the message about risks and penalties around firework misuse.

But some areas did experience high-level incidents on 5th November. Fire-fighters and police had to attend to a blazing car, deliberately purchased to set on fire in a busy street.

Find out more about the campaign at crimestoppers-uk/campaigns-media/scotland-firework-misue.

Remember, Remember...

It is an offence to:

- Possess fireworks under the age of 18
- Sell fireworks to anyone under 18
- Let off fireworks between 11pm and 7am (midnight on Bonfire Night)
- Throw or set off fireworks in a public place
- Cause unnecessary suffering to animals

If you know or suspect who is misusing fireworks or starting deliberate fires in your area, #BeFearless in speaking up 100% anonymously to our charity

fearless.org

Crimestoppers Trust (also known under youth brand 'Fearless') is a Scottish Charity SC037960

Fearless.org Fireworks Campaign

Fearless.org, partners of CrimeStoppers UK, are also running a campaign on anonymous reporting of fireworks offences aimed at younger people.

The campaign features four short videos warning of the dangers of starting deliberate fires, asking people to have consideration for others as well as animals and to stay safe on Bonfire Night.

The campaign webpage also provides useful links on firework safety from the [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service](#), [RoSPA](#) and the [Scottish SPCA](#).

You can visit the Fearless.org. website and access campaign materials to share via your own channels [here](#).

Focus on Hate Crime

The Scottish Government this month launched a new anti 'Hate Crime' campaign with the message, 'Dear haters, you're going to hate this, but we've had enough. Yours, Scotland. #ReportHate.

The campaign seeks to raise awareness of what hate crime is and send a strong message that hate crime will not be tolerated in Scotland - also providing details on how to report hate crime, including via third party reporting services.

You can find out more about the campaign and download campaign resources on the One Scotland website [here](#).



HMICS seeks your views on the police investigation of Hate Crime



An [online survey](#) has been launched by HMICS as part of their ongoing inspection of Hate Crime. It is recognised that being the victim of any crime can for many be a distressing experience and have a long lasting and enduring impact. When that crime is motivated by prejudice, hatred, or intolerance and where the beliefs, culture and ethnicity of the victim are an integral part, that experience can be even more distressing and have an effect upon the wider community.

Upcoming Hate Crime Webinars

The Ayrshire Equality Partnership (AEP) are hosting a series of webinars to raise awareness of Hate Crime. Join the AEP and invited presenters for a special week-long webinar series on hate crime - the key issues, experiences and lessons.

The next two events are:

[Critical Conversations about Racism in Education – University of the West of Scotland, Thursday 22nd October, 4pm-5pm](#)

[LGBT Hate Crime and Discrimination in Scotland – Stonewall Scotland, Friday 23rd October, 11am-12pm](#)

Youthlink Scotland Report: Learning through lockdown - the impact of youthwork during summer 2020

The youth work sector has continued to engage and support children and young people throughout the coronavirus pandemic. This has included providing crisis support for the most vulnerable families and mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health, learning and development.

From 13 July, the sector was able to begin a gradual, phased renewal of face-to-face youth work outdoors. [Learning through lockdown – the impact of youthwork summer 2020](#) - captures the breadth and depth of opportunities provided by the youth work sector during this most extraordinary of schools summer holidays.

YouthLink
Scotland

The national agency for youth work

Reconviction Rates at 21 year low

The reconviction rate for offenders in Scotland has fallen to its lowest level since comparable records began.

[Official statistics](#) for the 2017-18 offender cohort show the percentage of offenders who are reconvicted in a year was 26.3% – which is a one percentage point decrease from 27.3% in 2016-17.

The average number of reconvictions – a measure of how often offenders are reconvicted – also fell over the same period from 0.48 to 0.46, a reduction of 4%.

Offenders who committed a crime of dishonesty had the highest reconviction rate, compared to offenders that committed another type of crime. Offenders who committed a sexual crime had the lowest reconviction rate.

The statistics also show that offenders given a short custodial sentence of one year or less are reconvicted nearly twice as often as those given a Community Payback Order (CPO).

Modern Slavery: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify Statistics UK, Quarter 2, 2020

The Home Office has recently published Quarter 2 (April-June) statistics of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).

In the second quarter of 2020, the NRM received 2,209 referrals of potential victims of modern slavery. This represents a 23% decrease in referrals compared to the preceding quarter (2,865) and a 5% decrease from quarter 2 in 2019 (2,314). This is the second quarter-on-quarter decrease in the number of referrals since the third quarter of 2016. The decrease in these quarters is understood to be influenced by the effects of restrictions implemented in the UK as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the first time, more referrals were received for child potential victims than adults. 77 potential victims of human trafficking were identified in Scotland.

Read the full statistical report [here](#).

Youth Programme to tackle anti-social behaviour

YDance (Scottish Youth Dance) – the award-winning national dance organisation for children and young people in Scotland and award-winning theatre company **Glass Performance** have been awarded £410,000 by Scottish Government programme **CashBack for Communities** for a brand-new arts project - **CashBack for Change**.

Starting late September 2020 and running until March 2023, the CashBack for Change project aims to use dance and theatre as a tool to engage and positively influence young people aged 10 -21 who are most at risk of displaying anti-social behaviours and/or entering the criminal justice system. 2

Read more [here](#).

Child Trafficking Research



Research has been published on Child Trafficking in Scotland. The study was commissioned by Scottish Government and carried out by a team of experts from the University of Stirling.

The study, which was led by Social Work Lecturer Dr Paul Rigby, explores the professional response to child trafficking and the experience of children who have been victims of trafficking in Scotland. A series of recommendations are identified in the study to ensure children are identified and protected.

Download the paper [here](#).



Neighbourhood Watch SCOTLAND

A round up of recent Neighbourhood Watch Scotland News

Over the past weeks, Neighbourhood Watch Scotland has seen a large growth in enquiries around scams. These scams are coming in telephone calls, texts and emails with the sole purpose of gathering personal and banking details to steal money. The constant bombardment at a time when many of us are feeling vulnerable and having difficulty coping has created a perfect storm. NWS deal with each enquiry personally offering advice and support encouraging proactive steps to reduce the number of calls and ultimately the day to day impact felt by those targeted.

The below information is only a small representation of what is out there in relation to scams however they are the most relevant to those living in Scotland. Feel free to share the below details.

Here are ways to report scam emails and texts:

Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000 or through the website www.advice.scot

If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about you can also forward it to the National Cyber Security Centre on the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS):
report@phishing.gov.uk

If you have been the victim of fraud, this should be reported to Police Scotland on Tel 101

Information on current scams in Scotland

Trading Standards Scotland publish ScamShare. This publication is excellent for up to date information on scams that are having an impact on communities across the country. You can sign up to receive the information [here](#).

The Scottish Government Cyber Resilience Unit publish the CyberScotland Bulletin which carries information on the latest threats, scams, news and updates covering cyber security and cyber resilience topics. Sign up to receive the information at bulletin.cyberscotland.com

Don't forget to sign up for Neighbourhood Alert from NWS for information on crime, safety and resilience [here](#).

Home Safety Scotland News and Updates

HOME
SAFETY
SCOTLAND



Fire and Smoke Alarms in Scottish Homes

In February 2019, the legislation relating to smoke detection in the home changed. This means all domestic properties in Scotland, regardless of tenure, should have the same levels of detection; increasing fire safety.



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London, a Ministerial Working Group on Building and Fire Safety was established to review Scotland's building and fire safety regulatory frameworks. As part of this work, the group agreed that a consultation on fire and smoke alarms, originally planned for later this year, should be prioritised.

SFRS have experienced a large volume of enquiries on the subject from members of the public. SFRS have issued guidance on this which you can access [here](#).

The Scottish Government provides additional guidance on the following links:

- [Fire and smoke alarms: changes to the law](#)
- [Fire and smoke alarms: tolerable standard guidance](#)

British Red Cross: Tackling Loneliness Digitally Resources

Over the last few months, the number of people at risk of feeling lonely or isolated has increased – in some groups at a disproportionate rate – as connections with friends and family may have shifted or changed in light of lockdown.

As part of their response to the Coronavirus crisis, they have partnered with the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on 'Tackling Loneliness Digitally', an initiative to provide or improve digital connections for those more likely to experience loneliness.

A core element of this programme focuses on creating online resources to help empower people who may be feeling lonely, and provide them with tools to build confidence, coping skills, and connections. All of their resources are free and can be found [here](#).

The British Red Cross invites you to share these resources with individuals or groups who you think may find them useful or interesting, and to try them out for yourself!

You can sign up to receive updates on new resources [here](#).



British
RedCross

In other news...



Knowledge is Power: community led action research toolkit

The Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) has created a useful toolkit to help you carry out genuine community led action research.

Community-led action research is where the community decides on the issue to be researched, designs and carries out the research, and makes use of the results to achieve positive change.

By community-led we mean that a community group or organisation decides to take action on an issue that is important to them. Help might be sought from academics, council officers or organisations like ourselves but it is ultimately the

community who decides what they want to find out, how they will do this and why.

By action we mean anything that leads to positive change in and for that community: it could be a new community amenity, park, service or activity or an improvement to something already happening.

And by research we simply mean the organised collection of information to create knowledge that is recognised as having value. In community-led action research the community has a greater role in deciding which knowledge has value, which gives the research a validity that traditional forms of research struggle to achieve.

You can try the toolkit out [here](#).

SBRC Webinar: Exercise in a box

Exercise in a Box is an online tool from the NCSC which helps organisations test and practise their response to a cyber-attack.

It is completely free, and you don't have to be an expert to use it. The service provides exercises, based around the main cyber threats, which your organisation can do in your own time, in a safe environment, as many times as you want. It includes everything you need for setting up, planning, delivery, and post-exercise activity, all in one place.

Exercise in a Box has been piloted with small and medium enterprises, local government and the emergency services, but other private and public sector communities could benefit from using it depending on their needs.



This webinar will talk through the exercise in a box process.

10.00 Welcome – Jude Mc Corry, CEO SBRC

10.05 – Why Exercise in a Box - Keith Mc Devitt, Cyber Resilience Integrator at Scottish Government

10.15 –Exercise in a box demo - Declan Doyle, Head of Ethical Hacking at SBRC

10.30 – Q&A

Sign up to attend [here](#).

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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





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