



*Celebrating*  
— 25 YEARS —  
1997-2022

# Safety NET-works

May 2022



*Home Safety Edition*

[www.safercommunitiesScotland.org](http://www.safercommunitiesScotland.org)

## Home Safety Scotland Forum - Learning Report

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May, SCSN hosted the online 'Home Safety Scotland' forum. The event was an opportunity to learn more about home safety issues in Scotland and for members across Scotland to share what is happening in their locality and provide valuable updates to other members.

The forum began with introductions from Lorraine Gilles, the Chief Officer at SCSN. Lorraine explained that Home Safety Scotland is a knowledge exchange network, promoting the sharing of best practice which offers regular opportunity to hear expert guest speakers, share problems collectively and look for solutions together. Lorraine then went on to share some statistics relating to home safety. These included:

- [Public Health Scotland](#) data shows that 1 in 9 emergency hospital admissions as a direct result of unintentional injury, and there were 2,759 deaths in 2020. The young and elderly are most at risk, and 94% of deaths take place in our most deprived communities.
- [The World Health Organisation](#) informs us that "falls are the second leading cause of unintentional deaths worldwide". They stress that "prevention strategies should emphasise education, training, creating safer environments, prioritising fall-related research and establishing effective policies to reduce risk".
- [The Scottish Government](#) (SG) encourages us all to build resilience in communities, take early preventative action, collaborate to deliver evidence-based interventions, and work closely across the system to develop a joined-up approach.

You can download and read the full learning report on the SCSN website [here](#).



**Save the Date:**  
**Celebrating 25 years**  
**Community Safety**  
**Partnerships in Scotland**

**1pm-2.15pm, 8 September**

This year marks 25 years of Community Safety Partnership work in Scotland, with SCSN at the forefront for much of that time.

With Clare Adamson MSP sponsoring, SCSN are delighted to be holding a Scottish Parliamentary reception event to celebrate the crucial work of the Community Safety Sector in Scotland.

Community safety has its origins in the late 1980's/early 1990's which saw the beginning of a more defined political will to create safer and healthier communities where people had the opportunity to thrive and reach their potential.

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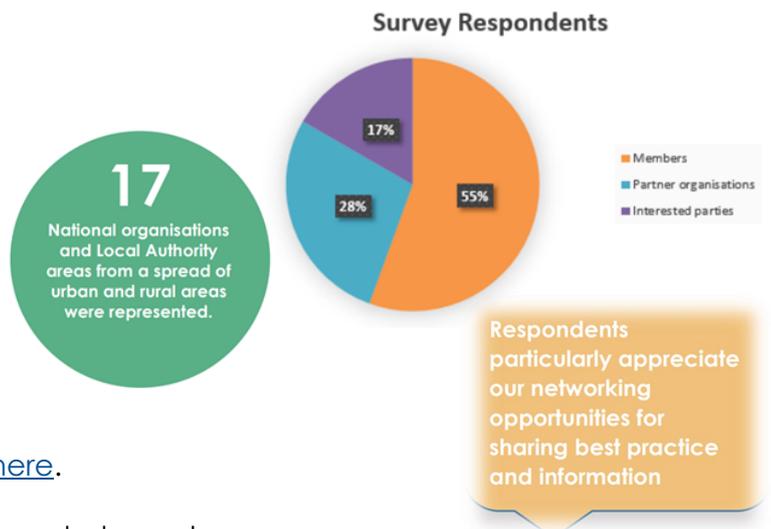


## SCSN Annual Member & Stakeholder Survey 2021/22 Results published

As part of our Business Plan, we issue an annual survey to our members, partners and stakeholders to assess how well we are achieving our outcomes and if our support continues to be perceived as valuable. The feedback from the annual survey is used to inform our efforts towards continuous improvement.

You can view the results from our 2021/2022 Member & Stakeholder Survey [here](#).

Thank you to all who took the time to help us – help you!



## SCSN consultation response: National Strategy for Community Justice

We recently published our response to the National Strategy for Community Justice consultation.

You can read the consultation response, as well as all of our previous consultation responses, on our website [here](#).

## Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for May was based around our 'Community Engagement/ Participation' themed newsletter - and following the publication of our 'Collaborating with People' event Learning Report.

We asked:

***"Is community engagement the same as co-production?"***

- **12.5% of respondents said Yes**
- **75% of respondents said No**
- **12.5% of respondents said Not Sure**

## Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for June is based on our newsletter's Home Safety theme.

We think home safety needs to be pushed further up the Community Safety agenda. What about you?

We're asking:

***'Do you feel that Home Safety is given enough focus in the Community Safety Sector?'***

You can take part in our poll [here](#).

## SCSN Conversations with...

### Dr Anna Pearce, University of Glasgow

#### SCSN CONVERSATIONS WITH...



Dr Anna Pearce



Senior Research Fellow,  
University of Glasgow

For our Home Safety themed newsletter, we sat down to talk with Dr Anna Pearce, a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, who recently presented at our Home Safety Scotland Forum.

Her research has focussed on the social gradient of unintentional harm and injury. We discussed what factors influence this social gradient in unintentional harm in the home, what community safety partnerships can do to help tackle this issue and some of the barriers that hinder progress on tackling inequality in this area in children.

You can watch the interview on our Youtube Channel [here](#).

#### Celebrating 25 years of Community Safety in Scotland (Continued)

The term “community safety” was first used in the 1991 Morgan Report, which concluded that the best way to achieve safer communities was through partnership working. Partnership working was recommended as the report indicated that no single agency, be they police, fire and rescue service, or local authority, could work in isolation to deliver safer communities. Instead, a joined-up, partnership approach of agencies such as police, local authority, fire and rescue, NHS, alcohol and drugs partnerships, Scottish Government and voluntary organisations was favoured. Over the last 20 years the notion of partnership working has gone from strength to strength and currently the emphasis is on more effective and efficient partnership working and outcomes. **By June 1997, community safety was firmly on the political agenda and funding had been secured from the then Scottish Executive for a National Community Safety Advisor to work with local authorities and partners to develop a partnership model.** The following year the Scottish Executive, COSLA and the Association of Chief Police Officers Scotland (ACPOS) agreed on an approach to develop community safety and published the “Safer Communities Through Partnerships – A Strategy for Action”

document. This document recommended that the best way forward was to establish the partnerships under the leadership of local authorities and/or the police. That year, the Scottish Local Authorities Community Safety Forum (SLACS) was formed as an informal network of practitioners to provide and share support and effective practice.

By 2005, SLACS became known as the Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN).

The SCSN today is a registered Scottish Charity (SC357649) and Company Limited by Guarantee in Scotland (SC040464). We are primarily a membership organisation that brings together representatives from across the community safety sector to achieve a shared vision. We also host Home Safety Scotland (a forum of home safety organisations and professionals) and are members of several cross-party groups including Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness, Poverty & Families in the Justice System and several working groups such as Dangerous Dogs, Fireworks, Water Safety and March and Parades working/review groups, as well as the Building Safer Communities Executive Group.

More information, including a link to book to attend the 25th birthday reception will be published in due course.

# LOOKING AHEAD TO PRIDE MONTH 2022



Every year in June, LGBTQI people celebrate Pride Month. The SCSN is committed to continue discuss and highlight issues affecting the LGBTQI community in Scotland. We want LGBTQI people to feel that Scotland is a safe and welcoming place regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

## New Report: Life in Scotland for LGBT Young People 2022

LGBT Youth Scotland recently launched the biggest piece of research ever undertaken on LGBTQI young people in Scotland. Their research is a snapshot of what [Life in Scotland for LGBT Young People in 2022](#) is like across a whole range of areas including education, work, bullying, health, rights, happiness, experiences of discrimination and much more.

Worryingly, and counter to the narrative that things are getting better and better for LGBTQI people, the research shows that over the last 15 years, experiences across most areas have got worse, for example:

- Only **10%** of participants, rated the experience of school for LGBT people as "good"
- **70%** of gay/lesbian participants report experiencing bullying due to their sexual orientation at school
- There has been a big drop in the number of young people who think Scotland is a

- good place to be LGBTQI (81% to **65%**)
- Just **28%** rural-based participants rated their local area as a good place to be LGBTQI as compared to 62% of urban-based participants
- The vast majority of participants believe that homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia are a problem, both across Scotland as a whole, and in their local area.
- Just **17%** of young people surveyed reported that they would feel confident reporting a hate crime to the police if they experienced one

In terms of good news:

- Participants are more likely to report leaving home in positive circumstances than they were in 2017
- More LGBTQI young people (**82%**) felt supported when coming out, compared to 2017 (75%)

Read more on the LGBT Youth Scotland website [here](#).

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## Scottish Parliament debates new research on LGBTQI experiences of alcohol services

Following the publication this Spring of new research titled, 'LGBTQ+ People's Experiences of Alcohol Services in Scotland', carried out by Glasgow Caledonian University & funded by SHAAP, a debate was held on this in the Scottish Parliament on 11 May.

The debate was called by Emma Roddick MSP, and discussed recommendations to policy makers that LGBTQ+ people should be considered in the forthcoming Alcohol Treatment Guidelines, that alcohol-free spaces for LGBTQ+ people should be supported, and that the Parliament should show leadership on LGBTQ+ issues to help tackle the stigma that people face.

You can watch the debate on the Scottish Parliament website [here](#).



## Survey: Support Networks in the LGBTQI+ Community

As part of wider work exploring diverse kinship in the whole LGBTQI+ community, the Equality Network is running a survey of LGBTQI+ people about their networks of support, what these mean to LGBTQI+ people and also whether they were impacted by the pandemic.

Introducing the survey, the Equality Network say: "Support means a lots of different things. It

can be practical, physical, emotional and financial. It could be a place where we feel we belong, a sense of community, a hobby that brings us joy, a chat with a neighbour or with a local shopkeeper, relationships, friends, family, carers, pets, neighbours, online forums, and many other things!

We (the Equality Network) want to ensure that all these different forms of support and family structures (kinship) are properly recognised and thought about in future legislation and programmes by government. We also want to make sure that public policy and decision-makers better understand these different types of support."

You can take part in the survey [here](#).

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## New Research: Navigating the Criminal Justice System & Support Services as an LGBT+ Survivor of Sexual Violence

LGBT+ people are too often invisible in the public narrative around sexual violence. Galop has been working with LGBT+ victims and survivors of sexual assault for over a decade, and has seen the many barriers our community faces in navigating the criminal justice system. This research seeks to explore LGBT+ survivors' experiences and perceptions of the criminal justice system and mainstream statutory services.

The vast majority of LGBT+ sexual violence survivors surveyed did not report to the police — only 12% had reported their most significant experience of sexual violence. There were multiple factors that deterred them from doing so, including being worried that the police would discriminate against them because of their LGBT+ identity (25%), fearing that they would not be taken seriously (51%) and thinking that the police would not be able to do anything (56%).

Read more [here](#).

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## Hoarding Awareness Week 2022

Hoarding Awareness Week took place from the 16th-20th May this year.

The key messages of UK Hoarding Awareness Week 2022 were:

- Supportive Intervention not eviction – when a person who hoards receives support there is no need to use legal processes to evict a person for a now recognised mental health condition (World Health Organisation 2022 inclusion in ICD)
- Understanding that understanding the condition will help collaboration between supporters and those who hoard. Educate as many people as possible.
- Create and develop partnerships that encourage multi agency understanding and working together as a team

You can find out more about hoarding, Hoarding Awareness Week, and access some really useful resources at [hoardingawarenessweek.org.uk](https://hoardingawarenessweek.org.uk)



## Pressures and stresses tighten across Scotland's 32 councils



Pressures and stresses tighten across Scotland's 32 councils. Scotland's councils have had a pivotal role in supporting and working with communities as they responded to the impacts of Covid-19. Now councils must lead recovery work with and alongside their local communities, focusing on getting the services people need in place as pressures and stresses escalate and impact the day to day lives of individuals and communities.

In its [2022 Local Government Overview report](#), the Accounts Commission, who report to the public on the performance of local government, are clear that recovery and renewal across councils isn't about a return to pre-pandemic service delivery. It must be about much more, changing and challenging how services are delivered.

The position for councils, is however, challenging and complex:

- dealing with increasing demand and service backlogs

- long-standing pressures, including rising poverty and inequalities
- high absence levels and acute skills shortages amongst some key front-line workers
- a lack of certainty and flexibility over long-term funding
- national priorities, including climate change and public sector reform.

William Moyes, Chair of the Accounts Commission said: "Councils are operating in a complex and increasingly volatile, unprecedented and unpredictable environment. Strong leadership from councils is needed now more than ever, with new and returning councillors being able and willing to make difficult decisions about where and how to spend highly pressurised resources."

Pressures on councils and their communities have intensified from spiralling inflation and significant increases to the cost of living. This has direct and unintended consequences on councils at a time when they sought a period of stability to tackle the impacts of the pandemic. Councillors and senior officers must use learning from the past two years, working with their partners and communities in the recovery, renewal and difficult decision making about the future of services."

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### Local Health Systems: Relationships Not Structures report launch

Following the publication of Local Government Information Unit's report, [Local Health Systems: Relationships not structures](#) – commissioned by the [Local Democracy Research Centre \(LDRC\)](#) and supported by Browne Jacobson – parliamentarians, council leaders and chief executives gathered to hear about the report's findings and recommendations for local government moving forward.

This report examines what systems thinking is, practical steps that can be taken to implement these systems across local government and how they can work to improve the way we approach complex problems.

Read more on the LGIU website [here](#).

### Conference: Planning, place and 20 minute neighbourhoods in Scotland: What is the recipe for success?

The Scottish Government wants to partner with Scottish councils and others to deliver 20 minute neighbourhoods in Scotland. Its intent to do so is included in the 2020-21 Programme for Government and many places in Scotland do seem to have the building blocks needed to become 20 minute neighbourhoods.

This conference looks at what it really takes to achieve 20 minute neighbourhoods that work. It considers the key factors to be addressed across national and local government and the role of other agents and players.

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

## Scottish Sentencing Council publishes animations on sentencing guidelines for young people

The Scottish Sentencing Council has published [three short animated videos](#) about its sentencing young people guideline.

Each video focusses on one of the guideline's key themes:

- The importance of maturity in relation to the assessment of a young person's culpability for an offence
- Why rehabilitation is a primary consideration in sentencing a young person
- The need for an individualised approach which takes into account each young person's background and circumstances.

The Council premiered the videos at a webinar it held jointly with the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) on 27 April 2022. Read more [here](#).

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## CYCJ launches 'Thinking About Justice' child led research



Children feel that justice should create an opportunity to learn from mistakes, get access to support, and lead to everyone having a second chance, according to new creative research by the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ).

'Thinking About Justice', which explored children's understanding, experiences of, and aspirations for, justice in Scotland, found that children often felt powerless and judged in their own experiences of justice – and highlighted the important role adults play in creating both just and unjust experiences.

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## Proposals for new Bill to tackle misogyny

Plans for future legislation are part of the Scottish Government's official response to the independent working group on misogyny.

A new Bill to tackle misogyny is being considered by Scottish Ministers as part of these proposals.

## Evaluating the impact of a partnership case study: Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum and Scottish Prison Service



In 2021, Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) ran **Working Together Better** – a peer learning programme to help third sector organisations and their statutory sector partners to **evaluate** and **learn** about the **impact of their partnerships** during the Covid-19 crisis.

In this case study, Laura and Chris from the **Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum** and Jim from the **Scottish Prison Service (SPS)** share their experiences of evaluating the impact of their partnership and how they plan to use the learning.

You can download the case study [here](#).

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The research, which was commissioned and funded by the Scottish Government, also reports that children's aspirations for justice include the voices of all children and young people being heard, increasing access to support and services, and ensuring equal and better treatment for everyone.

Thirty-two children participated in online and face-to-face youth-led workshops, with an open approach that encouraged the children to raise the issues that were important to them, using a variety of innovative and arts-based methods.

Read more & download the full report, summary animation & child friendly version [here](#).

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Chaired by Baroness Kennedy QC, the group's report recommended a number of new offences to criminalise specific forms of misogynistic conduct – including stirring up hatred against women and public sexual harassment of women.

Read more [here](#).

## New Scottish Flood Forecast site goes live!



On 12 May, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency launched a new daily 3-day flood forecast produced by the Scottish Flood Forecasting Service (SFFS). The SFFS is a partnership between SEPA and the Met Office.

The Scottish Flood Forecast is the public version of the daily Flood Guidance Statement (FGS) we issue to Civil Contingencies Category 1 and 2 agencies.

It will be available on SEPA's website ([www.sepa.org.uk/scottishfloodforecast](http://www.sepa.org.uk/scottishfloodforecast)) and will initially be released as a test version to the public until the Autumn 2022. This is so that we can gather feedback and make any improvements before fully launching the service to the public formally later this year.

## Why the Scottish Flood Forecast was created

The Scottish Flood Forecast has been created after research was undertaken with the public, community flood groups, emergency responders, our partners, and employees. The user research identified a need for the public to receive flood information earlier than our current regional flood alerts and local flood warnings in a simple and clear way and have the ability to check if no significant flooding is expected.

## Who will use the Scottish Flood Forecast

It can be used by anyone interested in finding out at a national level whether flooding is likely to happen across Scotland over the next 3 days and what to do next. The public can check it any time.

The Scottish Flood Forecast is based on the best available information, but there will still be a chance of minor and localised flooding when the maps have no areas coloured red, amber and yellow.

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

## New Online Water Safety Workshop educational resource for young people launched



This workshop is designed for anyone to pick up and use. It is a free-to-download resource featuring engaging activities that prompt young people to think critically about the risks they take and provides clear guidance on what to do in the event of an emergency.

We hope to reach a broad audience across the country through youth and activity groups, and much more.

Please note that the resource is suitable for ages 14+ but one activity is recommended for ages 16+ only.

You can access the workshop and other resource downloads on the Water Safety Scotland website [here](#).

## Operation Tramline helping make Scotland's roads safer

A Police Scotland road policing initiative to combat careless driving is already having considerable success with drivers being fined for eating while at the wheel, using their mobile devices and not wearing a seatbelt.

Since Operation Tramline began on Tuesday, 26 April, to date (Wednesday 11 May), 36 drivers have been given warnings for various offences, with 85 offences being reported, including 47 drivers for using their mobile phone. Drivers have also been dealt with for not having insurance and speeding.

It is currently operating on dual carriageways and motorways in Fife, in and around Edinburgh and in the Forth Valley area.

Read more [here](#).

# Climate Crisis Corner



## Communicating to Create Change: tackling the environmental crisis - Event Summary

On the 19 May SCSN attended the above event on how third sector organisations can use our communications to help create change & tackle the climate crisis.

We learned a lot from the event to augment our fomenting focus on the climate crisis as fundamental to community safety, including some practical steps we can take to reduce our carbon footprint.

One of the changes you'll notice already is that we've changed our 'Climate Crisis Corner' header to an image which represents the fact that, whilst humanity has a bleak future if we fail to take immediate action - there is another possible future that is more hopeful if we can come together as communities to tackle this problem.

### Playing our part as an organisation

We've already held a climate change & community safety event, introduced this monthly section to our newsletter & committed

to making the climate crisis a standing agenda item at our board meetings - as well as trying to eliminate waste and encourage staff to lead climate friendly working & personal lives.

Read the full event summary [here](#).

## ACEVO Climate Action Case Studies

**acevo**  
imagine, inspire, improve

The Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations is a membership organisation for leaders of charities, who think that charities should definitely lead the way and inspire our members to take action – that's why they started a series of climate action case studies in January 2022.

SCSN has been invited to submit a case study on what we have and will be doing as an organisation to help tackle the climate crisis and lead the community safety sector in understanding & appreciating how it affects many of our key areas of focus.

You can read the existing Climate Action Case studies on the ACEVO website [here](#).

## Scottish Government seeks suggestions for new National Park

It is almost 20 years since Scotland's first National Parks in Loch Lomond and Trossachs and Cairngorms were established. Both National Parks are home to some of Scotland's most outstanding scenery, are internationally important areas for nature and receive millions of visitors each year.

The Parks work closely with their communities, land managers, local businesses, third sector and individuals to tackle the biodiversity and climate crisis, to help manage facilities for visitors, to promote responsible access,

develop sustainable communities and ensure sustainable development.

The Government want to know:

1. What do you value most about Scotland's National Parks?
2. How can National Parks help the environment?
3. How can we better manage visitor pressures in National Parks?
4. What criteria should be used to decide where the next new National Parks in Scotland should be?

Find out more & submit your ideas [here](#).



## Latest news from the Home Safety Scotland Forum

### Saving money while staying safe: new guide to safety in the home during the cost of living crisis

In recent months, the cost of living has been on the minds of many. Increases in energy price caps along with a rise in National Insurance contributions have put numerous people under further financial stress.

As a result, many people are looking to save money on energy bills and reduce their spending overall. Electrical Safety First offers some essential advice here on how to ensure that your home remains electrically safe for those looking to save some money during the cost of living crisis.

Find out more [here](#).

## Electrical Safety First



### Have you become a Fall Fighter yet?

Falls are the single biggest cause of accidental injuries in the home, and sadly the largest cause of accidental death among over-65s in the UK.

Working together with our partner RSA Insurance Group, the Fall Fighter movement has been developed with the aim of creating a global fall fighting community.

Falls have a huge impact on people's lives – from physical injuries and death, long-term health effects and disabilities to trauma and poor mental health, loss of mobility, loneliness,

social isolation and loss of independence. Falls also impact hugely on society, costing the NHS and wider healthcare systems over £4billion every year.

But the good news is... this doesn't have to be the case. By empowering people of all ages with the understanding of why falls happen, who they affect, and what they can do to prevent them, we can all help prevent falls from happening.

Find out how to become a RoSPA Fall Fighter [here](#).

## SCSN/Home Safety Scotland publishes new Home Safety awareness videos - #RUHOMESAFE

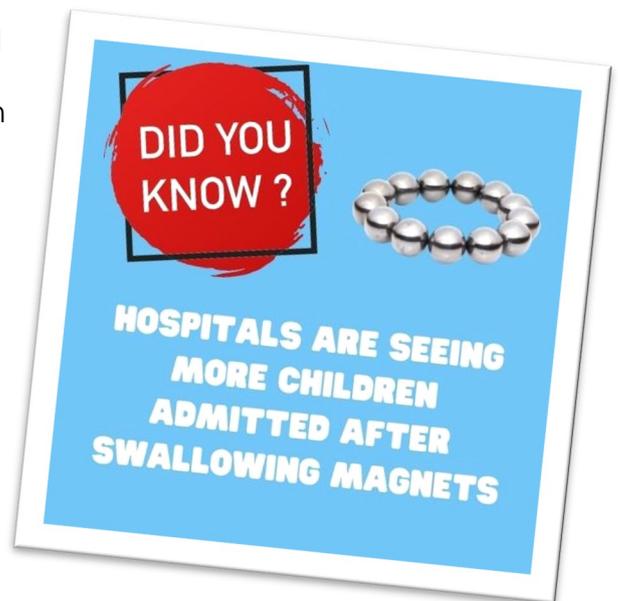
SCSN hosts the Home Safety Scotland Forum. We're keen to see Home Safety given greater focus in Scotland.



To help raise awareness of some of the key home safety issues in Scotland, we've published four short videos with some facts, figures & suggestions on how professionals and the public can play a part in reducing accidents in the home - focussing on falls, safer stairs and button batteries.

You can view our #RUHOMESAFE videos on the SCSN Youtube channel. Please help share on social media too - including by following Home Safety Scotland on Twitter (@HomeSafetyScot) & on Facebook (facebook.com/homesafetyscotland). Video links are listed below:

- [#RUHOMESAFE - Button Batteries](#)
- [#RUHOMESAFE - Falls Prevention](#)
- [#RUHOMESAFE - Safer Stairs](#)
- [#RUHOMESAFE - Home Safety Priorities](#)



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## Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Draft Strategic Plan Consultation

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) invites you to share your views on their [draft Strategic Plan 2022-25](#). The Strategic Plan details the activities they want to achieve to contribute to the safety and wellbeing of Scottish communities, whilst keeping firefighters safe.



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

The seven Outcomes set out within the Plan complement the priorities in the [Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022](#). The Fire and Rescue Framework is developed by the Scottish Government and the Strategic Plan has been designed to show how they will deliver against it. Find out more and submit a response to the consultation [here](#).



**Share your news with us!**



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



83 Princes Street

Edinburgh

EH2 2ER

0131 225 8700/7772

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

Company Ltd. SC357649

Charity No. SC040464

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