

Prevention and Protection



EVALUATION REPORT (LEVEL 1)

Project Title: FIRESKILLS EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME (FEP): Joint Partner Patrols.

Timescale of Initiative: 10/06/21-02/03/22

Date of Report	09/02/2022
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Governance Route for Report:	Date	Name
Reviewed and approved by Line Manager	1 March 2022	WC David Morrison

Version	Date	Reviewer	Comment	Future Actions
V0.2	23 February 2022	BBlair	Reviewed	Passed for QA to YEO (East) 23/2/22
	1 March 2022	E Tuckwell	Reviewed	SFRS Evaluation Ihub

<p>Project Details</p> <p>Please write a brief overview of your project including the identified need</p> <p>(Include timescales. When did the initiative start? Expected duration and is it ongoing or complete?)</p>	<p>CCF Young and Kenny Curtis, Lifelong Learning Development Officer from City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) met at a locality meeting after a spike in anti-social behaviour in the South Edinburgh area. This included fire-setting and stones being thrown at buses and was causing a lot of concern for residents. A programme of regular detached street work together was planned which would target hot spot areas.</p> <p>Personnel maintained contact with the local High School, Gracemount, which all of these young people attend and also with Police Scotland as they both have involvement as collaborating partners in this initiative.</p> <p>The aims of this collaboration were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with young individuals who are recognised as carrying out ASB. • Identify those parts of Edinburgh's communities affected by deliberate fire setting and share this information with partners. • work with partners to develop joint strategies to reduce the risk posed by deliberate fire setting and to mitigate its impacts. • raise awareness of the impact of fire related anti-social behaviour in the area • review the number and type of deliberate fire setting incidents within Edinburgh and reduce it by 5% per year • evaluate the effectiveness of our youth engagement programmes. • protect the natural and built environment. • support the promotion of active and responsible citizenship across Edinburgh communities. • support our communities in feeling safe from crime, disorder and danger. <p>This would involve firstly engaging with any young people potentially involved and secondly to use engagement as a referral pathway for a Fireskills Employability Programme. The engagement would be a SFRS five-day course, operating from a local fire station, where SFRS personnel teach transferable life skills with the aim of building confidence, encouraging ambition and to divert young people from poor choice making. The young people targeted would either be known to be or believed to have been involved in anti-social behaviour.</p>
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The course works towards building trust, developing relationships via



peer mentoring and discussing local issues, and aims to develop young people into a referral pathway for a Fireskills Employability Programme.

The course was originally planned for September of 2021 but had to be put on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions. Rather than waiting until things changed and losing the momentum and trust that had been built up with the young people it was decided to look for an

alternative venue for further engagement/diversion until the go ahead was given to run the course at the Fire Station. Fortunately, personnel were able to book the Valley Park Community centre for seven Wednesday evenings from the 27th of October till the 8th of December, with a view to extending this if things went well. Also, an alternative venue was found to use to continue progress through winter nights and covid-19 restrictions until access was agreed at a Fire Station to run the FSEP:

Street Patrols (twice weekly) – 10/06/21 – 26/10/21

Valley Park Community Centre(weekly)- 27/10/21 – 08/12/21

Valley Park Community Centre(weekly)- 12/01/22 – 02/03/22

Ongoing at time of report (still to arrange date for FSEP)

What we said we would do

What were the intended outcomes? Refer to local or national priorities. For example, Local Fire Plan, SOA, strategic priorities. Also, refer to your Project Planning Checklist and list the outcomes you detailed there.

The first five evenings involved discussions on fire-setting, bonfire/firework safety, consequences of anti-social behaviour and general youth related topics. Subsequently, personnel included practical sessions to develop team working skills, this was done through learning how the fire service work in darkness - searching for casualty simulations - in teams of two. Over the next few weeks the young people were given lessons on basic life support skills, including how to give an unconscious casualty CPR and how to put someone in the recovery position. This was combined with fun social time and some food - always an important element of any youth programme. One evening had a peak attendance of 30 young people, this proved to be very challenging but personnel used this experience to reduce the number to a "select" 15, with an aim to reducing it to 10 for the Fireskills course. Average turnout from that 15 is currently 10 per evening session.



What actually happened

Refer to your Project Planning Checklist and detail the activities you have delivered during this period. Include the main activities you undertook that contributed towards achieving your outcomes, such as events held, resources developed, research undertaken, partnerships established and the

LO1 – participants learned the basic principles within a working environment of H&S and wellbeing
 LO3 – participants communicated as a team, as an individual, with members of community and partner organisations
 LO4 – participants learned about basic home fire safety and search and rescue procedures in smoke/and/or darkness, under supervision
 LO5 participants learned how to rescue a casualty successfully from a search and rescue scenario
 LO6 – participants learned about basic life support techniques using cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and training defibrillator
 LO7 – participants learned about road traffic safety – impact to individuals and community
 LO9 – participants learned about anti-social behaviour and associated legislation

numbers of people your activities reached.



Also included were group discussions on drugs and alcohol awareness, sexual health, consequences of bullying, bonfire and firework safety. Consequences of anti-social behaviour and employability.

The young people also engaged in physical/social activities – indoor football, pool table and PS2.

CFF Young recorded statistics of youth related incidents through researching the SFRS BOSS system in the affected areas. This system can be used to identify trends in times, dates, areas and in types and in numbers of incidents – helping to more accurately target areas and to choose input during engagement sessions. During the street work, personnel made over 300 contacts with targeted young people in known hotspot areas, these young people were known/suspected to be involved in ASB.

The street work consisted of twice weekly evening patrols with city of Edinburgh Life Long Learning (LLL) workers. To date, there has been a total of 47 engagement sessions, providing a total of over 300 contacts with young people.

Due to weather, dark evenings and COVID restrictions the community centre was identified as a location to continue the engagement.

What difference did we make? (describe Evaluation Methods)

Refer to your Evaluation Plan and detail here information and evidence

By carrying out this targeted approach a number of short term outcomes and benefits for the participants were achieved – evidence of which is also highlighted further in this report and within the appendices:

- Participants gained self-confidence to make informed choices and reasoned decisions, developing confidence in their own

<p>which demonstrates the progress you are making towards achieving each of your outcomes. Please focus your supporting evidence on the outcomes and indicators. This can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies • Written evidence including quotations, letters and emails • Press articles • Photographs <p>Remember: outcomes are things that have made a difference and should include change words for example: improved, enhanced, better, more.</p>	<p>ability which was evidenced by changes in behaviours throughout the sessions</p> <p><i>"I can help stop people chocking" – ET "I will behave better" – BC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants broadened their perspectives through new experiences and thinking and participated enthusiastically <p><i>"It's a really good place to speak to people and staff are really nice"- BD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An improvement in participant health and wellbeing through involvement in physical and social activity and workshops on personal safety and risk-taking behaviour provided young people with a better understanding of how their behaviour can affect not only themselves but others within the community <p><i>"I have learnt how to do chest compressions/CPR" - RS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants worked independently but also in teams, improving communication and solving problems during lessons <p><i>"The course is fun, I would recommend it" – TH</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants understood the consequences of actions and the social impact on the local community and emergency services <p><i>"I won't play with Fireworks or Fire" - RS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants developed a sense of pride through their achievements reached and goals met throughout the engagement sessions <p><i>"The course is cool " – LT</i> <i>"The course is minted" - CL "Valley Park is a very helpful and caring experience" - JM</i></p> <p>Regarding the incidents, there has been a reduction in youth related ASB reported to the SFRS.</p> <p>During a comparison from the month of January 2021 & January 2022 it was found that there has been a noticeable reduction in the number of incidents reported so therefore less impact on Operational resources – reference: Appendix 1: SFRS BOSS statistic table Jan 2021/Jan 2022</p> <p>By carrying out this targeted approach a number of short term outcomes and benefits for the participants were achieved – evidence of which is also highlighted further in this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants gained self-confidence to make informed choices and reasoned decisions, developing confidence in their own ability which was evidence by changes in behaviours throughout the sessions
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- Participants broadened their perspectives through new experiences and thinking and participated enthusiastically
- An improvement in participant health and wellbeing through involvement in physical and social activity and workshops on personal safety and risk-taking behaviour provided young people with a better understanding of how their behaviour can affect not only themselves but others within the community
- Participants worked independently but also in teams, improving communication and solving problems during lessons



- Participants understood the consequences of actions and the social impact on the local community and emergency services
- Participants developed a sense of pride through their achievements reached and goals met throughout the engagement sessions

Feedback from Kenny Curtis, Lifelong Learning Officer from City of Edinburgh Council is attached as a Case Study in **Appendix 2**.

There has been a noticeable improvement in the group's willingness to interact with attending Police Officers compared to initial visits. This included group discussions, playing pool and football and generally more positive engagement. A letter of commendation on the benefits of this initiative from **Police Scotland** is attached as **Appendix 3**

"Having attended multiple inputs since the start of the programme and as a member of the local Community Policing Team within the south-east locality I have been extremely encouraged by the level of engagement by the participants and their willingness to learn".

	<i>"As stated I am extremely encouraged by the development of the programme and the potential that it can have not only on educating the participants on the risks of fire raising but also developing a gateway for the local community team to form trust with the youths in our community"</i>
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Challenges and Changes Anything which did not go as planned and either stopped or slowed progress or perhaps forced changes upon the project should be recorded here.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Winter weather and darker nights for street work 2. Covid-19 restrictions delaying FSEP on station 3. Finding funds for catering 4. Nature of young people involved (all high tariff)
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Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A huge amount of experience in youth work between CFF James Young and Kenny Curtis contributed to the success of this initiative. As this was a new initiative it was led with an open-minded approach, and both these individuals approached it consistently by being non-judgemental, empathetic, flexible and adaptable right from the start and throughout. This was imperative due to the nature and backgrounds of the young people they were targeting. • The value of creating and maintaining good recording systems by personnel (CFF Young) and the collating the plethora of paperwork i.e. consent forms which is very valuable to record evidence to highlight the work being carried out
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Learning Points Please use this section to highlight: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key learning points during the period • Unexpected outcomes, positive or negative • An assumption that has been proven or challenged 	Learning points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel being consistently impressed by the young people's approach to learning when given time and support • An unexpected outcome was the positive reaction CFF Young received from the young people when he sees them out of work (he lives in one of the targeted areas) • Challenged the assumption that a course is unlikely to succeed/finish when running with all higher tariff young people. The time spent with the young people prior to the actual Fireskills course running, provided personnel with an opportunity to build trusting and respectful relationships
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anything you will do differently going forward with your project 	<p>with them, putting them in a better place for attending and in committing their time to this. They kept asking “when is the course?” “When is the course?”.</p> <p>It would not be the intention to do anything differently so far, as personnel are making good progress and also learning from the engagement.</p>
<p>Anything else you wish to add</p> <p>This can be for anything else which you wish to add but there has not been an appropriate place for thus far.</p>	<p>The time spent with the young people prior to the running of the Fireskills course has greatly negated the chances of bad behaviour and refusal to participate resulting in individuals being put off the course or not finishing the course. They are already starting to form as a group/team and have not refused to take part in any input.</p>
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>What do you want to happen now?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of a date for the Fireskills, currently not possible due to staffing levels, resource issues and Covid-19 restrictions Financial support to provide catering/refreshments
<p>Future Plans/next steps</p>	<p>To continue engaging with the group and to slowly increase expectations of themselves until a course date can be finalised.</p>
<p>Appendices/ Documentation Learning packages</p> <p>Please list any supplementary evidence of your evaluation e.g. photos, reports, statistical data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 1: SFRS BOSS statistic table Jan 2021/Jan 2022 Appendix 2: Partner Case Study Appendix 3: Letter from Police Scotland Appendix 4: Joint Patrols engagement table June 2021

APPENDIX 1: SFRS BOSS STATISTIC TABLES – JAN 2021/JAN 2022

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time + Incident No</i>	<i>Location/Address</i>	<i>Incident Type</i>
Sa-16/01/21	1848 -043751	Grounds of The Mansion, 47 Gracemount house Drive Edinburgh EH16 6FD	Small Fire in the open
Su-17/01/21	1739 - 043821	Grounds of The Mansion, 47 Gracemount house Drive Edinburgh EH16 6FD	Small Quantity of wood alight (youths involved)
M-18/01/21	1859 - 043940	Burdiehouse Skate Park (The Dip) Edinburgh	Small Fire in the open
M-18/01/21	1700 - 043925	Grounds of The Mansion, 47 Gracemount house Drive Edinburgh EH16 6FD	Small Fire in the open
W-20/01/21	2204 - 044166	Grounds of The Mansion, 47 Gracemount house Drive Edinburgh EH16 6FD	Wheelie bin alight (youths involved)
Th-21/01/21	2033 - 044280	Grounds of The Mansion, 47 Gracemount house Drive Edinburgh EH16 6FD Liberton GW Crew attacked by youths with snowballs	Wheelie bin alight (youths involved)
Sa-30/01/21	1848-053185	Little France Park, Little France Drive Edinburgh	Grass Alight (youths in area)
Same	At Same Incident	2 nd Seat of fire spotted by crew to rear of Greendykes Road Edinburgh	Grass Alight
Sa-30/01/21	2252-053217	Little France Park, Little France Drive Edinburgh	Small quantity of rubbish alight (possibly youths)

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Time + Incident No</i>	<i>Location/Address</i>	<i>Incident Type</i>
18/01/22	1957 - 047624	Near the Community Centre, Moredunvale Place	Small Fire in the open
19/01/22	1505 - 047737	Liberton High School Grounds	Small Fire in the open
28/01/22	1729 - 049232	Wooded area opposite Walter Scott Avenue	Small Fire in the open

APPENDIX 2

Fire Skills Programme Edinburgh South East Locality Case Study

The Fire Skills Programme in South East Locality was initiated at a local partnership meeting between the SFS, Police, City of Edinburgh Council Lifelong Learning youth services, schools and third sector partners, in response to a marked rise in fire related anti-social behaviour by young people in the Gracemount and Moredun areas of the locality. Due to Covid restrictions at the time, the method of engagement with young people thought or known to be involved either directly or on the periphery of fire-raising was through detached/street based youth work delivered by the SFS community fire fighter and a CEC youth work lead. Latterly this was supplemented with sessional staffing funded by Dunedin Canmore Youth Projects.

The detached street work sessions took place twice weekly at varying times of day including school lunch hour, after school and evenings covering the areas where fire setting had taken place. The young people were already known to the youth worker through pre-covid engagement at Valleypark community centre, and this provided a platform for the fire fighter to introduce the idea of the programme. A large number of young people expressed an interest – too many for the final fire station based course – and were invited to attend groupwork sessions in Valleypark as soon as covid restrictions allowed. In all 30-young people attended this group at some point, and seventeen were identified at the end of 2021 as suitable to continue the programme in 2022, based on their attendance, participation and attitude, with a view to ten of these being selected for the week-long fire station course proposed for late March.

The names of the young people offered a place in the group in January/February were ‘run past’ both the local high school and community police sergeant, which helped prioritise and target the most appropriate participants, many of whom had issues at school e.g., behaviour/attendance (two attending special provision), at home e.g. looked after, or in the community e.g. charged for ASB or known to be part of groups setting fires or targeting bus windows with stones etc. Most of these young people also attend youth provisions on other evenings in Valleypark. The fire skills programme provides a smaller setting in which to form strong relationships with them as well as deliver fire and rescue input as part of the session. Within this context it has also been possible to introduce the young people to the community police officer to answer questions and build trust. The ‘joint patrols’ or detached sessions run by the fire fighter and youth worker were possible in a way that would not work so well with a uniformed police officer, but this engagement has provided a gateway for community police to reach these young people.

It is hoped that the week-long course will take place in March if covid allows and the equipment and Liberton fire station are available. Thereafter there is further ambition to provide the programme to young people in neighbouring Moredun and subsequently potentially in Sighthill in the south west. It is also hope that a statistical analysis of fire related ASB will show a reduction, in part at least attributable to this inter agency collaboration.

Kenny Curtis, Lifelong Learning Locality Development Officer (Youth Work), City of Edinburgh Council

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Joint Partner Patrols (Pre Fire Skills Programme)

Due to an increase in fire raising within the south-east area of Edinburgh the Joint Partner Patrols were developed to help raise awareness of fire raising whilst allowing the SFS, Police Scotland and City of Edinburgh Council Lifelong learning youth services to engage with youths within the local community.

By working in partnership and engaging with youths that had shown an interest in attending the programme it was hoped that there would be a decrease in fire raising within the south-east locality whilst educating the participants on the risks associated with fire raising.

Having attended multiple inputs since the start of the programme and as a member of the local Community Policing Team within the south-east locality I have been extremely encouraged by the level of engagement by the participants and their willingness to learn.

Furthermore, by working in partnership with both the SFS and City of Edinburgh Council Lifelong learning youth services it has allowed the local Community Policing Team to engage with the participants in an environment they feel more comfortable in whilst allowing us to create better relationships with the local community.

As stated I am extremely encouraged by the development of the programme and the potential that it can have not only on educating the participants on the risks of fire raising but also developing a gateway for the local community team to form trust with the youths in our community.

I am very keen for Police Scotland to continue working in partnership with the SFS and City of Edinburgh Council Lifelong learning youth services to help build on the good work done so far.

Constable Andy Flynn 13013, Community Policing Team, Howdenhall Police Station, Howdenhall Road, Edinburgh

APPENDIX 4

Joint Partner Patrols

Day/Date	Times	Attending	Additional Information
Thurs - 10/06/21	1200 - 1400	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@ Tesco Gracemount (spoke to approx 20 young people)
Thurs - 10/06/21	1700 - 1830	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Braids US Golf Range (finished early, I missed them)
Tues - 15/06/21	1700 - 1900	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Gracemount+ Moredun (spoke to approx. 20 young people)
Mon – 21/06/21	1230 - 1500	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Gracemount area (spoke to approx. 30 young people)
Tues – 22/06/21	1700 - 1930	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Gracemount/Burdiehouse/Moredun (spoke to approx. 16 young people) (First two names taken for Fireskills course 13/09)
Mon – 28/06/21	1300 - 1600	CFF J. Young, Kenny Curtis & Clare from Dunedin canmore	Barbecue @ Burdiehouse Skatepark (spoke to 20 young people, third name for Fireskills course)
Tues – 29/06/21	1700 - 1930	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Gracemount, Burdiehouse & Moredun (spoke to 21 young people, got 4 th name for fireskills and called keyholder for St Catherines primary due to young people on the roof)
Mon = 05/07/21	1400 - 1630	CFF J. Young & Kenny Curtis	@Gracemount, Burdiehouse & Moredun (spoke to 8 young people, 5 th name for Fireskills course and Networked 2 new contacts)