Looking ahead to an exciting 2020!

A new year is upon us and with it, a lot of exciting new work and events which are on the horizon over the coming months. The first of our 2020 events will take place on Monday the 3rd February as we ask ‘Is it time for a new dialogue on antisocial behaviour?’ at the 2020 FireStarter Festival (#fsf2020).

Here, we provide a quick run down of some of the events that ourselves and our partners will be running/participating in throughout 2020 (dates provided where confirmed):

- **Is it time for a new dialogue on anti-social behaviour:** SCSN event as part of the Fire Starter Festival. Monday 3rd February. Find out more [here](#).
- **Collective Leadership on tackling Sectarianism in Scotland:** Sectarianism Collective Leadership Group event as part of the Fire Starter Festival. Monday 3rd February. Find out more [here](#).
- **Community Justice Scotland National Event:** Community Justice Scotland. 10th March. Find out more [here](#).
- **Equalities and Hate Crime Event:** SCSN & Dundee CSP. April 2020. Date TBC.
- **BSCP Unintentional Harm Event:** Next event will take place in late May. Date TBC.
- **SCSN AGM:** September 2020. Date TBC.
- **SCSN Chairs & Leads Event:** November 2020. Date TBC.

*Please note that this is a rough guide for our planned events this year and dates may be subject to change. Further events will be advertised as they are planned.*

SCSN Annual Survey for 2019 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. Thank you to all who took the time to help us – help you!

On releasing the results, Lorraine Gillies, SCSN Chief Officer, said, “I am delighted to share the results of our 2019 Annual Survey with you all. Member feedback is incredibly valuable to us and we are very pleased that this year’s survey results are a good news story.”

Download survey results [here](#).
Early updates for 2020

Along with the events listed in this newsletter that are ahead for the new year, we are currently engaged in a wide range of other work to inform, engage, champion and influence in the community safety sector in 2020.

Our National Development Officer, Hannah Dickson will shortly begin work with successful applicants to pilot our Performance Evaluation Framework Tool developed along with Evaluation Support Scotland.

We hope to be in a position to publish our long awaited CCTV research report in the early part of this year, and we continue to submit consultation responses as appropriate - with our first response of 2020 on Dangerous Dogs legislation being submitted in January.

In the coming weeks, the team will be out and about at the Crimestoppers Scotland West Volunteer Committee, The Road Safety Framework and Fireworks Review working groups, Cross Party Group on children and families affected by imprisonment, doing an input at the Scottish Police College and in Renfrewshire for the second part of our Community Safety Narrative discussions with members to name a few!

In the early part of this year we will also be looking to increase the profile of Home Safety Scotland - producing a communications strategy for this network of Home Safety Professionals. See our Home Safety Scotland feature page for latest updates on page 8 of the this newsletter.

Question of the Month

Our Question of the Month for December 2019 was themed around winter safety and community resilience. We asked:

‘Will you check in on a neighbour this Christmas?’

- 43% said Yes
- 43% said No
- 14% said Not sure

Thanks to all of those who took part in our poll!

Question of the Month

January 2020

This month’s Question relates to BSC Online Hub. We’re asking:

Have you submitted/do you have plans to submit anything to the BSC Online Hub?

Take part in our poll here.
Building Safer Communities Online Hub Updates

New blogs posted on unintentional harm and injury hub - New practice exemplars have been posted on the Unintentional Harm and Injury Hub as well as a number of blogs on fireworks, the Safe Tea Campaign and you can access the hub here.

Could climate change become a community safety issue?

New research published in the journal Nature Medicine, has suggested that rising global temperatures could see an increase in road crash, drowning, suicide and violent deaths - especially in younger people.

Deaths from injuries have long been known to be seasonal and the new analysis uses data on nearly 6m deaths in the US to calculate the impacts of a 2C rise in temperature, the main target set by the world’s nations. The scientists calculated that this increase would result in about 2,100 more fatal injuries every year in the US alone.

The most affected age group was 15-34. Road crashes accounted for 42% of the extra deaths and suicide 30%. Deaths from violence and from drowning both made up about 14% of the total. Drownings increase in hot weather as more people swim.
Men with alcohol problems 6-7 times more likely to abuse partner

Men who are dependent on alcohol or drugs are six or seven times more likely to be involved in domestic abuse against women than others, according to new research.

The research, published in the online journal *PLOS-Medicine*, analysed hundreds of thousands of medical records and police data from Sweden over a 16-year period.

It also found an increased risk of partner violence among men with mental illnesses and behavioural disorders, though it was not as marked as in the group with an alcohol or drugs problems.

It also found a link between some mental health problems and domestic abuse, with those suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), personality disorders and clinical depression among those more likely to face arrest.

You can find out more about the consultation and submit your response [here](#).

The deadline for responses is 23 January.
No limits for Springburn Academy’s young people

The Wise Group is a social enterprise with one overarching aim – to lift people out of poverty.

Our work supports a broad church – people caught up in crime, households experiencing fuel poverty and fuel fear and those for whom learning new skills will help them find and stay in work. Few people get richer going through the justice system, so diversion is one of the most effective ways to prevent people from becoming trapped by poverty.

That’s why our early intervention programme, New Routes No Limits, has been designed to give young people the skills and knowledge to make better life choices and minimise the chance of them entering the justice system. It applies learning from our successful national New Routes Mentoring programme which supports people leaving prison.

A recent pilot of New Routes No Limits at Glasgow’s Springburn Academy showed us how important it is to work with and empower our young people to make choices that divert them from a path many see as inevitable.

No Limits was delivered in the school over six weeks to 11 young people in S1 to S3 – with 1-2-1 mentoring offered in addition to group work. The course was led by Wise Group mentors, some of whom have personal experience of the justice system, mental health challenges, homelessness or addictions. This gave credible, relatable and knowledgeable support. We analysed data of 4,000 customers who were being released from prison and identified common themes which led to offending. These themes form the basis of the topics covered by No Limits and include: Managing peer pressure; using drugs and alcohol; trauma; building positive relationships; violence and improving mental wellbeing. These topics can, of course, be tailored to local needs.

The value of the programme at Springburn Academy was highlighted when teachers noticed changes in the behaviour of one of their young people. As a bright, able young man, his behaviour had become increasingly erratic. During the first few weeks of the programme he came out of his shell. Wise Group mentor, Michelle, said: “He was attentive in the group, especially when we spoke about drug use and violence. Each week a guest speaker shared their personal story of the consequences of their actions and the impact on their life. He always asked questions about how they got there and why they made those decisions.

After hearing these personal stories, he approached his pastoral care teacher to ask for help about issues in his personal life. He explained that the topics discussed at the group resonated with him, that the Wise Group mentors understood exactly what he was going through and gave him confidence to ask for help.

Depute Head Karen Watt explained: “We have seen the benefit and impact of the course on the pupils who attended. It augments the work we do already with Early and Effective Interventions and gives young people a forum to get information about sensitive topics from experienced people who aren’t police or teaching staff.”

In our final week, we arranged a boxing event focused on communication and teamwork delivered by RUTS. British Bantamweight Boxing Champion, Kash Farooq, even made a guest appearance!

Kash, who grew up in Glasgow, brought his gold British Champions belt. The young people were delighted to wear it and be photographed with a local hero.

If you’d like to find out more about what we do, or would like to work with us, please get in touch at justice@thewisegroup.co.uk, or visit wisegroup.co.uk.
New report evaluates Glasgow’s Participatory Budgeting Activity

A new report from Glasgow Centre for Population Health evaluates the participatory budgeting activity taking place in Glasgow.

In four areas of the city, community organisations with deep roots have been commissioned to support people to establish citizens panels charged with testing how PB should best work in their community. In addition, Glasgow Disability Alliance were asked to support disabled people from across the city to get involved in development and delivery of the PB process.

The report, published in October, notes that “Glasgow City Council has a strong and clear vision for inclusive, accessible and inequalities-focused PB” and that it should develop a city-wide PB strategy “underpinned by an equalities framework and co-produced with equalities agencies, anchor organisations and with communities.”

National Islands Plan launched

Scotland’s first National Islands Plan to improve the quality of life for island communities has been launched.

The plan sets out 13 objectives, and more than 100 specific measures to support achieving them, to address population decline, tackle climate change and improve transport, housing, the delivery of public services and digital connectivity.

It follows an extensive consultation which included 61 events and meetings on 40 islands across Scotland and attended by almost 1,000 people of all ages and backgrounds. The online consultation received a further 400 responses.

Scotland’s Islands Minister, Paul Wheelhouse said: “I am proud to introduce Scotland’s first National Islands Plan - a historic milestone that began with the passing of the Islands (Scotland) Act last year.”

Download the Scottish Islands Plan here.

The importance of creating liveable neighbourhoods - Tremaine Bilham, Sustrans Scotland

Writing in Third Force News, Tremaine Bilham, Community Engagement Officer of Sustrans Scotland, discusses the importance of creating liveable neighbourhoods with streets designed to places that facilitate connections in communities, encourage children to play and can be corridors for urban wildlife - rather than simply carriageways for vehicles.

You can read her article in full here, including finding out more about the Street Design Programme for which new applications will open in early 2020.
SPARC: Rural Crime Unit Update

The Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime has sent out an update to members thanking those who have been involved for significant tangible progression as well as increased visibility for the group.

Several key highlights include the launch of Scotland’s first rural crime strategy, launch of the Scottish Heritage Crime Group, attendance at a total of 49 agricultural events and shows totalling 60 days’ worth leaving a footprint in all 13 territorial policing divisions and 23 local authority areas plus significant increases in prevention advice and events, advancement of Rural Watch, rural crime intelligence resulting in enforcement activity which has seen numerous individuals getting caught and convicted.

Another key development has been the ability to provide a daily, weekly and monthly capture of reported incidents to Police Scotland relating to rural crimes/offences plus any apprehensions, good news stories +/-or recovered items then add a financial value, all of which has started to provide a more accurate picture on the extent of rural crime throughout Scotland.

SPARC are looking forward to continuing to work with all partner agencies and stakeholders to build on this work throughout 2020!

Animal and Wildlife (Penalties, Protections and Powers) (Scotland) Bill

A Bill to increase penalties for the most serious animal welfare offences, to provide for fixed penalties in relation to animal welfare offences generally, to increase the protection for service animals from being caused unnecessary suffering, to provide for fixed penalties in relation to animal health offences, to increase penalties in relation to certain wildlife offences; to confer power on inspectors and constables, where animals have been taken into possession to alleviate their suffering, to make arrangements for the treatment, transfer or destruction of those animals; and for connected purposes - was introduced by Roseanna Cunningham MSP late last year. You can find out more and follow the progress of the bill here.

Safer Internet Day 2020

Safer Internet Day takes place on 11th February.

Over 300 organisations right across the UK join the supporter’s list! If you haven’t done so yet, don’t forget to register as a supporter now.

42% of teachers who took part in Safer Internet Day 2019 said that education on the day led to disclosures of potential safeguarding issues online. Safer Internet Day wouldn’t be able to have such an impact without the hard work and support of organisations across the UK, so get creative, ambitious and excited about how you can make this day the best ever.

You can get access to all the resources you need to get involved online including educational materials, films and our #freetobe social media campaign template.
Latest news and updates on Home Safety issues in Scotland

SGN publish Report on Roundtable discussions

SGN is consulting with stakeholders on its plan to raise awareness and reduce carbon monoxide (CO) risk for customers. This report collates the outputs of two roundtable meetings that took place in November 2019, bringing together specialist stakeholders with an interest in CO from across Scotland and southern England. • Scotland roundtable: Tuesday 19 November 2019 at the Novotel, Edinburgh. • Southern roundtable: Friday 22nd November at the Connaught Rooms in London.

Both meetings followed the same agenda and were given the same presentations. Presentations and other duplicated parts of the workshop are only shown once, with the output of the discussions marked Southern for the London workshop and Scotland for the Edinburgh workshop.

You can download the report here.

Gas Safety Week 2019 report published

A report of the activity around Gas Safety Week 2019 has been published. Included in the report are highlights of an event that took place at the Scottish Parliament, in coordination with IGEM and the Gas Safe Register - and new research on confusion about the signs of unsafe gas appliances among people who care for a vulnerable loved one.

You can download a copy of the report here.

Follow Home Safety Scotland for news and updates!

You can get the latest updates on Home Safety issues in Scotland by following Home Safety Scotland on Twitter at @HomeSafetyScot. Our account is relatively new, so please encourage anyone you know who is interested in Home Safety to follow us, share our content and engage with us!

You can now find out more about Home Safety Scotland, as well as downloading useful Home Safety related publications on our temporary webpage here.
Zero tolerance alcohol limit could reduce road deaths by 5,000 a year in EU

The European Union should introduce a zero-tolerance drink-driving limit in 2020 as part of a package of measures to help prevent up to 5,000 alcohol-linked road deaths every year, according to the European Transport Safety Council, authors of a new report.

The EU has recently set a target to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the road by half by 2030. A quarter of the 25,000 EU road deaths each year are likely to be linked to alcohol, according to European Commission estimates.

Around 2,654 people were officially recorded killed in alcohol-related collisions in 23 EU countries in 2018, according to the new ETSC report. But the true figures are likely to be significantly higher due to underreporting and problems with data collection.

ETSC is also calling on the EU to require the fitment of alcohol interlock devices in professional vehicles such as lorries, coaches and vans as well as requiring their use by recidivist drink-driving offenders as well as first time high-level offenders.

The UK is listed as one of several (current) EU countries tackling road deaths at a slower rate than others, but Scotland does have a lower drink driving limit than England and Wales, closer to alignment with other EU countries.

View and share a video on why the EU needs a zero tolerance drink driving limit here.

View and share a video on alcohol interlock devices here.

Drug Related Hospital Statistics Customer Consultation

Information Services Division (ISD) of NHS National Services Scotland publish Drug-Related Hospital Statistics annually (the most recently published report can be accessed here and the accompanying dashboard can be found here). ISD are committed to producing information that meets the needs of stakeholders, customers and the public.

The purpose of this consultation is to seek feedback on the new web-based dashboard and on the publication report. This consultation is in line with best practice for official statistics publishers, which encourages user engagement to ensure that publications are of value.

Find out more details in the full Drug-Related Hospital Statistics consultation questionnaire.

Responses must be submitted no later than 31 January 2020.