

AGENDA ITEM NO: 10a

Report To: Education and Communities Date: 3 November 2020

Committee

Report By: Corporate Director Report No: EDUCOM/50/20/TM

Education, Communities and Organisational Development

Contact Officer: Hugh Scott Contact No: 01475 715459

Service Manager

Subject: The Scottish Community Safety Network Annual Report 2019/20

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Education and Communities Committee with the Scottish Community Safety Network Annual Report 2019/20 following its publication at its Annual General Meeting.

1.2 The paper outlines the work of the Scottish Community Safety Network and notes Inverclyde Council's contribution to the network.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN) is the national forum for officers who are responsible for the strategic development at both a local and national level, in the public, private and third sector. SCSN is the strategic voice for community safety in Scotland and through working collaboratively with members and partner agencies, SCSN champions community safety, and influences and shapes the development of national policy and local delivery.
- 2.2 SCSN is managed by a Chief Officer and supported by 5 members of staff. The organisation is governed by a Board of Directors, currently recruited through the membership. The Board of Directors is chaired by a Council Officer from Inverclyde Council supported by a Vice Chair from Fife Council and a Treasurer from City of Edinburgh Council. Other board members include representatives from Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Community Justice Scotland and local authorities from across Scotland.
- 2.3 The Annual General Meeting of SCSN was held on 1 October 2020 where the report was presented by the Chief Officer and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The report is appended for members as Appendix 1.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee
 - Notes the Scottish Community Safety Network Annual Report 2019/20; and
 - Notes Inverclyde Council's continuing role in the Scottish Community Safety Network;

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN) is the national forum for officers who are responsible for the strategic development at both a local and national level, in the public, private and third sector. SCSN is the strategic voice for community safety in Scotland and through working collaboratively with members and partner agencies, SCSN champions community safety, and influences and shapes the development of national policy and local delivery.
- 4.2 The history of SCSN can be traced back to the formation of the Scottish Local Authorities Community Safety Forum (SLACS) in 1998 as an informal network of practitioners to provide and share support and effective practice. By 2005, SLACS became known as SCSN as a membership model to a number of bodies across Scotland including local authorities, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and a number of third sector organisations across Scotland.
- 4.3 SCSN is managed by a Chief Officer and supported by 5 members of staff and is governed by a dedicated Board of Directors made up of representatives from local authorities, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Community Justice Scotland and COSLA. SCSN receives annual grant funding from the Scottish Government and generates additional income through membership fees. Membership is priced at £375 per annum and includes priority access to training and events, ad hoc briefings and learning reports; advocacy and representation.
- 4.4 There was submitted a report to the Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee at its meeting in September 2019 seeking Committee approval to nominate an appropriate officer for the position of Chairperson at the Annual General Meeting in 2019. Following the Annual General Meeting the appropriate officer was confirmed as Chairperson and is supported by a Vice Chair (Fife Council) and Treasurer (City of Edinburgh Council).
- 4.5 SCSN host and organise a number of events open to members. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic these events have been hosted online although a number of events were held in person prior to restrictions being placed on gatherings. Events included a masterclass on making the links between public health and community safety, on anti-social behaviour and understanding complexity in a community safety arena. SCSN also published a number of documents including one on the current landscape and future opportunities for public space CCTV in Scotland. SCSN also contributed to work around the fireworks consultation in Scotland, Road Safety Framework to 2030 and the national independent report of marches and parades.
- 4.6 The Chairperson has also supported the organisation at a number of events during the previous year including co-hosting an event with COSLA in December 2019 on 'Making the case for Community Safety' to members of the COSLA Community Wellbeing Board and Police Scrutiny Convenor's Forum, and a series of online meetings with Community Safety Lead Officers from around the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland to identify best practice within the sector.
- 4.7 The Board of Directors meet approximately 4-5 times per year (including the Annual General Meeting) to provide governance and oversight to the Chief Officer in respect of the annual business plan (to satisfy funders) and progression towards the Strategic Plan. Directors may also be asked to attend ad-hoc meetings relative to their role within their own organisations with officers from the Scottish Government and other partners although participation is voluntary. The role of the Chairperson may also involve meeting with officers from the Scottish Government's Building Safer Communities programme, the collaborative programme which seeks to help national and local partners and communities work together to make Scotland safer and stronger.
- 4.8 Representation on the Board of Directors is voluntary and any expenses incurred as a Director are paid for by SCSN. Since March 2020 all board meetings have been held online with a commitment by the Board to continue this approach in order to minimise disruption and

travelling time for the Directors.
IMPLICATIONS
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5.1 Finance

5.0

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A	Community Safety & Resilience	2020/21	£375		Recurring membership

5.2 **Legal** None

5.3 Human Resources

None

5.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES (see attached appendix)
Х	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
Х	NO

Has a Data	a Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?
	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

X NO

(c) Data Protection

5.5 Repopulation

Not applicable

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 None

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 **The Scottish Community Safety Network** (EDUCOM/74/19/HS) Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee- 3 September 2019.



Annual Report 2019/2020

SCSN is proud to host





Chair Person's Remarks

It is a great honour to introduce the SCSN annual report for 2019/20, my first as Chair Person of the Board of Directors. My first year has been made so much easier from the excellent work by our previous Chair Mark McCall, our Board of Directors and our staff team.

The focus of our work is driven by our Strategic Plan and the Board of Directors and I are extremely proud of the work the team has done over the last year. The focus of work in this annual report has been on 'Making the Case for Community Safety' and our team consisting of Hannah, Dawn, David, Mariah, Josh and Shona led by Lorraine have achieved so much over the course of the year. I was fortunate to be at a number of events and my highlights include the masterclass on Public Health and Community Safety, the joint SCSN and COSLA event for elected members and the Firestarter festival impact on 'is it a new time for a dialogue on antisocial behaviour?'

SCSN cannot do the work without a range of support from people and organisations across Scotland (and beyond!), I am extremely grateful to our members and Scottish Government for their continued financial support allowing the excellent work to continue.

Sadly, worldwide events over the last several months have shone a spotlight on how we as community safety practitioners and as an organisation have reacted. In terms of COVID-19, SCSN has adapted well to the challenges of home and remote working and I see from our regular dialogue with members that as well as new challenges in our work places to support the communities we work and live the community safety picture is more important as we look to support our communities and navigate out of the pandemic.



The death of George Floyd has saddened and shocked many of us and has forced many of us to ask ourselves what we can do to tackle racial discrimination and embedded inequalities across society. We as a board and organisation acknowledge that we need to work even harder to promote diversity within the organisation and across the community safety sector. We do not have all the answers however there is a commitment from the Board that during the forthcoming months we want to listen, learn and improve and will provide updates to our membership in the coming months.

Ian Hanley SCSN Chair Person

Some words from the SCSN Chief Officer - Lorraine Gillies

Isn't it interesting that I talked in last year's annual report about all the changes we had made to keep us agile and performing our best, and I'm writing this year's in the midst of Coronavirus restrictions. We left 2019/2020 at the beginnings of lockdown and I'm so glad that the measures we had in place have kept us safe.

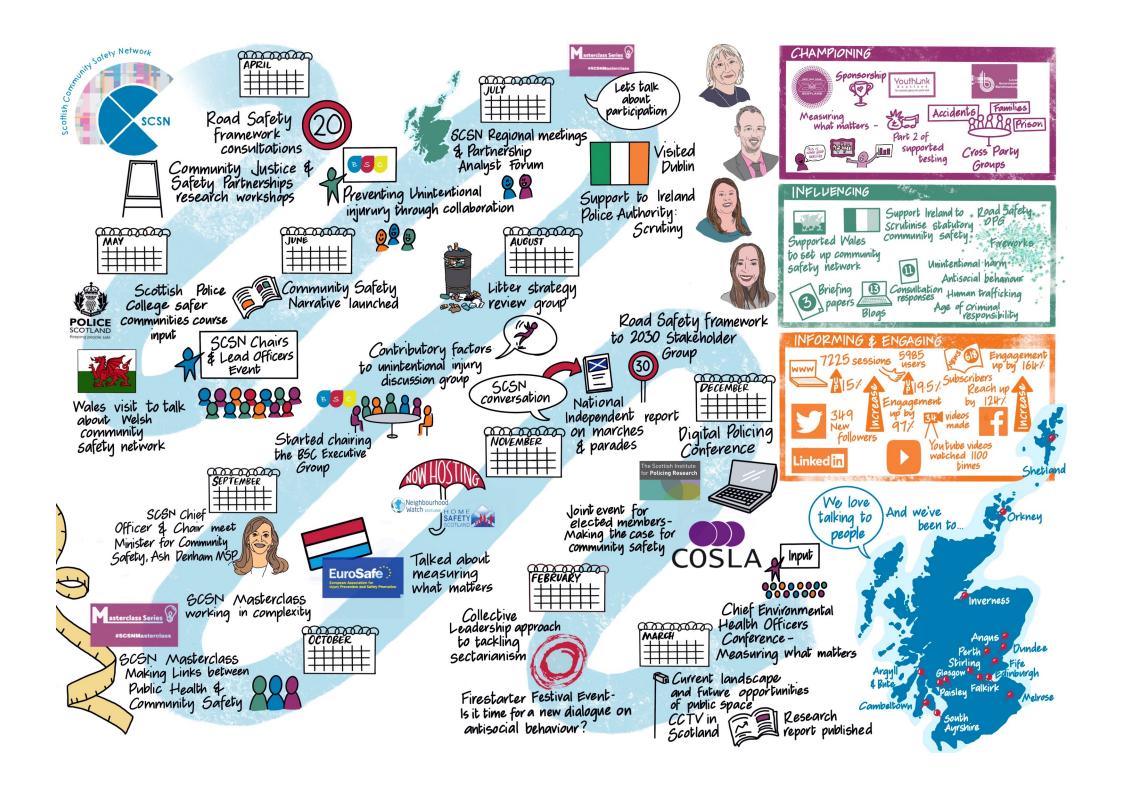
Back to what we have done – this last year has seen us achieving much of what we set out to do in our Strategic plan in the way that WORKS FOR US. Some highlights for me include the publishing of a piece on CCTV; our Community Safety narrative; our extended reach and influence to Europe, Wales and Ireland; and, of course, our transformation into an umbrella organisation as we took Home Safety Scotland and Neighbourhood Watch Scotland into our care and support.

We have covered more ground this year than ever before as we work with partners the length and breadth of Scotland and beyond.

Our influence and reach has extended into sectarianism, marches and parades, a new dialogue on anti-social behaviour and we have participated in a comprehensive review of fireworks.

I'd like to give my huge thanks to our members (old and new) and supporters – our engagement with you has never been better.







Working in partnership by: Informing, Engaging, Championing and Influencing

SCSN works closely with a whole range of partners across the Scottish Community Safety Sector. The graphic opposite gives a snapshot of the partners with whom we have engaged most regularly over the past year - covering a large variety of community safety area of interests.

We all about partnership working and collaboration, proactively **Engaging** with our partners to make sure we are **Informing** the sector about the latest developments, **Championing** good practice and causes and through our collective efforts, **Influencing** the community safety sector and related policy areas.

We'd like to give a huge thanks to all of our partners who've contributed to our work via events, videos, guest blogs, surveys, sharing our content and providing content for our newsletters! You help make SCSN the fantastic network that it is!

The Scottish Community Safety Network

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies	2	11,140	209,948	221,088	197,477
Other trading activities Investment income Other income	3 4 5	255 35 3,000		255 35 3,000	634 13 3,000
Total		14,430	209,948	224,378	201,124
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities Development, promotion and education of	6				
Community Safety practice		1,638	203,800	205,438	200,607
NET INCOME		12,792	6,148	18,940	517
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		70,846	-	70,846	70,329
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		83,638	6,148	89,786	70,846

Scottish Community Safety Network

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