Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Analysis eLearning goes live

It may be the festive season but for many this is the time that the bun fights start for 2016/17 funding. With year on year decreases in the availability of funding numerous public and third sector organisations are facing resource and staff reductions, and restructuring to mitigate the impact on service delivery. Indeed for many it does not feel like the season to be jolly as tough decisions have to be made.

If we are to improve outcomes for communities in this time of austerity it is essential that we look to adopt the recommendations of the Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services (Christie Report 2011) which called for a shift to prevention to reduce costs, more integrated public services through better partnerships and improved performance through more effective and efficient use or existing resources. None of us in principle would challenge this as the way forward, but after year on year cuts and funding pressures on statutory services, we need to be smarter in how we influence decision makers about the preventative spend value of community safety initiatives and how these significantly contribute to savings across the public purse.

The community safety sector has long held prevention, evidence based planning and partnership working at its core, but how well do we evidence the cost benefits of the work we undertake to make our communities safer?

In 2013 SCSN produced a Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Toolkit to support the process of evidencing reduced future demand on services and the cost benefits of initiatives and projects. The toolkit has received excellent feedback and is being used widely across the sector.

To support wider use, SCSN has now produced an eLearning course aimed to provide an understanding of preventative spend and practical experience of using the toolkit. The course takes around 30 minutes to complete and is suitable for anyone involved with project and policy planning, and for those requiring to evidence financial return on investment. To access the Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Analysis course and all other eLearning modules, please register at http://elearning.scsn.org.uk

Want to know more; on the 15 March 2016 SCSN will be running a one day training course on Preventative Spend Cost Benefit Analysis. The course is free to members and costs non-members £50. To book your place visit our Eventbrite page; bit.ly/SCSN-eventbrite

The Cost Benefit Toolkit is available in both PDF and Excel versions and can be accessed via our website; bit.ly/costbenefit
On 10 November 2015, SCSN hosted its fifth thematic learning event and brought together individuals to discuss, debate and share knowledge on the important issues of legal highs.

The morning session was opened by Vicki Craik, Crew 2000, who provided an overview of the legal highs currently on the market, what is trending and where. In addition to highlighting the mental and clinical affects these drugs have on those taking them, Vicki also presented some very graphic pictures of the impact NPS has on the body.

‘Crew2000 was very informative and will follow up further training’

Following Crew 2000s presentation was Suzanne Gallagher from Scottish Families Affected by Drugs. Through the use of case studies she provided the delegates with an understanding on how NPS use affects those around them, families and wider communities.

Within their presentations, both Police Scotland and Trading Standards Scotland talked about the new legislation that will be introduced in April 2016 and what this means for the suppliers, professionals and end users. Colin Baxter, City of Edinburgh Council, provided the group with an overview of Edinburgh’s recent use of Forfeiture Orders.

‘The successful approach by City of Edinburgh Council highlighted by Colin Baxter may hopefully be replicated locally and this is something I hope to get involved in.’

The final speaker of the day was Jo McManus, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, who gave a presentation on the partnership approach being used in Glasgow. Jo’s presentation looked at the challenges from a professional perspective and challenged preconceived ideas of the end users.

‘The issue needs to be tackled by all agencies working together with better communication.’

The day was a resounding success thanks not only to the speakers involved but also due to enthusiastic audience participation.

‘I have enjoyed the whole day, every speaker today was interesting.’

A copy of the all the presentation can be found on our website.
Ian Hanley works for Inverclyde Council and acts as Treasurer on the SCSN Board of Directors.

How long have you worked in community safety and tell us a bit about your current post?

I’ve been working in community safety for just over 10 years and throughout that time I have had a range of different roles covering different areas like antisocial behaviour.

Why did you become involved with SCSN?

Throughout my career in community safety I had been continually signposted to SCSN for training and events and always found that these enabled me to meet likeminded individuals. It seemed like a natural fit for me to get involved on the SCSN board and when the opportunity came up, I jumped at the chance.

What do you enjoy most about being involved with SCSN?

Definitely the people that you meet, it is great to be able to chat to other folk doing a similar job to you, you can share ideas and you often realise that other areas are facing similar challenges to you. This can really help to improve your confidence in a particular project or approach. It’s also great to meet people from both the voluntary and private sector, I genuinely believe that these people will play an increasingly important role in community safety moving forward, so it is great to be able to make those connections and SCSN really do help to facilitate that.

What do you think is the biggest challenge for community safety?

We are still very much facing difficult financial times and I have a deep concern that projects or initiatives that don’t show immediate returns may be hit. Partnership working is going to become even more important as resources are pooled and new sectors take on areas of community safety work. Ensuring that knowledge is shared and communication channels are open are incredibly important.

Have you ever had a nickname? If so, what was it/ is it?

In around 2nd year of secondary school, my history teacher decided to call me ‘Handbags’, I have no idea why but the name stuck and soon my other teachers were also calling me it. I didn’t mind in the slightest though.

Do you love or loathe Christmas?

Have to say it is a bit of both. I love Christmas and what it stands for, being a dad Christmas is obviously a very exciting time, I just loathe how early Christmas starts each year.

What is the best Christmas present you have ever received?

Every year I give my wife a wish list of things that I would like and I have to say that most years I am pretty lucky and get something of that list. This year I’ve got some fancy new trainers on the list so I am hoping to find those under the tree on the 25th!

What is the best thing that has happened to you since last Christmas?

This year I decided that I was going to really try and get fit and so far I have lost over two stone and run two half marathons. I’ve signed up for a full marathon in April 2016 so I am definitely keeping the momentum up.

What three items would you take with you to a deserted island?

My kindle would be the first item, I know the battery wouldn’t last forever, but it would be long enough to allow me to read some great books, a case of St. Mungo lager because it is really lovely and you would probably get pretty thirsty and a photo album filled with pictures that make me happy – my family, my wife, James McFadden scoring his incredible goal against France.
Braveheart Industries helping to turn lives around

Braveheart Industries, a registered charity run by Police Scotland and the Scottish Government partnership the Violence Reduction Unit, is helping to turn around the lives of young men.

The charity, whose motto “nothing stops a bullet like a job” runs a series of employability programmes and its latest venture will see a restaurant opening in Glasgow city-centre and a high-end takeaway in the city’s west end early next year which will be staffed by former criminals.

Over the last few years, the organisation have seen just over 60 people employed in jobs at a variety of places including at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and the Commonwealth Games and has helped people to break free from the cycle of crime.

Inspector Ian Murray, head of employability programmes at the Violence Reduction Unit said,

“We focus on people who have violent criminal histories, people who are furthest from the job market and less likely to get a job than anyone else. Those who have never really had a job are the people we need to impact on.”

For more information on this project, please visit http://www.actiononviolence.org.uk/projects/braveheart-industries

#FlyTheFlag campaign aims to promote human rights

The Scottish Government has launched a new campaign to raise awareness of the benefits of human rights for everyone as new research carried out by YouGov shows that one in five Scots believe that human rights are for minority groups only.

The #FlyTheFlag campaign is designed to help people better understand how human rights are relevant, used on a day to day basis and how they help build a fairer and more progressive society.

The campaign that ran from 18 November to 10 December and contributed to the objectives of Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights and included a range of online resources on onescotland.org and featured marketing activity across local press, radio, news websites and social media.

Social Justice Secretary Alex Neil said,

“Human rights are for everyone, and they should be protected at all costs. As a modern, progressive country we have a duty to uphold the highest standards. Many of us enjoy the benefits, freedom and protections that human rights offer us without actually knowing much about the rights themselves, and without that knowledge it can be hard for us to reaffirm and protect them.”

Check us out on social media

[ ScottishCommunitySafetyNetwork

@scsn2 ]
Glasgow Project working to reduce mental health discrimination

A new project will see teams of people with first hand experience of mental health conditions help to target hard to reach communities around Glasgow in a bid to improve people’s mental health. The new project, ‘Don’t bottle it – Talk about it’ will engage members of the public in discussions about mental health to help reduce stigma and discrimination.

Teams will target places where mental health isn’t often addressed, such as workplaces and gyms. They will also focus on gatherings of groups who are traditionally harder to engage, such as men.

The project has been created by the Glasgow Association for Mental Health (GAMA) with See Me, the national programme to end mental health discrimination providing funding through their Community Innovation Fund. It is hoped that by the end of the project, GAMA will be able to create a model for discussing mental health in public, as well as making changes to the lives of those involved and the people they meet.

Frieda Park, one of the leads on the project said,

“By reducing stigma the project will benefit the whole community whether they have mental health issues or not. People often don’t get help due to the stigma of mental health issues. This makes it especially hard for them to talk about how they are feeling. It will help everyone to look after their own mental wellbeing and the mental wellbeing of others.”

Judith Robertson, See Me programme director

For more information on the Glasgow Association for Mental Health Services, please visit http://www.gamh.org.uk/

Mentors in Violence Programme gets additional £450,000 from Scottish Government

The Scottish Government has announced a further £450,000 of funding to provide extra training staff for the innovation Mentors in Violence (MVP) Scotland programme. The programme involves training staff working with senior pupils, in their fourth, fifth and sixth years at school to become ‘peer mentors’ who then go on to deliver the program to their younger counterparts in a safe and informal environment.

Justice Secretary Michael Matheson said,

“The MVP programme is already doing fantastic work to educate young people about anti-violence prevention methods and encourage them to feel confident about speaking out against all forms of violent behaviour. The additional £450,000 of funding will be used to employ more full time dedicated training staff to build on the progress already made and extend the scheme to even more schools and communities throughout Scotland”

Chief Inspector Graham Goulden, coordinator of the MVP Scotland programme added,

“It is great to see the MVP Programme going from strength-to-strength thanks to the support of the Scottish Government and our partners. We know that tackling attitudes towards violence is key to continuing Scotland’s downward trend in violent crime. It’s also crucial that issues such as domestic abuse and dating violence are a priority. The provision of this new funding is crucial to allow MVP to continue to be developed in schools currently using the programme as well as reaching into new schools and local authority areas in 2016. Violence isn’t inevitable and together we can make Scotland safer for all.”

To find out more about the MVP programme, please visit http://www.mvpnational.org/
Road Safety in Scotland: Continued ambition drives down fatalities and serious injuries

The World Health Organisation has published global statistics on road safety which identified that, worldwide, the number of road traffic deaths each year exceeds 1.2 million, with millions more sustaining serious injuries and living with the adverse effects. The analysis of the global statistics showed that 15-29 year old were the most likely to involved in a fatality with road traffic accidents being the ninth leading cause for all other ages, which it is estimated will become the seventh most common cause of death by 2030.

In Scotland the reliance on the transport network is high affecting all age groups, which is reflected in the National Travel Survey of Scotland (2011/12) which identified that three quarters of all journeys were by either a car or van; totalling over 5000 miles per person, 3585 miles as a driver and 1730 miles as a passenger. In 2009 the Scottish Government and partners set out a commitment to reduce road deaths and serious injuries by 2020. The Scottish Road Safety Framework 2020 aimed to reduce fatalities by 30% to 175, serious injuries by 55% to 1,172, child fatalities by 50% to 8 and serious child injuries by 65% to 114.

Statistical reporting in 2013 identified 11,498 injury related accidents of which 172 were fatalities and 1,672 serious injuries. Car related casualties at the time numbered 6,961 of which 89 were fatal; there were also 1,747 pedestrian accidents with 38 fatalities, 773 motorcycles accidents with 23 fatalities, 883 pedal cycles accidents and 13 fatalities and 1,062 child related accidents with 143 were serious and 9 fatalities.

A comparison of the changes from 2003 and 2013 showed that in Scotland the total numbers of fatal accidents had fallen by 47% with 49% fewer fatalities. There was also a significant reduction in the number of child fatalities, which fell by 47% and child serious injuries, which fell by 57%. As the number of vehicle incidents fell it was also noted that there were significant reductions in the number of pedal cyclists and pedestrian fatal and serious injury accidents.

Despite the worldwide increasing trend in road traffic fatalities, Scotland through its implementation of the Road Safety Framework 2020 and its continued ambition to drive down fatalities and serious injuries, continued to see diminishing numbers of fatalities and serious injuries across all age groups. Even though there were significant reductions nationally there remained a disproportionate number of urban accidents with motorists nearly three times more likely to be involved in an accident in a rural setting. With this in mind, we are seeing continued campaigns to raise awareness of the dangers of country driving.

For more information on safe country driving, please visit http://dontriskit.info/
Police Scotland – Message to Communities

Message from Deputy Chief Constable Iain Livingstone QPM:

Following the terrorist attacks in Paris, France, on Friday 13 November 2015 and the ongoing extensive media coverage, it should be noted that at this time there is no known threat or link to Scotland.

Police Scotland is committed to keeping people safe and whilst we understand that the public will clearly be appalled by these events, I would urge each and every member of the community to continue to work together in ensuring that no person or group in Scotland feels marginalised or isolated.

Police Scotland will not tolerate any attempts to target communities by any misguided individual or group and will work with all of our communities to resolve any issues and address any concerns. In this regard, we would urge people to go about their business as usual, however, should anyone become a victim, or witness any hate crime, they should contact the police and report the incident.

It is an unfortunate reality that Police Forces around the world often note an increase in hate crime in the immediate aftermath of terrorist attacks, and we have witnessed a number of isolated hate incidents across Scotland since Friday, which appear to relate to the attacks in Paris. I would however take this opportunity to reassure all communities in Scotland that officers have responded swiftly, gathered evidence and made arrests. In relation to on-line crime, we will use the very technology that individuals use to send messages of hatred, to identify and arrest them. I am confident that no incidents will go unchallenged and whilst they involve a small minority of people, they do not detract from the fact that Scotland is a diverse, multicultural and welcoming country, where people are tolerant of each other’s differences.

At this time there remains no specific threat to Scotland or Scottish communities; however I would ask our communities to take cognisance of the UK threat level which is at Severe, meaning an attack is highly likely, and remain vigilant.

Please be assured Police Scotland continues to work with partners at home and abroad countering the threat from terrorism to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our communities. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our communities safe.

If you have any concerns or information about suspicious activity please contact the Police on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or in an emergency dial 999.

Volant Charitable Trust Funding

The Volant Charitable trust was set up by Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling to support charitable causes. The alleviation of social deprivation with a particular emphasis on women’s and children’s issues is one of the areas of funding. The Trustees meet twice a year, in March and September to consider applications and allocate funds. The next deadline is Friday 8 January 2016.

For further information and to make an application, please visit https://www.volanttrust.com/

Parks for People Funding

For our urban population, parks are often the only green space where people can meet, play, relax and come close to nature. Parks for People funding helps to conserve the heritage that makes both historic parks and cemeteries special.

Applicants can apply for funding from £100,000 to £5 million with the deadline for the latest funding stream being the 29 February 2016.

For more information on the programme please visit http://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/parks-people
Safe, Secure and Prosperous: Scottish Government strategy aims to improve our cyber resilience

A new strategy providing a framework to help build a cyber-resilient Scotland has been launched. ‘Safe, Secure and Prosperous: A Cyber Resilience Strategy for Scotland’ maps out how individuals and businesses can increase their online resilience and in doing so enable Scotland to become a world leader in cyber resilience.

The strategy follows a public consultation, which we reported on within Safety NET-works during the summer months. It aims to ensure that by 2020 Scotland can claim to achieve a number of desired outcomes including:

- Our people are informed and prepared to make the most of digital technologies safely
- Our businesses and organisations recognise the risks in the digital world and are well prepared to manage them
- We have a global reputation for being a secure place to live and learn, and to set up and invest in business

Focusing on four strategic themes of: leadership and partnership working; awareness raising and communication; education, skills and professional development and research and innovation, the strategy sets out a series of high level priorities for key partners to develop and implement across Scotland.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney said,

“The growth of the internet and other digital networks has brought speed, agility, efficiency and access to technologies that have transformed the way we do business, socialise and provide key services. Cyber-attacks can happen to any individual or organisation no matter of size or geography. It has been estimated that as much as 80% of cyber-crime can be prevented by getting the cyber basics right such as updating software, good passwords and regular system backups.”

A recent survey of 1,000 adults in Scotland found one in ten had experienced unauthorised use of their personal data while 7 per cent had experienced abusive or threatening behaviour online. At the same time, just one in 12 people claim to regularly install software updates, fewer than one in ten password-protect their mobile devices and only 13 per cent check that a website is secure before divulging information. This strategy offers practical advice that anyone can adopt including creating strong passwords, keeping software up to date, turning on firewall settings, installing antivirus software and using mobile screen locks and passwords.

To find out more about the strategy and to read it in full, please visit http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00489206.pdf

Why do we need a cyber resilience strategy?

Scotland needs a cyber resilience strategy to support the development of a culture of cyber resilience and, at the same time, create the necessary environment to ensure Scotland becomes a leader in meeting the growing demand for cyber skills talent.

There is currently a lack of data that calculates the economic cost of cyber crime in Scotland as most cyber crime goes unreported. This is most likely due to victims not being fully aware of the cyber crime itself or organisations’ fear of reputational damage.

At a global level, The Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) report on the Global Cost of Cybercrime estimates:

- The likely annual cost to the global economy from cybercrime is more than $445 billion
- Cyber crime is equal to between 15-20% of the value created by the internet
Study highlights barriers to success that young, disabled and ethnic minority Scots face

The results of a study by the Equality and Human Rights Commission has found that while some people’s rights are more respected today than five years ago, for others, life has become much worse. The ‘Is Britain Fairer’ report, due to be released in January 2016 found that disabled Scots, earn £1.20 an hour less than their non-disabled colleagues, and only 43% have jobs at all, compared to 80% of the rest of the population. The report also discovered that young people suffered the greatest drop in income and employment of any group, and now face greater barriers to achieving economic independence than they did five years ago.

Alastair Pringle, Equality and Human Rights Commissions director said, “This report shows that progress towards equality has been made for some people in certain areas of life, however, many people are being left behind. Young people and ethnic minorities have been particular badly hit over the last five years, with life on many fronts getting worse. The gateway to opportunity remains harder to pass through for some groups such as disabled people and people from poorer backgrounds and from the gypsy traveller community.”

For more information on the Equality and Human Rights Commission, please visit: http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/

No Knives, Better Lives praised as drop in Glasgow knife crime figures are revealed

Recently published figures showing a fall in Glasgow crimes involving an offensive weapon by 76% since 2006/7, and by 14% in the last year alone were unveiled as Justice Secretary; Michael Matheson visited a youth engagement project based in Castlemilk. He had the opportunity to meet with young people who had benefitted from the programme, based on the No Knives, Better Lives message that aims to educate about the dangers of knife crime.

Michael Matheson said,

“Crimes of handling an offensive weapon have dropped dramatically and are now at their lowest level in 29 years, while the number of young people under 19 convicted of handling an offensive weapon has fallen from 812 in 2006/7 to 165 in 2013/14. It is extremely encouraging to see the level of engagement already taking place in our schools and communities around the issue of knife crime.

We know that knife crime has a devastating impact on not only on individuals but family, friends and local communities which is why our preventative approach aimed at educating young people about the potential consequences of carrying a knife is so important.”

Jim Sweeney, Chief Executive of YouthLink Scotland said,

“The No Knives, Better Lives initiative is a powerful example of the positive impact that a youth work approach can have in supporting young people to deal with difficult situations and make positive choices. It empowers young people through a programme of action research and peer education to be catalysts for change in their communities. Alongside this approach it offers training to engage the skills, knowledge and confidence of those working with young people to address the issue of knife carrying.”

To find out more about the No Knives, Better lives initiative please visit www.noknivesbetterlives.com/ or read our practice note on our website bit.ly/KNBL_projectcasestudy

No knives, better lives. www.noknivesbetterlives.com
Save the Date!
RoSPA's Child Safety Conference 2016

When: 23rd February 2016
Time: 9:30am - 4:15pm
Where: The Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh

For further information, please email Jessica Munshaw at: jmunshaw@rospa.com or call 0131 449 9379.

Stay Safe over the Holidays - RoSPA

Christmas is a special time of year, and in the excitement of celebrations with family and friends, accidents are more likely to happen. RoSPA wants to ensure that everyone has a safe and happy Christmas. By taking certain precautions and doing a little more planning, most accidents can be avoided. Follow these safety tips to help keep your festivities accident-free:

- **Christmas lights**: inspect wires and bulbs for damage (and buy new ones if damaged), be aware of how many things you have plugged into electrical sockets, remember to switch off the lights before going to bed or leaving your house, and keep lights away from children and clear of decorations and other flammable materials

- **Candles**: always keep an eye on candles, place candles on a flat heat resistant surface away from Christmas trees, keep candles out of reach of children and pets, and make sure to blow out candles before leaving the house or going to bed

- **Gifts**: make sure children’s toys are suitable for the correct age group and from reputable sources that comply with safety standards, ensure toys and products that have button batteries have lockable battery compartments (button cell batteries can burn through a throat or stomach if swallowed), check toys for small, loose, or jagged and sharp parts that might cause harm to a child, and have scissors handy to open packaging so you aren’t tempted to use a knife

- **Kitchen**: give yourself enough time to cook to avoid accidents with boiling water, hot fat, and sharp knives that come with rushing, try to keep the amount of people in the kitchen to a minimum, wipe up spills as they happen to avoid slips and falls, and avoid alcohol until you’ve finished cooking

- **Christmas plants**: check with the garden centre whether the plants you’re buying are toxic (for example, mistletoe is poisonous), and keep any poisonous plants out of reach of children

- **Stairs**: keep stairs well lit and free from obstacles to prevent falls, and try to keep clutter to a minimum
Operation Scandium starts getting the message across – British Transport Police

The Scotland Division of British Transport Police (BTP) has established a metal theft task force - Operation Scandium.

Working in partnership with Police Scotland and other agencies, the Scotland-wide initiative will ensure scrap metal dealers and those who trade in scrap metal are aware of the provisions, and their responsibilities, under proposed legislation contained within the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015. BTP Temporary Chief Inspector Stuart Wilson said:

“Operation Scandium, which is supported by the Scottish Government, is a multi-agency phase of pro-activity and is designed to educate and inform scrap metal dealers and those who trade in scrap metal about their responsibilities under the legislation which will be introduced in the New Year.

"While we have seen a welcome decrease in the number of incidents from a high of several years ago, cable and metal thefts, such as those experienced from the main Edinburgh to Glasgow rail route, continue to disrupt and inconvenience industry and the public as well as being costly to rectify.”

The aims of Operation Scandium are to:

- Reduce the theft of metal
- Educate enforcement agencies and scrap metal dealers, including itinerant metal dealers, of legislatives changes
- Carry out structured pattern of scrap metal dealer visits
- Ensuring compliance with the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act
- Disrupt organised criminal networks involved in metal theft activity
- Develop the intelligence picture of metal theft activity across Scotland focusing on non-compliant scrap metal dealers to assist in targeting resources and identifying hot spots

Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Michael Matheson, said:

“Metal theft can be dangerous and disruptive. We are proud to have delivered on our promise to bring in tougher rules to tackle metal theft with the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act.

“Measures like a ban on cash payments, alongside enforcement action from partners, will make it harder for thieves to commit this thoughtless crime.”

As part of the initiative, hundreds of drivers have been stopped in Edinburgh and the Forth Valley by officers from BTP and Police Scotland, during intelligence-led days of action.

Officers were joined by officials of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Power, BT, HM Revenue and Customs, the Scottish Business Resilience Centre and the City of Edinburgh Council in carrying out checks on vehicles.