

**The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness
Tuesday 26th October 2021
6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, online via Webex**

Focus on: **Fire Safety**

Minutes

1. Welcome

Liz Lumsden, Secretariat, took the role of chair to start the meeting due to the absence of the Convener and Deputy Convener. She welcomed members to the meeting and apologised for the later start due to over-running parliamentary business. Liz commended the high attendance and reminded members that the meeting would be recorded for the purpose of the minutes only.

2. Present and Apologies

The list of attendees and apologies is attached as an appendix to the Minutes. See Appendix One.

MSP apologies were received from Claire Baker, Miles Briggs, and Mark Ruskell

3. Previous Minutes

The draft minutes for our previous meeting were circulated in June and were proposed as an accurate record by Brian Topping, seconded by Dave Roy.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Headlines Newsletter

Liz went over the contents of the Newsletter and advised that a copy would be included with the Minutes. See Appendix Two.

Graham Simpson MSP joined the meeting at this point and led a tribute to Carolyn Reid who has sadly passed away since the previous meeting.

6. Presentations

SCSN (Scottish Community Safety Network) short video - 'Experiences and Perceptions of Community Safety in Scotland' was played to members and then the presentations on the theme of fire safety began, as detailed below. (All presentations will be uploaded to the RoSPA website in due course. See <https://www.rospace.com/about/around-the-uk/scotland/cross-party-group>)

The first speaker was Vicki Harris from Housing Standards and Quality Team at Scottish Government. Vicki spoke in enlightening detail about the forthcoming fire alarm legislation, due to come in to effect in Scotland in February 2022.

Cathy Barlow, Deputy Head of Prevention and Protection at SFRS spoke to the Group about the vital importance of working in partnership to not only help reduce fire risk, but to use SFRS to support wider health and social care agendas to keep people safe across Scotland's communities.

David Dourley, Area Commander with SFRS, illustrated via a case study how fire risk is multi-factorial and how everyone needs to play their part in identifying and mitigating these risks. Clare Adamson MSP joined the meeting.

Claire Gardiner, a burns nurse and chairperson with the charity Scottish Burned Children Club spoke next. Claire highlighted with great impact the effects that burn and scald injuries can have on not only the burn survivor child, but on the family unit as a whole. She also informed the members about the numerous fun activities the charity does with affected families and that the charity relies solely on fundraising to operate.

7. Pitch Presentations

Karen McDonnell, Head of RoSPA in Scotland and representing ScORSA and the Scottish Gamekeepers Association (SGA), informed the members of recent tragic incidents in Scotland where lives were lost following accidents involving quad bikes, and pushed for full stakeholder engagement to investigate whether further action is required to maximise ATV Safety in Scotland. Karen requested that two information slides be attached to the Minutes (see Appendix Three) and the circulation of the SGA paper (attached to this correspondence).

Jenny Paterson, a new CPG member from Wild Wimmin, a network for open water swimming, highlighted the need for swimming education for children and adults. Clare advised Jenny to make contact with North Lanarkshire Councillor, Fiona Fotheringham fotheringhamf@northlan.gov.uk who has great knowledge and experience in the field.

8. Question and Answer Session

Clare proposed that, as the meeting was almost coming to a close, members should email any questions to Liz elumsden@rospa.com who will forward on to the relevant individual.

9. Date of the Next Meeting and Themes for Future Meetings

The next meeting was originally due to take place on 25th January 6 pm till 8pm, but the date is subject to change as it clashes with Burns Night celebrations. In-person meetings still cannot take place but we won't know the situation in January until closer to the time. At present it is best to assume the meeting will still be virtual. UPDATE: the next meeting will now take place on Tuesday 1st February from 6 pm till 8 pm.

The meeting will focus on occupational safety. Further details to follow.

The March (29th) meeting will comprise of pitch presentations only so if you have something you would like to highlight to the group, please contact Liz elumsden@rospa.com

APPENDIX ONE

Present:

MSPs

Clare Adamson	Convenor
Graham Simpson	Deputy Convenor

Speakers

Cathy Barlow	SFRS
David Dourley	SFRS
Claire Gardiner	Scottish Burned Children's Club
Vicki Harris	Scottish Government
Karen McDonnell	ScORSA
Jenny Paterson	Wild Wimmin

Members

Robert Atkinson	Public Heath Scotland/Healthy Working Lives
Brian Auld	Church of Scotland
Colin Beattie	NE Scotland College
Vince Bowles	Scottish Autism
Andy Cathro	Safety Advocate
Willie Clark	NWS
Scott Darroch	Gas Safe Register
Heather Dewar	Wild Wimmin
Jim Dorman	St Andrews First Aid
Sheena Harper	RLSS (UK)

Fiona Hodgson	SNIPEF
John Johnston	TechnipFMC
Barry Johnstone	FBU
Caroline Lawrie	SGN
Sylvia Mackay	Safety Advocate
Wendy McGarrity	KEY and Community Lifestyles
Glen Nixon	Advice Scotland
Alasdair Perry	SFRS
Alex Petrie	IOSH Scotland
Katrina Phillips	CAPT
Dave Roy	Kingdom Housing
Dave Shea	SCSN
Gregor Steele	SSERC
Megan Taylor	SFRS
Brian Topping	Safety Advocate

In attendance

Chris Booth	Scottish Government
Jen Foley	Minutes
Elizabeth Lumsden	Secretariat
Alistair Taylor	Parliamentary Manager for Clare Adamson MSP
Geraldine Hearne	OPSS
Lynn Marshal	Scottish Government

Apologies:

Michael Avril	Water Safety Scotland
Claire Baker	MSP
Christopher Bell	SCOTSS
Miles Briggs	MSP
Fred Cullum	IOSH Scotland
Laura Erskine	RNLI

Bill Harley	Fife Safer Communities
Carlene McAvoy	RoSPA
Mark Lilley	Safety Advocate
Cherie Morgan	Play Scotland
Andy Murray	Canoe Scotland
Mark Ruskell	MSP
Gregor Steele	SSERC
Lynn Young	Scottish Government
Liz Young	Safety Advocate
Caroline Wilson	The Risk Factory

APPENDIX TWO

The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness

Tuesday 26th October 2021
6pm till 8pm, online via Webex

Focus on: **Fire Safety**

Headlines Newsletter

Christopher's Saving Lives Campaign

There are a number of updates to the campaign. New water safety signage has been set up around the ponds at Springburn Park in Glasgow and life belts with the special ropes have been set up at Hogganfield Loch as well as along the River Clyde. Each PRE device has a special coloured rope attached which allows multiple use in the event of an emergency. Additionally, the ropes help reduce vandalism as they cannot be easily removed.

From: Duncan and Margaret Spiers.

Drowning and Incident Review (DIR)

Following Water Safety Scotland's publication of [Preventing Future Fatalities](#), Water Safety Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have been developing a voluntary Drowning and Incident Review (DIR) process for water-related fatalities in Scotland.

The DIR follows a specific process which takes key stakeholders through a comprehensive review of the water-related incident to gather all relevant data and intelligence as well as suggesting potential controls and mitigations to help prevent any future incidents.

The DIR is currently going through a pilot phase in which three pilot DIR's will run during October 2021 and February 2022. The first pilot successfully took place on the 6th October using key emergency services and members of the Water Safety Scotland Data Subgroup.

The third DIR Pilot will be officially evaluated by RoSPA, in collaboration with Assistant Professor Connie Hoe (Johns Hopkins University/ Heidelberg University). The purpose of this evaluation is to gather the viewpoints and opinions of key stakeholders on the process and its future sustainability and use.

For more information, get in touch with cmcavoy@rospa.com or info@watersafetyscotland.org.uk

From : Carlene McAvoy, Water Safety Scotland's Data Subgroup Chair

World Drowning Prevention Day

July 25th was the first World Drowning Prevention Day which came about as a result of the the [United Nations \(UN\) General Assembly affirming drowning as a preventable global public health issue](#) in April 2021.

The day was well received by organisations and individuals across the world. In Scotland, lots of activities were happening and the Kelpies were even lit up blue to mark the occasion.

Sadly that weekend also brought major tragedy for Scotland, as at least four people lost their life in fatal water-related incidents.



In response to these events, the Minister for Community Safety, Ash Regan has led a number of high level roundtable discussions with Water Safety Scotland and partners to help improve water safety. Water Safety Scotland has also been working hard to ensure lessons are learned and many steps have already been taking via the four year review of Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy (due for release March 2022) and the subgroups. As an example, the Education Subgroup has been working with Education Scotland to create a water safety lesson plan for use in schools.

To read more about World Drowning Prevention Day and moving forward in water safety, a full blog can be found online here: <https://rospa.com/lets-talk-about/2021/october/water-safety-in-scotland-%e2%80%93-where-are-we-now>

From: Carlene McAvoy, Leisure Safety Manager, RoSPA

Become a Fall Fighter!

Working in partnership with [@rsagroup](#), RoSPA is delighted to launch its new initiative [#FallFighter](#) – developed with the aim of tackling the UK's biggest forgotten killer – falls in the home.

What is a Fall Fighter?

A Fall Fighter is somebody who has learnt about falls and how to prevent them. They use the knowledge and skills they've learnt in the free-to-attend awareness session to educate and inspire others in their community.



How do I take part?

Anyone can become a Fall Fighter! Simply complete a short free-to-attend awareness session and you will be provided with the information you need to make a real difference.

There are two simple routes to becoming a Fall Fighter:

As an **individual** you can attend a short e-learning session or 20-minute virtual classroom at a time to suit you - why not encourage friends or colleagues to sign up too?

Volunteers from organisations - workplaces, charities, community groups - can download a short self-led workshop to run with others, or download our SCORM compliant e-learning files to upload to your own e-learning system.

Once you have completed the session, you will be awarded a certificate and receive a digital toolkit to help you spread the word and inspire others.

Visit <https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/falls-prevention/fall-fighter> for further information and to take part.

From: Liz Lumsden, Community Safety Manager, RoSPA

RoSPA Scotland to host webinar Wed 17 November 13:00-15:00

Liz and Jen are hosting a series of three interconnected webinars this year, entitled ‘The ABCs of home accident prevention in under-5s’ and the second in the series is coming up very soon. The webinar will look at best practice in home accident prevention, with a focus on young children. We are delighted to have secured some eminent speakers on the subject:

Denise Kendrick from the University of Nottingham will be talking about a recently-completed 4 year

project (the Stay one Step Ahead project) which implemented evidence-based home safety in disadvantaged wards in Nottingham City and will present their findings

Marianna Brussoni from the University of British Columbia will be pre-recording a presentation about children's outdoor risky play, specifically looking at how to support it, while also considering risk benefit assessment to manage the hazards. Marianna will cover why outdoor risky play is so important for children and how many of our well-intentioned concerns around safety have been problematic.

Hilary Johnson from the Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland will be presenting to delegates about the home safety check scheme that runs in Northern Ireland.

Alan Emond from the University of Bristol will inform delegates about SafeTea, a national campaign to raise awareness of the risk of hot drink burns to young children, giving practical tips on how to prevent them, and improve burn first aid.

For more detail and to secure your place, please follow this link:

<https://rospa.webex.com/rospa/onstage/g.php?MTID=e75550f79ffce1afe3ae8e8dcdac5ba26>

Multiple agency campaign asks people to consider #FireworkSafety

RoSPA has joined the Scottish SPCA, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Scotland, Police Scotland and many more for the second year to ask people to consider #FireworkSafety. People are being urged to be safe, be kind and be smart around fireworks and bonfires.

The ambassador for #FireworkSafety is Ben McCabe who was seriously injured by a firework when he was just four years old. Ben has been turned in to a superhero avatar to educate primary and secondary aged children on how to stay safe around fireworks.

We still want people to enjoy fireworks but ask that they do it responsibly. Fireworks have a

negative effect on many people and animals across the country and we are asking people to show respect for people, their environment and any animals, domestic, farm and wild, that might be in the area.

People should let their neighbours know they are planning a fireworks display as this will allow them to safeguard against any distress some people and animals may face. We also ask that people check bonfires before setting them on fire to make sure there are no animals taking shelter underneath.

Find out more about the campaign by visiting www.scottishspa.org/firework-safety.



From: Lee-Ann Howieson, Scottish SPCA

Toy safety campaign

As we discussed at June's meeting, most people think that: 'if I can buy it, it must be safe'. And that includes purchases from online marketplaces.

Unfortunately, as the latest investigation by the British Toy and Hobby Association reveals, nearly half the toys bought from third-party sellers on online marketplaces were dangerous.

They included toys with accessible lithium coin cell batteries and super strong magnets that can rip through a child's gut.

To help families buy safe toys in the run-up to Christmas, the Child Accident Prevention Trust is partnering with the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) and others, to raise awareness of potential dangers and offer helpful tips. We're keenly aware that families on low incomes will be seeking out cheap toys and looking to take advantage of Black Friday discounts.

So CAPT's campaign will focus on how to tell your safe sellers from your dodgy dealers, with a webinar, online advice hub of for community practitioners, plus films, photos and social media assets to bring the message to life.

The toy safety campaign launches w/c 15 November 2021. To make sure you don't miss out:

Sign up to CAPT's safety alerts: <https://www.capt.org.uk/sign-up>

Follow CAPT on social media:

F: @childaccidentpreventiontrust

T: @CAPTcharity

From: Katrina Phillips, Chief Executive, Child Accident Prevention Trust

APPENDIX THREE



Quad Bike Safety Concerns



Many rural workers use quad bikes on a daily basis; they provide essential mobility for access to remote areas for gamekeepers, deer-stalkers and shepherds

However, when accidents happen they can be catastrophic for lone workers who can become trapped, resulting in life-changing injuries or death

In August 2020, a young gamekeeper, David Taylor (27) died as a result of a quad bike accident at Clachbain Farm, Dulnain Bridge

In their clinical study, *'All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Injuries – An Institutional Review Over 6 Years'*, Adil et al (2016) reveal the lack of research into quad bike accidents.

For further information please contact:
research@scottishgamekeepers.co.uk



Quad Bike Safety Concerns



In 2018, Emma Harper MSP championed ATV safety in her 'hing yer helmet' campaign at Holyrood

Other countries are engaging with ATV safety and Australia have recently made it mandatory for roll bars to be fitted on all new and imported second-hand quad bikes sold.

The Scottish Gamekeepers Association suggest it is perhaps time that full stakeholder engagement is sought to investigate whether further action is required to maximise ATV safety in Scotland

For further information please contact:
research@scottishgamekeepers.co.uk