

**The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness  
AGM**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**6.00 to 8.00 pm, Committee Room 5, the Scottish Parliament.**

Focus on: **Child Safety**

*(Tea, coffee, shortbread available from 6.00 pm)*

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome:**

Clare Adamson MSP (Convener)

Clare Adamson, MSP, welcomed everyone to the meeting and AGM. She paid special thanks to Maree Todd, MSP, Minister for Childcare and Early Years for attending as well as Oliver Mundell, MSP, Stuart McMillan, MSP, Emma Harper, MSP and Mark Ruskell MSP.

Ms Adamson expressed her thanks to Douglas Watt of Actavo for covering the catering costs for the evening. She also expressed a warm welcome to Katrina Phillips of CAPT which is taking the lead on Child Safety Week.

**2. Present and Apologies**

Ms Adamson advised that a list of those present and apologies submitted had been collated by the Secretary and would be attached as an Appendix to the Minutes of the Meeting (See Appendix One).

**3. Opening remarks from the Minister for Childcare & Early Years, Maree Todd MSP.**

Ms Adamson introduced Maree Todd, the Minister for Childcare and Early Years. Maree Todd grew up in the West Highlands, attending Ullapool High School and then studying pharmacy and prescribing at Robert Gordon's and Strathclyde, as well as taking an ante-natal teaching diploma at the University of Bedfordshire.

A pharmacist by profession, Ms Todd worked in NHS Highland for 20 years, mainly as a mental health pharmacist in a psychiatric hospital. She also contributed to SIGN guidance on perinatal mental health.

Ms Todd thanked Ms Adamson for the invitation to the CPG and noted how fitting it was to all be gathered during Child Safety week. Ms Todd noted that she believes there is nothing more powerful than the voice of experience and that it is vital we share such experiences to make progress. Ms Todd noted that the Scottish Government had funded CAPT's Child Safety Week since 2008 and were delighted to support it again this year. The week plays an important role in preventing child accidents and provides a catalyst for community safety events across the country. Ms Todd noted that working together can make a difference and help to better support our local communities. Through Building Safer Communities, the Scottish Government's ambitions along with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, RoSPA and others will help to reduce unintentional injuries and deaths across Scotland.

Ms Todd thanked everyone in the room that makes a difference to children in Scotland and highlighted the Scottish Government's determination to make Scotland the best place in the world for children to grow up.

Ms Adamson thanked Ms Todd for her presentation and invited questions. Ms Adamson asked about social inequalities in regards to accidents and what focus the Scottish Government was placing on this.

Ms Todd responded by saying there is a huge amount of work going into this. Parental support is the most important aspect of keeping children safe and helping them flourish. The focus therefore is on trying to support families and the most vulnerable children will come into this. For example, the Scottish Government will be doubling free child care for 3-4 year olds so there is a safe environment for these children to grow up in. The Scottish Government is also looking into some of the child reforms such as two child benefit cap to ensure that things work differently and fairly in Scotland.

Kenny MacDermid of RLSS UK asked if the Minister knew of any schools using the Pupil Equity Fund to address the issue of unintentional harm in impoverished areas and would she suggest that this is a good use of this fund?

Ms Todd noted she did not know of specific examples but she did know of examples that focus on improving parent's lives which will impact on the child. For example there are schemes which focus on improving literacy among parents which has positive impact for the child.

Mark Ruskell, MSP noted that there is currently a Planning Bill going through Parliament and if safer spaces, parks etc could be designed in this would provide a legacy for safer communities in the future.

Ms Todd noted there was a strong case for involving and listening to young people especially in this, the Year of Young People. What effects children in today's world is different from what it was years ago. A key example is social media – there are fantastic possibilities for connection but there can be negative aspects and we need to ensure we involve young people in any consultation. Ms Todd finished by highlighting the importance of listening to children and Young People in order find out what their issues are.

Ms Adamson thanked the Minister for her attendance.

#### **4. Annual General Meeting**

##### **a. Election of Office Bearers**

Ms Adamson expressed thanks to her staff – Lis, Ryan and Maddie for their help and support. Ms Adamson went on to thank Elizabeth Lumsden and RoSPA for their outstanding work and handed over to Elizabeth Lumsden for the election of the office bearers.

Liz provided a huge thank you to Ms Adamson on all the work she has taken forward over the past four years. Elizabeth then asked for nominations for the position of Convenor.

Stuart McMillan, MSP nominated Clare Adamson, MSP. Mark Ruskell, MSP seconded this.

Ms Adamson then went onto note that David Stewart, MSP and Oliver Mundell, MSP were both content to continue as Deputy Convenors.

RoSPA's continuing role of Secretariat was confirmed. Ms Adamson thanked Liz and Carlene for all their hard work and noted that RoSPA hosts all the presentations on its website.

#### b. Annual Return

Ms Adamson explained the Annual Return has been tabled by the Secretary and thanked everyone for their support. The annual return is currently in draft form and should be submitted to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee within 30 days of the date of the AGM.

Ms Adamson also expressed gratitude to RLSS UK for a recent "Friends of the Society" Award. This is the first time this Award has been given to a Parliamentarian.

### **5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (*1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 – circulated previously*)

#### a. Accuracy

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings, proposed by: Kenny MacDermid, and seconded by: Jean Brown.

#### b. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

### **6. Secretary's Report**

RoSPA – tabled

Elizabeth Lumsden tabled the Secretary's report (Appendix Two) and thanked all members who came to RoSPA's 'Safe as Houses' seminars. These seminars were a great success and RoSPA is always looking for sponsorship to run more.

Elizabeth noted that the Headlines newsletter (Appendix Three) was everyone's chance to share good practice and urged members to contribute. This Secretary's report also includes correspondence regarding the Lobbying Act and the Parliamentary motion about Child Safety Week lodged by Clare Adamson, MSP.

Future themes for CPG topics are also required. Vince Bowles suggested Road Safety as the next topic. Ms Adamson echoed the need for consideration to be given to future themes.

## **7. Presentation: Trading Standards and Child Safety**

**Chris Bell:** Trading Standards Officer, City of Edinburgh Council

Ms Adamson introduced Chris Bell. Chris is a Trading Standards Officer with the City of Edinburgh Council, and represents the Society of Chief Officers of Trading Standards in Scotland (SCOTSS) Product Safety Group as Subject Matter Expert. Trading Standards teams sit within Local Government, and act as market surveillance authorities, covering most consumer goods.

Chris provided an overview on how trading standards contribute to child safety. Chris's presentation can be accessed at <http://www.rospa.com/about/around-the-uk/scotland/cross-party-group> in due course.

Ms Adamson thanked Chris for his informative presentation.

## **8. Questions and Discussion**

Ms Adamson then invited questions for Chris.

Kathy Jenkins questioned whether there was a socioeconomic angle to the issue e.g. toys that do not go through the correct procedures are likely to be cheaper. Chris agreed and suggested this was indeed likely.

Mark Ruskell, MSP noted it was interesting to hear that Trading Standards had a 56% service reduction over the past 7 years. Mr Ruskell went onto ask how Trading Standards are reconfiguring their workloads to deal with this. Chris responded by noting that he is an operational officer and these are management decisions in terms of structural revision. Teams are in the main now generalist and knowledge is shared between officers in each local authority but that product safety work requires a specialist degree of knowledge and skills.

Stuart McMillan, MSP asked what forecasting had been done for when the UK leaves the EU market.

Chris noted that local authorities will make decisions on this locally but there is an overall awareness of the challenges. Trading Standards representatives feed into the UK Government processes. Chris later supplied a link with details of this: <https://www.tradingstandards.uk/news-policy/brexit/a-brexit-think-tank-will-consider-the-details>

Ms Adamson picked up on Mr Ruskell's point and asked if local authorities were coming together on certain issues. Chris responded by noting that voluntary coordination wherever possible, such as these projects, but Trading Standards services are locally arranged and so priorities may be different in each area.

Andy Cathro talked about the issue of online sales and asked if a similar project to the Import Project of 2017 would run. Chris noted that they are definitely targeting importers and in a different strand are looking at online sales and identifying priorities.

Jim Tassell asked if there was one public source of information for the concerned consumer to look at. Chris responded to say that for recalls there is not one collated site, but work was ongoing by the new Office of Product Safety and Standards. In terms of general safety awareness, RoSPA probably holds more advice around this - see <https://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/product/toy-safety/> - Trading Standards information on this is often geared toward ensuring compliance with legislation by traders.

Update: Chris supplied the link to RAPEX (for information on dangerous non-food products:

[https://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumers\\_safety/safety\\_products/rapex/alerts/repository/content/pages/rapex/index\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumers_safety/safety_products/rapex/alerts/repository/content/pages/rapex/index_en.htm) . Chris also supplied a link to one source of information on product recalls: <https://productrecall.campaign.gov.uk/>

Ms Adamson noted that Electrical Safety First does a great deal of useful work in raising awareness of substandard electrical goods and that have information about electrical recalls on their website. See <https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk>

Ms Todd noted that she had seen the picture of the teddy bears features in the presentation before on social media and thought it was a great way to get the information out to parents.

## **9. Video on Child Safety: Liz Lumsden, RoSPA**

Ms Adamson invited Liz Lumsden to show a video on child safety. Liz talked about Home Free which was a project that RoSPA worked with in collaboration with the Children's Parliament. It looked at children's views on safety and whom they think should keep them safe. The project was classroom-based and the children took part in a range of activities including a quiz, the design of posters and spotting concerns in the Hazard House.

The video can be found here: <https://www.rospa.com/about/around-the-uk/scotland/children/>

## **10. Discussion Groups** on the need for a topic-wide prevention strategy on unintentional harm and injury.

Ms Adamson thanked Liz for showing the video and then explained that a discussion session would now be taking place.

The group split into a number of smaller groups to answer questions linked to unintentional harm and injury. Liz Lumsden explained that RoSPA has been tasked to work alongside Building Safer Communities to run a scoping exercise to see if there is a need for a National Strategy for Unintentional Injuries and Harm.

At the end of the session, Ms Adamson asked for specific feedback.

Lesley Nish noted that her group considered the broad definition of unintentional injury and harm and the need to listen to children. Her group had a knowledge of other strategies such as the Road Safety Framework and Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy but believed that a key priority should be to share data and information.

Karen McDonnell noted that her group believed that the definition needed to be easier to communicate. Her group were aware of a number of different strategies and believed that air pollution, the environment and storytelling should all be included in any unintentional injury strategy.

Michael Avril provided feedback for his group and noted that the definition sounded too legal. Similar conversations to the other groups also took place.

Carlene McAvoy provided feedback from the final group. Her group agreed that the definition was too much and there should be more of a distinction between serious and non-serious injuries. The group believed that any strategy should be written for everyone in Scotland to understand and not just practitioners.

### **11. Child Safety Week – Katrina Phillips CAPT**

Ms Adamson welcomed Katrina Phillips from CAPT. Katrina expressed the need for everyone to work in partnership to improve safety. Katrina went on to talk about the stigma attached to a parent whose child has died or has been seriously injured. She emphasised the need for storytelling as this is the best way to reach families. Katrina thanked everyone who is participating in Child Safety Week and helping to keep children safe.

### **12. Gas Safety Week – Sarah Hill**

Ms Adamson welcomed Sarah Hill from Gas Safe Register. Sarah talked about the four campaigns that run every year in the UK around gas safety. The main campaign is Gas Safety Week which will take place from the 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Sarah urged members to get involved and use their digital toolkit to highlight issues around gas safety. See <https://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/gassafetyweek/>

### **13. Headlines**

RoSPA - tabled

Ms Adamson discussed the Headlines newsletter (Appendix Three) and highlighted the RoSPA coasters. Ms Adamson urged members to get in touch with RoSPA if they wanted to receive a supply of coasters.

**14. Date of next meetings:** 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018; 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019; 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019; all Wednesdays; all in Committee Room 4.

Ms Adamson thanked everyone for their attendance.

## Appendix One

Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

### MSPs

Maree Todd	MSP, Minister for Childcare and Early Years
Clare Adamson	MSP Convenor
Emma Harper	MSP
Stuart McMillan	MSP
Oliver Mundell	MSP
Mark Ruskell	MSP

### Attendees

Allister Atkinson	Bluerad
Robert Atkinson	HWL
Michael Avril	WSS
Christopher Bell	SCOTS
Vince Bowles	Scottish Autism
Jean Brown	Aberlour
Andy Cathro	Scotland Colleges H & S Development Network Group
Douglas Connell	IOSH Scotland
Hannah Dickson	SCSN
Bill Harley	Fife Safer Communities
Sheena Harper	RLSS (UK)
Steven Hewitson	Actavo
Sarah Hill	Gas Safe Register
Martin Hunt	Tartan Silk Public Relations
Kathy Jenkins	Scottish Hazards Campaign
Kenny Macdermid	RLSS (UK)
Karen McDonnell	RoSPA
Syliva McKay	NDNA
Alexandra McNicol	John McNicol and Co (Electrical Engineers) Ltd
Neil McNicol	John McNicol and Co (Electrical Engineers) Ltd
Cherie Morgan	Play Scotland
John Nelson	Turner and Townsend
Katrina Philips	CAPT
George Rawlinson	RNLI
Louise Slorrance	RCPCH
Gregor Steele	SSERC
Jim Tassell	IOSH Scotland
Douglas Watt	Actavo

### In attendance

Lis Bardell	Clare Adamson's office
Kate Barclay	Clare Adamson's office
Maddy Cancro	Clare Adamson's office

Elizabeth Lumsden	RoSPA
Carlene McAvoy	RoSPA

## Apologies

Maurice Corry	MSP
Brian Auld	Church of Scotland
David Birrell	Safety Advocate
Jane Campbell	
Morrison	AALS
Brian Connel	NWS
Janet Castro	Accident Awareness Scotland
Sharon Fabre	Barnardos
Gena Falconer	Highland Council
Dave Forrester	SELECT
Fiona Hodgson	SNIPeF
John Johnston	Technipfmc
Ruth Johnston	Health Scotland
Caroline Lawrie	SGN
Sharon Macdonald	Scottish Swimming
Wayne Mackay	Electrical Safety First
Laura McDermott	Dundee Council
Wendy McGarrity	Key
Paul McGarry	Green Cross Training
Martin McMahan	HSE
Helen Pearson	BOHS
Chris Purnell	Scottish Ambulance Service
Martin Raine	SNIPeF
Dave Roy	Kingdom Housing
Devin Scobie	Caledonia Public Affairs Ltd
Maggie Simpson	SCMA
Norman Stevenson	Safety Groups UK
Lisa Stewart	COBIS
Grant Taylor	SGN
Brian Topping	Safety Advocate
Caroline Wilson	The Risk Factory
Lynn Young	Scottish Government

## Appendix Two

### The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

6.00 pm till 8.00 pm Committee Room 5, the Scottish Parliament.

### Secretary's Report

#### New Members

The CPG has two new members: Maurice Corry, MSP and Emma Harper, MSP.

#### RoSPA 'Safe as Houses?' Seminars

A huge 'thank you' to all the members of the CPG who attended any of RoSPA's 'Safe as Houses' seminars. We would like to pay special thanks to Clare Adamson, MSP who kicked off the first seminar on Child Safety on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. The second seminar, in collaboration with COBIS focussed on Burns and Scalds and our final seminar focussed on the safety of older people. All three sessions evaluated extremely well and we are delighted with the positive feedback received. The presentations from each of the seminars is available on the RoSPA website at <https://www.rosipa.com/events/past-events/safe-as-houses>

#### Headlines Newsletter

Information on all events, conferences and any other accident prevention work carried out by members of the Group should be sent to the Secretary prior to the scheduled meetings in order that information can be highlighted appropriately in the Headlines Newsletter.

#### Correspondence

*Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016*

*On 12 March 2018 the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016 came into force. You will wish to make yourself aware of what this means for your cross-party group and any face-to-face interactions the secretariat and group members may have with MSPs, amongst others.*

*An Information Leaflet has been produced to provide a brief overview of the requirements of the Act. Further information can be found in the Parliamentary Guidance produced to accompany the Act.*

*There is a specific exemption in the Act for communications made in the course of a meeting of a cross-party group. The exemption only applies to communications made during meetings of a CPG that has been accorded recognition by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee and at which there is a quorum. To be quorate, at least two MSPs who are members of the Group must attend. The usual rules relating to regulated lobbying apply to any activity outside of that (including before or after such meetings). This of course applies to secretariats which serve CPGs, who are still required to consider any conversations which take place outside of a quorate CPG meeting and make a judgement about whether they have lobbied, based on the 5 Key Steps.*

*You should note that the initial meeting of a new CPG is not covered by this exemption.*

#### Parliamentary Motion

**Motion Number:** S5M-12522

**Lodged By:** Clare Adamson

**Date Lodged:** 31/05/2018

**Title:** Child Safety Week, 4 to 10 June 2018

**Motion Text:**

That the Parliament notes that Child Safety Week, the flagship annual campaign run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT), takes place between 4 and 10 June 2018 with the theme, Safe children: together we've got this; further notes that accidents are still a leading cause of death, serious injury and acquired disability for children and young people in the UK and that many of these accidents can be prevented; acknowledges CAPT's concern that children from the poorest UK families are 13 times more likely to die in accidents and are also more likely to be admitted to hospital with accidental injuries; supports CAPT's aim to strike a balance between a child's right to lead an active, healthy life, including experimenting, playing and taking risks, and the need to reduce preventable accidents and, in particular, reduce the marked inequalities between richer and poorer children; applauds Child Safety Week's free, online resources and local activities, which are designed to raise awareness of the risks of child accidents and how they can be prevented; acknowledges the week's continuing commitment to collaborative working, and congratulates CAPT and all the many agencies that continue to work together with undimmed commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

### **Future themes**

It is important that the members highlight the safety themes considered appropriate for discussion at the meetings of this Cross Party Group. All suggestions are welcomed and should include names and contact details of relevant speakers. As such, Vince Bowles has suggested the November meeting concentrates on Road Safety issues and has suggested Sandy Allan from RoSPA to speak about the Scottish Occupational Road Safety Alliance (ScORSA) along with Traffic Police and Road Transport Haulage. Sandy has suggested additionally inviting Road Safety Scotland to discuss resources that are available.

Elizabeth Lumsden  
Secretary

## Appendix Three

### **Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**

**6.00 pm till 8.00 pm, Committee Room 5, the Smith Room,  
the Scottish Parliament.**

### **HEADLINES**

Thanks to those who contributed the following information:

### **Health and Work Summit Scotland**

Thursday 1 November, 11 – 3 (Venue TBC)

The Partnership on Health and Safety Scotland (PHASS) is delighted to announce that the first ever Health and Work Summit Scotland will take place on Thursday 1 November 2018. The event will focus on the key issues around health and work in all sectors of employment in Scotland.

The day will be introduced by George Brechin, Chair of PHASS and non-Executive member of the Health and Safety Executive Board and will feature keynote speakers from a wide range of groups and organisations including the Scottish Government, NHS Scotland and the Health and Safety Executive.

Who should attend? The aims of the day are to help develop support to employers in tackling some important priorities to reduce occupational disease and improve public health through work.

The summit will be of interest to employers, both public and private sector, trades unions, occupational health and safety professionals, occupational medicine and hygiene professionals and public-sector bodies including local authority senior managers.

If you would like to register your interest and to receive updates, please email [phass@hse.gov.uk](mailto:phass@hse.gov.uk)

**From Martin McMahon, HSE**

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## RoSPA Water Safety Research

RoSPA has recently released some water safety research which provides an analysis of the available data on the high risk age group of men aged 60 – 69.

This analysis has revealed a number of key points regarding 60 to 69-year-old males:

- There were 35 fatalities during the five-year period
- Accidental drownings accounted for 80 per cent of this figure
- The average age of a fatality was 65
- Half of the accidental fatalities happened at the coast
- More than one third of incidents happened in spring. Thursdays and Saturdays were the most common day for a fatality
- 90 per cent of fatalities happened during the daytime
- Approximately 6 in 10 accidental fatalities were the result of recreational water activities
- Angling is the leading cause of recreational drowning fatalities
- Alcohol was suspected in 14 per cent of cases
- Around half of the fatalities were alone prior to the incident
- Exactly half of the fatalities were classified as local.

The full report can be accessed at this link:

<https://www.rospa.com/rospaweb/docs/about/around-the-uk/scotland/accidental-drowning-fatalities.pdf>

An infographic is also available here: <https://www.rospa.com/rospaweb/docs/about/around-the-uk/scotland/over-60s-drowning-infographic.pdf>

## RoSPA Scald Prevention Coaster

Scalds from hot drinks remain a major cause of injury for young children. RoSPA has designed and printed a limited number of coasters with the message 'Keep your tea away from me' to raise awareness of the dangers. If you would like to receive some free samples of these coasters for distribution please contact the Edinburgh office to arrange pick up. Please also give us a call if you would like to discuss buying larger quantities.

**From Carlene McAvoy, RoSPA**

