

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP 2024-2025



Contents



1. Introduction

Foreword; and The Importance of Partnership Working

Foreword

Welcome to the fourth edition of 'Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Working in Partnership'.

Partnership and Collaborative working is at the core of how SFRS operates. It is of critical strategic importance to how we work in support of the [National Performance Framework](#) to improve outcomes for communities throughout Scotland; to how we discharge our duties to Community Planning and other statutory partnerships, and it is a major part of our commitment to delivering Public Service Reform for Scotland.

This publication showcases a selection of the strength, diversity, depth and impact of the local, regional and national partnership initiatives we are part of. We take a committed and forward-thinking partnership approach to tackling the key challenges facing Scotland today. We are working diligently to deliver high-quality, responsive and prevention services that meet the evolving needs of our communities and contribute to their long-term safety and well-being.

For example, in 2024-25 we are working with Public Health Scotland, the Institute of Health Equity and numerous local partners as part of the Collaboration

for Health Equity in Scotland pilot projects. The partnership aims to strengthen and accelerate action to improve health, increase wellbeing, and reduce health inequities in Scotland, by drawing on the principles outlined in the [Marmot Review](#). The projects will pilot Marmot's framework in three areas of Scotland, working to develop policies and actions that address social determinants of health at the local level. As the Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland work accelerates, we will report more fully in future years.

This and the many examples of partnership and collaborative working outlined in this report are testament to how central partnership working is to the Service. We endeavour in reporting our partnership work to capture the benefits that our communities gain from it. We are committed to deepening our evaluation of our efforts and to report our impacts better in future years.

I wish to offer a sincere thank you to our committed employees who are key to our partnership working. It is their dedication that lies at the very core of our work. Their talent, professionalism, diligence and unwavering commitment are evident in every initiative we undertake. It is through their engagement and expertise that we can deliver such impactful outcomes.

Additionally, we highly value our close working relationships with our partners, and we wish to express our sincere gratitude to them. Their ongoing support and shared vision are essential to the success of our partnership efforts. These partnerships are built on mutual trust, respect, and a shared commitment to making a real difference in the lives of the people we serve and in transforming the whole public service system in Scotland.

Partnership working enables us to remain agile and responsive to the changing needs and expectations of communities across Scotland. To that end our commitment to statutory partnership working, such as Community Planning, and to more informal partnership working with our public service, third sector and community partners remains unwavering.



Mark McAteer

Director of Strategic
Planning, Performance
and Communications

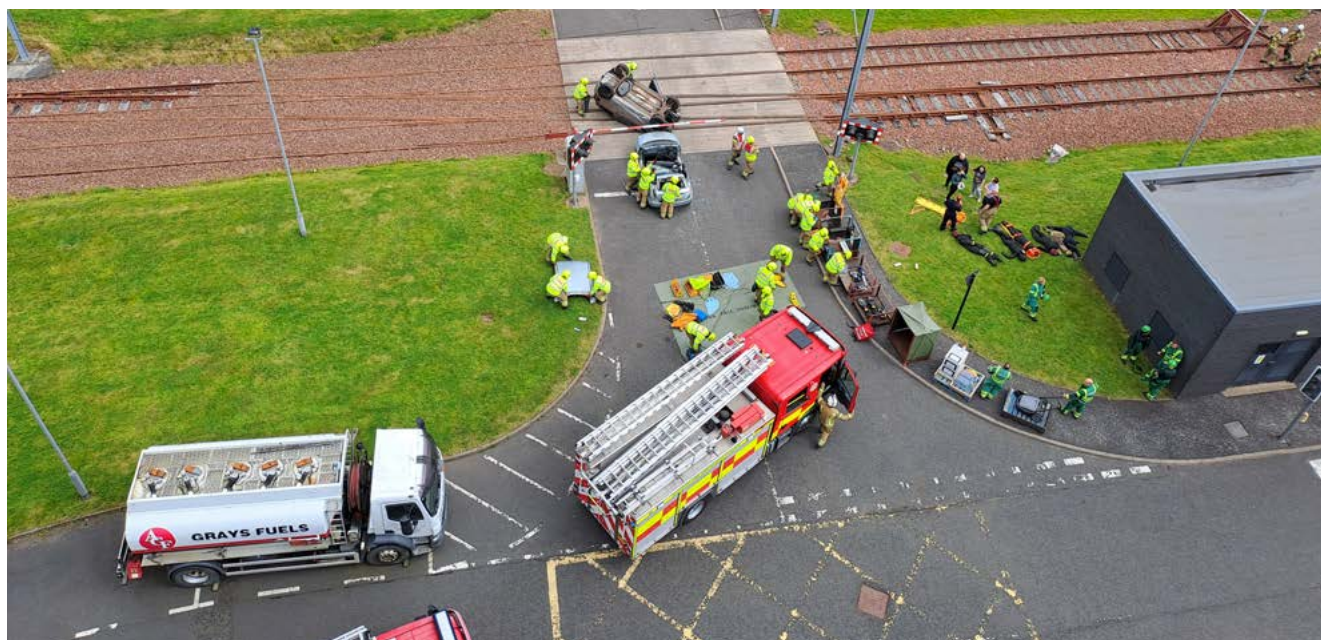
The Importance of Partnership Working

The core purpose of the SFRS centres around partnership working, with the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022 reiterating its importance by stating:

“The main purpose of the SFRS is to work in **partnership** with communities and with others in the public, private and third sectors, on prevention, protection and response, to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland.”

In addition to this we also have a wide range of statutory duties to work with others in several aspects of our role, including but not limited to:

- preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies ^[1],
- community planning arrangements ^[2],
- improving outcomes for communities to meet the needs of the people who use our services ^[3],
- contributing to local strategic planning, monitoring and delivery of community justice outcomes ^[4], and



- improving outcomes and driving inclusive growth for Island communities. ^[5]

At local community and national levels, we engage in numerous voluntary partnership arrangements. At a national level we work through the Reform Collaboration Group, with Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service to drive collaboration

across all areas of how the three Blue Light Services work together. We also work in partnership with a wide array of private sector partners in areas relating

- ^[1] Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- ^[2] Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- ^[3] Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- ^[4] Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016
- ^[5] The Island (Scotland) Act 2018

to community and firefighter safety. Across local areas we are core participants in partnerships that range from delivering food security to people in need, to supporting employability programmes aimed at helping young people into work. All of which adds significant value to the safety and wellbeing of local communities.

We work in this way because we know that it enables improvements in the lives of communities by reducing barriers across public services and other bodies in helping build a common focus on meeting the needs of communities.

Our approach to partnership working is an ever-evolving part of how we work to improve the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland. We proactively seek out and actively engage in many forms of partnership working where the level of formality varies depending on the issues we are dealing with. We always seek through partnership working to achieve common goals and agree actions for how those goals can be achieved to improve outcomes for the people of Scotland.

The combination of our skills, insight, resources and commitment with that of our partners is critical to adding value across Scotland's many communities in this way.

Through our partnership working, we directly contribute to the National Performance Framework, and locally via our commitment to Community Planning Partnerships and through Local Outcome Improvement Plans.

In essence, as a Service we are driven to improve the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland, and we know that working alongside and in partnership with others is the best way to achieve this.





2. East Service Delivery Area Initiatives

East Service Delivery Area (ESDA) Initiatives

Our East of Scotland Service Delivery Area covers a diverse and dynamic region, encompassing four key areas:

- City of Edinburgh;
- Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders;
- Falkirk and West Lothian; and
- Clackmannanshire, Fife and Stirling.

This area includes a mix of urban centres, rural communities, and coastal towns, home to a significant portion of Scotland's population.

Across these communities, we worked closely with partners to deliver a wide range of impactful initiatives that were designed with the needs of the area in mind. These included the Midlothian Young Driver's Event, interoperability training at Sighthill, multi-agency training for paramedic students, and joint exercises at Stirling Enterprise Park. We also supported community engagement through projects such as the Rising from the Ashes Exhibition, Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity, and Fostering Compassion. These initiatives reflected our commitment to safety, education, and inclusion, and demonstrated the strength of local partnership working in delivering better outcomes for the people we serve.



ESDA – Our Initiatives

Midlothian Young Driver's Event

Midlothian Community Action Team worked in partnership with Edinburgh College based in Midlothian, Police Scotland Traffic Officers, The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and Dalkeith crews to deliver a Young Drivers Road Safety event to around 200 engineering and mechanical students, aged between 17-25 years old who attend the College.

This partnership was formed to try and reduce the number of Road Traffic Collisions and fatalities that occur each year on the Midlothian road network, as well as educate young drivers of the dangers they face when using these roads. Edinburgh College allowed us to use their premises and through interaction with other agencies we formed a multi-partnership approach to deliver this safety message to the young people. On the day Midlothian Community Action Team delivered 'Drive to Arrive' presentations, with Police Scotland carrying out a presentation focusing on Young Drivers and the

Accident Investigation side of a Road Traffic Collision. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents provided advice and freebies to students before everyone came together to witness a vehicle extrication demonstration which was carried out by Dalkeith Blue Watch.

This was an immensely successful event with students, lecturers and partners alike and the intention is that going forward this will become a yearly event with the hope of expanding this to other emergency services and partner agencies in the local community. Over time we expect to see a reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions and fatalities on the local roadways in and around Midlothian.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1



Interoperability Training at Sighthill

In summer 2024, Sighthill Amber Watch took part in interoperability training with 10 Scottish Ambulance Service paramedics. These training events were facilitated by Sighthill Community Fire Station and Newbridge Training Centre.

The purpose of this initiative was to build working relationships between partners and to exchange knowledge and understanding to improve multi-agency response to incidents.

ESDA – Our Initiatives



The joint-agency training days included Initial Casualty Assessment and Treatment Skills Stations and a show and tell of equipment from each emergency service, followed by Road Traffic Collisions training with one vehicle and multiple live casualties. The training format was scenario based which gave an opportunity to rest for learning points and to compare and understand the purpose of the Safe Systems of Work applied by each emergency service. Hearing these unique perspectives was one of the many benefits of this partnership venture.

At the conclusion of the day both partners took part in a joint debrief to highlight important learning points, provide feedback and suggestions. Overall, this was a very beneficial venture, developing skills

and understanding and building good relations between emergency service partners.

Due to the success of these interoperability training days and positive interest expressed by all for

future collaborative training events, plans are underway to expand this initiative to include other agencies.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2



Multi-Agency Training for Paramedic Students

In July 2024, we hosted a two-day training event for 22 Stirling University paramedic students at Falkirk Community Fire Station, focusing on multi-agency collaboration in Road Traffic Collision scenarios.

This successful partnership initiative between our Falkirk and West Lothian area and the Scottish Ambulance Service is a dynamic collaboration that enhances both interagency cooperation and professional development.

Through this joint training event, the third-year paramedic students gained hands-on experience with our employees, enabling them to consolidate essential clinical skills in realistic settings.

This approach provides invaluable exposure to interagency working, reinforcing teamwork and communication critical to emergency response scenarios. Both organisations are committed to fostering these training opportunities, which

ESDA – Our Initiatives



bridge classroom theory with field application, and reinforce a shared commitment to public safety.

The partnership is highly valued by participants and faculty alike and is set to continue, enriching Scotland's emergency services with a well-rounded, practically trained workforce.

A similar successful multi-agency training exercise simulating a Road Traffic Collision took place with our Red Watch crews at Blackness Road Community Fire Station, Dundee University medical students and the Scottish Ambulance Service Special Operations Response Team. By collaborating with and working alongside medical students, our crews gained valuable insights into patient care, whilst the students developed a deeper understanding of extrication challenges that fire crews face and showcased the medical interventions undertaken at an incident.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2



Training Exercises at Stirling Enterprise Park

Employees at Stirling Community Fire Station came together with Stirling Enterprise Park to host off-station training at Stirling Enterprise Park's Ladder55 site in Stirling.



ESDA – Our Initiatives

The unit is a large open space office with numerous subdivided compartments of various sizes inside and with multiple entry points, enabling our crews to train in a realistic environment. Our firefighters used the Ladder55 space to practice complex rescue scenarios, such as navigating through smoke-filled rooms, practising rescues, and managing multi-entry situations. The training sessions ensure that firefighters stay prepared to respond effectively to emergencies while also building familiarity with



different building layouts. Stirling Enterprise Park staff have been involved in various scenarios by role playing as casualties or as responsible persons that feed information to Incident Commanders.

The partnership not only helps improve the preparedness of our firefighters but

also strengthens community safety. Following each exercise, the teams debrief allowing them to reflect on the training and discuss how they can improve future responses.

Stirling Community Fire Station, along with neighbouring On Call stations at Bridge of Allan, Balfron, Callander and Doune have all trained at the site and gained valuable knowledge and experience to respond to operational incidents.

Laura, Stirling Enterprise Park's Director of Property and Operations said:

"It is inspiring and humbling to be able to provide a space where the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service can conduct such vital training. It is a privilege to support the Service in ensuring the safety of our community. The partnership has been incredibly rewarding for us."

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2](#)

Lighting Reach App

We worked in partnership with Lighting Reach, who developed an app aimed at helping residents of Edinburgh manage their finances.

This app is specifically designed for individuals at risk of financial vulnerability. It allows users to access various benefits they may be entitled to and apply for different funds to assist with bills, heating, food, and more.

Our crews, Community Fire Stations and Community Action Team promoted this app by distributing leaflets at Home Fire Safety Visits. Additionally, these materials were distributed to local food banks, libraries, and health centres.

In collaboration with our Community Action Team, Lighting Reach participated in several public events to engage the community and encourage the use of this app. As part of this partnership, Lighting Reach will provide a link and signpost to our Website for Home Fire Safety Visit and advice.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3](#)

ESDA – Our Initiatives

Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity

Our Community Action Team for the City of Edinburgh established a partnership with the Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity, which is based at the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People.

The Community Action Team promote fire safety in the home to the high number of parents, carers, and children the charity interacts with. By discussing necessary changes families may need to make in their homes due to their child's illness, life-limiting issues, or end-of-life care. Additionally, the initiative allows the Community Action Team to create enjoyable experiences for children who are currently in the hospital.

Our Community Action Team organised a 'Touch and Try' session in the charity's hub, located in the centre of the hospital. During these sessions, children, carers, parents and nurses tried on fire uniform, used hoses and branches, and engaged in role-playing scenarios to simulate putting out imaginary fires. For children who were unable to

participate in hub activities, two members of our Community Action Team visited various wards bringing items and engaging with the children.

During these sessions, members of the Community Action Team interacted with adults and addressed any concerns they had about fire safety when returning home. We collected details from parents who inquired about a Home Fire Safety Visit or provided them with information on how to refer themselves once they are home and settled. Importantly, these families come from all over Scotland, not just the Edinburgh area. These beneficial sessions are scheduled to continue, with a goal of hosting at least one each quarter.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)

Rising from the Ashes Exhibition

We worked in partnership with Edinburgh Museums Services, City of Edinburgh Council to create a special exhibition 'Rising from the Ashes' which explored two centuries of firefighting legacy.

From its humble beginnings in 1824 to our modern-day achievements, the exhibition shared the remarkable history, stories, and contributions of Edinburgh's Fire Service. The exhibition was developed in collaboration by our employees, Museum of Scottish Fire Heritage Volunteers and Edinburgh Museums staff.

The exhibition was well attended and the program of activities well received; it was such a success that its run was extended after its initial period as there was a huge amount of interest from the public. The exhibition ran from May to November 2024 and provided a great opportunity to work with partners to use our heritage to share safety information. The program of activities run alongside the exhibition helped us be very visible to members of the public, be approachable and engage in a meaningful way.

There was a targeted multifaceted approach to improve and increase engagement, not only with the exhibition, but also to expose members of the public to current safety messaging and an opportunity to interact with our City of Edinburgh operational crews and Community Safety teams. A member of our Fire Investigation Team attended with Fire Investigation

ESDA – Our Initiatives



Dog, Phoenix, and demonstrated the specialist work carried out by the Fire Investigation Team and volunteers from the Museum of Scottish Fire Heritage delivered specialist talks.

We received very positive feedback about the exhibition from members of the public including Katelyn who said:

"I love the discussion of heritage with something as simple as the Fire Service and the development timeline. Plus, the connections to today's service were really nice."

Mirren and Ronald commented:

"Really interesting exhibition. Great to see Scotland leading the way with fire science etc."

This partnership exhibition was extremely successful and beneficial as it allowed us to increase our public interaction, improved visibility for the key role the Fire Service has played in the evolution and development of firefighting in the City of Edinburgh and beyond, increased opportunities for our Community Action Team to interact with the public to promote current safety messaging.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

Fostering Compassion

East Lothian Community Action Team have worked in partnership over several years with Fostering Compassion, who are a charity for vulnerable children to promote humane values to young people who have suffered from adverse childhood

experiences. The organisation recognises the compassionate link between children and animals which they look to build on and strengthen these relationships.

We became involved with this charity which was inspired by a young aspiring vet who tragically died in a car crash eight years ago.

We participated with the workshops the charity offered to help and support young people by educating them about our animals in service, as well as discussing animal rescues which we attend. Through donations made via the charity, money was raised and 'Smokey Paws' kits purchased to allow firefighters to provide medical oxygen to various animals at different incidents. The kits have been used to save the lives of family pets involved in house fires and Road Traffic Collisions.

Our partnership with the charity has continued to evolve and one of our employees attended the Compassion Always Conference and delivered a speech on our involvement with animals and use of 'Smokey Paws' which was part of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies Bicentenary Celebrations.

ESDA – Our Initiatives

The Fostering Compassion charity has provided 28 kits, some to stations as far away as Skye, allowing more and more firefighters to be able to utilise them and aspires to expand the programme in the future.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

Stirling Tenancy Award for Care Experienced Young People

Clackmannanshire, Fife and Stirling Community Action Team are proud and excited to support and deliver in partnership with Stirling Council's Housing team, Skills Development Scotland, Police Scotland, Forth Valley College and local benefits advisors the Stirling Tenancy Award. The initiative is for Care Experienced Young People in the area, supporting them to have the confidence and skills to take on their own tenancies in the future.

The Stirling Tenancy Award is a short course which provides the young people with real life learning

experiences to develop essential life skills such as basic cookery, personal finance management, keeping a house, safety awareness and managing a tenancy. Individuals who complete the full programme can gain the Scottish Qualifications Authority Level 4 National Progression Awards Tenancy Award.

Our Community Action Team have been instrumental in promoting the positive benefits of this award and are supporting its potential to be replicated in other areas. This exciting partnership is having a practical benefit our Care Experienced young people.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland 'Alert' System

Our Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders area worked in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland to successfully deliver a small-scale pilot of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland 'Alert'

system. The Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders pilot 'posted' once a week with Fire Service safety related messages.

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland have successfully integrated an 'Alert' system into their website and work programme that allows individuals, organisations and communities signed up to the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland scheme to receive notifications to their own e-mail addresses. Alert messages can be targeted by the author to an audience profile. This may be based on town, street, age, interests, and other factors given at sign up stage. It is not a chatroom and does not permit responses, it is purely a one-way system designed to give key information to people who may benefit from it.

The evaluation from the highly successfully Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders pilot served to support the expansion of the partnership to host a second, larger pilot programme in the City of Edinburgh area led by our Prevention Directorate.

Initially, the City of Edinburgh pilot will explore the safety messaging benefits and train a small number of

ESDA – Our Initiatives

our employees to use the alerting system. Following this, work will be undertaken to identify categories and groups that can be targeted based on data and evidence from our previous incidents and, using the alert system database, target groups most likely to benefit e.g. age, tenure, location to reach those most vulnerable through the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland network and alert system.

Working with our Prevention Directorate, we will integrate Neighbourhood Watch Scotland into our Home Fire Safety Visit delivery and encourage sign up during Home Fire Safety Visits. Additionally, we will promote this through our own social media channels, featuring a 'Partnership Launch'. We will implement a Local Thematic Action Plan and Neighbourhood Watch Scotland will programme a roadshow round City of Edinburgh Community Fire Stations to raise awareness with our crews to pass on to communities during day-to-day engagement activities.

A working group has been established to deliver the City of Edinburgh pilot and upscale the Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders work. Following a 12-month pilot and evaluation period, we aspire

to expand the partnership nationally to enable all our areas and Prevention Directorate to utilise this as another addition to safety messaging across Scotland.

For more information visit:

[Neighbourhood Watch Scotland](#)

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)

Scottish Gas Networks

We initially teamed up with Scottish Gas Networks in a mutually beneficial partnership in 2023 whereby Scottish Gas Networks provided free carbon monoxide detectors for residents of the City of Edinburgh in return for us carrying out a short Carbon Monoxide awareness survey with householders.

This successful partnership has now been rolled out to include all Community Fire Stations in the City of Edinburgh. Scottish Gas Networks has provided all

Community Fire Stations and the Community Action Team with a supply of carbon monoxide alarms. These alarms can be given to any household that already has the appropriate smoke detection but lacks a carbon monoxide alarm.

Our employees explain the importance of having these alarms and the risks associated with carbon monoxide poisoning. Once an alarm has been given and properly installed, the online QR code should be scanned, and a quick form filled out for Scottish Gas Networks, enabling them to keep track of the number of alarms distributed and address concerns from households that do not fully understand the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning. Scottish Gas Networks also engage with residents to make them aware of safety information from us and refer in those who are in need of a Home Fire Safety Visit.

Plans are in place to continue this beneficial partnership, with Scottish Gas Networks restocking alarms as needed.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)



3. North Service Delivery Area Initiatives

North Service Delivery Area (NSDA) Initiatives

Our North of Scotland Service Delivery Area spans a wide and varied geography, encompassing four key areas:

- Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray;
- Perth, Kinross, Dundee and Angus;
- Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland Islands; and
- Highland.

This region includes a mix of urban centres, remote rural communities, and island populations, each with unique needs and strengths.

During 2024–25, we collaborated with partners across these areas on a broad range of meaningful

initiatives including Exercise Puffin and multi-agency joint water rescue training. Community engagement was at the heart of our work, with events such as Angus Community Fire Station’s Summer of Fun, Perth Community Fire Station’s support for local initiatives, and warm space projects that cared for vulnerable residents.

Additionally, we advanced education and safety through the Youth Crime Fireskills pilot, various Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation/Defibrillator awareness campaigns, and the introduction of Binky the Sensory Bus. These activities highlight the depth and diversity of our partnerships and our ongoing commitment to supporting resilient, well-informed, and inclusive communities across the North of Scotland.



NSDA – Our Initiatives



Safe Aberdeenshire

The first Safe Aberdeenshire Initiative took place at Mintlaw Academy, Aberdeenshire in July 2024, to deliver comprehensive safety education to all Senior Three (S3) and Senior Four (S4) pupils.

Developed by us, Police Scotland, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, National Health Service and Aberdeenshire Council, the event allowed partners to address a wide range of critical issues such as substance abuse, e-scooter safety, lithium battery hazards, water safety, and anti-social behaviour. Pupils were also able to learn about Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and open discussion around tackling poverty and inequalities took place. The initiative empowered young people across the area with essential knowledge and skills with a view to improving community safety and resilience.

This initiative underscores the importance of cross-agency collaboration in safeguarding our youth and

enhancing community well-being in Aberdeenshire. Chloe Borwick, Business and Community Support Officer at Mintlaw Academy, said:

“As you know it is our vision that every pupil leaves Mintlaw Academy as a better version of themselves, ready to succeed in all aspects of life and we would like to express our gratitude to you for your continued support in helping us achieve this through community – connected learning, providing real world learning opportunities and providing inspiration for our young people. Thank you.”

Due to its success, the initiative is planned to be further rolled out to key secondary schools across Aberdeenshire.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

NSDA – Our Initiatives

Grampian Local Resilience Partnership delivers tabletop exercises

As a member of Grampian Local Resilience Partnership, we worked in partnership with Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Moray Council, Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City Council and Royal Air Force. We delivered resilience tabletop exercises for emergency responders at a tactical level incorporating the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles.

The exercises incorporated a scenario-based tabletop in the morning and an operational asset 'Show and Tell' in the afternoon. The purpose of the exercises was to engender closer collaboration of operational responders through operational level exercising, introducing Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles, and to share insight and information on operational assets that each responder agency may not have had previous knowledge on. The exercises were delivered in the three local authority areas in

Grampian: Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray by a small exercise delivery team consisting of us, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

There was a clear brief to ensure that the scenarios remained at operational level and not having to be escalated to Local Resilience Partnership level. Discussions also covered the operational resources that all partners have available to assist with incidents being brought to a successful conclusion.

Exercise Electron was initially held at Elgin Community Fire Station in September 2023 and April 2024 which delivered a fire lead scenario incorporating injects that required collaboration between partners to resolve. In the afternoon session our personnel and partners were shown and given input on operational assets from us, Scottish Ambulance Service and Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

The feedback received from all agencies was incredibly positive, with many commenting that opportunities for operational level multi-agency exercises are both excellent learning tools and effective for building relationships that will be of

benefit at any multi-agency emergency incidents. Due to the success of this initial exercise, more Electron exercises were delivered in 2024 at Peterhead Community Fire Station and North Anderson Drive Community Fire Station. All the exercises saw excellent attendance with between 25 to 30 individuals attending each event, including our Flexi Duty Officers and Watch Commanders.

Grampian Local Resilience Partnership then progressed the initiative using the same format and delivered Exercise Conclave in Moray which was a water rescue-based scenario led by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency with input from our Water Rescue personnel. In February 2025, further exercises were delivered in Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City.

These exercises are beneficial to the communities of Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray as by joint exercising collaboration emergency responders will deliver safer and more successful outcomes when incidents occur.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

NSDA – Our Initiatives



Exercise Puffin takes place in Orkney

In July 2024, our crews from Westray and North Operations Control participated in Exercise Puffin, a multi-agency exercise which took place at Westray Airport. We worked with our partners from Orkney Island Council, Orkney Island Council Airfields Rescue and Firefighting Service, Police Scotland, HM Coastguard, Scottish Ambulance Service volunteers, British Red Cross, National Health Service General Practitioner and Nurse.

The purpose of Exercise Puffin was to test Orkney Islands Council (Airfields) Multi-Agency Response Plan, which is a requirement to comply with the Civil Aviation Authority licence for all United Kingdom aerodromes.

The scenario tested was an inbound scheduled aircraft reporting a mechanical fault and requiring an emergency landing with eight persons on board and multiple casualties. For exercise purposes, a minibus was used instead of an aircraft.

The overall aims of the exercise were to test the effective response of the Airfield's Rescue and Firefighting Service and that of the additional agencies in attendance, collaborative inter-agency working, determine what worked well or what required improvement and provide a basis upon which any updates or changes to the Airfield's Multi-Agency Response Plan may be made.

For this type of incident, further resources would be mobilised from mainland Orkney, coordinated by our Operations Control and supported by HM Coastguard and Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

With a total of six aerodromes that come under Orkney Island Council control, further live exercises of this type are planned on a four yearly rotational basis. The next planned exercise will be held during the hours of darkness on the island of North Ronaldsay. Similar table-top exercises are conducted annually to meet the Civil Aviation Authority (United Kingdom) licensing requirements.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

NSDA – Our Initiatives

Multi-agency Joint Water Rescue Training

Crews from Fochabers Community Fire Station organised a multi-agency water rescue training exercise on the River Spey which was led by us and involved Police Scotland and HM Coastguard. The scenario simulated two four-man canoes capsizing with an unknown number of casualties to test the operational preparedness and coordinated response of multiple emergency agencies.

The training exercise also served as an opportunity to promote water safety awareness in the local community, helping to educate and safeguard the public.

This collaborative joint training leads to improved operational preparedness for all agencies involved, it prepares responders to address the diverse challenges posed by a large-scale water rescue

incident. It fosters trust and understanding among agencies, making multi-agency cooperation more efficient and effective during real emergencies. By utilising the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles in our joint training, we ensure that all agencies are not only interoperable but also prepared to provide a unified response. This unified approach is key to protecting lives, safeguarding communities, and managing emergencies with precision and confidence.

By undertaking joint training with our partners, we are building a resilient, agile response framework that prioritises the well-being of the communities we serve.

Due to the success of this exercise further joint training within the Moray area is planned throughout 2024-25 involving several partners and different scenarios.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2](#)



NSDA – Our Initiatives



Inverness Crews take part in Vital Partnership Training

Inverness Community Fire Station worked in partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service and members of the Highland Pre-Hospital Immediate Care and Trauma Team throughout the year, ensuring an equitable spread of joint training opportunities across the five watches.

The aim of this renewed partnership was to capture all incident types, including water rescue, working

at height, structural fires, hazardous materials and heavy rescue. This vital training allows all agencies to better understand each other's equipment, capabilities and skills, in addition to practising working together in different incident environments.

Firefighters from Inverness Red Watch took part in vital emergency simulation training along with Scottish Ambulance Service staff and members of the Highland Pre-Hospital Immediate Care and Trauma Team. Participants were split into two groups and took part in scenarios involving Road Traffic Collisions and trapped casualties partnership working and gave those involved the chance to practice skills of co-location, communicating and jointly understanding risk. A full debrief took place following the simulation.

Feedback from the most recent session in January, was very positive with excellent feedback received from Scottish Ambulance Service and Highland Pre-Hospital Immediate Care and Trauma Team colleagues.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Training Exercise in Stonehaven with Police Scotland

Our crews from Stonehaven and Laurencekirk Community Fire Stations worked in partnership with Police Scotland on a joint training exercise.

The exercise took place at Stonehaven Police Station which involved around 20 firefighters, three fire appliances and eight members of staff from Police Scotland. The scenario included a fire within the canteen with added risks of stored ammunition, Police Officers and people in custody trapped within a cell block.

Community Sergeant McQuat said:

“This was a fantastic opportunity for our station to work alongside our fellow emergency service and gain an insight into how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service operates. By gaining an improved understanding of their procedures and protocols, we can only enhance our joint response to emergencies where the need arises to the benefit of our community.”

NSDA – Our Initiatives

This joint training exercise was an important and effective example of partnership working and was extremely beneficial for the joint understanding gained by both partners regarding the complexities involved in managing an evacuation of a premise under fire conditions.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2



Angus Fire Stations Summer of Fun, Food and Safety

From July to August 2024, a total of 30 open days took place across all our Community Fire Stations in Angus. Our crews worked together with a range of partners including Angus Council Vibrant Community Team, Tesco Community Champions and Co-op Community Champions, Police Scotland, Voluntary Action Angus and Home Start Angus on an innovative project 'Angus Fire Stations Summer of Fun, Food and Safety'.

The purpose of the initiative was to provide opportunities during the summer school holiday for crews to promote public safety campaigns that raise awareness of fire, water and road safety, and other community safety matters, and contribute to reducing inequalities. These sessions were open inclusive events for the whole community looking to engage with the most deprived members with the offer of free breakfast, lunch and free school uniforms.

The open days were a tremendous success with approximately 2,500 members of the community

NSDA – Our Initiatives

attending. The events created a fun and social environment to help improve mental health and social inclusion. We received encouraging feedback from individuals who attended some of the events:

“I visited one Friday with my son, we brought along some uniform that he had grown out of to donate, and I managed to pick up some shirts for the year for him. Times are hard, and uniform is expensive, so I really appreciated this service. I also hate to think of clothes going to landfill so any way that they can be used again or recycled is amazing!”

Another attendee said:

“The summer holidays are great, but can be also long and expensive, so it was also nice for something to do with my son that didn’t cost anything, he enjoyed seeing the fire engine and the breakfast packs, juice etc. are much appreciated. Over the holidays I spoke to at least 10 other families that had visited.”

By offering free services, this innovative partnership ensures maximum value for the community, further

strengthens partnerships, and delivers our strategic priority of value and efficiency. Additionally, the information passed by our crews and accompanying literature disseminated at the sessions delivered a crucial safety message which directly contributes to preventing emergencies and harm.

The open days will be held annually throughout Angus with the individual Community Fire Stations tailoring the events to the safety, social and economic needs within their community. It is hoped these successful events will inspire similar events to be held nationally.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3



NSDA – Our Initiatives

Perth Community Fire Station supports local community

Perth Community Fire Station launched a Christmas Gift Appeal in November 2024, encouraging the local community and businesses to donate gifts and funds for distribution to those in need. Our local employees collaborated with partners from over 30 local businesses, community members, local authority and charitable organisations, including Perthshire Women's Aid, Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services Limited Young Carers, PKAVS Carer Centre, Letham4All and The Big Hoose Project.

The purpose of the initiative was to spread festive cheer and provide essential support to vulnerable individuals and families in need across Perth City during the Christmas season. Through Perth Community Fire Station's dedicated efforts, a total of 800 gifts, reaching recipients aged between three months and 96 years of age, were distributed. Additionally, the fantastic initiative helped strengthen bonds between Perth Community Fire Station, local business and the wider community,

whilst demonstrating the power of collective generosity and community spirit.

In addition to the gift donations, a JustGiving campaign raised an impressive £3,450, further enhancing the impact of the initiative. The funds were used to provide gifts and support local charities and care organisations.

The initiative was an enormous success and received positive feedback from community members who said:

"What an amazing effort! Well done to everyone involved for spreading joy this Christmas."

"The dedication of Perth Community Fire Station is inspiring. Thank you for making the season brighter for so many."

"Hello, this was a big help to our family; we really appreciate it. Thank you to you and all your team for our Christmas meal and gifts."



"Thanks to your amazing help, we have managed to have a great Xmas & Xmas dinner. My children were over the moon with their gift bags from Santa."

Perth Community Fire Station aims to make the Christmas Gift Appeal an annual event, by launching the campaign earlier to maximise community engagement and contributions and explore partnerships with larger businesses for increased sponsorship and support. In addition, to collaborate with additional charities and care organisations to reach even more vulnerable people in the community in need.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3

NSDA – Our Initiatives



Warm Space Caring for the Local Community

Our Perth Community Action Team, in partnership with Perth Cathedral, set up a Warm Space within Saint Ninians Cathedral, Perth. Our Community Action Team, Perth and Kinross Council and Electrical Safety First all contributed to funding in setting up the Warm Space and providing electric blankets. The Warm Space runs every Monday morning from November to March.

Several organisations attended Warm Space and provided information and support, including, Citizens Advice Bureau, Community Wardens and the energy

charity SCARF who provided free home energy advice to help tackle fuel poverty and reduce emissions.

The purpose of the partnership was to help combat loneliness, poverty (particularly energy related) by providing individuals with hot food and beverages at no cost to visitors, a place to socialise and offer a warm welcome to all areas of the local community. We provided fire safety advice on how to heat homes safely and gave out cellular and electric blankets to those in need. A mixture of ages attended and although some individuals belong to the congregation, many do not.

This successful partnership has resulted in numerous Home Fire Safety Visits being completed, and referrals made to partner organisations such as Community Alarms and Citizens Advice Bureau. Additionally, several cellular and electric blankets were given to vulnerable individuals.

Positive feedback received from individuals who attended Warm Space include:

“Everyone is kind and friendly here.”

“I was nervous at first, but I got a great welcome and I keep going back.”

“The Fire Service Community Action Team are incredibly supportive; they have provided snacks and cosy blankets as well as valuable information sessions.”

In a similar initiative, throughout the winter of 2024-25, our City of Glasgow area hosted Warm Space events within Easterhouse and Knightswood Community Fire Stations.

These events were scheduled during periods where those experiencing fuel or food poverty, loneliness or pressures of mental wellbeing could visit a station for a chat, free hot drinks and light snacks.



NSDA – Our Initiatives

The initiative was supported by Police Scotland, Glasgow Life, and Weekday WOW (a 50+ adult health and wellbeing group) with food and drink donations from local Greggs bakeries and Morrisons.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3

Orkney Drugs Dog

As part of our partnership working with the Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership, we welcomed The Orkney Drugs Dog charity into Kirkwall Community Fire Station by providing office space.

Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership is committed to reducing the harm related to alcohol and drugs in our community, working with the Scottish Government, local partners, and community members to reduce alcohol and drug related harm, providing accessible and effective services and responding to the views of those with lived and living experience of alcohol and drug use in our community. As one of the many partners of the Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership

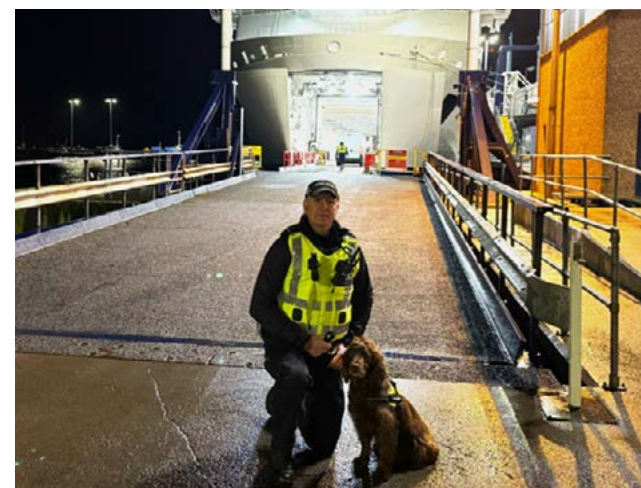
we carry out signposting and low-level interventions to improve outcomes from the use of drugs and alcohol on Orkney.

Alongside us, The Orkney Drugs Dog charity is another key member of Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership that provides education and intervention. To contribute to the reduction of the supply of controlled substances coming into Orkney by the provision of a trained drugs dog or dogs, helping to prevent access to harmful substances for the health benefit of the people of Orkney and neighbouring local authority areas.

Through this innovative and successful co-location, we have worked in partnership with the dog handler for The Orkney Drugs Dog charity who has been massively beneficial in delivering inputs alongside us at numerous community-based events and FireSkills programmes whilst helping to build working relationships and protect communities.

For more information visit: [**Orkney Drugs Dog**](#)

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 5



NSDA – Our Initiatives

The Youth Crime Initiative FireSkills Pilot

We partnered with Police Scotland and The Highland Council to deliver an exciting new initiative The Youth Crime Initiative FireSkills Pilot in October and November 2024. The program aimed to educate young people involved in offences such as wilful fire-raising and road traffic violations by providing hands-on education and fostering positive relationships with all three partners. Through a tailored FireSkills course, the initiative sought to raise awareness about the consequences of such behaviours while equipping participants with valuable skills and experiences.

A total of 11 young people were referred to us by Police Scotland and The Highland Council to participate in the course, with seven successfully completing the program. The course featured a diverse range of activities, including sessions on fire-related anti-social behaviour, practical demonstrations in rope rescue and working at height, hose running, and search and rescue exercises using breathing apparatus. Participants also engaged in hydrant and pump operations, improvised dam building, water safety presentations, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and defibrillator training, and Road Traffic Collision demonstrations. Additional highlights included a visit from Police Scotland firearms unit for discussions on knife crime and a presentation on the consequences of dangerous driving.



NSDA – Our Initiatives

The initiative concluded with a passing-out parade attended by delighted family members and representatives from all three partners. During the parade, the young people performed a combination drill they had practiced throughout the course, demonstrating their newfound skills with precision. Certificates of achievement were presented to the successful participants marking the successful completion of the program.

Detective Constable Andy Bryder commented:

“This course showcased the best of partnership working between Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland, and The Highland Council. It not only supported young people in conflict with the law but also provided opportunities for those who might not otherwise have access to programs that can guide them toward a positive career path.”

Transitions Coordinator Ian Mackinnon added:

“The Home to Highland Care Experienced Education Team, in partnership with Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service,

designed an adapted program tailored to the needs of disengaged young people. By meeting them at their level, the program offered life-changing experiences that built transferable skills for lifelong learning and work.”

Following the success of this pilot, plans are in place to expand the programme to four courses annually, fostering skill development and positive career pathways for young people. This partnership exemplifies effective collaboration to support and inspire disengaged youths.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6



Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation/Defibrillator Initiatives

Our Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland area introduced a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation initiative by collaborating with local sports clubs to provide valuable lifesaving skills such as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Defibrillator training to raise awareness and improve safety across the area.

The initiative was developed after one of our employees suffered a heart event whilst refereeing a Shinty match and was given lifesaving first aid by two of our off-duty employees who were participating in the match.



NSDA – Our Initiatives

It has been well received across the islands with local football, shinty and rugby teams participating and has led to an increased interest in joining us, with 15 attendees applying to join as On Call firefighters.

The initiative has resulted in over 120 members of the senior sports teams being trained locally in lifesaving skills and having positive engagement with us. Due to the success of this initiative, we are now intending to roll it out to youth teams across Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland.

In a similar partnership, our Angus area Community Action Team and operational crews delivered Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation training to all Angus secondary school pupils in Senior One (S1) and Senior Four (S4), young people within the criminal justice system, and harder to reach people, including the travelling community.

By the end of 2024, we had engaged with 2,000 individuals. Due to the positive response, we are hoping to make this an annual event so that every young person is given the opportunity to participate in these awareness sessions.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

Binky the Sensory Bus

Peterhead Community Fire Station, in partnership with Stagecoach, Autism and Neurodiversity North Scotland, and Sensation All welcomed Binky the Sensory Bus in August 2024 which has now become a weekly fixture at Peterhead Community Fire Station every Wednesday.

Binky is a double decker bus converted into soft play and sensory areas. This is the first and only double decker sensory bus in Scotland offering this unique and specialised sensory support. The bus offers transformative opportunities for children and families. The bus is transported to and from the station by Stagecoach and it is operated by the dedicated team from Autism and Neurodiversity North Scotland.

The bus provides free sensory support sessions to families with children aged up to 12 years of

age who have additional support needs or are neurodivergent. Onboard, children discover a safe, welcoming environment designed to enhance sensory tolerances through engaging, therapeutic play. Beyond the play, the program fosters emotional regulation, equips children with vital coping strategies, and creates joyful, empowering experiences that can have a lasting impact on their well-being and development.

This partnership offers vital support for children and families in the area, and it is hoped that it can be expanded upon in 2025.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7





4. West Service Delivery Area Initiatives

West Service Delivery Area (WSDA) Initiatives

ur West of Scotland Service Delivery Area includes six key areas:

- City of Glasgow;
- East, North and South Ayrshire;
- Dumfries and Galloway;
- East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde;
- Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire; and
- Lanarkshire.

This area brings together a wide range of communities from densely populated urban centres to sparsely populated coastal and island locations each with distinct needs and opportunities.

In 2024–25, we worked in close partnership with local partners to deliver a diverse programme of initiatives. These included tackling anti-social behaviour in Newton Stewart, and a series of road safety events such as Wigtownshire's multi-agency programme and the Older Drivers Wellbeing Event. Water

safety was a key focus, with multi-agency events in Sandhead and West Dunbartonshire, alongside ice safety workshops. We supported youth engagement through South Lanarkshire FireSkills, the Tri-Service Youth Engagement Strategy, and Firefighter Experience Days.

Community resilience was strengthened through humanitarian aid partnerships, support for Trussell Trust food banks, and outreach during Storm Éowyn. Co-location of emergency services in Dumfries and Galloway has been vital in strengthening joint training, collaboration and emergency response. These initiatives reflect our commitment to building safer, better-connected communities through partnership working, education, and inclusive engagement across the West of Scotland.



WSDA – Our Initiatives



Throughout the six months, participants were also able to acquire valuable knowledge and skills including Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, the Phonetic Alphabet, and Knots and Lines. This hands-on experience fostered a positive relationship between the youths and our crews, aiming to help mitigate anti-social behaviour in the community.

There has been a notable improvement in anti-social behaviour and a reduction in related incidents as a direct result of this positive initiative.

Tackling anti-social behaviour in Newton Stewart

Working collaboratively with the Newton Stewart Initiative and Dumfries and Galloway Youth Work, a new Anti-Social Behaviour initiative was launched at Newton Stewart Community Fire Station.

The primary objective of this initiative was to work with youths to help educate them about our role, highlighting the resources required and the risks involved in responding to deliberate fires and incidents in derelict buildings.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1](#)



Operation Safety

In September and October 2024, alongside our partners Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Power Energy Networks and Dumfries and Galloway Youth Work we participated in Operation Safety.

The initiative held in DG1 Leisure Centre, Dumfries, aimed to provide a single event where a wide range of important safety and first aid information specific to each contributing organisation could be shared. It provided children important training on different subjects including what to do in an emergency; keeping safe around water; firework safety; online safety; emergency first aid; electrical safety; vaping; and self-resilience. As well as helping us to share critical safety information, the initiative helped our employees to be visible and approachable promoting a positive image to the children which helps our employees engage with them out in the community at events and incidents.

For three weeks, teams from the various partners taught vital skills to approximately 1,100 children aged between 10 to 12 years old, from 64 schools in the East of Dumfries and Galloway.

WSDA – Our Initiatives

Operation Safety has run for 26 years, with over 27,000 children having benefitted from the initiative. Still going strong, the initiative has adapted to changing times and challenges, continuing to provide invaluable safety advice to the children.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1](#)

Fire Safety Support and Education Road Safety Programme

In partnership, we continued to engage with young people in Dumfries and Galloway who were referred to us by Youth Justice to participate in our Fire Safety Support and Education engagement sessions. These sessions are specifically designed for youths involved in deliberate fire setting and anti-social behaviour driving offences.

This year, our employees have engaged with 12 young people under the age of 18 years of age. The

sessions, conducted by our Fire Safety Support and Education Officers and Dumfries and Galloway Council Youth Work Officers, provided tailored support and education on a case-by-case basis. Our primary goal is to prevent reoffending by these young individuals.

The programme has been extremely successful, utilising a variety of engaging materials such as Virtual Reality headsets, which simulate anti-social behaviour scenarios within a vehicle and demonstrate the potential consequences of accidents. Additionally, we employed photographic safety advice and anti-social behaviour video materials from various partners to enhance the learning experience.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1](#)

Providing Safety Advice to the Most Vulnerable

East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Community Action Team in partnership with East

Renfrewshire Council collaborated on a three-year rolling programme engaging with people living in sheltered housing complexes within East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde.

This initiative targeted some of the most vulnerable people in the community giving them reassurance and fire safety advice to help them to stay safe within their own homes as there is no longer a full-time warden at any of these premises, leaving the occupants on their own most of the time.

East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Community Action Team will finish all sheltered housing within East Renfrewshire Council area during 2025 and will move on to do the same in the other two local authorities within our East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area over the coming two years.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1](#)

WSDA – Our Initiatives

St. Mirren's Safe Kids

Each year East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Community Action Team collaborate with partners from Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership to hold the 'Safe Kids' Initiative at St Mirren Independent Supporters Association Football Stadium. This education program targets every Primary Six pupil within the local authority area as they attend the event and take part in different workshops.

Other partners involved in delivering inputs to the thousands of young people over a two-week period include Police Scotland, British Transport Police, Scottish Power, Renfrewshire Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Resource, Renfrewshire Council's Wardens, Renfrewshire Council's Youth Team, and the Civil Contingencies Service.

The aim of the initiative is to educate young people on key themes within communities which include drugs and alcohol, staying safe online, behaviour on public transport and responding in an emergency. The added benefit of the partnership approach

builds positive relationships between services and young people within the community.

In addition, we delivered a condensed version of the Water Safety Scotland Workshop adapted to suit the formatting of the initiative. Young people are educated on the Water Safety Code to align with Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy and reduce the number of fatal water incidents within Scotland.

The children involved thoroughly enjoy it saying:

| "It was very fun."

| "Loved that all of the different stations had different ways to be safe and the services interacted with us very well!"

Additionally, teachers recognised the positive impact it has on the young people stating:

| "It is a firsthand experience for children' and noting that 'meeting everyone that works for the community helps kids stay safe."

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1



WSDA – Our Initiatives

Tackling the rise of Drug Driving in Dumfries

Alongside our partners Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service in Dumfries and Galloway, a social media campaign was developed to help tackle the rise of drug driving in the region.

There are several consequences associated with drug driving. Road users being involved in collisions has a huge impact on emergency service resources, as well as the after-effects it has on other service providers, including Health and Social Care. It can also have repercussions on the wider community with friends and family members of the people involved suffering the consequences.

The repercussions may not only affect the driver but also any passengers and other road users involved in a collision resulting in death, life changing injuries both physical and/or mental, loss of driving licence and potential imprisonment in addition to loss of independence and both current and future employment.

All partner agencies took the opportunity to attend our Dumfries Training Centre to launch the campaign to demonstrate the typical minimum resources required from the emergency services for a single vehicle/single occupant Road Traffic Collision. It was highlighted that these resources may increase significantly based on the number of vehicles, number of occupants, location and severity of injuries sustained.

Moving forward we will place far more emphasis on drug driving in all our road safety input for both adults and young drivers due to it being highlighted as an emerging risk.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

Engaging with Future Drivers

Dumfries and Galloway Community Action Team collaborated with Police Scotland and NexGen to hold a road safety information day engaging with 60 pupils at Douglas Ewart High School, Newton Stewart. This

event was organised in response to a rise in incidents and anti-social behaviour in the area, with the aim of educating new and upcoming drivers at the school.

Local crews conducted practical demonstrations and discussed our role in Road Traffic Collisions. Key topics covered included the importance of proper seat position; the use of seatbelts; and the dangers associated with airbags, particularly when passengers place their feet on the dashboard. A highlight of the event was the Virtual Reality headsets session, which effectively conveyed safety messages to the young attendees.

Police Scotland addressed issues related to anti-social behaviour, tyre safety, insurance, and vehicle modifications. Additionally, NexGen provided valuable insights into the experiences of young drivers and essential road safety precautions.

This important initiative aimed to enhance road safety and reduce incidents among new and upcoming drivers in the community. We received positive feedback that the input was informative and interesting with 100% of those surveyed saying they would like to see this input done again next

WSDA – Our Initiatives

year. Discussions are, therefore, taking place with various partners to further develop this immensely successful programme.

Similarly, our firefighters from White Watch, Perth Community Fire Station, our Community Action Team and Police Scotland coordinated an event and provided 60 students from Bertha Park High School, Perth with a road safety education event which provided the opportunity to wear Virtual Reality headsets and learn about dangerous driving behaviours. The hands-on learning approach aimed to foster a sense of responsibility and encouraged pupils to make safer choices on the road.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

Wigtownshire Multi-Agency Road Safety Events

In partnership with Police Scotland, Dumfries and Galloway Council Youth Work and the Scottish

Ambulance Service, we collaborated on multi-agency road safety events in response to the increased number of road traffic incidents involving young people across Wigtownshire. Alongside our partners we collaborated to provide essential safety messages and reassure young, mature, and new drivers about what to expect on the roads as winter approaches.

Advanced Paramedic Manager Fraser Erskine stated:

“This was a fantastic event for Scottish Ambulance Service staff to be involved with.”

He further expressed his willingness to assist with any further projects or events.

Dumfries and Galloway Council Youth Work Leader Laura Kilty said:

“I can see the benefit of these types of events for new drivers to attend to get all the various types of safety messages being provided by partners. Especially the new concept of our Virtual Reality headsets which is the type of thing the young people are happy to try.”

This initiative was part of a trial across Wigtownshire and may be rolled out across the area in the coming months.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

Enhancing Driving Skills in Argyll and Bute

Our employees from Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire in partnership with IAM RoadSmart (Institute of Advanced Motoring) and Police Scotland launched



WSDA – Our Initiatives

a new collaborative initiative of four new Road Safety Hubs to enhance road safety across Argyll and Bute. The Road Safety Hubs were located in venues across Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, Oban and Dunoon between February and May 2024, offering essential guidance to drivers of all experience levels.

Each Hub provided four 90-minute sessions covering all aspects of motoring. Drivers could choose to attend one or all four of the free events which covered Winter Driving, Speed Awareness, Distracted Driving and Fitness to Drive.

We received excellent feedback from the participants including:

“Content was wide, informative, and very relevant to Argyll Roads.”

“Left no stone unturned.”

“This session reminded me I should do car checks (fluid/tyres, etc) more often.”

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1



Older Drivers Wellbeing Event

Alongside our partners Police Scotland, National Health Service Scotland and IAM RoadSmart (Institute of Advanced Motoring), Age Scotland and the Multiple Sclerosis Snowdrop Centre, Lochgilphead we launched a new initiative aimed at equipping older drivers with the information, confidence and support they need to continue driving safely on Argyll and Bute roads.

Recent road safety reports have identified older drivers as the most represented age group in Road Traffic Collisions across Argyll and Bute. As driving is not only a means of transportation but also a source of

independence and freedom, it is essential to support older motorists in staying safe on the roads for as long as possible. Driving safely is not only about following the rules of the road but also about how comfortable and confident a driver feels behind the wheel.

As part of this initiative older drivers were invited to attend a free Wellbeing Event at the Multiple Sclerosis Centre, Lochgilphead in June 2024. The event was an excellent opportunity for older drivers to receive expert advice and engage in an open discussion on how to continue driving safely and confidently, and to collect their copy of the Older Drivers' Guide. Key topics of the event included drivers' legal obligations, vision, health, and fitness for driving, building confidence behind the wheel and informative videos.

One of our key partners Martin Gorringer, IAM RoadSmart representative from Ardrishaig, was on hand to offer tips on regaining confidence and control while driving, saying:

“There are simple steps older drivers can take to boost their confidence and driving ability. The key is staying informed and making adjustments where needed, and this event will help with that.”

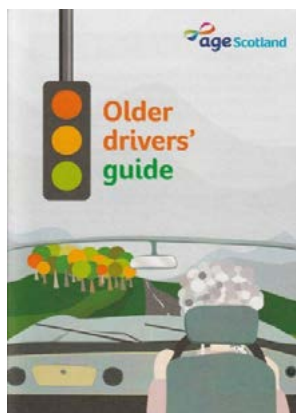
WSDA – Our Initiatives

Additionally, a National Health Service Physiotherapist was present to share gentle exercises that can improve flexibility and mobility, aiding in safer driving manoeuvres, such as checking blind spots or reversing.

Partnering with local health services, we will promote regular vision checks and health screenings for drivers over 65. Early detection of issues can allow seniors to adapt their driving habits or seek alternative transportation solutions when necessary.

This initiative was a tremendous success and is part of a broader effort by us to make the roads safer for everyone, while empowering older drivers and maintaining the independence of senior residents.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1



Winter Road Safety Event

Our Community Action Team assisted by our local operational crew for East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde in partnership with Police Scotland held a winter road safety event in Newton Mearns in December 2024.

This event provided the opportunity for our employees to engage with the community and raise awareness of the dangers of winter driving, the need to check their vehicles are ready for driving in winter and to check them periodically throughout the winter. Through this engagement our attending employees were able to pass on advice, guidance, and hand out relevant road safety literature. The



WSDA – Our Initiatives

crew in attendance provided the public with an opportunity to look round the appliance and its equipment, particularly the equipment related to Road Traffic Collision incidents.

These events took place within shopping centres across all three local authority areas within the East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area during December and were well attended.

This partnership working allows our employees the opportunity to engage with and inform local communities, whilst increasing partner agency working and further developing their skills.

**Contributing to SFRS Strategic
Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1**

West Dunbartonshire Open Water Swimming Event

In June 2024, our Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire Community Action Team participated with various

partners in the West Dunbartonshire Open Water Swimming Event at Lomond Shores. The event was led by West Dunbartonshire Leisure, Scottish Swimming and Scottish Water and was supported by us, along with Police Scotland, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, Loch Lomond Rescue Boat, Helensburgh First Aid, and local volunteers.

The purpose of the event was to provide young people across West Dunbartonshire with the opportunity to experience the real conditions/temperatures in the open water environment; while putting in to practice the theory and skills they had been learning through indoor swimming sessions in Vale of Leven Swimming Pool, Meadow Centre and Clydebank Leisure Centre.

The sessions allowed us, and our partners, to engage with and deliver water safety messaging to around 200 young people during drowning prevention week.

The event was well received, and plans are in place for us and other partner agencies to continue attendance at this annual event. Additionally, an invitation was extended to West Dunbartonshire Leisure's Aquatics Development Officer to join the West Dunbartonshire Partnership Approach to Water Safety Group. Allowing us to link local water safety strategies at an educational and skill development level, with support from all West Dunbartonshire Partnership Approach to Water Safety agencies.

**Contributing to SFRS Strategic
Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1**



WSDA – Our Initiatives

Ice Safety Workshops

Our Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire area worked in partnership with Water Safety Scotland and Argyll and Bute Education Department to deliver crucial Water and Ice Safety workshops over a six-week period to over 900 pupils in 13 schools across Argyll and Bute's rural and island communities.

Drowning in Scotland is a year-round issue and due to the increasingly cold winters that we are experiencing, frozen water is a real risk. Waterways that freeze over can be tempting to walk on but very often the ice is not as thick as it would appear which can result in a person falling through and into the freezing water below. A further risk arises from dogs or other animals that venture onto the ice and either become trapped or fall through, resulting in owners or members of the public venturing onto the ice and attempting a rescue which often results in a fall through the ice.

We used the workshops as an opportunity to promote the work of all partners who participate in the Argyll and Bute Partnership Approach to Water

Safety Group which originated within our Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire area. This has now been adopted service wide as best practice when promoting and managing water and ice safety.

The nature of the presentation allows the audience to immerse themselves within their own local area and encourages them to visualise dangers within known bodies of water that surround them, which is vital to its success and a key part of promoting water safety awareness in a way that meets local risks.

The strength of the interactive nature of the workshops is clearly conveying the messaging as the consensus of the pupils regarding the differing percentages of accidents per season was one of astonishment, however, following open discussion with pupils, they realise why.

Given the success of the workshops, we have decided to run this engagement on an annual basis. This workshop is offered to schools on a voluntary basis and has now been rolled out across Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire to include East and West Dunbartonshire schools to

ensure consistent messaging and awareness of safety for young people in and around their local waterways.

Water Safety Scotland have created an Ice Safety Workshop that is underpinned by the Water Safety Code and is intended to be used to compliment the core education materials that are available at [Water Safety Scotland](https://www.watersafety.scot.nhs.uk/).

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1



WSDA – Our Initiatives

Multi-Agency Water Safety Event Sandhead, Stranraer

Dumfries and Galloway Community Action Team, in collaboration with multiple partners, successfully conducted a Water Rescue event at Luce Bay, Sandhead, following a concerning rise in water-related incidents in the area. This proactive initiative promoted water safety and was supported by Police Scotland, HM Coastguard teams from Stranraer, Drummore, and Portpatrick, Scarlet Visuals, and Stranraer Water Sports Association.

Water Sports Manager Tom Wilson remarked:

“This was the first time I attended such an event, and I see great value in promoting water safety to all ages. I encourage everyone to get involved in water sports, but it is crucial to stay safe by attending these types of events.”

Police Scotland participated with their specialist quadbikes, aiding in the search for casualties on the shore during the water rescue simulation.



Additionally, one of our youth volunteers, played a key role in initiating the 999 call to start the exercise.

A highlight of the event was a superb video created by Scarlet Visuals, which was shared with the local community to emphasise the dangers of open water and kayaking around our coast.

The event has already shown positive results, with a reduction in emergency calls to the area. Engaging with both residents and visitors, particularly those at the popular caravan site, was a key objective to raise awareness about the risks and dangers of open water.

We plan to make this a yearly event during the peak summer season to reach holidaymakers and organise smaller events at the caravan site.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

A Shining Example of Joint Training

Exercise Diamond was hosted by Glasgow Prestwick Airport in October 2024. The exercise was classed as Scotland’s largest live play exercise post-pandemic which saw over 300 participants take part.

The exercise involved numerous partners including us, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, South Ayrshire Council, National Health Service Ayrshire and Arran, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, HM Coastguard, Border Force and University of The West of Scotland Ayr Campus.

The exercise is a mandatory part of Glasgow Prestwick Airport Aerodrome Regulatory Licensing requirements, to test preparedness to deal with any major incident to demonstrate that an appropriate level of preparedness is in place. The exercise actively promotes the development of inter-agency contingency plans and the coordinated response based on Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles.

WSDA – Our Initiatives

The purpose of this on-airport exercise was to facilitate partnership exposure to an aircraft incident scenario which involved two fatalities and multiple casualties. It was designed to ensure that agencies are aware of their individual roles and responsibilities and the roles of the other agencies involved. The exercise allowed key personnel from each agency to gain awareness of the airport's rescue and firefighting service, and the other systems and contingency plans that would be activated in the event of an incident. Additionally, the exercise aimed to test the initial response to a major incident, and the interoperability of the operational crews and management at the Incident Site, Forward Control Point, Tactical Command Centre, and the Care for People element within the Survivor Reception Centre in accordance with the Glasgow Prestwick Airport Multi-Agency Contingency Plan. All participants performed well during the exercise and the debrief indicated all crews were confident and prepared for an incident of that scale.

This multi-agency exercise tested the Glasgow Prestwick Airport Response Plan and satisfied the licensing requirements for the airport.

In addition, working in partnership allowed all partner agencies to review policies and procedures for each partner's role relating to an emergency response to Glasgow Prestwick Airport.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Joint Partnership working and training in Ayrshire

Our Ayrshire crews worked in partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service on a joint training exercise scenario which involved a two-vehicle Road Traffic Collision with persons trapped within the vehicles.

The exercise was held at Kilwinning Community Fire Station and involved crews from Kilwinning and Kilbirnie Community Fire Stations.

This live, real time Road Traffic Collision scenario was organised to incorporate partnership working with the Scottish Ambulance Service, our Wholetime and On Call duty systems and to further develop

personnel within each Service, including our colleagues at Johnstone Operations Control with a dedicated talk group to enhance and improve our Incident Command Procedures.

As well as trainee firefighters, six newly qualified paramedics experienced their first Road Traffic Collision scenario, and they were monitored and assessed as part of their development from Scottish Ambulance Instructional staff. This was a unique training opportunity as this was the first Road Traffic Collision live scenario conducted within Ayrshire involving our personnel and trainee paramedics.

Furthermore, members of our Kilwinning Youth Volunteer Scheme cadets observed emergency service crews working together to bring the Road Traffic Collision to a safe and successful conclusion. Throughout the exercise the cadets were informed of the events happening to have a greater awareness of what is involved, affording them an insight into what happens at a Road Traffic Collision with a view to potential career choices with the emergency services.

The exercise reached a successful outcome with all casualties safely removed and placed into the

WSDA – Our Initiatives

care of the Scottish Ambulance Service. A debrief was conducted highlighting good practices and communication skills between partner agencies. Various learning points were observed and discussed, which will enhance future training exercises.

This multi-agency training partnership work with the Scottish Ambulance Service is set to continue throughout Ayrshire, as further Road Traffic Collision training exercises will be rolled out to further enhance skills and develop working relationships to benefit our local communities.



Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Exercise MossBar

As a partner of the Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire Local Resilience Partnership we worked alongside a range of partners including Glasgow City Council, East Dunbartonshire Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, National Health Service Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership. We participated in Exercise MossBar, an event which was held to test and validate the Contingency Plan and Multi-Agency Incident Response Guides for the Scottish Prison Service (HMP Barlinnie and HMP Low Moss), the two prisons within Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire Local Resilience Partnership area.

The exercise explored the response to a key risk to the prison service across the United Kingdom of the use of drones to supply drugs into the prison facility and the

immediate risk to health in relation to the consumption of the drugs. Police Scotland led preparations in conjunction with representatives from both prison establishments along with various partners, including us of Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire Local Resilience Partnership who worked together to assist in the planning and delivery of the exercise.

We directed the exercise along with presentations from both prison establishments, Scottish Ambulance Service (Drug Trends) and Police Scotland (Drones). The event was attended by approximately 70 individuals from the various partner agencies, including representation from both prisons.

This extremely successful exercise was beneficial as it helped to build on already strong working relationships and provided insight into the response of such incident types from other partner agencies and their capabilities with a view to expanding into command post and live play exercises in future.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

WSDA – Our Initiatives

Auchinleck Academy Multi-Agency Exercise

We worked alongside a range of partners including Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Glasgow Scientific Services, and various members of the Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership and participated in a Multi-Agency Hazardous Material incident at Auchinleck Academy, East Ayrshire.

Exercise Storm Cloud was planned and executed by us, Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service. The aim of the exercise was to focus on the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles and test the Initial Operational Response of all partners to such incidents including co-locating, communicating, coordinating, sharing information, joint understanding of risk, shared situational awareness and to make recommendations for improvement.

Police Scotland were mobilised to reports of a disturbance in converted flats within the former Auchinleck Academy building. They were faced with a domestic incident with two individuals

presenting, coughing and wheezing and covered in an unknown white power. Police Scotland Officers were cross contaminated by the white powder and became unwell with the same symptoms as above. Police Scotland Officers requested assistance from partner agencies including ourselves and the Scottish Ambulance Service due to the nature of the incident.

We mobilised three appliances from Cumnock, Kilmarnock and Ayr Community Fire Stations and the Scottish Ambulance Service mobilised appropriate crews and a Special Operations Response Team Manager as a Tactical Adviser.

The Scottish Ambulance Service were first in attendance to support and were met with a challenging incident that involved Hazardous Material and persons displaying respiratory issues, eye and nasal irritation and potentially an asthma attack. This provided the Scottish Ambulance Service an opportunity to test their response protocols.

Our first attending resource assumed the role of Incident Commander, gathered information and requested further resources from our Detection, Identification and Monitoring vehicle and a National

Inter-agency Liaison Officer to support the incident and start the process of white powder identification.

A multi-agency meeting was held at the earliest opportunity which allowed for a joint understanding of risk and clear lines of communication. At this stage, Police Scotland declared a Major Incident.

As the incident progressed, further information was received from our Breathing Apparatus teams within the premise that there was a total of five persons within, and that they had discovered boxes containing electrical wiring along with screws and ball bearings. This information was clearly communicated at the multi-agency meeting and allowed Police Scotland and National Inter-agency Liaison Officers to come together and share any intelligence on the property. This allowed for an early key decision to be made by Police Scotland that they did not believe the incident to be of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear nature.

The process of identifying the white powder was supported by Glasgow Scientific Services and our Detection, Identification and Monitoring Officer, and this process allowed the white powder involved to

WSDA – Our Initiatives

be identified as protein-based and was most likely to be flour. This information allowed the incident to be managed proportionally and effectively and brought to a safe conclusion. Working with our partner agencies in this depth was key to a successful outcome.

This was an invaluable multi-agency exercise for all partners who participated and allowed us to further enhance our working relationships with our partner agencies whilst prioritising firefighter, partner and public safety. We will continue to build upon these beneficial relationships.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Dizzy Heights Training in the Community

We worked in partnership with Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service and North Lanarkshire Council to develop a realistic scenario to evaluate high-rise incident response procedures of all

organisations, as well as consolidating the skills and knowledge of staff responding to the incident.

The scenario involved a report of a fire on the third floor of Allershaw Tower block in Wishaw. There were persons reported missing, presumed to be in the tower block and multiple on-going fire survival guidance calls to the residents above the fire. Our crews from Motherwell, Bellshill, Coatbridge, Clydesmill, Springburn, Pollock and Bo'ness Community Fire Stations participated along with our external partners from Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, North Lanarkshire Council and The University of the West of Scotland.

The exercise included evacuations using fire escape hoods and utilised eight fire appliances and two Command Support Units. Twelve casualties were rescued from various floors and passed to the Scottish Ambulance Service Paramedic teams. The exercise was made more complex as the lifts were de-commissioned in preparation for the building's demolition.

This beneficial exercise was a terrific opportunity to provide a realistic learning environment to allow us and our partners to demonstrate an effective

multi-agency approach to bring an incident to a safe conclusion. It enhanced the knowledge and understanding of our and multi-agency partners in responding to such incidents, whilst ensuring interoperability between emergency services at a large-scale incident. Additionally, it provided an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of communications and the use of our procedures on Incident Command, Breathing Apparatus and Evacuation procedures.



WSDA – Our Initiatives

Teresa Murphy, MRCVS, Resilience Planning Manager, North Lanarkshire Council said:

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for organising the training and for the invitation to participate. I have spoken to other colleagues who agree that it was a very useful exercise and the objectives that we can relate to were met particularly regarding enhancing knowledge of a multi-agency response.”

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2](#)

Supporting Trussell Trust Food Banks

We worked in partnership with Trussell Trust who support a network of food banks and provide emergency food to people locked in poverty. Our East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Community Action Team, supported by the operational crew

from the local Community Fire Station, attended the Trussell Trust food bank, Barrhead and provided fire safety advice and offered a Home Fire Safety Visit to all attendees to ensure they had a fire safety plan in place and working smoke detectors. In addition, it gave us an opportunity to sign post individuals to additional support available through our partners. Similarly, it was agreed to put home safety literature into each food parcel provided in future.

Collaborative working with our partners is vital, and this innovative and inspiring initiative is a positive example of how we strive to help improve people’s lives.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3](#)

Supporting Island communities during Storm Éowyn

Our East, North and South Ayrshire area worked in partnership with the National Health Service, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Caledonian MacBrayne, North Ayrshire Council, Cumbrae

Resilience Team, SSE and Cumbrae Coastguard as part of the Isle of Cumbrae Contingency plan.

The Isle of Cumbrae requires a separate annex to the North Ayrshire generic plan as there are several issues for the island, particularly out of hours, when the ferry does not operate and the limited availability of Category 1 and 2 responders.

Following Storm Éowyn, an extremely powerful and record-breaking extratropical cyclone which made landfall in Scotland in January 2025, the Isle of Cumbrae was left with no power or telephone lines. These were not fully restored until three days later which provided many challenges for the island community. Additionally, there is no mains gas supply which meant few had heating, lighting or cooking facilities.

We provided facilities at Millport Community Fire Station, utilising the backup generator, for individuals to charge lights, mobile telephones and anything else which needed charged, access to hot water, hot beverages and warm environment. The resilience team utilised this to charge lanterns, fill flasks and microwave food for the elderly. Additionally, this

WSDA – Our Initiatives

provided an opportunity for individuals living alone to get together and talk to each other.

Similarly, we stepped in to assist with emergency lighting provision to enable sailings to continue by attending Cumbrae slip every morning and night, during the hours of darkness, to provide light to allow the ferry to dock and passengers and vehicles to embark and disembark safely.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 4

Co-location for improved emergency response in Dumfries and Galloway

In Dumfries and Galloway, we welcomed Moffat Mountain Rescue Team into Lockerbie On Call Fire Station. Moffat Mountain Rescue Team entered into an agreement with us to utilise facilities within Lockerbie On Call Fire Station, including storage of

their Incident Command vehicle, ensuring a faster and more efficient emergency response.

The new Moffat Mountain Rescue Team Incident Command vehicle requires drivers to be certified C1 category licence drivers. The majority of Moffat Mountain Rescue Team Category 1 qualified drivers live and work near Lockerbie, therefore, this crucial partnership will allow for quick mobilisation during emergencies. This will allow the Moffat Mountain Rescue Team, which provides vital search and rescue services across Dumfries and Galloway and South Lanarkshire areas of Scotland, to attend incidents in these areas being co-ordinated by Police Scotland.

The co-location of the Moffat Mountain Rescue Team Incident Command vehicle commenced in March 2025 when Moffat Mountain Rescue Team crews partook in a station induction and both Moffat Mountain Rescue Team and our crews had an opportunity to meet and introduce themselves and familiarise themselves with each other's emergency response vehicles.

The placement of the Moffat Mountain Rescue Incident Command vehicle at Lockerbie On Call Fire



Station will bring both direct and indirect benefits to us and local communities. This partnership will provide our employees with greater insight into Moffat Mountain Rescue Team's extensive operational capabilities, strengthening working relationships through shared understanding and joint training. Moffat Mountain Rescue Team's valued resources are also part of the organisation's Community Asset Register.

Moffat Mountain Rescue Team Leader James Coles expressed his thanks:

"Moffat Mountain Rescue Team would like to thank Scottish Fire and Rescue for the offer to house one of the team's vehicles inside Lockerbie Fire Station. This gives the

WSDA – Our Initiatives

team additional flexibility in the storage and deployment of the team's vehicles.

"Moffat Mountain Rescue team has three vehicles with now the options to have them located in Moffat, Dumfries (courtesy of Police Scotland) and in the team's base in Moffat."

This innovative collaboration enhances training opportunities and deepens awareness of each organisation's roles, ultimately contributing to a safer community and a faster, more effective response to incidents through stronger partnership working.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 5

Hundreds of Young People benefit from new FireSkills Accreditation

Our East, North and South Ayrshire employees have built on an already strong partnership with Ayrshire

College by working in collaboration to develop the new FireSkills Employability Award. In addition, Ayrshire College has been appointed as the new accrediting body for our FireSkills course.

Our FireSkills course is aimed at young people between the ages of 12-18 years old and seeks to engage young people in a series of challenging activities. We developed a syllabus which would be relevant and challenging to the candidates, including a range of sessions based on firefighter drills which can help to develop key skills such as problem solving, first aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, team working, leadership and communication.

The FireSkills Employability Award builds on the sessions from the FireSkills programme. It aims to give young people formal recognition of their achievement.

Through our partnership with Ayrshire College, participants will now receive a FireSkills Employability Award in recognition of their efforts, recognised by the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework providing four credits at Level 4.

The course enables learners to build a portfolio of evidence based on activities within informal

education settings and identify transferable skills and recognise prior learning for further education and employment opportunities. The FireSkills Employability Award has been designed to suit a wide range of learners and there are no pre-requisites for entry on to the programme. Because of the delivery level it is suggested this programme would be best suited for those 14 years and over.

The partnership was launched at a graduation ceremony at Kilmarnock Community Fire Station in September 2024, where 10 young people who completed the course were awarded certificates in front of proud family members.



WSDA – Our Initiatives



Angela Cox, Principal and Chief Executive Officer at Ayrshire College said:

“We are proud to partner with the Service to provide accreditation for the FireSkills Employability Awards. This programme not only equips young people across Scotland with vital

life-saving skills but also helps them develop key abilities and skills that will support their future education and employment opportunities.”

By engaging young people, many of whom have struggled with more formal education, and/or experienced challenging life journeys, in this way and by working in partnership, both us and Ayrshire College can both demonstrate our commitment to contributing to National priorities such as making our communities safer, youth justice and education and lifelong learning, among others.

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework accreditation was made available to all our FireSkills courses throughout Scotland, encouraging young people to gain an insight into a working fire station and developing key skills for life at the same time and it is expected around 400 young people will benefit.

For more information visit: [SFRS – FireSkills](#)

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6

South Lanarkshire FireSkills

As part of our partnership approach to youth engagement, we worked together with South Lanarkshire Council who provided a funding package for young people from South Lanarkshire to partake in our FireSkills courses. Utilising the funding from South Lanarkshire Council we established a South Lanarkshire FireSkills base at Hamilton Community Fire Station which enabled us to deliver five courses in 2024. Hamilton FireSkills has its own building with a Search and Rescue venue, the required Personal Protective Equipment for the young people, lecture room for technical input and fire aid tuition, audio visual facilities, catering provision, locker rooms and a secure part of the station drill yard where a car had been prepared for the practical Road Traffic Collision input.

Desired short-term outcomes for young people attending our FireSkills course include improved self-esteem and confidence, developed skills in becoming an effective team member and a leader, improved self-discipline, increased communication skills, broadened perspective through new

WSDA – Our Initiatives



challenges and experiences. An increased ability to build, develop and manage social relationships, improved positive group atmosphere and relationship, increased knowledge and awareness of consequences and risk, improved awareness of home safety and safety within the community,

increased life skills, developed an understanding of the contribution/impact of the fire and rescue service. These skills and behaviours can benefit both the participants themselves and the wider community in general. On a medium to long-term basis desired outcomes include improved behaviour and school attendance, more responsible and confident young people, active citizens, reduced numbers of secondary fires and its associated reduction in service demand making appliances more available for incidents in general.

At the end of each course the young people completed an evaluation feedback form which allowed us to collate their opinions as regards what went well and any areas that we may be able to improve upon. The course culminated in a demonstration to parents and guardians of the young people which consisted of a simulated dwelling fire where firefighting delivery hose, an appliance pump, mock Breathing Apparatus sets, and casualty rescue were performed. The team then quickly transitioned to a Road Traffic Collision demonstration where they simulated making a scene safe and removed a casualty via a removing the roof technique. A parent said:



"I am so proud of my son for following this programme through, I really think this is going to change his life and outlook on opportunities available to him in the future."

WSDA – Our Initiatives

In addition, we received extremely positive feedback from Davie Stirling, Pathfinder at St Andrews and St Brides School, East Kilbride:

“Can I send out my sincere thanks to you for providing the opportunity to the group.

“The group absolutely LOVED the FireReach course, I think they enjoyed a true-life experience of what being a firefighter is all about. Learning and experiencing various different scenarios and situations that can occur at any time.

“They learned so many life skills during the course: Raising their awareness to fire and emergency situations, listening, teamwork, communication, first aid (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), crawling through tight spaces, rescuing casualties. To name but a few.

“The group was a really challenging group and I think they excel not being in a class environment and they get the freedom to express themselves more freely. The course definitely made an impact on at least two of the young people as they

returned to school to seek out the career advisor to see how they pursue a career in the Fire Service.

“I have nothing but positive feedback for you as I seen the delight and proudness on all the parents/guardians and family members faces when they were watching the young people in action with their displays but more importantly the young people’s faces themselves knew that they had achieved something really special.”

The impact of these courses on our young people has been profound, as they have not only gained essential fire safety knowledge but have also developed important life skills, self-confidence and a stronger sense of community and contributing to a reduction in deliberate fires within South Lanarkshire.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6](#)

Tri-service Youth Engagement Strategy

Our City of Glasgow area created an innovative tri-service programme ‘Police, Ambulance and Fire Service’ to promote responsible citizenship and wellbeing, reduce anti-social behaviour, build community cohesion, whilst strengthening relationships with partner agencies.

Child poverty remains a significant issue in Glasgow and is recognised to be a key driver of inequality. The Police, Ambulance and Fire Service programme provides opportunities for young people to develop valuable skills, such as leadership, communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. These skills enhance their employability and future economic prospects, helping to break the cycle of poverty.

Young people are identified through existing relationships with partner agencies, targeting those from deprived areas, as per The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, and those already known to agencies.

WSDA – Our Initiatives



During the ten-week programme, our City of Glasgow station personnel and Community Action Team worked with partners to help the young people gain valuable life skills and sample the day-to-day life of an emergency responder. They learned basic first aid, fire safety, water safety, road safety and the impact of crime within their communities. Additionally, personal fitness and mental health awareness training was incorporated, with respect, diversity and inclusion embedded throughout.

The programme concluded with the young people showcasing the skills they have learned to parents and guardians through a live simulated scenario, where they took the role of emergency service personnel responding to an incident.

After a tremendously successful pilot held at Calton Community Fire Station in 2024, this is now being rolled out across Greater Glasgow, with the second currently running at Easterhouse Community Fire Station and a further two set to be held in the South and North-West areas of the city later in the year, with partners keen to expand further across Scotland.

The programme has strengthened the relationships between the emergency services and feedback from the young people has been positive, with some indicating they intend to join one of the emergency services when age permits.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6](#)

Ayrshire Aspire Award

As part of our partnership approach to youth engagement, we worked together with Police Scotland to form the Ayrshire Aspire Award (Triple A) for Care Experienced young people. The purpose of the Ayrshire Aspire Award was to work together

in Ayrshire to improve the outcomes for children and young people. Conducted over three days, this purely vocational session specifically targeted Care Experienced young people aged 12 – 15 years old. The Ayrshire Aspire Award focused on team and individual goals and underpinned the Getting It Right for Every Child, principles and values.

The event was hosted at the end of October 2024 at Kilmarnock Community Fire Station, the sessions used the FireSkills modular approach to hose drills and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and was split with our partner Police Scotland who conducted a variety of sessions including the systematic assessment of a crime scene, a visit to the Mounted Branch Stables and tour of the local Police station.

The nine participants were given information on both our and Police Scotland's Youth Volunteer Schemes, as well as FireSkills as a progressive pathway to further enhance their knowledge of both emergency services and boost their own confidence to help them realise what they could offer any employer from a life experience perspective.

WSDA – Our Initiatives

East Ayrshire Council catering team also supported the event by conducting a cooking demonstration whilst making the participants lunches.

The participants were presented with a Portfolio of Achievement, a British Heart Foundation Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation certificate and a Certificate of Participation from both us and Police Scotland.

A key theme of the session was that it encouraged the self-esteem of the participants, and the engagement revealed the people behind the uniforms. In addition, this event promoted professional working relationships between both services and provided the opportunity for joint training events in the future.

Feedback from care givers has been extremely positive with further requests to run a similar event in the future and there is the local intention to conduct further sessions.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6



Firefighter Experience Day

Working with New Reflexions Scotland, we created a Firefighter Experience Day to support young people in New Reflexions Scotland care with various behavioural difficulties who may be disengaged from education. Other partners involved include Oban High School, Developing Young Workforce, Argyll and Bute Youth Social Services and Shellach View Children's Home.

Our aim was to offer a positive insight into the life of a firefighter, including duties, discipline, careers and the understanding of giving back to the community by keeping it safe. The Community Action Team



used the opportunity to show young people the positive work emergency services carry out.

The Firefighter Experience Day provided young people the opportunity to learn new skills and gain experience such as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation awareness, while working closely with the operational crews and the Community Action Team. At the end of the engagement, the young people were presented with a photograph and a certificate to capture the highlights of the day.

WSDA – Our Initiatives

The Community Action Team and our operational crews split this engagement into four sessions: Road Traffic Collision Module, Trauma Recognition Module, Water/Ice Module and Watch Drill Ground Presentation. Each session involved the pupils coming to the Community Fire Station to complete the inputs over a four-week period.

The Community Action Team have now further developed the initiative to collaborate closely with Developing Young Workforce at Oban High School to offer the Firefighter Experience Day to larger groups of young people as part of their Dynamic Youth Award.

This partnership has received incredibly positive feedback from our partners regarding the positive outcomes and influence the initiative has had for the young people who participated and has resulted in several groups attending the Community Fire Station to complete their Dynamic Youth Award.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6

Welfare Support and Humanitarian Aid Partnerships

As part of our longstanding partnership with The Salvation Army, they operate their Emergency Response Vehicle out of Renfrew Community Fire Station in our East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area.

Operating out of our working Community Fire Station helps to maintain strong working relationships between the Salvation Army and our personnel. In addition, Renfrew Community Fire Station provides incident welfare facilities. This partnership allows both partners to work closely together and identify how we can improve facilities and enhance the welfare support for us, other emergency responders and local communities.

Additionally, our partnership with The British Red Cross provides a Fire and Emergency Support Service vehicle which operates from Renfrew Community Fire

Station, affording immediate support to members of the public who have suffered the detrimental effects of an emergency incident. This partnership provides The British Red Cross with space to meet, train and develop their own responses through working closely with our local crews.

The benefits of operating from Renfrew align to the equipment attributed to Renfrew Community Fire Station with the various PODs i.e. Welfare, Environmental etc. and allow the British Red Cross to enhance their response in providing humanitarian aid by supporting our Incident Commanders when requested.

For more information visit:

[The Salvation Army – Supporting Emergency Services](#)

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6](#)

WSDA – Our Initiatives

Building Safer Communities through Education and Engagement

Throughout the year, our Lanarkshire area collaborated with North Lanarkshire Restorative Justice and South Lanarkshire Justice Services to support the delivery of Community Payback Schemes.

Our primary contributions to the Community Payback Schemes focussed on educating participants about Home Fire Safety and Road Safety. In North Lanarkshire, our team delivered presentations within local communities, travelling to their meeting locations. In South Lanarkshire, sessions were held at our National Training Centre, Cambuslang, where participants received a guided tour of the facility, including the Community Safety 'Safe House' and road safety education was further enhanced through the use of Virtual Reality headsets. These sessions are known as Safety at Home gained from Information and Learning through Demonstration workshops.

Through the workshops, we actively contribute to safer communities by educating participants on vital fire and road safety practices. These sessions not only provide individuals with essential knowledge but promote responsible behaviours that lead to safer homes and roads. By taking a proactive and engaging approach, the workshops help reduce risk within communities and support rehabilitation through meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.

Additionally, our Lanarkshire and Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire areas actively engaged in a partnership with the Parole Board for Scotland's Safe Space Initiative. Clydesmill Community Fire Station, Clydebank Headquarters, and Oban Community Fire Station were used as 'Safe Spaces' where the Parole Board for Scotland's Victims Teams could conduct interviews and observation meetings. These venues offered victims of crime from across Scotland a secure and respectful environment to share their experiences and have their voices heard in the parole process. The shared use of facilities and coordinated service delivery ensures a cost-effective and efficient model. This initiative not only empowers victims but

contributes to safer communities by ensuring parole decisions are informed by those directly affected.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

Scottish Ambulance Service Student Placements

In a collaborative partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service, over a three-month period, six Scottish Ambulance Service students joined us for a two-week placement. The students participated in several activities to help benefit them in their future careers and aid us in delivering the services that we provide. In addition, the Scottish Ambulance Service students completed several placements with partner agencies to gain a broader understanding of how the agencies work.

The students shadowed our Community Safety Advocates when they conducted High Risk Home Fire Safety Visits. During these visits, the Community

WSDA – Our Initiatives



Safety Advocates pointed out to the resident and the student all the fire risks within the property and advised the occupant how best to reduce or eliminate the risks. The students were advised of all the options that the Community Safety Advocates can provide. The benefits of this to the students is that if they ever find themselves in a property when dealing with a patient or casualty is that they can 'Risk Recognise' in terms of Fire Safety and can take immediate action to reduce the risks within the property. Additionally, they are then able to potentially refer, with the resident's consent, into us for a Home Fire Safety Visit whereby the occupant

may either receive an emailed guide or an actual visit. The Risk Recognition is enhanced via a visit to the Community Safety 'Safe House' based at our National Headquarters. In Lanarkshire we have a two-way Data Sharing Framework with the Scottish Ambulance Service.

During this placement, the Scottish Ambulance Service students provided demonstrations of their skills to each of the Watches at Clydesmill Community Fire Station and educated our personnel as to Scottish Ambulance Service incident procedures allowing our crews to benefit from a greater knowledge of Scottish Ambulance Service processes. Additionally, the Scottish Ambulance Service students assisted at our FireSkills courses, Coatbridge Community Fire Station by assisting in delivering First Aid input to the young people and learn our processes and procedures when dealing with Road Traffic Collision incidents and casualty extractions. The interaction and communication styles required to work with the young people will also help the students when out working within the community when they are crewing the Ambulances.



One of the Scottish Ambulance Service placement students, Neve Littlejohn said:

"I have really enjoyed my placement at Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and have learnt a lot about how to reduce fire risks within people's homes. This will help me in my Ambulance Service career and allow me to provide a greater service to members of our communities."

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7

WSDA – Our Initiatives



Good Connections

In partnership with The Usual Place, Dumfries we have collaborated to assist to bring their 'Good Connections' project for autistic adults to an even wider audience across Dumfries and Galloway.

Originally launched in November 2023, 'Good Connections' links autistic people into services, activities, and opportunities for employment. Funded by Scottish Government and administered by Inspiring Scotland, 'Good Connections' welcomes anyone who has a diagnosis of autism, identifies as autistic, or provides informal care to an autistic person.



By opening our Community Fire Stations as venues visitors can have a warm introduction to some of the small group of organisations who have been invited to come along to each event to chat, connect, listen and find out about the relevant services and

support available. Individuals can talk to staff from The Usual Place, some of whom have lived experience of autism.

This partnership has been so successful that additional dates have been set to take the event on tour throughout the region utilising our Community Fire Stations to reach more of the community.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7



Lithium-Ion Powered Bikes Safety Campaign

In September 2024 our City of Glasgow prevention colleagues partnered with Glasgow City Council's Road Safety Department, Police Scotland and Deliveroo to launch their joint 'Road Safety and Fire Safety (Li-ion Batteries) E-Bike and E-Scooter' initiative at George Square, Glasgow.

The event was held due to the increased use of lithium-ion batteries and the increased risk of fire they pose together with the emerging road safety risk of e-bikes.

WSDA – Our Initiatives



Two hundred and eighty-six Deliveroo riders and members of the public were meaningfully engaged with on the day.

As a result of the immense success of the event and the value of the guidance provided, flyers are now being distributed throughout the whole of Glasgow City centre and wider areas to promote safe use and storage of bikes and scooters powered by lithium-ion batteries.



[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)



5. National Initiatives

Our National Initiatives

We continued to strengthen partnerships that drove innovation, enhanced public safety, and delivered meaningful outcomes across Scotland.

Our national collaborations ranged from tackling the global climate crisis through innovative partnership working, to advancing community risk modelling and improving high-rise operational efficiency via the Grenfell Working Group. Initiatives like the Innovative Electric Vehicle Training partnership and the National Cyber Exploitation Event highlighted our focus on emerging technologies and digital resilience. Meanwhile, programmes such as Youth Volunteering, Career Ready, and Celebrating Women in the Fire Service reflected our commitment to inclusion and community empowerment. These partnerships were vital in helping organisations deliver services more effectively and efficiently, while offering better value for money to the public.



Our National Initiatives

Grenfell Working Group

Following the tragic Grenfell Tower fire in 2017, we have played a key role in Scotland's post-Grenfell response by working with partners to actively contribute to the Building and Fire Safety Ministerial Working Group and the High-Rise Continual Improvement Group, supporting national efforts to improve building safety and ensure the lessons from the Grenfell Tower tragedy are fully embedded across Scotland.

As a key stakeholder, during 2024-25, we have provided professional insight into regulatory alignment, competency frameworks, fire engineering practice, and fire safety enforcement. Our involvement has helped shape strategic dialogue on implementing Grenfell Inquiry recommendations in a Scottish context, supporting the development of consistent standards and improved governance.

Specific involvement has included our contribution to a national review of how 'high risk buildings' are

defined; work to increase professional standards in fire safety enforcement by delivering a Recognition of Prior Learning course aimed at aligning Protection Officers with nationally recognised National Fire Chiefs Council's standards; partnership working with the National Fire Chiefs Council to explore and shape fire engineering education that remains relevant and accessible; active involvement with the Scottish Government Cladding Remediation Directorate on the remediation programme and the Single Building Assessment process; and development of practical guidance and delivery of targeted fire safety awareness campaigns for residents of high-rise buildings.

These collaborative activities reflect our continued commitment to partnership working and to continually strengthening public safety through evidence-based reform.

**Contributing to SFRS Strategic
Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1**



Our National Initiatives

Enhancing our Operational Efficiency at High-Rise Buildings

We established a valuable partnership with Gerda Security, enhancing our operational efficiency and safety measures at high-rise properties across the country. Through this collaboration, Gerda Security has provided us with specialised security keys, granting access to secure information boxes installed at these properties. These boxes contain critical information that is essential during operational incidents, such as building layouts, fire safety systems, and emergency contact details.

This initiative has significantly improved our ability to respond swiftly and effectively to emergencies, ensuring the safety of both residents and our firefighting employees.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 1

Advancing Community Risk Modelling in Scotland

The Community Risk Index Model helps assess risks faced by communities by combining data like incident records, demographics, and environmental factors. It supports emergency planning by enabling services such as fire and resilience partnerships to prioritise resources, inform the public, and highlight potential risks.

The Community Risk Index Model team have now established regular discussions with senior partners at Public Health Scotland around data sharing. The purpose of regular liaison with Public Health Scotland is to explore ways health data can contribute to our risk modelling, reinforcing the accuracy and utility of the Community Risk Index Model as a robust business insight tool for our decision making.

Other benefits will include a better understanding of how clusters of limiting long-term health conditions, mobility impairment and disabilities within more vulnerable households e.g. single older

occupants make fire and rescue events more likely at neighbourhood geographies. Other behavioural factors such as use of outdated appliances, smoking, alcohol consumption and medication effects, especially among older adults will be explored as part of the partnership working.

The Scottish Government Safer Communities Directorate is supportive of a Scotland wide approach in resourcing our national readiness and ability to manage wildfires against the rising impact of climate change. We have commenced discussions with Professor Lyndsay Beevers and Professor Rory Hadden at Edinburgh University School of Engineering around the prospect of developing a suitable wildfire prediction model for integration to the Community Risk Index Model. As wildfire analysis covers multiple variables the benefits of an academic partnership are clear, including access to expert sources and analysis including climate change research, terrain and scenario modelling, meteorological data, remote sensing data and satellite imagery. A refined spatial understanding of the most vulnerable areas to wildfire within the Community Risk Index Model risk portfolio will

Our National Initiatives

improve our targeted public engagement strategies while enhancing our preparedness overall.

The Department are in the process of identifying a post-graduate student from the next academic year to support the key research work around the new variable. Other potential partnerships on wildfire modelling have been explored with demonstrations from both University of Manchester and University of Bristol.

Scotland is a dynamic landscape, and the Community Risk Index Model datasets are refreshed annually to reflect changes in geodemographics, fire incident locations, flooding and our built environment to grade risk levels across local neighbourhoods. This ensures that decisions on where we focus our resources for the future are built on the most up to date geospatial data, local indicators, statistics and machine learning analysis.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Organised Crime Counter Terrorism Department

Our National Interagency Liaison Officer Specialist Responder cadre supported various tri-service and extended partner organisations throughout the year. Support included providing advice, attendance at and facilitation of tabletop and 'live play' exercises, delivery of training, supporting testing and exercising, development of policies, procedures and best practice joint working.

We worked with numerous partners including the Scottish Ambulance Service, Police Scotland, British Transport Police, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Royal Air Force, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Military, Scottish and United Kingdom Governments, Local Resilience Partnerships as well as private and third sector partner organisations.

The purpose of these initiatives was to further enhance already strong and established relationships to achieve our common goals through collaborative working and joint action. We accomplished this by combining the pre-existing

individual organisational strengths, resources, with the collective expertise of each partner to achieve specific and concise collective goals.

Examples of these initiatives included several tabletop opportunities focusing on the further development of existing and established procedures, as well as testing and rehearsing fully established national resilience response plans. These opportunities involved working with various United Kingdom fire and rescue services, Police, Military, specialist ambulance resources and our internal counterparts to develop and fully embed the principles as detailed within the Joint Operating Principles to most effectively respond to, and ultimately recover from, incidents involving terrorism and/or mass casualties.

Additionally, other partnership engagement involved us supporting various partners such as Security Services, Homeland Security Group and overseas partners with the review and development of our collective emergency response plans.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 2

Our National Initiatives

Innovative Technologies Collaboration

The Service has collaborated with CivTech focusing on the challenge of enhancing our situational awareness at operational incidents. CivTech is a Scottish Government programme that brings the public, private and third sectors together to build things that make people's lives better.

Enhancing our situational awareness using new innovative technologies allows for better access to information across a variety of systems and an ability to share this widely across the incident ground and potentially wider enhancing our firefighter safety.

To answer our challenge CivTech engaged with organisations to look at innovative solutions.

Several organisations came forward with a range of differing approaches. They went through a series of interviews and presented us with the outcome of an innovative process which allows us to continue to improve our ability to save and preserve life and protect the public through prevention and response.

This collaborative process has reached across our Service, Scottish Government, and a variety of third sector partners.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3](#)

Delivering Essential Safety Messages

We established a new partnership with the National Fire Chiefs Council StayWise Educational Platform, with work to quality assure that all resources are aligned to the Curriculum for Excellence and our messaging.

The site is an opportunity for all our Blue Light partners to house their resources on a single platform, ensuring ease of accessibility for users and consistency of messaging, all with the aim of saving lives through education and enhancing the health and safety of everyone within our communities.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 3](#)

Tackling the Worldwide Climate Crisis through Innovative Partnership Working

As a member of the Scottish Wildfire Forum we participated, along with numerous partners, in the United Kingdom Wildfire Conference which was held in Aberdeen. This year, the theme was 'Resilience in a Changing World', with a focus on



Our National Initiatives

the challenges and opportunities we face in light of the climate emergency, changing landscapes and emerging science. The Conference attracted over 300 delegates from across the United Kingdom and abroad, with international guest speakers from Portugal, Spain, Norway, Switzerland and South Africa, all sharing knowledge on how to manage and mitigate wildfire risks. This information will be crucial to us as we build resilience against increasing wildfire threats in the United Kingdom.

Keynote speaker, Val Charlton of Landworks South Africa said:

“Events like the United Kingdom Wildfire Conference are so important because it gives the community of practice, exposure to new ideas, progress and other people’s perspectives.

“Knowledge sharing is key for three reasons; firstly, it is important for the United Kingdom community to know that their challenges are not much different from the rest of the world; secondly it is clear that no single nation can win the battle against wildfires on their own – international cooperation is becoming

increasingly important; and thirdly, the United Kingdom can avoid making the same mistakes – you can learn from others in terms of what works and what doesn’t. Globally, we should be placing much more emphasis upon reducing risk at landscape level and involving the people that live in those landscapes and in the natural/urban interface areas. We must make that paradigm shift from suppression focus to prevention focus.

“These challenges are global, but the UK has a fantastic opportunity to avoid repeating the same mistakes as other countries, if it places an emphasis on effective landscape and community planning, backed up with political support and good policies.”

The wide range of partners involved with us as part of the Scottish Wildfire Forum include Cairngorms National Park, Forestry and Land Scotland, Highland Council, NatureScot, The Heather Trust, Scottish Gamekeepers Association, Scottish Crofting Federation, Scottish Land and Estates, Scotland’s Regional Moorland Groups and South Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

Many of whom sit on the Scottish Wildfire Forum Executive Committee which is Chaired by us.

The Scottish Wildfire Forum is comprised of representatives from key organisations committed to developing a mutual understanding of, and a reduction in the number of unwanted wildfire occurrences in Scotland. The Scottish Wildfire Forum is seeking to understand wildfire, enhance our capabilities and capacity, and thereby minimise the harm caused by wildfire to people and places in Scotland.

The aim of the Scottish Wildfire Forum is to create a focus to enhance joint working between Fire and Rescue Services, agencies and those with land management interest within Scotland which will be able to develop and communicate strategic wildfire protection and prevention initiatives to ministers, stakeholders and the wider community. The members of the Scottish Wildfire Forum represent organisations committed to reducing the harmful impact of wildfire in Scotland.

We have continued to collaborate with partners, such as the Scottish Wildfire Forum, to issue wildfire warnings when weather and ground conditions are high and very high for fires as wildfires can strike a

Our National Initiatives



blow to rural economies and tourism. To address the risks preventative measures are more important than ever and we are advancing our Wildfire Strategy and have invested £1.6 million over three years in specialist equipment and firefighter training to improve our response capabilities. The Strategy focuses on four key areas: partnership working, provision of information, prevention, and response. It includes close collaboration with land management sectors and agencies to promote wildfire education and effective prevention, ensuring both local communities and natural landscapes are better protected.



Our aim is to modernise our wildfire response and ensure that Scotland has a world-class wildfire prevention and mitigation culture that ensures that the natural resources we enjoy in Scotland are resilient to the negative impact that climate change might bring, and that the devastating impact of wildfire on Scotland's rural communities is reduced.

For more information visit:

- [SFRS – Wildfires](#)
- [Scottish Wildfire Forum](#)

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 4](#)

Innovative Electric Vehicle Training Partnership

We partnered with Dundee and Angus College to provide our Fleet Technicians with training in Electric Vehicle maintenance, system repairs and battery replacements.

Staff from the Scottish Ambulance Service and Police Scotland also participated in the bespoke Blue Light Services training course, allowing all partners to train and certify technicians to The Institute of the Motor Industry accreditation Levels 1, 2 and 3 allowing them to work safely on high voltage systems and to achieve the legislative certification of all technicians. This training ensures that technicians are equipped to safely maintain and repair Electric Vehicles in their blue-light specific fleet, enabling effective response to critical incidents in their crucial nationwide and frontline service.

This investment into training highlights the emergency services' commitment to embracing the transition by leading the charge in electrifying their fleets while empowering staff with the knowledge and cutting-edge skills to perform their duties effectively.

Our National Initiatives



Expressing pride in the college's pivotal role in facilitating this essential training, Caryn Gibson, Business Partnerships Manager at Dundee and Angus College, said:

"We were thrilled to join forces with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in upskilling their technicians to meet the challenges posed by Electric Vehicles. These technicians play a vital role in ensuring the safety and operational efficiency of emergency response teams, highlighting the importance of ongoing training and development."

By upskilling our technicians with essential Electric Vehicle training, we will be fully prepared to transition our fleet to electric battery powered vehicles as we aim towards becoming carbon neutral by 2045.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 4

Youth Volunteering Transforming Communities across Scotland

As part of our partnership approach to youth engagement, our Youth Volunteer Scheme works with a range of partners across Scotland to achieve its aims in delivering a programme for young people aged 13-18 that builds essential life skills and promotes personal and social development.

Our Youth Volunteer Scheme empowers young people to make meaningful contributions within their local communities through volunteering and local schemes, establish partnerships with a wide



range of local and national organisations, varying by region. Notably, schemes across Scotland have developed strong collaborative ties with emergency service partners, including Police Scotland and its own youth volunteering programme Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, the Scottish Ambulance Service, HM Coastguard, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, and Scottish Blood Bikes. Joint activities have included first aid training, site visits, and educational sessions to enhance young people's understanding of the vital roles these services play in public safety and wellbeing.

Our National Initiatives



During 2024-25, we delivered schemes in the following locations: Peterhead, Shetland, Wick, Alloa, Falkirk, Livingston, Methil, Campbeltown, Dumbarton, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Lanarkshire, Stranraer and Tobermory.

One of the most powerful impacts of this partnership is the breaking down of barriers between young people and other emergency services and in particular Police Scotland. By working alongside officers from Police Scotland and their peers in Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, young people have developed a better understanding of policing roles, while officers gain direct insight into the views, concerns, and potential of young people in

together various emergency services through shared events, training sessions, and awareness activities, these partnerships promote cooperation and stronger networks between organisations. This not only improves communication but also builds a more cohesive support system for young people across different sectors.

This partnership working has led to a rich exchange of knowledge, expertise, and resources. From learning basic first aid with Scottish Ambulance Service teams to understanding sea safety from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, young people have gained hands-on experience and

their communities. This mutual engagement helps dismantle stereotypes on both sides and better fosters respect and trust.

Additionally, our Youth Volunteer Scheme has enhanced multi-agency working. By bringing



valuable skills that go far beyond the classroom. In turn, emergency services have benefitted from the enthusiasm and fresh perspectives that young volunteers bring to their work.

Importantly these partnerships provide access to experiences the Youth Volunteers might not have otherwise had. Exposure to different professions and public services broadens their horizons, boosts their confidence, and encourages civic responsibility. It also helps young people to see themselves as capable, valued members of society and potential future contributors to Scotland's emergency and public services.

The benefits of partnership working extend beyond the young people involved. Our adult Volunteer

Our National Initiatives



Youth Instructors gain significantly from working alongside other emergency service professionals. By engaging with a range of partner-led activities, Volunteer Youth Instructors have had opportunities to broaden their own knowledge and skill sets. This has included exposure to specialist training, new teaching approaches, and insights into different operational environments. As a result, many Volunteer Youth Instructors have benefited from this valuable professional development, which not only enhances their delivery within the Youth Volunteer Scheme but supports their growth in other professional or voluntary roles.

Through these partnerships our Youth Volunteers are gaining vital life experience while services benefit

from a new and engaged generation of community ambassadors.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6

Career Ready Programme

Annually, we partner with Career Ready, a social mobility charity that aims to improve career and work prospects for young people who have limited access to professional networks and role models from the world of work. We have worked in partnership with Career Ready since 2021 to deliver the programme.

The Career Ready programme facilitates an 18-month mentorship scheme which links schools and Fifth Year (S5) and Sixth Year (S6) students with employers. It includes a four-week paid internship with us at our National Training Centre, Cambuslang, which introduces the skills and experience needed in the world of employment. The one-month internship contains a blend of practical and classroom-based learning with time for reflection and self-

development. Additionally, the initiative offers us an opportunity to engage with school students and increase their understanding of the wide-ranging career options available to them with us enabling them to make informed decisions about their future.

It allows us the opportunity to strengthen the diversity within our workforce and to balance the age profile of our workforce to safeguard future staffing levels.

Similarly, this partnership supports us in our achievement of the following areas: promoting us as a future employer, increasing opportunities for young people, promoting young people's wellbeing, corporate parenting, and commitment to the Young Person's Guarantee.

Youth engagement and the development of young people in Scotland are key areas of focus within the Scottish Government's National Outcomes. This initiative links into our Youth Engagement Strategy and supports the achievement of Education Scotland's four capacities of a Curriculum for Excellence: successful learners, confident communicators, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

Our National Initiatives

Rose King, Career Ready, Regional Manager
Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian, said:

“As a social mobility charity Career Ready are passionate about helping young people, who do not have access to workplace opportunities and networks, achieve their career and life goals no matter their background, connecting them with employers through mentoring and paid internships in the workplace, a unique programme in Scotland.”

Leanna Sinclair, Career Ready, Partnerships Manager
(Scotland), stated:

“Career Ready love to work with partners who understand the transformative impact that mentoring paired with paid internships can have for the social mobility of a young person, and who provide meaningful workplace experiences that allow young people to build their knowledge, network, confidence and social skills in the world of work, no matter what sector or size of workplace that may be.”

Positive feedback was received from mentors and mentees who said it helped build mentoring and leadership skills whilst making a positive impact by building mentees’ confidence and skills.

The programme offers our employees a personal development opportunity as a volunteer mentor, and we matched a new group of mentors with their mentees for the 2023-25 programme.

We continue to partner with Career Ready in providing mentors to support the social mobility and empowerment of young people to reach their potential and evaluation has indicated their experiences with us continue to be incredibly positive.

**Contributing to SFRS Strategic
Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6**

Celebrating Women in the Fire Service

In a powerful partnership with Women in the Fire Service UK, we proudly hosted Scotland’s inaugural



Women in the Fire Service event at our National Training Centre in Cambuslang on 28 and 29 September 2024. This event aimed at females was open to all roles within the Service and genders.

Women in the Fire Service UK was set up in the 1990s as a self-help and not for profit organisation, to enable and inspire confident and successful women to build a more progressive fire and rescue service. SFRS Group Commander Karla Stevenson represents Scotland on the organisation’s National Executive Council.

Our National Initiatives

The event featured a dynamic mix of practical scenarios and engaging workshops, including 'Firefighter for a Day,' health and fitness sessions, and a demonstration by the Urban Search and Rescue dog. Attendees participated in interactive Question and Answer panels and heard raw, inspiring presentations from our colleagues, alongside insightful sessions led by special guests. Other highlights included hands-on experiences at our National Training Centre, where participants put out fires, conducted home fire safety visits, and performed simulated Road Traffic Collision rescues by cutting car doors to free casualties.

Our exciting programme of events hosted fantastic speakers, including Jules King QFSM, Assistant Director of People, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service and Chair, Women in the Fire Service UK. Amy Keirl, National Fire Chiefs Council, Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, Timothy Bradshaw, Operations Director, Sandstone Communications is a former British Army Intelligence Officer and Group Commander Lynne Gow.

Our first event welcomed one hundred delegates from across Scotland and the United Kingdom. Women from a wide range of roles across our Service in Scotland came together, joined by colleagues from other fire and rescue services. The event provided a valuable opportunity for networking, connection and the sharing of experiences.

The event received positive feedback including enlightening, inspirational, powerful and spectacular. Attendees highlighted their favourite elements of the weekend, spotlighting the 'Firefighter for a Day' experience, insight into Incident Command Level 2, workshops, speakers, and the opportunity to participate in a focus group to discuss their career choices and aspirations.

Due to the enormous success of the inaugural Women in the Fire Service event, we are planning to hold our second two-day event on 20 and 21 September 2025 at our National Training Centre, Cambuslang.

Throughout 2024-25, our employees have participated in the Women in the Fire Service UK events such as a National Training and Development event and two International Women's Day



Training and Development Days. Additionally, they continued to offer a dedicated development programme designed to help women identify clear, practical and realistic steps to develop self-confidence in their professional and personal lives.

Similarly, Women's Networking Groups have continued to grow across the Service, with active groups meeting in East and West Dunbartonshire, Argyll and Bute, and the Highland region. A highlight in the Highlands was a networking event at Dingwall Community Fire Station opened by Deputy First Minister Kate Forbes, who shared insights

Our National Initiatives

into her career and the challenges she has faced. Organised by Group Commander Karla Stevenson, the event featured her personal and inspiring account of her own journey.

People from across the Highland area attended, including both male and female support and uniformed staff to learn and connect, as well as some of our Board members. Deputy Chief Officer Andy Watt attended in his capacity as Chair of the Women's Experience Liaison Forum. Our Women's Experience Liaison Forum was established in 2022 to support our aim of being an inclusive employer by addressing the needs of women in the workplace. The Forum includes representation from the Scottish representative of Women in the Fire Service UK who proudly sponsored the Scottish Women in the Fire Service event.

We are an active corporate member of Women in the Fire Service UK and through this partnership advertise vacancies to improve the recruitment and employment of women, individuals from minority ethnic backgrounds and people with disabilities.

For more information visit:

[**Women in the Fire Service UK**](#)

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6

Emergency Services Engagement Event

Working collaboratively with a range of partners including Who Cares Scotland, Disclosure Scotland, National Health Service Education for Scotland, the Scottish Ambulance Service and Police Scotland we hosted an Emergency Services Engagement Event at our Headquarters in May 2024. As part of our on-going



commitment to young people and specifically in support of our Corporate Parenting Strategy and commitment to Scottish Government's 'The Promise' which continues to be an important driver in the delivery of our Corporate Parenting Plan, shaping how we can best meet the needs of people who are Care Experienced.

The aim of the event was to facilitate meaningful participation and engagement with members of the Care Experienced community to create positive, meaningful, and long-lasting relationships between the Care Experienced community and the emergency services. In addition, to continue our work and commitments to 'The Promise' and as corporate parents. To ensure ongoing inclusion and engagement

Our National Initiatives



as a corporate parent and to further the awareness of our Service's commitment as a corporate parent amongst our own employees. Specifically, we aimed to attract and encourage Care Experienced individuals to find out more about Blue Light Services and to consider a career within the emergency services sector.

Working in collaboration with our partners the event included a range of engagement opportunities including practical activities and demonstrations by all three services, information stalls from a range of different departments from all three services and partners and input from key speakers. This included input from one of our senior employees who is Care Experienced.

It was a very positive day with over 45 Care Experienced young people in attendance who reported a high satisfaction rate with attendees learning about the Service and to be considering the emergency services as a career.

We are committed to our role as a corporate parent, including creating opportunities that have a positive impact and improve the life opportunities of young people and those who are Care Experienced.

Following the success and feedback from this event, the three services are planning a second, similar event in Inverness in early 2025.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6](#)

Supporting the Fire Family Together

The Fire Fighters Charity work provides life-long care and support for the United Kingdom's fire family.

The Charity works closely with us to provide our people with easy access to proactive health and wellbeing information and lifestyle advice, specific to the fire community.

From their innovative, centre-based residential programmes to a whole host of digital solutions, the Charity do all they can to give fire employees and their families the physical and psychological support they need, wherever they are in the United Kingdom. They also provide Welfare Services and

Our National Initiatives



community-based teams, to provide support, helping employees through life's tough times.

The Charity offer personalised support in several different ways including over the telephone, online using digital technology, out in your local community or at one of their centres.

In turn, many of our employees choose to fundraise for the Charity throughout the year. They do this through various events and initiatives, including car washes, sponsored runs, and other community activities. Together with the Charity we are committed to promoting wellbeing and resilience across the fire service community.

Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 6

SFRS Celebrates 200 years of the Scottish Fire Service

During 2024, we worked with a host of partners to celebrate 200 years of the Scottish fire service.

The first municipal fire and rescue service was formed in Edinburgh in October 1824. We marked this historic occasion with a wealth of exciting and educational events throughout the year, alongside the Museum of Scottish Fire Heritage and heritage teams across the country.

Additionally, we hosted employees and invited guests in a special service in St Giles' Cathedral. The programme of events was an opportunity to celebrate Scotland's and our Service's proud heritage, including the innovations and people that built the foundations of the modern Service we have today.



Our National Initiatives

A number of Scottish schools used the Bicentenary event to form school topics. Beckford Primary School in Hamilton used the theme of firefighting in Scotland and James Braidwood as a school wide project. The children focused on researching the history of firefighting in Scotland and the impact that James Braidwood had on the evolution and innovation of firefighting. The school utilised the Museum of Scottish Fire Heritage's object handling boxes, where they explored the 'life and times' of a firefighter. In addition, they used our James Braidwood resources available on educational platform TWINKL to enhance their knowledge and understanding of James Braidwood's methodology and contribution to firefighter safety. These resources helped them find out more about the role of a firefighter and what they can do to stay safe in their own homes.

Leith's Lorne Primary visited the museum to learn about firefighting history. Museum of Scottish Fire Heritage's employees and volunteers then visited their classroom to highlight Edinburgh's heritage with the 200th year anniversary. The class then created imagery inspired by the session which turned into embroidery and applique for a storytelling parachute to be used in the museum.

Both are great examples of how heritage can be used to inform the public on the important role we play in keeping the communities of Scotland safe.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)

Interpol General Assembly 2024

In a collaborative effort, we were part of a multi-agency planning team for the Interpol General Assembly that was hosted at the Scottish Event Campus, Glasgow in November 2024.

The event brought together Interpol's 195 members for one common goal – to prevent global illicit activity, and to tackle criminal threats and risk worldwide. The event was attended by Chiefs of Police and Senior Officials from each of the members states.

Through our continued collaborative working with the United Kingdom Home Office, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and many more partners Scotland

was able to deliver a safe event for over 1,200 delegates and helped to minimise the impact to the communities within the surrounding area of the event.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)

National Cyber Exploitation Event

We worked in partnership with Police Scotland to deliver a national Continuing Professional Development event on Sextortion. This was an awareness raising event for all our Community Action Team employees, Volunteers and others, to highlight the growing concern of young adults being targeted online. Additionally, this topic is covered within our Youth Volunteer Scheme Safeguarding training.

Sextortion refers to the act of coercing individuals into performing sexual acts or providing explicit images or videos, often under threat of exposing private or sensitive material. This form of extortion frequently involves digital platforms, making it a prevalent cybercrime.

Our National Initiatives



In Scotland, sextortion is addressed under several legislative provisions that collectively tackle cybercrime, extortion, and sexual offences.

Victims are encouraged to report sextortion to Police Scotland, and support is available through organisations like Victim Support Scotland and Stop It Now! Scotland. Prevention strategies include public awareness campaigns and cybersecurity education.

The event was hosted at our Headquarters with 49 attendees and a further 30 individuals gathered online to support the event. Our partner Police Scotland shared resources with our personnel who work with children and young people to raise awareness of this growing threat and highlight where support can be accessed.

We aim to reduce the number of young people at risk from Sextortion by raising awareness to personnel and encouraging young people to access support.

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)

Enhancing Collaboration via the Community Asset Register

The Community Asset Register is a Scotland wide database of volunteers willing to help during an emergency. The database plots assets on a map so if an emergency incident occurs, we can identify those who can help. Assets can be people with either skills or equipment.

Current assets registered include boats, life jackets, floatation devices, lorries, tankers, horse trailers, CB radios, drones, small planes, chainsaws, all terrain clearance machines, and medical equipment.

During 2024-25, volunteers from the Register have supported incidents by operating drones at several

wildfire incidents and operating a Hi-Lift jack to help complete a large animal rescue.

Work has been undertaken throughout 2024-25 to increase internal promotion of the Community Asset Register, with informative presentations being included in Incident Command courses and being delivered to all command groups across the Service.

During 2025/26, this promotion work will be expanded to our external partners. The Register will be moved to an external platform, Resilience Direct, a secure, multi-agency platform governed by the Cabinet Office that will ensure consistent access for all Category 1 responders and enhance collaboration during emergencies.

Internally, an engagement exercise will take place across all local authority areas to identify additional assets that would be of use to that area.

For more information visit:

[Community Asset Register](#)

[Contributing to SFRS Strategic Plan 2022-25: Outcome 7](#)



6. Additional Information

Our Partners; and Index of Initiatives

Our Partners

The partners listed are not the full and complete list of our partners/collaborations but give an example of the wide range of organisations we work with.

- Aberdeen City Council
- Aberdeenshire Council
- Age Scotland
- Angus Council Vibrant Community Team
- Angus Secondary Schools
- Argyll and Bute Education Department
- Argyll and Bute Youth Social Services
- Autism and Neurodiversity North Scotland
- Ayrshire College
- Ayrshire Local Resilience Partnership
- Barrhead Housing Association
- Border Force
- British Red Cross
- British Transport Police
- Cairngorms National Park
- Caledonian MacBrayne
- Career Ready
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- City of Edinburgh Council
- CivTech
- Co-op Community Champions
- Cumbrae Coastguard
- Cumbrae Resilience Team
- Deliveroo
- Developing Young Workforce
- Disclosure Scotland
- Douglas Ewart High School, Newton Stewart
- Dumfries and Galloway Council Youth Work
- Dundee and Angus College
- Dundee University
- East Ayrshire Council
- East Dunbartonshire Council
- East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership
- East Renfrewshire Council
- Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity
- Edinburgh College
- Electrical Safety First
- Explosive Ordinance Disposal
- Forestry and Land Scotland
- Forth Valley College
- Fostering Compassion
- Gerda Security
- Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire Local Resilience Partnership
- Glasgow City Council
- Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership
- Glasgow Life
- Glasgow Prestwick Airport
- Glasgow Scientific Services
- Grampian Local Resilience Partnership
- Greggs Bakeries
- Hanover Scotland
- Helensburgh First Aid
- Highland Council
- Highland Pre-Hospital Immediate Care and Trauma Team
- HM Coastguard
- Home Start Angus

-
- Homeland Security Group
 - IAM RoadSmart
 - Inspiring Scotland
 - Interpol
 - Letham4All
 - Lighting Reach
 - Loch Lomond Rescue Boat
 - Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park
 - Maritime and Coastguard Agency
 - Mintlaw Academy, Peterhead
 - Moffat Mountain Rescue Team
 - Moray Council
 - Morrisons
 - Multiple Sclerosis Snowdrop Centre, Lochgilphead
 - National Fire Chiefs Council
 - NatureScot
 - Neighbourhood Watch Scotland
 - New Reflexions Scotland
 - Newton Stewart Initiative
 - NexGen
 - National Fire Chiefs Council
 - National Health Service Ayrshire and Arran
 - National Health Service Education for Scotland
 - National Health Service Grampian
 - National Health Service Greater Glasgow and Clyde
 - National Health Service Orkney
 - National Health Service Scotland
 - North Ayrshire Council
 - North Lanarkshire Council
 - North Lanarkshire Restorative Justice Services
 - Oban High School
 - Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership
 - Orkney Island Council
 - Orkney Island Council Airfields Rescue Firefighting Service (RFFS)
 - Parole Board for Scotland
 - Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services Limited (PKAVS) Carer Centre
 - Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services Limited (PKAVS) Young Carers
 - Perth and Kinross Council
 - Perthshire Women's Aid
 - Police Scotland
 - Police Scotland Youth Volunteers
 - Renfrewshire Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Resource
 - Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership
 - Renfrewshire Council
 - Royal Air Force
 - Royal National Lifeboat Institution
 - Saint Ninians Cathedral, Perth
 - Scarf
 - Scarlet Visuals
 - Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance
 - Scotland's Regional Moorland Groups
 - Scottish Ambulance Service
 - Scottish Ambulance Service Volunteers
 - Scottish Blood Bikes
 - Scottish Crofting Federation
 - Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
 - Scottish Gamekeepers Association

Our Partners

- Scottish Gas Networks
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Land and Estates
- Scottish Power
- Scottish Power Energy Network
- Scottish Prison Service (HMP Barlinnie and HMP Low Moss)
- Scottish Swimming
- Scottish Water
- Sensation All
- Shellach View Children's Home
- Skills Development Scotland
- South Ayrshire Council
- South Lanarkshire Council
- South Lanarkshire Justice Services
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- SSE
- Stagecoach
- Stirling Council
- Stirling Enterprise Park
- Stranraer Water Sports Association
- Tesco Community Champions
- The Big Hoose Project
- The British Red Cross
- The Fire Fighters Charity
- The Heather Trust
- The Highland Council
- The Orkney Drugs Dog Charity
- The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents
- The Salvation Army
- The University of the West of Scotland
- The Usual Place
- Trussell Trust
- Trust Housing
- United Kingdom Fire and Rescue Services
- United Kingdom Government
- United Kingdom Home Office
- University of The West of Scotland Ayr Campus
- Voluntary Action Angus
- Water Safety Scotland
- Weekday WOW
- West Dunbartonshire Leisure
- Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland Local Sports Clubs
- Who Cares Scotland
- Women in the Fire Service UK
- Youth Justice

Index of Initiatives

EAST SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

City of Edinburgh

[9](#), [12](#), [13](#), [15](#), [16](#)

Midlothian, East Lothian and Scottish Borders

[9](#), [14](#)

Falkirk and West Lothian

[10](#)

Clackmannanshire, Fife and Stirling

[11](#), [15](#)

NORTH SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray

[19](#), [20](#), [22](#), [23](#), [31](#)

Perth, Kinross, Dundee and Angus

[24](#), [26](#), [27](#)

Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland Islands

[21](#), [28](#), [30](#)

Highland

[23](#), [29](#)

WEST SERVICE DELIVERY AREA

City of Glasgow

[45](#), [53](#), [59](#)

East, North and South Ayrshire

[43](#), [44](#), [46](#), [48](#), [50](#), [54](#)

Dumfries and Galloway

[34](#), [35](#), [37](#), [38](#), [43](#), [49](#), [59](#)

East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, and
Inverclyde

[35](#), [36](#), [40](#), [48](#), [56](#)

Argyll and Bute, East Dunbartonshire and West
Dunbartonshire

[38](#), [39](#), [41](#), [42](#), [55](#)

Lanarkshire

[47](#), [51](#), [57](#)

NATIONAL

[61-78](#)

If you require further information on any of the contents of this document, please e-mail bridget.spence@firescotland.gov.uk who will pass on your details to the relevant individual(s).



firescotland.gov.uk

SFRS Working in Partnership
Report 2024/25

Version 1.0
November 2025