

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM – 1 DECEMBER 2004

FIREWORK SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To advise Forum members of the Firework Display incorporating a Firework Safety Initiative on 5th November 2004.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. At previous Forum meetings Firework Safety was identified as a key Community Safety issue.
- 2.2. In accordance with East Ayrshire Community Safety Award 2004 – 2005 Priority Number 2: “To promote firework safety through organised displays.” The Community Safety Co-ordinator was tasked to work with Leisure Services to incorporate firework safety with the Council’s Firework Display held at Kay Park, Kilmarnock on Friday 5th November 2004.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1. Prior to the event, visits were made by Trading Standards Officers, Strathclyde Police and Strathclyde Fire Brigade to all retailers registered to sell fireworks.
- 3.2. A mobile unit was set up in the Kay Park on 5th November and information was displayed relating to injuries caused by misuse of fireworks and general safety issues. The unit was staffed by East Ayrshire Council Community Safety; Strathclyde Fire Brigade and Strathclyde Police.
- 3.3. The display was attended by 25,000 members of the public and there were no casualties reported on the night. The display was also staffed by 56 stewards; 18 police officers and 12 members of staff from East Ayrshire Council.
- 3.4. Information was distributed through a press release to local newspapers, West Sound Radio and in ‘Westzone’ magazine available in all doctors surgeries, health centres etc throughout Ayrshire.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The cost of the campaign was met from the Scottish Executive Community Safety Partnership Award fund.

5. LEGAL/AUTHORITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Nil

6 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Nil

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The Event was successful and a report on firework injuries will be available from the Community Safety Co-ordinator at the next Forum meeting.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee are recommended to:-

- (i) Thank the members of the forum who agreed to take part in the working group for Firework Safety Initiatives, and;
- (iii) To otherwise note the contents of the report

W Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/AW

17th November 2004

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. For further information please contact John Crawford, Head of Protective Services on 01563 576111 or email: john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk
2. Implementation Officer: Ann Williams