

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM – 7 JUNE 2006

COMMUNITY SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR - REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To advise Forum members of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Co-ordinator

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. In accordance with East Ayrshire Council Community Safety Strategy a Community Safety Co-ordinator was appointed to implement the strategy and to co-ordinate and drive forward safety initiatives.

3. CORE SECTION

- 3.1. **Home Safety Scotland (formerly Scottish Home Safety Officers Group):** the next meeting of the Group is on 15th June in Stirling. RoSPA “Homeward” publication is attached to this report.
- 3.2. **Scottish Community Safety Network:** The AGM was held at East Dumbartonshire Council on 28th April. There was a presentation by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue on the Fire Reach Programme. The date of the next meeting of the group is 23rd June 2006.
- 3.3. **National Child Safety Week:** East Ayrshire Community Safety Partnership will continue to promote child safety throughout the coming year. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has provided a booklet of ideas that can be used in relation to child safety and a copy of this is available from the Community Safety Co-ordinator or on the website at www.capt.org.uk
- 3.4. **Danger Detectives:** An evaluation of the 2005 event is attached to this report showing that it proved a positive and very worthwhile initiative, and will be held again this year at the Dean Castle Country Park from 21st August – 15th September.
- 3.5. **Children’s Services Plan Review Seminar:** The seminar was held at Lochside Hotel, New Cumnock on Monday 15th May and 102 people attended from a variety of organisations.

- 3.6 **Vamoose to Vandalism:** The 'Vamoose to Vandalism', project took place at three venues in East Ayrshire in an effort to make P5 school pupils aware of the dangers and destruction caused by acts of vandalism. Members of the TRAM Direct theatre group gave 1161 pupils from 37 schools a 50 minute drama performance, delivering important messages about vandalism in a fun, informative and entertaining way.
- 3.7 **Youth Express:** Formerly the UP2U Anti-Vandalism bus - the facility is being updated with new equipment including an LCD television, monitors and Playstations, a DVD and Hi-Fi. An air hockey table is also being fitted. The bus will be available in all communities in East Ayrshire as a drop-in centre with staff on hand to talk to the young people about the issues that surround them today.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. Projects are financed from existing budgets held by the partnership organisations and from the Scottish Executive Community Safety Awards.

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Nil

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1. The Community Safety Co-ordinator will continue to liaise with other departments and outside organisations to promote the initiatives described in the report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1. The Forum is invited to note the contents of this report

W Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/AW

17th May 2006

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

DANGER DETECTIVES 2005

EVALUATION PAPER



Providing our children with the choices of a Safer Future



1

Danger Detectives was first introduced to East Ayrshire Primary School children in 1997. Since then this experiential learning event has grown and is run annually during August and September each year.

In 2005, 1480 children took part from the 46 primary schools and two special needs schools.

The scheme is centred on the fact that children are more inclined to remember facts and information by taking an active part in the proceedings.

A variety of `live` sets have been created allowing every child who attends, the opportunity to experience that “hands on” effect making each topic not just interesting but stimulating and memorable.

The venue for the 2005 event was Dean Castle Country Park, Kilmarnock, a facility that allows the project team to create the various scenarios while maintaining a safe environment for those who take part.

Each participant was provided with a baseball cap bearing the words `Danger Detective` a unique way of providing a reminder of their Day in the Park.

The event is run by a project team made up of a number of agencies from within the Community Safety Partnership.

Finance is by donations and sponsorship.

A full list is provided at Appendix A

One lasting memory was the expressions on the faces of all the young people who attended the Fire and Rescue presentation when water was poured onto a container of burning oil. It certainly was a vivid reminder to the dangers of fire....

Teacher from Loanhead primary School, Kilmarnock

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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So, who's who in East Ayrshire's Experiential learning programme.

The Children

Are selected from the Primary 6 age group from the 46 primary and 2 special needs school located within East Ayrshire.

The Staff

The school children are escorted by appropriate school staff or support personnel from their own school. It was essential that there is an adult for every 8 children who attend to ensure safety and guidance throughout the event.

The personnel that facilitate each scenario are selected for their presentation and educational skills

Scenarios

In 2005 there were 7 different sets.

This evaluation document sets out each scenario for the readers benefit and to provide a little more of a in-depth look at what the project team has identified as their primary targets for heightening the awareness of the children in relation to Community Safety

“I watched intensely as the group of children prompted by one of the Countryside Rangers made up a stretcher from two poles and an old anorak. The delight on their faces, when they put one of their classmates onto the stretcher and carried them to safety, was a picture.

I later found out from one of the adults who was in the park that it was an experiential learning scheme for young children. If the rest of the programme was as enjoyable as the one I encountered, then this must be a great way of teaching young people how to be safe.”

Member of the General Public who was in the park with her two young grandchildren.

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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Hazard House

Is a mock up of a typical living room. A selection of furniture, carpets and other furnishings are set out to make this scenario look like the child's own home.

A number of hazardous items are then placed within the set allowing the children to try and `detect` them and explain to the facilitators what the dangers are and to provide solutions to reduce such risks.

Water Safety

In recent years it has been decided to adopt a more home based environment for this scenario. The introduction of a small inflatable paddling pool was placed on the ground and filled with water. A baby doll was put face down in to the pool as if it was drowning and a mock electrical cable added.

The cable ran from the pool to a pretend electric socket which was not live. A number of children were caught out by this and it proved to have a very influential effect on the children. An additional part to this set was the use of dummy babies to show how to correctly administer resuscitation

Road Safety

Another scenario where an actual mock up of a road crash was portrayed. On this occasion it was a car versus a pedal cyclist versus a tree. Another scenario where the children had to detect the probabilities surrounding the crash and who may have caused it.

“I was able to pick out quite a lot at the road accident. The boy on the bike had a very long coat on and it could have wrapped round the pedals or even the wheel. The driver of the car could have been drinking or even using their mobile phone, this could have distracted their attention.”

Primary 6 pupil from Galston Primary School

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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Vandalism

Stagecoach plc have supported the initiative for the last three years and 2005 once again saw them provide their unique UP2U facility.

Although the facility is actually a youth club located inside a bus, it offers the company the opportunity to emphasize to the children the dangers that can occur as a result of vandalism and that as well as their parents, they also pay for it by way of a reduction in services.

It also provides the opportunity to promote passenger safety.

Chip Pan Fire

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service provide this very visual but effective presentation on the dangers of fire caused by people throwing water onto hot oil. They also explain the need to ensure that smoke alarms are fitted within their homes that they are checked weekly and the battery replaced annually.

Countryside Safety

The Countryside Rangers provide the children with a wide range of topics within their scenario. A variety of visual effects are used to highlight this and the children are again encouraged to take an active part in detecting problems and resolving them. In addition the Rangers service also emphasize the need to be aware of the Countryside code.

“I liked this event the Countryside Ranger made us carry one of the group on a home made stretcher. He showed us how to use two branches from a tree and an old jacket. I did not believe it would hold my classmate but it did. It was very interesting and we had a good laugh as well because we tipped him off at the end.”

Schoolboy from Silverwood Primary School. Kilmarnock

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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Computer Highway

This was the second appearance of this excellent presentation.

Strathclyde Police introduced this very topical scenario informing the children on the dangers of computer chat lines. Emphasising the need to be very wary of who they would `speak` in chat rooms. The police developed their idea into that of a highway with a number of green, amber and red roads. A very effective way of getting this message across.

`This was a fascinating way to provide information to the youngsters, even I was amazed at how easy it was for someone to extract information from you while pretending to be your friend.

Primary 6 school teacher Barshare Primary School, Cumnock

Some Comments from the participants.....

“What a great day I did not realise how dangerous it was if you did not maintain your pedal cycle”

“I had a great day and will never forget the chip pan fire demonstration”

“When I walked into the hazard house I tripped over the carpet it was very dangerous I could have fallen and bumped my head.....”

“A great experience for the children, they talked about it all the way home on the bus and for some days after the event.”

“I thought that the life saving was great. There were a whole lot of toy babies in the room and I was shown how to breath into their mouth to help bring them back to life”

“The kids were well behaved and looked as if they enjoyed their day out in the park”

“Well done to everyone concerned, another great event”

*Councillor Jim O`Neil,
Chair of the Community Safety Forum*

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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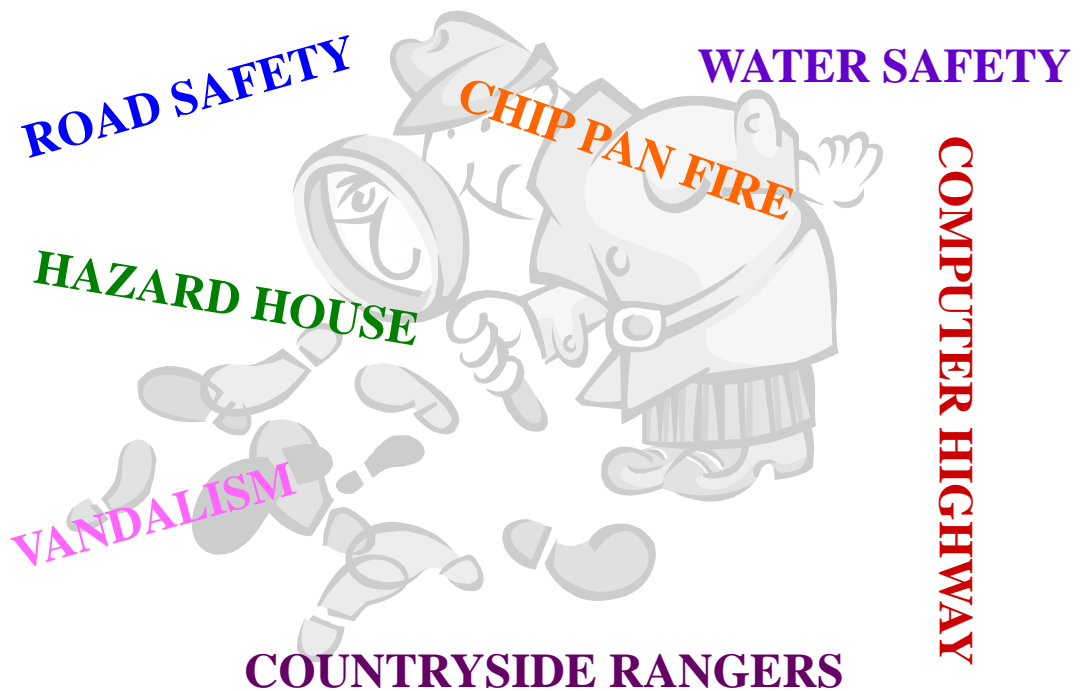
Conclusion

Once again the 2005 event has been deemed a success and plans are already well underway for 2006. Evaluation papers were taken to all schools involved in the event and the results are shown in Appendix B

Recommendations

It is agreed by all agencies involved that the project be continued.

It continues to offer an excellent opportunity in providing the Primary 6 schoolchildren of East Ayrshire a unique hands on experiential learning experience promoting Community Safety..



DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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Appendix A

The Agencies involved are:

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Strathclyde Police

East Ayrshire Community Safety Section

East Ayrshire Road Safety

East Ayrshire Trading Standards

East Ayrshire Environmental Health

East Ayrshire Leisure Services

East Ayrshire Countryside Rangers

Stagecoach plc

Barry Devlin



Surfing the Computer can lead to all sorts of problems especially if you enter into a computer chat room without your parents permission

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



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Appendix A continued

List of Sponsors

Sponsorship has been gratefully received from:

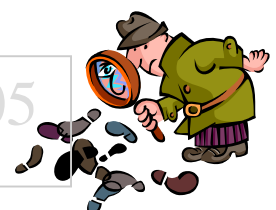
East Ayrshire Community Safety Partnership
East Ayrshire North Crime Prevention Panel
East Ayrshire South Against Crime

The Danger Detectives Project team would like to take this opportunity to thank those agencies and individuals who have supported the scheme and look forward to providing a first class Service for the young people of East Ayrshire



When I get older I am going to be a ..*DANGER DETECTIVE*

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Appendix B

In order that the initiative continues to provide an accurate base for community safety issues an evaluation has been carried out by members of the project team.

The following observations were formed:-

Overall the children's retention of information was good.

Teaching staff said there was some concerns over the wording of some of the questions causing a bit of ambiguity.

This will be addressed before the 2006 evaluation is carried out

Other Issues

It had been hoped to produce a quality safety book for all children attending the event. However, due to financial restraints this has not been possible, although other avenues are being progressed

Onsite management was rated higher for 2005 with the reintroduction of the briefing and debriefing sessions

Time scale is still a problem especially with transport companies running to very tight time tables. *No foreseeable solution at this time.*

DANGER DETECTIVES 05



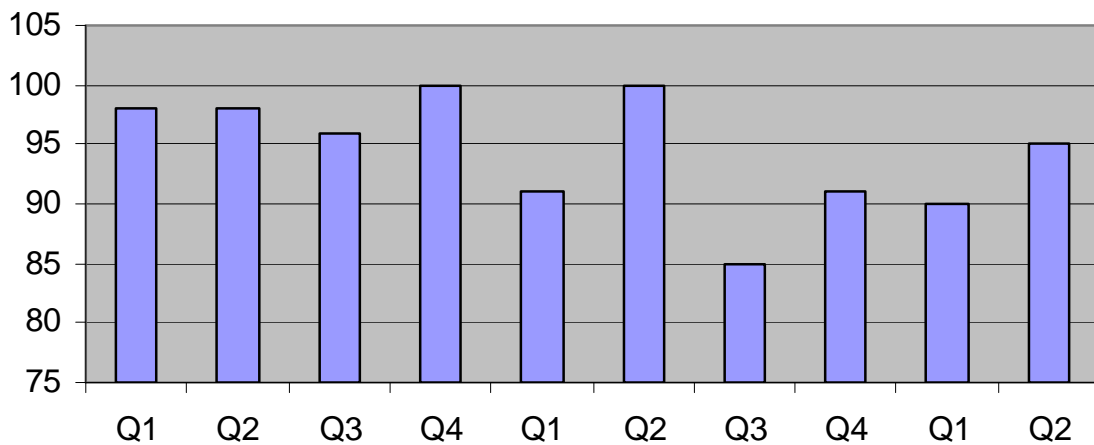
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A copy of the evaluation questionnaire is included for your information

The following are the results from this years evaluation:

Question	Correct	Wrong
1	98%	2%
2	98%	2%
3	96%	4%
4	100%	0%
5	91%	9%
6	100%	0%
7	85%	15%
8	91%	9%
9	90%	10%
10	95%	5%

% Correct for Each Question



DANGER DETECTIVES 05



Danger Detectives Pre – Evaluation Questionnaire

There is only one correct answer to each question. Circle the correct letter.

<p>1) If you were cycling while it was dark, would you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Check your lights were working and wear reflective clothing?b) Check your reflectors were free from mud?c) Wear dark clothing and bicycle clips?	<p>6) If someone whom you didn't know asked you to go with them in their car, what would you do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Say no, but keep talking to them?b) Scream loudly, run away and tell someone you know?c) Go with them?
<p>2) What item in your house should have its battery changed every year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Television remote control?b) Smoke Alarm?c) Door Bell?	<p>7) You find a baby lying unconscious, how many fingers do you use to massage its heart?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Twob) Four?c) Both Hands?
<p>3) What item in a motor car should you wear at all times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Baseball Hat?b) Seat Belt?c) Driving Gloves?	<p>8) You are at a friend's firework display, one of the fireworks fails to go off. What would you do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Go and Pick it upb) Leave it alone and tell an adultc) Encourage a friend to go and relight it
<p>4) What telephone number would you dial in an emergency?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) 911b) 999c) 811811	<p>9) You are on a computer chat room what details would you give to the person you are talking to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Your name, age and addressb) What school, you go toc) No details at all
<p>5) What should you never throw on to a chip pan that is on fire?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Water?b) Dry dish towel?c) Chips?	<p>10) If someone falls into deep water, what do you do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Go in after themb) Run and get an adult you know