

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM – 5 DECEMBER 2001

FIREWORK SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To advise Forum members of the Firework and Bonfire Safety Campaign that took place in October – November 2001.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. At a previous Forum meeting Bonfire and Firework Safety was identified as a key Community Safety issue.
- 2.2. A sub-group was formed to take this issue forward. Members of the group included Councillor Carmichael, Community Safety Co-ordinator, Police Liaison Officer and representatives from the Fire Brigade and East Ayrshire Council Trading Standards and Environmental Health.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1. Firework Safety packs were made up containing information, leaflets and posters which were distributed to local offices, libraries and supermarkets.
- 3.2. The campaign launch took place on 25 October at ASDA, Kilmarnock and featured prominently on the front page of the Kilmarnock Standard of 2 November 2001.
- 3.3. Police and Trading Standards Officers visited all retailers registered to sell fireworks to ensure standards were met and retailers aware of their legal duties and obligations.
- 3.4. Information was distributed via the Kilmarnock Standard, Cumnock Chronicle and West Sound. Kilmarnock Football Club displayed the message on electronic boards at Rugby Park.
- 3.5. Posters were distributed to all Secondary Schools in East Ayrshire.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The cost of the campaign was met by sponsorship from ASDA Superstore, Queen's Drive, Kilmarnock

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Nil

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The Campaign seemed to be successful in ensuring that the safety message was available to all members of the public. However, the problem of youths setting off fireworks in public places remains a source of concern.

6.2. There were no reported injuries caused by fireworks and/or bonfires at Ayr Hospital during November. Statistics were unavailable for Crosshouse Hospital.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

W Stafford
Director of Community Services

WS/AW

21 November, 2001

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

AGENDA