

**EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM -27 SEPTEMBER 2000
COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER -REVIEW OF EVENTS AND INITIATIVES**

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1. To advise members of developments and initiatives undertaken by the Community Safety Officer.

2. BACKGROUND

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

3. DISCUSSION

3.1. SAFER COMMUNITIES IN SCOTLAND: There are now four "safer" groups established in East Ayrshire i.e. Catrine, Dalmellington, Barshare and New Cumnock. A representative of each Group has been invited to attend the Forum. An 'umbrella group' has been formed and will be known as Safer East Ayrshire, this Group will meet quarterly and will include representatives from all Safer Groups and agencies.

3.2. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY: The Draft Strategy had been distributed to all Forum members, Councillors and Directors. Comments have been noted and have now been forwarded to the Director of Community Services.

3.3. AYRSHIRE & ARRAN ACCIDENT PREVENTION GROUP: This group meets to discuss areas of common interest with regard to accident prevention throughout Ayrshire and Arran. Local meetings are to take place and a further meeting will be held in October.

3.4. DANGER DETECTIVES: This event is ongoing at Dumfries House Estate until 29 September. Forty-six primary schools and three special schools are attending.

3.5. EAST AYRSHIRE ALCOHOL AND DRUG FORUM: An information evening for parents is to take place at the Grand Hall Kilmarnock on Tuesday 3rd October. This will cover issues and concerns parents may have about their children with regard to drugs and alcohol. Councillor Carmichael will address the meeting with regard to the Community Safety aspect.

3.6. SCOTTISH HOME SAFETY OFFICERS GROUP: The Community Safety Officer attends this meeting and is a member of the planning sub-group for the 'Off the Job Safety' Conference which will take place in April 2001.

3.7. SCOTTISH LOCAL AUTHORITY COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICERS FORUM: The Community Safety Officer continues to attend this Forum on a regular basis.

3.8. COMMUNITY SAFETY CHALLENGE FUND: £1.5m has been allocated for Community Safety Projects throughout Scotland. The Community Safety Officer has met with representatives from Council Departments and Agencies to discuss suitable projects. A report will be tabled at the next meeting of the Forum.

3.9. SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIPS: Meetings have take place with representatives from the Irvine Valley and Kilmarnock teams to discuss various Community Safety Initiatives.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Projects are financed from existing budgets held by the partnership organisations.

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Nil

6. CONCLUSIONS

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

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. The Committee is invited to note the contents of this report W Stafford
Director of Community Services WS/AW

14 September 2000

1. For further information please contact John Crawford, Head of Protective Services on 01563576111 or email: john.crawford@east-avrshire.gov.uk

AGENDA