

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM -27 SEPTEMBER 2000**

### **SCOTTISH ACCIDENT PREVENTION COUNCIL - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE 2000**

#### **Report by Director of Community Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To advise the Forum of matters dealt with, and discussed, at the SAPC Annual General Meeting and Conference on 11 and 12 September 2000.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 East Ayrshire Council was represented at the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Accident Prevention Council, which took place on the morning of Monday 11 September at Crieff Hydro, by Councillor George Smith, Gerald Cumming, Road Safety Officer and Alison J Smith, Principal Officer Licensing and Community Safety. Councillor Smith and A J Smith also attended both days of the Conference and G Cumming attended the first day of the Conference.

#### **3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2000 -MATTERS OF INTEREST**

3.1 The Secretary reported that there are now 10 corporate members of the SAPC, but stressed that continuing promotion of this type of membership to the business community is vital to the long term funding strategy of the Council. He asked members to advise him of any contacts they may have within businesses who may be interested in this type of membership. In return for an annual subscription of £100 corporate members receive a plaque and a quarterly safety magazine.

3.2 Information on forthcoming events and the work of the SAPC is now available on the new website, the address of which is [www.sapc.org.uk](http://www.sapc.org.uk).

3.3 Councillor J Shaw, Chair of the Water and Leisure Safety Committee and outgoing Vice-President, was elected SAPC President and Councillor B Topping was nominated and appointed as Vice President. Councillor Margaret Logan, the outgoing President, was appointed Treasurer; John Kennedy having decided to stand down after 27 years in that post.

#### **4. 51ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

4.1 The Provost of Perth and Kinross welcomed delegates to the Conference in Crieff before the President introduced the keynote speaker, John

Howard of RoSPA. Mr Howard commented on the history of accident prevention in the United Kingdom with particular reference to the SAPC which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. He then went on to speak briefly on each of the areas addressed by the three SAPC committees and the workshop sessions in relation to each.

4.2 In relation to Home Safety Mr Howard highlighted the National Network for Home Safety which will be launched in November this year. East Ayrshire Council will participate in the Network and all information received from it will be circulated to interested parties, including Forum members. When referring to road safety Mr Howard emphasised RoSPA's awareness of particular issues faced in rural areas and praised the Scottish Road Safety Campaign. Mr Howard applauded the SAPC Water and Leisure Safety Committee's persistence in seeking funding for this area of work and referred to the fact that 86 people drowned last year in Scotland. RoSPA wish the Government to identify one group of civil servants to be responsible for all aspects of water safety and have also asked for clarification of legal responsibilities at open water sites.

4.3 Mr Jim France, Chair of the Scottish Home Safety Officers Group, launched a new leaflet which is intended to encourage employers to instill a general safety culture in their workforce. A copy of the leaflet is enclosed as an appendix to this report.

4.4 Delegates were then able to attend two of the following parallel workshop sessions, viz: -

#### Road Safety

- .Strategies and Targets -The Role of the Police Service with Pat Docherty of the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland.
- .Strategies and Targets -A UK Perspective with Dave Rogers, RoSPA.

#### Home Safety

- .Carbon Monoxide Poisoning with Debbie Davies and Sue Jatter of GO Support.
- .Garden Safety with George Smart of Happy Plant Garden Centre.

#### Water and Leisure Safety

- .Strategic Overview of Fire Precautions in Public Places with David Kennedy of Strathclyde Fire Brigade.
- .Sport and Leisure Complexes with Linda Bishop-Bailey of the Institute of Sport and Recreation Management.

4.5 The second day of the Conference commenced with a presentation from Monique Lockhart of the BBC on the Medium of Radio in Accident Prevention. It was explained that areas covered by educational radio programmes were selected and prioritised by teachers, who also assisted in the production of teachers' notes for use in conjunction with the programmes.

4.6 Later in the morning delegates were able to attend two of the undernoted parallel workshop sessions, viz:-

#### Road Safety

- .Strategies and Targets -A Scottish Perspective with John Ross Scott, CoSLA Road Safety Working Group.
- .Strategies and Targets -A Local Perspective with Norman Johnston of Angus Council.

#### Home Safety

- .Experiential Learning with Eleanor Thomson, Magic WAND and Margaret Ballantine, South Lanarkshire Council.
- .irework Registration Scheme with John Sleight, Avon Fire Brigade.

#### Water and Leisure Safety

- .Reservoir Safety with Tom Morrison, TK Safety.
- .A Professional Role within RoSPA with Peter Cornall, RoSPA Water Safety Officer .

4.7 In the course of the morning, delegates had the opportunity to hear the winners of the 2000 Public Speaking Competition, Emma Thomas and Rachna Sabharwal of Eastwood High School, East Renfrewshire Council.

4.8 The Conference concluded at 1pm with a closing address from the new President.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The costs of elected member and officer attendance at the Conference will be met from appropriate budgets held by the Council.

## **6. LEGAL/ POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Nil.

## **7. CONCLUSIONS**

7.1 Attendance at the SAPC Annual General Meeting and Conference afforded delegates an opportunity to learn about national and local developments in accident prevention. The presentations and workshops were of a high quality, provided participants with useful information and contacts and provoked much discussion.

7.2 Matters of particular interest to the Forum included discussion on such matters as domestic sprinkler systems, bonfire and firework registration schemes, road safety, carbon monoxide poisoning and experiential learning.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 It is recommended that the Forum agree:

- (i) to advise the Secretary of any local businesses which may be interested in corporate membership of SAPC; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

W Stafford  
Director of Community Services

13 September 2000  
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### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Agenda and papers in relation to the AGM issued by Michael McDonnell, Secretary, Scottish Accident Prevention Council.
2. Conference Pack held by Principal Officer- Licensing and Community Safety.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone 01563 576111 and ask for Mr John Crawford, Head of Protective Services or email on [john.crawford@east-avrshire.Qov.uk](mailto:john.crawford@east-avrshire.Qov.uk).

**AGENDA**