

**The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness
AGM
Wednesday 5th June 2019
6.00 to 8.00 pm, Committee Room 3, the Scottish Parliament.
Focus on: **Child Safety****

Minutes

1. Welcome: Clare Adamson MSP (Convener)

Clare Adamson, MSP, welcomed everyone to the meeting and AGM. She paid special thanks to Stuart McMillan, MSP and Emma Harper, MSP.

Ms Adamson expressed her thanks to Michael Avril of RNLI for covering the catering costs for the evening. She also expressed her thanks to Lis Bardell and noted that this would be her last CPG. She thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

2. Present and Apologies

Ms Adamson advised that a list of those present and apologies submitted had been collated by the Secretary and would be attached as an Appendix to the Minutes of the Meeting (See Appendix One).

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (*20th March 2019 – circulated previously*)
a. Accuracy

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings, proposed by: Brian Topping, and seconded by Bill Harley.

b. Matters Arising:
There were no matters arising.

4. Consultation on Children's Rights

Ms Adamson discussed the Consultation which is currently out on the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots law. Elizabeth Lumsden urged people to take a look and highlight article 24 (e). The consultation closes on the 14th August. Ms Adamson noted that it was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to comment. See <https://www.gov.scot/publications/childrens-rights-consultation-incorporating-uncrc-rights-child-domestic-law-scotland>

5. Secretary's Report RoSPA – tabled

Elizabeth Lumsden tabled the Secretary's report and highlighted that RoSPA remains honoured and delighted to provide the Secretariat to the group. Elizabeth noted that the annual return reflects the interest from organisations, individuals and MSPs. At each CPG there has been an average attendance of 45 people.

Elizabeth also paid thanks to Ms Adamson for her continuing interest in safety and convening the CPG. She further expressed thanks to Lis Bardell who she noted had provided invaluable knowledge and guidance since the setting up of the CPG six years ago. The Secretary's Report is attached at Appendix Two.

6. Headlines

RoSPA – tabled

Elizabeth Lumsden tabled the Headlines Newsletter and noted the article from Fife on Drivewise and an article from SSERC. She also highlighted RoSPA's Homeward newsletter. Elizabeth urged members to provide information for the Headlines newsletter to share with the membership of the CPG. Headlines is attached at Appendix Three.

7. Three-Minute Pitches.

- (i) Ms Adamson introduced David Woods who works for Gist Ltd to speak about the Child Road Safety programme carried out by the company. David discussed GIST's corporate social responsibility project on child road safety. The project provides safety instruction for primary school children free of charge.

Ms Adamson thanked David for his pitch and noted that she would highlight this initiative to her MSP colleagues. Ms Adamson asked how members could let schools know about this project. David suggested to pass on the leaflet provided. David can also be contacted by email at david.wood@gistworld.com

- (ii) Ms Adamson introduced Michael Avril who is chair of Water Safety Scotland and RNLI Community Safety Partner. He has been involved with Water Safety Scotland since its inception and Chair for last three and a half years. Michael discussed the recent WAID statistics which were released in 2018. He thanked RoSPA and Carlene McAvoy for her work on the annual trend report. Michael finished by saying that every single fatality is a tragedy and can be prevented.

Ms Adamson noted the difference in age category of those at most risk compared with Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy and asked if the report was available to view. Michael noted that it was and can be accessed here: <https://watersafetyscotland.org.uk/media/1443/scotland-waid-report.pdf>

Stuart MacMillan, MSP asked if it is known whether alcohol was a factor in many of these fatalities. Michael responded that he was unsure but that this could go back to Carlene and Water Safety Scotland's Data Subgroup to look at.

- (iii) Ms Adamson welcomed Gregor Steele from the SSERC (Scottish Schools Education Research Centre). The SSERC is a local authority shared service that advises and runs courses on exciting, engaging, safe practical work in STEM subjects. Gregor discussed the difference between hazards and risk and the need to get students to understand this and think critically of some of the information they are bombarded with through social media.

Ms Adamson invited questions and comments. Sylvia McKay said that involving children really works. Gregor noted that it is great to see young people differentiate risk and hazards and get involved. Sylvia noted that the move within Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate to involve children to give them freedom to find risks is important. Risk should be at the top of the agenda.

- iv) Ms Adamson welcomed Marguerite Hunter Blair who is the Chief Executive of Play Scotland - the national play organisation. Marguerite is a leading figure promoting the child's right to play in Scotland since 2006. Marguerite is Chair of Scotland's Play Council Strategy Group supporting the implementation of Scotland's National Play Strategy. Marguerite is Scotland's representative on the UK Play Safety Forum, the UK Children's Play Policy Forum and a member of the BSI committee for children's playgrounds standards. Marguerite discussed the benefits of risk and challenge in children's play and how it helps to build a powerful and resilient community.

Ms Adamson noted that the presentation was fascinating and also relevant to the CPG on Education and Skills. Ms Adamson noted that there was fantastic work going on in the schools in Wishaw which has helped to reduce anti-social behaviour. Ms Adamson extended an invitation for Marguerite to visit.

Trisha Spacey noted that she was interested to learn more as Fife Council receives complaints about young people and she would be interested in Marguerite's work to help build multigenerational capacity for a more inclusive and resilient community.

Emma Harper, MSP noted that she was interested in the presentation and work and would like to follow up.

Ms Adamson thanked all four speakers for their pitches and noted that the pitches were RoSPA's idea and were very good at providing the chance for members to speak. The strength of the CPG is through the networking and connections made and by sharing information on what members are doing.

8. Annual General Meeting

- a. Election of Office Bearers

Ms Adamson handed over to Elizabeth Lumsden. Elizabeth asked for a proposal for a Convenor. Brian Topping proposed Clare Adamson, MSP which was seconded by Emma Harper, MSP.

Elizabeth handed back over to the convenor, Ms Adamson. Ms Adamson proposed RoSPA to continue as secretariat. This was seconded by Brian Topping.

Ms Adamson also noted that Maurice Corry MSP had expressed willingness to serve as Vice Convenor of this CPG. This was seconded by Emma Harper, MSP.

Stuart McMillan, MSP left the meeting. Maurice Corry, MSP joined the meeting and noted he was flattered to be elected as Vice Convenor.

9. Presentations

(All presentations are available on the RoSPA website at <http://www.rospa.com/about/around-the-uk/scotland/cross-party-group>)

a) Katrina Phillips, Child Accident Prevention Trust

Ms Adamson introduced Katrina Phillips from Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT). Katrina is Chief Executive of CAPT, a national charity working to reduce the numbers of children killed or seriously injured in preventable accidents. CAPT organises Child Safety Week, a national safety education campaign, with activities and events held across Scotland this week.

Katrina provided an overview of child safety week.

Ms Adamson thanked Katrina for her presentation and invited questions.

Brian Topping thanked Katrina for the presentation and noted that for many years organisations have been lobbying for mandatory home safety officers. Brian also noted RoSPA resources and the importance of education. He highlighted the baby box and the potential use of soap operas to get messaging out. Brian said he felt frustrated that there was a lot of great work going on but improvement needs made on joining this up.

Katrina Phillips agreed that home safety had lagged behind other topics despite the best efforts of those around the table. Katrina noted there was lots of good work and clear commitment through the Scottish Government.

Emma Harper, MSP agreed that it was interesting presentation. She asked if the data presented which focussed on the costs of traumatic brain injuries was from falls from height or from bikes without helmets. Katrina advised that the calculation used general info e.g. falls from height rather than specifics. Ms Harper noted that this has given her some ideas for her work with quad bikes and helmets.

Emma Harper, MSP left the meeting.

Ms Adamson noted her interest in the issue of home safety officers and how these posts no longer exist due to pressures and council cut backs. Ms Adamson notes that the UNCRC provides a new opportunity which can be used to help push the issue.

Sylvia McKay noted that she appreciates the point about the baby box and also noted that childminders and health visitors would be good contacts to use to get information out to parents.

Ms Adamson agreed that it was disappointing that there was no safety information in the baby box and that this was highlighted to her previously by RoSPA. Ms Adamson also suggested the Book Bug packs would be a useful avenue for information to get out.

Sylvia said that she believed that the nurseries provided a huge opportunity. Marguerite Hunter Blair highlighted that there were various health visitor initiatives and it was about using what is already established to get the message out.

b) Dr Jillian McFadzean

Ms Adamson welcomed Dr McFadzean who is a consultant in paediatric anaesthesia and paediatric intensive care at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh.

Dr McFadzean discussed the Child Death Review process and noted the key point that there were 218 avoidable deaths in Scotland last year in the age 0 - 19 age group. Dr McFadzean also provided a case study to highlight the difference that a multiagency review can make.

Ms Adamson invited questions and noted that those in care should be involved in that process. Clare Burnett noted that this is already the case but the gap is for those young people not in care. Dr McFadzean asked that the CPG take this campaign for the Child Death Review process (to go up to age 25) forward.

Chris Bell noted that he could not emphasise enough the multiagency approach. Chris noted that SCOTSS should be involved in any such process if a product is involved as it would be Trading Standards that would have to recall it. The issue is that parents assume a product is ok rather than examining it first to check if it is.

Patricia Spacey noted that she has just finished a secondment with SCSN and had worked with RoSPA to look at this very issue of death reviews and improving data. Ms Adamson asked if the information from this group can be shared. Patricia also asked if local councils should be pushing home safety advice. Dr McFadzean noted that simple messaging and instructions were needed as not every parent has the same cognitive ability. She also noted that the issues do change e.g. hot tubs and garden ponds are popular now.

Mr Corry noted that his daughter had a wonderful health visitor who provided lots of information but asked if this would be consistent across Scotland and would they be aware of the information Dr McFadzean had just presented? Dr McFadzean noted that the information is not well shared and that health boards need to communicate better.

Patricia Spacey noted that they had a recent case in which a liquid laundry capsule did not dissolve properly and caused burns. Chris Bell noted that if the product is not performing as it should then Trading Standards need to know about it so they can raise it with the manufacturers. Ms Adamson asked if that link could be made.

Dr McFadzean noted that social media could be used for issues such as baby car seats and slings. Ms Adamson noted that there was a presentation previously on car seats and this is still available on the RoSPA website.

c) Carlene McAvoy, RoSPA

Ms Adamson welcomed Carlene McAvoy from RoSPA. Carlene has worked with RoSPA in Scotland for five years and is the Community Safety Development Manager for RoSPA Scotland. Her work focusses specifically on Home and Water Safety. Her role seeks to reduce unintentional injuries across Scotland. Carlene discussed RoSPA's Keeping Kids Safe in the Home project that is due to launch on June 17th in Edinburgh.

Carlene's presentation can be accessed along with all the others at <http://www.rospace.com/about/around-the-uk/scotland/cross-party-group>

Ms Adamson thanked Carlene for her presentation.

10. Date of next meeting: The next Meeting of the CPG will take place on 20th November 2019 and the theme will be Data and Research.

Ms Adamson thanked everyone for their attendance.

Appendix One

Attendees and Apologies

MSPs

Clare Adamson	Convenor
Maurice Corry	Vice Convenor
Stuart McMillan	
Emma Harper	

Speakers

Carlene McAvoy	RoSPA
Dr Jillian McFadzean	RCPCH
Katrina Phillips	CAPT
David Wood	GIST
Gregor Steele	SSSERC
Michael Avril	Water Safety Scotland
Marguerite Hunter Blair	Play Scotland

Attendees

Fiona Alder	Fife Council
Alister Atkinson	Bluerad
Chris Bell	SCOTSS
Claire Burnett	RCPCH
Gerry Carty	AVANTI
David Carruthers	AVANTI
Helen Dent	RNLI
Jim Dorman	St Andrew's First Aid
ACO Ross Haggart	SFRS
Bill Harley	Fife Council
Lynn Hill	Fife Council
Fiona Hodgson	SNIPEF
Wayne Mackay	Electrical Safety First
Sylvia McKay	NDNA
Neil McNicol	John McNicol &co Ltd
DACO Alasdair Perry	DFRS
Louise Slorrance	RCPCH
Patricia Spacey	Fife Council
Norman Stevenson	Safety Groups UK
Brian Topping	Safety Advocate

In attendance

Elizabeth Bardell	Clare Adamson's Office
Kate Barclay	Clare Adamson's Office
Elizabeth Lumsden	Secretariat, RoSPA
Nicola McManus	Clare Adamson's Office
Alistair Taylor	Clare Adamson's Office

Apologies received

Chris Bielby	SGN
Andy Cathro	Dundee and Angus Colleges
Hannah Dale	NHS Tayside
Dave Forrester	SELECT
Kathy Jenkins	Scottish Hazards
Jane Campbell Morrison	AALS
Laura McDermott	Dundee City Council
Andrew McGilveray	SPFL Trust
Cherie Morgan	Play Scotland
Oliver Mundell	MSP
Fiona Taylor	SPFL Trust

Appendix Two

The Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness

Wednesday 5th June 2019

6.00 pm till 8.00 pm Committee Room 3, the Scottish Parliament

Secretary's Report

Twitter: #cpgapsa

AGM

RoSPA Scotland remains honoured and delighted to continue to provide the Secretariat to the Cross Party Group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness. This last year has been as busy as ever with a wide range of themes and topics covered during the meetings not to mention all the 'spin-off' events that have taken place as a result of good networking amongst members and the events that have taken place in the Scottish Parliament.

The Annual Return has been completed ready for approval by the members and for submission to the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee before the end of June. The Annual Return reflects the interest and support that is ongoing, demonstrated by regular MSP/Ministerial attendance, an average attendance of 45 per meeting, 14 main speakers and 12 'three-minute pitch' speakers covering 26 different topics across a wide range of safety-related themes.

Thanks to Clare Adamson MSP for continuing her support and interest in the Group and its members and in the prevention of accidental injuries across the board by asking Questions and hosting Member's Debates as well as expertly convening each meeting. Thanks also to Clare's team who have supported the meetings in various ways but especially to Lis Bardell who has offered invaluable guidance and knowledge since the formulation of the CPG six years ago.

Members

A list of all current members and member organisations is available on the Scottish Parliament website. Click [here](#) to view.

Please check that you or your organisation is listed correctly. If any amendments are required, please email communitysafety@rospa.com

The approved Minutes of each meeting can also be found on the Scottish Parliament website at <https://www.parliament.scot/msps/accident-prevention.aspx>

Presentations from each meeting are posted to the RoSPA website after each meeting. Please click [here](#) to view.

Refreshments

Catering this evening has been funded by RNLI thanks to Michael Avril.

Elizabeth Lumsden
Secretary

Appendix Three

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The Scottish Parliament

HEADLINES

Thanks to those who contributed the following information:

[Fife Pupils Taught to "Drivewise"](#)



Following on from the succession of the 2018 Drivewise event, Fife Council's Safer Communities Team, in partnership with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Scottish Ambulance Service, delivered another triumphant Drivewise event for 120 Glenrothes secondary pupils at the Leuchars Station (MOD) base last week.

The Drivewise project, which is funded by Fife Council Safer Communities and supported by John Clark Specialist Motors, who loan 10 vehicles for the week-long event, gives the young people an opportunity to learn basic driving techniques / road rules by carrying out a series of simple manoeuvres in a vehicle. This is further complimented by a series of workshops that are aimed at instilling a sense of responsible behaviour when driving / being a passenger that the young people attend throughout the day - workshops include the use of; virtual reality goggles, seatbelt convincer, beer goggles, first aid and much more.

Miss Murrion Sword from Glenwood High School (3L1) told the team, *“this was the first time I had driven a car and I could not believe that I was allowed to do this. I thought it would be really scary at the start but when I was in the car it was great fun. I learned a lot about cars and car safety and I am excited about learning to drive now. I think it was very worthwhile and hope others can get this opportunity in the future. The instructors were great. I loved everything about the day.”*

Contributor:

Name: Bill Harley

Organisation: Safer Communities, Fife

Homeward Newsletter

RoSPA regularly distributes the 'Homeward' newsletter to colleagues with an interest in home and water safety ('community safety'). Issues will typically contain information on consultations, projects and initiatives, events, funding opportunities and facts and figures. If you would like to sign up to receive this newsletter please contact communitysafety@rospa.com with the subject heading 'Homeward'.

Contributor:

Name: Carlene McAvoy

Organisation: RoSPA Scotland

Involving students in safety

'Advanced Higher students carrying out project work can write their own risk assessments. True or False?'

This is a question we often ask at SSERC health and safety courses and most people answer, "True, but the risk assessments should be checked by a teacher." It's a good answer and one that often leads to discussion on how we can involve young people in risk assessment from an early age. Many teachers, perhaps subconsciously, do this from day 1. A secondary science teacher may, when running the first practical with a new S1 class, ask them what they think the hazards are in the activity and how the risk could be managed, though they might not use this language.

- What could harm you in this experiment?'
- How are you going to keep safe?'

Risk and risk management is specifically mentioned in CfE at all levels in Broad General Education:

'I am learning to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm when possible.'

HWB 0-16a/HWB 1-16a/HWB 2-16a/HWB 3-16a/ HWB 4-16a

In addition, some courses such as Skills for Work:

Laboratory Science at National 5 and Advanced Higher Chemistry require students to produce formal risk assessments as a part of the course. The following strategies, along with the aforementioned questioning, should help students develop skills in risk assessment and risk management. It helps if we make it clear to students that risk assessing is a process. The outcome of the process is a document, a risk assessment, which is a record of the process and which contains the control measures needed to carry out the activity safely.

Help students distinguish between hazards and risks

A hazard is something that can cause harm, like electricity. Risk combines the likelihood of something going wrong with the severity of harm should it do so. Use examples such as crossing the road. Whether you cross the school playground or the M8 motorway on a Saturday afternoon, the hazard is the same - being struck by traffic. However, there is usually very little traffic in the playground, so the chances of being hit are small, and vehicles generally move slowly, so any injury is unlikely to be severe. Contrast this with the M8, where there is much more traffic and consequently a greater chance of being struck. The traffic tends to move so fast that any impact is going to result in a life-changing injury if not death. Starting with the same hazard, we have two vastly different risks, one which is easily reduced further by looking both ways, the other being intolerable no matter what control measures you put in place.

When we say that a risk is intolerable, we mean that there is no way to carry out the activity safely. Some risks are trivial - no control measures are required. In the middle ground are risks that are tolerable provided certain control measures are implemented.

"Move along, nothing to see here" Emphasise that some activities have no significant hazards and that if this is the case, nothing more needs to be done. Nothing undermines Health and Safety more than the elevation of trivial hazards into significant risks, requiring all sorts of pointless control measures. Eye protection does not need to be worn when a trolley is rolled down a slope. There is a real danger of being seen to 'cry wolf'. If you insist on eye protection for all activities involving 'chemicals' then there is the danger that students will become blasé due to having to wear them for substances they know are harmless, vinegar or salt solution for example, and this could lead to them assuming that the eye protection simply isn't that important.

Model the behaviour you expect

Insisting that students wear eye protection then not wearing it yourself may suggest to students that eye protection is just a nag dreamed up by you to exercise your authority. Or perhaps they will feel they have been made to dress up as scientists.

Don't get students to dress up as scientists If students require a lab coat or safety glasses in order to protect themselves, fine. If not, they should not wear them. Personal protective equipment is not a uniform that identifies someone as a scientist. Indeed, the Royal Society of Chemistry has resources based around the theme, 'Not all chemists wear white coats'. Work where lab coats must be worn represents only a subset of science. We have heard some primary teachers say that their children love wearing white coats (or a parent's old white shirt) for science, but we have to ask whether the same teachers would have their pupils wear artists' smocks when drawing with pencils. This is an area where we would genuinely like to hear your views.

Teach older students to be systematic There may be general hazards in an activity-slips, impact, cutting etc. It may help students to comprehensively cover other hazards by grouping them. For example:

- Fire
- Chemical - toxic, corrosive, flammable, irritant

- Electrical
- Radiation - ionising and non-ionising
- Biological - materials of living origin, microbiological

Talk about risk assessment and the workplace Students should be aware that they must follow safety advice and if they don't, they cannot take part in practical work. It is worth explaining to all students that in the workplace, risk assessments are carried out. Safety advice is then drawn up and communicated to staff . The consequences of failing to follow your employer's safety guidance could be disciplinary measures up to and including dismissal. In school, in the workplace and in life in general it is impossible to eliminate risk. CfE recognises the importance of young people assessing and managing risk. In school science and technology departments, we have an unrivalled opportunity to develop their skills in this area.

Contributor:

Name: Gregor Steele

Organisation: SSERC (Scottish Schools Education Research Centre)



Please submit contributions for future issues to: communitysafety@rospa.com