



**PROTECTING PEOPLE**  
*in East Ayrshire*

# NEWSLETTER

issue **five**

**Welcome to the fifth online newsletter from the East Ayrshire Protecting People partners.**

Many people may be unaware of the sterling work which is carried out within East Ayrshire between several different partners to protect children, young people, adults and women at risk.

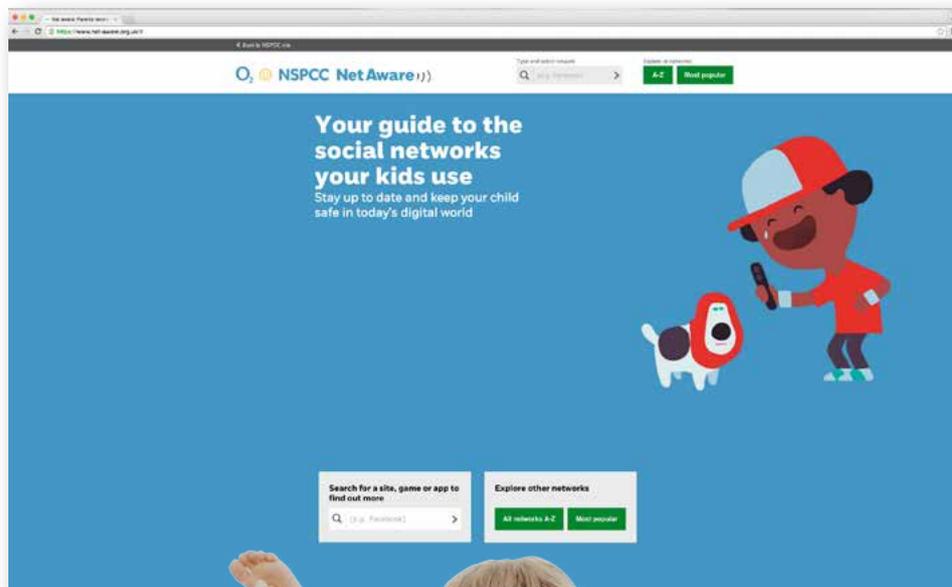
We hope you will find this newsletter useful in keeping you updated on the work of the East Ayrshire Protecting People partners and also of wider issues, available resources and initiatives that are in place to protect the people of East Ayrshire.

# CHILD PROTECTION

## Keeping children safe on the move

The NSPCC with O2 have launched a Net Aware guide as an app to support parents on the go and to help them keep their children safe on the move.

Visit <http://www.net-aware.org.uk/>



## National campaign highlighted how to spot signs of abuse



East Ayrshire Council supported the first TV campaign in the UK to tackle child sexual exploitation earlier this year.

It came about after new research showed that 93% of parents have heard of child sexual exploitation, but almost a third know little about it and over a third believe it won't affect their family.

In 2014/15, Childline in Scotland provided 635 counselling sessions to children and young people worried about child sexual exploitation, with the NSPCC responding to 62 enquiries from adults in Scotland in the same period. But experts feel these figures may be the tip of the iceberg.

The TV advert highlighted how to spot the warning signs of this form of abuse and showed how conversations online can potentially lead to a young person placing themselves in danger.

For more information, visit [www.csethesigns.co.uk](http://www.csethesigns.co.uk).



**PROTECTING PEOPLE** in East Ayrshire

**CHILD PROTECTION**

# ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION

East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee  
**Acting  
against  
harm**  
Protecting People Through Zero Tolerance of Harm

## Council supports Adult Protection campaign

February saw the launch of the national Adult Support and Protection media campaign which featured the strapline 'Seen Something, Say Something'.



As well as adverts in local newspapers, the Council successfully used social media to get the message out to local people and one post on Facebook was seen by 32,700 people. The campaign also caught the attention of Westsound Radio who interviewed senior managers about the campaign messages.

For more information on the national campaign, or for local information on Adult Support and Protection, visit

**[www.actagainstharm.org](http://www.actagainstharm.org)**.

## Council Officer Forum

The Council Officer Forum supports practitioners in their role as Adult Support and Protection Council officers.

It's a resource that allows for the sharing of evidence about what works, encouraging reflective practice in collaboration with the Social Services Scotland: A Shared Vision Strategy 2015 – 2020.

East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership currently has 97 qualified Adult Support and Protection Council Officers who have undertaken additional training to support them in their statutory role.

There are three Council Officer Forums scheduled for 2016:

- *25 May 2016 – Trauma Through the Lifespan (podcast and discussion)*
- *31 August 2016 – Self Neglect (responding to the challenges and building the evidence base)*
- *18 November 2016 – Peer Reflection Session*

For more information or to book a place on any of the above, email **[MAPS@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:MAPS@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)** or call 01563 576728.

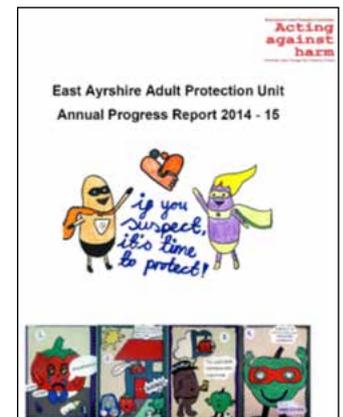
To view the East Ayrshire Multi Agency Training Calendar, visit **<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/A/PUBLIC-ASP-2016-Calendar.pdf>**

## Annual progress reported

The East Ayrshire Adult Protection Unit's Annual Progress Report was published at the end of 2015, and reported that during 2014/15:

- *552 reports were received of adults being harmed*
- *alcohol and/or substance use was a contributory factor for 137 referrals about adults at risk of harm*
- *reports of harm included 218 adults aged 65 or over who were at risk of being harmed*
- *there were 265 reports where people had mental health issues*

The full report is available at **[www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/asap](http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/asap)**



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**ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION**

## Learning & Development

Jennifer Bruce, the Learning and Development Practitioner within the Adult Protection Unit, has taken up a year's secondment with Cosla.

Jenny joined the Unit in November 2011 and quickly developed the Multi Agency Training Calendar. In 2014/15 a total of 1,829 training places were made available. Jenny was also at the core of the Protecting People in Schools initiative which was delivered to a number of schools across East Ayrshire last year. Our good wishes go to Jenny in her new post and we look forward to welcoming her back in early January 2017.

The Multi Agency Training Calendar (<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/Resources/PDF/A/PUBLIC-ASP-2016-Calendar.pdf>) remains available and any enquiries in relation to Adult Protection training should be directed to Donna Sinforiani, Adult Protection Coordinator at [MAPS@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:MAPS@east-ayrshire.gov.uk) or call 01563 576728.

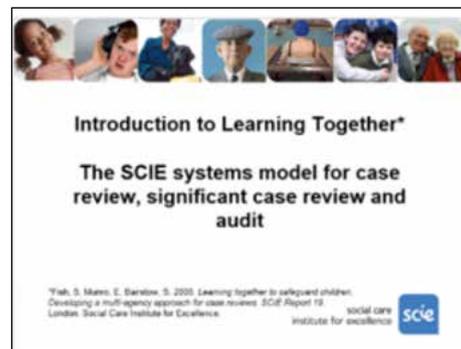


## Social Care Institute for Excellence Development Day

The Learning Together model has been used for a number of years by those working in Child Protection. Last December, the East Ayrshire Adult Protection Coordinator attended an information session on Learning Together where lead officers in Adult Protection shared their knowledge and understanding around conducting Case Reviews, Significant Case Reviews and Self Evaluation Audits.

Presentations explained how it was important to look at how things were handled from the perspective of the worker involved, using the protocols and procedures in force at the time rather than looking in from the outside with the benefit of hindsight.

By Learning Together, officers can share information on what worked well for both staff and service users and what didn't. For more information on the SCIE model, go to <http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/ata glance/ata glance01.asp>



## Things Tae Dae at SKY Academy

In March, members of the Things Tae Dae Social Hub in Cumnock visited the SKY Academy in Livingston where they used the TV studios to produce a short film about Disability Hate Crime.

Everyone had a great day and there was good partnership working with Police Scotland, the Adult Protection Unit and Cumnock Juniors Enterprise. The group wrote and edited their script, helped by Drama Tutor Leeanne McClymont. It's hoped that the film will be used during Learning Disability Awareness week in June this year.



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**ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION**

# ALCOHOL AND DRUGS



## HELP STAMP OUT THE STIGMA OF ADDICTION



Many people who develop an alcohol or drug problem face many obstacles apart from just their addiction, including stigma.

The way we talk about drugs and the people who use them can create or uphold stigma. Words like 'junkie' and 'addict' dehumanise a person who may be struggling with a drug problem.

Most people we come into contact with – family, friends, neighbours, colleagues – are dealt with as individuals. Each one is different, with their qualities and faults accepted as part of their personal characteristics. When stigma intervenes, the person is no longer seen as a multi-faceted personality but simply as a stereotype. He or she is perceived not only as behaving differently from us but actually not being like us. This doesn't only create enormous problems for the person who is stigmatised, but for their family and society generally because it puts people outside the normal reach of society.

It can easily push those who have changed, or are trying to change, their behaviour to give up their efforts. Stigma may make reform and the possibility of a new life seem impossible. The attitude is: "Once a junkie, always a junkie".

People who struggle with drug dependence should be afforded the same dignity, respect and support as a person who struggles with any difficult issue.

You can help end stigma by learning the facts about drugs, drug use and evidence-based drug treatment and sharing the information with others.

### NPS conference

Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs Paul Wheelhouse recently attended a learning event which focused on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), or so called 'legal highs'.



On 28 January 2016, the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 was given Royal Assent. This Act makes it an offence to produce, import or supply any substance likely to produce a psychoactive effect on an individual. Unlike the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, possession of NPS will not be an offence unless possession occurs in a custodial center.

At the event, speakers from the NHS, Police Scotland, Scottish Drugs Forum, East Ayrshire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Barnardos and Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs addressed issues including the local effects of NPS, young people and NPS, and current trends. A particular focus was on how we provide our young people with information and education about the risks from these substances.

Participants then had the opportunity to discuss and develop opportunities for improved partnership working and information sharing so that agencies, services and organisations are able to respond to this ever changing issue quickly and effectively.



**PROTECTING PEOPLE** in East Ayrshire

**ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

# NOTICE BOARD

Do you want to  
volunteer where YOU  
can make a difference?



## BEFRIENDERS WANTED



Would you be interested in becoming a Befriender?

Some older adults need an extra "Special Person" in their lives for different reasons.

We are currently looking for caring adults from all walks of life, who can befriend and support older adults in the East Ayrshire areas.

A few hours a week is all it takes to make a big difference.

Training and expenses provided.

If you are interested, please call Wilma on 01290 550573 or email [wilma.love@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:wilma.love@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)



[www.facebook.com/eavibrantcommunities](http://www.facebook.com/eavibrantcommunities) | [www.eac.eu/thebuzz](http://www.eac.eu/thebuzz) | Email: [vibrantcommunities@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:vibrantcommunities@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

# inVigor8



A specific exercise programme designed to improve mobility, strength and balance helping reduce the risk of falls



*"Feel more confident.*

*Make new friends!"*



East Ayrshire  
COUNCIL



PROTECTING PEOPLE in East Ayrshire

NOTICE BOARD

# What we do...



## Hilary Scott

At the start of this year I took up post as one of two newly appointed Planning and Performance Officers with East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

In my previous posts at the Scottish Government and West Lothian Council I was responsible for strategic planning, policy-making and continuous improvement within the alcohol and drugs field.

In this new role I have responsibility for providing strategic planning, performance and continuous improvement support to Children's Health, Care and Justice Services and the East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership.

So far this has involved facilitating the development of an Improvement Plan for Children's Health, Care and Justice Services for 2016-17, which outlines our ambitions to achieve improved outcomes for people receiving our services.

Under new Health and Social Care Partnership arrangements, the work of Children's Health, Care and Justice services is broad ranging and includes the prison based health team (including police custody); child health services (health visiting and school nursing) and social work services (children, families and justice). As part of my induction I have met a number of colleagues within partner agencies who are all dedicated and passionate, and I look forward to building positive working relationships with them going forward.

One of my next big tasks is to develop an updated action plan and according performance framework for the work of the East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership. I will also be involved in supporting the transition of the South West Scotland Community Justice Authority and no doubt lots of other exciting things!

## Don't let a burglar create storm clouds over your summer

As temperatures hopefully start to rise over the next few weeks, residents are reminded not to leave their doors and windows open or unlocked.



Simple measures which people should take include:

- *Lock all doors and windows when in the garden or garage;*
- *Never leave keys in door locks or windows or on view;*
- *Never leave valuables, like mobile phones, jewellery or handbags, near windows.*

Burglars will always go for the easy option. A handbag, wallet, mobile phone or keys left next to an unlocked front door or open window is an incredibly easy target. All it takes is a few seconds for an opportunist to sneak in.

Residents should also keep an eye on the homes of neighbours, especially if they are away on holiday.

Anyone who sees suspicious activity should report it to the police on 101. Call 999 for crimes in progress.





## **PROTECTING PEOPLE** in East Ayrshire

If you have any suggestions for articles that could feature in the next edition of the Protecting People newsletter, please email [caroline.gordon@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.gordon@east-ayrshire.gov.uk).

If you are worried about someone's safety or need advice, call:

### **Police Scotland**

**Telephone** 101 (or 999 in an emergency)

### **Social Services (Kilmarnock)**

*The Johnnie Walker Bond, 15 Strand Street, Kilmarnock KA1 1HU*

**Telephone** 01563 554200

**Email** [social.work@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:social.work@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **Social Services (Cumnock)**

*Rothesay House, Greenholm Road, Cumnock KA18 1LH*

**Telephone** 01290 427720

**Email** [social.work@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:social.work@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **Emergency Out of Hours Social Work Service**

**Telephone** 0800 328 7758

**Note:** *The Emergency Out of Hours Social Work Service is available after 5pm until 9am, Monday to Friday and throughout the weekend, including public holidays. You will be put through to the Ayrshire Social Work Out of Hours Response Service. A qualified Social Worker will assess the circumstances referred.*