

Forth Valley Public Protection

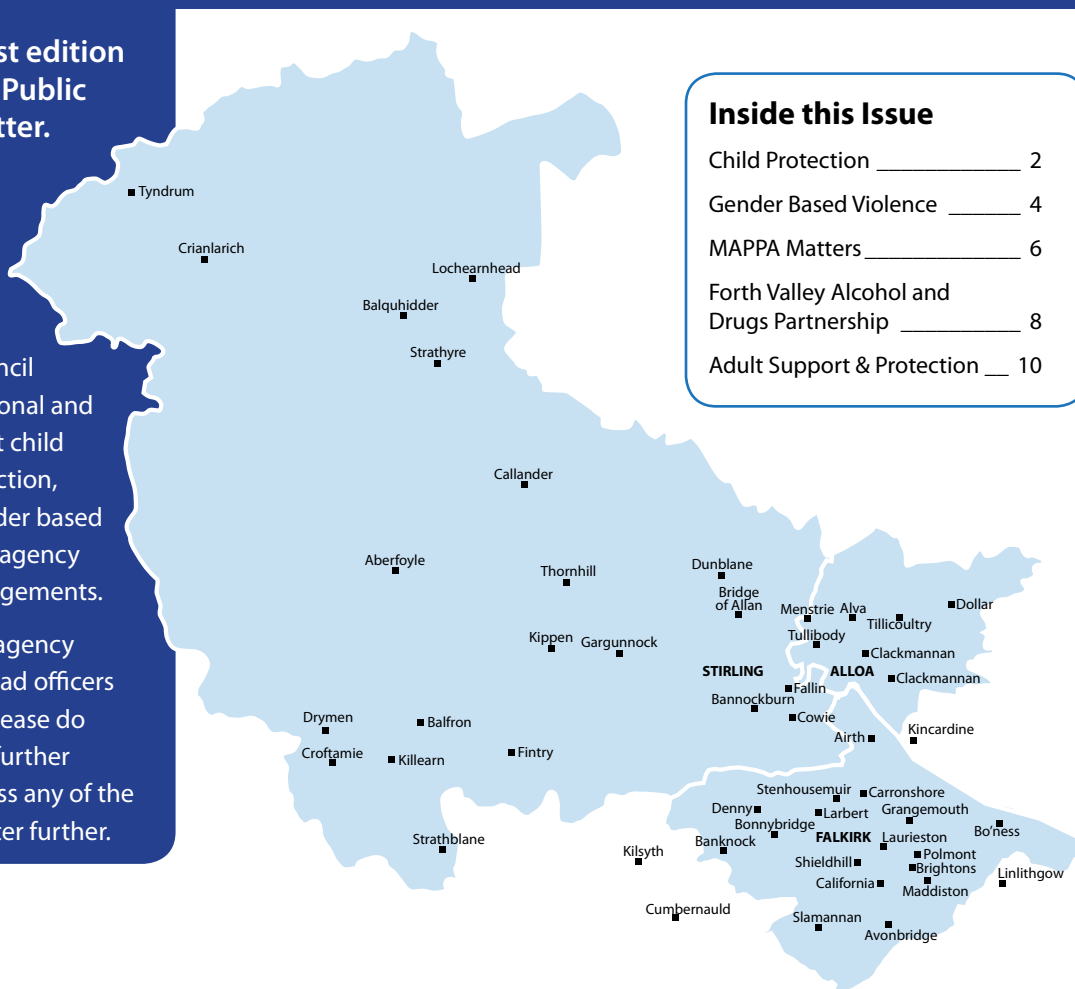
Issue 1 - Winter 2016

Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the Forth Valley Public Protection Newsletter.

This newsletter has been produced by the Public Protection lead officers across Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling council areas and includes national and local information about child protection, adult protection, substance misuse, gender based violence and the Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements.

Details of all the multi-agency partnerships and the lead officers can be found below. Please do contact us if you want further information or to discuss any of the content of the newsletter further.



Inside this Issue

Child Protection	2
Gender Based Violence	4
MAPPA Matters	6
Forth Valley Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	8
Adult Support & Protection	10

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Listen to Me approach – Integrated trauma informed first aid and support for parent survivors. This approach is being developed locally to increase support to parent survivors of childhood trauma and abuse and parents impacted by their child or young person's experience of abuse.

The aim is to develop a trauma 1st Aid and support framework and toolkit agreed by statutory and third sector partners that builds capacity and resource across the workforce; aimed at offering parent survivor's consistent trauma informed support and services at their chosen point of contact.

A partnership proposal to help develop and embed the approach was recently submitted for Survivor Scotland Innovation and Development funding 2016-17 - Towards Partnership Working.

Six month funding was awarded by Scottish Government for the period November 2016 – April 2017. Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership are leading on this alongside the development of services for adult survivors of trauma within Falkirk. The Child Protection Committee and Voluntary Children's Services Forum are key partners in taking this exciting initiative forward.

Plans are underway to develop a system that enables statutory and third sector partners to share information and resources across services to meet parent survivor personal outcomes. The resource could be training places, materials or members of staff or volunteers. Alongside this is a commitment to offer a seamless service provision that gives the parent survivor choice and control and a focus on early intervention and prevention bringing benefits to the whole family.

National Child Protection Improvement Programme – 2016

On 25th February 2016, former Cabinet Secretary for Education and Life Long Learning, Angela Constance MSP announced a National Child Protection Improvement Programme for Scotland in a statement to Parliament.

This programme consists of a number of priority areas of work:

- A review of elements of the Child Protection System
- A review of practice in the Children's Hearing system
- Scoping a programme of work around leadership to develop capacity
- A review of the role of inspection agencies
- Improving use of data and evidence
- Action to address the impact of neglect on children

The programme runs alongside ongoing work on addressing child sexual exploitation, child trafficking and internet safety.

The Scottish Government established a Systems Review Group which commenced in August 2016 and is due to report on its findings in December 2016. Catherine Dyer chairs the group which is supported by the Centre for Excellence for Looked after Children in Scotland (CELCIS), Strathclyde University, who have produced four background papers to engage stakeholders and help frame discussions. Each paper helpfully provides general background information; details of relevant legislation, policy, practice and the evidence base drawn from national, UK and international research.

The focus has been on the following areas:

- The role and function of Child Protection Committees
- Child Protection Registers and Case Conferences – what is working well?
- Significant and Initial Case Reviews – How and when are these being undertaken?
- Children and families experiences of Child Protection processes

A programme of neglect improvement work is also under development. This is being supported by CELCIS and the Centre for Child Wellbeing and Protection, Stirling University. The objective is to identify existing areas of promising practice, whilst also examining ways in which to promote sustainable improvements in practice – using evidence gathered on what works in relation to tackling chronic neglect. Intensive improvement focussed work is expected to take place from January 2017.

You can keep abreast of what is going on via the Scottish Government's child protection web pages:

www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/protecting/child-protection

Forth Valley Child Sexual Exploitation Project Board

In December, 2012, Scottish Government invited Child Protection Committees across Scotland to participate in a pilot using tools developed by the University of Bedfordshire in England in the area of Child Sexual Exploitation. Following discussion with all partners Clackmannanshire and Stirling C.P.C. and Falkirk C.P.C. responded positively to this invitation in February, 2013, and the Forth Valley Child Sexual Exploitation Project Board was established and met for the first time in June, 2013.

In August, 2013, a multi-agency seminar led by Isabel Brodie from the University of Bedfordshire, took place in Stirling and subsequently the Project Board developed an Action Plan based on the University of Bedfordshire Self Assessment Tool which included co-ordinating a multi-agency approach; recognising child sexual exploitation; supporting young people and their families; identifying, investigating, disrupting and prosecuting abusers; and collecting and managing data based

on the University of Bedfordshire data monitoring tool modified to reflect Scottish legislation and practice.

Participation in the Scottish Government pilot led to significant developments across Forth Valley. There has been discussion of C.S.E. issues in relevant partnerships including Child Protection Committees, MAPPAs, Alcohol and Drug Partnerships and the Gender Based Violence Partnerships and briefings to councillors and elected members. A C.S.E. Learning and Development Plan has been established which includes multi-agency practitioner forums on C.S.E.; targeted training for staff including residential staff and foster carers; participation in the Barnardos Training for trainers programme with a roll out of training to all staff on a multi-agency basis; and C.S.E. as the theme for the Forth Valley Child Protection Committees Annual Conference, October, 2014. CSE Guidance and a related Risk Matrix and Vulnerability Checklist have been developed and

shared with staff. Information from the Data Monitoring Tool was collated after a year (from April, 2014 to March, 2015) and this informed a review of the tool locally after consultation with staff which was shared with Scottish Government.

The Forth Valley C.S.E. Project Board held a Development Day in June, 2015, and subsequently developed a revised Action Plan based on the four Improvement Priorities in Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation, 2014, which are prevention/awareness-raising, intervention, disruption/prosecution and recovery.

In August, 2015, a presentation on the Forth Valley Child Sexual Exploitation pilot was delivered to the Ministerial Working Group on Child Sexual Exploitation and the National Child Sexual Exploitation Working Group in Edinburgh and the work of the pilot in relation to data monitoring has been shared with Child Protection Committees across Scotland.

Keeping Safe: the Views of Children and Young People

During 2016 Andrea Priestley, Children's Rights Officer, Stirling Council, and Anne Salter, Lead Officer Child Protection, Clackmannanshire and Stirling Child Protection Committee, met with children and young people in four different school and community settings to find out what they feel keeps them safe and some of their worries around this. These conversations were semi-structured and covered:

- what kinds of information children and young people would like about child protection and keeping safe
- what their worries are in this area
- how they feel these issues impact on them and on their friends
- how best they think we can help them to stay safe and
- how best to share information with them about these issues.

From the findings we were also looking to address the question: what does this tell us about children and young people's understanding of child protection issues?

Over fifty children and young people took part and their ages ranged from five to eighteen. They came from a diverse range of backgrounds and included care-experienced young people, young carers and children with disabilities. The officers met the children and young people in their settings and at times which suited the children and young people. The discussions lasted between thirty and forty-five minutes for each group. The participation and contributions by the children and young people was voluntary. To generate discussion different activities were used with the children and young people. These



activities included mapping, large group and smaller group discussion. A written record was taken of the discussion and these were later typed up as the main record of the conversations alongside photos of the mapping activities where appropriate.

The next phase is to get some young people to analyse the findings and create themes in order to produce a presentation and/or infographic. Once created this will be shared with a number of different audiences and be available on the council website. The information will also inform the work of the Child Protection Committee going forward.

Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannanshire



Equally Safe is Scotland's strategy to combat all forms of violence and abusive behaviour against women and girls. While recognising that men and people in same sex relationships can also be victims, activities within the strategy predominantly focus on male violence against women as women are the victims in the vast majority of cases precisely because of their gender and deep-rooted and systemic gender inequalities in society.

Gender-based violence encompasses the following crimes and abusive behaviours against women and girls: domestic abuse; stalking and harassment; rape and sexual assault; commercial sexual exploitation (including prostitution, pornography, lap and pole-dancing); harmful traditional practices (including forced marriage, 'honour' based violence, and female genital mutilation); human trafficking; and child abuse.

Equally Safe was published in 2014 and updated in 2016. It is a strategic framework to help organisations and partners, both individually and within Community Planning Partnerships, to align their work towards the vision of a strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse, and the attitudes that perpetuate it. The strategy sets out a shared understanding of the causes, risk factors and scale of the problem, and targets four priority areas which are further broken down into corresponding objectives.

This work is supported by the following 4 workstream groups, drawn from a wide range of experienced partners and informed by those who have experienced the abuse:

Primary prevention, under which existing evidence on what works is explored; additional ways of addressing the systematic inequality and attitudes that give rise to violence and abuse are identified and related costs and benefits are scoped. Primary prevention is explored in the widest context (society, community and individual).

Capability and Capacity, under which there is work to ensure that statutory services are increasingly competent in identifying and responding effectively to violence, as well as work to improve the capacity and capability that exists across all services.

Justice, under which a coordinated approach within the civil and criminal justice systems will be developed. This will include considering the law relating to sexual offences and domestic abuse, the

Gender-Based Violence Partnerships

support available to victims and their experiences when going through the system; the availability of statistics to build evidence bases, particularly in civil cases; training for justice system professionals; multi-agency working and opportunities for learning and sharing good practice; and the impact of justice interventions in changing perpetrator behaviour and wider public attitudes.

Accountability, under which a Performance Framework with appropriate outcomes and indicators will be developed.

The above workstreams have submitted draft workplans, which the Scottish Government has used to develop a draft Delivery Plan for Equally Safe for 2017-2021. Following consultation with key stakeholders and consideration by the Equally Safe Joint Strategic Board, the draft plan will be consulted on more widely to ensure it is comprehensive and inclusive.

Local Gender Based Violence partnerships are the delivery vehicle for Equally Safe and exist in all 3 Council areas. They comprise of the statutory, non-statutory and third sector organisations that are key to combating violence against women and girls, including: local authorities; Police Scotland; NHS Forth Valley; the justice sector; Women's Aid; Shakti Women's Aid; Rape Crisis; Forth Valley Colleges: Stirling University; Scottish Prison Service; Scottish Fire and Rescue, Alcohol and Drugs Partnerships, CSREC and various others. Ann Marie Sinclair (sinclairam@stirling.gov.uk) is the partnership coordinator for the Stirling GBV Partnership and Gail Cook (gailcook.vaw@gmail.com) is the coordinator for both the Clackmannanshire Violence against Women (VAW) Partnership and the Falkirk GBV Partnerships.

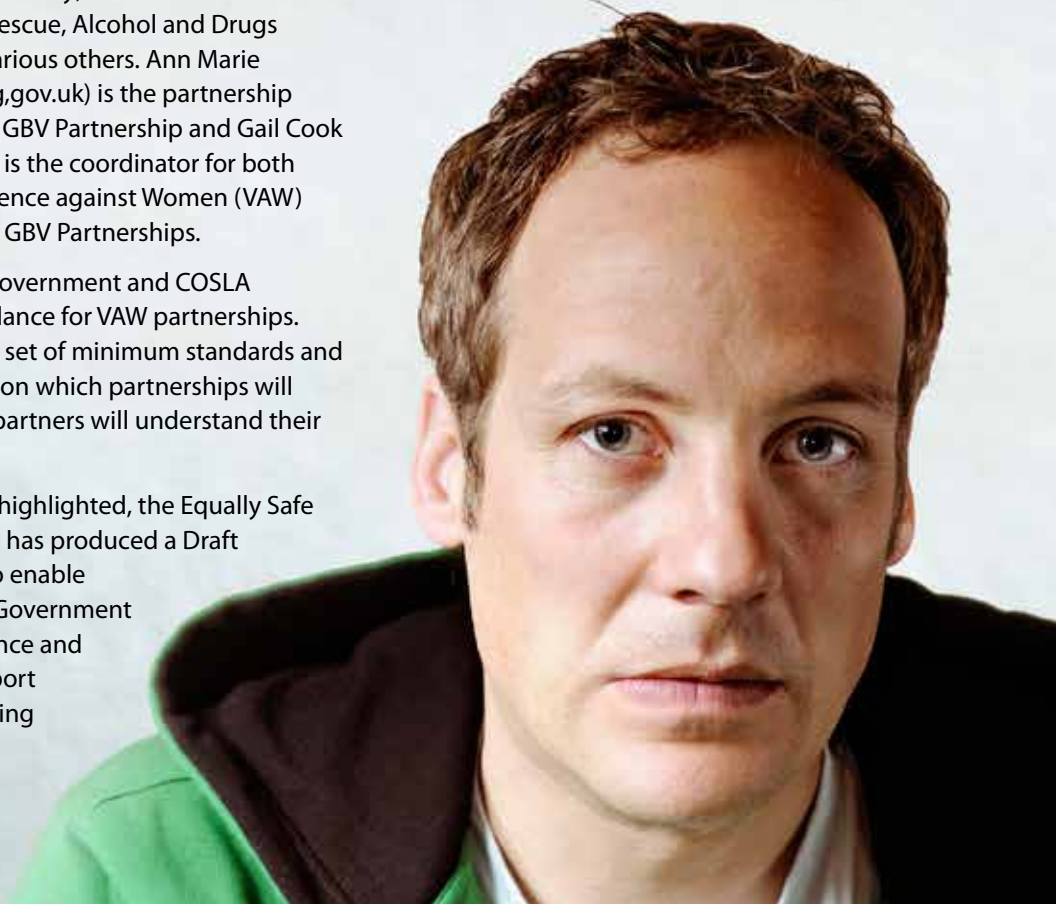
In August, 2016, Scottish Government and COSLA produced partnership guidance for VAW partnerships. This provides a framework, set of minimum standards and examples of core activities on which partnerships will base their operations and partners will understand their individual contributions.

Additionally, as previously highlighted, the Equally Safe Accountability workstream has produced a Draft Performance Framework to enable partnerships and Scottish Government to measure their performance and progress, as well as to support strategic investment planning to ensure that women and girls throughout Scotland benefit from consistently high-quality services.

The framework will form the basis of performance reporting for partnerships and be piloted in various GBV partnerships next year.

Successfully achieving the vision and aims of Equally Safe relies on a year-round commitment from GBV partnerships, although there are a number of annual events that provide fresh stimulus to initiatives and raise awareness in the partnership and public conscious of the compelling issues faced by women and girls.

The 16 Days of Action is prominent amongst these events and is an annual international campaign that calls for the elimination of all forms of violence against women. It runs from 25 November (UN International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day) and includes World Aids Day on 1 December. Locally, the 2016 campaign opens with a high-profile conference at Forth Valley College Stirling Campus on 25 November and continues with a packed programme of training, awareness raising and social media campaigning events across all 3 GBV partnerships in Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannanshire Council areas. Full details of the 16 Days of Action campaign and initiatives can be obtained via the previously detailed Stirling or Clackmannanshire/ Falkirk GBV Partnerships Coordinators.



Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements



MAPPA Matters

Annual Report 2015-16

Forth Valley MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) is one of 10 MAPPA areas across Scotland. Each of the 10 areas publishes an annual report at the end of October.

Our report this year had a dual focus on change and on impact.

2015-16 saw major changes in MAPPA. The introduction of "Other Risk of Serious Harm" offenders means that MAPPA is no longer only concerned with Registered Sex Offenders and Restricted Patients, but also with this complex third category of dangerous offenders.

The numbers of such offenders across Scotland is projected to be small, because the 'serious ongoing risk' threshold can only be met if the offender has multi-faceted risks which require high-intensity multi-agency intervention, and they have to be subject to statutory social work supervision.

As of 31st March 2016 we were managing 206 registered sex offenders and 8 restricted patients,

in the community across Forth Valley. It is anticipated that the annual figures for Category 3 offenders will be similar to that of restricted patients.

The other national change which is taking shape is the emergence of Community Justice Partnerships at local authority level, with key partners from local authorities, police, prisons, fire service, the third sector and health. These partnerships will replace the Fife and Forth Valley Community Justice Authority in March 2017, and this is the shadow year to enable that transition to take place.

Regarding the Impact of MAPPA, we have been committed to supporting both good public protection outcomes but also good outcomes for offenders. It is only by reducing risks and building protective factors in an offenders life, that we can be confident that all reasonable steps have been taken to avoid reoffending.

We believe our Offender Journey reports provide the evidence of positive impact on both.

Over the last two years we have been capturing data on offenders who come to the end of their time in MAPPA. We examine their risk and personal profile when they started in MAPPA and how that compares to when they finished.

The reports set out how well-founded risks were, whether there was matching risk management action, and if this resulted in reduced risks over time. We also looked at risk-relevant factors such as employment and accommodation, and whether offenders with underlying mental health or learning disability issues were provided with the support they needed to maximise the effectiveness of the risk management arrangements.

Please take the chance to read the report and see what we've been doing in MAPPA to contribute to public protection in Forth Valley.

The report can be found on the Fife and Forth Valley Community Justice Authority web-site:

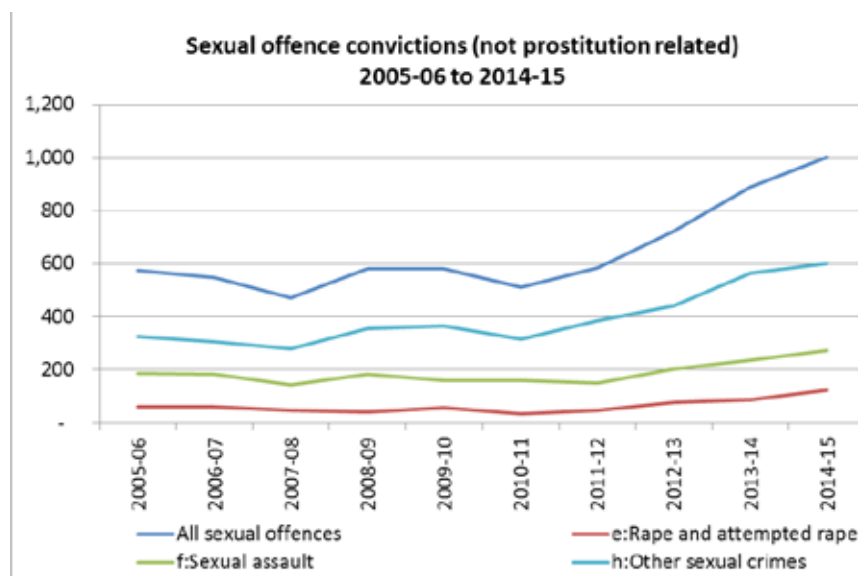
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Sexual Offences Trends

Trends in sexual offences

The number of people convicted of sexual offences (excluding offences related to prostitution) have nearly doubled in the last four years, up from 511 in 2010-11 to 1,000 in 2014-15. The most marked increase has been for that of rape where the number of people convicted has more than tripled from 36 to 125 over the same period.

It should also be noted that within the "other sexual crimes total" there have been increases in convictions for crimes such as "Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children", which have nearly tripled in the same time period from 107 people in 2010-11 to 291 in 2014-15.



Patterns in sentencing

The chart below shows the main disposal types for sexual offences (excluding offences for prostitution). Community sentences have more than doubled since 2010-11 (from 221 in 2010-11 to 537 in 2014-15). The vast majority of community sentences were given for "other sexual offences" and the rise has been driven, in part, by the increase in offences for "Taking, distribution, possession etc of indecent photos of children".

Custodial sentences have also risen, nearly doubling from 197 in 2010-11 to 360 in 2014-15. These types of sentences are more evenly split between rape, sexual assault and other sexual offences. Financial penalties and "other" sentences such as admonishments have remained at fairly low levels averaging at around 65 and 35 respectively.

Implications for MAPPAs

The significant increases in 'contact' sexual offences outlined above are unlikely to continue rising at the same rate, as we reach a post Saville peak in the reporting of historic offences committed years or decades previously.

Scottish Government is looking very closely at the rising number of internet offenders and whether the current range of policing, judicial and intervention responses represent an effective means of tackling this very complicated criminal and cultural phenomenon.

MAPPAs Winter Programme of Seminars and Workshops January-March 2017

The MAPPAs Development Subgroup is pleased to launch the new programme for Friday afternoon seminars.

The programme content has been determined by the results of a staff survey of practitioners across a range of agencies and looks like this:

January 2017	Attachment Disorder and MAPPAs Offenders
February 2017	Risk Formulation and Case Management Interventions for Internet Offenders
January 2017	Attachment Disorder and MAPPAs Offenders
February 2017	Risk Formulation and Case Management Interventions for Internet Offenders
March 2017	Relationships of Concern Between MAPPAs Offenders and Vulnerable Adults: Case Review Findings and Improvement Action Planning

For further details, please contact:
mappaforthvalley@scotland.pnn.police.uk



Local news - Forth Valley Recovery Community

Over the last eighteen months, the Forth Valley Recovery Community (FVRC) has continued to grow and develop. The overall aim of FVRC is to increase service user engagement and empowerment and support routes into recovery from problematic alcohol and / or drug misuse. A range of substance misuse services are available across Forth Valley and FVRC has developed a range of complimentary initiatives including peer support and recovery volunteering.

Recovery Cafes

Four Recovery Cafes now operate across Forth Valley. The weekly cafes are run by recovery volunteers with the support of two Recovery Development workers. The recovery volunteers are people with lived experience who have had a minimum of 6 months stability free from substance misuse. The first café opened in February 2016 and by August, the 1000th visitor was welcomed through the door. All cafes are well attended each week.

All staff are encouraged to promote the cafes where appropriate and are welcome to bring service users along to any of the cafes. There is at least one café operating in each Council area across Forth Valley.

Below are some recent quotes from people who attend the cafes:

"It's great to chat with people who are in the same situation. I've also found out about courses and places to get help."

"I've never looked back. I got introduced to (worker), and I thought, I want what that guy's got and I grabbed the opportunity with both hands. This has changed my life."

"It's the people, everybody has been in a deep, dark place. The support is unbelievable, life changing."

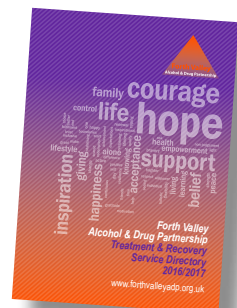
"I go to all the groups. At first it's quite daunting, but you're always made to feel welcome, and if you keep coming, you eventually find it easier."

For information on the Recovery Cafes and other Recovery activities click here....



....or contact Recovery Development Workers, Jardine Simpson jsimpson@asc.me.uk or Sean McCann smccann@asc.me.uk

For information on substance misuse support services available across Forth Valley click here....





National Recovery Walk

Forth Valley recently hosted the National Recovery Walk Scotland, led by the Scottish Recovery Consortium.

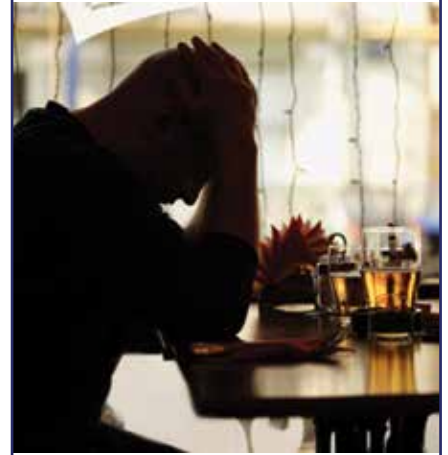
This is an annual event which brings together addiction recovery communities, individuals, families, friends and supporters to celebrate recovery in Scotland. This year over 2000 people walked from the Kelpies to Callendar Park, where there was a Recovery village and festival. There was a strong message of hope and recovery evident throughout the whole event with people travelling from as far as Orkney.



Recovery walks also took place in 9 prisons throughout Scotland, themed, "Recovery from Within". Over 400 prisoners and staff took part with 7 prisons being represented at the Recovery Walk in Falkirk.

For more information, go to www.scottishrecoveryconsortium.org/

Revised Alcohol Guidelines



New guidelines on alcohol recommend that both men and women avoid consuming more than 14 units of alcohol per week. 14 units is equivalent to a 1 1/2 bottles of wine or 5 pints of lager (5% abv) over the course of a week.

For more information, go to:

www.nhs.uk/news/2016/01January/Pages/New-alcohol-advice-issued.aspx

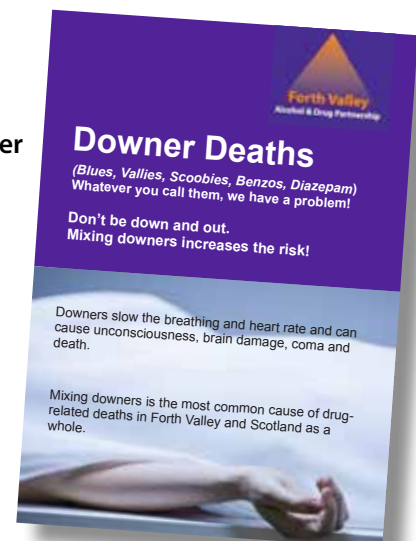
Increase in Drug-Related-Deaths

Recent national figures show that in total, 706 drug-related deaths were registered in Scotland in 2015. This was the largest figure ever recorded and was an increase of 15%. As with previous years, males are more likely to die from a drug related death (69%) with most people dying being aged between 35 – 44 (35%).

Forth Valley also had an increase in drug related deaths during 2015 with 31 people dying.

One of the measures used to prevent drug related deaths is a medication called Naloxone, which can be used in an emergency situation to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Forth Valley has an ongoing Naloxone Programme which can be accessed by staff and service users.

To access FV Alcohol & Drug Partnership's leaflet on Downer Deaths click [here....](#)



Please circulate this leaflet as widely as possible.



Adult Support and Protection in Forth Valley

Over the last two years progress has been made against a programme of development set out in the previous Forth Valley Business Plan. During this period the Adult Protection Committee (APC) has sought to strengthen the joint approach to assessment and planning for adults and take forward the implementation of evidenced based approaches. This included a review of the Initial Referral Discussion Arrangements (IRD), the introduction of guidance for staff working with large scale investigations, the review of policies and procedures and the delivery of good quality training to support continuous improvement. The APC has focussed on supporting practitioners by delivering training on the legislative framework governing practice, by raising awareness of adult protection across services including homecare, accident and emergency staff as well as independent and voluntary services. In early 2016 the Falkirk Adult Protection Committee and the Stirling and Clackmannan Adult Protection Committee were established following a decision to move away from a wider Forth Valley approach, in keeping with some

aspects of Health and Social Care integration, and to bring a sharper focus on local developments. While there are now two committees overseeing Adult Protection within Forth Valley, both committees share a commitment to work closely and collaboratively thereby ensuring a consistent approach to protecting adults across the Forth Valley.

In the coming two years the APC will focus on improving links with other partnerships to secure coherence in the delivery of overlapping services within the arena of public protection. To this end it is intended to forge closer links across Child Protection, MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group, Violence Against Women and Drugs and Alcohol Partnership.

The protection of adults at risk continues to be a priority for all services and agencies in Falkirk and the wider Forth Valley. Despite the significant challenges posed by financial constraints aligned to a rising demand for services, there is a confidence that new ways of working together can be found that secures continuous improvement in the delivery of Adult Protection services.

The Adult Protection Committee is a multi-agency partnership responsible for the design, development and delivery of services to protect adults from abuse or harm. The Committee is represented by senior managers from Health, Police, Local Authority and Voluntary and Independent Sectors. The Committee operates within the context of a Constitution and Governance Framework and works to core functions of reviewing and updating procedures, improving practice, providing information and advice, improving cooperation within Committee, with other APCs and other strategic planning groups.

A number of key factors have influenced the work of the Adult Protection Committee over the last two years. Emphasis has been placed on strengthening collaborative working to ensure adherence to the principles of prevention and early intervention. The Committee recognises that adults are better protected when systems are in place to ensure the identification and response to risk at the earliest opportunity. To this end the committee has sought to improve the quality and timing of joint assessments; ensuring they



are appropriate and proportionate. The Committee has reviewed and updated policies and procedures, improved training arrangements and refocused its work. A recent inspection of Older People Services identified a number of areas that required further development and the improvement programme for the APC has clear links to the action plan developed in response to this inspection report.

The Committee has adopted an emphasis on continuous improvement and is in the process of further developing quality assurance systems to ensure accurate evaluation of the quality of local services and take any remedial action where necessary. The APC recognises the importance of collaborative working in addressing those overlapping issues that impact on the safeguarding of adults including tackling substance misuse, domestic violence and mental health and it is understood that intervening at an early stage avoids the escalation of crisis.

The delivery of effective training and staff development is the cornerstone in ensuring that staff are familiar with their roles and responsibilities

in relation to protecting adults at risk of harm.

Within the local area good progress has been made in designing and delivering a comprehensive programme of training in respect of Adult Protection. A Learning and Development Sub Group has successfully engaged with staff, identified training needs and coordinated a programme of training that supports staff development.

The group has adopted a collaborative approach through the efficient use of materials and resources across the Forth Valley area. Over the last two years training has evaluated well and any required adjustments and improvements have been made to reflect staff feedback. In addition materials developed locally have been shared nationally with other APCs and Local Authorities.

Currently the training programme has successfully delivered a diverse range of training ranging from bespoke training to Fire and Rescue Services; the Office of the Public Guardian; NHS Forth Valley unscheduled care and A&E staff; and also to two large nursing

home care providers within the area. A full range of Adult Support and Protection Training has been delivered to a wide range of staff including Council Officers, Social Workers, Police, Homecare, Accident and Emergency Staff, Fire and Rescue, Mental Health Officers, Childcare Social Workers, Justice Staff and Independent as well as Voluntary and Private Provider Organisations. A range of methods and approaches have been adopted including the use of e learning, directly delivered training and the use of external specialist consultants. The local programme of training is responsive and imaginative and has evaluated well by those attending.

Training and staff development continues to be an area of high priority for the Adult Protection Committee and continues to receive a high degree of attention. There remains close links across the Forth Valley area and some aspects of training continue to be delivered on that basis. Consequently jointly run learning and development opportunities continue to be available to all partners across Forth Valley.