



Water Safety Scotland  
[info@watersafetyscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@watersafetyscotland.org.uk)  
Monday 3rd April

Dear Colleague,

### Partnership Approach to Water Safety

I am writing to you on behalf of Water Safety Scotland (WSS) to update you that we have established, or are in the process of establishing, a Partnership Approach to Water Safety (PAWS) Group within your area. The formation of a PAWS Group in all areas of Scotland is a part of the [Community Safety Minister's Action Plan on Water Safety](#).

PAWS is a multi-agency approach to improving water safety that has three key stages:

- **Prevention**  
Pro-active activities that reduce the likelihood of a water emergency occurring by raising awareness of safety issues, and by educating the public on how to be safe in and around water.
- **Improved Incident Response**  
Effective response to water emergency incidents through multi-agency exercises and training the public how to react to incidents safely via the Waterside Responder Scheme.
- **Review of significant events**  
Implementation of the WSS Drowning & Incident Review \* (DIR) after significant incidents to ensure learning from water emergency incidents to gain an understanding of the contributory factors and make interventions that may prevent similar events from occurring.

Within your area the PAWS d3rn4(u)3(t)0)-5(ry)-4(f)12(act)0)-5(rs and)6)mTf14s3f\*04 Tf1 0 0 1 72.024 3193 Tm0

Yours sincerely,

Carlene McAvoy – Secretariat/Founder

\* Drowning & Incident Review (DIR)

WSS via RoSPA and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), developed the Drowning and Incident