

# Safer Gloucester

## Delivery Plan 2008 – 2011

### Report of Community Safety Activity



# Delivery Plan Report

## Details of Activities 2008-2011

### Introduction from the Chair of Safer Gloucester

After being placed in the highest crime quartile in the country in 2003, Safer Gloucester came together to work in a smarter and more focussed manner to reduce crime in the city. Throughout the Crime Reduction Strategy period 2005 – 2008 overall crime reduced by 30%. This success was followed, over the period of the 2008-2011, by a further reduction of 19.9% - which represents 2,699 fewer incidents and or victims of crime.

This continued success has been achieved as a result of public cooperation coupled with an increase in community intelligence – both of which have provided a foundation for effective partnership working across a range of agencies. This approach has enabled Safer Gloucester to keep local people in communities safe from harm and to improve their quality of life. This report outlines some of the projects that have taken place over the three year period. Further information can be found on the partnership website [www.safergloucester.co.uk](http://www.safergloucester.co.uk).



**Superintendent Gary Thompson**  
**Chair, Safer Gloucester**

### Safer Gloucester Action Groups

Safer Gloucester has themed based action groups that work together proactively to raise awareness of crime prevention methods and to respond to issues affecting the city.

These action groups are:

**Crime Reduction Action Group** made up of officers, community volunteers and representatives from the business sector who work together to keep crime low by means of raising awareness of crime prevention methods and examining and reviewing crime trends across the city.

**Substance Action Group** is a multi agency group of officers and members of the voluntary and community sector who work in their own environment and jointly to reduce the harm caused by substance misuse.

**Neighbourhood Management Action Group** is a multi agency strategic body that seeks to increase the level of community influence, confidence and trust in service provision in local areas.

**Anti Social Behaviour Steering Group** seeks to enhance the quality of life for our communities and as a multi agency partnership tackle persistent anti social behaviour.

**Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Forum** is a multi agency body of practitioners who support victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence by assessing and managing risk in each case. The forum seeks to share best practice and resources in order to maximise provision and avoid duplication in a time of reducing resources.

**Forest and Gloucester Hate Crime Action Group** seeks to ensure that people and communities will be treated with fairness and equality where discrimination will be eliminated and diversity valued.

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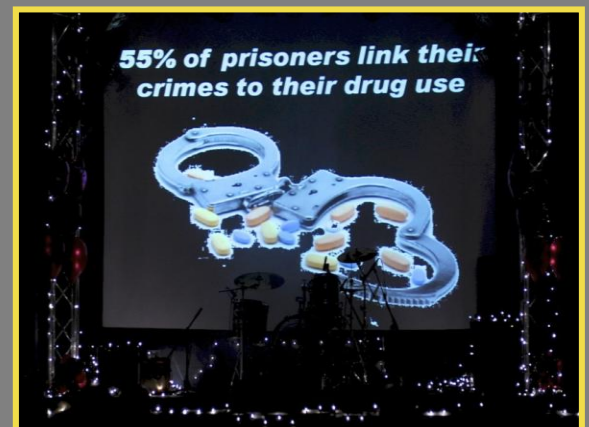
#### Anti-Social Behaviour

- Supported Severn Vale school to produce a criminal damage drama
- Funded “Burnt Out” Drama taken by the Fire Service to schools to deter arson
- Held perpetrators workshops with young people who were causing low-level Anti-Social Behaviour
- Family Intervention Project provided intensive support to families behaving anti-socially and on verge of eviction
- Project Solace began to provide multi-agency approach to tackling ASB. Project Solace has obtained injunctions, harassment warnings and criminal anti-social behaviour orders to protect communities.
- Commissioned schools projects to encourage young people to consider consequences of ASB as part of their Citizenship lessons.
- Project Solace is working with partners to improve perceptions and reduce experiences of ASB in Kingsway
- Gloucester City Homes worked with the Police and partners to draw up an action plan to improve the Coney Hill area. A Designated Public Place Order was implemented and unsightly bollards and skips were removed.
- “Good Neighbour” cards have been developed for residents to promote community spirit

*Project Solace was recognised as an example of national best practice by the Audit Commission Inspection in October 2010 and highly recommended by the Social Landlords Crime and Nuisance Group.*

#### Substance Misuse

- Provided all the pubs and clubs a DVD warning at Christmas from Pubwatch – ‘banned from one, banned from all’
- Commissioned Infobuzz to provide substance misuse education for 18 youth centres across Gloucester
- Provided advertising for Gloucester Young People’s Substance Misuse Service
- Used mobile CCTV to monitor drug dealing as response to community intelligence leading to raids and arrests
- Launched ‘Don’t Buy for Under 18s’ campaign
- Launched ‘Challenge 25’ Campaign – licensees only accept “PASS” accredited ID
- ‘Last Orders’ drama performed to secondary schools in Gloucester to warn off excessive alcohol
- Provided guides for parents about young people and alcohol
- Hosted Gloucester Youth’s Got Talent to promote positive activity



*70% of Under 18s surveyed in Gloucester obtained alcohol from their parents....*

## Crime Reduction

- Shopwatch launched online – shops can now track known shoplifters and ban from all the stores in the scheme. In 2010 there was a 28% reduction in shoplifting
- Operation Angel targeted young people to warn them of the consequences of shoplifting, leading to 15% reduction in offences by this age group
- Memo CCTV cams were provided to victims of bogus callers to prevent repeat attacks
- Purchased “Bluetooth” technology to widely transmit crime prevention messages

*The number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in Gloucester increased to 450 by 2010, covering 14,000 households*

- Produced community safety leaflets for households across the city
- Funded shed security tools for victims of shed breaks
- Purchased 3 knife arches to use at nightclubs and licensed premises – also used in schools
- Taxi Marshal scheme set up with new taxi rank in Eastgate Street to enable swift departure from City Centre at night
- Helped fund Street Pastors scheme to provide reassuring volunteers to help vulnerable people out on Friday and Saturday nights
- Provided an improved pathway through Gloucester Park around the bowling green and cricket pitch
- Contributed funding to the County Bogus Callers helpline for worried residents
- ‘Caring for Older People’ seminar organised for over 100 carers and staff to pass on crime prevention message to protect vulnerable people
- Organised ‘Trickster – the Musical’ to raise awareness of distraction burglary, attended by over 200 people
- Operation Jackal was delivered to all 11 –year olds to teach them and their grandparents the dangers of distraction burglary

- Posters designed by young people warning about bogus callers were entered into a competition and used in a countywide campaign
- Funded the Child Safety online campaign promoting [www.thinkuknow.com](http://www.thinkuknow.com)
- Student safety packs were provided to new students at the University of Gloucestershire
- Many types of youth work to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour has been funded, such as: 8 – 13 year old night at Echoes; bonfire night at Parry Hall; Graffiti artist to work with young people from Abbeydale; equipment for Matson youth centre, Podsmead, Quedgeley and Tredworth; self defence for Islamic Girls Group; outreach work in Moreland and Abbey; cycle lights, locks and lessons on safe bike riding; sports development at GL1; street games; Greyfriar’s Bowling Green project and Young Gloucestershire at Greyfriar’s House
- Safer Gloucester has coded many bikes, provided cycle locks, handed out crime prevention calendars, trolley coins and purse cables and bells.
- Promoted the Bike Register scheme where bike owners can sign up to a database to make it easier for Police to reunite recovered property – [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com)
- ‘Skin Deep’ was performed in two Gloucester schools to deter young people from getting involved in gang culture
- Funded workshops with the community radio station ‘GFM’ for 10 young people to learn how to present, edit and write for radio and the media
- Partnership officers have frequently given community talks, press and radio interviews, and sent out crime prevention advice via newsletters, talking books for the blind and websites



## Forest & Gloucester Hate Crime & Incidents

- Events have been held to recognise black history month, LGBT History month, Holocaust Memorial Day and other awareness raising events
- Conferences held in Forest and Gloucester for people with learning disabilities to gain a greater understanding of the discrimination and harassment they may face and how can they be better supported
- An “easy read” version of the Hate Crime reporting form was produced and pens distributed promoting the Hate Crime “Report it” number 0800 077 8460
- ‘Safe Place’ scheme developed – staff in shops trained to assist vulnerable people with learning difficulties who are registered with the scheme. Premises in the scheme are identified by a large sticker in the store window
- Commissioned the National Star College to produce a DVD around hate crime for use with young people to raise awareness and challenge attitudes
- Increased reports of hate crime and incidents to the ‘Report it’ helpline number 0800 077 8460
- The NI 35 group (Building resilience to extremism) has developed an action plan and undertaken a self assessment

*For every hate crime reported,  
at least five are not*

## Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

- New countywide Central Allocation Referral Point (CARP) telephone helpline 0845 602 9835 for victims of domestic abuse
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisers appointed to work with very high risk victims referred to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
- Retraction surgeries funded to provide support for victims who want to retract their statement after the incident
- Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation and Honour Based Violence conference organised for over 200 delegates
- Community Legal Advice and Representation Service (CLARS) set up in Gloucester to provide free legal advice by trainee Barristers to those who do not have access to legal aid

## Neighbourhood Management

- “Have Your Say” events held across Gloucester to ask residents for their views on crime in the area
- ‘Streetgames’ were delivered over a 3-year delivery plan, and in the final year saw 1,200 young people registered with sessions operating in 11 wards of the city
- Community crime prevention events have been held in neighbourhoods across Gloucester
- Funding was provided for local Policing panels and neighbourhood groups to address concerns. This money was spent on bike safety equipment, youth provision, CCTV, street pastors support, road safety courses and community newsletters

*88-95% of residents surveyed felt safe when out in the daylight. This dropped to 42-65% when asked the same question for at night-time*

**“Have your say”**  
Coney Hill “Have your say” day, October 28th 2009  
Where 109 Coney Hill residents told us what they felt about life in Coney Hill.

Residents were asked how they felt walking alone in the area where they lived

- 95% said they felt safe or very safe walking in the daylight
- 72% said they felt safe or very safe walking after dark
- No one said they felt very unsafe walking in daylight and only 7% felt very unsafe after dark

Many who felt unsafe said it was because they were nervous, although had not experienced any criminal activity personally.

Residents were asked about any problems they had in the area

- 22% said that people using or dealing drugs were a very big problem although 71% said that it was not a problem at all. Further information is being sought - if you have any information on drug dealing or any other crime in the area please contact your local Safer Community Police Team on 0845 090 1234 or Ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.
- 16% said that criminal damage was a problem, although 80% said that it was not a problem at all. Only 12% of people reported fly tipping as a problem, and most stated that the City Council were quick to respond to any reports of fly tips. Please report any fly tipping to the Council immediately on 01452 396396. If frequent reports are received, enforcement officers will take further action. If found guilty, fly tippers can be fined up to £50,000 and/or be given a 3-year prison sentence.

• 22% said that people using or dealing drugs was a problem although 62% said it was not a problem at all. If you see anyone dealing drugs in your neighbourhood, please report it to your local Safer Community Police Team on 0845 090 1234. Any information will be collated to build up a picture of any activity in the area for investigation.

GLoucester  
CONEY HILL  
NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

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