



Safer Gloucester Strategy

2014 - 2017

www.safergloucester.co.uk

I. Welcome from the Chair of Safer Gloucester

Safer Gloucester was pleased to welcome a further 4.85% reduction in overall crime in the year 2013/14. This was the culmination of the hard work of Gloucestershire Constabulary and Gloucestershire Probation Trust as well as the effective partnership working of local agencies and members of the community that has been building since 1998.

There have been many changes to the Community Safety landscape over the past two years, particularly the election of Gloucestershire's first Police and Crime Commissioner, Martin Surl. Many agencies within the Community Safety Partnership have undergone significant restructuring, and are attempting to find new ways to minimise the effects of budget savings to the community. Funding that is required to perform the Community Safety function locally is awarded to Police and Crime Commissioners to allocate.

Gloucestershire's PCC has designated six priorities in the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Plan 2013 - 2017:

- Accessibility and Accountability
- Older but not overlooked
- Young People Becoming Adults
- Safer Days and Nights for All
- Safe and Social Driving
- Safer Cyber.

Safer Gloucester is working with the PCC to deliver on these priorities and achieve his aim of 'Less Crime, More Peace'. We know that crime and feeling safe matter to our residents. Our key task is to keep Gloucester safe and we will do that by:

- Prevention - it is better to stop something from happening than to try and fix it after the event
- Protection - protect people, property and places by undertaking a range of statutory and enforcement duties
- Response - providing a response if an emergency occurs – not just attending fires, road traffic collisions, flooding but also response services for domestic and sexual abuse, drug and alcohol treatment and anti social behaviour.

Safer Gloucester is committed to reducing crime and its impact on communities and this plan is an expression of the commitment we will make to working together. Where possible, we will be applying an asset based approach to delivering community safety in Gloucester.



Cllr Jennie Dallimore

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for
Communities & Neighbourhoods



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2. Vision Statement

Safer Gloucester is committed to working in partnership to reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti social behaviour effectively and efficiently. In doing so, it will be inclusive and empowering of the community it serves.

3. Background

There are legal requirements that apply to community safety partnerships. They are an important feature of the network of partnerships that help to tackle crime. In Gloucester, the Community Safety Partnership is called Safer Gloucester, and the responsible authorities are Gloucester City Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Police, Health (Clinical Commissioning Groups), Gloucestershire Probation Trust and Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service.

The responsible authorities are under a statutory duty to work together to:

- **Tackle crime and disorder**
- **Tackle anti social behaviour**
- **Tackle alcohol and substance misuse**
- **Tackle any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment.**

The Partnership's first strategy was written in 1999 and has been reviewed on a regular basis since that time. The strategy for the next three years is aligned to the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner's Plan. The Commissioner's Office has contributed to Safer Gloucester which delivers local initiatives reflecting the objectives contained within the Commissioner's plan, proactively targeting seasonal crime trends and responding reactively to crime spikes where possible.

Gloucester has historically suffered from higher rates of crime compared to the County average (see Fig. 1). It is also the district with the greatest levels of deprivation (see Fig. 2). Indices from 2010 (based on pre-recession data from 2008) revealed that five of Gloucester's neighbourhoods are amongst the 10% Most Deprived in England, with nearly a quarter of Gloucester residents qualifying as being in the Most Deprived 20% of England's Neighbourhoods.

The link between deprivation and crime has been acknowledged (see Fig 3), and with a higher number of residents in Gloucester living in areas of deprivation, they are therefore at greater risk of becoming a victim of crime. Despite this correlation, crime in Gloucester has been reducing over the period of time the Community Safety Partnership has been active, and partners have worked hard to reduce the number of people affected by crime. However, this is an ongoing challenge, crime levels fluctuate and still too many residents in Gloucester will become victims.

Total recorded crime 2013/14

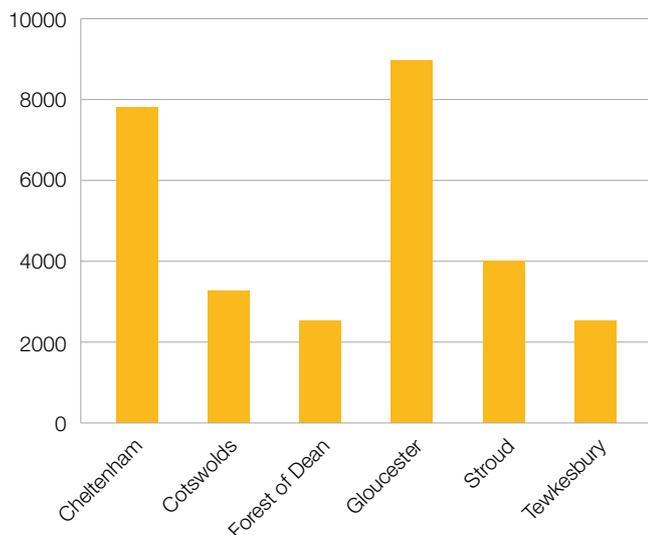


Fig 1: Inform Gloucestershire data 12 months rolling total of all recorded crime in 2013/14.

Overall deprivation by district

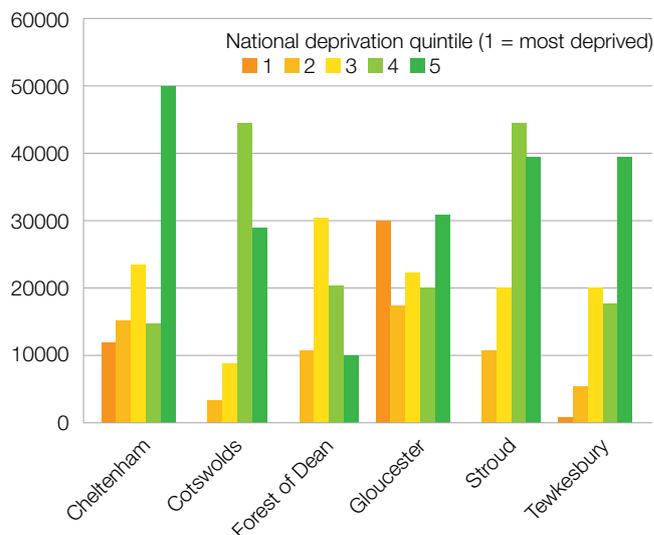


Fig 2: Inform Gloucestershire data for the County deprivation levels. 1 = most deprived 20% of England's neighbourhoods.

All victim quintile rate (based on national deprivation 2010 rank)

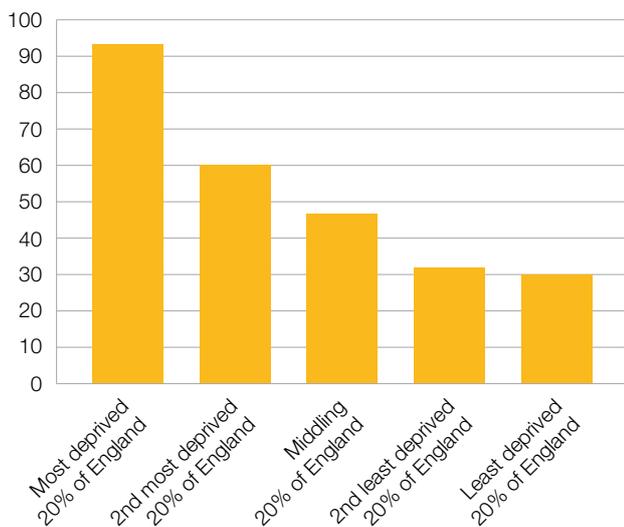


Fig 3: Inform Gloucestershire data highlighting the higher probability of becoming a victim of crime if living in a deprived neighbourhood (90 per 1000 population).

We have found that by working as a Partnership we are able to:

- Respond to problems
- Encourage inter-agency working
- Involve communities
- Generate new ideas
- Obtain and coordinate resources from multiple sources
- Connect with the Public

4. Legislative changes

Transforming Rehabilitation will bring about a legislative change for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in 2014 with the abolition of Probation Trusts and the creation of Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) and the National Probation Service (NPS).

Both CRCs and the NPS will be designated as responsible authorities under section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 in the contracts, and therefore subject to the statutory requirements to participate in CSPs.

They will be expected to fully meet their statutory responsibilities to these partnerships as it will be a key forum for providers to participate in and integrate with wider partners.

The Home Office Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 will come into force during 2014 introducing new measures to help focus the response to anti-social behaviour and the needs of victims, including the Community Trigger; which will enable individuals and communities to ask for their case to be reviewed if they feel that an issue has not been satisfactorily resolved.

5. Priorities

The overarching priority of Safer Gloucester is to reduce crime and the fear of crime in Gloucester.

We will continue to work together, building on previous successes, to proactively prevent crime from happening in our communities, particularly through awareness raising of crime prevention methods, our website and newsletters. We will also work in partnership to react to any crime spikes and halt any unexpected trends or increases.

Priorities for Safer Gloucester are decided through analysis of recorded crime and through consultation with local communities. In 2013/14, the crime areas that have been identified as significant are criminal damage, serious acquisitive crime, shoplifting and assault with less serious injury (associated with the city centre on Friday and Saturday nights). In addition, Safer Gloucester will seek to address issues of vulnerability, for example, involvement in gang culture and extremism.

Results of the Police public perception survey indicated that 73.2% of the residents who were asked, agreed or strongly agreed that the Police and Local Authority were dealing with the crime and anti social behaviour issues that mattered in the previous twelve months (December 2013).

Our work, for the period of this strategy, will include reducing acquisitive crime, anti social behaviour; the harm caused to individuals and communities by drugs and alcohol misuse, raising awareness of the means of reporting domestic abuse and sexual violence and hate crime and the services available to support victims of those crimes.



Paws on Patrol



Dangers of social media

Safer Gloucester Targets

Crime Reduction

In 2014 – 2017 we will:

- Work to reduce domestic burglary and theft from motor vehicles
- Conduct seasonal crime prevention campaigns throughout the year
- Raise awareness of crime prevention techniques with residents, businesses and other agencies
- Hold “Have your say” events in different localities in the city, addressing the priorities raised
- Seek to increase “Paws on Patrol” members to 1,500, encouraging dog owners in Gloucester to be the eyes and ears of their respective communities
- Work to reduce harm from offending behaviour to the communities of Gloucester; continuing to monitor and reduce levels of reoffending
- Work to raise awareness of the dangers of social media.

Anti Social Behaviour

In 2014 – 2017 we will:

- Implement the new Anti-social Behaviour tools and powers from October 2014 including the Community Trigger and Community Remedy focussing the responses on the needs of victims
- Make a first contact with an anti social behaviour complainant within 24 hours of Project Solace receiving the initial complaint
- Agree an action plan with the complainant within one working day for serious and 5 days for minor anti social behaviour incidents
- Work together in the Anti-social Behaviour Steering Group to resolve the more serious anti-social behaviour affecting our communities on a multi agency basis
- Share information between partners to assess the potential risk to victims and take the necessary action, with particular emphasis on identifying repeat victims and coordinating a multi agency response
- Increase the awareness and raise the profile of Project Solace to residents, partner agencies and private sector landlords within the City.



Support young people and adults



Continue to target police operations

Reduce the Harm Caused by Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

In 2014 – 2017 we will:

- Coordinate review meetings with the treatment and support agencies to explore the issues of their clients, seeking to address points of concern
- Work to raise awareness of the services able to support young people and adults
- Work to ensure that residents and visitors to Gloucester city centre on a Friday and Saturday night are and feel safe, focussing resources into any area that is causing concern
- Work to develop initiatives to make Gloucester a safer city and seek Purple Flag status
- Work to target resources using data collected as part of the Cardiff Model for violence prevention, which involves data between the Safer Gloucester agencies about the location of violence, type of weapon used, assailants and date/time of incident
- Continue to target police operations to tackle and break the cycle of drugs and crime using partnerships with other police forces to disrupt serious organised crime where necessary.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

In 2014 – 2017 we will:

- Raise awareness of the services available to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Support the services to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Work to improve the attitudes of young people towards healthy relationships
- Raise awareness of Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation in schools, both with pupils and staff
- Seek to provide training opportunities to professionals.

Hate Crime

In 2014 – 2017 we will:

- Support the enhancement of third party reporting of hate crimes and incidents in order to increase confidence in the criminal justice system amongst minority groups
- Work to strengthen and increase the "Keep Safe" scheme across the city for residents with learning disabilities
- Promote community cohesion and value the diversity of the city.

The following pages outline some of the present and planned initiatives of Safer Gloucester, showing how they are also firmly embedded within the Police and Crime Commissioner's objectives as detailed on page 3.



Barton & Tredworth Cultural Fayre



Clock Tower Park Fun Afternoon



Paws on Patrol

Accessibility and Accountability

Outcome: Residents will have an increased awareness of the work of the partner agencies and the support that is available.

Examples of activity that we have done and will continue to do to achieve this outcome include:

Have Your Say Days

Officers from Safer Gloucester and members of the community visit residents' homes, responding to and supporting community needs and involving local residents in the response to issues of concern.

Community Events

Safer Gloucester organises and attends community events throughout the year, across the city, giving crime prevention advice and information, answering residents' concerns, reporting issues to partner agencies and signposting to support services where possible.

Website

Safer Gloucester regularly updates the website www.safergloucester.co.uk with news of events, projects and crime prevention advice and information.

Safer Gloucester Newsletters

Safer Gloucester produces quarterly newsletters containing details of recent and forthcoming events, crime trends and crime prevention advice and information. These are distributed across Gloucester to key agencies' reception areas and doctor and dentist reception areas. Safer Gloucester also contributes articles of latest news to Cascade, the Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter and Tenant's Times, the news sheet of Gloucester City Homes to its tenants.





Christmas party for older people



Older people's events

Older but not overlooked

Outcome: Older people feel valued as active members of our communities. Victims of hate crime will feel confident to report.

Rogue Trader Information

Safer Gloucester works towards raising awareness of bogus traders, advising older people not to open their front doors to unexpected strangers. Safer Gloucester promotes the use of "Nominated Neighbour" cards to vulnerable people and also distributes Rogue Trader packs to older residents giving information of how to protect themselves against bogus callers.

Christmas Party for Older People

Safer Gloucester hosts a Christmas party for older people living in the Kingsholm and Wotton area of the city, giving crime prevention advice and information appropriate to their lifestyles, amid cream teas, Christmas quizzes and seasonal singing. This popular event is supported by Gloucestershire Older Person's Association.

Third Party Reporting of Hate Crime

It is widely recognised that hate crimes and incidents are very much under reported. Gloucester will pilot a scheme to encourage third party reporting of hate crime and incidents for those people who do not wish to make reports direct to the Police. This will assist in informing Safer Gloucester of crime trends and lead to awareness raising of support mechanisms.

Lifelink

Lifelink provides peace of mind to people of any age enabling them to feel safer, more protected and independent in their own homes. The scheme is operated by Safer Gloucester's partner, Gloucester City Homes and serves 1,950 people throughout the city.

Older People's Events

Safer Gloucester is keen to attend information events specifically for older people and can provide crime prevention advice for residents to help them feel safer and enable them to protect themselves and their property.



Schools football tournament



Mini motos project

Young people becoming adults

Outcome: Young people will be encouraged to make positive lifestyle choices and recognised for the contribution that they make.

Examples of activity that we have done and will continue to do to achieve this outcome include:

Police and Community (PAC) Scheme

Safer Gloucester is committed to working with local young people from the community encouraging them to get to know the Local Police Team, City Ward Councillors and other leaders from the community, including the post master or mistress from the local post office, a youth worker and religious leader. The scheme, for Year 6 pupils in Barton, Tredworth and White City will build relationships and help to reduce anti social behaviour.



Positive Tickets

Safer Gloucester encourages young people to become positive adults by rewarding behaviour that goes above and beyond the call of duty in their community. They can be nominated by their schools or a member of their family or community and receive a positive ticket for free entry to a leisure interest or activity. Safer Gloucester thanks all the businesses who are supporting this initiative in the city.

Schools Football Tournament

Police Community Support Officers and students from the University of Gloucestershire organise an annual seven a side football tournament for Years 5 and 6 pupils from the Primary Schools in Gloucester. Sport breaks down barriers in the community and encourages the children to work together.

Mini Motos Project

To combat the number of complaints of anti social and illegal riding of mini motorbikes, Safer Gloucester contributed to a multi agency initiative to provide a track where children and young people can ride around legally and in safety.

Avenger Task Force

Safer Gloucester is working to reduce the numbers of young people who are involved in gang related violence by offering support to those who are or may be vulnerable. A multi agency team lead by the Police, including Probation, Youth Service and Social Care work together to support the young people at risk. Young people are encouraged to take part in a programme called Great Expectations, involving mentoring and ensuring that participants understand the risks and consequences of being involved in crime.



CCTV



Paws on Patrol

Safer days and nights for all

Outcome: Total reported crime and incidents of Anti Social Behaviour will continue to reduce in Gloucester.

Examples of activity that we have done and will continue to do to achieve this outcome include:

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

Gloucester deploys a network of CCTV cameras across the city centre to prevent and detect crime. Over the next three years, the cameras will be upgraded and replaced by a state of the art system. Safer Gloucester also deploys mobile CCTV cameras to hotspot areas of crime and anti social behaviour across the city.

Project Solace

Through Project Solace, a team from Gloucestershire Constabulary, Gloucester City Council and Gloucester City Homes, we will provide a robust service to tackle high level anti social behaviour regardless of tenure. We will work with partner agencies and local communities to provide a holistic, effective and swift service.

Paws on Patrol

Dog owners are encouraged to join the very successful Paws on Patrol scheme and report any issues they may see whilst walking their dogs. They spend a lot of time out and about in their community and are likely to notice when something out of the ordinary is happening. Patrollers are asked to report any suspicious activity to help reduce crime and issues like fly tipping, graffiti, litter and anti social behaviour, thus improving the quality of life for all. Mascots, Ace and Holly from the Police Dog Section assist with messages to residents on Twitter and make appearances at community events to encourage membership further. To date we have over 1,100 members but we would like to recruit more.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse is taken very seriously and a zero tolerance approach is taken by the local police officers. Safer Gloucester has produced a booklet to support anyone whose relationship, or family life has become intolerable. The booklet includes all the support agencies and information on creating a safety plan. All the agencies of Safer Gloucester work together to raise awareness of the support available to victims and local businesses, schools and faith groups are encouraged to advertise the local Domestic Abuse Support Service to their staff, members and clients.

Violent Extremism

Gloucester City Council will continue a programme for its front-line professionals to recognise vulnerable people who are at risk of being drawn into violent extremism. We will also offer training for partners and communities.



Crime Prevention Awareness Raising



"Have Your Say" Days

Safer days and nights for all

City Safe

Safer Gloucester has focussed on making the city centre safer and feeling safer on Friday and Saturday evenings, with new improved lighting in Eastgate Street, a renewed city centre CCTV system and the pedestrianisation of Eastgate Street on Friday and Saturday nights.

The success has been recognised and supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner who has funded a City Safe Manager to expand the work to include the daytime economy and the introduction of a Yellow Card scheme to reduce anti social behaviour. Many city centre businesses have joined City Safe and operate the yellow card scheme; anyone receiving two such cards is banned from all operating premises and some public transport.

Crime Prevention Awareness Raising

Safer Gloucester raises awareness of low cost means of crime prevention at all community events and in specific campaigns eg Operation Switch to combat the increase in domestic burglary in the autumn when the clocks change and evenings are darker; Sheducation, a crime prevention initiative targeting shed and garden crime in the Springtime, student advice in the autumn and holiday and Christmas crime prevention targeting domestic burglary and car crime.

"Have Your Say" Days

Whenever a "hotspot" for crime or anti social behaviour emerges, Safer Gloucester will visit the area and speak to as many residents as possible asking for their views on the problem and also on the solution to the problem. Any possible remedies are put in place and the affected residents notified.

Hello Gloucester

Gloucester City Council has joined in partnership with GreenSquare Housing, Gloucester City Homes and the Police and Crime Commissioner to purchase a van that would aid community engagement across Gloucester. The van, entitled Hello Gloucester, is being converted into a mobile office and will be used at events, either by individual agencies or together in partnership, at community events, critical incidents and training and consultation exercises.



Beer goggles Go-Karting



Safer Cyber

Safe and social driving

Outcome: Residents will have an increased awareness of the effects of alcohol on driving abilities.

Examples of activity that we have done and will continue to do to achieve this outcome include:

Beer Goggles Go-Karting

Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership take the lead on initiatives to train and encourage safe and social driving but Safer Gloucester also lead at times with projects like the Beer Goggles Go-Karting to highlight the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol. The project emphasised the length of time the body needs to absorb alcohol and the dangers of driving the morning after a night out.

Safer cyber

Outcome: Residents will have an increased understanding of the need to protect themselves online, particularly when using social networking sites.

Examples of activity that we have done and will continue to do to achieve this outcome include:

Safer Social Networking

Safer Gloucester is concerned about the safety of residents using the social networking sites and is working to raise awareness of the dangers involved. We have produced a Safer Social Networking leaflet and some wristbands stating "When you press send, where will it end?" These will both be distributed at events attended by the Safer Gloucester team and also by police officers who are leading on a crime prevention programme in schools dealing with the dangers of sexting and sending revealing photographs on the internet.

Safer Gloucester is committed to both working proactively to raise awareness and prevent crime from taking place as well as reacting in partnership to address crime spikes.

6. Partners

Safer Gloucester would like to acknowledge and thank the contributions made by our partners, all of whom assist in making Gloucester a safer place to live work and visit.

2gether NHS Foundation Trust	Gloucester Guildhall
Amey plc	Gloucester Licensed Victuallers Association
Andy Cars	Gloucester Museums
ASDA	Gloucester Review
Aspire Sports and Cultural Trust	Gloucester Street Pastors
Associated Taxis	Gloucestershire Action for Asylum Seekers and Refugees
Bar Fever	Gloucestershire College
Bromford Housing	Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service
Butler's Venue Bar	Gloucestershire Domestic Violence and Advocacy Project
Café René	Gloucestershire Older Person's Association
Cheltenham Town Football Club	Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre
Concession Cirkitz International	Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
Crown Prosecution Service South West	Gloucestershire Youth Service
Dick Whittington Farm Park	GreenSquare Group
Eastgate Cycles	Guinness Hermitage
Friends of St James' Park	Heart FM
GAY-GLOS	Independent Community Members
Gloucester Citizen	Infobuzz
Gloucester City Homes	ISIS Women's Centre
Gloucester City Safe	Jollyes Pet Food Superstores
Gloucester FM	

Lead-on Pets
Leeds Building Society
Lighthouse Children's Centre
Liquid Nightclub
Marketing Gloucester
Neighbourhood Partnership Members
Neighbourhood Watch Association
Oxbode Housing Association
PamPurred Pets
Paws on Patrol Members
Pets at Home
Project Solace
Radio Gloucestershire
Rooftop Housing
Royal Canin
Sainsbury's
Severn Tae Kwon-Do
Simms Security Solutions
South West Snooker Academy
Stagecoach West
Stonham Housing
Strategic Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
Coordinator
Tesco Stores
The Lady and The Tramp Grooming Salon and Spa
The Registry
The Royal Agricultural University
The Salvation Army
The Warehouse Climbing Centre
The Wood Veterinary Group
Two Rivers Housing
University of Gloucestershire
Victim Support
Wessex Garages
Wetherspoons

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