



Paws on Patrol

Calling all dog owners in Gloucester - keep your eyes and ears open for Safer Gloucester's brand new initiative - Paws on Patrol!

We are inviting all dog owners to join the scheme, register yourself and your dog and be a "lookout" whilst you are walking in your neighbourhood each day. Members will be issued with a membership card that will hold all the necessary contact numbers including the Police non emergency numbers, Crimestoppers, the City Council and Highways.

Paws on Patrol will be launched in Gloucester Park on Saturday afternoon May 12th 2012. Dog owners will be able to register in advance from April via the Safer Gloucester website www.safergloucester.co.uk or by telephoning 01452 396984 and asking for a registration form to be sent out. The first 500 members attending the launch event will receive a goody bag containing a reflective dog collar, a poop bag and some crime prevention material - so come along and join us and bring your dog too!



Safer Gloucester recognises that dog walkers spend a lot of time out and about in their community and would be highly likely to recognise when something

out of the ordinary is happening. At no time will they be asked to intervene in incidents - their role is simply to report and gather evidence.

Paws on Patrol will link in to other parts of the Partnership including Neighbourhood Watch and the Local Policing Teams. If members can provide

an email address, they will be notified of Partnership news and also of anything that the police or City Council want them to be alert to.

Paws on Patrol Launch Event

The launch event on 12th May 2012 will feature a display from the Gloucestershire Police Dog Section, a novelty dog competition as well as information about training your own dog and advice on responsible dog ownership, so if you are considering buying a dog for your family, come along and find out what the actual commitment will be. Already a



number of pet stores and services are signing up to join this event. In addition, there will be face painting, doggy balloon modelling and bouncy castles. The whole event will be a great afternoon for all the family - mark the date in your diaries now! Further details about the launch will be available on the Partnership website from April.

As this will be such a great afternoon the Safer Gloucester Leadership Team will combine the event with their six monthly public meeting and have moved the venue for this event to Gloucester Park. Members of the Safer Gloucester Leadership Group will be available to speak with residents about any issues they have in the city and to report back about the Partnership's activities.

“Have Your Say” in Barton

Following some complaints from residents of anti social behaviour in the Belgrove Terrace area of Barton, Safer Gloucester held a multi agency “Have Your Say” day on 25th and 27th



Belgrove Terrace

January. Residents were visited and invited to comment on their views of life in the area. They were asked whether they felt safe when walking out alone in the neighbourhood in daytime and after dark, whether they had been affected by crime

or anti social behaviour, what they felt should be the priorities for the next twelve months and what they liked about living in the area.

90% of residents asked, said that they felt safe walking out in the daytime and 39% also felt safe after dark. The two main concerns of residents were fly-tipping and youths hanging around in the Belgrove Terrace area who were also believed to be drug dealing. Residents liked the fact that it was quiet living in the area and the great community spirit that exists.

All of the residents’ views are analysed and will be reported back to those who took part.

After the “Have Your Say” event, officers from Gloucester City Council’s Neighbourhood Management Team and the Police carried out visits at several properties where excess side waste has been a problem in order that future enforcement action can be taken by Police Officers.

Please report fly tipping by phoning the City Council on 01452 396396 or email heretohelp@gloucester.gov.uk .

Action is being taken to remove graffiti from the alleyways and a CCTV camera will be installed in Belgrove Terrace to deter anti social behaviour and drug dealing.

Barton and Tredworth also have an active Neighbourhood Partnership that meets

regularly, enabling residents to meet with the Police and officers from the City Council and voice any concerns they have.



The team was made up of officers from Gloucester City Council, Police, Project Solace, Neighbourhood Watch and local Councillors

Podsmead “Have Your Say”

A similar “Have Your Say” took place in Podsmead on 17th and 18th February and once again the results will be reported back to all the residents taking part. These events are invaluable in enabling residents to report any concerns they have to the statutory agencies and for the Local Policing Teams to set priorities for neighbourhoods.

Police Pumas

In the autumn of 2011, Police Officers Emma MacDonald and Sam Jones launched Police Pumas, a joint project with Kingsway Primary School. This initiative was supported by Safer Gloucester, local housing providers and the army. Police Pumas is held in the school each week for 9 - 11 year olds to promote responsibility and a sense of pride in their local community. At the moment there are thirty five young people attending. To date the Police Pumas have had sessions on firework safety, bullying and anti social behaviour and have enjoyed Halloween games, Zumba, a visit from the Police Dog Handler, a visit to the Police Control Room and carol singing at an older peoples’ home at Christmas.



Operation Avenger

During July 2010, the Gloucester Local Policing Area (LPA) set up Operation Avenger to tackle the gang issues that had started to become a problem in the City. They had some instant successes which included working in partnership with Project Solace, Gloucester City Council and Gloucester City Homes, to obtain civil gang injunctions against two individuals who had been identified as the main ringleaders. In addition to dealing with the gang issues, the Operation Avenger team have also been kept extremely busy dealing with a whole host of other issues in the City which are having a significant impact on keeping our communities safe from harm. In August following the 'disturbances' throughout the UK, the Avenger team were used to investigate and arrest suspects involved in offences of arson, burglary, violent disorder and assault from the problems that occurred in Gloucester. Over forty suspects have been arrested and charged with offences arising from this investigation and many of those involved have already appeared in court and received custodial sentences.

During October 2011, Operation Avenger together with Officers from around the County executed 26 warrants in 3 days within the Gloucester LPA. These warrants were predominantly drugs warrants aimed at those persons believed to be involved in the local gang culture and other core offenders causing most harm and distress in their local communities. As a result of this activity 16 people were arrested and the Police seized over £55k in cash, approx £5k of class A and class B drugs and a high powered air rifle.

Following a number of intelligence reports the team executed a warrant at The Golden Heart Public House in Tredworth on Friday 2nd December. This pub was being used by a crime group to deal drugs. Over 100 Officers were employed in this operation, which involved a fast style entry and containment of the pub followed by a detailed person and building search. There were 28 persons within the pub and of these 8 were arrested for drugs offences and obstruction. This resulted in a closure order on the pub and disrupted the supply of drugs in this area. There were also many favourable comments from local residents who supported the police action and were fed up of some of the activities taking place around the pub.

On 18th January, Operation Avenger officers worked in conjunction with the Local safer

community team to target street level drug dealers in the City. During this operation a male ran away from police and was caught and detained. He was found in possession of 3 ounces of heroin with a street value of £4,000.

Avenger Officers also arrested and dealt with Abdul FAINA who had suspected links to Gangs in Gloucester and London. He was arrested for Class A Drug supply offences and was sentenced to six years imprisonment at Gloucester Crown Court on 10th February 2012.

In addition Operation Avenger Officers are also proactively involved in targeting offenders who are committing burglaries and car crime within the city of Gloucester. Since the formation of the team, they have been responsible for nearly 200 arrests and are continuing to have a real impact in reducing crime and disorder in the city.

The Power of Love

Raising awareness of domestic abuse and the support available for victims is one of the priorities in the Safer Gloucester Plan 2011/12. In February, Safer Gloucester funded the Solomon Theatre Company to perform "The Power of Love" to Year 10 pupils in secondary schools in the city.

The drama presentation and the following workshop with the actors still in character, enabled pupils to explore the dynamics of relationships - the types and balances of power, implications of different degrees of trust and what makes things go right/wrong for us as we connect with others. It helped to understand the different ways in which abuse can occur and where to go for support.



To access the partnership's booklet supporting people in abusive relationships tel: 01452 396984 or download from the website:

www.safergloucester.co.uk/Projects/Projects_Archive/Supporting_People_in_Abusive_Relationships.aspx .

Act Now and Are We Prepared

Safer Gloucester has organised several “Act Now” community events over the last few months.

“ACT NOW” is an interactive event where attendees play the role of a Police Unit who have just received intelligence of a potential terrorist incident from a Senior Police Officer, and have to decide how they are going to investigate. The situation is pretend but the scenario is very similar to what Police teams in the UK really do have to deal with. “Act Now” enables participants to understand the difficult decisions Police Officers have to make against the clock when facing potential terrorist incidents, or any major crime.

Similarly “Are We Prepared” invited members of the community to work through the scenario of an event that had the potential for disrupting our community cohesion. The scenario was of a high profile protest march and what issues were faced by the statutory agencies like the police and city council if an application for such a march was received.



The events are used to find ways of strengthening communication between residents and the public agencies and to see how messages can be relayed in any emergency situation, not just a protest or terrorist incident.

Partnership Working

In November 2011 Gloucester Local Policing Team embarked upon a series of multi agency operations. Each Operation is designed to assist all partners tackle issues relevant to them, but with a joint focus on the night time economy on Friday and Saturday nights.

The first Operation commenced Mid November with UK Border agency (UKBA), Gloucester traffic police and City Council licensing officers. Visits were made to fast food premises ensuring staff were legally able to be employed, including the delivery drivers, and relevant road traffic

legislation such as business insurance. Two individuals were removed from working in a food premise due to having no work permit and several delivery vehicles stopped from delivering goods. In addition to this, licensing checks revealed minor offences at several premises, all of which were speedily resolved.

The second operation was conducted in January and utilised UKBA, Licensing, a police passive drugs dog and Environmental Health. Shops, restaurants and night clubs were visited where safety checks were made on Gas certificates, health & safety of staff and safe working practices such as emptying and cleaning of deep fat fryers. Licensing checks were also undertaken to maximise the effectiveness of the visit.

These visits with UKBA discovered a Chinese male working in premise who had entered the country on a borrowed passport. He was subsequently arrested and faces deportation. The passive drugs dog screened over 1000 people during 5 hours deployment and resulted in multiple drug searches and seizures of illegal drugs with several arrests during the evening.

Partnership operations will continue, with plans to conduct food hygiene checks, refuse checks and drink drive operations. The passive drugs dog will be combined with officers using a drugs detection machine where swabs can be taken from individual’s hands to show whether they have been in contact with illegal drugs from cannabis to heroin.

Police and Crime Commissioner

On 15th November 2012, residents across Britain will elect their first Police and Crime Commissioners (one per police force area in England and Wales outside of London).

The Police and Crime Commissioner will be

- appointing the Chief Constable
- holding the Chief Constable to account
- setting and updating the police and crime objectives for their area by producing a police and crime plan (in consultation with the Chief Constable)
- setting the force budget and precept
- regularly engaging with the public and communities

For more information view the Home Office website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/questions/pcc-powers/>