

Gloucester Community Safety Partnership Briefing for Overview and Scrutiny Monday 6th March.

Safer Gloucester, the Gloucester City Community Safety Partnership is made up of the City Council, Gloucestershire Constabulary, County Council, National Probation Service, BGS&W Community Rehabilitation Company, Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue and NHS Gloucestershire.

The Partnership has been in existence since 1999 and brings together agencies to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

The Partnership aims to work with the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to deliver on his priorities. Over the last 12 months Safer Gloucester has achieved the following:

Accessibility and Accountability

- 4 News Letters were sent out during the year to inform residents and businesses in Gloucester about the activities of the Partnership and to raise awareness of the Partnership and its work.
- The Partnership has its own website which informs people of their activities and gives access to important information about crime prevention.
- Paws on Patrol was held on 7th May 2016. This is an annual event to promote awareness of crime and the work of the Safer Gloucester Partnership. In addition members of the Partnerships Leadership group are in attendance and use the opportunity to talk to attendees and listen to their concerns about crime and community safety. This event will held again this year on 20th May.
- The Partnership held its annual Christmas Crime Prevention event on 7th December in 2016 in Kings Walk. Information and tips on crime prevention as well as the Safer Gloucester year planner were handed out and members of the Partnership were available to listen to passers-by who wanted to share their concerns about crime and the fear of crime.

Older but not Overlooked

- Halloween can be harmless fun, but sometimes members of the community can become distressed by unexpected callers. Safer Gloucester has produced some posters which are available on the website for people to download and put in their windows to ask people not to call at their house.
- Paws on Patrol membership scheme is 5 this year and as well as being the topic of one Safer Gloucester's events its members operate 24/7. The initiative aims to reduce the opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour to occur, reduce the fear of crime especially in the vulnerable and build a community spirit where dog walkers can contribute toward the protection of their neighbourhood.

Young People becoming Adults

- Tragically there have been several incidents of knife crime in the County. On 1st October 2016 the Partnership in order to raise awareness of the dangers of carrying knives with young people, launched a new initiative "Your knife or your life" at the Skillzone. 20 young people attended a workshop to consider not just how dangerous knives are, but also the effects of a fatal stabbing on the friends and family of the victim and perpetrator. The event also included some first aid and self-preservation training. It is planned that this training will be run every 3 months.

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Safer Days and Nights for All

- In February the Partnership hosted a seminar, called Project Argus, for shops and retailers in the City on a simulated terrorist attack. This was a follow up to one that was run for Licensees in December 2015. The seminar informed businesses about what they and their staff may need to do in helping prevent and survive a terrorist attack or other catastrophe like flooding, fire, explosions or major disaster.
- In 2015 the City Council introduced and ran its first Best Bar None award scheme for licensed businesses. In February last year the team, which included the co-ordinators and winners from each active scheme, were invited to a reception at the House of Lords where they received the award for Best New Scheme.
- In 2015 the City Council installed a new CCTV system in the City Centre. New high definition cameras were installed along with free WiFi and improved 4G connectivity. One of the major benefits of the new camera system is the improvement to image quality, as well as 360 degree movement capabilities. Following a number of successes, Police Chiefs praised the new system as being a decisive part in the prosecutions. In November 2016, at the Global MSC Conference in Bristol Gloucester won the Gordon McLanaghan Award for Innovation in the Security Industry.
- During 2016 the City Council adopted a Safe and Attractive Street Policy which covers issues of street drinking, rough sleeping, begging and legal highs. This policy follows an engage, support and enforce structure with help from Street Link, Project Solace, the City Centre Police Team and the City Council. Monitoring of the situation continues to be undertaken daily and there have been a number of successes with some beggars moving into supported housing enabling them to access appropriate services. Further measures such as a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and Social Impact Bond (SIB) are being explored as additional measures to help eradicate these issues.
- On 29th November the Safer Gloucester Partnership ran an event to promote awareness of Domestic Abuse. Dr Jane Monckton-Smith presented a lecture 'Are you afraid of someone? Understanding Coercive control, stalking and homicide'. The lecture was really well supported and attended by more than 150 people.
- In December on the Safer Gloucester website the Partnerships has an advent calendar to encourage people to interact with it and at the same time pick up advice on how to stay safe over the Christmas period. Each day leading to Christmas there is a different seasonal crime prevention message.

Safer and Social Driving

- The Safer Gloucester assisted the Licensed Victuallers Association (LVA) in promoting an initiative 'Be a Clive this Christmas'. Those that signed up to the initiative offered free soda to drivers if they show their car keys at the bar. Some members of the LVA have also decided to continue this initiative after the Festive Season.

Safer Cyber Crime

- The 9th February 2015 was Safer Internet Day. The Partnership put together 'Top Tips for Safer Social Networking' which can be found on the Safer Gloucester Website.