

Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	Cabinet	Date:	10 March 2021
Subject:	Stronger and Safer Gloucester Partnership Update		
Report Of:	Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	1. Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership Annual Review 2020/21		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on the work of the Stronger and Safer Gloucester Partnership during 2020/21.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that the work of the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership be welcomed.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Gloucester City Council hold responsibility for delivering community safety work across the City. Community safety is a statutory obligation for local authorities; the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 requires local authorities and the Police to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder in their areas.
- 3.2 The Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership (SSGP) is Gloucester's community safety partnership. Previously known as Safer Gloucester, the partnership was reviewed and rebranded in late 2017 during which it broadened its focus to incorporate health and wellbeing in recognition that crime, health, wellbeing and levels of deprivation can be intrinsically linked and should be looked at together in order to successfully address the root causes of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 3.5 The SSGP has evolved to become more outcome-focussed, with clear objectives agreed upon by all partners who all commit to being part of the delivery. The role of the SSGP is seen as one of influencing and conveying the benefits of partnership working, continually looking to enhance the partnership work across the City. Focussing on what partners can only do together, looking to co-commission, being mindful of practitioner and community input alongside data to understand our

communities better, and incorporating ABCD asset based community development in our joint way of working we have seen some positive and progressive work taking place within the City of Gloucester.

- 3.6 The SSGP has several offshoot partnerships including DaySafe and NightSafe, and sets up Task & Finish Groups for relevant issues. In addition, it links in to and is mindful of the aims and objectives of other partnerships including Safer Gloucestershire, the Health and Wellbeing Board, Integrated Locality Partnership, Enabling Active Communities, Safeguarding boards, Gloucester Business Improvement District, the Early Help Partnership and local groups.
- 3.7 The Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership focusses on key priorities each year which are categorised in to three subjects: Prevention, Protection and Response. The priorities are agreed in partnership, have input from all and are backed up with local knowledge and data around the subject matter so that we can ensure we are addressing issues which are relevant to our communities.
- 3.8 The Annual Review in Appendix 1 provides an overview of the work that has been overseen by the Partnership. Key points to note are:
- The important role the Partnership has played to provide oversight of the Covid-19 response, particularly during the first lockdown in spring 2020. Between March – June partners met fortnightly to provide updates on individual work and identifying opportunities or gaps that could be addressed in an agile manner.
 - In the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement, the sustained focus on equality and diversity through a number of externally funded projects to celebrate diversity.
 - On-going and sustained work to tackle street-based nuisance, including street-drinking and youth anti-social behaviour through our ‘engage, support, enforce’ approach and the continuation of projects such as ‘Bluelight’ that provide holistic support to people with entrenched challenging behaviours.
 - A phenomenal effort to tackle food poverty through the introduction of a food consortium with VCS and private partners and the introduction of a food referral scheme. Food provision has quickly become a ‘golden thread’ in connecting communities and a means to also engage with recipients in healthy lifestyles and mental wellbeing. This project will grow into a city wide programme next year.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

- 4.1 We have consciously woven strengths-based problem solving into our community safety approaches in order to support residents to feel better connected to their neighbours and neighbourhoods. It is recognised in research that when residents know the names of their neighbours they feel safer in their area, and that when residents do things together the area becomes safer.

5.0 Environmental Implications

- 5.1 A number of projects, including the proposed areas action plans for Kingsholm and Barton & Tredworth will have direct positive implications on the public realm.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 The City Council recognises it is important to periodically review our community safety partnership and our approach in order to work more effectively and be able to link key themes together to achieve sustainable change within our communities. As a result, we have seen further increased joint working and more positive outcomes, especially in groups with vulnerabilities and complex needs.
- 6.2 The Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership has allowed for a reduction in duplication of work, increase in partnership working on various subjects and a greater understanding amongst partner agencies (for example from support and enforcement backgrounds) of the work that each other does and how we can enhance and compliment joint aims to co-ordinate our work better and achieve better outcomes for residents.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1 No recommendations are made in this report, it is for information only.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 8.1 The work of the SSGP will continue in 2021/22 and the partnership will sets its priorities for next year at its meeting in March. The partnership has been awarded £30,000 through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for four projects that will be delivered in 2021/22. They are:
- Working with health partners to deliver a plan that contributes to tackling health inequalities in Gloucester (likely focus on Barton & Tredworth): £10,000
 - Hard landscaping in Skinner Street (Kingsholm) to deter street drinkers: £10,000
 - Investment in mobile CCTV cameras: £5,000
 - Community led responses in Barton & Tredworth to tackle littering and fly-tipping: £5,000

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report as it is an update report covering activities funded through the budget and remit of the Council or via shared resources as agreed through the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.)

10.0 Legal Implications

- 10.1 None directly arising from this report other than to note that Community Safety partnerships, such as the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership, were first created to comply with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Council will need to be mindful of its duties under Data Protection legislation when sharing data with other partner organisations and agencies within this Partnership.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation of this report.)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1 There are no risks associated with this update report.

11.2 The City Council and the Stronger Safer Gloucester Partnership take or create opportunities where possible to increase public reassurance, encourage responsible reporting of issues and implement prevention strands or proactive work in response to trends in order to increase resident's safety and feelings of safety.

12.0 People Impact Assessment and Safeguarding:

12.1 A People Impact Assessment is not relevant for this report as it is giving an overview of work undertaken rather than proposing service changes.

12.2 Considerations are given when undertaking all community safety work to ensure that we do not adversely impact on any group and that we are fostering good relations and promoting advancement of opportunities within the community.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

13.1 The content of this report outlines the community safety work of the Council and its partners.

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

14.1 None

Background Documents: None