



## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM COUNCIL NOTICES OF MOTION

- **Meeting Date:** Council, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Notice of Motion:** Drink Spiking

Council RESOLVED – that:

Drink Spiking has seen a significant rise within recent months and Gloucestershire Police has had in excess of 100 reports made since July 2021, and in response they have become the first police force to introduce the use of drugs testing machines as part of a newly launched anti-drink spiking campaign, Operation Nightingale.

Gloucester's Night Time Economy partnership Nightsafe works with the police to adopt a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol and encourages all venues to proactively take measures to tackle spiking, but more can be done to ensure a consistent approach to the increasing issue of spiking.

This Council:

- Thanks the proactive work of the police and all partners of the night time economy who are working towards a zero tolerance approach to spiking.
- Commits to asking the Nightsafe Partnership to work with all partner organisations to create a voluntary scheme for licensed venues in Gloucester, to set out measures to mitigate drink spiking, to include support with staff training practices, templates and guidance on responding to and reporting spiking incidents.

**Actions:**

To ask the Nightsafe Partnership to work with all partner organisations to create a voluntary scheme for licensed venues in Gloucester, to set out measures to mitigate drink spiking, to include support with staff training practices, templates, and guidance on responding to and reporting spiking incidents.

**Update:**

The following actions have been taken, which have been led by Gloucestershire Constabulary with support and liaison from the City Council:

*Education & Advice*

- Using Posters and advice. Working with venues to provide drink testing tabs and a clear approach of what to do if someone thought they had been spiked by drink or needle.

*Sampling & Testing*

- This was then enhanced with police using urine test cups to determine if someone had actually been spiked, which was subsequently rolled out to universities and other agencies. This was also done in conjunction with using drug testing machines to swab people entering licensed venues to see if they had traces of drugs on their hands or illegal drugs on their person.
- Programmed operations are scheduled to be delivered on 23/11/22.

*Outcome*

- Reports reduced to almost zero.
- No tests came back positive other than for drugs they admitted to taking.
- The hospital tests were negative across the Force. We still get the odd report but nothing like before.
- The drug machine operation continues to disrupt illegal drugs entering venues.

