

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The past 12 months have seen Stroud District Community Safety Partnership continue to delivery against its 4 year strategy. As previously noted all areas of the service are represented within the strategy alongside partners. The strategy is centred on the PCC's priorities but also has the flexibility to respond to emerging local trends or issues.

The CSP contributed funding towards a set of County Lines presentations which were facilitated by a group called Alter Ego. The sessions were taken up by Secondary Schools and Colleges within the District school catchment areas and were aimed at year 9 pupils and above. The interactive sessions were an hour long with a feedback/Q&A sessions. The sessions received valuable feedback and the CSP will be looking and offering further sessions on other topics in the next year.

There has been an Intensive Engagement project that has been part paid for by the PCC and the CSP which has been focused around certain areas in Stonehouse. The project started in March 2019 in included representatives from a number of agencies including Police, The Door, Maidenhill School, Families First, P3, APT, a resident volunteer and Stonehouse Town Council and Council Officers from Housing, Neighbourhood Wardens and Youth. The group have, via a number of engagement methods, ascertained how the community would like to improve the area and its facilities. The next step is to begin to implement the solutions to the issues identified. This work is ongoing within the community with the support of partners.

The Council's Youth Service makes a significant contribution to the PCC's priority dedicated to young people becoming adults. Cam and Dursley Youth Forum hosted a 'Scratch n Skate' event at Jubilee Playing Fields, Cam in August. Several of the Neighbourhood Wardens were in attendance and one of the highlights of the day was the Resilience Voyage (Drugs Bus). The CSP funded the bus to attend the event and gave the attendees an opportunity to experience prison cell escape rooms and to understand how young people can be influenced into taking or dealing drugs.

The Neighbourhood Warden Team have been working in Stroud to conduct early morning and evening patrols to signpost any rough sleepers to sources of help and information. The team work alongside Housing Advice to direct rough sleepers to alternative emergency accommodation when Severe Weather Emergency Protocol is implemented. The team have also been assisting with inspecting and deterring Anti Social Behaviour in Bedford Street and Nailsworth Bus Station Public Conveniences.

The Community Services Team also continue to support County and Nationwide awareness weeks. In the last 12 months we have supported Hate Crime week, Child Safety, Domestic Abuse awareness, Holocaust Memorial Day, National Child Sexual Exploitation and National Condom Day.

We have been working together with our Legal Service to address the ongoing problem of fly-tipping across the District. In summary, we have had two successful prosecutions and have created a new process to streamline investigating offences and issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) or Civil Penalty Notices (CPN's). Bev Owen, Senior Neighbourhood Warden has taken over fly-tipping enforcement. Wherever evidence can be found in a fly tip investigations are undertaken and FPN's or warning notices are issued as appropriate.

Neighbourhood Wardens and PCSO's continue to carryout regular joint patrols across the District promoting community engagement, responding to anti-social behaviour and providing a reassuring presence to residents. We continue to work with the Police to monitor the appropriate areas for mobile CCTV across the district. These cameras have proven to act as a deterrent and have reduced the reports around Anti-Social Behaviour.

Abandoned vehicles continue to be reported to us, these are then inspected by the Neighbourhood Wardens and removed after an investigation. We are linking with the Police to remove vehicles through Operation Get it Gone (OP GIG) which is a quicker process of removing vehicles that have no tax on the highway. By responding to these reports we are able to reduce the occurrence of Environmental Protection crimes and the impact these have on communities in terms of Anti-Social Behaviour.

The Careline Service has been reviewed and streamlined. However, the focus of service remains unchanged; enabling people to live independently in their own homes with the control room providing 24 hour, 365 days a year cover for assistance if required. Our Neighbourhood Warden team have taken on responsibility for installing new alarms, repairing faults and replacing lost equipment. We are also undertaking two large projects to ensure the Careline Service sustainability for customers going forward.