

Feedback from Thematic Subgroups: August 2009

Name of Thematic Partnership
Community Safety Partnership
Progress and issues arising since April 2009
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary of Performance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gosport CDRP has seen a 2.96% (54 offences) reduction in recorded crime when comparing the period 01/04/2009 – 23/06/2009 to the same period in 2008.Data extracted from iQuanta indicates that despite the reduction from last year Gosport is currently performing above the average number of crimes per 1000 residents in comparison to its most similar group.Gosport currently has 25.04 crimes per 1000 resident from latest iQuanta figures in comparison to the Hampshire average of 18.14 crimes per 1000 residents.Gosport CDRP is performing particularly well when looking at Violence Against the Person with 112 fewer offences (23.19% reduction) during the period 01/04/2009 – 23/06/2009 compared to the same period in 2008.Although offences are down compared to last year, during this first quarter Gosport is performing slightly above the 09/10 target for NI 20 Assaults (with less serious injury) but is still within 5% of the target figure.Since summer 2008 there has been a downward trend in Assaults (with less serious injury) within Gosport. Projection trends indicate that this is likely to continue with ongoing partnership work.There have been 459 recorded Criminal Damage and Arsons offences for the period 01/04/2009 – 22/06/2009 and Gosport is currently failing to meet the Community Safety Partnership target of a 4% reduction, which it achieved during the 08/09 financial year.Although there has been a downward trend in recorded Criminal Damage offences over the past three years, an increase in offences has been recorded since the beginning of the calendar year peaking in March and April. This is a historical trend which is also experienced nationally.Latest results from the Place Survey 08/09 indicate that Gosport has seen an improvement in almost all NI perception targets relating to community safety in comparison to the Baseline data of 06/07. <p>ACTIVITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Community Safety Partnership continues to fund a range of targeted activities aimed at preventing youngsters particularly at risk of offending, from either entry into or progression through the criminal justice system e.g funding Youth Inclusion and Support Panel activity, 1st Reprimand clinic support and Motiv8 activities. In addition to this targeted work the Partnership has also delivered a Summer Program of diversionary activities to youngsters in Gosport under the banner 'Summer Passport'. This scheme is open to all youngsters over the age of 11 although extra effort is made to engage those most at risk of offending. The scheme provided a mechanism by which all partner agencies were able to deliver a co-ordinated program, thereby maximizing their effect. The scheme was very popular with often over a hundred children attending many of the days of activities of the three weeks that it ran. A short film which illustrates the scheme has been produced and will be available upon the launch of the Community Safety Partnership's new web site which is currently in development.

- As well as this work with young people, the partnership has also funded an innovative program of specialist work with those, primarily adult offenders, who are the top priority for Gosport owing to their prolific or serious nature. This has meant that as well as the enforcement element which is rigorously pursued, specialist services are available to these individuals when they are not in prison to address some of the factors which are contributing towards their offending eg drink or drugs.
- Another innovative project which has gather pace in the last few months has been the development of an alcohol arrest referral service, whereby those individuals arrested for an (suitable) alcohol related offence get the opportunity to have some help with their drinking problem. The system involves some incentivisation with Magistrates having agreed to take their attendance on such a course into account at sentencing.
- The other major project which the Community Safety Partnership has been involved with is a Community Engagement project. Gosport was selected by the Home Office to be one of seven Partnerships in England and Wales to pilot innovative approaches to Community Engagement and an amount of £51,000 is provided to this end. The Community Safety team responded by aligning the Community Engagement Plan which they had already been leading on the development of – with the new requirements and expectations of the pilot. A Community Engagement Plan was produced and approved by the Home Office in July (available on GBC Community Safety web pages) and key elements have begun to be delivered. In August the Partnership Board together with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Criminal Justice Board participated in two 'Have Your Say on Crime' events in Gosport. The first was a relatively low-key affair with Board members and partners attending a stall in the High Street on a Saturday morning and quizzing members of the public on their views of crime and disorder in the Borough – whilst also recruiting them to Neighbourhood Watch and other voluntary bodies. The second event was a widely publicized evening at Brune Park Community College which involved a public audience of around one hundred and twenty people watching a series of relevant film pieces to provide an insight into the Partnership's work, interactive electronic voting for the audience on key issues and finally a 'Question Time' element. The event was well attended and the feedback was generally very positive on the event itself although, naturally enough, some of the views expressed were strong and did not find unanimous support. A short film of the evening is being produced and will be available to view on the new Community Safety Partnership web site which is currently in development.
- Building on this work, the Partnership has re-branded itself with a new logo (as shown below), and associated stationary, promotional materials and a forthcoming web site.



What Happens Next?

Gosport Community Safety Partnership will be continuing throughout the year to improve their accessibility and to actively engage with the public in. There are a number of developments planned which are intended to support this and they include.

- The establishment of **Neighbourhood Panels** for Community Safety for all areas in the Borough
- The development of regular **Neighbourhood Newsletters**
- A regular presence on Gosport High Street throughout the year
- The roll out of partnership **Weeks of Action** across the Borough

- The development of a new Gosport Community Safety Partnership web site where you can access news on the latest crime reduction initiatives in the Borough and your neighbourhood as well as the agenda's and records of meetings of the Partnership
- Use of Facebook, Twitter and other social media networks to engage particularly with young people

What is a Neighbourhood Panel?

The development and establishment of six Neighbourhood Panels to cover all parts of Gosport, is a key element of the Gosport Community Safety Partnership's Community Engagement Plan. These will be based on the Neighbourhood Policing Beat areas – except for Rowner and Lee-on-the-Solent, which would each have their own Neighbourhood Panel.

The purpose of these panels (which would meet twice a year) is to ensure that every Gosport resident has an opportunity to engage with and influence local and Borough-wide Community Safety related issues. Arrangements will need to be tailored according to the needs and features of each of the areas.

It is not envisaged that these Panels would replace existing groups with a similar or identical purpose – indeed in such areas it may simply mean agreeing that an existing local meeting would fulfill this role on at least two occasions per year and be supported accordingly. In other areas, there may be no similar meeting and the Panel will therefore be a first step in improving local community engagement.

Main Aims of the Partnership

Work towards delivering its relevant section of Gosport's 2026 Vision in the Sustainable Community Strategy: People will feel safer as levels of crime and anti social behaviour decreases.

Emerging Priorities

How can you make a difference?	1	Anti social behaviour, criminal damage and fear of crime
	2	Violent Crime
	3	Reoffending and Preventing Youngsters entering Criminal Justice System
	4	Reduce Drug and Alcohol Related Offending
	5	Engage with our communities on all of the above in order to improve our response

Links to Hampshire Local Area Agreement Priority Outcomes

LAA Theme:	Safer Communities
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Chairman

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Gosport Partnership Board: Representative

Name:	As above
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Membership

Organisation	Representative

