

# DRAFT Cambridge City Community Safety Plan 2011 - 2014

## 2012/2013 Update

### Foreword from Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Board Members

The Cambridge Community Safety Partnership brings together a number of agencies and organisations concerned with tackling and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Cambridge. All the key organisations, like the City Council and the police, are statutory members, but voluntary groups and businesses are also represented and play an important role.

Our key role is to understand the kinds of problems Cambridge is experiencing; decide which of these are the most important to deal with; and then decide what actions we can take collectively, adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by our individual agencies and organisations.

We detail these actions in our community safety plan. The [current community safety plan](#) was written in 2011 and runs for four years until 2014, after which we will look at everything afresh. In the meantime, in a quickly changing environment, we need to continue to check the current plan to make sure it is on track and to make sure that the priorities we set originally are still relevant for the different communities within Cambridge. To help us do this we commission an annual 'strategic assessment'. The strategic assessment looks at, and seeks to understand, the range of detailed information that exists about crime, disorder, substances abuse and other community safety matters affecting Cambridge. In the light of this information the assessment will usually make some recommendations about how best to keep the community safety plan on track.

Having looked at the 2011 strategic assessment, we have decided that the 2012/13 priorities should remain broadly the same as in the original plan. These priorities are:

- Alcohol related violent crime.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Repeat incidents of domestic violence.
- Reducing re-offending .

This update to the plan will provide details on the current priorities and discuss new issues for the partnership in the year ahead.

## **Board Members of Cambridge Community Safety Partnership**

- Cambridge City Council *Liz Bisset*
- Cambridge City Council *Tim Bick*
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary *Dave Sargent*
- Cambridgeshire County Council *Sarah Ferguson*
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service *Julian Fountain*
- Cambridgeshire Police Authority *Kevin Wilkins*
- NHS Cambridgeshire *Inger O'Meara*
- Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service *Mark Freeman*
- National Probation Service *Graeme Seddon*

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## **1. Achievements in 2011/12**

**In the past year to October 2011 we have seen:**

- total recorded crime reduce by 20 percent;
- dwelling burglary reduce by 51 percent;
- total violent crime reduce by 22 percent;
- criminal damage reduce by 15.5 percent; and
- pedal cycle theft reduce by 30 percent.

## **2. What did we do in each priority area?**

In each of the priority areas the partner agencies worked together, sharing resources and focusing core business activity to achieve our stated aims. For example we worked with local businesses, trading standards and the leisure industry to promote responsible drinking and responsible selling of alcohol. We tackled repeat incidents of anti-social behaviour working across agencies to get the best outcomes. Each of the member agencies contributed to the work of the Partnership putting in staffing resources or expertise. We also carried out a number of projects specifically focused on priority issues and they are listed below.

### **1. Reducing alcohol-related violent crime in the city centre**

**We spent £4,207 so that people using taxis at night would feel safer.**

We used this money to pay for three private security staff to keep an eye on the taxi rank on St. Andrew's Street between the hours of 10pm and 4:30am on twelve key dates during late November, Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve.

**We spent £2,500 so that people in town for the night could get help if they needed it.**

On two key dates we set up a care tent in the city centre to give medical and non-medical advice, care and assistance to people in trouble. The tent was staffed by people from the military, St John Ambulance and the Ambulance Trust, with additional support coming

from businesses and NHS. The tent will be in place on New Year's Eve and at a time to be arranged in December.

**We spent £1,586 on a safe place for people needing help in town at night.**

Building on what we learned by running the care tent, we put money into providing a similar service in the more permanent setting of St Columbia's Hall in Downing Street in the city centre. The refuge was open between 10:00 at night and 4:00 in the morning on two occasions in October and a further two in November. Staff from St John Ambulance, helped by a private security guard and volunteers from Hope Cambridge, were there to provide advice, assistance and first aid to people who needed it.

**We spent £2,500 on accredited safety guardians to help protect young people.**

Between August and October 2011 we supported a pilot project which put two accredited 'safety guardians' on the street to help keep students and young people safe. Around 40 patrols were carried out between 9:00 and 11:00 at night visiting places where young people gather like Parker's Piece and Christ's Pieces. The patrols worked with door staff, pub managers, club promoters and city council staff, and gave advice to a large number of students and others about personal safety and safer cycling awareness

**We spent £1,000 to help with Cambridge Businesses Against Crime (CAMBAC) training.**

We helped to pay for four training sessions for pub managers and staff about running licensed premises in a way that will help cut down on violent incidents. This money also helped fund a counter-terrorism training event (Project Argus) which was held at The Junction on 11<sup>th</sup> August and attracted 50 people.

**We spent £1,000 helping to promote a scheme to tackle violent drinkers.**

CAMBAC has introduced a scheme called Nightsafe to ban people who have repeatedly caused trouble in and around licensed premises. We paid for 600 A5 stickers promoting membership of the scheme. This initiative was covered in a Cambridge News item on 7<sup>th</sup> July.

## **2. Reducing repeat incidents of anti-social behaviour**

**We spent £18,864 on work to help young people to avoid getting involved in crime.**

We commissioned two projects to provide young people with activities to help them to avoid being drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour. The first project will work with 10-12 year olds and the second with 13-16 year olds. When it has finished, the project will have run 28 sessions over 30 weeks, with the junior project providing an additional 4 hours per week of one-to-one support.

## **3. Reducing repeat victims of domestic violence**

**We spent £12,000 on work to change people who had committed domestic violence.**

We commissioned 30 group work sessions and 250 one-to-one sessions over 18 weeks with people who had committed domestic violence. To date, 15 men have been supported by the service with three successfully 'graduating' after completing their sessions but agreeing to continue to work with the service.

**We spent £9,078 to provide people at risk of domestic violence with a safe place in their home.**

We paid for additional security and special safe rooms in the homes of domestic violence victims. To date, two properties have received security upgrades and more are planned.

**We spent £5,500 to help people break free of violent relationships.**

We paid for 38 courses under the Freedom Programme. The programme aims to help victims of domestic violence understand how abusive relationships develop and how they might stop becoming victims in the future. To date, two programmes have been run with nine women attending.

### **3. Reducing re-offending**

**We spent £1,000 on a programme working with repeat offenders.**

Research has shown that a small number of people are responsible for a lot of crime that get committed. These people are known as 'prolific and priority offenders' and getting them to change their ways can make a very big difference to how many crimes take place.

A criminal justice system project called 'integrated offender management' (IOM) works with prolific and priority offenders. We spent £1,000 to help IOM provide practical support to these people. So far, two small payments totalling £70 have been provided to help offenders provide proof of their education in order to help them get a job.



### **3. Community Safety Plan: 2012/2013 update**

This section tells you more about our priorities. We look at why these were chosen in the first place, why they continue to be relevant, and how we see the issues one year into our four year plan.

the four priorities are:

- reducing alcohol-related violent crime
- Reducing anti-social behaviour
- Reducing repeat victims of domestic violence
- Reducing re-offending

#### **How were these priorities chosen?**

The starting point for choosing our priorities is always the strategic assessment. The strategic assessment for 2011 was presented at a partnership board development day and its findings were discussed in detail. The group looked in particular at the problems we could tackle best by all the agencies working together.

A major outcome from the strategic assessment was the impact that alcohol and substance misuse has on a range of the problems we experience in the City and highlighted some problem localities and vulnerable groups.

For each of the four priorities the lead officer produces an annual action plan detailing the specific work that will be undertaken throughout the year. The lead officer also produces a quarterly update. Like other partnership papers, these reports are open public documents.

#### **Priority 1: Reducing alcohol related violent crime**

##### **Why is this priority being continued?**

The 2011 strategic assessment has indicated a 10 percent reduction in recorded violence in Cambridge between September and August 2011 compared to the same period the year before. This amounts to 275 fewer offences. In addition, if the trend for April to September 2011 continues into the next six month period, the number of people needing to use the hospital accident and emergency service following violence will have remained constant compared to 2010 -11 and lower than the average for the three years before that.

However, despite these successes, 48 percent of violent crime in Cambridge is associated with the night time economy, occurring in

areas with major pub clusters<sup>1</sup>. Market Ward, which encompasses the city centre, is the main location for a number of these offences.

Alcohol related disorder regularly features as a neighbourhood priority at West/Central Area Committee meetings.

Violent crime has a considerable, often long-term, impact on individuals, communities and services. It is for these reasons that the Partnership has decided to continue to prioritise alcohol related violence.

### **What do we aim to do?**

We aim to -

- maintain the good practice of the Alcohol Related Violent Crime (ARVC) Task Group in effectively tackling violent crime that is directly linked to alcohol consumption;
- create a safe and secure environment for those who live in, work in and visit the city centre.
- continue to look at information from partners and other sources so that we can identify emerging issues of alcohol related violent crime, including looking beyond the central area.
- explore any opportunities that may arise to work with additional partners and agencies to help prevent alcohol related violent crime.

### **Targets**

#### **To be confirmed.**

The ARVC Task Group holds an annual seminar in the Autumn to consider what they should do in the year ahead, and members are now finalising a new action plan. New targets will be set as part of this process. These will be confirmed at the next ARVC Task Group meeting scheduled for the end of January 2012 and then referred to the Cambridge CSP Board at its February meeting.

#### **Lead Officer**

#### **Communities Chief Inspector, Cambridgeshire Constabulary**

### **Priority 2: Reducing anti-social behaviour**

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<sup>1</sup> Three or more pubs and/or nightclubs within 150 metres of each other.

## **Why is this priority being continued?**

The 2011 Strategic Assessment showed police recorded incidents of ASB went down by over 33 percent in the past four years. This is good news, but it is clear that ASB is still of concern to residents.

Last year the partnership focused on ASB happening repeatedly to the same people or in the same areas, and ASB affecting vulnerable people. A special police complex case team now works closely with the Council's ASB team and other organisations to assess and manage these kinds of cases. There is also a Council-led problem solving group which helps to ensure that the right agencies work quickly to find solutions in individual cases. Dealing with problems through these working groups is now an established and effective part of the working practices of the organisations involved.

As recommended in the strategic assessment, the focus will now shift to the partnership maintaining a broad range of interventions to deal with and prevent anti-social behaviour. The partnership work will focus on continued support of the case work to reduce repeat victimisation of vulnerable people, prevention work with young people, and working within communities, paying particular attention to the anti-social behaviour issues raised at area committees. We will also focus on anti-social behaviour associated with substance misuse.

## **What do we aim to achieve?**

We aim to continue to effectively tackle incidents of anti-social behaviour and to create an environment where everyone who lives in, works in, or visits Cambridge is free from feeling harassed or intimidated by the behaviour of others.

## **How will we do this?**

We intend to do this by:

- continuing to support and work closely with the police complex cases team and the multi-agency problem-solving group;
- evaluating the youth prevention work currently taking place and incorporating this learning into future work;
- working directly with local communities by focussing on issues coming out of the area committees; and
- strengthening the links with the Alcohol Related Violent Crime task group and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

## **Delivery**

We will set up special 'task and finish' groups to deal with issues as they arise and also link up with the Alcohol Related Violent Crime Task Group where anti-social behaviour overlaps with substance misuse related issues.

## **Targets**

### **To be finalised.**

- To further reduce the number of police recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour.
- To have no more than 130 first time entrants to the criminal justice system from Cambridge for 2012/13.
- To increase the number of neighbourhood profile priorities successfully dealt with.

## **Lead Officer**

**Safer Communities Manager, Cambridge City Council**

### **Priority 3: Reducing repeat victims of domestic violence**

#### **Why is this priority being continued?**

The 2011 strategic assessment recommends that the partnership should focus specifically on working with young people to prevent domestic violence.

#### **What do we aim to achieve?**

To be confirmed, following discussion of the report from the Domestic Abuse Partnership Manager at a special meeting of the Cambridge CSP.

## **Lead Officer**

**Chair, Domestic Violence Task Group.**

### **Priority 4: Reducing re-offending**

## **Why is this priority being continued?**

The National Police Improvement Agency paper 'Policing Our Communities Together' confirmed the existing partnership view that dealing with people who repeatedly commit crime should be a very high priority for all community safety partnerships.

The 2011 strategic assessment has recommended that reducing re-offending remain a priority, with the implementation of Integrated Offender Management (IOM – please see page 6) being a key, but not the exclusive, programme to support this important area of work.

The IOM service brings together the former prolific and priority offender scheme (PPO) and the drug intervention programme (DIP), together with elements of other programmes designed to divert young people away from offending.

In October 2011 there were 71 individuals on the Cambridge City IOM scheme, of which 12 were serving a custodial sentence or were on remand. We believe the scheme is already showing results. There has been, for example, a significant reduction in serious acquisitive crime, down from 122 crimes recorded in April 2011 to 81 crimes in October 2011. Serious acquisitive crime is one of the most important crime types for the scheme to deal with.

But IOM is not just about enforcement by the police, the probation service and the courts. The government also expects IOM to support offenders wanting to change their ways. For this reason the scheme uses a housing and resettlement specialist and we also work closely with a variety of support organisations. The support element of our IOM work is something we plan to expand and improve upon during 2012-2013.

## **What do we aim to achieve?**

We aim to:

- ❑ Maintain a minimum of 70 Cambridge clients a month in the 'Catch and Convict/Resettle and Re-Habilitate' part of the scheme.
- ❑ Record monthly the number of clients on the scheme compared with the number of serious acquisitive crimes. This will be a good indicator as to how well the scheme is doing.
- ❑ Complete the Home Office self-assessment tool for IOM.
- ❑ Investigate the use of the Home Office value for money programme for IOM .
- ❑ Improve how IOM clients get housing advice and assistance.

- Improve how IOM clients get mental health services.
- Work closely with partners to monitor, and agree how to deal with, people who are currently just outside the scope of the scheme but are being dealt with by partner agencies.
- Identify how big a part alcohol plays in IOM client behaviour, and, in a formal discussion document, propose which interventions or services are needed to help deal with this.
- Implement a formal end of year report and review. This should be designed and implemented by an agency that is outside of our day-to-day operations but which is nevertheless an important partner (for example, the County Council).

### **Lead Officer**

**Head of Operation and Neighbourhood Support, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.**

## **Contact us**

Comments or queries on this 2012/2013 version of the Community Safety Plan, should be addressed to:

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