Stroud District Community Safety Partnership Action plan 2023 – 2026

Background

The Stroud Community Safety Partnership (SDCSP) brings together statutory agencies and organisations concerned with tackling and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Stroud District and who have shared responsibility placed on them by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002, Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and Police and Crime Act 2009 requires that the District Council, County Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Service, NHS and Probation Service jointly develop and implement a strategy to tackle crime and disorder, including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, as well as the misuse of drugs and to prevent reoffending within Stroud District.

Section 17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that all relevant authorities – which includes town and parish councils – have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area.

The duty imposed on an authority to do all it reasonably can to prevent serious violence in its area is a duty on the authority to do all it reasonably can to: -

- (a) prevent people from becoming involved in serious violence in its area, and
- (b)reduce instances of serious violence in its area.

The key responsibilities of SDCSP:

- a) Oversee strategic analysis of current activity appropriate at district level, including strategic assessments and ensure an evidence-based approach to priority-setting.
- b) Agree key priorities at district level and ensure that there is a three-year Community Safety Strategy and Plan to deliver actions against those priorities.
- c) SDCSP has a responsibility for regular community engagement and consult with the community about their priorities and progress achieving them
- d) Keep a strategic overview of progress against delivery of objectives and provide constructive challenge in areas of underperformance at a county level as appropriate.
- e) Analyse a wide range of data, including recorded crime levels and patterns in order to identify priorities in an annual strategic assessment, contribute to the development and implementation of other local strategies and plans, such as health and wellbeing and Prevent which are aligned to the community safety agenda, particularly to reduce duplication of effort and identify and implement possible efficiencies and increase effectiveness.
- f) Raise the awareness of key issues and facilitate the exchange of information between all organisations involved that are appropriate at a district and county wide level.
 - https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2081761/gloucestershire-information-sharing-partnership-agreement-v40-july-2018-final.pdf
- g) Produce a strategy to reduce reoffending
- h) Commission domestic homicide reviews
- i) To ensure compliance with the statutory duties and responsibilities stated in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Police and Justice Act 2006, and in subsequent Home Office regulations

In Gloucestershire, obligation a) is shared with Safer Gloucestershire and obligations d), f) and g) fulfilled by Safer Gloucestershire

The responsible authorities who sit on the SDCSP are:

- Gloucestershire Police
- Gloucestershire OPCC
- Stroud District Council
- Gloucestershire Fire and rescue service
- Gloucestershire CC Depts Adult & Children's social care, Public Health
- National Probation
- Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board

The SDCSP is further supported by non-statutory co-opted members, which include:

- Housing Providers
- Victim Support
- P3

In December 2022 it was announced the "Serious Violence Bill" which will include the following: -

- Create new duties on a range of specified agencies across different sectors, such as local government, youth offending, and health and probation, to work collaboratively, share data and information, and put in place plans to prevent and reduce serious violence within their communities.
- Amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, which include local police, fire, and probation services, as well as local authorities and wider public services.
- Ensure the police have the powers they need to keep weapons off our streets. The main benefits of the Bill would be:
- A multi-agency approach to tackle the root causes of violent crime by placing an emphasis on intervention with young people and acknowledging that law enforcement alone cannot tackle violence.
- Complementing the Government's investment in Violence Reduction Units in the areas most affected by serious violence by ensuring that agencies work effectively together.
- Deterring people from carrying weapons, by introducing new court orders to target
- Known knife carriers, to make it easier for the police to stop and search those convicted for knife crime offences.

SDCSP is fully aware of the benefits Public Heath Approach and have already embedded them in their structure and will continue to develop this approach, using all guidance available.

In 2012 the Police Authority was abolished and replaced by the new Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). The work of the OPCC is scrutinised by a panel made up of other elected and independent members (Police Crime Panel). The PCC has statutory duties for holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of an efficient and effective police service and he does this through his Police and Crime Plan.

The SDCSP Plan takes cognisance of the strategic aims and priorities contained with the Police and Crime Plan.

Unlike Police Authorities, PCCs are not 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and hence will not be members of Community Safety Partnerships. The statutory duties in the Crime and Disorder Act that applied to police authorities will not apply to PCCs. However, provisions in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 place a mutual duty on PCCs and responsible authorities in CSPs to work in partnership in reducing crime, disorder, and re-offending and have due regard for each other's plans and strategies. The Gloucestershire Police Crime Commissioners priorities are described in the link https://www.gloucestershire-pcc.gov.uk/police-and-crime-plan-priorities/

Serious Violence Duty.

Tackling serious violence is not a law enforcement issue alone and it requires a multiple strand approach involving a range of partners across different sectors. That is the overarching message in this strategy. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf

Who must comply with the duty?

The Duty requires the following specified authorities within a local government area to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence:

- Police
- The Chief Officer of police for police areas in England and Wales
- Justice
- Probation Services
- Youth Offending Teams
- Fire and Rescue
- All fire and rescue authorities operating in England and Wales
- Health
- Integrated Care Boards
- A district council
- A county council in England

Domestic Homicides Reviews

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). The Act places a responsibility on Community Safety Partnerships to establish the necessity for reviews. This provision came into force on 13th April 2011, requiring local authorities and partner agencies to devise a process underpinned by the statutory guidance provided. The rationale for the

Domestic Homicide Review process is to ensure agencies are responding appropriately to victims of domestic violence/abuse by offering and putting in place appropriate support mechanisms, procedures, resources, and interventions with an aim to avoid future incidents of domestic homicide, violence, and abuse.

The Safer Gloucestershire Board, on behalf of local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB) and Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB) have all agreed that DHR's will be conducted Gloucestershire as part of the Serious Case Review (SCR) arrangements.

New Domestic Abuse Measures

Following the extension of the definition of domestic violence in March 2013, several further measures have been introduced that have changed the way in which agencies are able to support victims of domestic violence and abuse. In March 2014, the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (known as Clare's Law) was extended to all police forces across England and Wales, allowing police to disclose to individuals, details of their partner's abusive past. The Serious Crime Act 2015 also created a new offence of 'controlling or coercive behaviour' in intimate or familial relationships that came into force in December 2015. This includes honour-based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage and victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016

The Act received Royal Assent in January 2016 and aims to tackle the trade in harmful psychoactive substances and protect young people from the risks posed by them. The new legislation prohibits the production, supply and importation of these potentially dangerous drugs and carries severe sentences for offenders. Recent additions to the Government Anti-Social Behaviour Plan introduces the offence of possessing Nitrous Oxide (Laughing gas).

The Stroud Community Safety Partnership Plan

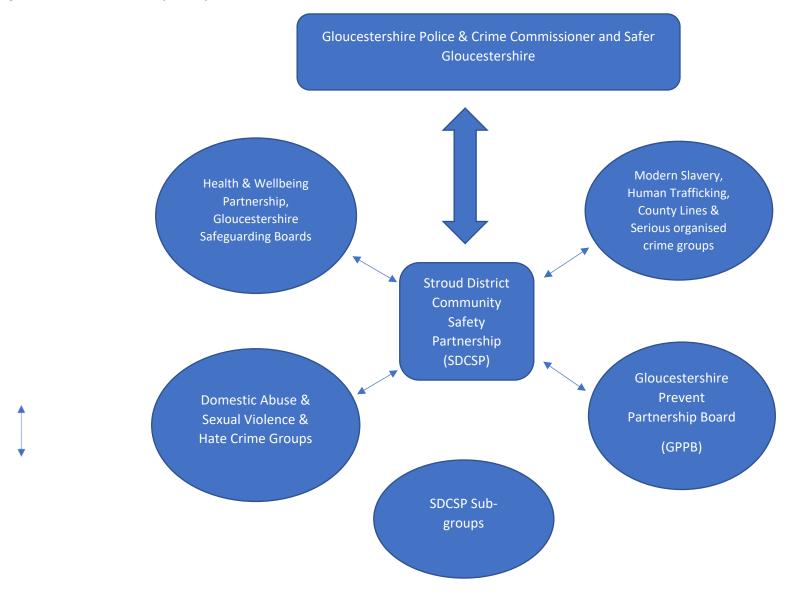
Each year Safer Gloucestershire produces a Strategic Assessment which assists in the development of the SDCSP and includes the levels of crime and ASB being experienced in Stroud District.

The purpose of the assessment is to:

- Highlight performance, progress and achievements against the commitments made in the previous Community Safety Plan
- Identify increases in community tensions.
- Identify the partnerships priorities for the forthcoming year.

The CSP Plan runs on a three-year cycle and takes account of performance, problem issues, changes within our communities and available resources. This current plan recommences the start of the three-year cycle and has been written for 2023/2025. It will be refreshed annually following a review of an end of year Strategic Assessment.

Figure 1. Stroud Community Safety Structure



It has been recently identified that there is a need to restructure the SDCSP to ensure increased governance and improved performance. This structure needs to be embedded as soon as possible. Figure 1 above represents the proposed amended SDCSP delivery structure for 2023 to 2025.

Performance Management

The Partnership reports regularly on progress against agreed targets. Projects to achieve our outcomes are developed and implemented in Stroud district using the expertise of the members of the SDCSP.

To enable the SDCSP to achieve its aims and objectives it has the power to set up sub-groups. The sub-groups are responsible to the Partnership for delivering the strategic objectives.

- The Partnership, which comprises of representatives from the 'responsible agencies and other relevant agencies, will be responsible for undertaking quarterly reviews of progress against priorities and for determining any support measures needed to ensure successful outcomes.
- The lead for each group will co-ordinate partnership activity through an agreed Action Plan, review progress on a quarterly basis and report back to the Partnership.
- The SDCSP Chair will be responsible for maintaining an overview of activity in respect of all agreed priorities and will address potential barriers to successful outcomes.
- The activities of the Partnership will take a structured approach to problem solving by utilising the four stages of the SARA model: Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment and use the SMART principles (Specific, Measurable, Appropriate, Relevant, Timescales) in driving the key themes set within the plan.
- The Partnership will use a standardised Action Plan template detailing the key objectives, initiatives, measures of success, time scales, lead partners, resources, and associated risks.
- Manage performance towards strategic priorities.
- Monitor its own performance against its Most Similar Family Group (MSFG) using IQUANTA crime and MaiDen data.

Any sub-group set up by the SDCSP must prepare an Action Plan that includes details of initiatives, time scales, funding arrangements, lead body and measures of success. The sub-group Chairs coordinate their group's performance through the Action Plans, reviewing progress on and presenting a progress report to the SDCSP meeting on a quarterly basis. Action plans are reviewed annually to align with this Plan and will be agreed by the Partnership by the end of each year.

Key Findings from the 2022/23 Safer Gloucestershire Strategic Assessment. See below link.



Safer Gloucestershire Board Strategic Assess

Those key area of business include:

- ASB in all its forms including alcohol and substance misuse.
- Serious Violence in all its forms including domestic abuse and Violence Intimidation Against Women and Girls (VIAWG)
- Prevent people being drawn into extremism and take positive action in respect of hate crime.
- Build stronger and cohesive communities.

It is recommended that these key areas of business are reviewed at a strategic level to ensure that our control plans are effective in our delivery structures. There is a clear need to ensure that both centralised services and the locality are more holistic in their approach to managing these key areas of business. Moreover, as evidenced through the crime data it will be important for the CSP to build upon existing structures.

This again needs to be reflected in the strategic objectives within the new CSP Plan.

Partnership Vision

'To contribute to a high quality of life for all, across both urban and rural communities by facilitating an environment where people feel secure and live without the threat or fear of crime and disorder, Violence and ASB

Overarching Aim

'To deliver enhanced partnership working, collaboration and collective problem solving.'

Principles

The following principles will guide our strategic approach and run through this Plan:

- A public health approach: Focus on early intervention and prevention, and the wider determinants of crime and community safety, including social inequalities, employment, skills, health, housing, and environment.
- Resident engagement: Work with the local community to understand local priorities and develop an approach that is responsive and effective in increasing feelings of safety.
- Collaboration: Share data and intelligence and work across agencies to facilitate an efficient and effective approach and better targeted interventions.
- Supporting victims: Ensure a focus on victims and strengthen local systems to support victims, reduce repeat victimisation, and recognise that perpetrators of violence can often be victims too.

Cross-cutting issues:

We are committed to a joined-up approach that addresses the underlying issues that affect levels of crime and reoffending and will reflect these cross-cutting issues in all our work.

This includes: -

- **Substance misuse:** We know that a significant proportion of crime is linked to substance misuse, from acquisitive crime to serious violent offending and gang crime linked to drug markets. This will be an important cross-cutting theme within all our priorities, and partners will seek to reduce substance misuse through health interventions and treatment; supporting repeat offenders out of substance misuse and addiction through targeted interventions; and disrupting drug markets through enforcement activity.
- Mental Health: A significant proportion of those in contact with the criminal justice system suffer from mental health problems, with people particularly at risk during and after contact with criminal justice system. Evidence suggests that 33 per cent of male and 51 per cent of female prisoners suffer from depression, compared to 13 per cent in the general population. By identifying and addressing mental ill health at the earliest opportunity we can aim for the best outcomes for those people experiencing mental health issues and provide holistic support for people with complex and challenging needs.

• Social integration: A thriving, cohesive and well-integrated community can help to reduce the risk of hate crime and the risk of extremism taking root. There is a role for the local authority and SDCSP partners to continue to monitor and promote social integration and provide an environment where people of all backgrounds come together regularly as one community.

SDCSP Priorities

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Aim to reduce and proactively tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in all its forms and raise awareness of alcohol and substance misuse and reduce related crime/incidents including street related ASB.	Women and Girls (VIAWG), serious violence,	extremism and take positive action in
Priority 4	Priority 5	
Build stronger and cohesive communities with a focus on increasing community confidence.	Aim to reduce and prevent re-offending by working with partners to address persistent prolific offenders who cause most harm.	

Each of the CSP's priorities is broken down into specific tasks and activities that will be undertaken by officers in delivering the outcomes required for each priority.

<u>Priority 1.</u> Aim to reduce and proactively tackle ASB in all its forms and raise awareness of alcohol and substance misuse and reduce related crime/incidents.

Priority 1: Why is this a priority?	What will we aim to achieve?	How will we achieve our aims?	How will we measure success?	Lead Organisation
The Partnership's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour will concentrate on the key principles of anti-social behaviour as defined by the 'Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014'. This can be summarised as: "Behaviour which caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household". Nationally and locally, anti-social behaviour has a high profile, and the Partnership accepts that incidents of anti-social behaviour have a negative impact upon the quality of life of the residents within our communities.	 are confident in reporting incidents of ASB. Ensure there is effective follow up with victims and that they are better informed of the positive outcomes of interventions taken. Communicate effectively with 	 To develop asset-based community development approach to engage with communities. To raise awareness of opportunistic crimes within the daytime economy and provide effective prevention campaigns. Support events, businesses, and the Police by providing effective mobile CCTV coverage. Ensure publication of successful initiatives through effective press liaison. Introduce 'SOLACE' to reduce persistent ASB particularly by a minority of offenders and supporting victims of anti-social behaviour and providing effective case management. Use available powers to address individuals deemed to be committing Crime and / or ASB / street related ASB. Focus on tackling anti-social behaviour issues related to young people as victims and perpetrators. Engage with the integrated offender management (IOM) team to address the behaviour of a small number of persons who commit most of the crime and ASB. Implementation of the Stroud District Council ASB policy 2023 	 Aim to Reduction in complaints about ASB. Number of non-legal interventions taken against perpetrators of ASB Number of breaches of civil interventions The Partnership will monitor the number of incidents recorded (both on Police and partners systems) and compare the data to the preceding year. SOLACE will monitor monthly the number of non-legal interventions taken against young perpetrators the number of breaches of non-legal youth interventions 	

<u>Priority 2:</u> Aim to reduce but increase awareness and reporting of VIAWG, serious violence, domestic abuse / sexual violence, and exploitation whilst supporting victims: including criminal exploitation, modern slavery, and human trafficking.

Priority 2: Why is this a priority?	What will we aim to achieve?	How will we achieve our aims?	How will we measure success?	Subgroup Chair and Membership
We will adopt the Gloucestershire Serious Violence Strategy, 2023 – 2026 to support vulnerable, high risk and repeat victims of crime and anti-social behaviour present the highest levels of threat and harm for the Partnership. Protecting adults/youths at risk of criminal exploitation. Historically Domestic Abuse has been an under-reported crime and organisations have found it difficult to measure the true extent of domestic abuse within Stroud District. An increase of both Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime is seen as a positive indicator of a community's confidence in the statutory services, which is in keeping with the CSP's vision. By encouraging victims to report incidents, the Partnership will be in an informed position and be more effective in supporting victims and developing further services.	 To increase the reporting of serious violence, Domestic Abuse offences and VIAWG & Sexual Abuse To raise awareness of serious violence, VIAWG, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse, and the support services available in the district. To identify of adults/youths at risk of exploitation and put in place appropriate. referrals to safeguarding & support services. To raise awareness of Modern slavery and Human Trafficking. To provided diversionary projects that target young people at risk of becoming drawn into Crime and ASB. Aim to ensure that front line staff are sufficiently knowledgeable about the subject to ensure appropriate levels of support and referral 	 Engage with national and local Domestic Abuse initiatives. Highlight the local Domestic Abuse services that are available to victims and their families. Review and respond to any learning outcomes from any Domestic Homicide Reviews. Prevention – examine ways to change attitudes and ensure that information about domestic abuse is widely available. Improve information sharing and ensure a robust audit trail for information relating. to the vulnerability of young people. To provide diversionary projects that target young people at risk of becoming drawn into Crime and ASB. Ensure appropriate referrals are made for support to children and young people to relevant authorities. Refer and engage young People at risk of criminal exploitation, particularly cases linked to County Lines and locality-based crime groups 	 We will adopt the Gloucestershire Serious Violence Strategy 2023 – 2026 Reduction in the number of serious violence with Injury crimes. Increase reporting and raise awareness of the number of Domestic Violence incidents/crime. increase awareness and reporting of VIAWG. Raise awareness of modern slavery, human trafficking, and criminal exploitation Increase awareness of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) with staff and partners (see appendix for guidance) 	

Priority 3: Prevent people being drawn into extremism and take positive action in respect of hate crime.

Priority 3: Why is this a priority?	What will we aim to achieve?	How will we achieve our aims?	How will we measure success?	Subgroup Chair and Membership
The Prevent Strategy is part of the Government's counterterrorism strategy, 'Contest'. It aims to stop people becoming extremists. It is important that the Partnership is proactive in addressing issues that could threaten community cohesion and that partner agencies work collaboratively to demonstrate that hate crime and extremist actions will not be tolerated. Whilst individual incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) may be considered minor offences, persistent ASB can have a very detrimental effect on individuals and families that are its victims and neighbourhoods as a whole.	 Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it. Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support. Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address. To promote the work of the County Hate Incident & Gloucestershire Partnership Prevent Board (GPPB) Prevent Group, reporting processes and the support available to victims through events and local media. To take positive action in respect of all hate incidents/crimes 	 Ensure publicly owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists. To ensure that all vulnerable young people and adults who might be susceptible to or are already engaged in any form of extremism are referred through to Channel via the GPPB To monitor extremism at local, national, and international levels By complying with the statutory duties on Local Authorities to Prevent and address all forms of extremism, emanating from the Counterterrorism and Security Bill To ensure that all relevant staff understand the Prevent Strategy and are equipped to respond to concerns. By holding Hate Awareness events throughout the year, promoting discussion, and increasing awareness with members of the public. Deliver presentations to Schools, in hotspot locations for Hate Crime, as well as deliver training for Hate Incident reporting staff 	 The number of staff that understand the Prevent Strategy and are equipped to respond to concerns. Number of Channel referrals made. The Community Safety Partnership will monitor the number of Hate crimes, as recorded by Gloucestershire Police, on a quarterly basis 	

Priority 4: Build stronger and cohesive communities with a focus on increasing community confidence.

Priority 4: Why is this a priority?	What will we aim to achieve?	How will we achieve our aims?	How will we measure success?	Subgroup Chair and Membership
Recent local surveys indicated that residents and business owners are concerned about rising levels of crime	precautions to protect themselves, their neighbours, and their property.	 Promote good news stories, crime reduction figures and messages of reassurance through a variety of media channels. Support a process of communicating with neighbourhoods. Inform the community of the actual levels of crime and ASB. Engage with residents and local representatives, particularly in our priority neighbourhoods, to understand local concerns and seek feasible solutions. Create checklist and practical ideas resource for residents, VCES organisations and businesses. To organise workshops for residents, VCSE organisations and businesses to attend help enhance their understanding of their responsibility. 	 By aiming to increase the number of people of all ages stating that felt safe in their local area after dark By aiming to increase the number of people stating that ASB got better or stayed the same Number of organisations who have completed the checklist. Number of community workshops which have been delivered. Number of organisations engaging with community payback Number of areas which have benefited from community payback involvement. 	

Priority 5: To prevent and reduce re-offending.

Priority 5 Why is this a priority	What will we aim to achieve?	How will we achieve our aims?	How will we measure success?	Subgroup Chair and Membership
Preventing offending has been identified as a priority because the Partnership understands the significant detrimental impact that crime has on victims, their families, and local communities. The focus of partnership activity under this priority will aim to disrupt Serious and Organised Crime, prevent, and reduce youth offending (particularly where drugrelated and linked to county lines) and reduce repeat offending of those involved in violence, including domestic abuse. offenders will be managed locally by Probation and those on the Integrated Offender Management Board.	 Aim to reduce crime recorded in Stroud District Area. Aim to reduce the number of young people committing crime. An increased awareness of county lines amongst young people to avoid them becoming involved in or targeted by gangs. Improvement in the detection and disruption of Organised Crime Groups across the district. Successful monitoring and behaviour change of known offenders through the Integrated Offender Management Programme and the work of the Probation Service. Sound intelligence picture of the key offences committed by prolific offenders operating in and throughout Stroud District and increased identification of locations of risk and high criminal activity. 	 To continue with a multi-agency approach to disrupting Serious and Organised Crime using powers and authorisations that are available to different agencies. To work with Probation and law enforcement colleagues through offender management programmes to moderate the behaviour of those that have been known to offend/reoffend. To Support victims of crime via other agencies such as Stroud Neighbourhood Wardens, Victim Support and Neighbourhood Watch, whilst offering advice on scams to those identified as more vulnerable to becoming victims of Serious and Organised Crime and targeted criminality such as Doorstep Crime and Scams. To work with and support Gloucestershire Trading Standards with knife test purchase operations whilst raising the importance of 'Challenge 25' with local businesses. 	• Aim to reduce re-offending is a cross-cutting theme and affects all areas of the Partnership's work and it has an impact on all statutory partners' resources. In order to achieve longer-term changes in behaviour, the Partnership will need to also aim to take a full problem-solving approach considering causal factors contributing to offending behaviour both those related to individuals as well as physical environments that are repeat locations for offending and preventative target hardening measures that may help to reduce opportunities for offending.	

<u>Appendix</u>

Police & Crime Prevention Plan for Gloucestershire 2021 – 2025

file:///C:/Users/dixt/Downloads/PCPP%20(3).pdf

NRM

 $\frac{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms/guidance-on-the-national-referral-mechanism-for-potential-adult-victims-of-modern-slavery-england-and-wales\\$

Prevent Duty

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revised-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales

file:///J:/Misc/27.4%20-%20Prevent%20and%20CE%20scrutiny%20guidance 04.pdf

ASB Statutory Guidance

file:///J:/CSP/ASB/2022 Updated ASB Statutory Guidance- FINAL%20(1).pdf

Integrated Offender Management

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/integrated-offender-management-iom

Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking Guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-how-to-identify-and-support-victims/modern-slavery-statutory-guidance-for-england-and-wales-under-s49-of-the-modern-slavery-act-2015-and-non-statutory-guidance-for-scotland-and-northe

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/human-trafficking-migrant-health-guide