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GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY

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Members of the Tilley Award
Judging Panel
c/o Tricia Perkins
Crime and Policing Group
Room (246A), Home Office
Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT

Your Ref:
Our Ref: **CM/JC/WAC**
Please Ask For: **Ch Insp Clay**
Direct Dialling: (01452) **33**
Ext No:
Date: **28/05/03**

Dear Members of the Tilley Award Judging Panel

It gives me great pleasure to endorse the enclosed Tilley Award submission from the Gloucester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, under the Effective Partnerships Category.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Chief Inspector John Clay on the telephone number provided.

Yours sincerely

C Mackey
Assistant Chief Constable

Paul Smith
Managing Director
Gloucester City Council

Tilley Award 2003

Project Title:

Forest & Gloucester Division
ROBBERY SARA Project and GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan

Category:

EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Name of Organisations:

Forest & Gloucester Divisional Police
Gloucester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (GCDRP)

Endorsing Chief Officers:

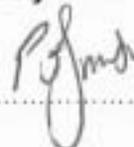
Mr Craig. T. Mackey, Assistant Chief Constable (Support),
Gloucestershire Constabulary

Signature.....



Mr Paul Smith, Managing Director, Gloucester City Council

Signature.....



Contact Details:

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Tilley Award 2003 - SUMMARY

Project Title:

**Forest & Gloucester Division
ROBBERY SARA Project and GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan**

Contact Details:

**John CLAY
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Nature of Problem Addressed:

In common with many other areas of the country, Gloucestershire experienced a significant increase in the incidence of Robbery in late 2001. This rise continued into early 2002 and was acutely felt in the Forest & Gloucester Division, with the city of Gloucester being identified as a Robbery 'hot spot'.

Evidence used to define the nature of the problem:

Gloucestershire Constabulary's Management Information System (MIS) was used to interrogate its UNITY Crime System and Command & Control System to identify Robbery patterns and trends in four key areas:

- Crime Location (Hot Spots and Time Trends)
- Offenders
- Victims
- Property

Additional information was obtained using the county Multi-Agency Information Data Base for Neighbourhoods (MAIDeN), which contains key characteristics of each electoral ward, to produce a wide-ranging ward community profile.

The response to the problem:

Gloucestershire Constabulary established a Robbery Working Group, which was tasked with producing a Robbery SARA to reduce offending and increase detections.

The Gloucester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (GCDRP) held a one day Problem Solving and Robbery Workshop. Delegates from a wide range of public and private sector organisations were invited to suggest appropriate single and multi-agency responses to reduce the number of Robbery offences in the city of Gloucester.

As a result of the Workshop a **GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan** was produced which complemented the Robbery SARA.

Impact of the response and how this was measured:

The actions contained within the **GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan** were time-bound with targets set where appropriate.

The impact of the response was monitored as part of the GCDRP and Gloucestershire Constabulary's performance management and measurement regime using existing performance indicators where appropriate.

The Forest & Gloucester Division recorded a 4.41% decrease in the number of robberies during 2002/03 when compared with the previous reporting period (235 offences against 340 offences). This is against a backdrop of a 48.47% increase (229 offences against 340 offences) from 2000/01 compared with 2001/02.

During 2002/03 Gloucestershire Constabulary recorded a 40.9% detection rate for Robbery, the third highest detection rate in the country. The Forest & Gloucester Division recorded a 44.92% Robbery detection rate during this period, compared with a 23.53% detection rate in the previous year.

211 arrests for Robbery and like offences were made in the Forest & Gloucester Division between October 2002 and March 2003, with in excess of 1,000 hours of additional patrol targeting Robbery being recorded.

Forest & Gloucester Division
ROBBERY SARA Project and GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan

OVERVIEW

This Tilley Award submission describes how Gloucestershire Constabulary and the Gloucester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (GCDRP) employed the SARA (Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment) problem solving technique to achieve a reduction in the number of Robbery offences being committed in the city of Gloucester.

INTRODUCTION - CONTEXT

Gloucester City – Profile

Geographical Context

Historic Gloucester is a Cathedral city with 109,000 residents, comprising around 20% of the total county population. It is the only city in the county and is fairly compact, covering an area of 4,051 hectares. The city has a strong commercial focus and strategic location, giving easy access to almost anywhere in the country.

Socio-Economic Context

- **Deprivation** – Gloucester is ranked worst in the county on all indices of deprivation and is 56th worst in the country (out of 336) when looking at the most deprived enumeration districts.
- **Income** – Gloucester has the lowest average household income in the county, around £2,000 per annum less than the county and national averages.
- **Education** – Gloucester has the lowest number of 17 year olds still in full time education in the county.
- **Absence from School** – Gloucester has the highest number of unauthorised absences from LEA primary schools in the county, at

almost double the county average, with secondary schools having a slightly higher figure than primary schools.

- **Qualifications** – Gloucester has the lowest level of qualifications per resident in the county.

Policing Context – Forest & Gloucester Division

The Forest & Gloucester Division, Gloucestershire Constabulary, provides policing services for the Forest of Dean and the city of Gloucester. It covers an area in excess of 400 square miles.

The Division is divided into six Inspector Neighbourhood Areas (INA's) with responsibility for providing geographically based policing services, two in the Forest of Dean and four in the city Gloucester.

Gloucestershire's Chief Constable, Dr Timothy BRAIN, has recently launched the Force's Five Year Strategic Development Plan, .

- **Our Vision**

Our Vision is to be the most operationally effective police force in the country.

- **Our Purpose**

Our purpose is to reduce crime and disorder and to promote safety and reassurance in the county of Gloucestershire.

Under  the Force has developed a new operational strategy, 'The Safe Initiatives', which employ the National Intelligence Model and the Tasking & Co-ordinating process to deliver intelligence-lead policing under the five strategic headings:



Targeting 'street crime'



Targeting drug trafficking and drug related crime



Targeting burglary and violence in the home



Targeting all aspects of auto-crime



Targeting death and injury on county roads

The content of this Tilley Award submission concerns actions generated under the Street Safe heading, which result from the production and implementation of a Robbery SARA and a Gloucester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Prioritised Robbery Action Plan.

Partnership Context - The Gloucester Crime & Disorder Partnership

The city of Gloucester benefits from a very proactive Crime & Disorder Partnership, consisting of statutory and non-statutory members.

The Gloucester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (hereinafter referred to as GCDRP) was recently awarded a Home Office Gold Standard for its 2002-05 Crime Reduction Strategy.

Primary responsibility for delivering successful outcomes under the three-year strategy rests with five Tasking Groups, which are responsible for producing timely and necessary Action Plans that meet the intended outcomes of the Strategy. The Partnership's Core Officer Group is responsible for assessing funding bids for initiatives submitted by the Tasking Groups and for monitoring progress against the Strategy.

The current three-year Strategy (2002-05) contains a specific target relating to Robbery:

'To reduce the incidents of Robbery by 5% per annum, as set against the baseline figure as at 31 March 03¹, in the GCDRP area to end March 05'.

SCANNING and ANALYSIS - DEFINING THE PROBLEM

A statistical analysis of Robbery offences committed in Gloucestershire over the 12-month period (1 April 2001 to 17 March 2002) revealed a total of 477 offences; 327 of these (69%) being committed in the Forest and Gloucester Division, the majority in the city of Gloucester.

End-of-year crime figures (2001/02) showed a 48.47% increase in Robbery offences in Gloucester when compared with the previous year, with the Division achieving a 23.53% detection rate.

¹ Date chosen to reflect the impact of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS)

Official Home Office Statistics for Robbery offences per 100,000 population (2001/02) revealed that Gloucestershire was ranked eleventh in a comparison with other Forces; narrowly missing being one of the ten Forces selected to participate in the Government Street Crime Initiative.

The Gloucestershire Constabulary's Management Information System (MIS) was used to identify Robbery patterns and trends in four key areas:

- Crime Location ('Hot Spots' and Time Trends)
- Offenders
- Victims
- Property

It was identified that:

- The primary crime location for Robbery offences was the city of Gloucester.
- Peak offending times were between 1200 and 2400 hours.
- The majority offenders and victims fell into the 14 to 25 age group.
- Several repeat Robbery victims had made allegations of theft of Benefit Giro / Cheque, with subsequent repeat claims made to the Benefits Agency for a replacement.
- There was an emerging problem of offences being committed against people making cash point withdrawals on Friday and Saturday evenings.

- Several victims were identified as 'street drinkers', who were an easy target for offenders.
- Mobile phones and cash were identified as being 'hot property'.

Furthermore incidents of Robbery were making front page headline news in the local press, which was having a detrimental impact upon reassurance and public perception of crime.

Socio-economic information was obtained using the county Multi-Agency Information Data Base for Neighbourhoods (MAIDeN). MAIDeN contains key characteristics of each electoral ward, to produce a wide-ranging ward community profile. It was found that the primary Robbery 'Hot Spot' – the West Gate ward of the city of Gloucester – is the county's most deprived area in terms of health and employment, where residents are more than 11 times more likely to witness a violent crime than anywhere else in the county.

Other sources of information were interrogated as a means of filling information gaps, including:

- Liaison with the National Operations Faculty, CENTREX, Bramshill.
- Liaison with the Home Office Crime Prevention College
- Home Office Crime Reduction Tool Kits
- Best practice – in other Force areas and CDRP Districts

Post-arrest offender profiling revealed that 85% of Robbery offenders suffered some form of drug dependency and were committing offences to support their drugs habit.

It was identified that Robbery was an emergent and increasing problem within the city of Gloucester, which warranted prioritisation over other crime trends and interventions.

RESPONSE TO THE PROBLEM

This section gives an outline of the methodology employed in establishing strategic actions under the Robbery SARA. However, mindful of the constraints imposed under the Tilley Award entrance criteria, and to provide a focus for the category of Effective Partnerships, emphasis is placed on the Partnership aspects of the Robbery SARA (see – The GCDRP Response).

Robbery SARA Project

In March 2002, a Robbery Working Group was established under the Force's Street Safe Initiative. The Group was tasked with identifying the Robbery problem, interpreting available data, and producing a strategic response in the form of a Robbery SARA.

Recognising that the city of Gloucester was the Force Robbery 'Hot Spot', it was decided to concentrate efforts and to pilot initiatives in that area before being rolled-out across the Force.

The Robbery SARA Project Objectives were established as:

To produce a force wide Robbery SARA that will reduce the number of Robbery offences, increase the number of Robbery detections and eradicate Robbery as a crime of concern in the county of Gloucestershire.

The membership of the Robbery Working Group was:

- Divisional Chief Inspector Operations Forest & Gloucester Division (Project Manager)
- Divisional Chief Inspector Operations Cheltenham & Tewkesbury Division
- Divisional Crime Manager Forest & Gloucester Division (Senior User)
- Divisional Crime Manager Cotswold & Stroud Division
- GCDRP Manager (Senior Supplier)
- Detective Sergeant Forest & Gloucester Division Crime Management Unit (Senior Supplier)
- Forest & Gloucester Division Crime Analyst
- Forest & Gloucester Division Crime Prevention Officer

The GCDRP Manager had a specific remit to identify what influence Crime and Disorder Partnerships could bring to bear on the Robbery problem.

Project Management Structure

PRINCE 2 Project Management methodology was used to manage the Robbery SARA Project.

The Force Operations Conference (FOC), Chaired by ACC Operations, Mr Martin BAKER, assumed the role of Project Board, with responsibility for the overall direction and management of the Project. The Force Senior Officers' Conference (SOC), Chaired by the Chief Constable, Dr Timothy BRAIN, assumed the role of Programme Board, with responsibility for ensuring that the Project was managed and co-ordinated within competing priorities and resources. The FOC / SOC meeting structure was used to report progress, reaffirm priorities and to maintain direction.

The National Intelligence Model was used to establish project priorities:

- Intelligence Priorities
- Investigation Priorities
- Prevention Priorities

The Robbery Working Group identified 11 Strategic Priorities that are contained in the Robbery SARA, (see Appendix 1). Initially none of the Strategic Priorities was costed. However, ACC Operations made £50,000 of asset recovery funds available for initiatives that would deliver the Project objectives. In addition, the GCDRP made £8,000 of Safer Communities Initiative (SCI) funding available, subject to approval by its Statutory Partnership.

THE GCDRP RESPONSE

In developing the GCDRP response to Robbery, the GCDRP Manager together with Crime Concern (Bristol) organised a one day, Home Office funded, Problem Solving Seminar and Robbery Workshop, with the Purpose and Aims of:

Purpose

- **To bring together agencies that can make a significant impact upon the rising number of Robberies occurring in the city of Gloucester.**
- **To 'problem solve' the issue of Robberies in order to....**

Aim

- **Produce a multi-agency framework for reducing incidents of Robbery in the city of Gloucester**

A copy of the Workshop Programme can be found at Appendix 2.

Delegates from private and public sector organisations, identified as possessing skills, expertise, resources, and / or existing programmes that would assist in reducing incidents of Robbery, were invited to attend the Workshop. A list of delegate organisations can be found at Appendix 3.

As a result of the Workshop a **GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan** was produced (see Appendix 4). Each Action, which had a clearly identified owner and an intended outcome, was prioritised according to the amount of work required to deliver success and its potential to impact upon the trends and issues identified in the statistical and socio-economic analysis. Where financial resources were required to deliver an action the appropriate budget was identified.

The Partnership's Core Officer Group assumed responsibility for ensuring that the **Action Plan** was discharged and that funding bids for initiatives were considered and granted where appropriate.

GCDRP RESPONSE - PRIORITISED ROBBERY ACTION PLAN

Problem 1 - Drug Dependency

- **Action 1 – Appoint DARS Worker**

For several years, Gloucestershire Constabulary, in collaboration with the Gloucestershire Drugs and Alcohol Service (GDAS a member of GCDRP), has operated a very effective Drugs Arrest Referral Scheme (DARS).

The aim of DARS is:

To end criminal justice interventions with drug dependent offenders and to ensure support beyond the DARS intervention through shared care.

In recognition that the majority of offenders arrested for Robbery offences (and other acquisitive crime) are drug dependent, Gloucestershire Constabulary jointly funded the provision of a DARS worker, seconded from GDAS. The DARS worker has been permanently based in Gloucester Police Station since March 2003.

Client referrals to the DARS worker are made by the duty Custody Sergeant as a result information gained whilst the client is in custody.

Since March 2003, seventy-two clients have been referred through DARS and of those for whom appointments with specialist workers have been made around 70% attended the first appointment. Other key indicators of success will emerge as the scheme develops.

- **Action 2 – Source Funding for Support Services for Drugs Rehabilitation**

There is no accommodation in Gloucestershire specifically providing immediate refuge and progression pathway for ex-substance misusers. It was recognised that, to break the link between drug dependency and crime, there is an urgent need for safe housing linked to existing structured support services for substance mis-users when receiving treatment.

GCDRP has recently submitted an ISB 6 bid for the Gloucester Accommodation Initiative (GAIN), with the intention of providing follow-on accommodation, which is drug free and not in the immediate vicinity of concentrations of drug users in the city, for those undergoing drugs rehabilitation.

The GCDRP has set aside £5,000 of its 2003/04 budget to support this initiative. An announcement regarding ISB 6 is awaited.

Problem 2 – Street Drinkers as Victim Group

- **Action 3 – Secure funding to open Street Drinkers' Day Centre**

Prior to the Workshop, GCDRP was already supporting the Gloucester Emergency Accommodation Resource (GEAR) project, whose aim is:

To provide a route from the 'street to employability' through day centre, night centre and health services.

Although premises for a day centre had been purchased and was under conversion, a shortfall of £25k for completion work was delaying the opening of this much needed facility.

Given that street drinkers are a vulnerable Robbery victim group, it was recognised that there was an urgent need to open the day centre as this would provide a safe (alcohol free) environment for street drinkers during the daytime hours.

In progressing the Robbery Action Plan the GCDRP successfully bid for the £25k shortfall from a regional under spend in Partnership Development Funding.

The GEAR day centre opened its doors in January 2003. To-date the centre has undertaken 739 interventions with street drinkers. The provision of a safe environment has removed this victim group from Robbery 'Hot Spots' at peak offending times.

Problem 3 – Regeneration of West Gate Ward

- **Action 4 – Seek Regeneration Funding**

Under the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), The Gloucester Partnership, a Community Strategy has been developed to address deprivation and social exclusion in the city.

The **Vision** of the Gloucester Partnership is:

Over the next 10 years we aim to create a fair, just and thriving community where no one is seriously disadvantaged.

Stimulated by the Robbery Workshop, the Gloucester Partnership's Community Strategy 2003-13, 'Our Gloucester – Our Future', contains specific actions to regenerate the West Gate Ward (Robbery 'Hot Spot'). The intention being to combat deprivation and exclusion to tackle rising levels of crime and disorder and to reduce fear of crime by; increasing employment, providing opportunities for training to employment, ensuring proper benefit provision, and encouraging self-development through active citizenship.

Following an announcement of available funding under the South West Regional Development Agency's 'Building Communities' initiative, the Gloucester Partnership submitted an Expression of Interest for funding to regenerate the West Gate Ward.

On 16 May 2003 it was announced that the Gloucester Partnership bid was successful. Discussions are due to take place between the Gloucester Partnership, the Regional Development Agency (RDA) and local communities to create projects for the regeneration of this high crime area. It is estimated that the RDA grant will secure £8m to £10m of regeneration funding.

Problem 4 – ‘Hot Spots’ in need of police attention

- **Action 5 – Robbery Operations in ‘Hot Spot’ areas**

Operation Equinox – 30 October 2002 – 31 January 2003

Operation Equinox was a three-month countywide operation, which co-ordinated available resources in Robbery ‘Hot Spots’.

The Divisional Tasking & Co-ordinating process was used to target drug dealers, handlers of stolen property, Robbery suspects and persons wanted on warrant, and to provide high-visibility patrol.

Operation Equinox yielded 211 arrests in the Forest & Gloucester Division for Robbery and like offences. The impact of Equinox in terms of reducing offending and increasing detections, the primary objectives of the Robbery SARA, can be found under Results & Conclusions.

GCDRP played an active part in the execution Operation Equinox by rolling-out many of the actions identified in the **GCDRP Robbery Prioritised Action Plan** at the same time. This was done by making full use of the Tasking &

Co-ordinating process to ensure that actions and interventions were timely and appropriate.

- **Action 6 – Develop signage to support police operations**

The GCDRP funded the purchase of four high profile signs, which were posted in areas where police officers were engaged in crime fighting activity. The wording on the signs, **"Robbery is a crime of concern in the city of Gloucester. For your safety and security plain clothed police officers and mobile CCTV cameras may be deployed in this area"**, proved to be a useful deterrent in the fight against Robbery.

As a ruse it was decided to post the signs in Robbery 'Hot Spot' areas together with an old marked police vehicle, which was parked as a dummy patrol vehicle in the middle of the 'Hot Spot'.

The outcome of this initiative was quite staggering. In one 'Hot Spot', Gloucester Cathedral and precincts, the number of Robbery offences fell from a peak of five in one week – to none.

Problem 5 – Repeat Victims seeking re-issue of benefit GIRO

- **Action 7 - Liaison with Benefits Agency to establish whether claims are genuine. Implement actions to reduce false reports of Robbery and benefit fraud.**

Liaison with the Benefits Agency revealed that as many as twenty-six claimants per month were reporting that they had had their benefit cheque stolen as a result of a Robbery.

Previously any person making a claim for the re-issue of a benefits cheque required a police crime reference number, which they would obtain by telephoning the police contact centre, who would then record the offence and issue a crime reference number. In reality this meant that valuable evidence in genuine cases was being lost and that the system supported false claims, as there was no investigating officer in a position to challenge the claimants version of events.

A joint protocol was agreed with the Benefits Agency. Any person requesting the re-issue of a benefits cheque claiming to be the victim of a Robbery would not be processed until they were in possession of a form signed by an identified officer stating that he/she was satisfied that the offence and the claim were genuine.

During the first week of this initiative two females, claiming to have been robbed of their benefit cheque, were arrested and prosecuted for Attempting to Obtain Property by Deception after the investigating officer was able to prove that their claim was false.

The number of reports of benefits loss as a result of Robbery fell from a peak of 26 per month to a low of 4 per month (genuine cases), with an estimated saving in falsely claimed benefits of around £20,000.

Problem 6 – Young people are primary offender and victim group

- **Action 8 – Work with schools to identify extent of the problem and to suggest interventions.**

Liaison with the Local Education Authority (LEA), and further examination of emerging crime trends, revealed that one school in the city of Gloucester was suffering disproportionately high levels of offending and victimisation.

Through work with the LEA and with Crime Concern, a Detective Constable has been co-opted onto a Local Action Team, which is addressing several issues surrounding the performance of the school in question.

This work is very much in its infancy, however a great deal of progress has already been made particularly around managing relationships where the victim and offender attend the same school. This includes, ensuring that the victim and offender are separated, or that their contact is supervised, when on school premises.

With the support of the LEA, where the offender and victim attend the same school the police have imposed bail conditions on the offender not to attend school.

- **Action 9 – Conduct truancy sweeps**

To remove vulnerable young people from Robbery 'Hot Spot' areas the police and the LEA conducted a four-day truancy sweep (9-13 December 2002). In total 81 (eighty one) young people of school age found 'at large' in the city of Gloucester were challenged and removed to a safe location.

- **Action 10 – Write to secondary schools with crime prevention advice**

In an attempt to reduce the number of Robbery victims and offenders amongst young people of school age, ACC Operations, Mr Martin BAKER, wrote to every secondary school in the county seeking Head Teacher support for the anti-Robbery initiative. The letter gave crime prevention advice, highlighted offender behaviour and potential sanctions and stressed the availability of Crime Reduction Officers to work with schools to reduce offending and victimisation.

The letter was supported by the artwork used in the Pearl & Dean UGC cinema advert (see later), with a request for this to be displayed in prominent areas within the school.

It is estimated that in excess of 10,000 young people across Gloucestershire had access to this information via their school.

Problem 7 – Lack of public awareness of Robbery trend

- **Action 11 - Issue crime prevention advice in press releases.**

In total, four Robbery Crime Prevention Advice press releases were issued to the local media during an eight-month period. In addition several press releases were issued reporting progress against the Robbery initiative. Three radio interviews were conducted with BBC Radio Gloucestershire.

- **Action 12 - Pearl and Dean anti-Robbery advert in UGC cinema, Gloucester.**

In an attempt to reach a wider audience with crime prevention advice regarding the theft of mobile phones (one of the 'Hot Commodities' identified in the research), the GCDRP commissioned a Pearl and Dean cinema advert to run for a period of 12 months reaching a potential viewing audience of 275,688 people.

Copies of the artwork used in the advert can be found at Appendix 5, together with a front-page copy of Gloucestershire Constabulary's 'Spotlight' magazine bearing an article about the initiative.

- **Action 13 - Issue personal safety leaflets giving advice to members of the public.**

In reaching a wider audience with Robbery crime prevention messages, the GCDRP negotiated access to Council run establishments (e.g. leisure centres, libraries etc) to stage crime prevention displays.

Crime prevention officers designed a GCDRP funded Personal Safety Advice leaflet for public distribution, which was left at the displays or handed to members of the public. See Appendix 6.

- **Action 14 - Stage Community Safety Days to raise awareness and to promote safer habits.**

To promote public reassurance and safety and to give appropriate crime prevention advice about Robbery and other crime, the GCDRP held a

Community Safety display in a city shopping centre. The display gave information and advice about the work of the GCDRP, offered crime prevention advice about Robbery, Domestic Burglary, and crimes of Violence; information was also available to assist with the setting up of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

It is estimated that over a three-day period in November 2002 in excess of 10,000 people had access to the Community Safety display (based on shopping centre 'foot-fall' estimates), at which over 400 people took the opportunity of having their mobile phone security marked (see later).

Problem 8 – Mobile Phones and Cash are 'Hot Commodities'

- **Action 15 – Raise awareness**

See previous inclusions in this submission.

- **Action 16 – Mobile Phone security marking campaign**

The GCDRP sponsored the purchase of mobile phone security marking packs, which contain holographic stickers to deter offenders and handlers of stolen phones, and which give advice about how to isolate the mobile phone if stolen. See Appendix 7.

A number of high profile venues were identified to hold Mobile Phone Marking sessions. Tremendous support for this initiative was received by local secondary schools by their arranging for young people to take their mobile phones to school to be marked by a Crime Prevention Officer.

To-date in excess of 5,000 mobile phones have been security marked in the Forest & Gloucester Division.

- **Action 17 – Work with banks to improve safety in vicinity of cash point machines.**

The GCDRP held a series of meetings with representatives from local banks, who, despite local enthusiasm and support, were unable to commit to any proposals raised owing lack of 'head office' support. Efforts continue.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In addition to the success already reported, implementation of the Robbery SARA and **GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan** has delivered impressive results under key indicators of performance:

The Forest & Gloucester Division recorded a 4.41% decrease in the number of robberies during 2002/03 when compared with the previous reporting period (235 offences against 340 offences). This is against a backdrop of a 48.47% increase (229 offences against 340 offences) from 2000/01 compared with 2001/02.

During 2002/03 Gloucestershire Constabulary recorded a 40.9% detection rate for Robbery, the third highest detection rate in the country. The Forest & Gloucester Division recorded a 44.92% Robbery detection rate during this period, compared with a 23.53% detection rate in the previous year.



Gloucestershire Constabulary now ranks twenty-fifth in the Official Home Office Statistics (2002/03) for Robbery offences per 100,000 population, fourteen places lower than its 2001/02 position.

211 arrests for Robbery and like offences were made in the Forest & Gloucester Division between October 2002 and March 2003, with in excess of 1,000 hours of additional patrol targeting Robbery being recorded.

Following the success of this initiative Gloucestershire Constabulary has produced a Robbery Control Strategy, which will be used as a Force-wide template for tackling Robbery and which can be adjusted to address other emerging and high volume crime trends.

Much of the success achieved under the Robbery SARA is attributable to the effective partnership that exists amongst GCDRP membership and beyond.

The joint problem solving training, which was undertaken by GCDRP members at the Robbery Workshop, has yielded systemic benefits for the work of the Partnership.

The work of the GCDRP continues to reduce crime and the fear of crime amongst local communities.

Strategic Priorities Contained in the Robbery SARA

1. Divisions will undertake pro-active operations, informed by the Tasking & Co-ordinating process, to eliminate Robbery as a crime for public concern in the county.
2. Develop a prescriptive minimum standard of investigation in respect of Robberies (Robbery Pack, Vantage Software, Front-End Evaluation).
3. Develop a Robbery Data-Base (Excel Spreadsheet) as a means of informing the National Intelligence Model Tasking and Co-ordinating process, which will contain detailed information under the following headings:
 - Location
 - Offenders / Suspects
 - Victim
 - Property
4. Conduct intelligence debriefings in accordance with Force Guidelines for Intelligence Debriefing with all persons in custody charged with Robbery offences.
5. Develop the pro-active use of mobile CCTV / Evidence Gathering Teams in 'hotspot' areas as a means of disrupting the habits of known offenders, and obtaining intelligence for inclusion in the Robbery Data-Base.
6. Increase awareness of forensic and investigative opportunities from Robbery offences (e.g. DNA, recovered property, fibres on victim, showing of photographs etc). To include operational police officers and support staff (e.g. receptionists and INA Clerks).
7. Ensure that an appropriate response is given to repeat robbery victims in accordance with the Force Crime Strategy, 'Repeat Victimization'.
8. Raise awareness amongst other Criminal Justice Agencies of the measures adopted under this SARA and the contribution that they can make in engaging criminality.
9. Promote positive crime reduction messages through the local press and other suitable media.
10. Develop protocols for accessing potential victims to deliver crime reduction advice (e.g. through CADA partnerships, Age Concern, local colleges etc)
11. Work with Crime and Disorder Reduction Partners to maximise the effectiveness of joint working initiatives aimed at reducing the incidents of Robbery – in particular recommendations as made by the Government's Street Crime Action Group.

Gloucester City Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership

"Working Together To Cut Crime & Disorder"

A Robbery Workshop: 3 September 2002

Purpose and Aim of Workshop

Purpose

- To bring together agencies that can make a significant impact upon the rising number of Robberies occurring in the city of Gloucester.
- To 'problem solve' the issue of Robberies in order to....

Aim

- Produce a multi-agency framework for reducing incidents of Robbery in the city of Gloucester

PROGRAMME

9.00-9.30 Registration and coffee

MORNING SESSION: MAKING THE PARTNERSHIP WORK

9.30 Welcome and scene-setting – Cllr Chris Witts, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Care & Maintenance of the City - Gloucester City Council

9.45 Introductory exercise

10.15 Presentation: "Crime prevention and the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 " Rob George, Crime Concern

11.0 Coffee

11.15 Small groups + feedback – Case study: Tackling youth nuisance

12.0 Plenary/small groups – Learning and action points from case study

12.45 LUNCH

AFTERNOON SESSION: TACKLING STREET ROBBERY

1.30 Introduction – Martin Baker, Assistant Chief Constable, Gloucestershire Constabulary

1.45 Street Robbery in Gloucester: an up-to-date profile – Chief Inspector John Clay, Forest & Gloucester Division Police

2.05 Small groups: Street robbery – working up a multi-agency response

2.50 Feedback and development of outline street robbery action plan

4.30 Close

Robbery Workshop Delegate Organisations

- City Councillors
- City Council Officers
- County Council Officers
- Police
- Probation
- Social Services
- Benefits Agency
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Magistrates
- Primary Care Trust (Health)
- Victim Support
- Home Office (GOSW)
- Local Education Authority (LEA)
- Young Gloucestershire
- Youth & Community Service
- Connexions
- Domestic Violence Intervention Project
- Local Strategic Partnership (The Gloucester Partnership)
- Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)
- Gloucester Racist Incident Group
- Gloucester Small Business Forum
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Crime Prevention Panel



GCDRP Prioritised Robbery Action Plan

	PROBLEM	ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?	FUNDING	OWNER
1	Drug dependency of is cause of offending.	1. Appoint Drugs Arrest Referral Scheme (DARS) worker in Gloucester Custody Unit to refer offenders for treatment and intervention programmes.	Appoint DARS worker by March 2003.	Police budget identified.	Glos Pol
		2. Use 'Grantfinder' database to identify funding to provide support services for rehabilitation of substance misusers.	Funding identified. Application commenced.	To be identified	GDRP
2	Street Drinkers are victim group.	3. Secure funding to complete and open Street Drinkers' Day Centre to provide safer environment for street drinkers.	Day Centre opened by March 2003.	Home Office	GDRP
3	Robbery 'Hot Spot' Westgate Ward in urgent need of regeneration.	4. Seek funding to develop and implement West Gate renewal plan.	Submission of RDA bid within advertised guidelines.	South West Regional Development Agency 'Building Communities' Fund	Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

4	<p>'Hot Spots' in need of police attention.</p>	<p>5. Stage Robbery Operations in 'Hot Spot' areas</p> <p>6. Develop signage to support police operations</p>	<p>Reduced offending increased detections. Signs deployed.</p>	<p>ACC Ops contingency fund.</p>	<p>Glos Pol</p>
5	<p>Many repeat victims are benefit claimants seeking re-issue of giro.</p>	<p>7. Liaison with Benefits Agency to establish whether claims are genuine. Implement actions to reduce false reports of robbery and benefit fraud</p>	<p>Reduction in number of false benefit claims as a result of alleged Robbery.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Glos Pol Benefits Agency</p>
6	<p>Young people are primary victim and offender group.</p>	<p>8. Need to know more about the problem. Work with Local Education Authority to identify trends in schools and establish interventions.</p> <p>9. Conduct truancy sweeps to remove vulnerable youngsters to place of safety.</p> <p>10. Write to secondary schools with crime prevention advice.</p>	<p>Trends identified. Interventions commenced by January 2003</p> <p>Vulnerable young people removed from 'Hot Spots'. Commence Autumn term 2002.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Glos Pol</p> <p>Glos Pol / LEA</p> <p>Glos Pol/ LEA/GCDRP</p>
7	<p>Lack of public awareness of robbery trend in public domain.</p>	<p>11. Issue crime prevention advice in press releases.</p> <p>12. Pearl and Dean anti-robbery advert in UGC cinema, Gloucester.</p>	<p>Every secondary school in county contacted by December 2002 – coincide with release of Pearl & Dean advert.</p> <p>Two high profile stories during period.</p> <p>Release mid-December 2002 to</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Safer Communities</p>	<p>Glos Pol</p> <p>GCDRP</p>

		<p>13. Issue personal safety leaflets giving advice to members of the public.</p> <p>14. Stage Community Safety Days to raise awareness and to promote safer habits.</p>	<p>coincide with release of Harry Potter 2 to reach target audience.</p> <p>Leaflet designed by October – issue in November 2002</p> <p>Stage three such days within period.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>SCI</p>	<p>Glas Pol / GCDRP</p> <p>GCDRP</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Mobile Phones and Cash are 'Hot Commodities'</p>		<p>15. Raise awareness (see action 7)</p> <p>16. Mobile Phone security marking campaign</p> <p>17. Need to know more about the problem. Work with local banks to improve safety especially in vicinity of cash point machines in West Gate Ward.</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Commence October 2002. 1,000 mobile phones marked during period.</p> <p>Reduction in number of offences. Commence October 2002.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>SCI</p> <p>SCI</p>	<p>Glas Pol / GCDRP</p> <p>"</p> <p>GCDRP</p>

Tilley Award 2003

Project Title: Alcohol + Youths + Damage = Signal Crime

Category: Crime & Disorder Reduction

Name of Police Force: Surrey Police

Endorsing Chief Officer: ACC Vic Towell

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