



**SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT
2021/22**

Contents

1	Introduction.....	2
2	Background	2
3	Sustainable Community Strategy Refresh and South Gloucestershire Partnership (LSP) Review	2
4	Chief Officer Group.....	4
5	Work of the South Gloucestershire Partnership 2021/22.....	5
5.1	Engagement by Partners.....	6
5.2	Shared vision – shared values – collective action	6
6	Performance 2021/22.....	8
7	Strategic Partnerships’ Annual Reports.....	12
7.1	Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership.....	12
7.2	Health and Wellbeing Board.....	13
8	Benefits of Partnership Working.....	14
9	Resources.....	17
10	Looking Forward to 2022/23.....	18
11	Risk Register.....	18
	Appendix 2 – Quality of Life Report 2022 (not appended, data being verified)	
	Appendix 3 – Risk Register 2022/23	

1. Introduction

This is the Annual Report of the South Gloucestershire Local Strategic Partnership for the period May 2021 to April 2022. The report provides background information; the Partnership's main achievements during 2021/22; highlights of the thematic strategic partnerships (Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board and the Safer and Stronger Strategic Partnership); performance data and a risk assessment for 2022/23.

2. Background

The South Gloucestershire Partnership (SGP) was formed in 2002 to develop the first statutory Community Strategy which was published in March 2003. Following repeal of the statutory requirement to produce sustainable community strategies and to have a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), the decision was made locally to retain the area's Strategy and LSP, demonstrating the area's commitment to partnership working and the desire to ensure South Gloucestershire remains a **"A great place to live and work"**.

Partners continue to work together through the partnership structure of the South Gloucestershire Partnership and two thematic partnerships – Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board (now a sub-committee of the council) and the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership.

3. Sustainable Community Strategy Refresh and South Gloucestershire Partnership (LSP) Review

In October 2020 an outline project plan was approved for refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy 2016 and a small working group was established to oversee this piece of work. The discussions that took place during 2021 affirmed the commitment to partnership working and agreed that the Strategy did not require review but work was required to consider the form and function of the Partnership itself. It was felt that this could be achieved through a simple re-articulation of the Partnership's purpose.

In December 2021 a re-articulation of purpose arranged around 'Why', 'What' and 'How' descriptions was agreed as follows:

Why we're here:

We believe in the power of locally-led solutions and that by working together we can both achieve more for South Gloucestershire and successfully tackle our toughest challenges, improving outcomes for local people.

How we work:

- We bring local organisations together to share local knowledge, expertise and ideas and resources.
- We share information and data, to develop insights and intelligence to help us in our work.
- We support real system change by collaborating on solving our community's and organisations greatest challenges and threats, and realise our areas biggest opportunities.
- We act as the central coordination to bring together the work of other local partnership bodies and help prioritise their work.

What we do:

- We share stories of place for South Gloucestershire and build on these as we develop our future, together.
- We work with our communities to understand their priorities now, and for the future,
- We share a vision for South Gloucestershire across our organisations.
- We bring key people together, hold each other to account and make things happen.
- We act as ambassadors for the area, and as trusted voices looking to create a better future for all.
- We influence policy and practice and make the changes we need to in support of the South Gloucestershire vision.
- We help and support each other, and the people of South Gloucestershire, in making those changes.

Partners expressed their wish to move the Partnership from its present position of some value in sharing information and encouraging discussion, to a much stronger and more active one of delivering clear outcomes and success at meeting local priorities.

There was also a strong belief that the Partnership has real potential to help local organisations work together to respond to challenges and opportunities, drive innovation and deliver value for money, avoiding duplication and repetition.

The agreed changes to facilitate achievement of outcomes is set out below:

I. Focus on priorities

The Partnership will be largely action-focussed, with a focus on a maximum of two to three key priorities in any given year that will help to achieve the vision, improving outcomes for local people. These should be genuinely cross-cutting areas where partners can contribute effectively, and not duplicate work covered elsewhere.

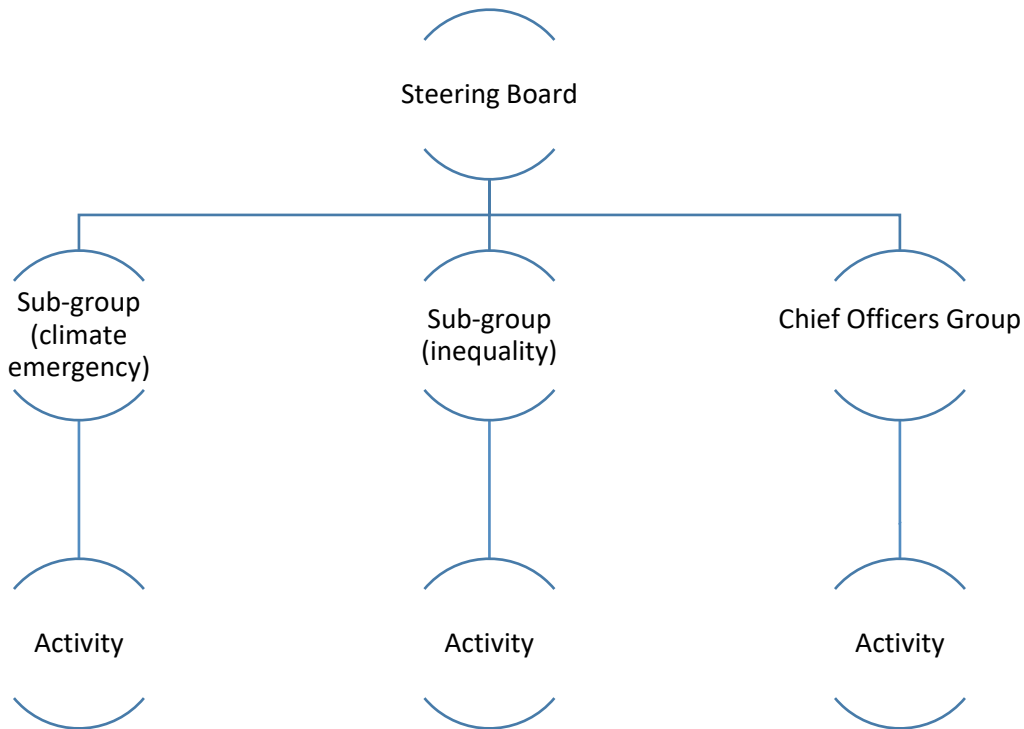
II. Format

The partnership structure is reset to form a more dynamic, outcomes-focussed structure in South Gloucestershire. Building on what works well, creating opportunities for greater participation and influence in the spirit of collaboration. The above re-articulated purpose will drive how the partnership operates and what it does.

III. South Gloucestershire: Working Together

In the medium-term local organisations will be invited to become active collaborators in delivering the shared common purpose. Membership of this forum will be open to all strategic and delivery partners across South Gloucestershire.

The overall-revised structure is presented in diagrammatic form:



4. Chief Officers' Group

The Partnership has a Chief Officers' Group which is responsible for managing the business of the Partnership and providing oversight and guidance on behalf of, and as directed by the Partnership.

During 2021/22 meetings were held on 19th August and 15 November 2021.

5. Work of the South Gloucestershire Partnership 2020/21

In 2021/22 municipal year private development sessions took place on: 9th July 2021 and 28 January 2022. Public meetings took place on: 8th December 2021 and 8th April 2022.

Agenda papers for the public meetings, showing business covered can be accessed here [South Gloucestershire Local Strategic Partnership](#)

Discussions took place on:

South Gloucestershire Partnership Review and Sustainable Community Strategy Update – Partners received a presentation and discussed the outcomes of the private development session held to review the purpose and future of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) as set out in paragraph 3.

Climate Emergency Update – Partners received a presentation on the Climate and Nature Emergency which covered the following areas:

- International Panel on Climate Change 6th Report
- South Gloucestershire Business Show
- Active Travel Communications Toolkit (For use by all LSP Members)
- Green Infrastructure Strategy and Nature Recovery work update
- Climate Emergency – End of Year Review (December)

Economy, Education and Skills Position Statements – Written statements were published with the agenda for questions and comments during meetings.

South Gloucestershire Partnership Annual Report 2020/21 and Risk Assessment 2021/22 – The Partnerships Annual Report and Risk Assessment were approved.

New Local Plan Consultation – Partners received a presentation on the Local Plan which sets out:

- The long term plan for amount and location of new development
- Where and what to protect
- Policies to guide planning application, in particular the discussion focused upon:
 1. Our (SGC) approach and **policy** for Urban Lifestyles – **Urban Places and Sites**
 2. Creating Sustainable Rural Villages – **Pathways and Places**
 3. **Strategy and options for** renewable energy
 4. **Option** for a new Strategic Green Infrastructure Network
 5. Further focused **draft policies**
 6. Management of Public Open Space

Nature Action Plans – Discussions took place around delivering our response to the nature emergency.

5.1 Engagement by Partners

Organisation	Meetings Attended	% meetings attended
Airbus	3	100%
Avon and Somerset Police	1	33%
Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner	3	100%
Avon Fire and Rescue Service	2	66%
Avon Local Councils Association	1	33%
Avon Wildlife Trust	1	33%
BNSSG Clinical Commissioning Group	2	66%
Bristol Zoo	1*	100%
Business West	3	100%
City of Bristol College	2	66%
CVS South Gloucestershire	3	100%
Health and Wellbeing Partnership - Chair	3	100%
Labour Group Leader	2	66%
Liberal Democrat Group Leader	3	100%
Public Health	2	66%
Safe and Strong Communities Strategic Partnership – Chair	3	100%
South Gloucestershire and Stroud College	2	66%
South Gloucestershire Council – Chief Executive	2	66%
South Gloucestershire Council – Leader	3	100%
South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum	1	33%
The Care Forum	1	33%
University of the West of England	2	66%

*New member April 2022

5.2 Shared vision – shared values – collective action

A key area for the Partnership is to “ensure resources are used wisely, become carbon neutral, prevent pollution and waste, and conserve and enhance the environment for future generations”. During 2020/21 the Partnership has focussed on responding to the climate and nature emergency. Below are some actions partners have taken:

South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum

Organisations within South Gloucestershire Equalities Voice have committed to work together to respond to the climate and nature emergency and through the South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum have all signed the South Gloucestershire Climate Emergency Pledge.

South Gloucestershire and Stroud (SGS) College

SGS College are completing yearly Carbon Footprint Reports to measure our outputs and inform a full carbon Reduction Plan for the College. Recent years' figures have been skewed by the Pandemic and have presented challenges in assessing our progress to date. The College has adopted a Sustainability Plan which is being fully implemented across the College including input from the Association of Colleges and other partners.

A major opportunity for the College is their Filton site where energy performance measures and decarbonisation of heating is urgently required. Significant investment is required to redevelop or refurbish areas such as Construction Skills which currently occupy 1950s buildings which are under sized with poor thermal performance characteristics. A cohesive approach is being developed before they can fully design and implement decarbonisation solutions. As part of this process SGS has leased two new industrial units at Horizon 38 close to our Filton Campus to allow expansion and rationalisation of its Construction delivery including Green Skills with a specific focus on apprentices.

SGS has been engaged with other partners in the consultations for the redevelopment of Bristol parkway station, this will be a key project in unlocking the potential of a fully integrated, low carbon transport system in the North Bristol area, including SGS, University of the West of England, Airbus, Ministry of Defence etc., and beyond.

Business West

Business West became a BCorp in 2021. It is the first chamber of commerce to be Carbon Neutral and is committed to being net zero by 2030; [its carbon reduction plan is on the web site.](#)

Business West is working with its members and network to gather intelligence on how businesses are approaching Climate Change, what resources are needed to accelerate progress.

Business West is expanding its support and advice available on net zero with the recruitment of a Net Zero Business Advisor, who is delivering Aiming for Net Zero workshops and providing 1-to-1 support to businesses. The workshop aims to provide businesses with the skills and knowledge to develop their carbon footprint and create a plan to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

Business West's [Trading to Net Zero hub](#) provides information for businesses to support their net zero journey.

Airbus

Airbus in the UK is committed to reducing the impact on climate change and recognises its role to contribute to mitigating the global footprint of the Aerospace Sector. It is committed to Net Zero Emissions for the aviation industry by 2050 in line with the Paris agreement.

To drive towards this ambition, Airbus has published a Scope 1 & 2 target of a 63% net carbon reduction by 2030 against a 2015 baseline, as well as targets to reduce environmental impacts on Energy, Waste, Water and Air Emissions.

In the 2021 Annual Report Airbus confirmed its key environmental ambitions: "to lead decarbonisation of the aerospace sector aiming to bring the first zero emission commercial aircraft to market by 2035; reduce the industrial environmental footprint at sites worldwide and throughout our supply chain; develop a more circular model leveraging ecodesign and digitalisation to optimise material utilisation and reduce use of critical resources; enhance product and services to contribute positively to climate change mitigation."

As part of the UK aviation industry Airbus has committed to Net Zero Emissions for all UK

departing flights by 2050 and at a global level, Airbus has committed to the ATAG Goals. Airbus is also committed to CORSIA which is a global Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation. Airbus is actively supporting ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation) in their work to agree long term aspirational goals for 2050 during the ICAO Conference at the end of 2022.

In line with Airbus' purpose "pioneering sustainable aerospace for a safe and united world" their foremost ambition is to lead the decarbonisation of the sector with the world's first zero-emission commercial airliner by 2035. In addition, all Airbus aircraft will be capable of flying on 100% Sustainable Aviation Fuels by 2030. Continuous product innovation, such as enhanced aerodynamics and the latest-generation jet engines, results in significant reductions in fuel burned and lower emissions meaning newly delivered aircraft today have between 20-30% less environmental impact.

At company level, suppliers covering 80% of Airbus sourcing volume were contacted in 2021 to complete a CDP Climate Questionnaire. The results will allow Airbus to identify supplier strengths and areas for improvement to reduce the carbon footprint of the supply chain.

At a more local level, looking at Airbus' 2030 environmental targets, Filton site is on track to remain below each of the 2022 targets for CO₂, Energy, Waste, Water & VOCs. This is being achieved by Filton site projects such as: low energy lighting, improved insulation, voltage management and energy efficient heating/cooling in buildings to reduce CO₂ through electricity management. In addition water metering technology installed at building level enables us to closely manage use and mitigate leaks quickly to reduce water consumption.

As part Airbus' continuous improvements within the Company 14001 accreditation, Airbus is exploring the options of renewable energy through PV Solar for office and plant buildings in order to lower CO₂ emissions further.

The onsite Sustainability Group and Procurement organisation continue to work with suppliers on sustainable packaging for production. Airbus Supplier Code of Conduct now includes a clause on single use plastics and drives for a circular approach to packaging materials use. Filton site actively engages with its suppliers with reuse of crates and other packaging, thereby reducing waste.

At Filton site this year Airbus have turned some areas of grassland to wildflower meadows to encourage bees and insects. Airbus continues with the sheep and bees in the area next to the A38. The honey from the bees is annually raffled to support local charities.

South Gloucestershire Council

South Gloucestershire Council:

- *Delivered the area wide Year 3 Climate Emergency Action Plan and Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery Plan*
- *Independently assessed as being in the Top 10 nationally of local authorities taking action on the Climate Emergency*
- *Developed and shared with Local Strategic Partnership members three online Climate and Nature Emergency Communications Toolkits*
 - *No Mow May,*

- *Food and Climate and*
- *Energy Saving Season*
- *Developed award winning Local Nature Action Plan Toolkits with 14 Town and Parish Councils, emerging into work on a Climate and Nature Action Plan Toolkit and Business Nature Action Plan Toolkit*
- *Took part in regional Solar Together scheme resulting in over 200 solar installations in South Gloucestershire.*
- *Phase 1 study completed on use of mine water for domestic heating*
- *Carried out Natural Capital Assessments on council owned sites*
- *Brought in funding for a range of projects including 100k Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund, Green Recovery Fund*
- *Delivered schools initiatives including Modeshift Stars programme and a series of workshops for primary schools on energy, renewables and adapting to the local impacts of a changing climate*
- *Delivering enhanced offer for residents on energy advocacy and support including access to thermal imaging cameras across South Glos libraries which launches November 2022*
- *Ran a series of public events as part of Great Big Green Week 2022*
- *Ran a trial of adopting the Cornwall Climate and Nature Decision Wheel to look at the transformation of council decision making*
 - *Updated the council Procurement Strategy*

6. Performance 2021/22

Progress against the Sustainable Community Strategy is informed by a suite of quality of life indicators which monitor those things that make an area a good place to live. The 2022 Quality of Life report, attached at Appendix 2, measures and communicates important facts about South Gloucestershire and aims to demonstrate whether quality of life is better, worse or staying the same.

The majority of indicators have been monitored for several years making it possible to track change over time. Indicators that have seen a marked shift are presented below: *(Please note all data is subject to verification and may alter in the final report.)*

Has South Gloucestershire become a better or worse place to live? In autumn 2021 (the latest data available) 5% of respondents to the Viewpoint survey felt that South Gloucestershire had become a better place to live. This is a decrease of 3 percentage points on the previous year. The majority of respondents continue to consider that South Gloucestershire has stayed the same, although the percentage of respondents choosing this response has decreased from 60% to 55% in the last year. The number of respondents suggesting that South Gloucestershire has become a worse place to live has risen over the last five years from 26% in 2015 to 36% in 2021.

Affordable homes delivered - In 2021/22, 562 affordable homes were delivered in South Gloucestershire as a result of the Council's effective partnership working with our housing association partners and developers. This continues to build on the strong track record of affordable housing delivery in the District.

559 of the completions were new build and 3 non-new build (3 units for supported housing); 282 are social rent, 56 are affordable rent, and 224 are shared

ownership. Approximately 60% are for rent. The delivery provides a range of housing options to suit people's needs.

Number of households accepted by the council as homeless under a statutory homeless duty (Housing Act 1996, Part V11) - The total number of households owed the main housing duty (duties accepted) increased by 35% on the previous year. This was due, in part, to the end of the ban on evictions previously imposed by Government in response to the pandemic, leading to a significant increase in the number of families approaching for assistance. Many were unable to source alternative housing in the private rented sector, as the competition for housing remains high. The council continues to work with all households owed a statutory duty to produce a housing plan setting out the tasks required to secure housing. This is alongside targeted support to households in negotiating with private sector landlords and agents to secure homes.

Number of households in temporary accommodation – 88 households were provided with temporary accommodation under the council's statutory homelessness duties and is a snapshot of occupancy at 31/3/22. The use of temporary accommodation increased during the year driven by an increase in the number of households owed a statutory accommodation duty, particularly amongst families. Whilst we have seen a significant increase over the last year, the total remains in line with the figures reported pre-pandemic.

Traffic Congestion - The Department for Transport's preferred measure of congestion is to use average speed on South Gloucestershire's locally managed A roads. This data source has been available since 2015, and remained fairly constant at around 26mph until 2020 when the average speed rose to 28.9mph, an increase of 11.26% on 2019.

This indicated a significant reduction in congestion, due to the impact of Covid-19 related lockdowns. However average speed has now returned to the level experienced prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Proportion of people cycling to work – The proportion of people cycling to work is measured in a snapshot survey undertaken by the Council in March each year. The survey results over the past two years have been directly impacted by Covid-19 and changes to employees work habits; it is possible that the 2020 results were also impacted by employees already adopting voluntary measures in the run-up to the introduction of the national lockdown at the end of March

Between 2006 and 2020 there was a steady, generally upward trend in the percentage of employees cycling to work. In 2021 the survey reported a significant increase in the percentage of commuting trips by cycle. This high percentage now looks to be an outlier, with the 2022 survey suggesting only 10.4% of commuting trips are made by bike. It is possible that this reduction may be due to changes in employee working habits (through hybrid working arrangements), car park spaces becoming less congested and highway delays dropping. These factors combined make the use of a car more attractive than it was in the past. It is worth noting that according to the March 2022 survey only 52% of respondents spent most of their working week at their formal workplace.

Number of people killed or injured on roads in South Gloucestershire - In 2021, the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads within South Gloucestershire was

51 (made up of 4 fatalities and 47 serious injuries), which is a small increase on the previous year's figure of 49 (made up of 2 fatalities and 47 serious injuries). This figure is comparable to the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads in South Gloucestershire since 2011.

The total number of road casualties in 2021 (i.e., people slightly injured, as well as those killed or seriously injured) was 482, which is a considerable increase on the 2020 figure of 416, which was severely affected by Covid19 travel restrictions. A total 482 casualties is lower than the 2017-19 average of 536, which is a more representative benchmark to compare 2021 casualty totals.

CO2 emissions in South Gloucestershire - Each year the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) provide a breakdown of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) emissions by local authority area (published 2 years in arrears), and this is used to measure progress against the aim of South Gloucestershire becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

It is reported as a percentage reduction from the 1990 baseline emissions figure of 2,073.3 kilo tonnes (kt) of Carbon Dioxide (CO2). In 2020 (the most recently available data), carbon dioxide emissions totalled 1,068.2 kt CO2 which is 48.5% lower than in 1990.

Data for 2020 shows a 11% reduction in local emissions when compared to the previous year (2019).

This rate of change is much more significant than the 4% change recorded between 2018 and 2019. Also, this latest rate of reduction exceeds the national rate of change, where there was a reduction of 9% in UK emissions between 2019 and 2020 which was largely due to reductions in road traffic and business activity due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the resulting restrictions.

Growth in business rate income - The gross Business Rate Income declined 6.28% to £159.28M in FY 2021/22. Although COVID restrictions eased, Brexit and importing of materials played a significant role in the disruption of the completion of new buildings.

Recorded crime rate in South Gloucestershire - In 2021/22 the overall rate of recorded crime in South Gloucestershire was 60 crimes per 1,000 residents, which represents 17,168 crimes across the year. This is an increase of 14% (2,106 offences) compared to 2020/21. It's important to note the unusually low numbers of crime recorded in the previous year, however, likely linked to the Covid-19 pandemic. Crime numbers were notably lower in 2020/21, but rose again across the country in 2021/22.

Across England and Wales, the crime rate sits at 89 offences per 1,000 population, which represents a 16% increase compared to the year before. Avon and Somerset police force saw an 15% increase in offending compared to the previous year, and the South West region saw a 14% increase.

Looking at South Gloucestershire's rate of crime per 1,000 population compared to other areas, our rate of 60 per 1,000 is lower than the rate of 81 per 1,000 in Avon and

Somerset, 67 per 1,000 in the South West region, and 89 per 1,000 across England & Wales.

Recorded crime rate for various crimes - Rates of violence against the person have risen compared to the previous year and are higher now than those seen pre-pandemic.

Violent offending in South Gloucestershire is now at a rate of 23 offences per 1,000 population. This is below the rate of 31 per 1,000 in Avon & Somerset, 28 per 1,000 in the South West, and 35 per 1,000 across England & Wales, but is still of concern given the significant negative impact that crimes of this type have on victims.

Rates of domestic burglary have remained more static, with an increase from 5 to 6 offences per 1000 households compared to the previous year. The rate of criminal damage and arson offences has stayed at 6 offences per 1000, with a small 4% decrease in offences compared to the previous year.

Percentage of residents who agree the police and other agencies are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their area - In February 2022, 32% of the survey respondents agreed that police and other public services are successfully dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime in their local area. This is lower than last year's figure (46%).

The number of respondents who disagree with this statement has remained the same as last year (26%).

Childhood Injuries - Rates of hospital admission for young people under the age of 15 in South Gloucestershire, due to injury, is significantly lower than South West level while similar to rates at England level, and have decreased between 2019/20 (92.2 per 10,000) and 2020/21 (71.9 per 10,000).

Alcohol specific hospital admissions - Following an increase in admissions between 2012/13 (410) and 2015/16 (615), rates of admission were relatively stable between 2015/16 and 2017/18 (624) however the rate significantly increased in 2019/20 (838).

7. 2020/21 Strategic Partnerships' Annual Reports

7.1 Extract from the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership 2020/21

Major topics considered by the Strategic Partnership 2021/22

Project	Allocation
Towards Freedom: Group work to support women who have experienced or are experiencing domestic abuse.	£20,705
Complex Needs IDVA: Specialist work with complicated Domestic Violence and Abuse cases including BAME victims and those with other protected characteristics.	£19,275
Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Programme: Work with young offenders including those abusing substances.	£28,000
Anti-Social Behaviour: Additional staffing capacity for South Gloucestershire Council to address neighbourhood based ASB disputes.	£24,700

An agreed Delivery Plan had laid out the Strategic Partnership's targets for its priority areas in 2021/22, and the Strategic Partnership maintained a focus on the achievement of these through the year.

Performance results from the previous year were reported in October 2021. Outcomes for 2021/22 itself are appended to the 2021/22 annual report.

Work continued to be focussed on the implementation of the Domestic Abuse bill, the Violence Reduction unit and the developing ideas around the proposals for serious violence. The partnership considered these topics at its meetings and the agreed actions for 2022-23 reflect the seriousness with which the partnership considers these.

At the March meeting the Strategic Partnership also received a presentation on the effectiveness of the Youth Alcohol and Drug Diversion Disposal programme funded through the Police and Crime Grant.

The annual Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder was presented in March 2021. The period covered by the assessment was changed from the financial years used previously to cover the calendar year of 2020. This enabled the impact of Covid-19 related lockdowns on crime patterns to be taken into account.

7.2 Extract from the Health and Wellbeing Board's annual report 2020/21.

Following public consultation, in October 2021 the HWB approved the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25.

The HWB commenced a programme of deep dives into Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy objectives. The overarching theme to reduce inequalities was the focus of the first of the deep dives in March 2021.

Development sessions were held on the evolving health and care system population health outcomes framework and the South Gloucestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment : and the relationship with the South Gloucestershire Locality Partnership.

Joint seminars were held with Bristol and North Somerset Health and Wellbeing Boards covering:

- Health and care integration
- Health and Wellbeing Board and Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Partnership alignment, principles and ways of working
- Use of data and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Community Mental Health Operating Model
- Approaches to trauma
- Healthy Ageing

8. Benefits of Partnership Working

The following partners have expressed the benefits to their organisation of working in partnership during the year:

The Partnership Group has been extremely useful to the College and has resulted in the following Partnership working –

“Bristol Talent - As we emerged from the pandemic, we identified two key challenges for our region. Employers needed to recruit, and we have to ensure that our students are equipped to work and thrive in our post-pandemic world. As such we have worked in partnership with City Of Bristol College to form a unique collaboration to provide employers with an extended engagement with our 7000 vocational learners and 12000 adult learners, thus bridging the skills gap between the next-generation workforce and our city’s’ employers.

Bristol Talent is the foundation to a ‘Bounce-Back Bristol’ with an aim to advance social cohesion and sustainable employment whilst promoting inclusivity and widening student participation within apprenticeships.”

South Gloucestershire and Stroud College

“Partnership working has benefitted Equalities Voice and Equalities Forum by information sharing and through the opportunity to both network and influence other organisations across the partnership. This ensures that equalities and inequalities are central to all that the local partnership does. Each partner within Equalities Voice has been able to increase their impact, and our collective voice, through partnership working.

By working in partnership we can work together on topics that are shared and can enable, through discussion, and influence the way forward to reduce inequalities.

South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum and Equalities Voice

Below are contributions from South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum member organisations:

“SARI (Stand Against Racism & Inequality) is pleased to have been grant funded again by South Gloucestershire Council for up to 6 years for our South Gloucestershire Hate Crime Services. Whilst this is positive, we have been funded at the same amount as we have for the past 4+ years so we have had to reduce what we can do for the authority despite the level of hate crime continuing to be high with very serious incidents coming

our way. SARI continues to provide a casework service that is free, confidential and person-centred for anyone facing hate crime in the authority area. Last year we responded to 71 referrals (6 disability-related; 57 race-related; 7 LGBTQ+ related; 1 faith-based). We continue to be part of the Equalities Voice, a member of SGREN and regular attendee at our other equalities partners meetings and events – knowing that recognising intersectionality is key to tackling hate crime effectively and that jointly we are able to achieve so much more with regards to promoting equality and inclusion. SARI has a dedicated caseworker/ project worker for the South Gloucestershire area – Anna Balcerek and our manager for the area is Nainesh Pandit. Alex Raikes MBE DL Hons LL.D, the Strategic Director also regularly supports this partnership’s initiatives and priorities. SARI is using funds raised from donations to the charity and is fundraising for longer term investment in their service for the area so they can better meet demand and also do more to be proactive and reach out / raise awareness and education – ideally we need to be more preventative and not just reactive.”

SARI

“The Diversity Trust hosts the South Gloucestershire LGBTQ Equality Network and has been busy over the last year making an impact both online and in-person. The Diversity Trust is also commissioned in South Gloucestershire by both Education and through Youth Activities. The work has grown significantly in the last year with the increase in investment from Education to increase both mentoring of LGBTQ+ young people, and increased engagement work with schools. Including leading an Education Task Group, and co-authoring an inclusion toolkit for schools with Representation Matters. Our Founder and Executive Director, Berkeley Wilde, Chairs the Equalities Forum and the Disability Equality Network and has had a place representing Equalities on the Local Partnership. We recognise the importance of lived experience and champion the voices of minoritised communities across the UK and beyond.”

The Diversity Trust – LGBTQ Equality Network

“The South Gloucestershire Race Equality Network (SGREN) is growing stronger by the day and we have now brought Environment & Climate change as our ‘sixth’ strategic priority area of work. The ‘Environment’ theme connects our existing five key areas of work namely: 1. Education 2. Business & Employment 3. Health 4. Housing 5. Policing & Criminal justice. The Environment topic links several of our social activities, provides a common networking theme to our diverse membership and is a great way for our members to contribute, participate and integrate with the mainstream community in participatory programmes that benefit individuals in their own health (physical and mental), wellbeing and gives the sublime joy / fulfilment of working for the betterment of our planet, our societies, our environment! We have now got walking and cycling Groups in place and are planning several walks and cycling events. We have been active this summer with public engagement and had shared a SGREN stall along with AICA and Save Soil Group on College Green recently. We have partnered with The Bean tree Café and sponsored the Bristol refugee Event on Page park. Mardi actively collaborates with Lucy Rees, Senior Environmental Policy & Climate Change Officer and attended their open day walking tour, surveying various Environmental projects in Marshfield Community Centre and adjacent areas.”

“Our events have been timely and relevant over the pandemic as we had a series of events on various aspects of COVID on our BAME population and we served in helping people make informed decisions about vaccination, looking after their own health and of their family and community members. We have addressed education, mental health and issues related to discrimination with our strategy of connecting people to the service agencies and authorities. To help people on a case by case basis continuous public engagement using various touchpoints was of prime importance. We were innovative and we ran our own MARDIBAR sessions as a regular activity each Monday 20:00 to 22:00 for over a year and this has been a thumping success in terms of people engagement and discussion of real issues faced by BAME communities. We have taken a short break whilst we sort out some staffing and would appreciate a dedicated computer and storage hard drive to keep track of MARDIBAR sessions and will be able to resume this popular activity as soon as these are sorted. We have this powerful engagement tool and are looking forward to a fresh set of engagements post summer for another successful year of innovation and active engagement with people from various ethnic minority Groups.”

South Gloucestershire Race Equality Network (SGREN)

“South Gloucestershire Over 50’s Forum has a long history of working with South Glos Council to ensure the voice of people over 50 is heard. The challenges we face and areas of work we have and are particularly trying to address are that:

- people over 50 do not feel ignored because they are not digitally connected. Many people in later life are not on – line and miss out on opportunities and information that can enhance their lives.*
- people can access bus services &/or community transport to meet their needs. Too often older people are having to hire a taxi to attend or return from hospital appointments due to limited transport accessibility/availability. People report difficulty in accessing a bus to local facilities.*
- people looking for employment do not feel ignored by employers but are acknowledged for their skills, experience and practical knowledge. Often people report they feel discriminated against due to age, lack of computer skills to complete on-line application forms and employers not seeing the benefits of older staff. This has been amplified by the pandemic.”*

South Glos Over 50’s Forum

“SGDEN has been busy representing the voice of disabled people at a range of strategic meetings this year, including the Mental Health Partnership, Wellbeing Network, Equalities Forum and Leaders Board. We have also attended a series of meetings to work together with partners on the Digital Divide, and collaborated to produce a guide around the digital divide for individuals, groups, and organisations to reduce the barriers that may prevent someone from using the internet, plus tips to help people develop their confidence online.

We have worked alongside statutory partners to ensure the voices of disabled people are heard in plans including those around transport and the local environment, and have been represented at public events including those hosted by other VCSE organisations such as the Over 50s Forum and Brigstowe.

We are often contacted by members of the public and other organisations looking for help, advice and signposting and so we use our networks to connect where appropriate, and our

expertise to advise and look over plans related to, for example, accessibility improvements for disabled people.

We have also linked further with Paul's Place, another local disability charity, by transferring the employment of our staff member which will enable closer working with this group and has the potential for starting and sharing work on new projects to benefit our shared demographic."

South Glos Disability Equality Network (DEN)

"Age UK South Gloucestershire provides a range of services to older people across South Gloucestershire and works to represent their interests at a strategic level on issues that affect them. The work with Equalities Voice partners helps to strengthen this representation as we also consider the challenges faced as a result of intersectionality, i.e. older people who also identify with one or more of the other protected characteristics.

Services include:

- Information and advice on a wide variety of issues affecting later life;*
- Specialist benefits advice* (via home visit) for those of retirement age who can't access community-based advice sessions;*
- Activity Day Centres – currently at three locations, with more planned;*
- Befriending and Reconnect – tackling loneliness and isolation by arranging regular home visits and encouraging those who are able to link up with others with common interests.*
- We will also be launching two new services in the near future:*
- GP-linked walking groups – providing opportunities for shorter walks to those who want to exercise, but who would currently not manage the length of walks provided by other walking groups;*
- Digital Champions – seeking to raise awareness of digital technology amongst older people, with some tablet loans available to eligible people for up to three months. (These will include the free provision of SIM cards.)*

**Benefits advice in particular will be critically important in the coming months. As households face mounting costs, ensuring they are receiving all the income to which they are entitled is vital."*

Age UK South Gloucestershire

"Working collaboratively is in Airbus' DNA and as a large employer here in South Gloucestershire, we value the community and the part we play within it. We are therefore proud members of the Partnership and recognise the important work it undertakes by bringing together representatives from different parts of the community to share experiences, best practice and ideas for the good of the region."

Airbus

9. Resources

Each member is a resource and provides the Partnership and its work with an invaluable contribution through their time, expertise and knowledge of their sector.

The Council's Strategy and Innovation took over oversight and co-ordination of the work of the Partnership in January 2021; the Chief Officers' Group continues to be managed by the Chief Executive's office.

South Gloucestershire Council's Democratic Services section undertake the formal committee administration duties for the Partnership.

10. Looking Forward to 2022/23

The Partnership maintains a Forward Plan which sets areas of work. Partners have raised the following areas for consideration, looking to the future:

- Establishment of theme-based sub-groups to jointly respond to challenges
- Responding to the anticipated growth of 16-18s within South Gloucestershire is a significant focus of the SGS College and as such has developed a £100m, 10 year master plan that will enable it to accommodate the rising demographics across the region whilst providing sector leading vocational skills.
- As we continue to recover from the pandemic, and the ongoing cost of living crisis, this has put an added burden on minoritised communities that have historically experienced systemic discrimination, as demonstrated through such evidence as significant rises in hate crimes, disparities in mental health and wellbeing and inequalities in educational outcomes for children and young people. It is now absolutely vital that the voice and influence of minoritised and marginalised communities are listened to if we are to see anything close to a level playing field for our local communities. Championing equality, at the local partnership level, has meant that the voices of marginalised communities are listened to and heard. It is critical that we continue to listen, learn and take actions.

11. Risk Register

Managing risk is an important element of good performance and is written into the Partnership's terms of reference. The 2022/23 Risk Register for the Partnership is attached at Appendix 3.

There are no significant risk changes for 2022/23.

RISK REGISTER 2022/23

APPENDIX THREE

		Risk Assessment 2021/22			Key	Impact	I	L	S	Likelihood	L	L	S	Score (I x L)	S	
					High	3			Medium	2			Low	1		
	The Risk: What can happen and how	Consequence of this happening	Inherent Risk			Mitigating Actions / Opportunities	Residual			Further Action Required	Review Date					
			I	L	S		I	L	S							
1	Partners have an unclear vision of what they want to achieve for residents within South Gloucestershire	Focus is unclear, opportunities to join-up are missed and organisational planning is not aligned	3	3	9	Review vision and priorities to ensure they are update and reflect current circumstances	3	1	3	None	Chair of SGP	Annual				
2	South Gloucestershire is lacking a shared understanding of needs	Inconsistent approach to service delivery Gaps and overlaps not known	3	1	3	Ensure good use of data alongside resident views and those obtained from community involvement activity	3	1	3	None	All	Annual				
3	Partnership working is not well co-ordinated with little evidence of it making a difference	No added value Partners disengaged	3	3	9	Annual report to reflect achievements of the Partnership Regularly review partnership and its purpose including, membership and relationship of strategic partnerships	3	1	3	Partners to be re-engaged	Chair of SGP	Annual				
4	Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and outcomes not met	Failure to deliver targets Inefficient use of resources Loss of public confidence Failure to meet public expectations Not responding to changes in practice Not responding to new opportunities	3	3	9	Ensure performance monitoring and management arrangements are robust. Partners to manage expectation with consistent, realistic messages and delivery Regular information sharing to raise awareness. Flexible practices Review regularly. Proactive planning sessions.	3	1	3	None	Chair of SGP All	Annual				
5	Partnership fails to work well as a group	Unproductive meetings Loss of credibility	3	1	3	A commitment to regular attendance by partnership members and application of the terms of reference.	2	1	2	Membership regularly reviewed and	All	At annual review				

		Loss of expertise and contribution of particular sectors Lack of appropriate representation at senior level			Review of effectiveness included in Annual report			appropriate action taken			
6	Partners do not meet the requirements of equality legislation	Failure to address the breadth of issues and understand the diversity within the partnership	3	1	3	3	1	3	None	All	Annual
7	Partners' non-allocation or withdrawal of resources	Loss of balance in work of partnership Limitation to the sustainability of services, projects or initiatives including the council's reduced capacity to support and coordinate partnership meetings Lack of high quality input into joint activities Reduction or loss of engagement by partners	3	3	9	3	2	6	Conveying to government the impact of competing demands as necessary	Chief Officer Group	Annual
8	Organisational change in key agencies impacts adversely on performance	Loss of focus Delayed progress Loss of expertise and knowledge	3	3	9	3	2	6	Presentation to SGP of each members' strategic plan	Chief Officer Group	Annual
9	Actions do not result in improvements	Insufficient resources Inefficient use of resources Lack of joined up thinking at Central Government departmental level	3	2	6	3	2	6	Change of approach	All	Annual

10	Partners are not committed to partnership meetings	Unproductive meetings Loss of credibility Loss of expertise and contribution of particular sectors Loss of data and information sharing, and local knowledge	3	3	9	Consider alternative approach (including the reduction in the number of meetings held annually) Reinvigoration of agendas	3	2	6	On-going monitoring of partner involvement	Chief Officer Group	Bi-annual
----	--	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	--	---------------------	-----------