

Cheltenham Borough Council

Full Council – 20 July 2026

Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026-2028

Accountable member:

Councillor Jamie Jamieson, Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities

Accountable officer:

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities

Ward(s) affected:

All

Key Decision: No

Executive summary:

The Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has developed a new strategy covering the period 2026–2028. The strategy fulfils the statutory responsibilities placed upon Community Safety Partnerships under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and sets out the partnership's collective approach to reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability in Cheltenham.

The strategy identifies three key priorities:

- Serious Organised Crime and Exploitation (SOCE);
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB);
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG); and

Alongside these priorities, the strategy recognises the importance of wider partnership work through initiatives such as No Child Left Behind, Night Time Economy and Harm Outside the Home

At a time when national and international events can contribute to increased tensions

within communities, it is important that the Council and its partners clearly articulate their commitment to inclusion, mutual respect and community cohesion. The proposed Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement has been developed to provide a clear and consistent position across partner organisations and aligns with the aims of the Community Safety Partnership.

Recommendations: That Council

- 1. notes the Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2028 (Appendix 2) as the strategic framework for partnership activity to improve community safety, reduce crime and disorder, protect vulnerable people and build safer communities across Cheltenham.**
 - 2. approves the adoption of the Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement as set out in Appendix 3 as a public expression of the Council’s commitment to equality, community cohesion and the prevention of hate crime**
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1. Implications

1.1 Financial, Property and Asset implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from noting the Community Safety Partnership Strategy or approving the Anti-Hate Statement.

Delivery of activities contained within the strategy will be met through existing partner resources, commissioned services and external funding opportunities where available

Signed off by: Ela Jankowska, Finance Business Partner
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1.2 Legal implications

The Council is a statutory responsible authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and is required to participate in the Community Safety Partnership and contribute to the development and delivery of community safety strategies.

Approval of the Anti-Hate Statement does not create new legal obligations but represents a public policy statement reflecting the Council's commitment to community cohesion, equality and the prevention of hate crime.

The statement should be interpreted consistently with the Human Rights Act 1998, including protections relating to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.

Signed off by: Claire Hughes, Monitoring Officer claire.hughes@cheltenham.gov.uk

1.3 Environmental and climate change implications

There are no environmental and climate change implications associated with this report.

Signed off by: Maizy McCann, Climate Officer maizy.mccann@cheltenham.gov.uk

1.4 Corporate Plan Priorities

This report contributes to the following Corporate Plan Priorities:

- Quality homes, safe and strong communities
- Reducing inequalities, supporting better outcomes

1.5 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

The recommendations are expected to have a positive impact on equality, diversity and inclusion by reinforcing the Council's commitment to ensuring that all residents feel safe, respected and included.

The Anti-Hate Statement supports work to challenge discrimination and foster positive relations between different communities.

1.6 Performance management – monitoring and review

The strategy will be managed via the Community Safety Partnership.

2 Background

2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on responsible authorities to work together through Community Safety Partnerships to develop and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder, tackle anti-social behaviour, reduce substance misuse and support the reduction of reoffending. Responsible authorities include local authorities, police, probation, health partners and fire and rescue services.

2.2 The Cheltenham CSP brings together these statutory partners alongside a range of voluntary, community and business representatives to identify local issues and coordinate partnership responses.

2.3 The 2026–2028 strategy has been informed by local intelligence, strategic assessment work, performance data and engagement with partners. It aligns with the priorities of the Gloucestershire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Gloucestershire Constabulary.

3 Reasons for recommendations

Community Safety Partnership Strategy

- 3.1 The strategy provides a clear framework for joint action over the next two years and reflects the issues identified as presenting the greatest risk and impact within Cheltenham. It incorporates measurable actions and performance indicators intended to improve community safety outcomes and public confidence.
- 3.2 Noting the strategy demonstrates Full Council's support for the partnership approach being taken by responsible authorities and confirms awareness of the priorities which will guide community safety activity during the life of the strategy.

Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement

- 3.3 The Council has a well-established commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion. Hate crime and discrimination can have a significant impact on victims, communities and perceptions of safety. The Anti-Hate Statement provides a clear public commitment to:
- Promote inclusive and respectful communities;
 - Challenge hate crime and prejudice;
 - Support community cohesion;
 - Recognise democratic rights to peaceful protest; and
 - Condemn intimidation, fear and division.
- 3.4 The statement complements the objectives of the Community Safety Partnership Strategy, particularly those relating to vulnerability, safeguarding, violence reduction and public confidence.

4 Alternative options considered

- 4.1 None

5 Consultation and feedback

- 5.1 The strategy has been developed through the Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership, comprising statutory and voluntary sector partners. The priorities reflect local intelligence, strategic assessment work and ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders.
- 5.2 The proposed Anti-Hate Statement has been developed through Leadership Gloucestershire

6 Key risks

6.1 See Appendix 1

Report author:

Claire Hughes, Director of Governance, Housing and Communities

Appendices:

- i. Risk Assessment
- ii. Cheltenham Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2026–2028
- iii. Gloucestershire Anti-Hate Statement

Appendix 1: Risk Assessment

Risk ref	Risk description	Risk owner	Impact score (1-5)	Likelihood score (1-5)	Initial raw risk score (1 - 25)	Risk response	Controls / Mitigating actions	Control / Action owner	Deadline for controls/ actions
1	If the council fails to support and promote community safety priorities then this could reduce public confidence and weaken partnership approaches to addressing crime, anti-social behaviour and vulnerability.	Claire Hughes	4	2	8	Reduce	Noting the CSP strategy will ensure that the risk remains under control		
2	If the council fails to provide a clear and consistent position on hate crime and community cohesion then this could undermine the Council's ability to reassure communities during periods of heightened tension or concern.	Claire Hughes	4	2	8	Reduce	Approving the anti-hate statement will provide a clear message to support community cohesion		