

"Have your say"

Matson "Have your say" days, December 2008

Where 134 Matson Avenue residents told us what they felt about life in Matson

Residents were asked how they felt walking alone in the area where they lived

- 95% said they felt safe or very safe walking in daylight
- 46% said they felt safe or very safe walking after dark
- Only 2% said they felt very unsafe walking in daylight and 12% felt very unsafe after dark

A high percentage of those who felt unsafe said that it was because they were nervous although they had not experienced any criminal activity personally.

Residents were asked about any problems they had in the area

- 28% said that people using or dealing drugs were a very big or fairly big problem although 50% said that it was not a problem at all
- 28% said that criminal damage was a problem although 45% said that it was not a problem at all. Fly tipping was also reported as a problem although residents commended the City Council on the very speedy removal of any fly tips once reported.

Further information is being sought- if you have any information on drug dealing or any other crime in the area please contact your local Safer Community

Police Team on
0845 090 1234 or
ring Crimestoppers
anonymously on
0800 555 111.

The Police and City Council are looking to deploy CCTV cameras in Matson Avenue to monitor incidents of criminal damage and fly tipping. **If found guilty, fly tippers can be fined up to £50,000 and/or be given a 3-year prison sentence.**



- 11% said that speeding cars were a problem. The Police, will shortly be working with local schools to target speeding drivers on Matson Avenue in the education of drivers in the dangers of excess speed.

GLOUCESTER



Crime and Disorder
Reduction Partnership

- 23% said that teenagers hanging around were a problem although 49% said that it was not a problem at all and 78% felt that there were not enough safe play areas/activities in the area.

A grant of £48,000 has been awarded from the Big Lottery fund for teenage facilities. City Council consultation has prioritised provision of a multi use games area and officers are currently negotiating a lease to provide these facilities within 6 months. A further play area for children up to 12 years is also a priority to replace that burnt in Matson Park.

- 21% of residents said that underage drinking was a problem although 52% said that it was not a problem at all

Police and Gloucestershire Trading Standards will be looking to carry out further test purchase operations in the area and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will be leading a "Don't buy for Under 18" campaign in the spring. **Did you know that buying or attempting to buy alcohol for under 18s could lead to an on the spot fine of £80 or end up in court and be fined up to £5,000?**

In addition to the above, 50 residents requested a visit from the Fire Service for a free home safety survey and 27 residents were interested in forming Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

The Police have run a proactive vehicle operation in Matson leading to 2 prosecutions for false declaration to obtain insurance, 1 for producing insurance with intent to deceive, 3 offences for no MOT leading to the removal of 2 vehicles from the road by their owners and then scrapped, 8 offences of no insurance - all pending prosecution and 1 vehicle removed from council land and scrapped.



The team was made up of officers and volunteers from the community. Everyone who was visited was offered the opportunity to have a free Smartwater kit to security mark their property in an attempt to reduce the possibility of being burgled. Once the property is coded, there is a small sticker to place in your window to notify the burglar not to attempt to enter.

Unfortunately, since the event in December, one house in Matson Avenue has been burgled and unfortunately the property stolen was not Smartwater marked. **IF YOU RECEIVED A SMARTWATER**

KIT BUT HAVE NOT MARKED YOUR PROPERTY, DO SO NOW!!

If you live in Matson Avenue and were not in at the time of our visit and would like a free Smartwater kit, please contact your Safer Community Police Team on 0845 090 1234 and they will arrange to deliver a kit to you.