



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Neighbourhood Inspector for Cotswolds Police to address concerns within the community about youth crime in Cirencester and would like to update you on the measures we are taking to tackle the ongoing issue.

Since February 2022 we have seen an increase in criminal acts and anti-social behaviour associated with a small group of young individuals in the town.

I acknowledge that incidents of this nature have risen to an unacceptable level and I understand the significant impact this group is having on the community.

We have always investigated these incidents and have done everything within our powers to arrest and put the offenders before the courts, as well as involve partner agencies in addressing their activity.

Working closely with our partner agencies, we have made progress curbing the anti-social behaviour of a 15-year-old boy from Cirencester.

Appearing at Cheltenham Magistrates' court on 2 February, the teenager was handed a Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) after pleading guilty to taking a vehicle on 25 August last year without the owner's consent.

Under the terms of the order, he has been electronically tagged and given a curfew which states he must stay at his home address between the hours of 8pm and 7am. The YRO remains in place until 1 May 2024.

The same 15-year-old boy also has a live Anti-social Behaviour Injunction against him, which places further restrictions on him with the aim of protecting members of the community from his persistent unacceptable behaviour.

It also gives police the power of arrest if certain conditions are breached.

We urge anyone with any mobile phone footage, doorbell footage or photos relating to youth crime to report it to us.

Members of the public who witness any criminal activity or anti-social behaviour are also asked to report it to us promptly. You can be assured that your concerns will be heard and all reports will be taken seriously.

Please call police on 999 if you see a crime taking place and if the offenders are present or nearby.

Information can be provided to police online by completing the following form:

www.gloucestershire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

You can also report information anonymously through the independent crime-fighting charity Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555 111 or visiting their website: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

Tackling anti-social behaviour in Cirencester is an ongoing priority for my officers and we will continue to deal with all incidents of this nature robustly as part of our ongoing commitment to protecting the community from these individuals.

We have increased our visibility within the community and recently brought our Street Engagement Vehicle (SEV) to Cirencester where our officers were available to talk to people about any concerns they had.

For reassurance, local officers will be present outside Deer Park school on Wednesday 21 February between 3.30pm and 4.30pm and Kingshill School on Thursday 22 February between 3.30pm and 4.30pm.

I will finish by saying my policing team and I will always take decisive action against those who cause harm, distress and disorder in the town and we will continue to work with our partners to create a stronger, safer community for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Ellson', written in a cursive style.

Simon Ellson

Cotswold Police Neighbourhood Inspector