



Borough of Tamworth

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**INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

17 March 2021

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee will be held in **Online Meeting on Thursday, 25th March, 2021 at 6.00 pm**. Members of the Committee are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B.', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Chief Executive**

**A G E N D A**

**NON CONFIDENTIAL**

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 12)**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**

*To receive any declarations of Members' interests (personal and/or personal and prejudicial) in any matters which are to be considered at this meeting.*

*When Members are declaring a personal interest or personal and prejudicial interest in respect of which they have dispensation, they should specify the nature of such interest. Members should leave the room if they have a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of which they do not have a dispensation.*

**4 Update from the Chair**

**5 Consideration of Matters referred to the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Committee from Cabinet or Council**

*(Discussion item)*

**6 Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2021 Annual Refresh and Tamworth Police Update (Pages 13 - 62)**

*(Report of the Assistant Director, Partnerships)*

**7 CIL Spending (Pages 63 - 72)**

*(Report of the Portfolio Holder for Regulatory & Community Safety)*

**8 Future High Street Fund update**

*(Update from the Portfolio Holder)*

**9 2020/21 Forward Plan**

*(Discussion item – link to Forward Plan is attached)*

<http://democracy.tamworth.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=120&RD=0&bcr=1>

**10 Working Group Updates**

*To receive updates from any Working Groups*

**11 Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Plan (Pages 73 - 74)**

*(Update and discussion on the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Work Plan)*

**12 Annual Report of the Chair of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee - 2020/21 (Pages 75 - 84)**

### **Access arrangements**

*If you have any particular access requirements when attending the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on 01827 709267 or e-mail [democratic-services@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:democratic-services@tamworth.gov.uk). We can then endeavour to ensure that any particular requirements you may have are catered for.*

### **Filming of Meetings**

*The public part of this meeting may be filmed and broadcast. Please refer to the Council's Protocol on Filming, Videoing, Photography and Audio Recording at Council meetings which can be found [here](#) for further information.*

*The Protocol requires that no members of the public are to be deliberately filmed. Where possible, an area in the meeting room will be set aside for videoing, this is normally from the front of the public gallery. This aims to allow filming to be carried out whilst minimising the risk of the public being accidentally filmed.*

*If a member of the public is particularly concerned about accidental filming, please consider the location of any cameras when selecting a seat.*

### **FAQs**

*For further information about the Council's Committee arrangements please see the FAQ page [here](#)*

To Councillors: S Goodall, A Farrell, M Bailey, R Bilcliff, P Brindley, T Clements, P Standen, Dr S People and P Thurgood

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## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 24th FEBRUARY 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillor S Goodall (Chair), Councillors A Farrell, M Bailey, R Bilcliff, P Brindley, T Clements, Dr S Peale and P Thurgood

**CABINET:** Councillor John Chesworth  
Councillor Stephen Doyle

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive), Tina Mustafa (Assistant Director Neighbourhoods), Lee Birch (Head of Neighbourhood Services), Nigel Harris (General Manager, Joint Waste Service), Tracey Pinton (Legal Admin & Democratic Services Manager) and Jo Hutchison (Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

Guest: Mark Babington (Head of Safety, Security and Emergency Planning at West Midlands Combined Authority)

Apologies received from: Councillor(s) P Standen

### **35 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved as a correct record.

*(Moved by Councillor A Farrell and seconded by Councillor Dr S Peale)*

### **36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **37 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair reported that he expected to bring the Committee's draft Annual Scrutiny report to the March meeting for comment, following which it was expected that the report would be presented to a Council meeting towards the start of the new municipal year.

The Chair reported that the CIL Spending report would be considered by this Committee at its March meeting before consideration by Cabinet at its meeting in April 2021.

**38 RESPONSES TO REPORTS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH COMMITTEE**

None.

**39 CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REFERRED TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH COMMITTEE FROM CABINET OR COUNCIL**

None.

**40 2020/21 FORWARD PLAN**

There were no further items identified for this Committee's consideration.

**41 CCTV IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW**

The Chair reminded members that this Committee had considered the implementation of the CCTV review in January 2020 and at that point had requested that a post implementation review be brought back to this Committee in around 12 months time. The Chair introduced the Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community Safety, the Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods, the Head of Housing Management & Neighbourhood Resilience and the Head of Safety, Security and Emergency Planning at West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) (Mr Mark Babington).

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods provided an overview of the strategic objectives for the CCTV review and the partner role that CCTV played, together with other partners, in supporting the Tamworth Community Safety Plan, as well as an overview of the first 12 month delivery plan, the cross border collaboration, the digital access for the police and the capital upgrade which had been accelerated.

The Head of Housing Management confirmed that the shared service launched on 30 March 2020, at the start of the first lockdown, on budget and on time.

Further detail was provided to the Committee on the following areas:

- Better value for money – during year one savings remained on track to meet the expected £500,000 savings over five years.
- Improved and modernised service - the camera system had been reviewed and a new privacy impact assessment completed. The system was reported to be fully compliant with the Surveillance Camera Commissioners Code of Practice.
- Dedicated Tamworth operators, and the development of local intelligence – both initial and ongoing training for dedicated operators was undertaken to

train operatives to build up their local knowledge as well as their knowledge of local services provided in respect of on call directors and facilitating access to the Castle toilets.

- Investment in the CCTV camera and infrastructure upgrade accelerated the majority of the cameras were upgraded in the first year and those remaining were expected to be upgraded early in the second year.
- Improved digital connectivity with the police – a digital link to facilitate efficient police access had been installed which was largely funded by the PCC, with the potential for an additional local access point in Tamworth to be installed subject to funding agreement.
- Intelligence led approach – a quarterly report process had been developed to identify and monitor trends and key geographic locations which could help inform wider community benefits.
- CCTV monitoring data intelligence – where it was reported that whilst the period, due to lockdown, had not been a typical period, the new service had identified key hotspot areas, where incidents and activities identified included anti-social behaviour, assault, medical issues and rough sleepers. In terms of activity, incidents were highest on Friday, Saturday and Sundays, requests from the police averaged 30 footage requests per quarter, whilst there were 25 camera faults per month these were all resolved within 48 hours.
- Camera and platform recording quality – the upgraded equipment had delivered significantly better image quality and better data, and together with that it was reported that the cameras had additional analytics capacity which could be utilised in time. It was also expected that as cameras were upgraded the level of faults would (and indeed had over the previous 12 months) declined.
- Continual improvement delivery plan – year two – this would include reviewing the location of cameras, reviewing emergency planning resilience, looking at the capability of the cameras from an analytics perspective, working collaboratively with the Partnership against Business Crime in Staffordshire (PABCIS) and looking at the Council's own CCTV accreditation.

The Committee sought and received clarification in the following areas:

- Partnership working with the police in respect of the implementation and ongoing delivery of the CCTV service as a tool for the police where the Assistant Director confirmed to the Committee that support had been requested in three areas; digital access; live streaming, and airwave radio access, and digital access and radio access had been resolved and was working, and that discussions on live streaming and additional digital access points was continuing.
- The local knowledge of the CCTV operators - it was confirmed that no existing staff had transferred over the shared service, however, there were dedicated staff at the new control centre and significant work had been undertaken to develop the local knowledge of such staff, in addition to them having access to data mapping technology.
- The extent of cross border collaboration - such collaboration remained an objective and was a particular focus in terms of transport across

borders, and additionally staff at WMCA were members of public sector associations which supported collaboration with Officers at neighbouring authorities operating CCTV services.

- Funding of digital access for the police – it was reported that the majority of this funding had been from PCC sources.
- Location of cameras and Quality assurance / accreditation – an emphasis was requested on the evaluation of the location of cameras across the borough to reflect developments since the initial location of cameras, including in neighbourhood areas as well as the town centre. The Officers highlighted the role that self-assessment processes played, which were part of any accreditation process, in driving improvement and the deployment of cameras.
- Deployable cameras – whilst this was an area under consideration, and the camera system was scalable, there remained further work to do.
- Working with other partners – close working with the county council and the police continued to be important together with the CCTV service to deliver as safe an environment as possible.

**RESOLVED** that the Committee:

1. Noted the successful implementation of the new CCTV service and the major steps forward and thanked Officers and partners; and
2. Invited officers and partners to provide a further update to the Committee in September 2021.

*(Moved by Councillor Dr S Peaple and seconded by Councillor S Goodall)*

The Officers and guests for this item then left the meeting.

#### **42 THE FUTURE PROVISION OF THE DRY RECYCLING SERVICE - UPDATE AND PRELIMINARY OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

The Chair welcomed the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Culture, the Chief Executive and the General Manager of the Waste Management Service to the meeting. The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which aimed to update the Committee on the current position on waste management and to present some of the emerging options for the future provision of the dry recycling service.

The General Manager of the Joint Waste Service reported that in August 2020, the Tamworth and Lichfield Joint Waste Committee had endorsed the approach agreed by the councils' respective Cabinets to:

- consider a contract extension with the existing provider,
- undertake a formal re procurement exercise, and
- have discussions with Staffordshire County Council in their capacity as the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA).

It was reported that there were six Staffordshire Waste Collection Authorities, including Tamworth Borough Council and Lichfield District Council, whose dry mixed recycling (DMR) contracts will expire in March 2022. It was further reported that the market for processing DMR had shifted dramatically, in particular in respect of a shift to a dual stream collection with separate fibre (paper and card)



collection. An extension to the existing DMR contract had been ruled out on the grounds of cost and risk, and as a consequence work had been undertaken to produce framework contracts and tender documents for both commingled and dual stream options. The evaluation process was expected to be completed towards the end of February. In addition consideration of transferring disposal responsibility to the County Council had been explored, and the potential benefits and costs considered.

The soft market testing undertaken had indicated some changes to how dry recycling service was delivered which could impact on the equipment and potentially the vehicles currently used by districts / boroughs, which had added some time pressure, given long lead times to procure. Consequently to support in the required decision making process, a preliminary options appraisal had been undertaken and the six options identified were presented to the Committee:

- 1) Retain commingled collections and responsibility for disposal.
- 2) Retain commingled collections and transfer responsibility for disposal to the County Council.
- 3) Introduce dual stream collections using an additional bin for paper/card and retain responsibility for disposal.
- 4) Introduce dual stream collections using an additional bin for paper/card and transfer responsibility for disposal to the County Council.
- 5) Introduce dual stream collections using a bag for paper/card and retain responsibility for disposal.
- 6) Introduce dual stream collections using a bag and transfer responsibility for disposal to the County Council.

The General Manager outlined the key risks and benefits of each option including considerations such as collection frequency, operational costs, gate fees, expected residents' views, relative equipment costs, and sought feedback from the Committee on the options presented.

The Chief Executive reported that the pending National Resource and Waste Strategy made this a challenging time to be re-procuring and that a letter to Government was being drafted to request further clarity and urgency in this matter.

The Committee considered the options and sought further clarifications in some areas, including:

- The extent of the competition in the market – it was reported that there were several providers, but that capacity locally could determine whether or not they would bid;
- Optionality in the framework contract – it was reported that tenders had gone out on two bases; co-mingled and dual stream, and that for the Joint waste Service, two separate lots had been prepared, which split geographically at the A38 (as opposed to via council areas);
- The market for some dry recycling – it was reported that there remained a market for good quality recycling, although expected to be less market to export;
- The split of dry recycling waste – it was reported that cardboard waste had increased and that it would be important to ensure that relative quantities

of different types of waste were understood in certain of the options to ensure that the split of the capacity in the vehicles was optimal;

- Early to draw conclusions – it felt early to draw conclusions as to which would be the better of the options, however, it was appreciated that it was important to ensure that all avenues were pursued to ensure further clarity as soon as possible on the new policy.

**RESOLVED** that the meeting be extended to 9pm under Procedure Rule 9.1.13.  
*(Moved by Councillor A Farrell and seconded by Councillor Dr S Peuple)*

**RESOLVED** that the Committee:

1. Supported the drafting of a letter to encourage urgency in the decision making process related to the National Resource and Waste Strategy, for consideration by this Committee (by circulation); and
2. Thanked the Officers for their report and presentation.

The Portfolio Holder, Chief Executive and General Manager then left the meeting.

#### **43 WORKING GROUP UPDATES**

The Chair provided the following updates:

1. Fireworks working group – following a working group meeting in February 2021, Councillor Dr S Peuple to draft some suggested wording and circulate for comment.
2. ICT working group – a working group meeting in February 2021 with the Head of ICT had led to some questions being presented to the Head of ICT.
3. Events working group – following a working group meeting in February 2021, the Chair had some questions to follow up with Officers.

#### **44 INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

The Committee received the work plan and updated it as follows:

##### **Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Work Plan**

| <b>Work Plan 2020 - 2021</b>       |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>DATE</b>                        | <b>SUBJECT</b>   |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | Crime Figures for Tamworth and Community safety                            |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | Modern Slavery   |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | CIL Spending   |
| <b>Quarterly updates</b>           | Future High Street Fund (Growth) – Quarterly updates – starting March 2021 |
| <b>June / July 2021</b>            | Consideration of State of Tamworth Debate items                            |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | EV Charging update   |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | Business Crime Reduction Partnership Update                                |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | E-Scouters and E-Bikes   |
| <b>September 2021</b>              | CCTV update  |
| <b>Sept / Oct 2021</b>             | Kettlebrook and Bolehall Public Space Protection Orders                    |
| <b>xxx 2022</b>                    | Review of Taxi Licensing Policy – Points System                            |
| <b>When clarity on legislation</b> | Fire Safety Update   |

| <b>Working Groups</b> |                            |   |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Topic</b>          | <b>Possible WG Members</b> | <b>Target IS&amp;G Com meeting date</b> |
| ICT Strategy          | SG, PS                     |   |
| Fireworks             | Open to all                | June 2021                               |
| Events                | SP, RB, AF, PB, SG         |   |

| <b>Upcoming Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee Meetings</b> |
|---|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2021   |

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Chair

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## INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021

### REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - PARTNERSHIPS

#### TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2020-2023 (2021 ANNUAL REFRESH) AND TAMWORTH POLICE UPDATE

#### EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

#### PURPOSE

**To consider the draft annual refresh of the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan and receive a Police and Partnership update**

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

**It is recommended that Scrutiny Committee**

- 1. Consider the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2021 Refresh for publication and endorsement by Cabinet**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tamworth Community Safety plan 2020-2023 is a three year rolling plan which outlines how partners are going to collectively tackle community safety issues in the Tamworth borough. The 2021 refresh highlights what has been achieved against the outcomes set in the previous year and to outline priorities moving forward identified in the Community Safety Strategic assessment

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the lives of everyone. The virus and measures to control rates of infection (such as the national lockdowns, systems to limit social contact, and the temporary closure of education settings) have had a significant impact on many; directly affecting individual's physical health, mental health and well-being, education and employment.

The pandemic has also had an impact on the operation and delivery of front-line services including use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and limiting non-essential face to face contact with the public and service users, and with other professionals.

The combined impact of reduced contact with the public, significant limitations on

travel and social contact, the closure and strict restrictions in public spaces and recreational spaces, is that services have seen unprecedented shifts in demand.

As a result, the data in this year's annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment refresh report, is highly irregular, and that observations and analysis should be considered in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on 'normal' day-to-day life. Restrictions imposed as part of the government approach to controlling the Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in significant reductions in recorded crime and disorder from mid-March 2020 onwards

It is felt, however, that all priorities are relevant and proportionate as the borough continues to emerge from the pandemic and all require a robust multi-agency response in order to have a positive impact on people's quality of life.

The draft 2021 Community Safety refresh plan is attached as Appendix 1 and requires endorsement by Cabinet prior to publication on Tamworth Borough Council webpage.

Tamworth Borough Council is the lead partner, but the plan is agreed by all key statutory and voluntary partners and Partnership continues to work together to reduce crime and ASB to improve public perception, wellbeing and community safety in Tamworth.

## **2020 Achievements and Challenges**

- The Covid response has seen an unprecedented and positive partnership approach to vulnerable people in our communities
- There has been a rise in referrals for Domestic Abuse to support agencies which will remain a high priority
- Significant reduction in ASB, countered by a rise in demand on noise complaint and neighbour disputes as a result of lockdown
- There is concern around the impact on mental health as a result of the pandemic
- There has been a fall in serious violence and crime overall

## **2021-2022 Priorities**

Using partnership data and the updated Tamworth Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2020, the following key partnership priorities have been identified:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**
- **Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment**
- **Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft**
- **Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism (NEW)**
- **County Lines**
- **Public Place and Serious Violence (including Knife Crime)**
- **Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding (including Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health)**

The Community Safety Plan will be continue to be overseen by the Tamworth Partnership Coordination Group, with oversight from the Tamworth Strategic Partnership.

All work streams will have a robust work plan which is being developed following the COVID-19 emergency with a number of underlying principles to ensure that we embed our approach to delivery of the plan:-

- Prevention wherever possible
- Early intervention
- Targeting prolific offenders
- Targeting resources to hotspot areas
- Supporting victims
- Increasing public confidence

Through early intervention the CSP will prevent issues escalating, reducing harm to individuals and ensuring that they receive help and support as early as possible.

Scrutiny will remain with the IS&G committee on matters of community safety.

### **Locality Deal Funding**

The Staffordshire Commissioners Office has committed £64,143.75 for projects in 2021/22 aligned to priorities and the Partnership has begun to identify relevant projects for endorsement by the Staffordshire Commissioners Office by May 2021.

### **Contextual Safeguarding – Modern Slavery**

The Committee have recently requested an update on the Partnership approach to Modern Slavery which is included within the Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding priority.

Modern Slavery refers to the offences of human trafficking, slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour. This can then be considered as five sub threats: sexual exploitation of adults; trafficking of adults into conditions of labour exploitation; trafficking of adults into conditions of criminal exploitation; trafficking of minors into conditions of sexual, criminal or labour exploitation; and other forms of exploitation. Staffordshire has seen a gradual increase in the reporting of Modern Slavery which is in line with the national picture.

The Partnership approach is as follows:

- The publication of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement (Tamworth Borough Council [Safeguarding | Tamworth Borough Council](#))
- Staff training to identify threat and risks including partners duty as a First Responder
- Inclusion of Modern Slavery within safeguarding policies
- Attendance at County tactical meetings with Staffordshire Police to identify hotspot areas and emerging trends
- Joint Partnership operations at targeted premises where appropriate
- Information on the Council's webpages on modern slavery and the National Referral Mechanism [National referral mechanism guidance: adult \(England and Wales\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

## **Tamworth Neighbourhood Policing Team Update (Chief Inspector Paul Talbot)**

Key themes within the plan include serious and organised criminality and the work that has been done in Tamworth and across Staffordshire will continue to be done to develop the partnership response to this.

Key issues during 2020:

- Covid compliance issues and Police approach
- Reduction in reported ASB
- Reduction in all crimes between March 2020 and February 2021
- Tackling domestic abuse

The Police will remain the lead on County Lines, Car burglary and vehicle theft and Public Space Violence and will work with partners to address concerns with plan for early intervention and policing strategies

CI Paul Talbot will provide Scrutiny with a verbal update and answer questions.

### **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None – the CS Plan is required under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Plan will be delivered within existing partnership officer, neighbourhood's team, environmental team and other statutory partner resource.

Funding sources are primarily through the Locality Deal Fund

### **LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND**

All legal risks covered by legislation and agreed process

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

To be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Partnership Coordination Group and by annual assessment

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 changed the way crime and anti-social behaviour were to be tackled. It recognised that in order to be effective, agencies needed to work together to address the issues collectively. Each local area formed a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) which are now called Community Safety Partnerships.

A comprehensive Community Safety Strategic Assessment is undertaken in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent every three years and an annual update is undertaken in the remaining two years. Additionally this process is undertaken in each district / borough Authority.

Data from a wide range of sources was analysed to show how the CSP compares with other areas for the priority crime types and how volumes and rates have



changed over time and how they vary by ward. Information from research was used to describe any notable risk factors and victim and offender characteristics as well as approaches to partnership working.

### **REPORT AUTHOR**

Jo Sands, Assistant Director - Partnerships

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

### **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Draft CS Plan 2020-23 (2021 REFRESH)

Appendix 2– 2020 Community Strategic Assessment REFRESH

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# Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2020-2023

**Update 2021 DRAFT**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2020 – 2023 (2021 Refresh) . This document is a three year rolling plan which outlines how we are going to collectively tackle community safety issues in the Tamworth borough, how we have achieved against the outcomes set in the previous years and what we will prioritise this year.

All the priorities require a robust multi-agency response, but because they are important for residents and communities, achieving them will have a positive impact on people's quality of life.

The Partnership continues to work together to reduce crime and ASB to improve public perception, wellbeing and community safety in Tamworth

**This plan is the annual update 2021 recognising the significant impact on our communities of the COVID-19 pandemic .**

## 2. BACKGROUND

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 changed the way crime and anti-social behaviour were to be tackled. It recognised that in order to be effective, agencies needed to work together to address the issues collectively. Each local area formed a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) which are now called Community Safety Partnerships.

A comprehensive Community Safety Strategic Assessment is undertaken in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent every three years and an annual update is undertaken in the remaining two years. Additionally this process is undertaken in each district / borough Authority.

As a result of the Covid pandemic, the data in the 2020 annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment refresh report is highly irregular, and that observations and analysis should be considered in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on 'normal' day-to-day life. Restrictions imposed as part of the government approach to controlling the Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in significant reductions in recorded crime and disorder from mid-March 2020 onwards

The full Strategic Assessment methodology includes the use of a risk scoring matrix called MoRiLE (a technique for Managing Risk in Law Enforcement that ranks crime and disorder issues based on threat risk and harm to individuals, communities and organisations) It differs in that it ranks priorities/themes based on threat risk and harm as opposed to relying mainly on volume of crime figures.

Data from a wide range of sources was analysed to show how the CSP compares with other areas for the priority crime types and how volumes and rates have changed over time and how they vary by ward. Information from research was used to describe any notable risk factors and victim and offender characteristics as well as approaches to partnership working.

The priorities are then ranked against a number of factors, including volume, trend over time, residents' perceptions and how much it was felt that the partnership can influence. This was then reviewed by our stakeholders and finally the top ranked priorities were analysed in depth, to help guide practitioners in formulating actions that they feel will have an impact on each priority

The Tamworth Community Safety Partnership is made up of Responsible Authorities (those bodies for whom membership of the CSP is a statutory obligation) and voluntary members.

Our statutory partners are:

- Tamworth Borough Council
- Staffordshire County Council
- Staffordshire Police
- Staffordshire Commissioners Office
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service (FARS)
- National Probation Service
- Staffordshire & West Midlands Community Rehabilitation Company
- South East Staffs and Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group – Primary Care Network
- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Support Staffordshire
- SCVYS

In addition to our statutory partners we also work with a large number of voluntary and private sector partners as well as community groups to collectively implement and deliver initiatives that will help keep the Tamworth borough a safe place to live, work and visit.

### 3. Achievements in 2020

#### 3.1. Anti-Social Behaviour

- A programme of positive all year round diversionary activities with Sporting Communities funded in partnership through the Locality Deal Fund and Building Resilient Families and Communities (BRFC), Earned Autonomy Funding continued with limited face to face activity as restrictions permitted and move to online provision
- Renewal of Borough Wide Dog Control and Alcohol Restriction Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)
- Workshops delivered online to schools in conjunction with Fire And Rescue Service Safe and Sound programme around internet safety and bullying\*
- Summer holiday positive diversionary activities (Covid restricted) delivered 14,000 hours of activities through the Staffordshire Commissioners Office [Space](#) summer activity diversionary
- The Noise App introduced for reporting of neighbour noise concerns

**Lead Partners: Tamworth Borough Council/Staffordshire Police**

*\*Face to face school sessions postponed at this time*

**Direction of travel: Steady reduction in Reported ASB(-9%) to the Tamworth Policing Team over 12 months ending December 2020  
Reports to the Council remain consistent with small rise in noise complaints (Covid related)**

### 3.2.Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding (inc Drugs)

- Ongoing development of Tamworth daily vulnerability and weekly vulnerability multi-agency partnership meetings to co-ordinate approach and problem solving for identified vulnerable people with 85 cases discussed since April 2020
- Development of the Tamworth Volunteer Partnership group to respond to the pandemic supported by all partners resulting in a £100,000 National lottery grant to provide Covid Support
- Befriending service established for vulnerable people in Tamworth in partnership with Community Together CIC
- The coordination of the volunteer response to the pandemic by Support Staffordshire including mental health awareness training to the voluntary sector, covid risk assessment training to the voluntary sector and other courses to support people with loneliness and isolation in Tamworth
- Support for our most vulnerable tenants during the pandemic
- Ongoing work to ensure the all homeless people were housed during the pandemic and work with Heart of Tamworth and the Starfish project to extend support
- Retention on Dementia Friendly Community Status
- Delivery of £9000 worth of Councillor Community grants in Tamworth for a range of projects
- Ongoing support for the Tamworth Advice Centre generalist advice and debt service who moved support on-line
- Commissioning of Communities Against Crimes of Hate to support people affected by hate crime
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service Safe and Well Checks on vulnerable people continued (where Covid guidelines permitted)

**Direction of travel: Emerging themes from the Covid pandemic indicate concerns around social isolation, financial strain and mental health**

### 3.3.Violence – Public Place

- Ongoing development of Tamworth Borough Council CCTV under shared agreement with West Midlands Combined Authority
- Police link established at Burton Police Station
- Successful partnership response to Black Lives Matter protests
- Ongoing work to identify drug activity and offenders with significant progress made

**Lead Partner: Staffordshire Police**

**Direction of travel: As a result of the Covid pandemic Public Space Violence has declined in Tamworth (-48%) to February 2021 (344 incidents down from 656)**

**All Crime – reduction by 22% to February 2021**

### 3.4. Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment

- Ongoing development of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings reducing risk of domestic homicide and protecting the most vulnerable
- Continued development of work with NEW ERA for Independent Domestic Violence Advisors and Early Intervention Services county wide (funded through the Staffordshire Commissioner and Staffordshire County Council)
- Promotion and support for domestic abuse campaigns with partners
- Work with Staffordshire County Council to secure funding arrangements for safe accommodation in Tamworth and Lichfield to ensure compliance under the provisions of the forthcoming Domestic Abuse Act – Funding of £196,000 secured
- Ongoing Police work to ensure service of Domestic Violence Prevention Notices for perpetrators and ensure safeguarding of victims

**Lead Partner: Staffordshire Police/Staffordshire County Council**

**Direction of travel: Small increase in Police Reported Domestic Abuse (+6%) over 12 months ending December 2020**

**Increase in referral to Support Services by 33%**

### 3.5. County Lines

- The Sapling Project commissioned and developing (BRFC funded with additional support from LDF) to support young people 7-12 years at risk of exclusion
- The Vulnerable Adolescent Support Programme commissioned to work with young people at risk of criminal exploitation by Staffs CC
- Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) panels established with Staffs CC
- Police Actions to identify risk areas and young people through the Inspire to Change programme Ongoing actions as part of patrol strategies

**Lead Partner: Staffordshire Police/Staffordshire County Council**

**Direction of travel: Significant work continues across all partners to reduce the risk of criminal exploitation in Tamworth through early intervention**

### 3.6. Burglaries (Car Key)

- Ongoing Police partnership work across forces with significant arrests and progress made

**Direction of travel: Reduction in domestic related crime ALL of -1% to January 2021 (1,171 from 1,180)**



## 4. PRIORITIES 2020-23

### UPDATE 2021

Our priorities have been identified from the following strategic sources which should be read in conjunction with this document:-

- [Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2020](#)
- Staffordshire County Council [Early Help Strategy](#)
- Staffordshire Commissioner's Office [Safer Fairer United Communities 2017-20](#)
- Staffordshire County Council Community Safety Agreement 2020-23

Each priority will be overseen by a strategic lead who will be responsible for developing the CSP's response for their priority area, developing delivery plans, working with other priority leads on cross-cutting areas of work and monitoring performance against outcomes.

To reduce levels of crime and improve community safety in Tamworth the partnership must target efforts in a holistic way to those who suffer most inequality and who demonstrate the highest levels of vulnerability or threat.

**The Partnership continues to be funded through the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office (Police, Fire and Rescue, Crime) Locality Deal Fund. Commitment for 2021/22 is £64,173**

The Partnerships Co-ordination Group will be responsible for monitoring the emerging issues and the delivery of actions. The plan will also be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

Further funding streams are available for statutory and volunteer organisations and the Partnership will actively encourage and support bids which meet priority outcomes.

The Partnership Co-ordination Group has the responsibility for developing and delivering the tactical aspects of the plan.

Outcomes against the plan will be reported to the Tamworth Strategic Partnership Board by the Assistant Director Partnerships and Tamworth Police Chief Inspector.

The Tamworth Borough Council Chief Executive Officer will act as Chair of the Community Safety Partnership and the Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee will oversee scrutiny of the plan.

### Public Consultation\*

[Feeling the Difference](#) is a long standing public opinion survey giving residents of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent an opportunity to give their views on their local area as a place to live, their safety and wellbeing, policing and other local services.

A high proportion of residents are satisfied with Tamworth as an area to live (93%) and the large majority are satisfied with their quality of life (92%).

Around half (46%) of residents appear to be satisfied with the level of police presence in the local area, while overall feelings of safety in Tamworth are high; local residents report that they feel very safe in Tamworth during the day (98%) and the very large majority also feel safe after dark (85%)

**\*Tamworth Borough Council has established a programme of Citizens engagement in February 2021**

## Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Priorities 2021

**Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**  
**Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment**  
**Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft**  
**Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism (NEW)**  
**County Lines**  
**Public Place and Serious Violence (including Knife Crime)**  
**Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding (including Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health)**

Analysis of the data shows that priorities are often inter-related and all partners will continue to develop and share priority data sets that will help to inform Community Safety, Early Help and Placed Based Approach action plans.

The Community Safety Strategic Assessment also recommended the following areas for ongoing consideration within the priority areas:-

- Repeat and Persistent Offending
- Modern Slavery
- Fire and Risk of Fire
- Business Crime

There is a need for this plan to be a flexible and dynamic document. We will use real-time data to re-assess the proposed actions and complete the measures of success column, this will enable us to be focused on the most pressing issues and ensure we can set achievable targets that make the required impact. These will be set by partners forming specific working groups and producing tactical plans to agree the way forward.

### 4.1 Anti Social Behaviour <sup>1</sup>

- Provide consistent multi-agency approach to the identification and support of vulnerable and repeat victims of ASB
- Promote, arrange and support positive diversionary activity for young people
- Take a partnership approach to the use of appropriate enforcement powers
- Support and develop partnership targeted seasonal education and awareness campaigns
- Engage fully in county wide strategies, policies and working groups enabling better outcomes for the communities of Tamworth
- Support initiatives to tackle school absence and ASB

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<sup>1</sup> People, Nuisance, Environmental

## **4.2 Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment**

- Support and develop partnership targeted education and awareness campaigns
- Support commissioned Domestic Abuse support services and identify additional funding opportunities (to include COVID-19 recovery) where appropriate
- Support and develop the local MARAC process to reduce risk for victims and families
- Engage fully in county wide strategies, policies and working groups enabling better outcomes for the communities of Tamworth (with due regard to Domestic Abuse bill 2020)

## **4.3 Car Burglary and Vehicle Theft**

- Support and develop partnership targeted education, awareness and crime reduction campaigns
- Work in partnership to identify perpetrators and disrupt activity

## **4.4 Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism<sup>2</sup>**

- Engage fully in development of county wide strategies and policies
- Promote awareness of hate crime
- Support voluntary and other community groups responding to Covid recovery
- Continue to respond to community issues promoting or condoning any extremist ideology<sup>3</sup>

## **4.5 County Lines**

- Support and develop partnership targeted education, awareness and crime reduction campaigns
- Develop support in partnership for vulnerable young people through schools and colleges
- Develop links and projects County wide services to identify young people at risk of criminal exploitation

## **4.6 Public Place Violence (including Knife Crime)**

- Promote and engage communities to report crime issues of concern via all appropriate channels
- Support and develop partnership targeted education, awareness and crime reduction campaigns
- Provide consistent multi-agency approach to the identification and support of vulnerable and repeat victims of crime
- Engage fully in county wide strategies, policies and working groups enabling better outcomes for the communities of Tamworth
- Reduced placement of vulnerable people into sensitive locations through development of the Tamworth Vulnerability Partnership

## **4.7 Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding (including Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health)**

- Use a partnership approach to ensure vulnerable children, families and adults are identified at the earliest opportunity

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<sup>2</sup> Priority moved up from Additional Challenge to become strategic priority

<sup>3</sup> Includes right wing and islamophobic ideology

- Support and engage with the the Staffordshire Building Resilient Families and Communities (BRFC/Troubled Families) Outcomes Planning Tamworth around priority areas for children and families
- Support and develop a partnership approach to countywide and national strategies around vulnerable people, mental health and contextual safeguarding
- Promote and develop links with relevant preventative and treatment providers
- Support and assist voluntary and other community groups to identify commissioning and funding opportunities to develop resilient communities (including Covid-19 recovery)

## 5. Links to other strategies

[Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021-24](#)

[Police and Crime Plan](#)

[Staffordshire Managing Offenders 2018-21](#)

[Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Plan](#)

[Staffordshire Families Strategic Partnership 2018-2028](#)

## 6. Underlying Principles

These five identified priorities will have a number of underlying principles to ensure that we embed our approach to delivery of the strategy.:

- Prevention wherever possible
- Early intervention
- Targeting prolific offenders
- Targeting resources to hotspot areas
- Supporting victims
- Increasing public confidence

Through early intervention the CSP will prevent issues escalating, reducing harm to individuals and ensuring that they receive help and support as early as possible.

It is also important to recognise the theme of serious and organised criminality that runs through all these priorities, as well as the work that has been and will continue to be done to develop the partnership response to this.

## 7. How we will deliver

**In order to measure success, the CSP will develop operational plans and performance indicators for each priority and monitor on a regular basis. Priority leads will report on progress to the Tamworth Strategic Partnership and publicly through the Council's Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee.**

The strategy is refreshed annually through reviewing information set out in the Community Safety Strategic Assessment which ensures that current issues are taken into account and used to direct the CSP's strategy and actions to ensure that it remains current and reactive to emerging threats.

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# Community Safety Strategic Assessment Annual Refresh Report

Tamworth

2020

Produced on behalf of



and



*Working in partnership with*



|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>                    | Tamworth Community Safety Partnership:<br>Community Safety Strategic Assessment Refresh Report (2020)   |
| <b>Description</b>              | This Community Safety Strategic Assessment provides evidence and intelligence to inform the strategic decision-making process - helping commissioners and partners to determine the priorities that require particular attention in their local area.   |
| <b>Date created</b>             | Draft – December 2020   |
| <b>Produced by</b>              | Strategy Team, Staffordshire County Council   |
| <b>Contact</b>                  | Stuart Nicholls (Research Lead)<br>Strategy Team, Staffordshire County Council<br><br>Tel: 01785 408209<br>Email: <a href="mailto:stuart.nicholls@staffordshire.gov.uk">stuart.nicholls@staffordshire.gov.uk</a>  |
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## Introduction and Context

Under the Police and Justice Act 2006 (England & Wales) local authorities are duty-bound to 'provide evidence-based data to support Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in their planning and duties'.

Evidence-based data is required to relate to crime and disorder taking place within the local area, which includes; Recorded crime, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Alcohol, Drug and Substance misuse.

It is a statutory obligation for Community Safety Partnerships to produce or procure an annual localised Strategic Assessment (SA), providing a strategic evidence base that identifies future priorities for the partnership and evaluates year on year activity. The approach and format of these is not prescribed by legislation.

SAs should be used to underpin a local area Community Safety Plan which is made publicly available through the partnership's and Commissioner's Office websites by 1st April each year. In Staffordshire agreement has been reached that Community Safety Plans will be produced three yearly and refreshed annually in line with the SA.

This SA (2020-21) is being produced as an annual refresh of the full three yearly assessment, produced last year.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had a considerable and unprecedented impact on the lives of everyone in the UK, including those in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

At the time of this report, latest data<sup>1</sup> shows that over 1,400 people in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent have lost their lives as a result of COVID-19, with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent currently (as at 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020) in the highest tier of government restrictions, due to rates of infection which are above the national level.

The virus and measures to control rates of infection (such as the national lockdowns, systems to limit social contact, and the temporary closure of education settings) have had a significant impact on many; directly affecting individual's physical health, mental health and well-being, education, and employment.

A survey of local residents (n=3,921) carried out by Staffordshire County Council<sup>2</sup> highlights that more than 3-out-of-5 people (63%) felt that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their life overall – with those with a disability or limiting illness, and those who have been furloughed, having experienced even greater negative impact.

The pandemic has also had a significant impact on how front line services have operated; including protective measures for front line staff through use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and limiting non-essential face to face contact with the public and service users, and with other professionals.

The combined impact of reduced contact with the public, significant limitations on travel and social contact, and closure and strict restrictions in public spaces and recreational spaces, is that almost all services have seen unprecedented shifts in demand. As a result, in approaching this year's annual CSSA Refresh report we must consider that data for the year is highly irregular, and that observations and analysis should be considered in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on 'normal' day-to-day life.

Rather than focus on Covid-19 within this assessment as a single specific priority or risk to community safety, the impact of the pandemic has been considered and discussed as a factor in each individual priority theme, wherever it is relevant.

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<sup>1</sup> Office of National Statistics (ONS) Death registrations and occurrences by local authority (Week 47 – ending 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Coronavirus/Covid-19-residents-survey-results.aspx>

# Key findings and comparison to previous (2019) assessment

## Significant overall changes and findings

Restrictions imposed as part of the government approach to controlling the Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in significant reductions in recorded crime and disorder from mid-March 2020 onwards. This is particularly the case with regards to crime, disorder and ASB taking place in public places.

The data for the period from April 2019 to March 2020 has shown limited significant change in most types of crime since the last assessment, and in the time leading up to the first UK lockdown in March 2020.

Across most major crime types, crime in Tamworth remains statistically similar to England & Wales, with the exception of Burglary and Public Order offences – where rates are significantly lower. However, compared to the force-area, rates of Theft offences, and particularly Vehicle Theft offences are above the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent rate – although not above rates for England & Wales.

Average increases in overall crime observed across all Safety Partnership areas nationally (+2%) have not been seen in the Tamworth Safety Partnership area, with crime falling by 6% in 2019-20.

There have been no increases in any major crime type in Tamworth between 2018-19 and 2019-20 and some notable reductions; Burglary offences reduced significantly (-25%) as have Violence with Injury (-13%) and Violence without Injury offences (-10%). Stalking and Harassment offences have increased by 6%, however this is compared to a national increase of +21% across England & Wales overall.

There has been no significant shift in the composition of any of Safety Partnership area in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, and demographic analysis of Tamworth within the previous (2019) Strategic Assessment remains relevant.

## Key changes against priorities

### Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism

- This priority replaces two pre-existing priorities around *Community Cohesion & Hate Crime* and *Counter Terror/Prevent* – with the two merged together and renewed focus on Community Cohesion.
- This priority has been moved up from *Additional Challenges* to become a *Strategic Priority*.
- This merge is taking place in the wake of Brexit, as well as in response to increases in Right Wing extremism, and tension in some communities resulting from breaches of COVID guidance and legislation.
- Since the time of the last report the UK terror threat level has been increased from 'Substantial' to 'Severe' – the second highest threat level, following terror attacks in 2020 in mainland Europe.

### Domestic Abuse

- In the 12 months to November 2020 domestic-related crimes increased in Tamworth (compared to the previous 12 months) by around 6%, compared to a 0% change across the force-area. This is the second largest increase in the force-area (after Stafford, +9%).
- In both July and October 2020 the number of domestic-flagged crimes recorded in Tamworth exceeded the upper limit of what is considered normal for the Partnership area.

### Public Place Violence and Serious Violence

- There have been significant reductions in Public Place Violence as a result of the government approach to the Coronavirus pandemic: much of the night-time economy has been closed or heavily restricted for some time, as well as sporting events and entertainment events (such as live music).
- It is anticipated that as events and the night-time economy begin to re-open to the public, levels of associated crime, anti-social behaviour and disorder will return to pre-pandemic levels.

### Vulnerable persons (all)

- There is growing concern that the wider impact of COVID will result in considerable increases in demand relating to all major vulnerabilities (alcohol, drug and substance misuse, mental health, safeguarding)
- Analysis<sup>3</sup> has already found that, taking account of pre-pandemic trajectories, mental health has worsened substantially (by 8.1% on average) as a result of the pandemic. Young adults and women – groups with worse mental health pre-pandemic – have been hit hardest.

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) - The mental health effects of the [first] lockdown and social distancing during the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK

## New and revised recommendations

A full list of recommendations, including those still in place from the previous (2019) three-yearly full Strategic Assessment, as well as recommendations made below, can be found in Appendices A & B at the end of this report.

### Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism

There should be additional consideration for children who receive home education, including those who have started to be home educated throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that they are receiving a well-rounded education in order to prevent any extremist teachings.

Safety Partnerships should engage with the development of Community Cohesion partnership work through the Safer & Stronger Communities Strategic Group, which will link in to existing strategic Hate Crime work and the Prevent board. Partnerships should also strongly consider whether there is a need to work with local partners and stakeholders (such as voluntary sector partners) to develop local Community Cohesion strategy for their local area.

As people spend more time online as a result of COVID-19-related restrictions on social contact, it should be considered that there is increased risk around online radicalisation. Partnerships should continue to raise awareness of extremism and potential signs of radicalisation within communities, and particularly in those communities at risk of emerging extreme right-wing and far-right extremism. Young people, parents/guardians and community members should have an awareness of prevalent extremist groups.

### Domestic Abuse

Safety Partnerships should remain sighted on the Domestic Abuse Bill (2020) - due to become law in April 2021. This places statutory duties on upper-tier LAs, including the duty to provide victims (and their children) with appropriate safe accommodation and support whilst in accommodation. Responsible authorities will be required to form Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards and CSPs should ensure that they engage with these accordingly.

### County Lines

*[See recommendation below relating to Vulnerable Persons]*

### Public Place Violence & Serious Violence

All Safety Partnership areas must anticipate that when COVID restrictions become more relaxed, activity in public places (including activity linked to the night-time economy) will increase considerably – and as such there will likely be an equivalent increase in Public Place Violent and alcohol-related offences.

### Vulnerable Persons

Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic; on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will be increases in numbers of people and families considered to be vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase numbers of individuals who may be at increased risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure.

### Recommendations linked to additional considerations

**Business Crime:** Preliminary findings from Staffordshire Commissioner's Office report on Business Crime suggests that there may be a need for greater engagement with smaller businesses in partnership areas, in order to better understand their needs and how they are impacted by crime.

## Staffordshire Commissioner's Office Priorities

It is recommended Community Safety Partnerships consider their approach to community safety challenges in the context of the priorities identified in the 2017-2020 Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Strategic Plan ([Safer, Fairer, United Communities for Staffordshire](#)). Although recognising that these priorities may develop or change from April 2021 onwards, partnerships should consider opportunities to tackle priorities through;

**Early Intervention and Prevention:** Addressing root causes wherever possible and shifting the focus of investment from acute to early help services. Intervening early to identify and support those most vulnerable to experiencing crime and helping those who have started experiencing problems by supporting them to address the issues that they face.

**Supporting Victims and Witnesses:** Being a victim of crime can be truly damaging and have a lasting impact on feelings of safety and well-being. It is essential to ensure that victims (both individuals and businesses) and witnesses have access to prompt and appropriate support, and that it is as easy as possible for victims and witnesses to access such support.

**Managing Offenders:** Preventing offending and reducing the likelihood of re-offending by delivering early intervention activities such as targeted education. Diverting those involved in minor offences, particularly the most vulnerable, away from unnecessary contact with the criminal justice system through triage processes and diversion schemes. Helping those motivated to change to reintegrate successfully into the community and achieve stable lifestyles away from crime.

**Public Confidence:** Making individuals and communities feel safer and reassured. Ensuring that the people of Staffordshire are better informed and involved in how policing and community safety arrangements are delivered, helping thereby to increase public confidence, build trust through transparency and open communication, and reduce the fear of crime

## Summary of Local Community Safety Priorities

A review of the priorities identified and confirmed in the three-yearly full CSA has taken place, in order to identify any changing or emerging key strategic priorities and risks for the local area. These have been cross referenced against known existing local priorities and findings for the locality. Where priorities are changed or amended from the 2019 full assessment, this has been highlighted. The identified priorities are as follows;

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment
- **[REVISED]** Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism (*Replaces Counter Terror / Domestic Extremism*)
- Car Key Burglaries and Vehicle Theft
- County Lines<sup>4</sup>
- Public Place Violence (including Knife Crime)
- Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding<sup>5</sup> (including Drugs)

The following are not considered a main priority for Tamworth, but they are recommended for additional consideration due to their volume, impact on communities and level of public expectation;

- Repeat and Persistent Offending

In addition, there are some challenges which, while not necessarily overly present in the partnership area, require the work of the whole partnership to address. It is important for each partnership to consider how they can contribute to the force-wide approach and strategy. These challenges are highlighted as;

- Modern Slavery
- Fire and Risk of Fire
- Business Crime
- **[MERGED]** (Community Cohesion and Hate Crimes merged into *Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism*)
- **[MERGED]** (Counter Terror / Prevent merged into *Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism*)

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<sup>4</sup> County Lines refers to organised drug supply and trafficking routes into and out of 'county' and rural areas from metropolitan areas.

<sup>5</sup> Contextual Safeguarding regards the practice of safeguarding individuals (particularly young people) within the context of the environment and setting that they are in, particularly in environments outside of their usual family environment, such as school and public places.

## People and Communities at Greatest Risk

Vulnerability is cross-cutting; many of those considered vulnerable for a range of concerns (including general safeguarding, social isolation, economic stress, and health and mental health concerns) are also additionally vulnerable to criminal exploitation and victimisation through crime and ASB.

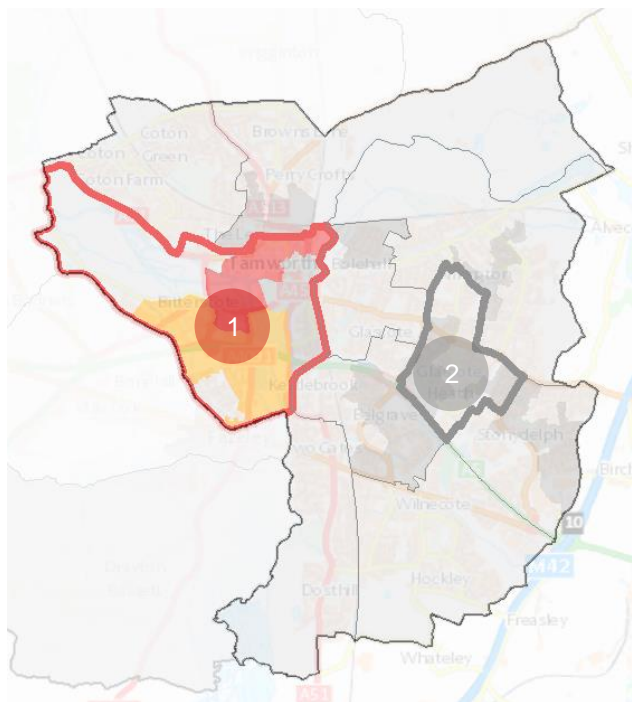
Those considered to be particularly vulnerable to experiencing crime, safeguarding concerns or being criminally exploited tend to be consistent over time. There is no change to these groups from the 2019 Strategic Assessment, and in high-risk groups remain as;

- Socially isolated individuals with mental health needs and learning difficulties
- Socially isolated adults with alcohol and/or drug dependencies
- Offenders with known drug dependencies or previous drug-related offending
- Children (under 10s) in areas with high levels of Domestic Abuse and/or drug-related offending
- Children and young people (aged 10-19) in areas of high deprivation

Those who belong to the 'Family Basics' demographic Mosaic group tend to be the most disproportionately affected by almost all aspects of crime and anti-social behaviour in Tamworth (17% of population, 30% of all victims).

These are primarily younger families (aged 25-40) with infant or primary school-aged children, living in lower-cost housing, in areas with higher levels of deprivation. Adults in these communities tend to have limited qualifications; many are employed in lower-paid and lower-skilled jobs resulting in limited financial resources and high levels of economic stress, with many requiring an element of state support, particularly through access to social housing and through universal credit.

## Places at Greatest Risk



### 1. Castle (Tamworth Town) (All crime and ASB) – Highest priority ward

Castle ward; above average rates of crime overall and crimes across almost all crime types (excl. Burglary). As a town-centre ward, Castle sees high levels of Theft and Shoplifting, Alcohol-related offending, ASB, and Public-place Violence. Drug Possession offences are significantly higher than force-wide levels, and some of the highest of any ward in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

*Although not flagged as a priority ward through overall offending rates or volume of incidents, the following may need consideration;*

### 2. Glascote

The ward sees the highest level of Domestic-flagged crimes in the area, as well as a high proportion of Neighbour Dispute ASB incidents and instances of Criminal Damage. Rates of violent offences without injury and Stalking & Harassment offences are amongst the highest in the Partnership area. Glascote experiences some high levels of children's safeguarding concern; with rates of Child Protection Plans and Looked-after Children previously far higher than national levels.



## Overview of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Overall rates of recorded Crime and ASB in Tamworth are the second-highest in the force-area, but are in line with the overall force-wide rate, and below the rates for the West Midlands region and England & Wales.

Rates of Vehicle Offences in Tamworth are above the force average, but are not above rates for England & Wales or the West Midlands region. Some Theft offences, particularly Shoplifting, have been above the force-wide level – with levels of Shoplifting in Tamworth above the national level.

Rates of crime overall in all wards are below or in line with the Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent level, with the exception of Castle ward (Tamworth town centre) which experiences significantly high levels of crime and disorder – which is consistent with other town/city centre wards in the force-area.

### Rates of Recorded Crime – Staffordshire Police (April 2019- March 2020)

|   | Rate per 1,000 residents |                               |                           |                                 |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
|   | Tamworth                 | Staffordshire<br>(Force Area) | West Midlands<br>(Region) | England &<br>Wales <sup>6</sup> |
| Total crime (excl. fraud)                   | <b>70.1</b>              | <b>70.3</b>                   | <b>79.6</b>               | <b>88.9</b>                     |
| <b>Criminal damage and arson</b>            | <b>7.3</b>               | <b>8.9</b>                    | <b>8.2</b>                | <b>9.4</b>                      |
| <b>Robbery</b>                              | <b>0.7</b>               | <b>0.7</b>                    | <b>1.7</b>                | <b>1.5</b>                      |
| <b>Sexual offences</b>                      | <b>2.3</b>               | <b>2.6</b>                    | <b>2.6</b>                | <b>2.7</b>                      |
| <b>Theft offences</b>                       | <b>27.6</b>              | <b>23.6</b>                   | <b>28.9</b>               | <b>32.2</b>                     |
| Burglary                                    | 3.6                      | 4.2                           | 6.6                       | 6.3                             |
| Residential burglary                        | 2.5                      | 2.8                           | 4.8                       | 4.4                             |
| Non-residential burglary                    | 1.1                      | 1.5                           | 1.8                       | 1.9                             |
| Vehicle offences                            | <b>7.3</b>               | 5.0                           | 8.1                       | 7.7                             |
| Theft from the person                       | 0.5                      | 0.5                           | 0.8                       | 1.9                             |
| Bicycle theft                               | 0.8                      | 0.7                           | 0.8                       | 1.5                             |
| Shoplifting                                 | <b>7.7</b>               | 6.3                           | 5.7                       | 6.1                             |
| All other theft offences                    | <b>7.8</b>               | 6.9                           | 6.9                       | 8.7                             |
| <b>Violence against the person</b>          | <b>25.1</b>              | <b>26.9</b>                   | <b>29.0</b>               | <b>29.9</b>                     |
| Homicide                                    | 0.0                      | 0.0                           | 0.0                       | 0.0                             |
| Death or serious injury - unlawful driving  | 0.0                      | 0.0                           | 0.0                       | 0.0                             |
| Violence with injury                        | 7.9                      | 7.7                           | 9.9                       | 9.1                             |
| Violence without injury                     | 8.7                      | 10.2                          | 11.2                      | 12.3                            |
| Stalking and harassment                     | 8.5                      | 8.9                           | 7.9                       | 8.4                             |
| <b>Drug offences</b>                        | <b>1.8</b>               | <b>1.8</b>                    | <b>1.9</b>                | <b>3.1</b>                      |
| <b>Possession of weapons offences</b>       | <b>0.5</b>               | <b>0.6</b>                    | <b>0.9</b>                | <b>0.8</b>                      |
| <b>Public order offences</b>                | <b>3.5</b>               | <b>3.7</b>                    | <b>5.1</b>                | <b>7.6</b>                      |
| <b>Miscellaneous crimes against society</b> | <b>1.1</b>               | <b>1.4</b>                    | <b>1.4</b>                | <b>1.8</b>                      |
| <b>Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)</b>          | <b>24.5</b>              | <b>28.9</b>                   | <b>N/A</b>                | <b>22.7</b>                     |

*Indicates higher than force-wide rate*

<sup>6</sup> National data excludes Greater Manchester Police

# Community Safety Strategic Priorities

## Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

### Volume and potential harm:

High volume / Moderate individual harm / Severe community harm

### CSPs with priority:

Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, South Staffordshire, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

ASB accounts for a significant amount of demand across the partnership. In 2019-20 there were 1,885 ASB incidents recorded in Tamworth by the Police – roughly equivalent to 20% of Police demand in the area, similar to levels of ASB-based demand across Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent.

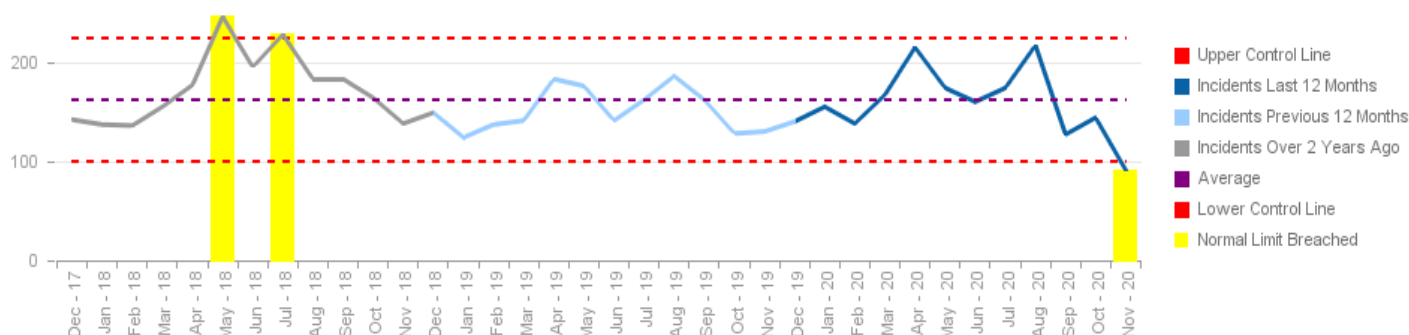
Recorded rates of ASB in 2019-20 in Tamworth were below the Staffordshire Force Area (24.6 per 1,000 compared to 28.9 per 1,000) and generally in line with rates for England & Wales (22.7 incidents per 1,000 people).

Since new recording began (20<sup>th</sup> April 2020) up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 there had been 695 ASB incidents in Tamworth which were specifically breaches of COVID-related legislation – equivalent to 9.1 per 1,000 residents. This is similar to the force-wide rate of 8.9 per 1,000 population, but the second highest of the nine CSP areas.

ASB in Tamworth remains dominated by reports of incidents of 'Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour' (60% of ASB) and to a lesser extent 'Neighbour Disputes' (21% of ASB). Around 5% of ASB in the area is Drugs related, which is similar to the force-wide proportion of 6% of recorded ASB.

Similarly to crime overall, ASB tends to disproportionately affect the most deprived and disadvantaged communities, and town and city centres. Previous risk assessment concludes that repeat victims of ASB tend to experience the same levels of psychological harm as victims of less-serious violent crime.

### Tamworth – ASB Incidents, three years to November 2020, Staffordshire Police:



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / Some ward rates high

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 24.6

**Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 28.9

**Direction of travel:** Slight increase in 12 months to November 2020 (+5%) however this includes COVID breaches in April 2020 recorded with normal ASB at the start of lockdown – prior to being recorded elsewhere from late April 2020.

**Public expectation:** Moderate

### Local hotspot wards:

Castle Ward: primarily Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour.

Glascote: average levels of ASB overall. High levels of Neighbour Disputes.

**At risk groups:** Deprived and disadvantaged communities – particularly those in high housing density areas and with high proportions of social housing. Town centre areas are also high risk, particularly from alcohol-related and drug-related ASB. Castle ward and Stonydelph see additional issues with ASB from Nuisance Vehicles.



## [REVISED] Community Cohesion<sup>7</sup> & Tackling Extremism

**Volume and harm – Community Cohesion:** Low volume / Substantial individual harm / Moderate community harm

**Volume and harm – Extremism:** Minimal volume / Risk of mass loss of life / Critical community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, (Lichfield), Newcastle-under-Lyme, South Staffordshire, Stafford, (Staffordshire Moorlands), Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

In the period of the European Union (EU) referendum (2016-17) Hate Crime increased nationally by 30% (17,300 incidents) on the previous year, with increases seen in all following years to date at a national level. While the large majority of national incidents (76% in 2019-20) are based on the victim's Race or Religion, Hate offences against the Transgender community, based on Disability, or on Sexual Orientation have all more than doubled in recent years.

Locally in the 12 months to November 2020, there has been no change in levels of Hate Crime compared to the previous 12 months – although there was a significant spike in June 2020 after the easing of the national lockdown (highest numbers recorded in a single month in three years). It is considered that leaving the EU on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 will have a similar impact to the 2016 referendum, and there will be an increase in Hate-related offences.

The Covid-19 pandemic has also had an effect on Community Cohesion; while the pandemic has strengthened many communities within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, with people providing support to those in their local area, it has also exacerbated and highlighted issues within a small number of more fragmented communities – with local outbreaks and compliance with government guidance proving to be a source of friction, and a threat to cohesion.

The cost of Covid-19 to society and state has been significant. It has become clear that while the spread of virus has been fairly indiscriminate, the impact has not been felt equally across all communities. Opportunities for social mixing, one of the most powerful forms of reducing prejudice and promoting empathy, have been severely limited – with some restrictions likely to continue. As the full impact of the pandemic unfolds, government decision-making has the potential to affect social and political trust, which can be exploited by extremist groups.

In parallel to the Covid-19 pandemic, over Summer/Autumn 2020 terror-related attacks have been carried out in mainland Europe. As a result, the UK national terror threat level has increased compared to last year's report - and is now at Severe (the second highest threat level): meaning that an attack in the UK is considered '*highly likely*'.

The terror attack on London Bridge in 2019, which was carried out by an individual from the Staffordshire force-area, highlights the need for all partners to continue to deliver against our statutory obligations to create stronger, more cohesive and safer communities. Stoke-on-Trent remains a Home Office Prevent priority area with the city council receiving additional support from the Home Office for its work to tackle to extremism.

### Comparison to previous assessment:

- Increasing evidence of Far-right support – with increasing Prevent referrals for Far-right ideologies.
- Risk and concerns around Al-Qaeda/ISIL-inspired extremism remain high
- Increase in National terror-threat level from 'Substantial' up to 'Severe'
- Departure from European Union to take place in January 2021.

**Local hotspots:** (Where appropriate see Staffordshire Police Counter-Terror Local Profile)

**Direction of travel:** Growing concern

**Public expectation:** Critical / National expectations

**At risk groups:** Hate Crime offenders are predominantly young men and more likely to be under 18 than offenders overall. Female Hate Crimes offenders tend to be in the 30-39 age group. Victims are predominantly males aged over 18, and particularly those aged 30-39. Although most victims are male, there are more female victims than female offenders. Those with Asian or Black ethnicity are disproportionately likely to be victims of Hate Crime.

Based on recent Prevent referrals, those at greatest risk of being radicalised remain younger males (aged under 20 years) although a growing number are in older age groups, including those aged 50 and over. In the last year, around 1 in 25 of those referred through Prevent in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent was female.

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<sup>7</sup> As per the Local Government Association (LGA) definition of cohesive community as one where; There is common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities; The diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued; Those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities; and, Strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods

## Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment: Domestic Abuse

### Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Severe individual harm / Substantial community harm

**CSPs with priority:** All Safety Partnership Areas

### Summary:

Domestic Abuse affects all communities and is not unique to any one part of Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent. While Domestic Abuse presents a significant risk to the immediate victims, it also has a wider negative impact where children are present in households. Links between Domestic Abuse and child neglect/abuse are well known and evidenced.

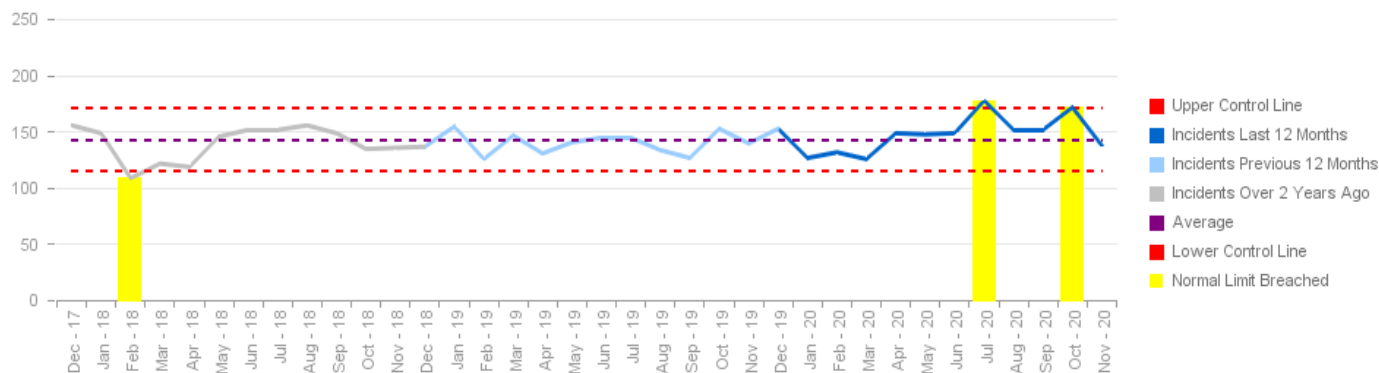
In the 2019-20 financial year Domestic offences in Tamworth were in line with Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent, with a rate 14.5 per 1,000 residents (compared to 14.2 force-wide) and accounting for the same proportion of crime (21%) as across the force.

Nationally reported increases in Domestic Abuse due to the March lockdown and wider impact of COVID on society appear to have been seen in Tamworth – in the 12 months to November 2020 there is a moderate increase (6%) on the previous 12 months. There have been significant spikes in reported monthly incidents in both July 2020 and October 2020.

The majority (76%) of recorded Domestic offences in Tamworth in 2019-20 were violent offences; 30% Stalking and Harassment, 29% violence without injury, 19% violence with injury. Domestic incidents are not limited to Violent Offences and cross a range of offence types; around 9% of domestic offences in Tamworth are instances of Criminal Damage, 4% are instances of Theft and 2% were Sexual Offences.

There are some types of offence which were more likely to be domestic-related than crime overall in Tamworth. Although 21% of all local crime was flagged as being domestic-related; 52% of all Stalking and Harassment, 48% of violent offences without injury, 38% of rape offences, and 34% of violent offences with injury were flagged as being domestic related.

### Tamworth - Domestic-related crime, three years to November 2020, Staffordshire Police



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / One ward above average

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 14.5

**Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 14.2

**Direction of travel:** Slight increase (6%) over past 12 months – with spikes in July and October 2020.

**Public expectation:** Moderate

**Local hotspot wards:** Glasgote significant reduction since 2019 assessment, but still high (17.7 per 1,000 pop.)

**At risk groups:** Disproportionately younger women (aged under 30), and those who live in already disadvantaged communities. However, anyone can become a victim of DA, and there are male victims in the area, and victims who are older adults. Households where there are high levels of economic stress and alcohol/drug use and dependency are at particularly high risk. Offenders are also disproportionately younger (aged under 40) and male, although there are also female offenders.

## Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment: Stalking & Harassment

### Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Substantial psychological harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

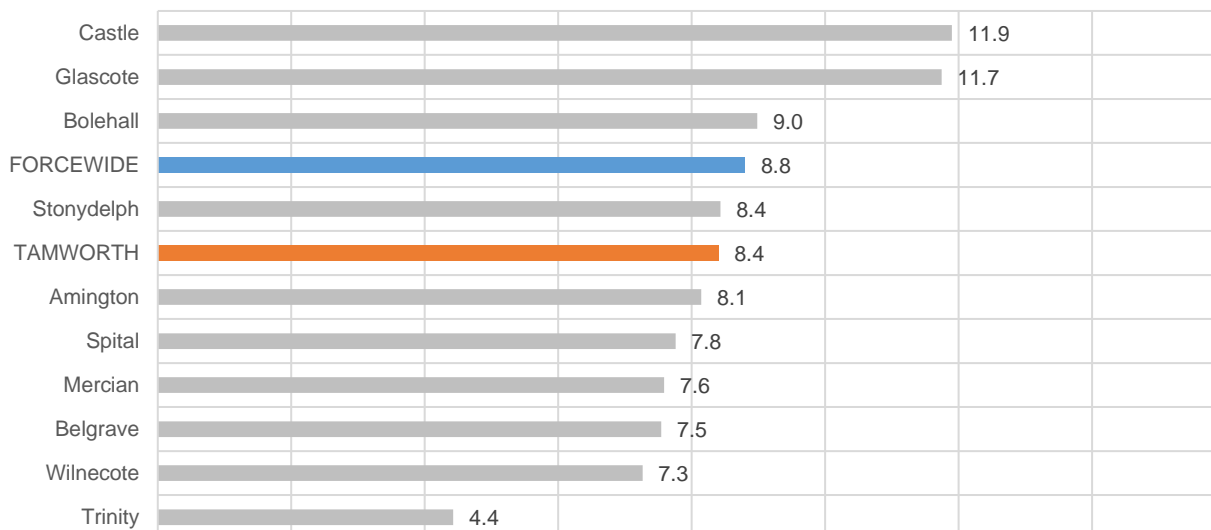
In 2019-20 there were a total of 647 incidents of Stalking and Harassment which took place in Tamworth; equivalent to a rate of 8.4 per 1,000 population - fractionally below the rate for the force (8.6). Stalking & Harassment offences have continued to increase force-wide in 2019-20 (+9% average across local CSPs), however the increase in Tamworth has been smaller (+6%). At this time it is considered that much of the increase is the result of better recognition, identification and recording of offences, rather than an increase in offences taking place.

Stalking & Harassment is now the second most prevalent sub-type of crime recorded in Tamworth (previously the third), compared to being the third most prevalent across the force area – overtaking violent offences with injury.

In 2019-20 a large proportion of Stalking & Harassment offences were classed as Malicious Communications (49%), with around 42% classed as Harassment, with a smaller proportion comprising of Stalking offences (around 9%).

There is strong correlation with Domestic offences; while 52% of all Stalking & Harassment offences are domestic-related, 80% of all Stalking was flagged as domestic, as were 62% of all Harassment offences.

### Stalking and Harassment (2019-20) by Tamworth ward, Rate per 1,000 residents, Staffordshire Police



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / Two wards high (but not statistically above average)

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 8.4

**Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 8.6

**Direction of travel:** Overall 6% increase (12 months to April 2020)

**Public expectation:** Low

**Local hotspot wards:** None significantly above force average (*threshold for significantly above=17.8 per 1,000*)

**At risk groups:** Victims are disproportionately younger women (aged 20-34) who account for 34% of S&H victims, and particularly those within the 'Family Basics' Mosaic group – living in less-advantaged areas with younger children. Around 70% of S&H victims are female, and 30% male, however, victims do span all age ranges from 10 years up to 75+ and there is some disproportionality of victims amongst males aged 25-30 (7% of all S&H victims).

## Car Key Burglaries and Vehicle Theft

### Volume and potential harm:

Low volume / Moderate individual harm / Low community harm

### CSPs with priority:

Lichfield, South Staffordshire, Tamworth

**Summary:** As anti-theft technology in vehicles has improved, approaches to vehicle theft have changed. With many modern vehicles unable to be driven without their keys, criminals are increasingly using burglary to facilitate vehicle theft; entering properties purely to steal vehicle keys and key fobs - driving the stolen vehicle away from the scene.

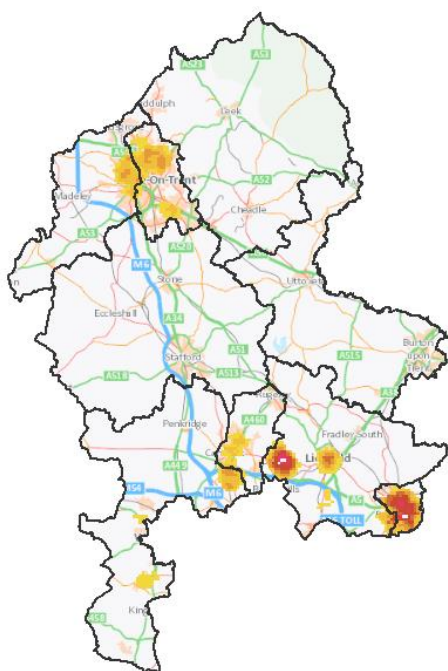
Although less common, and lower volume, changes in anti-theft technology have also resulted in some increases in aggravated vehicle-taking or “car-jacking” – where a vehicle is stolen whilst in use, usually on the road. There have been a number of these incidents in Tamworth within the past 12 months.

Historically, Tamworth has experienced particularly high proportions of burglaries which have resulted in vehicle theft. These offences have typically been focussed in the south-east of the force-area, with Tamworth and Lichfield particularly affected compared to other CSP areas.

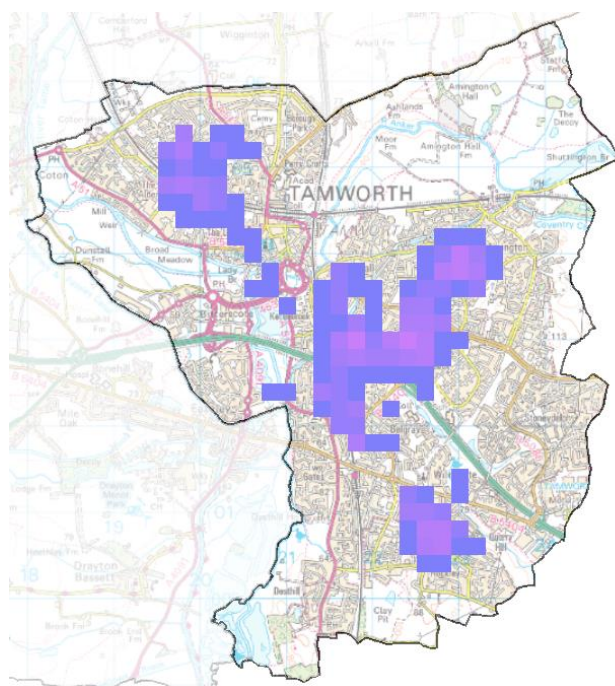
While rates of Vehicle offences have reduced by a nominal amount (-2%) when comparing 2019-20 to the previous 12 months, the rate of motor vehicle thefts in Tamworth is the highest in the force-area.

Offences appear to be particularly targeted and have affected areas and communities which typically do not experience high levels of overall crime. Some of the wards which have experienced high levels of vehicle thefts, such as Wilnecote and Amington, generally experience below average levels of crime overall.

### Heat Map of Car Key Burglaries (2018-19)



### Heat Map of Vehicle offences (2019-20)



### Comparison to Force:

Highest level of thefts of motor vehicles and thefts from motor vehicles. Historically high proportion of Burglaries resulting in vehicle theft.

### Rate of Vehicle Offences

**Local rate:** 7.3 per 1,000 pop.

**Force rate:** 4.8 per 1,000 pop.

**Direction of travel:** Persistent challenge

**Public expectation:** Moderate

**Local hotspot wards:** Trinity (Car Key Burglary), Wilnecote (Vehicle theft), Amington (Vehicle theft)

**At risk groups:** Communities in higher-value suburban areas with detached homes and lower-levels of overall housing density. Analysis across the force-area suggests that households in the most affluent parts of affected CSP areas have been disproportionately affected by car key burglaries.

## County Lines

### **Volume and potential harm:**

Small volume / Substantial individual and community harm

### **CSPs with priority:**

Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### **Summary:**

The use of County Lines to traffic drugs from urban areas into rural areas, causes significant issues for communities; particularly through the degradation of local areas through use of properties for drug use, drug supply and other criminal activity, and as a result of violent disorder and disputes between Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and Urban Street Gangs (USGs) over control of particular County Lines and Drug Supply in specific areas.

The use of County Lines by OCGs is not limited to the supply and movement of drugs; the same criminal infrastructure is linked to Modern Slavery and People Trafficking, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), Serious Violence, Money Laundering and the supply of illegal weapons.

The operation of County Lines by OCGs often relies on the activity of 'cuckooing'; a practice where criminals take over a person's home and use the property to facilitate exploitation. It takes the name from cuckoos who take over the nests of other birds. Victims are often people who misuse substances such as drugs or alcohol, but there are cases of victims with learning difficulties, mental health issues, physical disabilities or who are socially isolated. People who choose to exploit will often target the most vulnerable in society and will establish a relationship with the vulnerable person in order to access their home. Cuckooed addresses are commonly used to store or distribute drugs, but can also be used in people trafficking and modern slavery, supply or storage of illegal firearms, sex work, or as 'safe houses' for criminals themselves who are trying to avoid detection by the Police.

There is a level of County Lines risk in all CSP areas in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent – with known risks around organised drug supply through County Lines as well as People Trafficking / Modern Slavery offences, in addition to elements of weapons offences. There is additional risk in a number of areas in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent, due to high proportions of children in care, who are at elevated risk of being criminally exploited and recruited into organised crime by both OCGs and USGs.

Although Covid-19, and associated Government mandated travel and social restrictions, have undoubtedly had an impact on both levels and visibility of County Lines activity locally, there is still a persistent ongoing threat in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

**Direction of travel:** Long-term risk

**Public expectation:** Critical / National expectations

**Local hotspots:** (See Staffordshire Police's Serious and Organised Crime Assessment)

### **At risk groups:**

#### **Criminal exploitation:**

Young males (aged 10-19) in disadvantaged communities and in care (LAC) or attending Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) are at particularly high risk of being criminally exploited through organised crime and gang membership.

#### **'Cuckooing' risk:**

Adults with existing drug or alcohol dependency, and adults and young adults with learning difficulties and/or mental health needs – particularly those who are living independently but who are socially isolated. There are significant levels of repeat drug possession offences in a number of wards across the force-area, and it is likely that many of the vulnerable individuals known to services in these areas for Class A drug use are at increased risk of cuckooing.



## Public Place Violence (including Knife Crime)

### Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Moderate individual harm / Substantial community harm

**CSPs with priority:** East Staffordshire, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

In 2018-19 Public-Place Violence accounted for around 11% of recorded crime in Tamworth, which is similar to force-wide proportion (12%).

In Tamworth in 2019-20, the rate of violent offences resulting in injury taking place in Town Centre space was the third-highest in the force-area (1.5 per 1,000 people, compared to 1.3 force-wide).

There are links between alcohol and violent offences, and particularly those in public spaces; while around 7% of all crime in Tamworth is alcohol-related, this increases to 17% of violence with injury offences, and 25% of violence with injury offences taking place in the town centre.

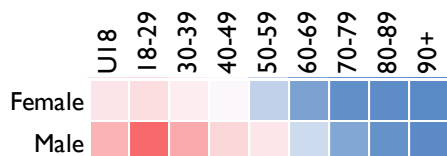
There have been significant reductions in Public Place Violence since March 2020 as a result of the government approach to the Coronavirus pandemic: much of the night-time economy has been closed or heavily restricted for some time, as well as sporting events and entertainment events (such as live music). Social distancing measures have also significantly reduced foot-fall in public spaces.

It is, however, anticipated that at the point where restrictions become considerably eased, events and as the night-time economy begin to re-open to the public, levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and disorder will return to pre-pandemic levels. This will likely be true for public place violent offences as public spaces become more populated.

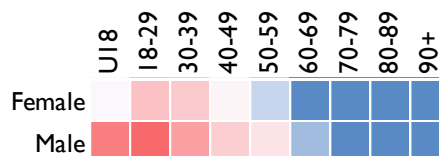
There have been recent concerns about the overall seriousness of Public Place Violence in Tamworth; although a small number of incidents (30 incidents) 5% of PPV offences in 2018-19 in Tamworth were also flagged as Knife Crimes in line with Home Office guidance. This was the highest proportion of Public Place Violence offences involving a knife of anywhere in the force area – with Stoke-on-Trent the next highest at 4%.

Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent however, Knife Crime fell by 24% in the 12 months to January 2020, while increasing nationally. The rate of Knife Crime in the Staffordshire force area is low compared to similar force-areas.

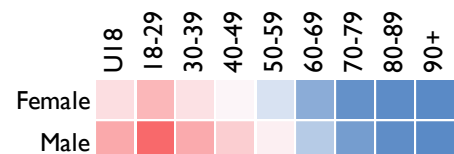
### Offenders (PPV) (age group and gender):



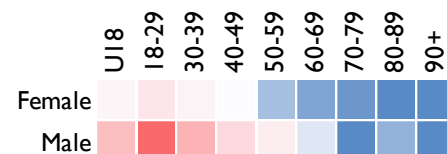
### Offenders (Knife Crime) (age group and gender):



### Victims (PPV) (age group and gender):



### Victims (Knife Crime) (age group and gender):



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / One ward rate high

**Direction of travel:** Consistent but significantly affected by COVID

**Public expectation:** Moderate

### At risk groups:

Public Place Violence offenders are predominantly young men (aged 18-29), although there are some female offenders, mainly aged under 40 years. Knife Crime offenders are also mainly young men (aged under 30 years) with a particularly high proportion of Under 18s (mostly aged 14+).

With both PPV and Knife Crimes – both offender and victim are mainly young men, in particular those aged under 30 years. In many instances, the offender and the victim are of the same age group.

Public place violence is polarised towards town centres and commercial areas, and poses the greatest risk to the public between 21:00-04:00hrs, particularly where alcohol is a factor.

## Vulnerable Persons: Drug use and possession

### Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Substantial individual harm / Severe community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

Drugs can be a factor in a range of crimes – although in recent analysis (2018-19) drugs were significantly less present as an aggravating-factor than alcohol (1% of recorded crime considered drugs a factor, 6% alcohol considered a factor), drugs still sit behind a range of offences; from acquisitive offences to fund addiction, to serious violent offences relating to feuds over supply activity.

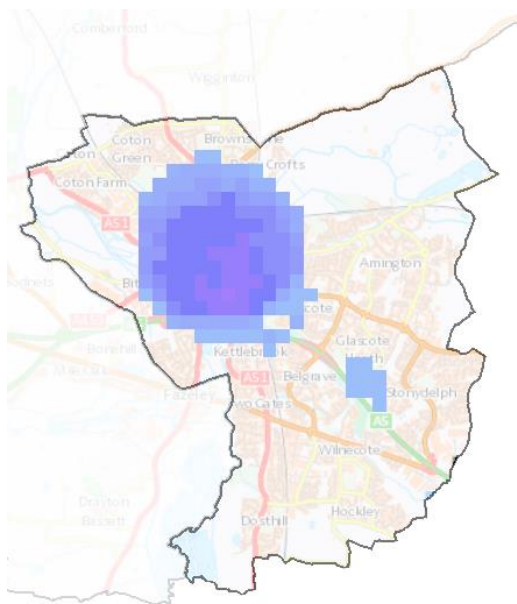
Drug users themselves are a particularly vulnerable group, and as well as facing significant health, housing and employment challenges, drug users often also experience Domestic Abuse. Children in families where drug use is prevalent are often at significantly increased need of safeguarding and support.

Drug users are at significant risk of being criminally exploited through County Lines and other aspects of organised crime; often drug dealers/suppliers will allow users to accrue substantial levels of drug-related debt, and use this as leverage to have the user conduct criminal activity on their behalf or use their home for criminal activity (cuckooing).

Tamworth does not experience particularly high levels of drug-related offending overall (1.5 per 1,000 people compared to 1.3 force-wide) - however the rate of Drugs Possession offences in Castle ward (8.0, compared to 1.3 force-wide) is the fourth highest rate (previously the fifth) out of 201 wards in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

While drug-related offending does not appear to be a significant problem for Tamworth overall, the level of Drugs Possession offences suggests that there may be a high proportion of persistent drug-users in the area.

### Drug Possession hot spots, Tamworth, 2019-20, Staffordshire Police



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / One ward in Top 5 for Drugs Possession offences

### Drug Possession

Local rate (per 1,000 people): 1.5

Force rate (per 1,000 people): 1.3

**Direction of travel:** Consistent concern

### Local hotspots:

Castle ward: Possession offences (8.0 per 1,000)

**At risk groups:** Adults with known drug dependencies, particularly those who have previously accessed or who are presently accessing treatment programmes for Class A drug use or dependency.

## Vulnerable Persons: Mental Health

### Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Moderate to severe individual harm / Low community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

**Summary:** Mental Health is a cross-cutting theme, with links to a range of other vulnerabilities. Many with mental health needs appear in other high-risk cohorts; including those with drug and/or alcohol challenges, those who are socially isolated and living in poor quality housing, as well as young people and adults who are at risk of criminal exploitation.

The COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to have a considerable impact on mental health and wellbeing over coming years. It is expected that demand relating to mental health will increase considerably into 2021 and beyond. In mid-April 2020, at the peak of the national lockdown, Staffordshire Police recorded a considerable surge in weekly mental health incidents – far above expected upper limits.

Local<sup>8</sup> and national<sup>9</sup> COVID surveys have highlighted that more than two-thirds of people feel that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their life, with many feeling stressed and anxious. Further analysis<sup>10</sup> found that, taking account of pre-pandemic trajectories, mental health has worsened substantially (by 8.1% on average) as a result of the pandemic. Young adults and women – groups with worse mental health pre-pandemic – have been hit hardest.

As well as those with existing mental health conditions being at risk of experiencing crime, experiencing crime itself also exacerbates and can create considerable mental health challenges for individuals. Many types of crime are judged to pose a substantial or severe risk of psychological harm to individuals; in particular, but not limited to; domestic abuse, serious violent offences, stalking and harassment, hate crimes, and criminal exploitation.

The impact of Mental Health needs on communities is difficult to quantify. In 2018-19 in Tamworth there were around 230 calls to the Police relating primarily to Mental Health, and 390 Missing Persons incidents – rates of Mental Health calls were below force level (3.0 compared to 4.9 per 1,000) while Missing Persons were in line with force average.

Public Health England (PHE) estimates for Tamworth suggest that around 9.8% of children aged 5 to 16 years (approximately 1,100 children) in the area are likely to have a mental health disorder. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest proportion in the force area, and falls within the top 20% of highest rates in Local Authorities in England.

### Estimated prevalence of common mental disorders (Public Health England):

|                           |                   | % of population |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Children<br>(age 5-16)    | England           | 9.2             |
|                           | <b>Force-wide</b> | <b>9.5</b>      |
|                           | Tamworth          | 9.8             |
| Adults<br>(age 16+)       | England           | 16.9            |
|                           | <b>Force-wide</b> | <b>16.4</b>     |
|                           | Tamworth          | 16.6            |
| Older adults<br>(age 65+) | England           | 10.2            |
|                           | <b>Force-wide</b> | <b>10.2</b>     |
|                           | Tamworth          | 10.5            |

Vulnerable people, including those experiencing mental health issues, are at greater risk of being a victim of crime - targeted by criminals who seek to exploit this vulnerability and take advantage through financial or criminal exploitation. Local research has shown that individuals who have experienced crime first-hand as either a victim or a direct witness, are likely to score lower than average in terms of their overall levels of wellbeing.

Prevalence of depression recorded by GPs within Tamworth is statistically higher than England, and higher than the force area overall.

**Comparison to Force:** Rates of Mental Health calls to police and Missing Persons reports similar to force area. Estimated prevalence of Mental Disorders statistically similar to force area, but high compared to other CSP areas.

<sup>8</sup> Staffordshire County Council – Residents Survey

<sup>9</sup> Office of National Statistics (ONS) - Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain

<sup>10</sup> Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) - The mental health effects of the [first] lockdown and social distancing during the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK



## Vulnerable Persons: Contextual Safeguarding

**Volume and potential harm:** Moderate volumes / Moderate to Severe individual and community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

**Summary: CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, (Stafford), Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

### Summary:

The 'toxic trio' of risks that are most likely to result in home or family safeguarding concerns – parental mental ill-health, drug and alcohol misuse, and domestic abuse are particularly present in parts of Tamworth, resulting in an elevated level of need for safeguarding of young children (under 11 years of age).

The large majority (63%) of children in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent who are subject to a Child Protection Plan are primarily being safeguarded as a result of neglect, followed by just under a third (31%) who have experienced emotional abuse. Compared to England, the force-area sees a greater proportion of children subject to a plan as a result of neglect, with lower proportions experiencing emotional, physical or sexual abuse.

It is considered, that similarly to many other areas of vulnerability – the COVID-19 pandemic will result in considerable increases in demand for safeguarding services. In an assessment conducted by the NSPCC<sup>11</sup> it is considered that the Coronavirus pandemic will considerably intensify a range of risk factors that children face, particularly as a result of;

- **Increase in stressors to parents and caregivers**  
*The risk of child abuse is higher when caregivers become overloaded by the stressors in their lives. There are indications that the coronavirus pandemic has increased stressors on caregivers*
- **Increase in children and young people's vulnerability**  
*There are indications that conditions caused by the pandemic have heightened vulnerability of children and young people to certain types of abuse, e.g. online abuse, abuse within the home, criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.*
- **Reduction in normal protective services**  
*There is evidence that the 'normal' safeguards relied on to protect children and young people have been reduced during the pandemic. However social connections and support can provide a protective effect for children's safety and wellbeing.*

While it is important to consider the safeguarding of young children and risk of harm within the family environment, as young people move from childhood and into adolescence, they spend increasing amounts of time socialising independently of their families. During this time the nature of young people's schools and neighbourhoods, and the relationships that they form in these settings, inform the extent to which they encounter safeguarding risks in settings outside their families.

There are some concerns in Tamworth relating to the safeguarding of young people outside of their family contexts – particularly the risk of criminal exploitation by Urban Street Gangs (USGs) and organised criminals of vulnerable young people, who can be lured into criminality with the promise of financial gain, and perhaps the appeal of fraternity. Young people who are Looked After Children (LAC) and who have been placed in care, or who attend pupil referral units (PRUs) are at particularly increased risk due to their level of vulnerability and often unstable social networks and networks of support.

The rate of LAC per 10,000 under 18s in Tamworth is statistically higher than the rate for England and the second-highest in the force area.

Once groomed, these young people are then often used for high risk activities, increasingly linked to County Lines drug supply activity, such as street dealing and transporting drugs.

**Direction of travel:** Ongoing concern

**Local hotspots:** Glascote (Rates of Child Protection and Looked After Children)

### At risk groups:

#### **Criminal exploitation:**

Males aged 10 to 19 in disadvantaged communities (particularly including LAC and those in PRUs)

#### **Children's safeguarding:**

Children (birth to 17) living in communities with high levels of deprivation, domestic abuse, drug and alcohol use.

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<sup>11</sup> NSPCC - Social isolation and the risk of child abuse during and after the coronavirus pandemic (2020)

# Additional Challenges for Consideration

## Repeat and Persistent Offending

**Priority:** Re-offending

**Priority sub-type:** Repeat and Persistent Offenders

**Volume and potential harm:** High volume / Moderate individual harm / Substantial community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

**Summary:**

Repeat and persistent offenders are consistently disproportionately responsible for crime in Staffordshire, with the minority of offenders responsible for the majority of offences.

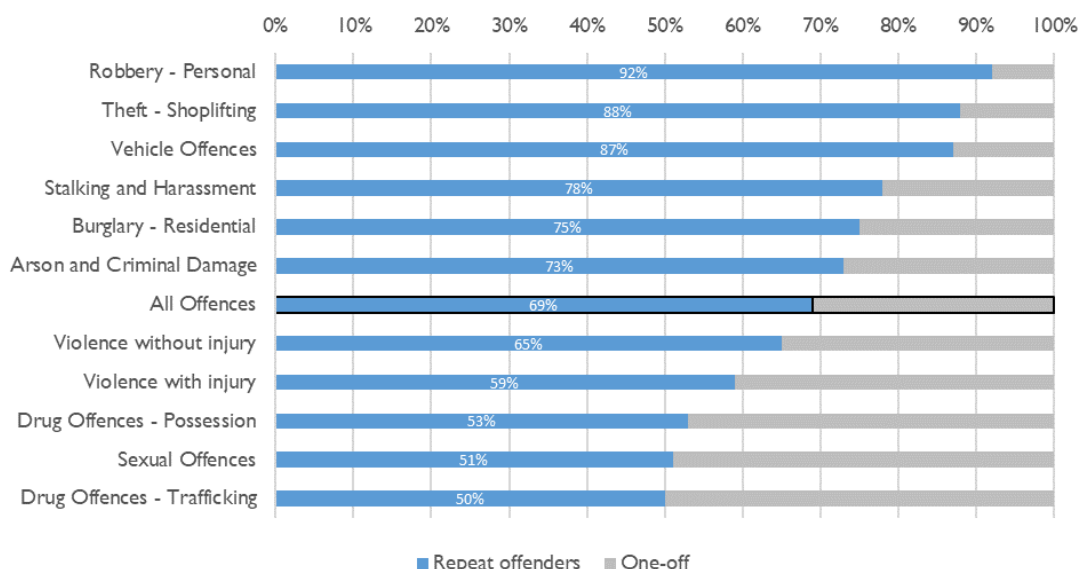
In latest available data (2018-19), while around 44% (615) of the 1,408 offenders living in Tamworth were considered repeat or persistent, they were responsible for 68% of recorded crimes where an offender was identified.

All major types of crime saw more than half of all incidents committed by repeat offenders, however, acquisitive crimes, such as Burglary, Vehicle Offences, Theft and Robbery tend to see the highest proportion of repeat offenders, while the proportion of Domestic-flagged offences committed by repeat offenders was in line with crime overall (69%).

Offenders with known drug offences or offences where drugs were considered a factor in their recent offending history, are substantially more likely to be repeat and persistent offenders. Around 55% of those flagged for drug-related offending in Tamworth were repeat and persistent offenders, compared to 43% of those with no recent drug-related offending. While offenders with previous drug-related offending tend to be responsible for a disproportionate amount of acquisitive offending across the force area (committed 25% of acquisitive crime, 17% of crime overall) this is not the case in Tamworth; with drug-related offenders responsible for about 11% of crime overall, and 13% of acquisitive crimes.

Youth offenders (those aged under 18) are not disproportionately likely to be repeat and persistent offenders (around 46%), however younger adult offenders, particularly young men, are consistently the most likely to be repeat offenders; of those aged 20-25 years in Tamworth, 54% were Repeat or Prolific Offenders and accounted for 80% of the crime committed by 20-25 year olds.

**Proportion of total offences (by type) committed by Repeat Offenders, Staffordshire Police 2018-19**



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar

**Local proportion:** 44% offenders, 68% crime

**Force proportion:** 45% offenders, 71% crime

**Direction of travel:** N/A

**Public expectation:** Substantial

**At risk groups:** Younger males (aged 25-29 and 30-34) particularly those from disadvantaged communities, and adults with drug dependencies are highly likely to repeatedly offend.

## Modern Slavery

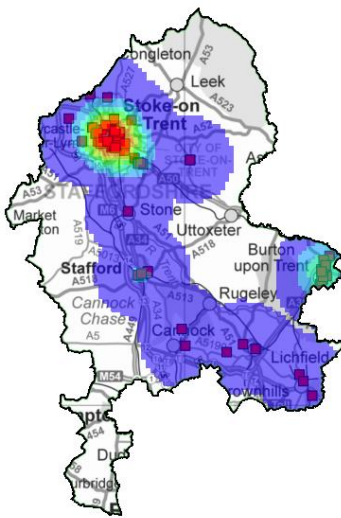
Modern Slavery refers to the offences of human trafficking, slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour. This can then be considered as five sub threats: sexual exploitation of adults; trafficking of adults into conditions of labour exploitation; trafficking of adults into conditions of criminal exploitation; trafficking of minors into conditions of sexual, criminal or labour exploitation; and other forms of exploitation<sup>12</sup>.

The scale of Modern Slavery is consistently and gradually increasing and it is likely to continue to do so<sup>13</sup>. Modern Slavery is a highly complex and hidden crime which makes it challenging to accurately measure in terms of prevalence; however there have been year on year increases in the number of victims identified. Staffordshire has seen a gradual increase in the reporting of Modern Slavery which is in line with the national picture.

Both victims and perpetrators of Modern Slavery offences in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are predominantly British, followed by Vietnamese; with both perpetrator and victim often being of the same nationality. British victims tend to have fallen on difficult times, making them vulnerable to the false promise of well-paid work complete with decent accommodation.

Concerns remain over the ongoing problem of clandestine entrants found at motorway service stations which are common drop off locations for illegal immigrants.

### Modern Slavery recorded by Staffordshire Police



## Fire and Risk of Fire

Some areas of Tamworth have a high proportion of lower value residential properties in areas of high housing density, and that may carry some fire risk. The majority of these are in areas with higher proportions young families with limited resources. National statistics<sup>14</sup> highlight that older adults are generally at the greatest risk from fires, with fire-related fatality rates per million population far higher for those aged 65-79, and even higher still for those aged 80 and over compared to the general population.

There are a range of factors which appear to disproportionately result in casualties compared to the number of dwelling fires that they are a factor in, these are primarily; incidents involving chip-pan or deep-fat fryers, fires that are started by smoking materials (such as cigarettes), fires in dwellings where no alarm system is present, fires where the main occupant is under the influence, and fires where the main occupant has an underlying medical condition or illness. It is important that homes are fitted with functioning fire alarms as a minimum, and that communities are encouraged to engage with the Safe and Well programme ran by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue in order to have the safety of their homes assessed and addressed.

Fires affecting businesses can have significant impact; causing difficulties for suppliers, retailers and affecting employees either temporarily or sometimes permanently. Up to 60% of small businesses do not recover from a severe fire. It is incredibly important that new businesses engage with the Fire & Rescue business support service team to receive fire safety advice and guidance.

<sup>12</sup> NCA – National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2018

<sup>13</sup> <https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking>

<sup>14</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/831136/detailed-analysis-fires-attended-fire-rescue-england-1819-hosb1919.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/831136/detailed-analysis-fires-attended-fire-rescue-england-1819-hosb1919.pdf)

## Business Crime

The total price tag of burglary, shoplifting, robbery, criminal damage, theft and other offences against businesses in Staffordshire is estimated at over £7,300 per hour. Fraud alone costs companies £9.1 billion nationally a year. Over a third (39%) of businesses do not report crime to police.

In the 12 months to November 2020, there were around 630 instances of Fraud recorded by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) affecting organisations in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, with total losses of around £4.6million. Local research conducted on behalf of the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office has highlighted that many small businesses locally are particularly concerned about Fraud and Online crime, and this acts as a barrier to their development of online services.

Staffordshire has a high proportion of small and micro businesses, many of which do not have the same resilience as larger national and multi-national businesses. As a result, smaller businesses risk being significantly harmed and disrupted by experiences of crime. Business crime affects a broad range of businesses in Staffordshire; from incidents of criminal damage and arson, to large businesses who are victims of fraud, and farms who are victims of machinery and 'off-road' vehicle thefts (such as quad-bikes, 4x4s and Land Rovers) used in farming and agriculture.

On a national scale there have been significant Cyber-Crime offences committed against large businesses, particularly linked to "Ransom-ware" based extortion, which still present a significant risk to businesses, particularly those who rely on less up-to-date information technology infrastructure and equipment.

## Quality of Life and Wider Determinants

There are a range of factors which affect individual quality of life, life chances and overall vulnerability. The factors considered to be of most concern within Tamworth are; deprivation and economic stress, drug and substance misuse, mental health and children and young people at risk of safeguarding.

It is considered that the COVID-19 pandemic experienced throughout 2020, and in particular the associated measures and restrictions to limit the spread of the virus, as well as the impact on the economy and government spending, will have a lasting and profound impact on the vulnerability of individuals and communities locally, nationally and globally.

Child safeguarding demands have been particularly high in Tamworth, with the area experiencing rates of Child Protection Plans (CPP) and rates of Looked-after Children (LAC) in recent years which are statistically higher than the rates for England. Glascote ward is of particular concern, with the highest rates of both CPP and LAC in the area.

Rates of Under 18 Conceptions remain high in Tamworth, with the number of deliveries to teenage mothers considered to be statistically higher than the national level, and the second highest in the force-area – although previously the highest.

School attainment at KeyStage 4 (previously GCSE) is below the national level, and has been for a period of time, which may have links to slightly higher local levels of universal credit claims amongst younger people. Missing the national standard for KS4 can be particularly problematic, as it can act as a barrier to accessing college and sixth form learning and as a barrier to securing apprenticeships. There are risks that this might result in limited employment opportunities, and make some young people more vulnerable to being criminally exploited.

Overall levels of out-of-work benefit claimants in Tamworth are in line with the force area, however, the gap in employment rates for those in good health compared to those with long-term health conditions is significantly worse than England.

Unemployment rates across the UK have been rising since the first COVID lockdown in March 2020, and while this hasn't been observed to the same extent in Tamworth, it is a situation which will require monitoring. As at the end of November 2020, around 6.1% of Tamworth residents were in receipt of Universal Credit – in line with the national level (6.3%) but significantly lower than the West Midlands regional level (7.3%).

A far greater proportion of Tamworth residents were considered to be Economically Active in latest data (June 2020); around 87% compared to 79% nationally.

While a good proportion of adults are in work, earnings are generally lower than average for those who live in Tamworth. Average gross yearly pay for a Tamworth resident in full-time work remains around £1,600 lower than the national average, with wage increases locally not keeping up with national increases over the past five years. It is possible that this will be further exacerbated when the UK furlough scheme ends in April 2021.

Healthy lifestyles are a concern for Tamworth, with the rate of adults considered to be overweight or obese (27.8%) higher than the national level (23%). However, rates of overweight and obese children at Year 6 are significantly lower than the national level (29.5% compared to 35.2% nationally) - Tamworth is the only Safety Partnership area in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent where this rate is lower than the national level.

In terms of healthy lifestyles, there are also implications for those with pre-existing health conditions, who have been advised to isolate themselves through the majority of the COVID pandemic – although the impact may not be evidenced in Public Health data for some time.

While alcohol-dependency and related concerns have reduced in Tamworth in recent years, latest Public Health data (2018-19) shows that hospital admissions for alcohol related conditions have increased since the previous Strategic Assessment, and are now significantly above the national level, although deaths attributable to alcohol are in line with the national average.

## Public Confidence & Feeling the Difference

It should be noted, that in 2019, the decision was made to redevelop it's approach to a Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent public confidence residents' survey. As such the Feeling the Difference survey ceased.

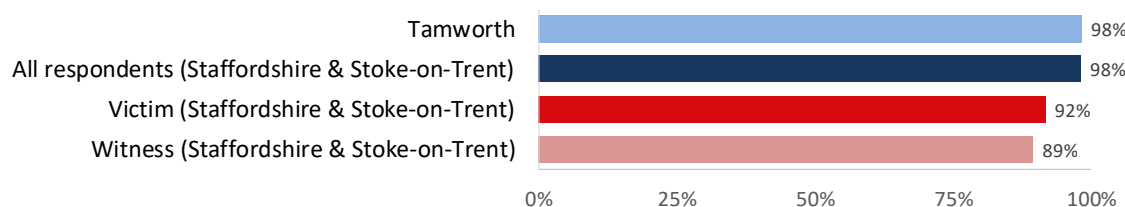
The final wave of the Feeling the Difference surveys were completed in late 2018 (referenced below) with a new residents' survey introduced in late 2020. Findings from the new survey will be shared, as relevant, once made available.

In previous analysis a high proportion of residents were satisfied with Tamworth as an area to live (93%) and the large majority are satisfied with their quality of life (92%).

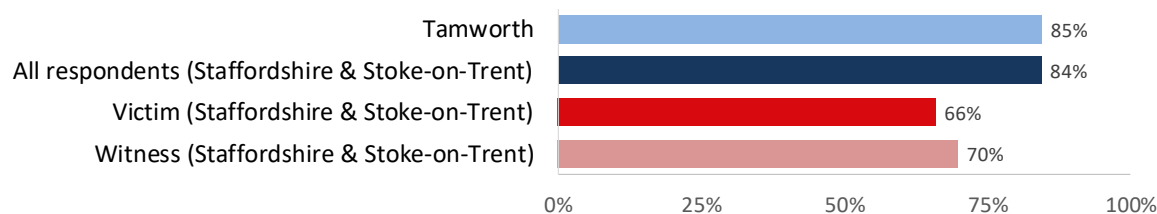
Around half (46%) of residents appear to be satisfied with the level of police presence in the local area, while overall feelings of safety in Tamworth are high; local residents report that they feel very safe in Tamworth during the day (98%) and the very large majority also feel safe after dark (85%). Most residents (87%) feel that it's unlikely that they will be a victim of crime at any point in the future.

Data shows us that those who have previously experienced crime first-hand, as either a victim of crime or a witness to a crime, generally feel less safe than the population overall. This is particularly acute when considering how safe residents feel at night or after dark.

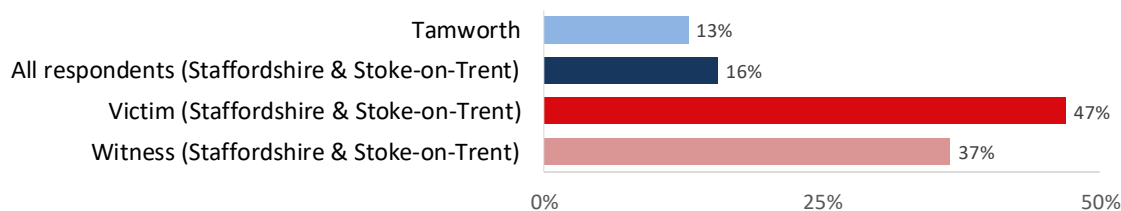
### Feelings of safety during daylight hours



### Feelings of safety at night/after dark



### Feel likely that they will be a victim of crime





# Appendices

## Appendix A: Overall recommendations

Ensure that partnerships maintain links with Staffordshire Police, through the Knowledge Hub and local Policing Commanders, in order to identify emerging risks and priorities in 'real time' as they occur throughout the year – including making use of available Business Intelligence resources such as the Staffordshire Police Knowledge Hub BRAIN Gateway, and making use of relevant emerging risk assessment and strategic documents.

Partnerships should engage with Police Thematic Leads for each of their identified areas of priority in order to engage with and influence the Police response to priority challenges.

Ensure that partnerships remain engaged with relevant Needs and Risk Assessments developed through the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office, through Local Authorities, and in other Safety Partnership areas, so that emerging learning and recommendations can be reflected in ongoing partnership strategy and delivery.

Where services have been commissioned centrally, Safety Partnership areas and services should engage with one-another in order to share knowledge and expertise, to ensure that delivery is appropriately meeting local demand, and compliments any existing delivery and services.

The full partnership should explore approaches which will allow young people to anonymously report concerns around crime, radicalisation or extremist behaviour, and criminal exploitation - which can then be escalated through mechanisms such as Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) or similar. In particular, but not limited to, giving young people an opportunity to communicate concerns that they may have about;

- Potential criminal exploitation of themselves or others (incl. gang-related activity/recruitment)
- Knowledge of weapons possession or 'stashing'<sup>15</sup> amongst their peers
- Drug or alcohol misuse (their own, or that of others)
- Potential radicalisation or extremism, or other concerning hate-related behaviour
- Knowledge of other criminal behaviour in the community which is a cause for concern

## Appendix B: Specific recommendations for key priorities

*As this report considers the current position in the context of the priorities and recommendations set out in the full three-yearly Strategic Assessment (issued last year, 2019) many recommendations and priorities remain unchanged from the previous full SA. Where recommendations are new additions or revised compared to the previous report, these are clearly highlighted with a prefix.*

### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

**[REVISED]** Work is needed to better understand where Hate is a factor in ASB and identify if there are communities where Hate-related ASB is of particular concern. Where there are concerns that ASB is hate-related, Partnerships should consider whether this is significant enough to refer cases to Prevent.

#### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*The pan-Staffordshire ASB Strategy group should continue to engage with Safety Partnerships and vice versa to help improve our knowledge and understanding of ASB in the force-area There is a need to continue to develop understanding around risk and protective factors affecting young people and their involvement in ASB.*

*Partnerships should continue to share information on perpetrators and particularly repeat and younger perpetrators (of both public place ASB and Neighbour Disputes) to ensure that individuals receive multi-agency support where appropriate in order to reduce re-offending. [Cross-cutting to Repeat & Persistent Offending recommendations]*

*As much ASB is public-place Rowdy & Inconsiderate Behaviour, Partnership areas should continue to consider options to limit ASB in hot-spot areas, including the use of provisions such as Public Space Protection Orders.*

### Domestic Abuse

**[NEW]** Safety Partnerships should remain sighted on the Domestic Abuse Bill (2020) - due to become law in April 2021. This places statutory duties on upper-tier LAs, including the duty to provide victims (and their children) with appropriate safe accommodation and support whilst in accommodation. Responsible authorities will be required to form Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards and CSPs should ensure that they engage with these accordingly.

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<sup>15</sup> Stashing refers to the practice of hiding knives and other weapons in public places, such as parks or undergrowth, so that they are available for individuals to use in violent offences – without the additional risk of being in possession of the weapon.

**Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*There is a continued need for collaborative working across the whole force-area to support the DA agenda, led by established pan-Staffordshire governance arrangements and delivered through the DA Strategy and Action Plan.*

*There is a continuing need for partners in front-line service to have a strong awareness and understanding of signs of non-physical types of domestic abuse, (e.g. coercive control, financial abuse, psychological abuse including stalking). There is a need to continue to raise public awareness around these types of domestic abuse.*

*Reaching out to hard to engage cohorts; including men, BME, LGBTQ+, those with Learning Difficulties, Mental Health needs, those in rural areas, as well as those from isolated or marginalised communities is vital in order to give individuals the confidence to come forward and seek support. This should remain linked to other services such as mental health, drug and alcohol misuse and homelessness, as well as education providers from age 14 and up.*

*Safety Partnerships should engage with partners to develop and improve understanding of Stalking and Harassment offences, and continue to improve awareness and understanding of the Stalking Protection Act (2019) and how the Police can apply for Stalking Protection Orders (SPOs) to address offending and protect victims.*

**[REVISED] Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism**

**[NEW]** There should be additional consideration for children who receive home education, including those who have started to be home educated throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that they are receiving a well-rounded education in order to prevent any extremist teachings.

**[NEW]** Safety Partnerships should engage with the development of Community Cohesion partnership work through the Safer & Stronger Communities Strategic Group, which will link in to existing strategic Hate Crime work and the Prevent board. Partnerships should also strongly consider whether there is a need to work with local partners and stakeholders (such as voluntary sector partners) to develop local Community Cohesion strategy for their local area.

**[REVISED]** As people spend more time online as a result of COVID-19-related restrictions on social contact, it should be considered that there is increased risk around online radicalisation. Partnerships should continue to raise awareness of extremism and potential signs of radicalisation within communities, and particularly in those communities at risk of emerging extreme right-wing and far-right extremism. Young people, parents/guardians and community members should have an awareness of prevalent extremist groups.

**Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*All Safety Partnership areas must continue with Prevent activity and the work of the Prevent Board; maintaining and building further positive engagement between communities, police and partners; to enable identification of key individuals who may be radicalising others, and to safeguard any vulnerable persons.*

*There should be central consideration about whether there may be a need for enhanced mechanisms to allow young people to raise concerns if they feel they or their peers are becoming radicalised or showing extremist behaviour.*

*There remains a need for the Prevent Board and Safety Partnership areas to support partner agencies with low Prevent referral rates, including supporting their understanding of the referral mechanism to improve referral quality.*

*Safety Partnerships and Prevent partners should continue raising awareness of existing and emerging far-right and extreme right-wing groups and encourage reporting of concerns through usual channels such as Prevent.*

*Safety Partnerships should engage with other partners to improve knowledge and understanding of hate crime amongst groups who are less present in recorded incidents, in particular; the LGBTQ+ community, those with disabilities and/or learning difficulties, and those with mental health needs.*

**Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft**

**Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*There is a need to raise awareness of measures that individuals can take to reduce the risk of becoming victims of such types of crime, particularly in high risk and hot-spot areas, and amongst high risk groups. This is equally the case for business and small business owners who rely on vehicles as a business asset.*

*Safety Partnerships should continue to engage with Staffordshire Police to identify emerging hot-spot areas and vehicle makes/models which are at particular risk, in order to direct relevant preventative activity as appropriate.*



## County Lines

**[NEW]** Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic; on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will be increases in numbers of people and families considered to be vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase numbers of individuals who may be at increased risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure. *[Duplicated within Vulnerable Persons recommendations]*

### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Safety Partnerships should continue to develop and enhance partner and community awareness and sharing of concerns linked to County Lines; primarily the signs of criminal exploitation of young people through organised crime and gang activity, and the signs of criminal exploitation of vulnerable adults through cuckooing activity. Partnerships should continue to promote and encourage community use of Crime Stoppers to allow anonymous reporting.*

*Safety Partnerships should continue to develop and embed an approach which primarily treats vulnerable individuals who have been criminally exploited as victims in need of support, and ensure that there are targeted early intervention and prevention opportunities in place for individuals who are being or who have been criminally exploited.*

*There is an ongoing need to continue education in secondary schools and pupil referral units (PRUs) around risks attached to gang membership and organised crime, including ensuring that the mechanisms exist to allow young people to appropriately and anonymously raise concerns about the criminal exploitation of themselves or their peers. Centrally there is a need to ensure that those working with children in care (LAC) such as Care Homes and Foster Carers are aware of signs of criminal exploitation and feel confident in reporting concerns as appropriate.*

## Public Place Violence and Serious Violence (including Knife Crime)

**[NEW]** All Safety Partnership areas must anticipate that when COVID restrictions become more relaxed, activity in public places (including activity linked to the night-time economy) will increase considerably – and as such there will likely be an equivalent increase in Public Place Violent and alcohol-related offences.

### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*All Safety Partnerships should remain engaged with the development and delivery of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Serious Violence Reduction Strategy.*

*Partnerships should continue work with licensing authorities to identify and tackle heavy drinking in areas with high levels of alcohol-related disorder and public place violence. Authorities should work with licenced premises to support staff in recognising signs of potential violence amongst individuals/groups and take appropriate preventative action.*

*There remains a need for pubs, clubs and bars to have mechanisms whereby those who feel at risk of harm for any reason, can covertly raise concerns and be supported to safely leave the premises to a place of safety. It is important that mechanisms are well-publicised and available to anyone who feels concerned for their safety for any reason.*

*There are a number of areas which see repeat instances of public place violence, there may be value in exploring options for expanding the 'Safer Places' scheme to allow younger people who feel at risk of violence or harm to use the scheme to find a place of safety while Police are contacted.*

*To reduce re-offending, joined-up multi-agency support should exist for first-time violent offenders (including those who do not progress through the criminal justice system) in order to support and address relevant behavioural needs and/or any needs relating to mental health, in addition to relevant needs relating to alcohol or substance misuse.*

*Partnerships should continue to focus on early intervention for young people at risk of gang involvement and should to continue to engage in the delivery and development of gang prevention and disruption strategy as appropriate.*

*There is ongoing need to work with education settings, pupil referral units, care homes, prisons, youth groups, other youth services, and housing associations to raise awareness of the dangers, risks and legal repercussions associated with carrying knives and other weapons. Local evidence suggests a need to focus on those aged 11-18 years.*

## **Vulnerable Persons (incl. Alcohol, Drugs, Safeguarding and Mental Health)**

**[NEW]** Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will be increases in numbers of people and families considered vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase the number of individuals who may be at risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure. *[Duplicated within Drug Supply and County Lines recommendations]*

### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Alcohol is a cross-cutting theme across a range of priorities – partners should continue to consider where alcohol may be a factor in offending behaviour or in levels of vulnerability, ensuring support and intervention includes alcohol-related support. Support should be particularly intensive for young people with identified emerging alcohol concerns.*

*Being under the influence of alcohol remains a factor that disproportionately leads to casualties in dwelling fires, it is vital that those delivering support to individuals around alcohol also assess their residences for fire-related risks.*

*Centrally there is a need to continue to promote activity to raise awareness of the significant risks attached to drug and substance misuse, including the significant health and psychological risks attached to psychoactive substances previously referred to as 'legal highs'. There is a need to ensure that there is appropriate multi-agency support for young people with drug-related and suspected drug-related offending, in order to deter drug use and provide early treatment where addiction or dependency may be a concern. This should include work with schools, education providers, children's homes and foster carers where appropriate, to ensure that there is a sound understanding of the early signs of substance misuse, so that young people can be supported at the earliest possible opportunity.*

*There is a need to continue work with appropriate partners, so that workers are able to identify those with drug and substance misuse needs who are at risk of, or may be the victims of, criminal exploitation through activities such as cuckooing or through gang or organised crime activity, and appropriately document, share and escalate concerns.*

*Stronger knowledge of contextual safeguarding is essential in protecting vulnerable people. Partnerships should help lead the way in moving thinking around safeguarding forwards to address extra-familial risk; including supporting businesses in developing awareness of risks to young people and developing confidence in reporting any concerns.*

*It is essential that young people are aware of signs of potential criminal exploitation, and that mechanisms exist to allow young people to safely communicate concerns about criminal exploitation of themselves or their peers.*

*There is an ongoing need to keep prevention and early intervention work at the heart of community safety strategy, particularly focussing on young people who are at risk of either offending or becoming victims of crime. This must include work with looked-after-children (LAC) who are a particularly at-risk group and children in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) who are greater risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system and increased risk of exploitation.*

*Mental health is a cross-cutting area of need, with many of the most vulnerable victims and offenders (including those under 18) experiencing mental health challenges. It is recommended that partners continue to consider the impact of mental health on individual's levels of vulnerability and on their behaviour, ensuring that there are packages of appropriate multi-agency support for those with appropriate levels of need.*

## Recommendations against additional considerations

### Repeat and Persistent Offending:

#### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Continue to engage with partners and Offender Management (as appropriate) to ensure that are appropriate packages of multi-agency support for offenders, particularly those with drug and substance misuse and dependency. Support should be particularly intensive for younger offenders (under 21) who have drug dependencies or drug and substance misuse challenges.*

*Partnerships should consider that those who commit repeat acquisitive offences in order to sustain drug or alcohol misuse or dependency are at high risk of criminal exploitation and may need additional support and consideration at multi-agency risk assessment meetings.*

*Partnerships should continue to share information on perpetrators and particularly repeat perpetrators (of both public place ASB and Neighbour Disputes) to ensure that individuals receive multi-agency support where appropriate. It is particularly important that young people who are repeat perpetrators of ASB are identified and supported appropriately to prevent further patterns of offending. [Duplicated within ASB recommendations]*

*Continue activity with domestic abuse perpetrator programme providers. Approaches should consider additional support needs for offenders around alcohol and drug/substance misuse, mental health, and behavioural and emotional needs and challenges. Support should be particularly intensive for those who are first-time domestic offenders, and domestic offenders who are under 21 years old.*

### Modern Slavery:

#### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Safety Partnerships should continue with co-ordinated partnership activity to tackle modern slavery, including the implementation of consistent training packages to improve awareness and knowledge of the factors which may highlight victims and perpetrators and to increase our understanding of the scale and scope of this threat.*

*Safety Partnerships should contribute to the multi-agency Anti-Slavery Partnership Tactical Group; to assist with early intervention for victims, disruption of offender networks and support a co-ordinated approach to enforcement activity. It is important for partners to remain engaged and in tune with national discussion around Modern Slavery, and developments to make the National Referral Mechanism better tailored for victimised children and young people.*

*It is important for partners and front-line services to have strong awareness of the range of offending included under Modern Slavery including that many victims and perpetrators of Domestic Servitude and Forced Labour offences in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent are British. Safety Partnerships should remain engaged with Staffordshire Police and the Police Knowledge Hub in order to become aware of any shifts or emerging changes in Modern Slavery.*

### Fire and Fire Risks:

#### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Support partners in front-line services to be able to recognise fire-risk in homes and recognise where factors are present that have links to disproportionate levels of fire-related casualties. Partners should make appropriate referrals to Fire and Rescue, or provide appropriate information, advice and support to individuals to reduce risk. This should also extend to partners who engage with businesses and the agricultural community.*

### Business Crime:

**[NEW]** Preliminary findings from Staffordshire Commissioner's Office report on Business Crime suggests that there may be a need for greater engagement with smaller businesses in partnership areas, in order to better understand their needs and how they are impacted by crime.

#### **Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:**

*Continue to engage with Business Crime Advisors at the Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce as appropriate. Engage with the development and delivery of pan-Staffordshire Business Crime strategy.*

## Appendix C: Methodology

The prioritisation setting process for 2020-21 has taken account of existing priorities, analysis, reporting and intelligence to identify any shift in, or emerging key priorities - validated through conversations with individual CSP leads.

Previous priorities have been identified through a review of existing strategic risk and threat assessments, analysis of locality data, local and force-wide intelligence, intelligence from appropriate partners and stakeholders and national bodies (such as Action Fraud).

## Appendix D: Data tables

Overall Crime: Ward-level count and rate, 2019-20 (wards where rate is above average)

| Ward Name  | Partnership Area | ALL CRIME | Arson and Criminal Damage          | Burglary | Drug Offences | Misc. Crimes Against Society | Possession of Weapons | Public Order Offences | Robbery              | Sexual Offences | Theft | Vehicle Offences | Violence against the Person |
|------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Castle     | Tamworth         | 198.7     | 15.2                               | 5.3      | 8.7           | 2.3                          | 1.9                   | 10.4                  | 2.9                  | 4.4             | 79.8  | 11.5             | 56.2                        |
| Belgrave   | Tamworth         | 70.4      | 7.4                                | 3.1      | 1.5           | 1.4                          | 0.8                   | 2.8                   | 0.6                  | 2.4             | 16.5  | 11.1             | 22.9                        |
| Bolehall   | Tamworth         | 63.4      | 6.4                                | 4.8      | 1.4           | 0.9                          | 0.4                   | 2.7                   | 0.9                  | 1.8             | 13.5  | 6.2              | 24.2                        |
| Spital     | Tamworth         | 61.9      | 6.7                                | 2.6      | 0.7           | 1.2                          | 0.7                   | 2.3                   | 0.3                  | 2.2             | 18.5  | 4.8              | 22.0                        |
| Glascote   | Tamworth         | 59.9      | 7.5                                | 1.4      | 1.8           | 0.9                          | 0.4                   | 2.8                   | 1.7                  | 1.4             | 7.4   | 6.0              | 28.5                        |
| Stonydelph | Tamworth         | 57.7      | 6.2                                | 3.8      | 1.3           | 0.4                          | 0.7                   | 3.0                   | 0.5                  | 1.3             | 9.5   | 6.3              | 24.6                        |
| Amington   | Tamworth         | 51.3      | 7.9                                | 3.9      | 0.9           | 0.7                          | 0.1                   | 2.4                   | 0.5                  | 1.3             | 3.9   | 6.8              | 22.5                        |
| Wilnecote  | Tamworth         | 48.6      | 7.0                                | 5.3      | 1.0           | 0.7                          | 0.4                   | 3.9                   | 0.2                  | 0.9             | 4.1   | 7.2              | 18.0                        |
| Mercian    | Tamworth         | 43.5      | 5.0                                | 3.1      | 1.5           | 1.0                          | 0.6                   | 1.9                   | 0.1                  | 1.8             | 3.9   | 5.1              | 19.4                        |
| Trinity    | Tamworth         | 42.3      | 1.5                                | 2.6      | 0.4           | 0.6                          | 0.0                   | 1.9                   | 0.0                  | 0.7             | 16.0  | 5.8              | 12.7                        |
| <b>Key</b> |                  |           | <b>Significantly above average</b> |          |               |                              |                       |                       | <b>Above average</b> |                 |       |                  |                             |

## Appendix E: Mosaic Groups (Source: Experian Mosaic, Grand Index v3.00)

| Group/Type | Group/Type Name     | One-Line Description  |
|------------|---------------------|---|
| A          | Country Living      | Well-off owners in rural locations enjoying the benefits of country life          |
| B          | Prestige Positions  | Established families in large detached homes living upmarket lifestyles           |
| C          | City Prosperity     | High status city dwellers in central locations pursuing careers with high rewards |
| D          | Domestic Success    | Thriving families who are busy bringing up children and following careers         |
| E          | Suburban Stability  | Mature suburban owners living settled lives in mid-range housing                  |
| F          | Senior Security     | Elderly people with assets who are enjoying a comfortable retirement              |
| G          | Rural Reality       | Householders living in less expensive homes in village communities                |
| H          | Aspiring Homemakers | Younger households settling down in housing priced within their means             |
| I          | Urban Cohesion      | Residents of settled urban communities with a strong sense of identity            |
| J          | Rental Hubs         | Educated young people privately renting in urban neighbourhoods                   |
| K          | Modest Traditions   | Mature homeowners of value homes enjoying stable lifestyles                       |
| L          | Transient Renters   | Single people renting low cost homes for the short term                           |
| M          | Family Basics       | Families with limited resources who budget to make ends meet                      |
| N          | Vintage Value       | Elderly people with limited pension income, mostly living alone                   |
| O          | Municipal Tenants   | Urban residents renting high density housing from social landlords                |

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THURSDAY, 25 MARCH 2021

**REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR REGULATORY & COMMUNITY SAFETY****CIL Spending****Exempt Information**

None.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee on the recommendations that will be put before Cabinet on 08 April in relation to the spending of Community Infrastructure Levy income.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

1. 5% of CIL income up to 30 July 2021 be retained by the Council and applied to administrative expenses associated with CIL;
2. 5% of CIL income per year from 01 August 2021 onwards be retained by the Council and applied to administrative expenses associated with CIL;
3. The Council retain the strategic element and allocate the funds to one or more infrastructure projects in the Borough;
4. Regeneration projects within Tamworth be set as the priority for spending the strategic element of CIL;

**Executive Summary**

The Council adopted the Community Infrastructure Levy at the Council meeting held on 17 July 2018 and it came into effect on 01 August 2018. Up to 31 January 2021 approximately £233,500 has been collected but there is currently no mechanism in place for spending the money. At the Council meeting in July 2018 it was resolved that a report covering the governance arrangements for CIL spending would be submitted to Cabinet. This report therefore seeks Cabinet approval for part of the proposed mechanism for spending the different elements of CIL in accordance with the relevant regulations and guidance.

The report recommends that the Council retain the maximum 5% of CIL receipts to cover the costs associated with the administration of CIL for the first three years and for each subsequent year that CIL is in effect. It is further recommended that regeneration projects within Tamworth be set as the priority on which the 80% strategic proportion of CIL will be spent. It should be noted that the remaining 15% for neighbourhood spending was approved by Cabinet on 18 February 2021.

**Options Considered**

Alternative options were considered for each element as follows.

Admin 5%

The Council could choose not to retain any of the CIL income or retain a lower proportion than 5% with the remaining income being spent on the strategic priorities. The benefit of this would be that additional money would be available to spend on strategic priorities, however there are a number of costs associated with adopting and ongoing administration of CIL. For example, the cost of the public examination required prior to adoption was approximately £17,500, and the cost of the initial setup of the exacom administration software was also £17,500 with an annual maintenance cost of £6,000 per year.

The costs of administering CIL are therefore not insignificant and would likely exceed 5% of CIL income on an annual basis. It is therefore considered that, while the provision exists in the regulations for the Council to recover some of those costs, retaining the full 5% would be the most appropriate option.

### Strategic 80%

An alternative option for the 80% strategic portion of CIL would be to allow outside organisations, such as Staffordshire County Council or the NHS, to bid for funding towards their own infrastructure projects. As part of an open bidding process organisations could apply for funds and bids could be assessed for strategic fit with Council priorities.

This option could reduce the risk of project delivery on the Council and funding could potentially be split and directed at several priority projects in the borough. With this option, however, it was felt that the Council would not have enough control over project delivery, contributing to a number of smaller projects may dilute the strategic effect that this portion is trying to achieve and it could be difficult to keep track of spending for the purposes of the Infrastructure Funding Statement which the Council is required to publish annually.

On balance this option was considered to be less preferable than the Council retaining the funds and determining what projects to contribute towards.

### **Resource Implications**

The Council is able to retain 5% of the total CIL income from the first three years of adoption (01 August 2018 to 30 September 2021) to be applied to administrative expenses incurred before CIL was adopted and during that three year period. From year four (01 August 2021 to 30 September 2022) onwards, the Council may retain 5% of the CIL collected during that year to be applied to administrative expenses incurred during that year only.

CIL income received to 31 January 2021 amounts to £233,583.24. Retaining the full 5% of CIL income would equate to £11,679.21 of income for the Council to reimburse costs already incurred in connection with CIL. There are no additional resource implications associated with this element of CIL income.

There are no anticipated resource implications associated with the strategic element of CIL beyond the officer time required to administer the process.

### **Legal/Risk Implications Background**

The relevant legal basis for the collecting and spending of CIL is the Planning Act 2008 (the act) and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the regulations).



The regulations allow a charging authority (in this case the Council) to apply CIL to administrative expenses incurred by it in connection with CIL. The regulations state:

*(a) in years one to three, the total amount of CIL that may be applied to administrative expenses incurred during those three years, and any expenses incurred before the charging schedule was published, shall not exceed five per cent of CIL collected over the period of years one to three;*

*(b) in year four, and each subsequent year, the total amount of CIL that may be applied to administrative expenses incurred during that year shall not exceed five per cent of CIL collected in that year.*

The proposed approach of applying 5% of CIL received towards the cost of the examination in public and the setting up of the administration software would therefore be in accordance with the regulations, as would applying 5% of CIL received in any subsequent year to the ongoing cost of administration, including the annual maintenance cost of the software. This approach would therefore not expose the Council to any significant risk.

As regards the strategic element, the regulations state that a charging authority must apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area and the act sets out the types of infrastructure to which this element of CIL can be applied. These are:

- (a) roads and other transport facilities,*
- (b) flood defences,*
- (c) schools and other educational facilities,*
- (d) medical facilities,*
- (e) sporting and recreational facilities,*
- (f) open spaces*

At this point, no specific projects have been identified on which to spend the strategic element of CIL. Any project within the proposed broad strategic priority of regeneration would need to fit within one of the categories listed above in order to comply with the regulations.

### **Equalities Implications**

None.

### **Sustainability Implications**

The proposals set out relate to the delivery of infrastructure to support the sustainable development of Tamworth in line with the objectives of the Local Plan. There are no additional sustainability implications as a result of the proposals set out in this report.

### **Background Information**

In 2019 the CIL regulations were amended to include a requirement for councils to produce an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement in order to give communities a better understanding of how developer contributions have been used to deliver infrastructure in their area. The statement should include details of the money received through s106 and CIL during the previous financial year and information on what projects that money has been allocated to and/or spent on. The statement should also set out the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure that the authority intends to fund wholly or partly through CIL.

Before the 2019 amendments to the CIL regulations the starting point for any strategic spending priorities would be the 'Regulation 123 list'. This list was intended to set out the projects that would be funded in whole or in part by CIL and additional contributions could not be collected towards items on the list through s106 obligations.

The list was adopted in 2018 along with CIL and was distilled down from infrastructure projects in the Local Plan (please see appendix 1 attached). The total estimated cost of those projects far exceeds what we can realistically expect to receive from CIL, and there was never a process put in place for prioritising those projects.

The 2019 amendments to the CIL regulations removed the restrictions on pooling contributions from s106 and CIL and therefore removed the requirement for a 'Regulation 123 list'. CIL money can now be pooled with other planning obligations, including those received through s106 agreements.

It is up to the council to decide what strategic infrastructure project(s) to spend the 80% of CIL receipts on and this now has to be published annually as part of the Infrastructure Funding Statement. Application of the strategic infrastructure element is however restricted to the following types of infrastructure:

- (a) roads and other transport facilities,*
- (b) flood defences,*
- (c) schools and other educational facilities,*
- (d) medical facilities,*
- (e) sporting and recreational facilities,*
- (f) open spaces*

The regulations also place on charging authorities a duty to pass a proportion of CIL income to local councils, being parish or town councils. Where there are no such councils, as is the case for Tamworth, the regulations state that the charging authority may use (or cause to be used) the CIL which would otherwise have been passed to a local council to support the development of the relevant area by funding:

- (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or*
- (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.*

'Relevant area' is defined in the regulations as *that part of the charging authority's area that is not with the area of a local council* which, in the case of Tamworth, is the whole of the borough.

National Planning Practice Guidance states "*if there is no parish or town council, the charging authority will retain the levy receipts but should engage with the communities where development has taken place and agree with them how best to spend the neighbourhood funding.*" Charging authorities should use existing community consultation and engagement processes (e.g. using networks that ward

councillors use). Crucially this consultation should be at the neighbourhood level. It should be proportionate to the level of levy receipts and the scale of the proposed development to which the neighbourhood funding relates.

As a result of there being no local councils in Tamworth, the Council must determine where and what the money is spent on along with the appropriate mechanism for distributing the money and other governance arrangements.

At the Cabinet meeting of 18 February 2021 it was resolved that £35,000 (forming the 15% community element at the time of the meeting) would be released to form a budget in 2021/22 for Cabinet to allocate on a neighbourhood project basis. There are therefore no recommendations relating to the community element included in this report. However, it should be noted that any spending of the community element should be in accordance with the requirements set out above and must be recorded in the annual Infrastructure Funding Statement.

The priorities for CIL spending can be amended at any time to reflect the changing infrastructure priorities of the Borough Council. A review will be undertaken on an annual basis to keep the priorities up to date when reporting on them in the Infrastructure Funding Statement. In addition the neighbourhood portion of CIL spend from April 2022 will require further consideration.

#### **Report Author**

Corinne O'Hare – Planning Policy and Delivery Officer

Richard Powell – Planning Policy and Delivery Officer

#### **List of Background Papers**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Heritage and Growth – Community Infrastructure Levy – Council meeting - 17 July 2018

Minute of the meeting of Cabinet – 18 February 2021

#### **Appendices**

Appendix A - Tamworth Borough Council Regulation 123 List.

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**Tamworth Borough Council  
Regulation 123 List  
August 2018**

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## **Introduction**

### **What is the Community Infrastructure Levy?**

- 1.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge on development, calculated on a £ per square metre (£/sqm) basis. CIL income is used to help fund infrastructure to support the development of an area rather than making an individual planning application acceptable in planning terms, which is the purpose of Section 106 Agreements.

### **What is this document?**

- 1.2 CIL income from new development can be spent on anything that constitutes “infrastructure” as defined by Regulation 216 of the 2008 Planning Act and the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended). This includes infrastructure items such as (but not limited to): roads and other forms of transport, flood defences, open spaces and green infrastructure, medical facilities, sporting and recreational facilities and schools. Regulation 123 of the CIL Regulations (as amended) sets out the need for the charging authority (local authority) to produce a list of “relevant infrastructure” which will be funded in whole or part by CIL.
- 1.3 The Regulation 123 list in Tamworth Borough had been compiled from the latest Infrastructure Delivery Plan (<http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/local-plan>), which is a document that infrastructure delivery partners in the Borough have contributed to, based on development outlined in the Tamworth Local Plan 2006-2031. The IDP provides further details about the overall infrastructure requirements including other sources of funding such as Section 106, external grant funding etc.
- 1.4 CIL regulations 2010 (as amended) restricts the use of planning obligations secured through Section 106 Agreements for infrastructure that will be funded in whole or part by CIL. This is to ensure that there is no duplication or “double dipping” between CIL and planning obligations in funding the same infrastructure projects. More information can be found on the Tamworth Borough Council website ([www.tamworth.gov.uk/CIL](http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/CIL)) and in our Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (<http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents>).
- 1.5 The list below sets out those infrastructure projects that Tamworth Borough Council currently intends may be wholly or partly funded by CIL together with explanatory notes. The order in the table does not imply any order of preference for spend. The list will be updated on a regular basis, taking into account the Council’s Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and any changes to the CIL regulations.

## ***Regulation 123 List***

|   |
|---|
| Canoe Trail   |
| Access improvements to blue infrastructure  |
| Footpath/cycleway Orkney Drive to Glascote Lane   |
| Footpath connection Tame village-Peel heights   |
| Corporation Street/Church Street – sustainable transport and public realm enhancements - Gateways project phase 3 |
| Tamworth Rail Station – Gateways project phase 4  |
| Multi-Purpose Community Use Leisure Centre  |
| Multi use play area, west analysis area   |
| New skate park  |
| Enhancement of TBC owned existing sports facilities   |
| Castle Grounds Play Area refurbishment  |
| Refurbishment and enhancement of strategic TBC owned recreation and play areas                                    |
| Three circular walking routes through Tamworth  |
| Broadmeadow cycleway/footbridge   |
| Environment and public realm improvements to Wilnecote Regeneration Corridor                                      |



## Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Work Plan

| <b>Work Plan 2020 - 2021</b>       |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>DATE</b>                        | <b>SUBJECT</b>   |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | Crime Figures for Tamworth and Community safety                            |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | Modern Slavery   |
| <b>25 March 2021</b>               | CIL Spending   |
| <b>Quarterly updates</b>           | Future High Street Fund (Growth) – Quarterly updates – starting March 2021 |
| <b>June / July 2021</b>            | Consideration of State of Tamworth Debate items                            |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | EV Charging update   |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | Business Crime Reduction Partnership Update                                |
| <b>xxx 2021</b>                    | E-Scouters and E-Bikes   |
| <b>September 2021</b>              | CCTV update  |
| <b>Sept / Oct 2021</b>             | Kettlebrook and Bolehall Public Space Protection Orders                    |
| <b>xxx 2022</b>                    | Review of Taxi Licensing Policy – Points System                            |
| <b>When clarity on legislation</b> | Fire Safety Update   |

| <b>Working Groups</b> |                            |   |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Topic</b>          | <b>Possible WG Members</b> | <b>Target IS&amp;G Com meeting date</b> |
| ICT Strategy          | SG, PS                     |   |
| Fireworks             | Open to all                | June 2021                               |
| Events                | SP, RB, AF, PB, SG         |   |

| <b>Upcoming Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee Meetings</b> |
|---|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2021   |

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**THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

**REPORT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH SCRUTINY CHAIR**

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None.

**PURPOSE**

The attached draft Chair's Annual Report of the Committee has been prepared and is circulated for comment by the Committee prior to presentation to full Council in the next municipal year. The attached draft report is intended to formally update Council on the activities of the Committee over the year 2020/21.

The attached draft report will be updated following the final meeting of this Committee.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee consider the contents of the draft Report.

**REPORT AUTHOR**

Chair of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee – Councillor S Goodall

**APPENDICES**

Draft Annual Report of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee – 2020/21

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# Council

XXX 2021

## Report of the Chair

### Annual Report of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee

#### Exempt Information

None.

#### Purpose

To provide full Council with an overview of the work and activities undertaken by the Infrastructure Safety & Growth (IS&G) Scrutiny Committee during the year 2020/21. The draft Annual Report was received by the Committee at its final meeting in the last municipal year and any updates agreed by the Chair following that meeting.

#### Executive Summary

This report covers the following:

- Chair's Overview
- Working Groups
- Recommendations made in the year to Cabinet
- Committee Terms of Reference
- Membership and Attendance
- Training & Effectiveness
- Work Plan
- Resource implications

#### Recommendations

Council is requested to:

- Note the Annual Report of the Committee;

#### Chair's Overview

This year, as result of the COVID-19 pandemic, has seen all the Committee's meetings move to online (remote) meetings. To accommodate this, careful consideration has been given to agenda content for each meeting and to the scheduling of additional meetings where necessary.

The Committee met six times in the 2020/21 municipal year. One meeting (13<sup>th</sup> October 2020) was cancelled, however, an additional meeting was then scheduled in February 2021 to manage the number of agenda items to be considered in the early part of 2021.

In terms of the work of the Committee during 2020/21 municipal year, this has included:

#### 1. Policy Development and /or Review

This is where the Committee has contributed to the Council's policy development processes and / or where the Committee has considered the implementation of policies and feeding back scrutiny views to Cabinet.

The Committee has reviewed, and (in some cases) made Policy Development recommendations in the following areas:

(a) CCTV Service

Following consideration by the Committee of the planned modernisation of the future service delivery for CCTV in the previous municipal year, at its February 2021 meeting the Committee received a post implementation review. A presentation was received from the Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community Safety, the Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods, the Head of Housing Management & Neighbourhood Resilience and the Head of Safety, Security and Emergency Planning at West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). The Committee sought and received clarification in several areas including:

1. Partnership working with the police in respect of the implementation and ongoing delivery of the CCTV service as a tool for the police and the funding of digital access for the police;
2. The local knowledge of the CCTV operators;
3. The extent of cross border collaboration;
4. Location of cameras and Quality assurance / accreditation;
5. Deployable cameras; and
6. Working with other partners, including the police and county council.

(b) Electric Vehicle Charging

This item had also been considered in the previous municipal year and recommendations at that time had been made to Cabinet. The Committee had been scheduled to receive an update on progress at its 31 March 2020 meeting, which was cancelled.

This item was considered at the first meeting in the 2020/21 municipal year including receipt of a report providing on update on progress. The Committee discussed various aspects of the project including the work being undertaken at Staffordshire County Council and requested that further information was sought from other district and borough councils who had started their journey to support electric vehicle charging points.

The Committee made five recommendations to Cabinet.

(c) Castle Update

The Committee received an update on the Castle review, following several updates over previous years. It was reported that an external and more commercial view of the opportunities for the Castle had been undertaken. The key findings of the review and the next steps required were presented. The Committee endorsed the work undertaken and made a further recommendation to Cabinet to defer its consideration of the Castle Review until the relevant financials (including cost / benefit analysis) were available.

(d) Future Provision of the Dry Recycling Service – Update and Preliminary Options Appraisal

At its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Committee received a report on the Future Provision of the Dry Re-cycling Services from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Culture, the Chief Executive and the General Manager of the Waste Management Service. The update covered the current position on waste management, including the market for processing dry mixed recycling which had shifted dramatically, and presented some of the emerging options (together with risks and benefits) for the future provision of the dry recycling service. The Committee sought further clarifications including in respect of:

1. The extent of the competition in the market and the market for dry recycling;
2. Optionality in the framework contract; and
3. The split of dry recycling waste.

The Committee supported the drafting of a letter to encourage urgency in the decision making process related to the National Resource and Waste Strategy.

## **2. Monitoring (scrutiny)**

This is where the Committee has undertaken monitoring of the Council's performance and progress.

In particular the Terms of Reference for this Committee set out the specific areas for scrutiny which include:

To provide effective scrutiny of the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities and external providers in securing the primary outcome of creating a safe and sustaining thriving local economy and making Tamworth a more aspirational and competitive place to do business, with a focus on:

- Infrastructure
- Education
- Employment/Inward Investment
- Town Centre
- Open Space and Play
- Public Space Protection Orders

Statutory Crime and Disorder obligation; the Committee shall act as the Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and may co-opt additional members subject to the Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

To undertake such other scrutiny activities, relevant to the committee's scope, as may be required in relation to the performance of the Council, governance, financial management and discharge of statutory functions.

At each meeting the Committee received and considered the Forward Plan to assist in its identification of whether there are any forthcoming key decisions which the Committee determined that it would scrutinise, either pre decision or post decision.

Examples of areas which were identified for the Committee's scrutiny as a result of regular Forward Plan consideration were; ICT Strategy, CIL Spending and Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking statement.

Over the year 2020/21, areas scrutinised included:

(a) Community Safety Plan and Tamworth Police Update

The Committee considered the draft 2020-2023 Community Safety Partnership Plan and received a Police and Partnership Update from the Tamworth NPT Police Commander at its July 2020 meeting. The Tamworth Police Update had been deferred from the cancelled March 2020 meeting.

The presentation from the Tamworth NPT Commander focussed on policing areas which contributed to the priorities in the Community Safety Plan, as well as recent activities related to COVID-19 and the BLM protests.

Following consideration of the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2020-2023, the Committee recommended to Cabinet that it endorse the plan.

At the March 2021 meeting the Committee received:

- An update on the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan, which included an update on Modern Slavery and human trafficking; and
- A further Tamworth Police Update from the NPT Police Commander.

(b) Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

Under the Council's PSPO process, the Committee is required to consider consultation evidence received as part of any proposal to introduce or renew a PSPO, and if appropriate endorse the order prior to the Portfolio Holder using his delegated powers to approve it. During the year 2020/2021 this Committee considered and endorsed for adoption the renewal of two PSPOs; Tamworth Dog Control and Alcohol Control in Public Space.

(c) ICT Strategy Briefing

The Committee received an update on the ICT Strategy, which set out the IT vision, principles and strategic themes. At the point that this was considered by the Committee in September, this strategy was a working document. A working group of two members was formed which received further updates on the strategy as it developed and before it was due to be presented to Cabinet in April 2021 for approval.

(d) Matters referred from Cabinet or Council (Fireworks Motion)

Following receipt of a motion from members, full Council referred two recommendations to the Committee for their consideration, and the Committee agreed to form a working group to progress this item.

(e) CIL Spending



At its meeting in March 2021, an update was received from the Assistant Director, Growth & Regeneration, prior to consideration of a report by Cabinet at its meeting on 8 April 2021.

(f) Future High Street Fund

In the 2019/2020 municipal year, this Committee had actively reviewed the Future High Street Fund work prior to submission of the Outline Business Case to Government. At its meeting in March 2021, the Committee received an update from the Portfolio Holder.

3. **Call-in**

This is where a decision of the Executive has been called in to be considered by a scrutiny committee, after a Cabinet decision has been made but ahead of its implementation, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

No decisions have been called in to date.

**Working Groups**

Several working groups had been formed during the year, and some could continue into the next calendar year. The Groups formed were:

| <b>Working Groups</b> |                            |   |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Topic</b>          | <b>Possible WG Members</b> | <b>Target IS&amp;G Com meeting date</b> |
| ICT Strategy          | SG, PS                     |   |
| Fireworks             | Open to all                | June 2021                               |
| Events                | SP, RB, AF, PB, SG         |   |

**Recommendations made to and Responses received from Cabinet**

Recommendations were made to Cabinet on the following Reports and Cabinet's response is highlighted:

| <b>Scrutiny meeting item</b>  | <b>Cabinet Response</b>  |
|---|--|
| Electric Vehicle Charging recommendations – 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 meeting | At the Cabinet meeting on 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020, it was resolved that Cabinet: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Chose operating Model 2</li> <li>2 Agreed a further marketing exercise to secure a supplier / operator is carried out with Council Officers given delegated authority to offer financial incentives in the form of low rental value and / or a financial contribution towards the capital cost</li> <li>3 Agreed to a private sector</li> </ol> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>location on the Ventura retail parks is investigated</p> <p><b>4</b> Agreed an Action Plan is developed that focuses on new on-street fast charging sites and on-street residential charging sites</p> <p><b>5</b> Agreed that Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is installed in the borough by the end of the municipal year 2020/21 as a target date.</p> |
| Community Safety Plan 2020-23 – 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 meeting | At the Cabinet meeting on 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020, it was resolved that Cabinet endorsed the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2020-2023 for publication.   |
| Castle Update – 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 meeting            | At the Cabinet meeting on 3 December 2020 Cabinet resolved that consideration of the Castle Review report be deferred from 17 December 2020 meeting to a later meeting of Cabinet to allow the report to be considered by Cabinet to include relevant financials (including cost / benefit analysis).   |
|   |   |

### Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee Terms of Reference are set out in Article 6 in the Constitution which can be accessed [here](#).

The Primary Scope, the General Role and the Specific functions detailed in the Constitution have been largely achieved through the Committee's work this year.

### Members and Members Attendance

The following sets out the membership and attendance of members at the 6 Committee meetings during 2020/21.

Please note that the Councillor R Kingston retired from the Committee in July and Councillor P Standen joined the Committee at that point and therefore their attendances are recorded out of the number of meetings they were eligible to attend.

| Member                    | Number of meetings attended |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Simon Goodall (Chair)     | x out of 6                  |
| Alex Farrell (Vice-Chair) | x out of 6                  |

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Marie Bailey                | x out of 6 |
| Robert Bilcliff             | x out of 6 |
| Paul Brindley               | x out of 6 |
| Tina Clements               | x out of 6 |
| Richard Kingston (out of 1) | 1 out of 1 |
| Patrick Standen (out of 5)  | x out of 5 |
| Simon Peuple                | x out of 6 |
| Peter Thurgood              | x out of 6 |

### **Training and Effectiveness**

A Chairs and Vice-Chairs online training session was held in early June 2020. This training was provided by an external provider and focussed on chairing skills generally and, more particularly, chairing remote (online) meetings.

In early November 2020, a Successful Scrutiny online training session was held. This was led by a different external provider and the workshop was designed to bring together scrutiny councillors, cabinet members, other members and senior officers to consider how to ensure scrutiny is successful and effective in Tamworth. It provided an overview of key aspects of successful scrutiny, including clarifying purpose and roles, understanding critical processes such as developing a strategic direction, prioritising a work programme and ensuring impact.

### **Work Plan - Items identified for next municipal year**

The existing Committee Work Plan is appended as Appendix 1.

Please note that it is expected that the activities of the Committee may be impacted by the ongoing COVID19 pandemic.

### **Resource Implications**

None identified.

### **Report Author**

Councillor S Goodall  
Chair of the IS&G Scrutiny Committee

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Committee’s Work Plan

**Appendix 1 – Committee’s Work Plan**

*To be included following the final Committee meeting.*

DRAFT