



Borough of Tamworth

Marmion House,
Lichfield Street, Tamworth,
Staffordshire B79 7BZ.

Enquiries: 01827 709 709
Facsimile: 01827 709 271

**INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

25 February 2025

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee will be held in **Town Hall, Market Street, Tamworth on Wednesday, 5th March, 2025 at 6.00 pm.** Members of the Committee are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. C. V.'.

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

NON CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 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.

3 Update from the Chair

To receive an update from the Chair

4 Responses to Reports of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Committee

Update on responses received to Reports of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Committee:

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

(Discussion item)

6 Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Update 2025 (Pages 5 - 40)

(Report of the Assistant Director, Partnerships)

7 Road Infrastructure Within Tamworth

8 Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 41 - 60)

(Report of the Chair of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee)

9 Joint Waste Service - Operations Performance Update (March 2025) (Pages 61 - 76)

(Report of the Operations Manager - Joint Waste Service)

10 Nature Declaration Briefing Paper (Pages 77 - 100)

(Report of the Deputy Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability, Recycling and Waste)

11 Working Group Updates

To receive updates from any Working Groups

12 Forward Plan

(Discussion item – link to Forward Plan is attached)

[Browse plans - Cabinet, 2024 :: Tamworth Borough Council](#)

13 Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Plan (Pages 101 - 106)

(Discussion item – to review the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Work Plan)

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. 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.

If a member of the public is particularly concerned about accidental filming, please contact a member of Democratic Services before selecting a seat

FAQs

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

To Councillors: M Couchman, L Wood, C Adams, M Bailey, L Clarke, M Clarke, J Oates, B Price and N Statham

This page is intentionally left blank

Wednesday, 5 March 2025

Report of the Assistant Director - Partnerships

Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan Update 2025

Exempt Information

N/A

Purpose

To consider the 2025 annual refresh of the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-2026, priorities, and action plan.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Endorse the 2025 annual refresh of the Community Safety plan and related actions.

Executive Summary

The Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-2026 is a three-year rolling plan which outlines how partners are going to collectively tackle community safety issues across Tamworth borough.

Cabinet endorsed the 3-year plan in 2023 and approved that the annual refresh and update be considered by IS&G Scrutiny Committee for endorsement and publication, with the full plan (2023-26) only requiring further Cabinet endorsement if there are significant changes to the priorities.

The IS&G Scrutiny Committee remain the agreed scrutiny under the Council's constitution for the Community Safety Partnership. This provides the opportunity for Scrutiny to continue to have more detailed oversight from Tamworth Police, the Assistant Director Partnerships, Portfolio Holder for Cooperative Council, Community Partnerships and ASB and the Staffordshire Commissioners Office on an agreed bi- annual basis.

The priorities re-set for 2024/5 were:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Community Cohesion (including preventing radicalisation, exploitation and hate crime)
- Domestic Abuse (including stalking and harassment)
- Drug Related Crime and Harm (including the prevention of exploitation of young people – County Lines)
- Public Place and Serious Violence (including Violence, Abuse and Intimidation of Women and Girls -VAIWG)
- Vehicle Crime
- Vulnerable Persons (the prevention of harm to persons at risk of criminal exploitation or becoming victims of crime)

The 2025 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.

Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2025

The assessment (executive summary attached at Appendix 1) has recommended some items that the CSP partners have considered to produce a work plan:

- Production of a data driven CSP Communications plan aimed to address the perception of crime and ASB and evidence successful work
- The inclusion of Road Safety as a priority and ongoing work with the Staffordshire Road Safety Partnership
- Understanding of the 'Honest Conversations' commissioned report to share learning and understand issues about community cohesion that may need a partnership approach
- Increase awareness of hate crime
- Promotion of Staffordshire Police's Let's Start Talking campaign
- Education and awareness around minimising vehicle crime
- Review and understand police crime data to understand offending and work in partnership to problem solve concerns
- Review and understand data related to violence against the person to (including domestic abuse/night time economy to determine future projects and work

Priorities for 2025/26 will be as follows:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and tackling perceptions
- Community Cohesion
- Domestic Abuse (including stalking and harassment)
- Drug Related Crime and Harm (including the prevention of exploitation of young people – County Lines)
- Public Place and Serious Violence (including Violence, Abuse and Intimidation of Women and Girls -VAIWG)
- **Road Safety****
- Vehicle Crime
- Vulnerable Persons (the prevention of harm to persons at risk of criminal exploitation or becoming victims of crime including prevent radicalisation, exploitation and hate crime)

*****Road safety now included as separate priority***

Future Plans

The CSP has worked to update the work plan for 2025/2026, recognising that a full plan refresh will be required in 2026.

All work streams continue to have a robust work plan (attached as Appendix 2) 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 aim to prevent issues escalating, reducing harm to individuals, and ensuring that they receive help and support as early as possible.

The Community Safety Plan will be continue to be overseen by the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership with oversight from the Better Together Strategic Partnership and scrutiny will remain with the Infrastructure Safety and Growth Committee.

The local plans are supported and informed hot-spot data and community surveys / concerns should be used to assist decision making concerning funding allocation by the Community Safety Strategic Assessment Refresh.

Commissioners Community Safety Fund

The Staffordshire Commissioners Office (SCO) confirmed that funding will remain in place for CSPs for 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026 and has been updated as the Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund (formerly Locality Deal Fund). This year, the Commissioner has also removed allocation for ASB and Hate Crime services (to be funded centrally) and combined previous grant of £10,000 ASB project funding.

The allocation for Tamworth for 205/26 will be £64,969 .

The Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund is to be used to address local crime and community safety priorities. The purpose of the fund is to:

- Prevent or reduce crime
- Prevent or reduce antisocial behaviour
- Increase public confidence
- Increase feelings of safety
- Increase knowledge of the CSP and ASB Case Reviews

This allocation will be for one year only with projects unable to be taken beyond 31 March 2026.

Fund criteria is attached as Appendix 3.

2024/2025 Community Safety Plan Update

Main supported projects outlined below: -

Project	Description	Funding pa until March 2025
ASB Youth Engagement Worker	In post 2023 working within the Staffordshire Youth Offending team	£30,000
Betterway Recovery	They are now delivering 4 support groups over 3 days per week including an evening group every Thursday from 5pm - 8pm with a support group 6pm - 7.15pm, which will be held at Offa house.	£10,000
Fun Club Hub	Tamworth club has gone from strength to strength they now have over 40 new members and held a Summer space scheme which was well attended. So far over 25 sessions, they have supported 372 Young People that have attended (NB: These may be the same young people attending the 25 sessions and not 372 individuals)	£10,000
Tamworth Street Angels	The group continue to provide support and assistance to the night time economy providing assistance to ensure safe passage home, flip	£1000

	flops, foil blankets and water. They are active members of the Responsible Bodies Group and have recently been awarded the Kings Award for Voluntary groups.	
Agreed partnership activity (multi agency)	Campaigns, promotional items, knife bins, school talks, ASB case system, Noise App	
WalkSafe App	Working with Tamworth Street Angels to allow people to plot safe routes home, safe places, where to alert street angels and how to find public transport	£5,350

In addition, projects which align with CSP priorities are or have been funded through UK Shared Prosperity and Covid Outbreak Management Fund:

PRIORITY - Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

Key headlines:

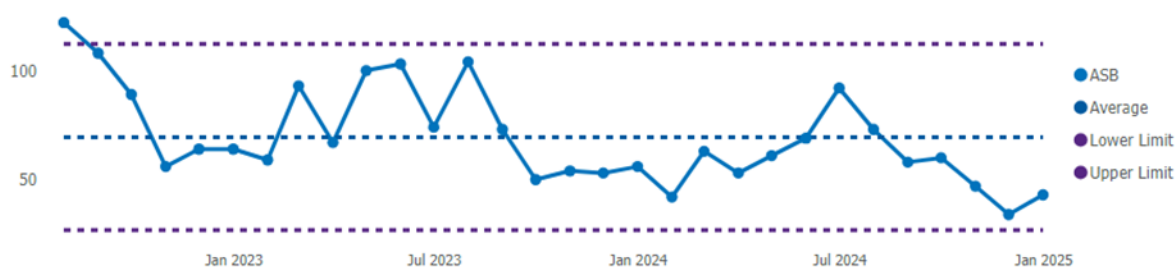
- ASB Case review process in place
- County wide training programme in place for police and council officers
- ASB recording module purchased linked to Assure project
- Fun Club Hub commissioning, youth diversionary activity all year
- Youth ASB Engagement Worker in post
- Staffordshire Commissioner’s Space positive summer diversionary activities <https://staffordshirespace.uk/> to prevent youth related ASB

SPACE 2024 Tamworth

- 704 young people engaged
- 1609 attendance
- 6339 Hours of engagement
- 5 providers
- Tamworth LPT saw an ongoing decrease of youth related ASB

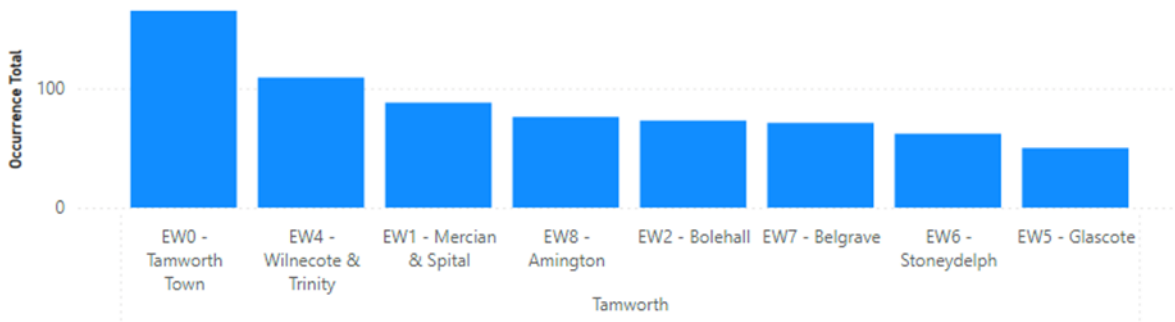
Police ASB

ASB SPC Chart

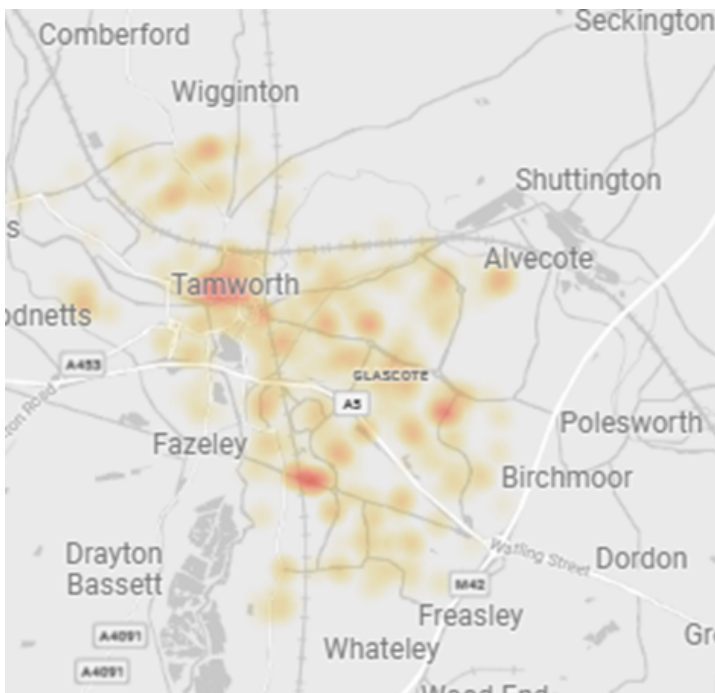


ASB continues to decline. Reduction of -22% over last 12 months

ASB Volumes by LPT, drill down to Neighbourhood Management and RIA



ASB splits across the Borough (past 12 months to February 2025) reflects expectation. A reasonable proportion of the Town Centre ASB will be Night Time Economy related (Tamworth town centre).



Partnership Enforcement (1 April 2024 to 31 January 2025):

Community Protection Notice Warnings	91
Community Protection Notices	26
CP Fixed penalties	9
Prosecutions	0
Litter fines issued	0
Flytip fines issued	1
Public Space Protection orders	0
Dispersal orders	0
Closure notices	0
Notice seeking possession (housing)	2
Injunctions	1 Youth & 2 Adult
Good Neighbour Agreements	11
Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)	Awaiting figures

CASE STUDY

Mrs Y was referred to TVP due to reports from carers of unsuitable housing conditions, including hoarding, rat infestation and unsanitary conditions. Working together, partners were able to ensure that the lady was removed into a more suitable care environment, her house was prohibited for human habitation and work continues to ensure that the property may be brought back into use moving forward to support ongoing care.

PRIORITY - Community Cohesion

- A robust partnership approach in the aftermath of civil unrest in August 2024 including community cohesion group established and community clean ups
- Community Recovery fund received and spend plan in place
- The Belong Network have undertaken an Honest Conversations project to produce a report for Tamworth around community cohesion and action plan (Cabinet 17th April 2025).
- Strategic approach to persons seeking asylum and dispersed accommodation with the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership and Staffordshire Migration Partnership
- Funding for wraparound asylum seeker support secured and projects commissioned
- Armed Forces covenant plan in place and award of Silver Employer Recognition award
- Prevent plan in place and full engagement with County Council
- Uniting Staffordshire Against Crimes of Hate (USAH) have undertaken training and updates for staff and councillors
- Toolbox talks continue with Streetscene staff to recognise extremist signs and symbols for reporting purposes
- UKSPF multi-cultural events at Heart of Tamworth
- Prevent training embedded as part of staff induction and job related enhanced training

PRIORITY - Domestic Abuse (including stalking and harassment)

- NEW ERA Domestic Abuse commissioned service through the Staffordshire Commissioners Office via
- Front line staff trained and updated
- Target hardening process in place
- Multi agency attendance at MARAC meetings
- Home office funding grant to Pathway to support out of hours support at Tamworth Refuge
- Domestic Abuse Communication group in place for joined up campaigns across the county.
- Tamworth Borough Council membership of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, with accreditation plan in place

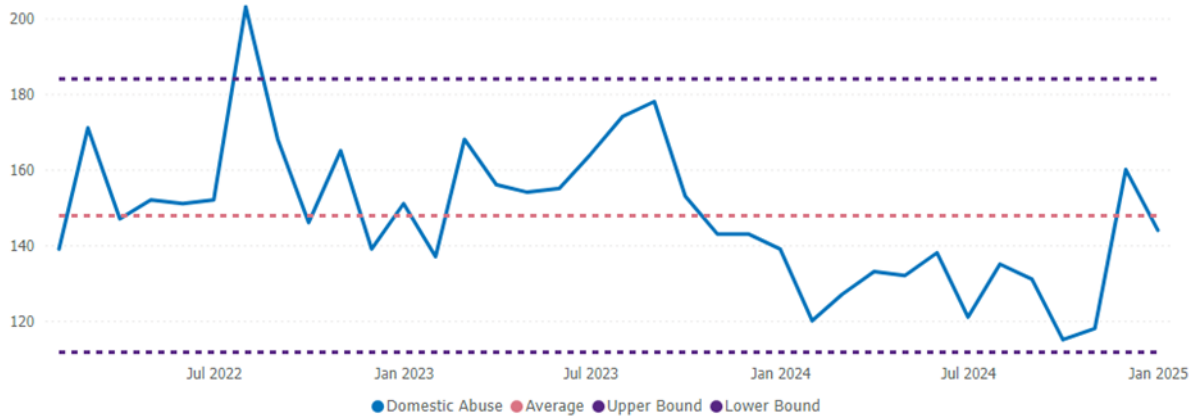
New Era Victim Service

The new contract arrangements for the New Era service commenced on 1st October 2023. Achievements of the last five-year period of the contract show 21,365 referrals and enquiries with 14807 individual supported in service. For Tamworth:

- Supported Victims 1392 9% of all supported
- Perpetrator Service 47 8% of all supported

The latest quarterly bulletin from New Era is enclosed as Appendix 4.

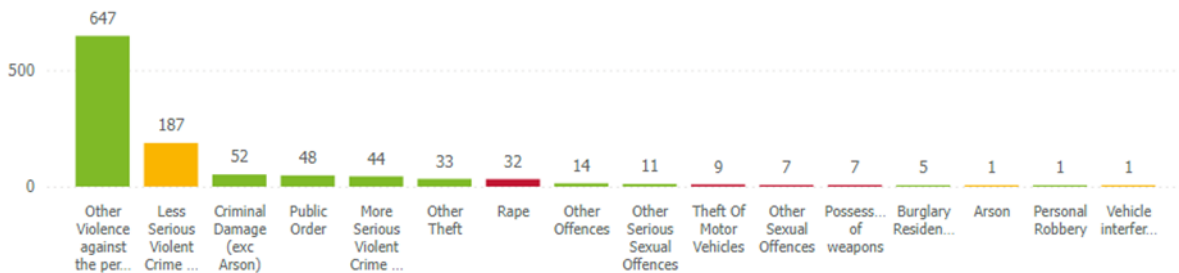
Police Reported Domestic Abuse



% Change in last 12 months to February 2025 = -16%

Overall this is a significant reduction in police reported domestic violence over 12 months

Crimes by Offence Group



Offence types –

Green = reduction

Amber = steady

Red = increase.

Categories where there is an increase, on the whole are not significant sample sizes. The increase in domestic-related rape and sexual offences is explained by our risk assessments supporting/promoting victims to report these offence types. The only statistical increases in Domestic violence are in red above.

PRIORITY Drug Related Crime and Harm (including the prevention of exploitation of young people – County Lines)

- Process for drug/substance issues in housing
- Information about support services in place
- Higher level police operations resulting in significant custodial and community impact
- Office of Police and Crime Commissioner commissioned services in schools (Catch 22)
- Attendance staff and County Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings
- Police school visits

CASE STUDY

Information around concerns about drug dealing were raised at residents' meetings and via local councillors which at the time had not been formally reported.

Working with PCSOs and housing teams requests were made to ensure that every concern was reported to obtain evidence for appropriate actions.

Subsequent work, evidence gathering and proactive use of enforcement has finally resulted in prosecution and eviction of family, giving wider reassurance to the community.

PRIORITY - Public Place and Serious Violence (including Violence, Abuse and Intimidation of Women and Girls -VAIWG)

- Serious Violence duty in place
- Responsible Bodies Group in place
- Joint licenced premises visits Council/Police
- Support for Street Angels
- Safer Nights multi-agency support projects – 2 events in 2024
- Ask Angela promoted in licenced premises
- Pubwatch scheme in place through PABCIS
- Knife crime awareness talks in 5 schools
- 3 knife bins in place across Tamworth
- Walksafe app to be rolled out

Police Data

Night time economy predictive graph: -10% total incidents.

Occurrence Volume Chart



Non-domestic-related Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) = -5%

Crime Volume SPC Chart

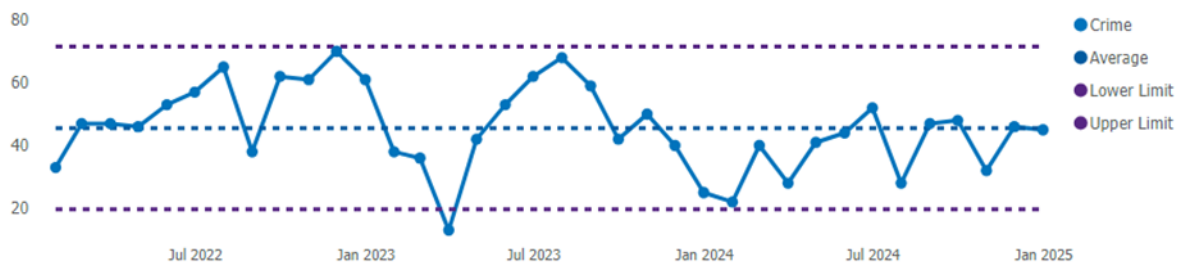


PRIORITY - Vehicle Crime

- Motorbike information and actions
- Community safety promotional items (including Faraday pouches)
- Nuisance Vehicle Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) renewed
- Successful arrests during the year
- Operation BORMUS – regional operations to deter and detect high value vehicle theft
- Police surgeries

Police Data Vehicle Crime (Including theft of, theft from and vehicle interference.

Crime Volume SPC Chart



Overall	-8%
Theft of MV	+13%
Theft from MV	-26%

There is a mixed picture, with an increase of vehicles being stolen against a reduction in theft from motor vehicle.

PRIORITY - Vulnerable Persons (the prevention of harm to persons at risk of criminal exploitation or becoming victims of crime)

- Tamworth Vulnerability Partnership has been reviewed and is the prime multi agency meeting for agencies to come together to problem solve persons at risks who require more intensive intervention. Weekly meetings continue to be held with good attendance from partners for effective actions and interventions.

April 2024 – January 2025 TVP cases

Reason for referral	Number
Housing	13
Anti Social Behaviour	0

Domestic abuse	1
Mental Health concern	4
Vulnerable person (multiple issues)	13
Community concerns	0
TOTAL	31

- Attendance at MACE panel
- Commissioning of FunClub Hub
- 8 formal interventions with young people
- Wellbeing Partnership engaged and meeting
- Prevent duty and plan in place and approved
- Support for Betterway Recovery
- Support continued for the Dementia Friendly Communities group and Dementia Action week activities planned and undertaken (13-19 May 2025)
- Social Value programme through EQUANS and Wates
- Homelessness Hub commissioned
- Tamworth Advice Centre (Debt and Generalist advice)
- Grant funding for Dilemma to support for families and friends of loved ones with gambling and other addiction
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Home First Risk Visits (Safe and Well) visits
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Safe and Sound week for Year 5/6 school pupils in Tamworth which included fire safety, water safety, what to do in an emergency, dementia friends and 'being a good citizen. <https://learnliveuk.com/safesound/>

Options Considered

None – a Community Safety Plan is a legal requirement to prevent crime and disorder.

Resource Implications

Work of the Community Safety Partnership is supported by the Partnerships team, Police, Fire, Staffordshire County Council and voluntary sector partners.

Funding to support Community Safety priorities is made (although not limited to):

- Commissioner's Community Safety Fund £64,969 per year – to March 2026
- VCSE grants - £1,000 grants per Councillor
- Spacehive Community Crowdfunding platform (Community cohesion) - £90,000 to March 2027
- HM Government Community Recovery Fund – £600,000 subject to final planned expenditure
- Tamworth Advice Centre (financial and debt support) - £82,000 (£20,000 Housing Solutions and £30,000 Housing support) & £9,000 outreach to March 2027
- UKSPF projects – £767,000 for 2025/26 with projects to be confirmed, however link to community safety priorities
- Asylum Dispersal Funding – to support integration and re-settlement of those seeking asylum

Legal/Risk Implications Background

All covered in the report

Equalities Implications

A full equality impact assessment is included as Appendix 5.

Report Author

Joanne Sands – Assistant Director Partnerships

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Executive Summary of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment

Appendix 2 - CSP draft workplan

Appendix 3 – OFPCC Community Safety Fund criteria

Appendix 4 – New Era Bulletin

Appendix 5 – Equality Impact Assessment

This page is intentionally left blank



Community Safety Strategic Assessment

Executive Summary

Tamworth Refresh Assessment

The Centre for Public Innovation

February 2025

The Centre for Public Innovation is a Community Interest Company that provides research, training, support and advice in the fields of health, social care, criminal justice and community development.

Our mission is to improve the outcomes of services for their users, with a particular emphasis on the most disadvantaged.

Executive Summary

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'.

It is a statutory obligation for CSPs to produce an annual localised Strategic Assessment providing a strategic evidence-base that identifies future priorities for the partnership and evaluates year-on-year activity.

This Strategic Assessment is being produced as a refresh assessment. The previous full assessment was undertaken and published in 2021/22.

Strategic context

The wider framework for addressing crime across Staffordshire is set by the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office. The Commissioner's priorities are:

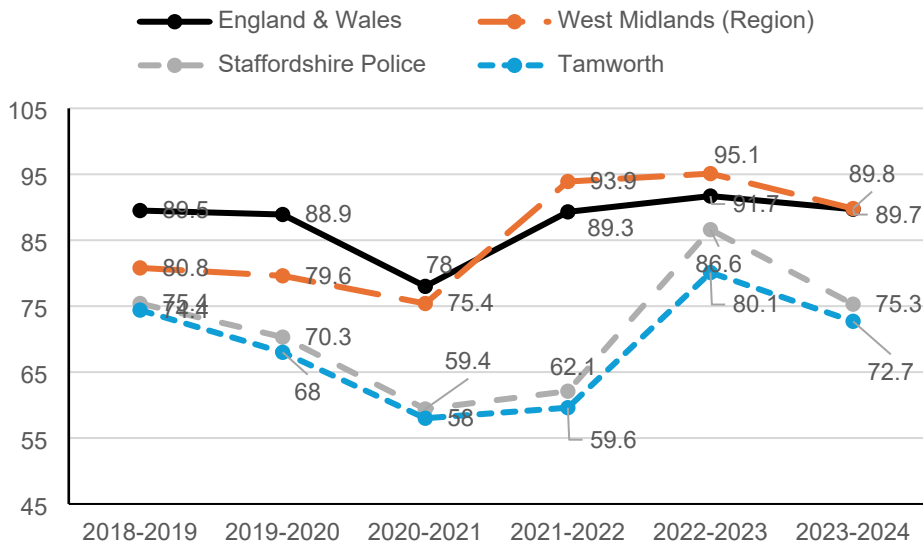
- An outstanding Police service,
- Supporting victims and witnesses,
- Preventing and protecting
- Impactful partnerships.

Staffordshire Police have also set a number of priorities which CSPs should seek to align with where appropriate:

- Ensure safe and confident communities,
- Develop an exceptional workforce,
- Develop active and productive partnerships,
- Build an outstanding organisation.

Overall crime in Tamworth

The key finding from this refresh assessment is that levels of crime are lower in the district and are lower than the rates for West Midlands and for England as a whole, even though it has the second highest crime rate in Staffordshire.



Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

Rates of ASB in Tamworth are some way **below the national average of 17 per 1,000** of population and slightly below the regional rate of 11 and the force rate of 12. **This rate is dropping with a fall of 28% between 2023-23 and 2023-24.**

There is a very clear hotspot of ASB in the district with a little under a quarter (23%) of ASB in Tamworth occurring in Tamworth Town. A wide range of initiatives have been put in place to address ASB across the district including diversionary activities, the use of engagement officers and positive working relationships with local housing/Neighbourhood Impact officers. However local residents still report being concerned about the issue with ASB being flagged as the top priority in the PCC's perception survey.

Specific crimes

The most prevalent crimes in Tamworth are:

- Violence Against the Person (32.6 incidents per 1,000 residents),
- Theft Offences (16.8),
- Stalking and Harassment (12.7),
- Vehicle Offences (6.4).

Local priorities

Violence against the person

This offence constitutes 45% of all offending locally and so – by some margin – is the most prevalent type of crime with a hotspot being Tamworth Town Centre where over a fifth (21%)

of these offences occur. Unlike most forms of crime in the district **rates of violence with injury are on the increase.**

Given the overall trend with regard to crime in Tamworth (i.e. that it is on a downward trajectory), the issue of violence is something of an outlier and therefore warrants further scrutiny.

Theft

The most common theft offences were vehicle offences and **shoplifting which make up over half (54)% of theft offences in Tamworth** however this form of crime is on the decline and **has experienced a 20% drop.**

Vehicle theft is down by 23% but is higher than the force area rate.

Shoplifting, while on a downward trajectory, are on a par with the force-wide rate of 5.3 per 1,000 with a clear hotspot in the town centre.

Domestic abuse

There is a strong link between domestic abuse, the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) agenda, and rates of violence locally thereby validating the decision by the CSP and local partners to prioritise this issue. There is merit in further analysis of violence and domestic abuse data to determine the extent to which local rates of violence are being driven by domestic abuse.

Community cohesion

We note the CSP is actively seeking to understand and address the underlying causes of local community tensions via its community cohesion group and research carried out with more marginalised communities. We believe that there is merit in sharing the findings of this work and the research with the PCC's office to see if there are messages and lessons that can be shared across Staffordshire more widely.

Road safety

There has been a **clear increase in road casualties** which have seen a steep rise since 2022. There would appear to be a need to explore the issue of road safety across the district to understand the rate of increase and whether there are specific causal factors that can be addressed or hotspots.

This page is intentionally left blank

TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNESHIP DELIVERY PLAN 2025-26

	Key Actions/Projects	Priority	Leads	Actions and Progress	Outcomes	RAG
1.	Work to produce a communications plan to improve public perception of community safety in Tamworth and promote prevention work	ALL	TBC	Quarterly CSP meetings in place Working groups established Data to be gathered and discussed at monthly	Improved perceptions	
2.	Implement a targeted and problem solving approach to Commissioners Community Safety Fund 2025/6	ALL	CSP board	To be discussed at April 2025 meeting Approval from OFPCC by 31 May 2025 Presented to Better Together in June 2025	Funding targeted to address key concerns	
3.	Deliver a range of local campaigns and seminars around ALL Community Safety priorities	ALL	Partnership team	Campaign calendar in place – links to Communication plan	Increase awareness of CSP and public perception	
4.	Work together to understand crime statistics and address concerns around offending	ASB/SV	TBC/Police	ASB Task group (monthly) to be developed ASB tactical group in place	Reduced crime statistics Improved perception	
5.	Delivery of ASB Awareness Week	ASB		Summer 2025	Improved perception	
6.	Data analysis of violence against person to determine local responses – domestic abuse and night time economy	DA/SV	Police	Quarterly CSP meeting	Targetted plans Improved perceptions	
7.	Develop a plan to roll out and promote the Walksafe app	ASB/SV/V AWG	Police/Partnership Support	ASB weekly meeting in place - Process to be reviewed weekly and intelligence led Central record of actions in place and ongoing. Problem solving approach	Improved perception of safety Increase awareness Community engagement	
8.	Data analysis of vehicle theft offences to determine local response to address	VC	Police	Police data to be analysed and appropriate partnership plans when required	Reduced thefts Improved perception	
9.	Develop a plan to understand stalking and harassment in Tamworth and promotion of Let's Start Talking campaign	DA/V AWG	Police/TBC	To be included in communication plan	Reduced incidents Improved perception Confidence to report	
10.	Develop a local approach to understanding domestic abuse incidents and causes	DA	Police	Domestic Abuse Task Group in place (monthly)	Increase reporting of DA Raised awareness	

TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNESHIP DELIVERY PLAN 2025-26

				Domestic Abuse communication group in place	Improvement in enforcement action	
11.	Achieve Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation	DA	TBC	Working with partners ongoing	Improved perceptions Prevention	
12.	Contribute to the community cohesion honest conversations work and develop an approach to this	CC	ALL	Honest Conversations report due April 2025 and action plan in place	Improved perceptions Increase in community confidence and cohesion	
13.	Implement a road safety working group to understand the emerging issues in Tamworth and appropriate action plan	RS	SFARS	Road Safety Task Group to meet quarterly Working with Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership Review of town centre parking order	Reduction in KSI Reduction in incidents Improved perception Town centre safety	
14.	Ensure a programme of Safer Nights events and operations are in place	SV/V AWG	TBC	Monthly licence premise inspections in place with EH and Police Quarterly Super Safer Nights to be planned through the Responsible Bodies Group Links to communication plan	Improved perception Reassurance Increase compliance Reduction in town centre bans	
15.	Ensure Tamworth BC, relevant businesses/licenced premises have relevant processes and policies for the introduction of the PROTECT duty (Martyns Law and PALS (publicly accessible locations))	SV	ALL	Working group in place - Government confirmed duty will be passed into law this Parliament session Attendance at County Protect and Prepare Board to understand implications Development of training plans for events/venue staff underway	Compliance with duty	

Priorities Key:-

ASB – Anti Social Behaviour
DA – Domestic Abuse
RS – Road Safety
V – Vulnerable People

CC – Community Cohesion
D – Drugs related crime
SV – Serious Violence
VC- Vehicle Crime



2025 – 26 Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund

The Staffordshire Commissioner is continuing to make funding available to local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) for the period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026. The fund will be known as the Community Safety Fund. Full details will be provided to the Chief Executive, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety within each CSP, along with Community Safety Officers, in advance of the new financial year.

Below please find details of key facts in relation to the award of this fund.

Community Safety Fund – Purpose

The Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund is to be used to address local crime and community safety priorities. The purpose of the fund is to:

- Prevent or reduce crime
- Prevent or reduce antisocial behaviour
- Increase public confidence
- Increase feelings of safety
- Increase knowledge of the CSP and ASB Case Reviews

CSP’s Strategic Needs Assessment, Local Community Safety Plan, the Police and Crime Plan, hot-spot data and community surveys / concerns should be used to assist decision making concerning funding allocation.

Community Safety Fund – Criteria

The fund can be used to support:

- Local multi-agency problem solving / tasking (a re-active funding pot up to a maximum of 15% of local fund)
- Awareness campaigns (combined across areas where advantageous – particularly where there are shared priorities or days / weeks of action etc)
- Place-based interventions
- Capital projects (not spanning more than one year)
- Associated posts/roles up to a maximum of £25,000 pa.
- Spend should be determined by the local CSP, supported by the local Community Safety Portfolio Lead and approved by the CSP

The fund cannot be used to support:

- Core council, police, fire, PCC, health or other statutory service business / responsibility (including overtime)
- Victim based support services
- Any service already being provided (avoid duplication)
- Speed Indicator Devices



All projects funded by the Commissioner’s Community Fund should be considered for positive publicity, with engagement on every occasion with the Commissioner’s Communication Team. This will help to deliver the purpose of the fund (emily.bladon-selsby@staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk).

Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund – Requirements and Timeline

By receiving the Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund, Local Authority Community Safety Officers agree to provide timely, the following information.

- Detail of proposed spend, in line with crime and community safety priorities and public reassurance as identified with the local Community Safety Strategic Assessment and the Local Community Safety Plan which should be passed to the SCO for consideration using Appendix A attached.
- On approval of spend of the full Commissioner’s Community Safety Fund allocation, an invoice should be submitted to the SCO for payment.
- By 31 December 2025, a forecast of total spend for the CSP for the year 2025 – 26 should be forwarded to the SCO using Appendix B attached.
- An evaluation of outcomes achieved from each of activities funded by the Commissioner’s Community Safety Grant should be forwarded to the SCO by 31 May 2026 using Appendix C attached.

Action	Deadline
Appendix A - CSP Spend Proposal Submission	30 April 2025
Appendix B - Forecast Spend Submission	31 December 2025
Appendix C - Evaluation Submission	31 May 2026
Appendix submissions to Helen Davies: helen.davies@staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk Invoice submission to Ellie Morgan: ellie.moran@staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk Comms Engagement with Emily Bladon-Selsby: emily.bladon-selsby@staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk	

New Era Domestic Abuse Services

IMPORTANT INFORMATION, PLEASE READ & DISTRIBUTE

Bulletin 006 – 31/12/24

'New Era' (www.new-era.uk) is the holistic Domestic Abuse (DA) service operating across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. Offering help and support to all those affected by domestic abuse across the area, it provides free and confidential support for victims, perpetrators and their families.

This information bulletin provides the following:

2023-2028

1. Quarter 4 summary data (July 2024 –Sept 2024);
2. Service User Feedback / Case Studies;
3. DA Training Opportunities

This approach to sharing DA related information began in 2018 and through the new service contracts, quarterly bulletins will continue to be produced and circulated.

Please read, digest and share information with all colleagues with an interest in or with work areas that support or align to the domestic abuse agenda across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

1. Quarter 4 summary data (July 2024 – Sept 2024)

Victims – Adults

Geography	Stoke-on-Trent City		Staffordshire County		Total pan Staffs	
	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date
Total New Referrals	601	2423	1222	4767	1823	7190
Supported	518	2187	910	1043	1561	6354

- All Victim referrals are triaged and any immediate needs of a service user are addressed;
- All Victim cases are reviewed and re-risk assessed every 4 weeks as a minimum;
- For group work activity, new service users may need to wait for the start of a new group work session as attendance at the first session is compulsory on all programmes.

Behaviour Change (Perpetrator Service) - Adults

Geography	Stoke-on-Trent City		Staffordshire County		Total pan Staffs	
	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date
Total New Referrals	66	312	69	245	135	557
Supported	48	220	60	160	108	380

- All voluntary Behaviour Change referrals are risk assessed;
- All Behaviour Change cases are reviewed re-risk assessed every 4 weeks as a minimum;
- For group work activity, referrals wait for the start of a new group work session as attendance at the first session is compulsory on all programmes;
- All Out of Court Disposal referrals are generated solely by Staffordshire Police.

Neutral Front Door – All Children

Geography	Stoke-on-Trent City		Staffordshire County		Total pan Staffs	
	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date
Total New Referrals	105	480	238	823	343	1303
Supported Victim Service	102	393	190	652	292	1045
Supported Behaviour Change (Perpetrator) Service	14	52	18	87	32	139

- New Era continues to engage children on a 121 basis, mainly within a school setting. Any partner assistance which can help New Era in securing timely access to work with a child, and to appropriate facilities at school is welcomed, noting challenges to maintain engagement during a school holiday period.

2. New Era Victim & Behaviour Change Services feedback / Case Studies

Victim Case study (Young Persons Violence Advocate YPVA service)

16-year-old M was referred to New Era through her parent (mum). M was assessed by the neutral front door triage team. M had a boyfriend, and her mum was concerned it was an unhealthy relationship; potentially abusive. M consented to our support and contact made. Although behavioural issues were identified in M, it was agreed that the victim service was best placed to initially support M due to M having experienced DA in the familial home between mum and dad throughout most of her childhood. Our YPVA created a support plan and met with M on several occasions completing activities with her to help her understand her experiences, trauma responses and safety plan.

Victim Service User Feedback

PVA service *“I have found it helpful to have XX to open up to, and I’ve never spoken to anyone about what I have been through before this support. I haven’t punched a wall since I started having support, and I haven’t been excluded from school either. I feel that I am going to try and be more open about my feelings now. I know what I want from my relationships in the future, and I want them to be healthy”*

Behaviour Change Case Study

Social Care (Children’s Services) referred a 42-year-old male, with significant offending history and a repeat perpetrator status. He is known to have been involved in numerous domestic

incidents with several different partners. Previous partners have said he is controlling and jealous during a relationship. He would become verbally abusive towards them, call them names and make threats. New Era assessed him as high risk and he attended 'theyMatter' – our 27-week group work programme for high-risk offenders. During the programme the male also completed some 1-2-1 work with our Behaviour Change Practitioner. New Era also worked with his current partner through the Integrated Support service throughout this time. He completed the course in full.

Behaviour Change Service User Feedback

“This course has made me a better person .. and realise how nasty I was. Some of the things I’ve said were horrible and really nasty. I know I need to change and use what I have learnt to stop myself taking things out on my kids and my partner”.

3. New Era Domestic Abuse Training Opportunities

New Era (Ending Relationship Abuse) Events - 3 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite

Please use link to see latest available online training opportunities with New Era. The regular sessions are:

- Understanding DA
- Understanding and Responding to DA (professionals only)
- Understanding the impact of DA on children and young people

We are also delivering training events across the Health sector, including dentistry and hospitals. Should you require any information in regard to our training offer please contact:

new-era.training@victimsupport.org.uk

We also offer a Domestic Abuse in the Workplace Champions scheme. For more information, please contact Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce on 01782 202222 or email info@staffordshirechambers.co.uk

New Era has leaflets and poster for our services outlining our service offer, please contact us if you require any promotional materials for your agency and we will happily supply.

Tripartite DA Service Commissioners:

Helen Davies, Staffordshire Commissioner’s Office (helen.davies@staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk)

Nathan Dawkins, Stoke-on-Trent City Council (nathan.dawkins@stoke.gov.uk)

Alice Walters, Staffordshire County Council (alice.walters@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Bulletin Summary

Bulletin	Issue Date	Content
001	04/09/23	<p>Outline of the new pan Staffordshire DA services operating from 1 October 2023;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to attend a DA Stakeholder workshop in September 2023 to hear more of the new service and raise any questions; • Update from New Era Victim service including service contact details. • NEW Children’s Neutral Front Door to DA services including service contact details; • Update from New Era Perpetrator service, NEW contact details for referrals to the new Perpetrator service and NEW voluntary programmes of rehabilitation.
002	29/02/23	<p>2018 - 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tri-partite funding for DA Victim and Perpetrator Services; • Snapshot of achievements of New Era DA Victim services operating across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent; • Snapshot of achievements of New Era DA voluntary Perpetrator services operating across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.
003	02/05/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 1 summary data (Oct 2023 – Dec 2023); • Service User Feedback.
004	17/06/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 2 summary data (Jan 2024 – March 2024); • Service User Feedback; • New Era DA Training Opportunities.
005	05/09/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 3 summary data (April 2024 – June 2024); • Service User Feedback / Case Studies; • DA Training Opportunities.
006	31/12/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 4 summary data (July 2024 – Sept 2024); • Service User Feedback / Case Studies; • DA Training Opportunities.

This page is intentionally left blank

Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)

An ESHIA is a review of a new or existing policy, strategy, project, report or service change to establish whether this has a differential impact on specific equality groups and identifies how we can improve equality of opportunity for different groups of people.

An ESHIA aims at improving Tamworth Borough Council's work, by promoting equality, social inclusion, health and wellbeing by ensuring that the proposed or existing policy promotes equality and can benefit a wide range of people.

Details

Title of the proposal	Tamworth Community Safety Plan	
Director responsible for the project or service area	Rob Barnes	
Officer completing the assessment	Jo Sands	
Date conducted	17 February 2025	
Who are the main stakeholders?	CSP partners, public	
What is being assessed?	A decision to review or change a service	
	A strategy, policy, report or procedure	X
	A function, service, or project	
What kind of assessment is it?	New	
	Review of existing	X

Part One - Initial screening:

This section should be used to carry out an initial screening of changes or decisions to help to decide whether a full ESHIA is required.

The following six screening questions are designed to assess whether this proposed change is likely to have an impact on equality, social inclusion, health and wellbeing.

		Yes	No
1	Does this new or revised project, proposal, policy, report, procedure likely to have an impact?	X	
2	Does the proposal seek agreement to a key decision involving allocation of resources, such as changes in funding or resources, initiation of a new programme or project or procurement?		X
3	Does the proposal seek agreement on restructuring or reorganising of staffing?		X
4	Will this policy or proposed change have any impact on potential suppliers?		X

5	Does this policy or proposed change impact on any HR policy or practice within the council?		X
6	Does this policy or proposed change have any implications for equalities, social inclusion and health and wellbeing not covered above?	X	

1. If the answer is **no** to all the questions, please provide a summary below outlining why this conclusion has been reached.
2. If the answer is **yes** to any of the questions, please conduct the full ESHIA as detailed in Part two.

If you are unsure of any of the answers, please seek advice from Human Resources.

Summary of initial screening outcome:

Decision	Yes	No
Initial screening only	x	
Proceed to Part Two, full assessment	X	

Initial screening completed by	Jo Sands
Date	17 February 2025

Full screening completed by	Jo Sands
Date	17 February 2025

Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)

Part Two: Full assessment

Section 1

The purpose of the project, proposal or decision required. Set out the aims, objectives, purpose and outcomes of the area being impact assessed. Are any other functions, policies or services linked to this assessment?

The production of a Community Safety Partnership plan is a legal requirement under the Under the Police and Justice Act 2006 (England & Wales) and local authorities are duty-bound to 'provide evidence-based data to support Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in their planning and duties.

The plan identifies priority areas for a community safety plan and has the following underlying principles:

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

Section 2

Evidence used and considered. Include analysis of any missing data.

Community Safety Strategic Assessment, crime statistics, council statistics, public perception surveys

Section 3

Consultation undertaken with interested parties who will/may be affected proposal? What were the outcomes of the consultation?

Consultation around the plan is taken with statutory and voluntary partners. The main 3 year plan is endorsed by Tamworth Council Cabinet and annual refreshes by Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny

Section 4

What are the potential or actual impacts of the proposal? Please consider both the direct and indirect impact and refer to the guidance for additional information.

Impact Area	Impact? Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Details of the impact	Action to address negative impact
Protected Characteristic, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010			
Age	N & P	Plans in place to prevent criminal exploitation Positive diversionary activity Negative – impact of enforcement Social isolation projects in place	Actions taken to understand and put in diversionary activities (young people) to prevent enforcement
Disability	P	Positive actions around engagement	
Gender reassignment	P	Positive impact of hate crime training	
Marriage and civil partnership	P & N	Prevention and education for domestic abuse Negative – impact of enforcement (DA)	Partnership plans in place to support people affected by DA
Pregnancy and maternity	Ne		
Race	P	Positive impact of hate crime training Community cohesion concerns – positive involvement	
Religion or Belief	P	Positive impact of hate crime training Community cohesion concerns – positive involvement	
Sex	P	Positive impact of hate crime training Community cohesion concerns – positive involvement Campaign in place around safety	
Sexual Orientation	P	Positive impact of hate crime training	

		Community cohesion concerns – positive involvement Campaign in place around safety	
Are there socio-economic groups likely to be affected? If yes, please provide detail below			
Other social exclusion	P	Positive impact of hate crime training Community cohesion concerns – positive involvement Campaign in place around safety	
Digital exclusion	Ne		
Veterans and serving members of the armed forces and their families	P	Positive effect of the Armed Forces Covenant	
Young people leaving care	P & N	Housing plans in place Negative – this cohort is at greater risk of exploitation and crime	Positive work with relevant agencies around housing, activities and trying to prevent concerns
Health and Wellbeing: Individuals and communities in Tamworth	Impact: Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Explanation	Action to address negative impact
Will the proposal have a direct impact on an individual's health, mental health and wellbeing?	P	Diversionary activities. Education and support	
Will the proposal directly impact on housing?	P & N	Involvement of all RSLs Negative – potential for offenders and families to lose homes	Early intervention
Will there be a likely change in demand for or access to public services such	Ne		

as health and social care services?			
Will there be an impact on diet and nutrition?	Ne		
Will there be an impact on physical activity?	P	Positive diversionary activities	
Will there be an impact on transport, travel and connectivity?	Ne		
Will there be an impact on employment and income?	Ne		
Will there be an impact on education and skills?	Ne		
Will there be an impact on community safety?	P	Plan is designed to address all community safety priorities Raised awareness to reduce negative perception	
Will there be an impact on the environment, air quality, climate change?	Ne		

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, please move to section 6.

Section 5

Where a potential negative impact has been identified, can continuation of the proposal be objectively justified? If yes, please explain your reasons.

Yes – enforcement remains the last resort, however criminality requires addressing to ensure community safety

Section 6: Decisions or actions proposed

The assessment may result in some recommendations or suggestions to mitigate any negative impact and maximise positive impacts or actions to reduce the risk of an adverse impact.

The wider community safety plan has working groups with tactical plans to address priority concerns.
Funding is considered and used to maximum effect
CSP plan is reviewed quarterly

Section 7: Monitoring arrangements

Who will be responsible for monitoring	Tamworth Community Safety Partnership
Frequency of monitoring	Quarterly
Where will the impact assessment be reported to?	IS& G Scrutiny
Where this impact assessment will be stored and for how long	Completed with shared drive TSP and stored until 2026 on full review

Section 8: Summary of actions to mitigate negative impact (if required)

Impact Area	Action required	Lead officer/responsible person	Target date	Progress
Enforcement	Review actions	JS	31 March 2026	

This page is intentionally left blank

Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee

5th March 2025

Report of the Chair

Draft Annual Report of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee 2023-2024

Exempt Information

None.

Purpose

To provide the Committee with a draft of the Committee's Annual Report for 2024/25 (Appendix 2) together with a draft of the Introductory Report (Appendix 1) which will be presented to full Council in the 2025/26 municipal year.

Following the Committee's consideration, the draft Annual Report will be updated and following the agreement of the Chair will be presented to full Council together with the Annual Reports for the other scrutiny committees and the Introductory Report.

Executive Summary

The draft Annual Report includes:

- the Committee's membership
- the Chair's overview
- the Committee's remit and function (Terms of Reference)
- an overview of regular activity undertaken by the Committee
- a spotlight on items considered
- a summary of working group activity
- a summary of recommendations made to Cabinet and responses received
- members' attendance
- the current Committee work plan

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to consider and comment on the draft Annual Report and Introductory Report and thereafter endorse the draft Annual Report and Introductory Report for submission to full Council, following agreement by the Chair of any final amendments and updates to reflect the final meeting of the 2024/25 municipal year.

Resource Implications

None to note.

Report Author

Councillor M Couchman

Chair of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee

Appendices

Appendix 1 – draft Introductory Report
Appendix 2 – draft Annual Report of the Committee

Scrutiny Introductory Report – 2024-25

What is scrutiny?

The term ‘scrutiny’ means ‘**examine carefully, rummage through odds and ends.**’ In the context of local government Scrutiny’s role is to research and examine policies and decisions to assess whether they could be improved or strengthened to deliver better services for residents and visitors to Tamworth. Scrutiny is often referred to as the Council’s ‘critical friend’, its purpose is to provide constructive criticism in order to continually seek improvements to services, secure better decisions and realise better outcomes.

Effective overview and scrutiny should:

- Provide constructive ‘critical friend’ challenge;
- Amplify the voices and concerns of the public;
- Be led by independent people who take responsibility for their role; and
- Drive improvement in public services.

Scrutiny Committees cannot make decisions but can offer recommendations to cabinet and officers to be considered when making their decisions.

What Scrutiny at Tamworth Council looks like?

There are three main Overview and Scrutiny Committees and this year we welcome two new Scrutiny Chair’s. The Committees’ role is to hold the Executive to account and support the work of the Executive and the performance delivery of the Council as a whole. These are shown diagrammatically below:



Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny

- Quarterly performance reports
- Leisure
- Voluntary Sector
- Non HRA Housing
- Disability Service
- Social Care
- Elderly and Vulnerable People Services



Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny

- Infrastructure
- Education
- Employment/Inward Investment
- Town Centre
- Open Space and Play
- Public space protection orders



Corporate Scrutiny

- Forward Plan
- Corporate Plan
- Major Council led projects
- Investment Strategy
- HRA Function
- Local Authority Trading Company’s activity and Performance



These lead to reports and recommendations which advise the Executive and the Council as a whole on its policies, budget and service delivery. Overview and scrutiny committees also monitor the decisions of the Executive.

Scrutiny Committees can 'call-in' a decision which has been made by the Executive but not yet implemented. This enables them to consider whether the decision is appropriate. They may recommend that the Executive reconsider the decision. They may also be consulted by the Executive or the Council on forthcoming decisions and the development of policy.

There is a further committee which meets up to twice a year; the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee. That Committee's purpose is to consider the budget proposals being put forward by the Executive and make any comments or recommendations. The Committee is made up of all non-Executive members of the Council.

The Councils Procedure Rules state that each of the three main Scrutiny Committees should meet at least 4 times a year. During 2024/2025 the Scrutiny Committee met an average of 8 times.

Within each Scrutiny Committee there can be a number of focussed working groups. Each Committee has a work plan detailing the matters being considered by the committee and future items.

Each Scrutiny Committee decides its workplan for the upcoming year, however throughout the year further items can be added to the plan, this can be through items being identified from the forward plan or by the submission of a work planning proposal form and agreement of Committee members.

Training for Members

The Council provides induction and ongoing training which is open to all members. This covers areas to help familiarise Councillors with each service area / directorate of the Council, as well as training aimed to support Councillors in carrying out their roles on Committees; Planning, Licensing, Audit & Governance as well as Scrutiny training. As well as the Committee focussed training, training sessions are provided in person, or on TEAMS and in some cases, through online modules on safeguarding, equality & diversity, treasury management, and on the member code of conduct. Additionally, where specific topical areas are identified within the year further training and briefings are provided, as well as Councillors being sign-posted to support available through the Local Government Association.

This year we received scrutiny training from the LGA in-house, as well as Chairs being invited to attend a two day training session with scrutiny Chairs from other authorities.

We also have a dedicated scrutiny areas in the Members MS Teams channel where there are resources available.

The Annual Report of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Committee

Chair – Councillor Marion Couchman

Vice-Chair – Councillor Lee Wood



Membership

Members (2022/23)	Appointed for 2024/2025 municipal year	Retirement from Committee
Marion Couchman (Chair)	May 2024	N/A
Lee Wood (Vice-Chair)	May 2024	N/A
Craig Adams	May 2024	N/A
Marie Bailey	May 2024	N/A
Lee Clarke	May 2024	N/A
Margaret Clarke	May 2024	N/A
Jeremy Oates	May 2024	N/A
Ben Price	May 2024	N/A
Natalie Statham	May 2024	N/A

Chair’s Overview – *to be completed following final edits by the Chair*

Welcome to the annual report of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee who met 10 times in the 2024/2025 municipal year.

Having returned to Tamworth Borough Council as Councillor it has been a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee.

The Committee has welcomed Cabinet Members, officers, and a number of partner organisations to contribute to the Committees work this year.

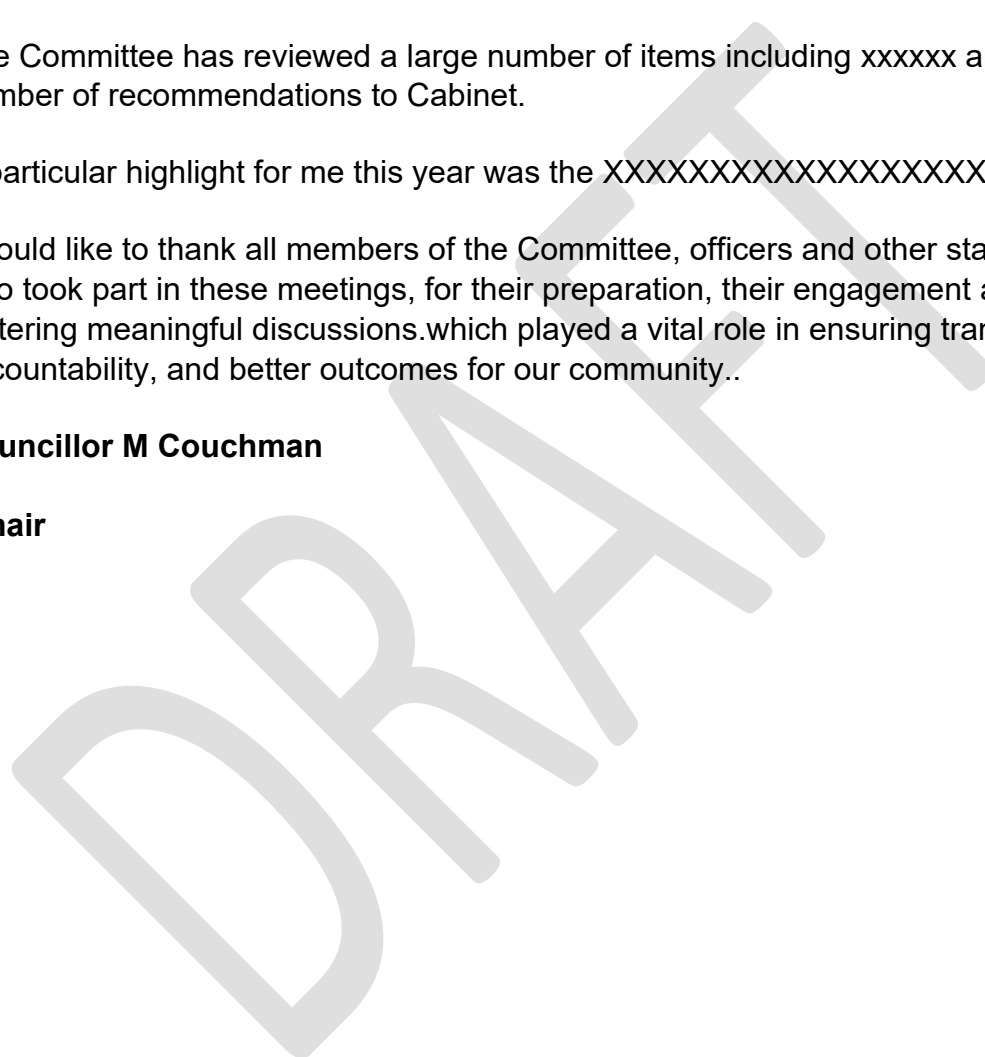
The Committee has reviewed a large number of items including xxxxxx and made a number of recommendations to Cabinet.

A particular highlight for me this year was the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

I would like to thank all members of the Committee, officers and other stakeholders who took part in these meetings, for their preparation, their engagement and fostering meaningful discussions which played a vital role in ensuring transparency, accountability, and better outcomes for our community..

Councillor M Couchman

Chair



Committee's remit and function (Terms of Reference)

The council's Constitution sets out the Committee's remit which can be summarised as 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

The Committee acts as the Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and in this regard received the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan and considered Public Safety Protection Orders.

Forward Plan Consideration: Over the year, there has been a regular review of the Forward Plan at all meetings to identify areas which could either require pre-decision scrutiny and/or post implementation scrutiny, and which were not otherwise included on the Committee's work plan.

The Committee receives a number of regular updates this has included:

Community Safety Partnership update

In November 2024, the Committee received its first community safety update for the municipal year. In addition to the Assistant Director Partnerships, the Chief Inspector also attended.

The Committee asked questions around what work was being done on community cohesions, in particular around faith groups. The committee were concerned around county lines and what was being done to combat drugs in the night-time economy, and clarification was sought around the spikes in residential burglaries. The Committee acknowledged the good policing involved.

(Update following March meeting)

Future High Street Fund

The Committee continued to receive quarterly updates following the award of £830 million pound of Future High Street Funding in 2018. The first update was an exempt report in July 2024, with a further report received in October 2024. The Committee asked questions around the appointment of new contractors, spend deadlines, communications, and whether delays were expected.

The Committee were due to receive a further update in January 2025 but following an update provided to Full Council during the month, this item was removed from the work plan.

Nature Recovery Declaration

Following Tamworth Borough Council's declaration that nature is in crisis and a commitment to the recovery of nature across the borough and wider Staffordshire in 2023 part of which stated that the Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee be tasked with monitoring the Local Nature Recovery Action Plan the Committee subsequently received two further updates in this municipal year.

The Committee received an update in August which included the draft Bio-Diversity Consideration where they sought clarification over how the policy will ensure that the right trees were planted in the right place, around grass verges and how much greenspace the Council managed as well as highlighting the importance of ensuring that open spaces were managed correctly to ensure they do not become litter traps.

(March update to be included)

DRAFT

Spotlight Item – Joint Waste Service

During the municipal year 2024/25 the Joint Waste Service (delivered by Lichfield District Council in partnership with Tamworth Borough Council) continued to be an item of interest for the Committee who considered a number of different areas –

Operations and Performance Update

The Committee continued to receive regular performance updates from the Joint Waste Service, looking at performance, tonnage data, resident participation, financial performance and other joint waste service projects. The Committee received updates in August and November 2024 as well as a written update in March 2025. In August the Committee sought clarification around budgets including the costing model, potential overspends and plans as to how spend could be reduced and/or maintained. There was a focus on the service employees including the proportion of employees to agency staff and the cost difference. The Committee were interested in whether Tamworth could have its own recycling centre, but this was confirmed to be a county function.

(Add in March update)

The Annual Garden Waste Subscription Charge

In August 2024, the Committee received the report to seek ISAG's consideration and support of the approval to Cabinet to increase the garden waste subscription fees for 2024/25. The Committee felt unable to endorse the recommendations as the report did not contain costs to justify the increase and the officers were unable to provide these at that time. The Committee asked for the report to return later in August with a full breakdown of requisite costs.

Following receipt of an updated report the Committee supported the recommendation to Cabinet to agree the annual garden waste subscription increase.

Joint Waste Service Update and Fleet Procurement

The Committee considered an exempt report to seek Scrutiny's support of recommendations made to award the contract for the renewal of the Joint Waste Service fleet to be presented to Cabinet on 8th August 2024. Following scrutiny, the committee supported all recommendations to be presented to Cabinet.

Food Waste Service

In November 2024, the Committee received an exempt report relating to the upcoming food waste service. The committee endorsed the recommendations to be presented to Cabinet.

Review of the Bulky Waste Service

In August 2024, following the Committee's request, a review was conducted of the bulky waste service where they were provided with a report explaining the level of service that is currently provided. The Committee asked questions around how cost levels were decided and whether there was scope to make an income from disposal, if links could be made with community groups to help with the removal of goods to reduce cost burden for people, and whether repairs shops could be prudent. The Committee sought clarification around the items that could be collected and whether a service that gave an opportunity for residents to dispose of bulky waste items in different areas periodically was a possibility. The Committee endorsed the update and resolved to set up a working group on this matter.

The Committee also considered in further depth the following items:

1. Tamworth Electric Vehicle Strategy

Following adoption of the Staffordshire County Council Electric Vehicle Strategy in 2023 the Committee received a report detailing the work undertaken in developing the Tamworth Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy and requested approval from Cabinet for the adoption and formal publication of the Strategy. The committee asked questions around the types and number of charges being considered, clarification on pricing, and whether any income would be received. In addition to endorsing the report the committee moved an additional recommendation for Cabinet.

2. Maintenance of Estates and Open Spaces

Following a request from the Committee, in October 2024 they received a presentation from the Assistant Director for Environment, Culture and Wellbeing around the maintenance of estates and open spaces within the borough. The Committee sought clarification around several areas including: trees and the departments timescales for responding to issues, the procedure for identifying responsibility for tree work, and the issues they had where trees belong to the County Council. The Committee asked about communication around maintenance works and highlighted the importance of making residents aware which works sat with the borough and which were a County Council responsibility. Clarification was sought on cyclical maintenance; and whether any areas were prioritised, issues with staffing, and the process for collecting grass cuttings. The Committee acknowledged the variety of important work conducted by street scene.

3. Heritage Engagement Coordinator

The Committee received a report with an update on the range of activities and outcomes achieved for Tamworth's residents by the Heritage Engagement Co-ordinator post which included a video of some of the activities. The Committee acknowledged the importance of bringing Tamworth's heritage to the Community, in particular the younger generation and reaching the vulnerable and isolated. The Committee supported the continuation of the post.

4. Updated Asset Management Strategy

The Committee received the report to present the Asset Management Strategy linked to the Council's built assets for approval. The Committee discussed driving forward growth in the town through heritage, and discussed a recommendation that asked Cabinet to investigate how we could maximise the usage of our historic buildings to increase visitors to the town through collaboration with partners. The Committee carried a recommendation that when disposal of assets is being

discussed all ward Councillors are to be consulted before a decision is made. The Officer included this into the draft disposal's policy.

5. Climate Change Update

The Committee received a report to update them on the authority's work around climate change. They agreed to adopt the proposed Climate Action Plan and Climate Adaptation Strategy and endorsed the Climate Change Communication Plan, and the Staffordshire County Council (SCC) net zero by 2050 planning policy. The Committee asked questions around double glazing in council housing, solar panels on council buildings, the possibility of more orchards/tree planting; as well as working with community groups in this area and looking at carbon dioxide use at Marmion House; and whether the use of hydrogen had been considered. In addition to endorsing the report the Committee moved a recommendation for Cabinet.

6. Revised Local Development Scheme

In January 2025, the Committee reviewed a report to seek endorsement of the recommendations being presented to Cabinet on the 20th of February 2025 in relation to the publication of the Revised Local Development Scheme. The Committee asked about the changes in the National Planning policy Framework as well as questions about the county's contribution to the plan, the development of infrastructure and the staffing required in this area. The Committee commented that a number of documents sit alongside the plan but that there was nothing relating to houses of multiple occupancy (HMO's) and a recommendation was moved in relation to this.

7. Improving Water Quality Within Tamworth's Rivers

To be update following the meeting on the 18th February.

8. Road Infrastructure Within Tamworth

(To be updated following March meeting)

The Committee were due to consider a review of the Decant policy but this has been delayed until the new municipal year.

Working Groups

The Committee has two working groups;

- Facilities for HGV Drivers in Tamworth.
- Bulky waste within the community.

Recommendations made and Responses received from Cabinet

Scrutiny meeting item recommendations	Cabinet Response
<p>10th July 2024: EV Charging Strategy</p> <p>The Committee made two recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Strategy be reviewed in two years 2) That new developments contain EV charging points 	<p>Cabinet: 18th July 2024</p> <p>Resolved that Cabinet agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Strategy would be reviewed in two years. The Committee proposed an amendment to second recommendation from Scrutiny and resolved that Cabinet agreed: 2) That new developments contain EV charging points, to be reviewed every two years, with the view to commit if electric vehicles are still a priority for housing developments.
<p>7th August 2024: Annual Garden Waste Subscription Charge</p> <p>The Committee resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ask Cabinet to defer the increase until a full breakdown of costs has been provided and discussed at the next Infrastructure, Safety & Growth Committee at its 22nd August meeting; and 2) Agreed that each year, under delegated powers, the Cabinet member responsible for waste services will approve the price increase in consultation with the Executive Director Organisation and the Council's S151 Officer before being ratified by Cabinet. Furthermore, that the variations in pricing can be agreed through the same delegation to support promotions (for example to encourage take-up of direct debits), provided these can be funded from within the service without placing additional pressure on the MTFS. <p>22nd August 2024</p> <p>The Committee supported the following recommendation for Cabinet to agree: Approve the increase of the annual subscription fee to £41 effective 1st January 2025, with the sign-up window open in October.</p>	<p>Cabinet: 8th August 2024</p> <p>Resolved that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) deferred the increase until a full breakdown of costs has been provided and discussed at the next Infrastructure, Safety & Growth Committee at its 22nd August meeting and then make a decision at the next Cabinet meeting; and 2) Agreed that each year, under delegated powers, the Cabinet member responsible for waste services will approve the price increase in consultation with the Executive Director Organisation and the Council's S151 Officer before being ratified by Cabinet. Furthermore, that the variations in pricing can be agreed through the same delegation to support promotions (for example to encourage take-up of direct debits), provided these can be funded from within the service without placing additional pressure on the MTFS. <p>29th August 2024</p> <p>Resolved that Cabinet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Approved the increase of the annual subscription fee to £41 effective 1st January 2025, with the sign-up window open in October.
<p>2nd October 2024: Maintenance of Estates and Open Spaces</p> <p>The Committee made recommendations to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Council investigates how it could provide an educational programme to inform residents of the services that Tamworth Borough Council are responsible for and what the County are responsible for. 2) Investigate the purchase of a bank cutting machine. 	<p>Cabinet: 31st October 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreed to provide a response IS&G Committee, including recommendation 3 where a full timeline of options will be considered at Council in February which will update on which options should be considered. 2. Agreed that the Chair of I S & G Committee will be invited to attend all Future High Street Fund Board meetings as a none voting member.

12th November 2024: Asset Management Strategy 1) When disposal of assets was being discussed all ward Councillors are consulted before a decision is made.	Cabinet: 21st November 2024 2) Approved as part of the Asset Management Strategy.
11th December 2024: Climate Change Update 1) To ask cabinet to look at the feasibility of including solar panels on council properties.	Cabinet: 23rd January 2025 1) Agreed to look at the feasibility of including solar panels on council properties
29th January 2024: Revised Local Development Plan 1) To Develop a Policy for Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO's)	Cabinet: 20th February 2025 *Update following Cabinet*

Members Attendance

Member	Number of meetings attended
Marion Couchman (Chair)	XX out of 10 meetings
Lee Wood (Vice-Chair)	XX out of 10 meetings
Craig Adams	XX out of 10 meetings
Marie Bailey	XX out of 10 meetings
Lee Clarke	XX out of 10 meetings
Margaret Clarke	XX out of 10 meetings
Jeremy Oates	XX out of 10 meetings
Ben Price	XX out of 10 meetings
Natalie Statham	XX out of 10 meetings

This page is intentionally left blank

Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)

An ESHIA is a review of a new or existing policy, strategy, project, report or service change to establish whether this has a differential impact on specific equality groups and identifies how we can improve equality of opportunity for different groups of people.

An ESHIA aims at improving Tamworth Borough Council’s work, by promoting equality, social inclusion, health and wellbeing by ensuring that the proposed or existing policy promotes equality and can benefit a wide range of people.

Details

Title of the proposal	Infrastructure, safety and Growth Scrutiny Annual report	
Director responsible for the project or service area	AD, Policy and Performance	
Officer completing the assessment	Leanne Costello	
Date conducted	18/02/2025	
Who are the main stakeholders?		
What is being assessed?	A decision to review or change a service	
	A strategy, policy, report or procedure	
	A function, service, or project	X
What kind of assessment is it?	New	
	Review of existing	X

Part One - Initial screening:

This section should be used to carry out an initial screening of changes or decisions to help to decide whether a full ESHIA is required.

The following six screening questions are designed to assess whether this proposed change is likely to have an impact on equality, social inclusion, health and wellbeing.

		Yes	No
1	Does this new or revised project, proposal, policy, report, procedure likely to have an impact?		X
2	Does the proposal seek agreement to a key decision involving allocation of resources, such as changes in funding or resources, initiation of a new programme or project or procurement?		X
3	Does the proposal seek agreement on restructuring or reorganising of staffing?		X
4	Will this policy or proposed change have any impact on potential suppliers?		X

5	Does this policy or proposed change impact on any HR policy or practice within the council?		X
6	Does this policy or proposed change have any implications for equalities, social inclusion and health and wellbeing not covered above?		X

1. If the answer is **no** to all the questions, please provide a summary below outlining why this conclusion has been reached.
2. If the answer is **yes** to any of the questions, please conduct the full ESHIA as detailed in Part two.

If you are unsure of any of the answers, please seek advice from Human Resources.

Summary of initial screening outcome: The report is a summary of activity for the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee and is for information only.		
Decision	Yes	No
Initial screening only	X	
Proceed to Part Two, full assessment		

Initial screening completed by	Leanne Costello
Date	18/02/25

Full screening completed by	
Date	

Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)

Part Two: Full assessment

Section 1

The purpose of the project, proposal or decision required. Set out the aims, objectives, purpose and outcomes of the area being impact assessed. Are any other functions, policies or services linked to this assessment?

Section 2

Evidence used and considered. Include analysis of any missing data.

Section 3

Consultation undertaken with interested parties who will/may be affected proposal? What were the outcomes of the consultation?

Section 4

What are the potential or actual impacts of the proposal? Please consider both the direct and indirect impact and refer to the guidance for additional information.

Impact Area	Impact? Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Details of the impact	Action to address negative impact
Protected Characteristic, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010			
Age			
Disability			
Gender reassignment			
Marriage and civil partnership			
Pregnancy and maternity			
Race			
Religion or Belief			
Sex			
Sexual Orientation			

Are there socio-economic groups likely to be affected? If yes, please provide detail below			
Other social exclusion			
Digital exclusion			
Veterans and serving members of the armed forces and their families			
Young people leaving care			
Health and Wellbeing: Individuals and communities in Tamworth	Impact: Positive (P) Negative (N) Neutral (Ne)	Explanation	Action to address negative impact
Will the proposal have a direct impact on an individual's health, mental health and wellbeing?			
Will the proposal directly impact on housing?			
Will there be a likely change in demand for or access to public services such as health and social care services?			
Will there be an impact on diet and nutrition?			
Will there be an impact on physical activity?			
Will there be an impact on transport, travel and connectivity?			
Will there be an impact on employment and income?			

Will there be an impact on education and skills?			
Will there be an impact on community safety?			
Will there be an impact on the environment, air quality, climate change?			

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, please move to section 6.

Section 5

Where a potential negative impact has been identified, can continuation of the proposal be objectively justified? If yes, please explain your reasons.

Section 6: Decisions or actions proposed

The assessment may result in some recommendations or suggestions to mitigate any negative impact and maximise positive impacts or actions to reduce the risk of an adverse impact.

Section 7: Monitoring arrangements

Who will be responsible for monitoring	
Frequency of monitoring	
Where will the impact assessment be reported to?	
Where this impact assessment will be stored and for how long	

Section 8: Summary of actions to mitigate negative impact (if required)

Impact Area	Action required	Lead officer/responsible person	Target date	Progress

INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY AND GROWTH COMMITTEE

05th March 2025

Report of the Operations Manager

Operations Service Performance and Data Briefing Paper

None Exempt

Executive summary

The purpose of this briefing update report is to provide the Committee a quarterly update of the Joint Waste Service. This is a shared service that Lichfield District Council (LDC) deliver on behalf of both authorities.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members:

1. Endorse the progress and updates provided.

Background

This report provides the Committee a briefing paper as requested with an update on Joint Waste Service Operations, including Operational Performance, Resident Participation, Tonnage Performance, Finance Update, Joint Waste Service Projects.

The data being reported is up to 31st December 2024.

A breakdown of the Joint Waste Service (JWS) performance data is attached as Appendix A and the trends are discussed below:

Operational Performance

Performance across the Joint Waste Service remains good. All collection rounds are being completed on time, with very few exceptions because of operational issue such as a breakdown or a road closure.

It is worth noting during the three-week period over Christmas the service did experience a number of collections being made a day late, due to a combination of high volumes presented at kerbside, staff absence, a fire at the Waste Transfer station and poor weather conditions. All delays were communicated to residents. Whilst the majority of these late collections were in January, it is prudent to share the difficulties with Members. 'Lessons learnt' have been discussed amongst the team.

- There was an average of 308 missed bins per month, which equates to 0.04% of collections in the second quarter of this year versus an average of 324 per month in the previous 12-month period. The trend is a positive, and there has also been a decrease in the number of missed assisted collections. If the crews do inadvertently miss a bin, then they will return to collect it, this is how this figure is generated.

Resident Participation

Residents participation in the recycling service remains very high with most properties presenting both a bin for the glass, cans and plastic and a bag for paper and card every fortnight. This presentation rate is between 97 and 98%.

- For the calendar year of 2024, 44876 subscriptions for garden waste had been taken.
- In 2023 44085 residents signed up to the garden waste service.
- 34% of the total subscribers are Tamworth residents, with 66% being Lichfield residents. This is unsurprising due to the urban nature of Tamworth.
- 42.5% of Tamworth residents sign up to the service.

It is worth noting that the total number of subscriptions increased in 2024 when LDC increased their charges from £36 to £40 per garden waste bin.

Residents now have the option to sign up to the garden waste service using either direct debit or traditional card payment. This increases customer choice, and around 8% of residents have chosen direct debit as their preferred payment option.

So far this year 24269 number of residents have signed up of which 30% are Tamworth. Sales are as expected at this time of year.

The number of contaminated bins reported per month

For quarter 3 of this year there was an average of 2023 per month versus an average of 1188 for the previous 12 months.

This is a significant increase on the previous year, and December saw a high figure of 2495. The rise was a result of reports from Biffa highlighting an increase in contamination, and the crews being asked to be more vigilant when checking recycling bins. It is felt the crew were too thorough, and the message was re-aligned to ensure checks were not 'over-zealous'. The trend is being monitored, and January's figure has fallen to 1672.

The recycling officers and crews continue to work with residents to minimise this number.

The **quality of the material** produced by the JWS has remained high since the service change.

- For Quarter 2 this year the contamination rate has risen to 3.22% compared to 2.98% for the previous 12 months
- Quarter 3 figures have not yet been released by Biffa Waste, our contractor.
- Fibre was reported at 0% contamination.

Tonnage performance

The tonnage of both residual, organic and recycling waste is stable as indicated on the graphs in appendix 1.

Residual tonnage for the JWS (average monthly tonnage):

- 3359 tonnes per month in 2024/25 to end of Jan
- 3253 tonnes per month for 23/24
- 3051 tonnes in 22/23
- 3468 tonnes in 21/22 (Covid year)

The slight increase is an area to be monitored.

The recycling rates are unfortunately following national trends and falling. TBC figures for quarter 1-3 in 2024/25 are 36.90%, compared to 37.15 in 2023/24 (36.61% in quarters 1-3 in 2023/24), they are slightly below the quarter 1&2 figures from 2023/24.

Recycling Rate: JWS & TBC	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/5 Qtr. 1-3
JWS	45.5%	43.27%	41.36%	42.45%
TBC	42.26%	37.71%	37.15%	36.90%

In the financial year to end of Dec 2024, the JWS has collected an average of 1228 tonnes per month of dry recycling versus 1246 tonnes per month in the previous year. This follows a national trend of a steady decline in dry recycling and is an area which is being worked on. Unfortunately, the trend across Staffordshire authorities is of recycling rates falling.

The current DRY recycling rate is following the same trend of slightly lower rate so far for 2024/25.

Dry Recycling Rate: JWS & TBC	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25 Qtr. 1-3
JWS	24.60%	23.63%	22.51%	21.27%
TBC	27.42%	24.11%	23.26%	21.76%

The Council's 'Recycle for Good' had a soft launch on 29th October, with a full launch in November. Councillors from both Lichfield and Tamworth are promoting the campaign. This is the start of a 3-year campaign with the aim of helping to address the issue of falling recycling rates. Sponsorship from partners in the private sector has funded the campaign. [Recycle for good](#)

The campaign has had a slow start due to staff changes at Lichfield District Council Communications team, but work has started to re-invigorate the messages.

A Staffordshire County Council campaign, which involves 'bin-tagging' many of our bins with recycling messages was due to launch prior to Christmas. Due to delays at Staffordshire County Council the launch will now be March/April 2025. It is intended to tag all Tamworth residents who have individual bins.

Financial Performance

Further financial performance will be presented at the Joint Waste Committee at the end of March.

At the end of the 2023/24 financial year the JWS overspent by £265,677. Tamworth Borough Council's contribution was £110,894 which was paid for by TBC's Joint Waste reserve, with Lichfield District Council's being £154,783.

At period 11 the JWS is forecasting an overspend for the end of year of £94,208. Tamworth Borough Council's contribution is forecast at £39,162. This is in addition to the current forecast overspend of £189,570 on Tamworth's budgeted contribution to the JWS. A policy change has been submitted as part of the 2025/26 budget process to increase the budget to meet additional costs going forward.

There is an additional pressure on Tamworth Borough Council due to the difference in garden waste subscriptions for the calendar year of 2024; as Tamworth's remained at £36 per bin in 2024, whilst Lichfield District Council increased their subscriptions to £40. To address this difference an amount at £52,000 plus VAT has been calculated and is to be paid directly to the joint waste service for 2024/25. From January 2025, garden waste subscriptions have been increased to £41 for both councils to ensure the cost of garden waste collection is covered.

The JWS vehicle procurement has been completed and is now at the implementation stage. The project was delivered at a cost of £11,604,269, which is below the budgetary figure of £11,640,000.

The JWS has a total budget of £1,227,600 for the procurement of food waste vehicles. This is £409,200 for TBC and £818,400 for LDC, funded from New Burdens Government grant. The tender process is completed, and there is confidence that the food waste fleet will be delivered within the allocated budget.

Joint Waste Service Projects

Several important projects have completed, are currently underway or will be completed over the next few months. These include:

- Fleet procurement – NRG Ltd, are our new contractor, and 25 new Refuse Collection Vehicle's (RCV's) are in build and will be in operation by April 2025. The contract value is £11.5million over a 7-year period, which was within budget. The planning is going well, and smooth implementation is expected.
- The launch of the new recycling campaign 'Recycle for good' is taking place, with joint support from Councillors from both Lichfield and Tamworth. As stated in the report, due to staffing changes at Lichfield District Council the campaign has started slowly, but engagement with the JWS has re-started and progress will be achieved.
- A Staffordshire County Council campaign, which involves 'bin-tagging' many of our bins with recycling messages was due to launch prior to Christmas. Due to delays at SCC the launch will be March/April 2025. The scheme will 'tag' all Tamworth residents who have individual bins.
- Production of a Roadmap to transition to an alternatively fuelled fleet. The project has progressed well, and a report is now close to completion, which advises on the costs to 'electrify' the current depot, as well as timescales / options / costs around transitioning to an alternatively fuelled fleet.
- Dry Recycling Contracts. The current three-year contract with Biffa Waste Ltd. ends April 2025. However, it incorporates the option for extension of 1+1+1 year, this is intended to be activated-subject to formal approval processes.
- Preparation for 'Simpler Recycling' (specifically food waste collections and disposal)
 - Food waste vehicle procurement process has been completed. The decision on the total number of vehicles is still to be finalised but will be 10 /11 vehicles. Once approval of the appropriate Cabinet members, Directors and S151 officers, at both Lichfield District Council and Tamworth Borough Council, has been completed an order will be placed for food waste vehicles.
 - Food waste receptacles – the procurement process is in progress alongside other Staffordshire Authorities.
 - Anaerobic Digestion contracts – procurement process due to be started (via Staffordshire County Council)
 - Project team and associated tasks to ensure service delivery by April 2026.
- Both Tamworth Borough Council and Lichfield District Council received confirmation of the guaranteed payment they would receive through Extended Producer

Responsibility (pEPR). Tamworth Borough Council will receive £721,000, whilst Lichfield District Council will receive £958,000.

Regular updates on the progress of each of these projects will be reported to the Committee.

Appendices

Joint Waste Service Statistics

Briefing Paper prepared by:

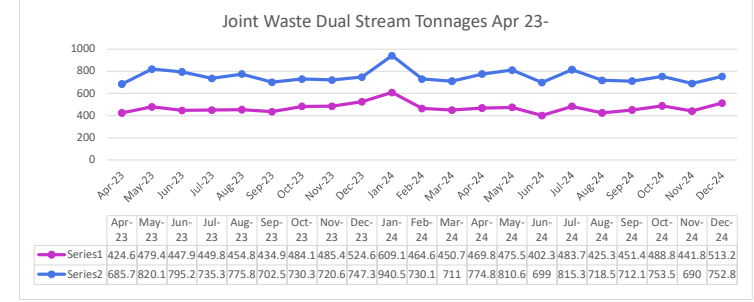
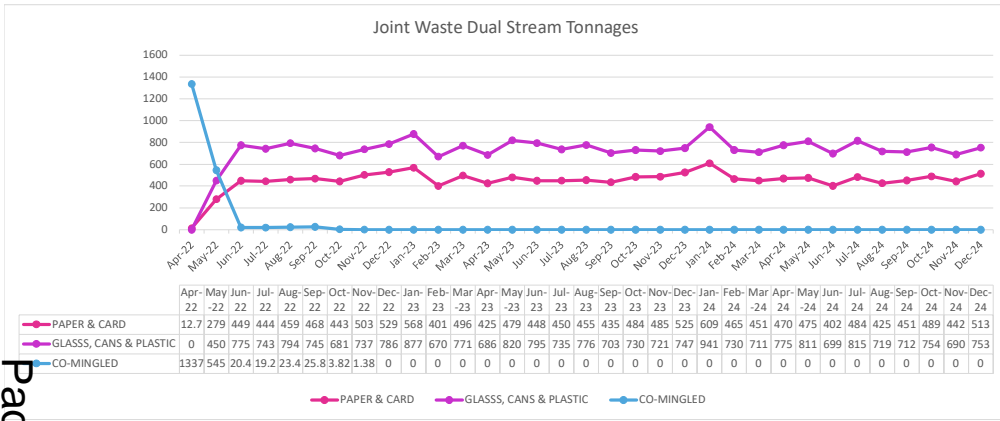
Steve Gee – Joint Waste Service

Victoria Woodhouse- Joint Waste Service

This page is intentionally left blank

Joint Waste Dual Stream Tonnes

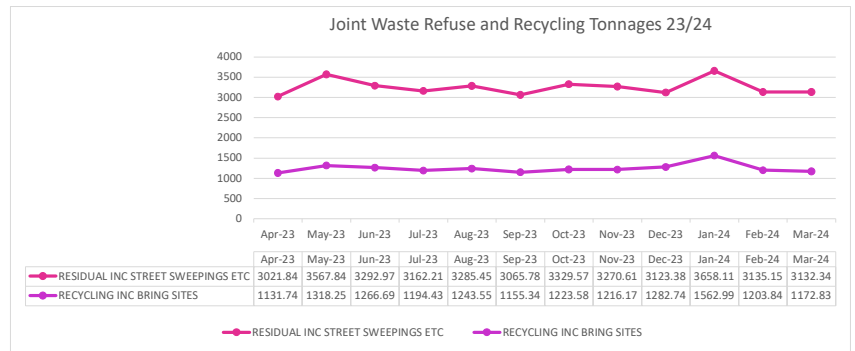
	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
PAPER & CARD	12.68	278.56	449.08	443.98	459.3	467.58	442.71	502.5	528.56	568.42	400.52	495.9	424.63	479.38	447.87	449.8	454.81	434.89	484.11	485.37	524.58	609.12	464.64	450.72	469.8	475.47	402.28	483.68
GLASS, CANS & PLASTIC	0	450.3	775.24	742.59	793.552	744.56	681.3	736.99	786.18	876.79	670.3	770.82	685.72	820.1	795.15	735.29	775.84	702.52	730.33	720.56	747.31	940.51	730.08	711.04	774.75	810.64	699	815.32
CO-MINGLED	1337.1	545.18	20.4	19.22	23.38	25.82	3.82	1.38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Joint Waste Refuse and Recycling Tonnes

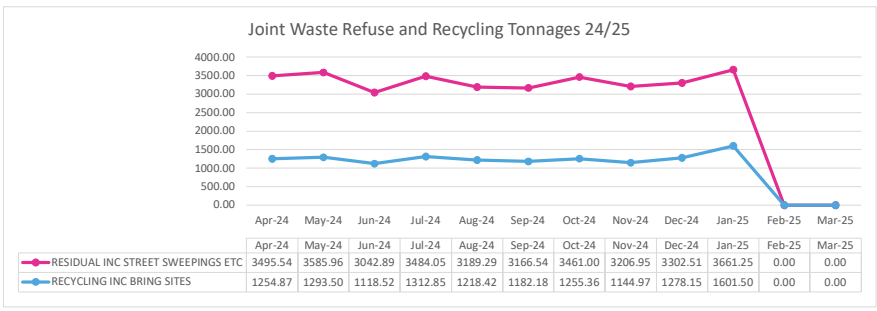
	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPINC	3021.84	3567.84	3292.97	3162.21	3285.45	3065.78	3329.57	3270.61	3123.38	3658.11	3135.15	3132.34
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	1131.74	1318.25	1266.69	1194.43	1243.55	1155.34	1223.58	1216.17	1282.74	1562.99	1203.84	1172.83
RECYCLING (KERBSIDE ONLY)	1110.35	1299.48	1243.02	1185.09	1230.65	1137.41	1214.44	1205.93	1271.89	1549.63	1194.72	1161.76
ORGANIC	1136.92	2017.4	1639.96	1332.04	1643.02	1294.54	1247.1	936.56	314.58	54.77	614.8	721.18

14804.37



Joint Waste Refuse and Recycling Tonnes

	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPINC	3495.54	3585.96	3042.89	3484.05	3189.29	3166.54	3461.00	3206.95	3302.51	3661.25	0.00	0.00
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	1254.87	1293.50	1118.52	1312.85	1218.42	1182.18	1255.36	1144.97	1278.15	1601.50	0.00	0.00
RECYCLING (KERBSIDE ONLY)	1244.55	1286.11	1101.28	1299	1143.84	1163.55	1242.28	1131.78	1265.98	0	0	0
ORGANIC	1275.68	2007.32	1627.74	1526.36	1377.86	1056.42	1126.9	927.86	292.32	109.7	0	0



Joint Waste Refuse and Recycling Tonnes

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23
--	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

Lichfield Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 22/23

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPING	1792.28	1683.44	1786.39	1781.25	1731.87	1836.33	1649.83	1846.34	1935.74	1921.96	1868.00	1962.78	21796.21
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	795.93	713.82	780.98	727.92	702.97	780.61	649.72	723.71	811.5	798.15	644.07	791.46	8920.84
ORGANIC	771.15	1104.67	1125.32	784.51	627.47	871.67	727.3	754.47	282.58	4.94	497.51	425	7976.59

Lichfield Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 23/24

	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Total
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPING	1725.62	1808.77	1923.36	1688.59	1912.06	1740.78	1772.14	1886.37	1847.16	1969.54	1866.00	1868.94	22009.33
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	650.89	759.98	776.49	669.2	708.25	685.79	675.11	742.4	784.56	800.42	721.62	704.74	8679.45
ORGANIC	813.12	1344.63	1177.47	891.31	1062.26	888.8	860.91	726.81	255.67	22.59	470.02	548.3	9061.89

Lichfield Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 24/25

	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Total
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPING	1826.66	2068.12	1665.73	1878.18	1886.23	1712.73	1852.85	1861.02	1788.71	2167.65	0.00	0.00	18707.88
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	681.20	799.40	657.98	703.35	743.72	646.57	773.36	683.72	745.94	935.49	0.00	0.00	7370.728
ORGANIC	852.23	1465.75	1139.35	977.32	1029.61	716.72	832.32	696.86	228.68	83.32	0	0	8022.16

Tamworth Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 22/23

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total
RESIDUAL	1265.62	1655.4	1431.73	1265.71	1496.93	1330.95	1403.78	1545.64	1316.11	1621.96	1288.2	1294.73	16916.76
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	567.14	573.58	479.26	488.78	589.56	474.98	490.91	526.08	513.01	658.18	450.83	511.87	6324.18
ORGANIC	320.83	511.15	389.17	297.47	342.39	279.67	311.84	259.53	58.12	20.06	150.65	137.3	3078.18

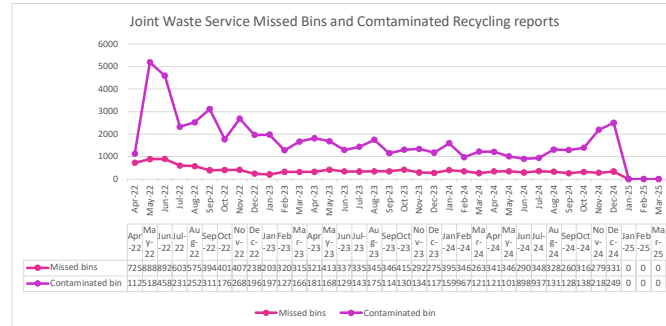
Tamworth Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 23/24

	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Total
RESIDUAL	1296.22	1759.07	1369.61	1473.62	1373.39	1325	1557.43	1384.24	1276.22	1688.57	1268.15	1263.4	17034.92
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	480.85	558.27	490.2	525.23	535.3	469.55	548.47	473.77	498.18	762.57	482.22	468.09	6292.7
ORGANIC	323.8	672.77	462.49	440.73	580.76	405.74	386.19	209.75	58.91	32.18	144.78	172.96	3891.06

Tamworth Refuse and Recycling Tonnages 24/25

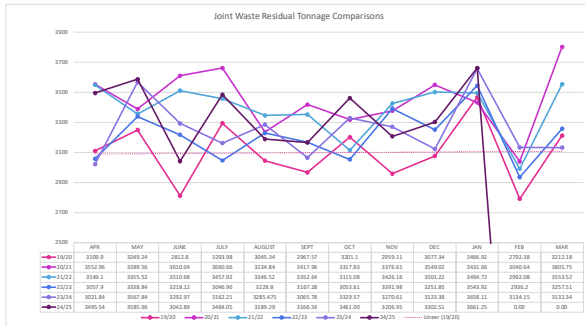
	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Total
RESIDUAL	1668.88	1517.84	1377.16	1605.87	1303.06	1453.81	1608.15	1345.93	1513.80	1493.60	0.00	0.00	14888.1
RECYCLING INC BRING SITES	573.67	494.10	460.54	609.50	474.70	535.61	482.00	461.25	532.21	666.01	0.00	0.00	5289.59
ORGANIC	423.45	541.57	488.39	549.04	348.25	339.7	294.58	231	63.64	26.38	0	0	3306

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25
Missed bins	725	888	892	603	575	394	401	407	238	203	320	315	321	413	337	335	345	346	415	292	275	395	346	263	341	346	290	348	328	260	316	279	331	0	0	0
Contaminated bin	1126	5187	4586	2319	2521	3110	1768	2684	1960	1977	1279	1668	1812	1680	1295	1434	1750	1148	1305	1342	1174	1591	967	1219	1212	1011	898	937	1312	1288	1387	2188	2495	0	0	0



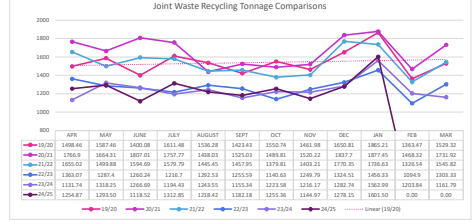
RESIDUAL INC STREET SWEEPINGS

	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	
19/20	3109.9	3249.24	2812.8	3293.98	3045.34	2967.57	3201.1	2959.11	3077.34	3466.92	2792.38	3212.38	37187.86
20/21	3352.86	3389.56	3602.04	3666.66	3234.84	3417.96	3317.83	3376.61	3549.02	3431.66	3050.68	3802.75	41383.13
21/22	3549.1	3355.52	3510.68	3457.92	3346.52	3352.64	3315.08	3426.16	3502.22	3494.72	2992.08	3553.52	40665.16
22/23	3807.9	3338.84	3218.12	3046.96	3228.8	3167.28	3053.61	3391.98	3251.85	3543.92	2938.62	3257.51	38469.97
23/24	3021.84	3567.84	3292.97	3162.21	3385.47	3065.73	3328.67	3270.41	3123.18	3628.11	3134.45	3132.34	36044.28
24/25	3495.54	3385.96	3042.89	3484.05	3189.29	3166.54	3461.00	3206.95	3302.51	3661.25	0.00	0.00	



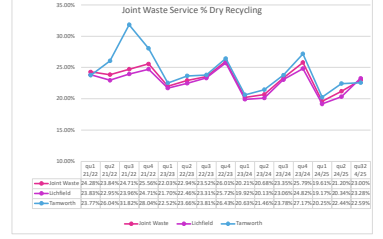
RECYCLING INC BRINGS SETS

	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
19/20	1498.46	1587.46	1400.08	1611.48	1536.28	1423.41	1550.74	1461.98	1650.81	1865.21	1363.47	1529.32
20/21	1796.9	1664.11	1807.01	1757.77	1458.03	1525.03	1489.81	1520.22	1877.7	1877.45	1468.32	1731.92
21/22	1655.02	1499.88	1594.69	1579.79	1445.45	1457.95	1379.81	1403.21	1703.35	1786.63	1326.54	1545.82
22/23	1383.07	1287.4	1262.24	1237.53	1292.53	1255.59	1140.63	1249.79	1324.51	1450.33	1029.4	1303.33
23/24	1131.74	1118.25	1266.69	1194.43	1243.55	1155.84	1223.58	1246.17	1282.74	1562.99	1203.86	1161.79
24/25	1254.87	1293.30	1118.52	1312.85	1218.42	1182.18	1255.36	1144.97	1278.15	1601.50	0.00	0.00



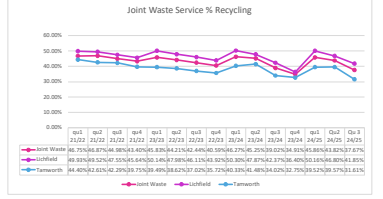
% Dry Recycling

	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Joint Waste	24.28%	23.80%	24.71%	25.96%	22.03%	22.96%
Liffield	23.81%	22.95%	23.96%	24.71%	21.70%	22.46%
Tamworth	23.77%	26.04%	31.82%	28.04%	22.52%	23.66%



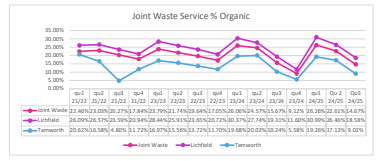
% Recycling

	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Joint Waste	46.75%	46.87%	44.98%	43.40%	45.83%	44.21%
Liffield	49.33%	49.32%	47.55%	45.64%	51.14%	47.98%
Tamworth	44.40%	42.61%	42.29%	39.75%	39.49%	38.62%



% Organic

	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Joint Waste	22.44%	22.93%	20.27%	17.84%	21.79%	21.74%
Liffield	26.09%	26.57%	23.59%	20.94%	28.44%	25.91%
Tamworth	20.62%	16.58%	4.80%	11.72%	16.97%	13.73%



Dry Recycling kg per household

	qu1 21/22	qu2 21/22	qu3 21/22	qu4 21/22	qu1 22/23	qu2 22/23	qu3 22/23	qu4 22/23	qu1 23/24	qu2 23/24	qu3 23/24	qu4 23/24	qu1 24/25	Qu2 24/25	Qu 3 24/25
JWS	59.01	55.71	56.57	57.27	47.86	46.07	45.46	47.17	44.83	43.34	44.9	47.43	43.77	44.32	43.91
Lichfield	59.21	55.53	57.55	55.55	48.15	46.48	45.92	46.95	45.24	42.67	45.55	46.06	43.72	42.80	45.04
Tamworth	58.75	55.96	55.24	59.65	47.46	45.5	44.82	47.48	44.25	44.27	43.73	49.34	43.83	46.46	42.32

Refuse kg per household

	qu1 21/22	qu2 21/22	qu3 21/22	qu4 21/22	qu1 22/23	qu2 22/23	qu3 22/23	qu4 22/23	qu1 23/24	qu2 23/24	qu3 23/24	qu4 23/24	qu1 24/25	Qu 2 24/25	Qu 3 24/25
JWS	129.42	126.2	125.78	124.76	120.81	118.66	121.85	122.23	119.19	114.74	117.28	119.7	120.84	117.45	119.01
Lichfield	124.39	127.95	124.75	124.16	110.6	112.44	114.17	116.02	122.88	110.47	113.87	117.99	113.68	111.98	112.50
Tamworth	136.39	123.8	124.83	125.58	127.5	119.91	124.95	123.17	128.03	120.71	122.05	122.1	130.89	125.12	128.14

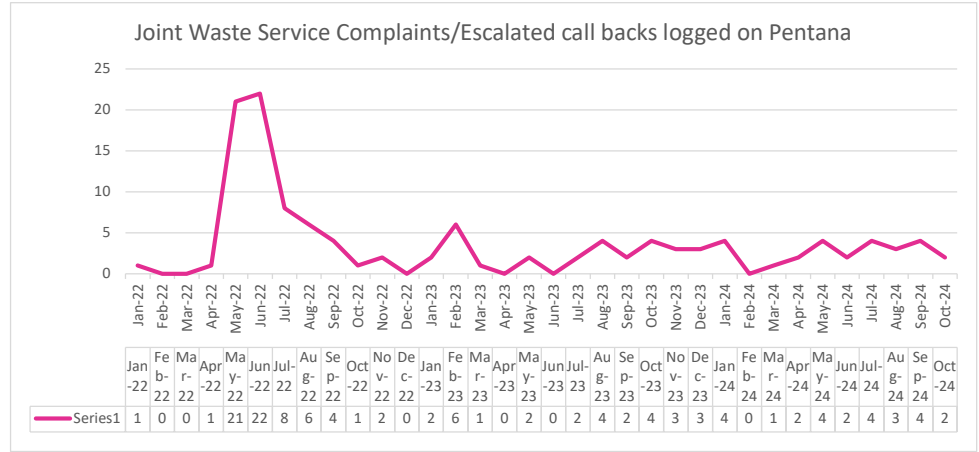
complaints/Escalated call backs

	Complaints/Escalated call backs	Compliments
Jan-22	1	1
Feb-22	0	
Mar-22	0	
Apr-22	1	
May-22	21	
Jun-22	22	
Jul-22	8	
Aug-22	6	
Sep-22	4	
Oct-22	1	
Nov-22	2	
Dec-22	0	
Jan-23	2	
Feb-23	6	1
Mar-23	1	
Apr-23	0	2
May-23	2	2
Jun-23	0	
Jul-23	2	
Aug-23	4	
Sep-23	2	3
Oct-23	4	
Nov-23	3	2
Dec-23	3	
Jan-24	4	
Feb-24	0	
Mar-24	1	25
Apr-24	2	1
May-24	4	
Jun-24	2	
Jul-24	4	2
Aug-24	3	1
Sep-24	4	1
Oct-24	2	
Nov-24	1	
Dec-24	7	2

74

25

19



This page is intentionally left blank

Wednesday 5th March 2025

**Report of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder
for Environmental Sustainability, Recycling and Waste**

**Nature Recovery Declaration Briefing Paper and Biodiversity Consideration for
Adoption**

Not Exempt

Purpose

To update the Committee on the authority's work around the Nature Recovery Declaration that was made in November 2023.

Recommendations

It is recommended that scrutiny:

1. Endorses the progress and updates provided with regards to work towards the authority's nature declaration.

Executive Summary

The Borough Council adopted its Nature Recovery Declaration in November 2023 and this briefing paper provides a progress update. The declaration is replicated in the background section of the report.

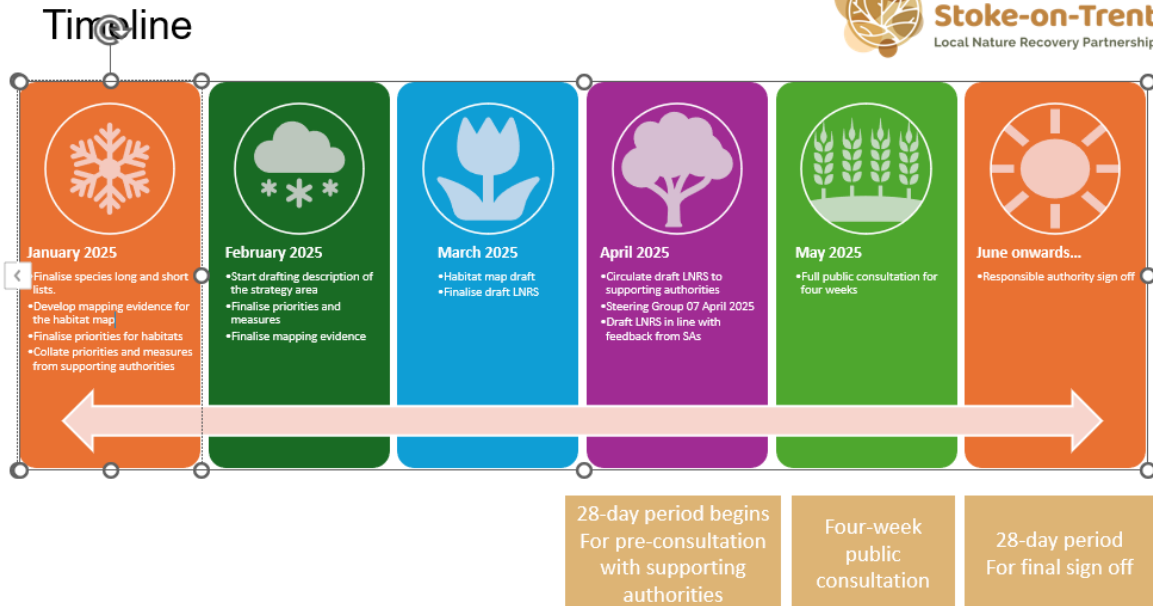
Biodiversity Consideration:

Following its tabling at the ISAG meeting in autumn 2024, the Biodiversity Consideration was subsequently presented to Cabinet, who adopted the proposed draft of this document for the authority. A formal report for progress towards this will be prepared and will be published by 1 January 2026.

Progress on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy:

Staffordshire County Council (SCC) is the responsible body for delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for the County and has received Government funding to do so.

The timetable for delivering this work has been revised from March 2025 to June 2025 the diagram below depicts the current timeline trajectory of the work.



The three key work streams being led by the Local Nature Recovery Strategy team are data and mapping, communications and engagement and strategic priorities, which across all themes numerous stakeholder groups and partnerships have been engaged in the development of the strategy to date. The project is being co-ordinated by The LNRS Project Manager of Staffordshire County Council (SCC) who has met with various representatives from both Growth & Regeneration and Environment, Culture and Wellbeing teams. SCC are requiring substantial input into the project from local authorities.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG):

It is not anticipated there will be large numbers of applications to be liable for BNG, due to the legal exemptions and the spatial picture in Tamworth (householder development, for example, is exempt).

The development management team will be liaising with ecology teams at SCC when considering applications and post-determination submission of Gain Plans. The development management team have access to a weekly BNG drop ins run by the Planning Advisory Service should any questions arise.

It remains for TBC to set a policy threshold for “significance” in the context of on-site gain given the spatial constraints of the borough and the likelihood that small gains are in fact more “significant” to nature recovery in Tamworth than elsewhere. The council has commissioned an ecology consultant to help set the threshold for local “significance” in the context of on-site gain, aligning with national policy on this. This work is currently on-going

In order to ensure that development in Tamworth also leads to gains in Tamworth, the ecology consultant is also looking at the spatial picture of the area and advising on whether any land we hold could be managed to improve its biodiversity value and provide the potential for BNG gains within Tamworth, that could be offered to developers to assist them in meeting their obligations. This work is still at an early stage, but sites have been identified that lie in transport corridors that would assist with linking green and blue spaces. This work is anticipated to be substantially completed by the end of March 2025.

SWT trust have estimated that 75 biodiversity units should provide sufficient habitat banking capacity to cover the boroughs needs. This estimate is also being tested by the ecology consultant to ensure we have as accurate a picture as possible. Some work done by West

Midlands Combined Authority gives a “rule of thumb” indication of BNG unit value per hectare by land type, as presented in a previous briefing note.

Options Considered

In terms of Biodiversity Net Gain delivery, the planning team, working with an ecology consultant, are looking at options for off-site biodiversity unit generation (habitat banking).

Resource Implications

Any future financial impacts will be brought back to this committee for consideration if there are any impacts on the MTFs.

The Government has committed to funding all new burdens on local authorities arising from the Environment Act, including those due to the biodiversity duty on public authorities, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) for Tamworth and Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRSs) for SCC. Officer time is being invested into this work to support a collaborative and partnership approach to its application.

Legal/Risk Implications Background

By undertaking this work, the council is in a stronger position to understand and fulfil the full requirements and legal obligations of the Environment Act 2021.

All public authorities have a duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity and must “have regard” to relevant local nature recovery strategies in the process.

The council is actively working to create, restore, and enhance the boroughs local wildlife, which will positively impact the environment and respond to the climate and nature crisis. Staying ahead and involved with the collaborative work from the Staffordshire Sustainability Board (SSB) can lead to bigger/better environmental outcomes.

The council continues to be committed in nature recovery and not complicit in nature’s decline. Failing to act on adopted Declarations could leave us open to reputational challenges if progress is not being made.

The authority could be subject to challenge if they are unable to fulfil the statutory duties, such as the Biodiversity Duty.

Equalities Implications

The most vulnerable to the climate crisis will benefit from nature recovery.

Nature deprivation can be closely linked with general deprivation and so working to enhance nature and biodiversity in the borough may positively support our residents’ sense of wellbeing and the mental health benefits that engaging in such spaces can bring. Within Tamworth, the good array of nature reserves and public open spaces means there is access to nature for many on the doorstep.

Supporting all our residents to feel safe within our open spaces will enable them to gain the maximum wellbeing benefits from engaging within them.

An impact assessment was presented when the policy was written, this is attached in appendix 4.

Environment and Sustainability Implications (including climate change)

The Nature Recovery Declaration and this area of work is intended to develop and build on the work already being undertaken by the council and increase collaboration with other authorities of the Staffordshire Sustainability Board with regards to the climate and nature crisis.

The work will help focus on the important commitments to the environment by helping create more, bigger, better, and joined up habitats. Investing in nature recovery and nature-based solutions will also help alleviate and resolve impacts of Climate Change.

Background Information

In November 2023 the Council adopted the Nature declaration which is provided below and also updates on the progress made to date for Members.

TBC's Nature Recovery Declaration progress has been added under each area where appropriate below.

Declaration:

Tamworth Borough Council recognise that:

- Nature is in long-term decline, and the requirement to take action to halt and reverse this is urgent;
- Nature provides us with vital support systems, and severe declines in biodiversity are undermining nature's productivity and adaptability, posing excessive uncertainty for our economies and wellbeing;
- A thriving natural environment underpins a healthy, happy, prosperous society;
- The impacts of climate change are driving nature's decline, while restoring nature provides a wide variety of cost-effective benefits to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Many of our areas of work across the Borough have an impact on nature, and we have responsibilities to make decisions to protect and enhance it.
- That the 'Bigger, Better, More and Joined-up' principles of the 2010 Lawton Report – 'Making Space for Nature' - should be followed to help rebuild nature:

Tamworth Borough Council will:

Putting Nature into Recovery:

1. Create and implement an evidence-based Local Nature Recovery Action Plan for Tamworth that will support the Stoke and Staffordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), when available, in collaboration with partners.

Update: Budgets and funding streams are being investigated to enable this work to commence.

The Tamworth Action Plan will include short and long-term targets.

2. Embed nature's recovery into all strategic plans and policy areas, not just those directly related to the environment. Use the council's Nature Recovery Network map (Appendix 2) to inform strategic plans and policy areas, and to help guide development and land allocation decisions. Ensure the Nature Recovery Network map is embedded within the authority's Local Plan, ensuring that there are dedicated, joined-up spaces for nature as well as housing, industrial areas and other land uses.'
3. Ensure local nature recovery is well understood across the authority and complements other relevant plans and strategies. Provide training and resources for councillors and council employees about the ecological emergency.

Update: Some Members received training on Biodiversity Net Gain prior to Christmas.

Biodiversity Net Gain:

4. To ensure that Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) legislation delivers real benefits for nature, the council will develop a locally specific BNG policy which requires developers to take into account the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Action Plan for Tamworth when selecting locations and delivering both on- and offsite BNG.'

Update: This work will be undertaken as part of the local plan; the draft sustainability appraisal for biodiversity, geodiversity and open space setting out the current picture is underway.

There are currently a couple of applications within the planning process that if approved will contribute to BNG in the borough, but these are on a very small scale. If these are approved the details on value of BNG can be reported back in the next appropriately timed member briefing paper.

30 by 30:

5. Seek to manage at least 30% of council-owned greenspace for the benefit of wildlife by 2030.

Update: An open space / green space network project with SWT is currently ongoing. The current percentage that nature reserves represents is 34% of the 3,588m² open space within Tamworth owned by the council.

Protected and Designated Landscapes:

6. Produce a monitoring plan for all council-managed protected and designated nature sites, eg. SSSIs, LNRs and LWSs, with a view to achieving favourable condition status by 2030.

Road Verges

7. After satisfying safety and visibility priorities and the Highway Code, develop highways verge cutting regimes that maximise potential for biodiversity, carbon storage and sequestration.

Update: Future work in this area will support the development of residents, staff and Members understanding of this action, with potential cost implications being investigated as part of this process.

Tree-planting

8. Formulate a tree policy and strategy which is underpinned by Nature Recovery Network mapping across the local authority area, pursuing a "right tree, right place" approach.

Update: This is currently a work in progress and will have input from numerous departments.

Protecting Peatlands

9. Consider the adoption of a peat-free policy for all council contracts and supplies.

Update: Where appropriate peat-free composts are now being utilised in the borough, and any planting that is received is requested to be delivered in peat free compost where possible

Nature Based Solutions

10. Carry out a carbon audit of local authority sites to establish how carbon storage and sequestration can be improved.

Update: This will potentially form part of a wider environmental management plan, and the relevant departments will agree the most appropriate way forward to progress this element of the work.

Access to Nature

11. Improve access to good quality natural spaces for Tamworth Borough residents by following Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework.'

Communications

12. Begin sharing joint nature-based communications created by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

Update: The communications team will share relevant information from partners such as Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

13. Demonstrate leadership by championing Nature Recovery and supporting and educating residents as well as the local business and communities to take action to put nature into recovery.

Responsibility and Governance

14. That the Leader of the Council is responsible for ensuring the delivery of the declaration.

15. Appoint the Assistant Director Operations and Leisure as the Lead Officer for coordinating council operations in relation to local nature recovery.

An Assistant Director of Environment, Culture and Wellbeing has been appointed in replacement to the above position.

16. That the Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee monitor the Local Nature Recovery Action Plan.

17. Work closely with Staffordshire County Council and other local partners to form a Staffordshire-wide Local Nature Recovery Partnership.

This group has now been established and is meeting quarterly.

Report Authors

Niki Stokes – Planning Assistant (Policy)

Hannah Peate- Assistant Director- Environment, Culture and Wellbeing

Charlotte Cheesman- Climate Change Officer

Mark Greaves- Operations Manager

Richard Powell- Planning Policy Team Leader

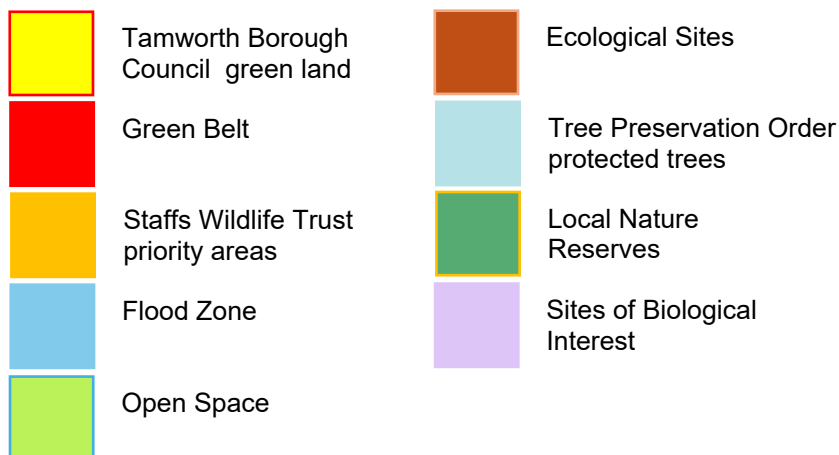
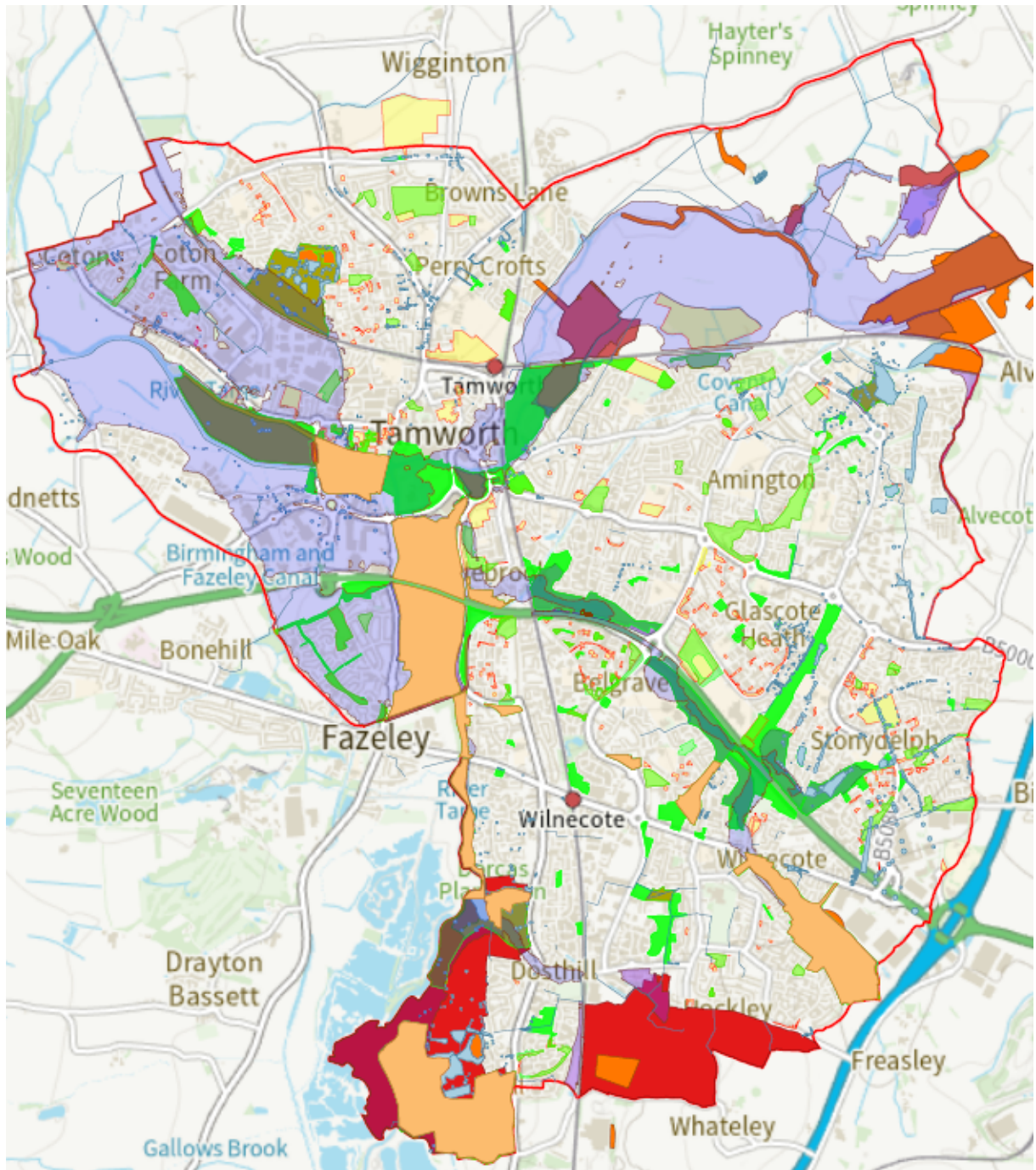
This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1 Habitat type and BNG Unit Value

Habitat Type		Units /ha
	<p>Developed Land Sealed Surface – Buildings, hardstanding, tarmac/concrete</p> <p>Very Low Distinctiveness</p>	<p>0 Units</p> <p>No compensation needed</p>
	<p>Vacant/Derelict/bareground -</p> <p>Low Distinctiveness</p>	<p>3 Units</p> <p>Suggested that it is replaced with Same distinctiveness or better</p>
	<p>Open Mosaic Habitat on previously developed Land</p> <p>Medium distinctiveness – see following description</p>	<p>12 Units</p> <p>Suggested that same habitat required to compensate</p>
Habitat Type		Units /ha
	<p>Lowland Meadow Very High distinctiveness, good condition, ecologically desirable location</p>	<p>>24 Units</p> <p>Any Loss Unacceptable – Bespoke scheme needed</p>
	<p>Lowland Mixed deciduous Woodland, high distinctiveness, good condition, ecologically desirable location</p>	<p>19.80 Units</p>
	<p>Improved grassland low distinctiveness, poor condition, not in a strategic location</p> <p>Nb. Same as arable</p>	<p>2 Units</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 2: Tamworth Nature Recovery Map



This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 3: Biodiversity Duty responsibilities

Biodiversity Duty responsibilities https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty		Nature Recovery Declaration aim(s)	Responsible Directorate(s)
Consider relevant strategies	<p>You must check if these strategies will affect how your organisation complies with the biodiversity duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local nature recovery strategies species conservation strategies protected site strategies <p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> understand how/if they are relevant to your organisation be aware of how these strategies affect land that you own or manage, or actions you could take to conserve and enhance biodiversity consider how you could contribute to the strategy, where appropriate 		<p>Environment, Culture and Wellbeing</p> <p>Growth and Regeneration (planning policy)</p>
How your biodiversity duty helps achieve biodiversity goals and targets	<p>Contribute to the achievement of national goals and targets on biodiversity in the Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP23):</p> <p>Consider the value of taking a Natural Capital approach.</p> <p>Consider the biodiversity duty when complying with requirements under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> strategic environmental assessment environmental impact assessment Habitats Regulations assessment 	1, 2, 3, 4	<p>Environment, Culture and Wellbeing</p> <p>Growth and Regeneration (planning policy)</p>
Manage land to improve biodiversity	<p>Consider how the land you manage could improve biodiversity. This includes green and blue spaces like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allotments cemeteries parks and sports fields amenity spaces and communal gardens roadside and railway verges 	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Environment, Culture and Wellbeing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • field margins and hedgerows • rights of way and access routes • woodlands and nature reserves • canals and rivers • water-dependent habitats • estuaries and coastal habitats 		
	<p>Consider other things you can do to improve habitats, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using native and sustainably sourced trees when planting • creating dedicated spaces for wildlife • leaving dead wood safely in place in woodlands to provide additional habitat • maintaining planted trees to give them the best chance of survival • reducing the use of herbicides, pesticides, peat and water • implementing measures to prevent the spread of invasive species and plant disease <p>These actions can save money while delivering benefits to biodiversity. If you own or manage large areas of land, consider promoting and encouraging nature-based solutions, restoration of natural processes and landscape recovery. Natural England has published the Green Infrastructure Framework - Principles and Standards for England. This includes planning, design and process guides.</p>	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8,	Environment, Culture and Wellbeing
Make space for wildlife	<p>You could create dedicated spaces to attract wildlife and enhance biodiversity. This is possible even if your public authority owns a single office building. It is important that these measures are appropriate to the location.</p> <p>You could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build and install nest boxes for birds, bats and other animals • add green walls or roofs to existing or new buildings • plant native trees and shrubs • plant wildflowers for pollinators <p>You can do more if you own or manage specific types of land. For example, if you own or manage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • school grounds – create gardens, ponds, meadows or woodlands to improve biodiversity and aid education 	5, 7, 10, 11	Environment, Culture and Wellbeing Growth and Regeneration (planning policy)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> farmland – be aware of soil health, water use and waste management and encourage farmers to apply for agri-environment schemes and use pesticides appropriately. 		
Enhance protected sites	<p>Sites that public authorities own or manage can be protected by other legislation. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sites of special scientific interest special areas of conservation or special protection areas national nature reserves local nature reserves and local sites <p>You should already be helping to conserve and enhance biodiversity on this land. For example, public bodies already have a duty to take all reasonable steps to conserve and enhance sites of special scientific interest.</p> <p>The Environmental Improvement Plan set the expectation that all public authorities should ensure they have management plans in place by the end of 2023 to support their sites to reach favourable status.</p> <p>Authorities should produce those plans and work actively with Natural England and others to identify and implement the actions needed to improve site condition.</p>	1, 5, 6	<p>Environment, Culture and Wellbeing</p> <p>Growth and regeneration (Planning policy - BNG/ habitat banking project)</p>
Improve how you manage buildings	<p>Review how you manage buildings and the land around them. This could include considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> whether you should remove vegetation around your buildings and if you do, when to do it what chemicals you use on the premises when you carry out maintenance work, to minimise disturbance to wildlife whether you can reduce the use of energy and water to help reduce pollution and address the pressure it puts on wildlife 	3,4, 10	<p>Environment, Culture and Wellbeing</p> <p>Growth and regeneration (climate change)</p>
Educate, advise and raise awareness	<p>You can help the public understand biodiversity and why it's important to conserve and enhance it. This can encourage land managers, businesses and the general public to take action to benefit biodiversity too.</p> <p>For your policies, objectives and actions, you could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> include the public in projects to improve biodiversity 	3, 12,13	Environment, Culture and Wellbeing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> feature biodiversity in public or internal communications use libraries and museums to raise awareness of biodiversity put information boards in green spaces or offer guided walks include biodiversity considerations in advice for internal and external clients and service users educate your staff on your biodiversity actions and why they're important raise public awareness of how their gardens can support biodiversity, for example by avoiding artificial grass 		Growth and regeneration
Review internal policies and processes	<p>All public authorities have internal policies and processes for staff and facilities that could affect biodiversity.</p> <p>Changes to internal policies and processes that can affect biodiversity are another way you can meet your duty. Policies you could review include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> transport – support sustainable travel to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality waste – review waste management and recycling processes to reduce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> water pollution and air pollution from waste transport and landfill water – improve water efficiency to reduce the effect water abstraction can have on sensitive habitats and species procurement – buy sustainable materials and supplies to reduce the demand on natural resources light – make sure the design of artificial lighting minimises effects on nature 	2, 3	All directorates
Prepare for biodiversity net gain	<p>Biodiversity net gain (BNG) is an approach to development or land management that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand. If your public authority does not have a biodiversity net gain policy in the local plan, you could consider preparing one.</p> <p>Future development projects (apart from exempt developments) will need to achieve a 10% biodiversity net gain. This is expected to be required from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 2023 for Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA) projects not falling under the small sites definition [footnote 1] 	4	Growth and Regeneration (planning - development management)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2024 for TCPA small sites • the end of 2025 for Planning Act 2008 (Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects) <p>Local planning authorities will need to report what is done for biodiversity net gain on and off development sites.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should consider areas that are appropriate for biodiversity net gain. Consider how existing planning advice and strategies can protect and enhance biodiversity.</p> <p>The developer is responsible for selecting the competent person for completing the small sites metric (SSM). The competent person does not need to be an ecologist for the SSM. The local planning authority does not need to verify the competent person.</p> <p>Find out about biodiversity net gain and how it affects you.</p>		
<p>Get help with your actions</p>	<p>You can get help from experts when considering what actions you can take. For example, you could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commission a survey or audit to help assess your property and its potential to improve biodiversity • consult your local nature recovery strategy to find out what actions would benefit your area – preparation of these will begin in 2023 • check existing data about wildlife and habitats in the area • speak to Natural England, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, local wildlife trusts or consultant ecologists <p>You can get existing local data from Local Environmental Record Centres. If you commission research, you can share that data with them. To help you understand habitats and species in your area, you can use the national Magic Map.</p> <p>Getting expert advice can help you understand how you can make a difference for biodiversity and avoid unintended outcomes.</p> <p>You may need to get expert environmental advice on planning before preparing plans or considering development proposals.</p> <p>Environmental assessment regulations require monitoring of the effects of development plans and projects. You could use the results of this monitoring as a source of environmental data.</p>	<p>Not directly mentioned in Nature Recovery Declaration.</p> <p>However we are working with:</p> <p>Local Nature Recovery Strategy team at Staffs</p> <p>SWT / Wild About Tamworth / Staffs Eco Record</p>	<p>Environment, Culture and Wellbeing</p> <p>Growth and Regeneration (Planning policy)</p>

		Environment Agency (re watercourses)	
		Canal and River Trust	

Community Impact Assessment

Appendix 4 Community Impact Assessment.

Part 1 – Details		
What Policy/ Procedure/ Strategy/Project/Service is being assessed?	Nature Recovery and Biodiversity Consideration	
Date Conducted	5/7/24	
Name of Lead Officer and Service Area	Assistant Director Environment, Culture and Wellbeing	
Commissioning Team (if applicable)		
Director Responsible for project/service area	Executive Director Organisation	
Who are the main stakeholders	Environment, Culture and Wellbeing Regeneration and Growth Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	
Describe what consultation has been undertaken. Who was involved and what was the outcome	As above	
Outline the wider research that has taken place (E.G. commissioners, partners, other providers etc)	Staffordshire wildlife trust are supporting the authority on the biodiversity net gain work.	
What are you assessing? Indicate with an 'x' which applies	A decision to review or change a service	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A Strategy/Policy/Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	A function, service or project	<input type="checkbox"/>
What kind of assessment is it? Indicate with an 'x' which applies	New	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	Existing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Being reviewed	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Being reviewed as a result of budget constraints / End of Contract	<input type="checkbox"/>
--	--	--------------------------

Part 2 – Summary of Assessment

Give a summary of your proposal and set out the aims/ objectives/ purposes/ and outcomes of the area you are impact assessing.
Biodiversity Consideration

Who will be affected and how?

By providing people with access to quality green and blue spaces it can positively impact on individuals sense of wellbeing and connection with nature.

Are there any other functions, policies or services linked to this impact assessment?

Yes

No

If you answered 'Yes', please indicate what they are?

Nature Declaration

Part 3 – Impact on the Community

Thinking about each of the Areas below, does or could the Policy function, or service have a direct impact on them?

Impact Area	Yes	No	Reason (provide brief explanation)
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	We may have some nature reserves where it is not reasonably practicable for all nature spaces to be accessible. Also it should be noted that there maybe areas identified in the borough moving forward that will have no access to support the enhancement of their biodiversity value.
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Gypsy/Travelling Community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those with caring/dependent responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those having an offending past	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vulnerable Adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those who are homeless	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those on low income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those with drug or alcohol problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those with mental health issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Those with physical health issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Social inclusion Please include refugees and asylum seekers,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Social inclusion: Armed Forces The Armed Forces Covenant is a pledge that together we acknowledge and understand that those who have served in the armed forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect and any impact should be considered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Health and Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nature connectedness is well-known to potentially improve an individuals sense of wellbeing and improve mental wellbeing.
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The work around BNG can positively impact on climate change.

Part 4 – Risk Assessment

From evidence given from previous question, please detail what measures or changes will be put in place to mitigate adverse implications. this includes climate change considerations

This is the section in which to please outline any actions to mitigate negative or enhance positive impacts in terms of economic, environmental or wider societal considerations, and actions to review and monitor the overall impact of the change accordingly.

Impact Area	Details of the Impact	Action to reduce risk
<i>Eg: Families</i>	<i>Families no longer supported which may lead to a reduced standard of living & subsequent health issues</i>	<i>Signposting to other services. Look to external funding opportunities.</i>
Disability	It is not reasonably practicable for all nature spaces to be accessible	In the future the authority will look at creating information for the numerous accessible green and open spaces in the borough.

Part 5 - Action Plan and Review

Detail in the plan below, actions that you have identified in your Community Impact Assessment, which will eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations.

If you are unable to eliminate or reduce negative impact on any of the impact areas, you should explain why

Impact (positive or negative) identified	Action	Person(s) responsible	Target date	Required outcome
	Outcomes and Actions entered onto Pentana			

Date of Review (If applicable)

Guidance and form updated July 2023 following CMT approval.

This page is intentionally left blank



Tamworth Borough Council
Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Work Plan
2024 - 2025

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.

Membership:

Chair: Councillor Marion Couchman

Members: Councillors Craig Adams, Marie Bailey, Lee Clarke, Margaret Clarke, Jeremy Oates, Ben Price, Natalie Statham and Lee Wood (Vice-Chair)

Date	Issue	Format/Reason	Lead Officer	Lead Member
5 th March 2025	Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Update 2025	Bi Annual update	Jo Sands	Co-operative Council, Community Partnerships and ASB
	Road Infrastructure within Tamworth	Member Request		Housing, Homelessness and Planning
	Nature Recovery Declaration	Annual update (Written Briefing)	Hannah Peate	Environment, Sustainability, Recycling & Waste
	Joint Waste Service	Quarterly Update (Written Briefing)	Steve Gee/Hannah Peate	Environment, Sustainability, Recycling & Waste
Planned for 29/01/25 – new date to be confirmed	Tamworth Housing and Supported Housing Strategy 2025-2030	Officer request	Jo Sands	Housing, Homelessness and Planning
TBC	Decant Policy	Member request: Forward Plan	Tina Mustafa	Housing/Homelessness & Planning
TBC	Future High street Fund	Quarterly Update – no update in January as report at Full Council	Anna Miller	Leader of the Council

Items Considered/Recommendations to Cabinet/Further Action

Date of meeting	Item	Action	Cabinet Meeting Date	Response from Cabinet /Any further action
11/07/24	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy	Endorsed the recommendation within the report and made a further two Recommendations to Cabinet	18/07/24	Recommendation one agreed Recommendation two agreed with an amendment
07/08/24	Annual Garden Waste subscription Charge	Recommendation one – asked Cabinet to Defer Recommendation two- agreed	08/08/24	Agreed to defer subject to report returning to Scrutiny with further information on the 22/08/24
02/09/24	Annual Garden Waste subscription	The Committee supported the following recommendation for Cabinet to agree to – Approve the increase of the annual subscription fee to £41 effective 1st January 2025, with the sign up window open in October.	29/08/24	Agreed by Cabinet - Approved the increase of the annual subscription fee to £41 effective 1st January 2025, with the sign-up window open in October.
02/09/24	Review of Bulky Waste Service	Create a working group to consider the matter further of bulky waste within the	N/A	

		community		
02/10/24	Maintenance of Estates and Open Spaces	Two recommendations to go to Cabinet	31/10/24	Cabinet approved the two recommendations of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee
12/11/24	Asset Management strategy	One Recommendation (To be included in Cabinet report)	21/11/24	Strategy approved
11/12/24	Climate Change update	One recommendation to go to Cabinet	23/01/25	Cabinet approved the recommendation made
29/01/25	Revised Local Development Scheme	One recommendation to go to Cabinet	20/02/25	
18/02/25	Improving Water Quality Within Tamworth Rivers	One recommendation to go to Cabinet		

Items Considered/No further action

Date of meeting	Item	Action
11/07/24	FHSF Update	Recommendations endorsed
07/08/24	Joint Waste Service Update and Fleet Procurement	Recommendations endorsed
02/09/24	Joint Waste Service Operations Update	Recommendations endorsed
	Nature Recovery Declaration	Recommendations endorsed
02/10/24	Future High Street Fund	Recommendations endorsed
	Review of the Heritage Engagement Officer Post	Recommendations endorsed
12/11/24	Community Safety Update	Recommendations endorsed
	Food Waste Service	Recommendations endorsed
	Joint Waste Service	Recommendations endorsed

Working Groups

Working Group	Members	Current Work
Facilities for HGV Drivers in Tamworth	Cllr B Price Cllr L Wood Cllr N Statham County Cllr J Oates	Meeting 21 st August 2024
Bulky Waste within the Community	Cllr M Couchman Cllr C Adams Cllr M Clarke Cllr N Statham	Established 22.08.24

Upcoming Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee Meetings

Meeting dates : 29 th January 2024	18 th February (Extra Meeting) 5 th March 2025
--	---

Scrutiny Work Planning Proposal Form (for inclusion on the workplan)

Title of proposed Scrutiny Item	
Scrutiny Committee making the request:	
Date the Committee agreed to add the item to the Workplan:	
Brief Background (Why has this come to Scrutiny attention? (egs Forward Plan/ Complaints/petition, etc):	
Which Corporate Priority will this scrutiny work help the authority achieve? CORPORATE PLAN 2022-2025 Tamworth Borough Council	
Purpose and scope of the Item (Why do you want to undertake this review? What detail do you want this work to cover?):	
Method of Scrutiny: (Agenda Item/single issue meeting/short scrutiny review See notes):	
Proposed meeting date for Scrutiny (where applicable):	
Intended Outcomes:	
Information requested for inclusion in the Item research and deadlines:	
Who are the stakeholders/ potential invitees? (eg.officers/Cabinet Members/Voluntary Sector/Public etc)	

This page is intentionally left blank