

Thursday, 21 March 2024

**Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health and Community Partnerships /  
Assistant Director - Partnerships**

**Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan Update 2024**

**Exempt Information**

N/A

**Purpose**

To consider the 2024 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 2024 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 updated 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. Attached as Appendix 1.

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 Environmental Health and Community Partnerships and the Staffordshire Commissioners Office on an agreed bi- annual basis.

**The priorities set for 2023 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 2024 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. There has been delay in the CSSA this year (commissioned by the Staffordshire Commissioner for Police Fire and Crime), however it is confirmed that priorities remain the same for 2024.

The local plans are supported and informed by the Staffordshire Community Safety Agreement 2023-2026 (Attached as Appendix 2)

### Locality Deal Funding

The Staffordshire Commissioners Office (SCO) confirmed the Tamworth LDF allocation from April 20221 to March 2025 was £61,394 per year to support in order to:-

- support the development / commissioning of discreet schemes to address local priorities, as highlighted in the strategic assessment (using an updated agreed formula); and
- support the development / commissioning of joint initiatives to address shared priorities where this is appropriate / advantageous, as identified via the strategic assessment and the Strategic Community Safety Forum.

This allocation was made available throughout the current Commissioners term (3 years), as is reliant on the CSPs providing assurance over their capacity to manage the funding, submitting an outline spend to the Commissioner at the beginning of each financial year for sign off and a brief evaluation report at the end of each financial year.

In addition, £10,000 was made available for 2022/23 and 2023/24 to support more dynamic, local problem solving of antisocial behaviour (ASB) issues, with projects identified and agreed through local tasking processes.

Main supported project 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	On 6th September 2023 they celebrated 1 year operating in Tamworth. 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 flops, foil blankets and water. They are active members of the Responsible Bodies Group	£2,000
Contribution to Senior Licencing Officer	Closer partnership working with CSP and Responsible Bodies Group	£5,000

Agreed partnership activity (multi agency)	Campaigns, promotional items, knife bins, school talks, ASB case system, Noise App	£4,394
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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:

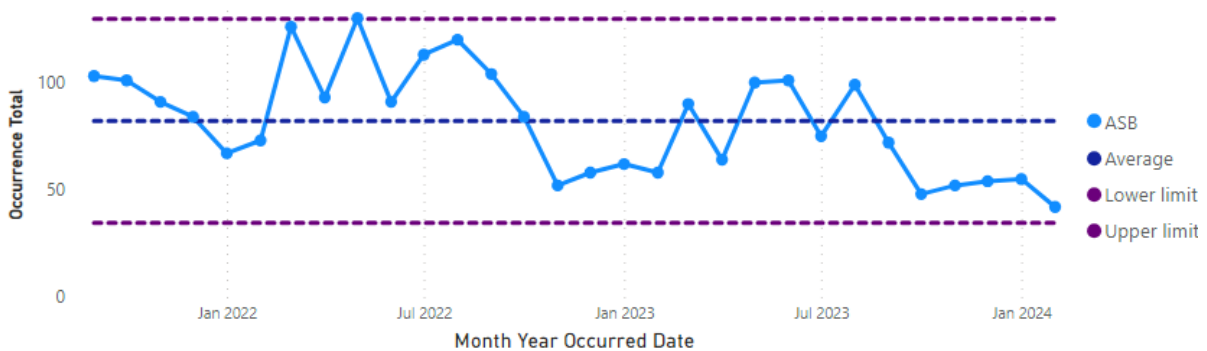
- Neighbourhood Impact Team in place
- Environmental Crime officer in post
- ASB Case review process in place
- County wide training programme in place for police and council officers
- Litter and fly tipping fines increase in line with Government ASB Action Plan
- ASB recording module purchased linked to Assure project
- Fun Club Hub commissioning, youth diversionary activity all year
- Youth ASB Engagement Worker in post
- Deployable overt CCTV cameras purchased through successful grant funding
- Staffordshire Commissioner’s Space positive summer diversionary activities <https://staffordshirespace.uk/> to prevent youth related ASB

**SPACE 2023 Tamworth**

- 952 young people engaged
- 795 Targeted cohorts
- 1704 attendance
- 6472 Hours of engagement
- 5 providers
- Tamworth LPT saw a decrease of youth related ASB from 20 incidents the previous year to 11 (pre-pandemic 34 incidents)

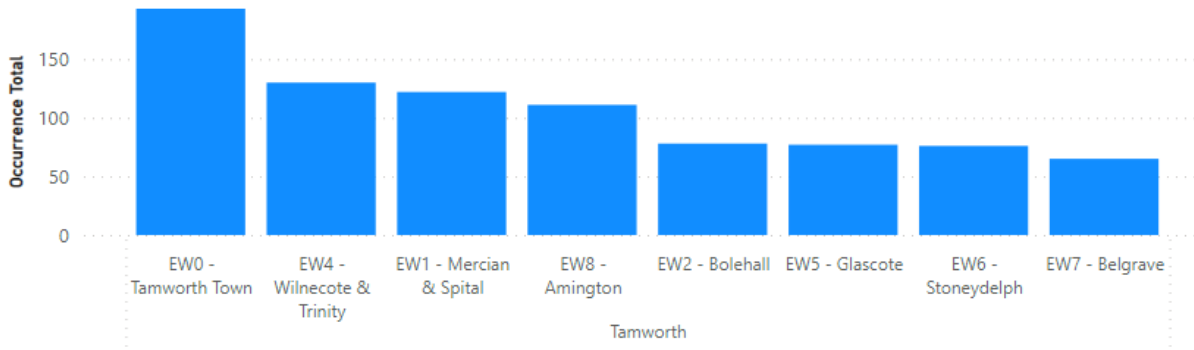
**Police ASB**

ASB Control Chart

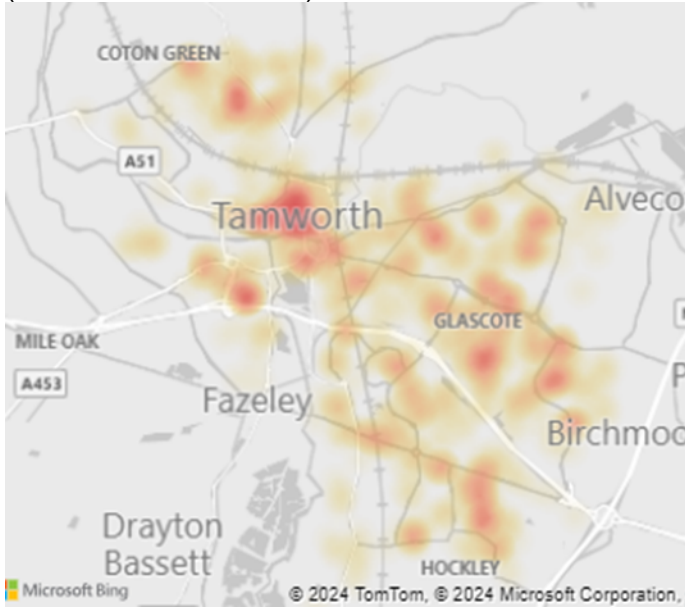


Steady decline in ASB over 3 years. Predictive models suggest this is likely to remain steady with all other factors remaining the same.

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



ASB splits across the Borough (past 12 months to February 2024) reflects expectation. A reasonable proportion of the Town Centre ASB will be Night Time Economy related (Tamworth town centre).



Partnership Enforcement:

Community Protection Notice Warnings	<b>60</b>
Community Protection Notices	19
Prosecutions	5
Litter fines issued	2
Flytip fines issued	3
Public Space Protection orders	2 renewed
Dispersal orders	0
Closure notices	0
Notice seeking possession (housing)	5
Injunctions	3
Good Neighbour Agreements	21
Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)	8

## **CASE STUDY**

X has been well known to Police and Council officers for many years, with various attempts to resolve the issue through single agency interventions. The behaviour manifested itself with repeat calls, low level anti-social behaviour, theft, and abuse of the public and neighbours.

The case was discussed fully with a multi-agency meeting to take a problem solving approach. The Council took the lead in issuing Community Protection Notices and pursued prosecution. The Police then completed a requested for Criminal Behaviour Order on the back of a prosecution. The order has resulted in X being removed from Tamworth with appropriate support and the concerns resolved.

## **PRIORITY - Community Cohesion**

- Strategic approach to persons seeking asylum and dispersed accommodation including FAQs and regular strategic and support meetings
- Funding for wraparound asylum seeker support secured and projects commissioned
- Armed Forces covenant plan in place
- Holocaust memorial events and school participation in creating green memorials
- Prevent plan in place and full engagement with County Council
- Uniting Staffordshire Against Crimes of Hate (USAH) commissioned and embedded
- Developing an approach to the travelling community including protocols and FAQs for the public
- Toolbox talks with Streetscene staff to recognise extremist signs and symbols for reporting purposes
- UKSPF multi-cultural event at Heart of Tamworth
- UKSPF Community Champion Scheme
- Prevent training embedded as part of staff induction and job related enhanced training

## **PRIORITY - Domestic Abuse (including stalking and harassment)**

- Updated county wide Domestic Abuse commissioned service through the Staffordshire Commissioners Office via NEW ERA
- 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.

## **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:

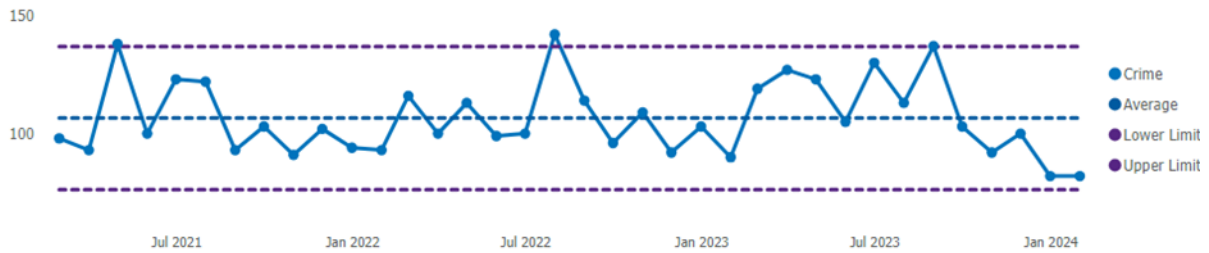
- Supported Victims 1392 9% of all supported
- Perpetrator Service 47 8% of all supported

During Q3 2023/4 (commencement of the new contract) 131 referrals were made for Tamworth (of which 24 were children) and 216 individuals are currently supported.

Demand for services pan-Staffordshire has increased and is expected to grow.

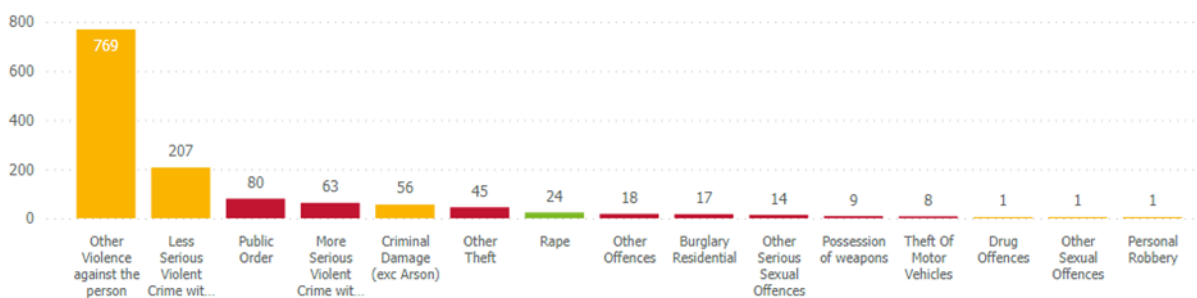
Police Reported Domestic Abuse

Crime Volume SPC Chart



Overall, a 3% increase in last 12 months which is not considered significant. This is against relatively low levels (in the previous 12 months Tamworth was the only LPT to see a slight reduction in DV). Increase in reporting due to national and local campaigns raising awareness can be expected and encouraged to protect vulnerable victims.

Crimes by Offence Group



The only statistical increases in Domestic violence are in red above.

Public order increase is 11% and likely to be a crime recording if officers are pursuing a victimless prosecution for example.

More serious violence increase is +88% which sounds concerning but this is due to new offence recording of non-fatal strangulation which fits in this category and used to be recorded as common assault (less serious violence).

For information, other violence (largest by volume) is predominantly stalking/harassment. There is a low threshold for recording these – only 2 incidents amount to a course of conduct.

**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.

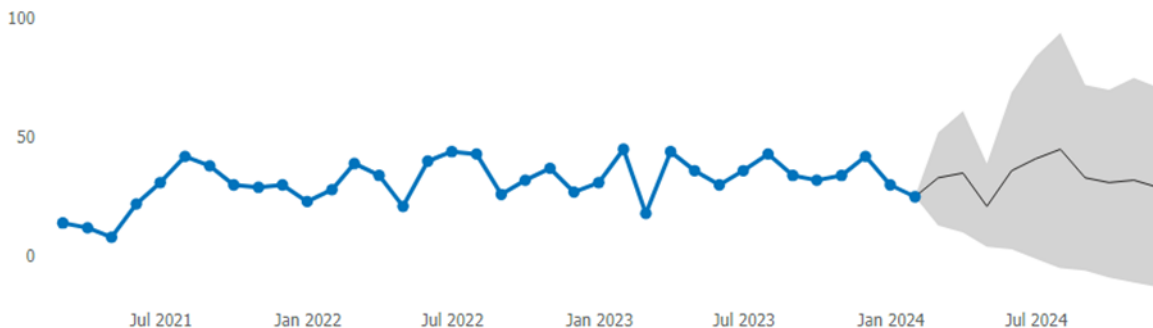
## PRIORITY - Public Place and Serious Violence (including Violence, Abuse and Intimidation of Women and Girls -VAIWG)

- Serious Violence duty in place
- Responsible Bodies Group in place
- Joint licenced premises visits Council/Police
- Support for Street Angels (£2,000 grant per year until March 2025)
- Safer Nights multi-agency support projects – 3 events in 2023
- 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

### Police Data

Public space violence can be hard to determine statistically, however data from the town centre nights time economy is below:-

Occurrence Volume 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



<b>Overall</b>	<b>-20%</b>
Theft of MV	-34%
Theft from MV	-16%
Vehicle interference	-8%

**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 2023 - December 2023 TVP cases

Reason for referral	Number
Housing	5
Anti Social Behaviour	1
Domestic abuse	3
Mental Health concern	2
Vulnerable person (multiple issues)	1
Community concerns	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>

- 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

**CASE STUDY – BETTER WAY RECOVERY**

On 6th September 2023 they celebrated 1 year operating in Tamworth. 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.

There are now 5 peer mentor volunteers in Tamworth, and 2 more being DBS checked who have both got over 6 months abstinence since coming to Better Way.



The group continues to work extremely well with Staffordshire County Council addiction services to deliver the best wraparound service possible for people in Tamworth.

Output / Outcomes	Progress update from 01 November 2022 – 30 September 2023
Centre Opening Days - Tamworth	4
Number of Recovery Seekers Supported	109
Solution Focussed Groups	4
Outreach Visits to the Vulnerable	40
Multi-agency support meetings for the benefit of Tamworth Recovery Seekers	44
Partnership meetings to raise awareness with key partners to discuss our service and how we may link to support Recovery Seekers	12

- Support continued for the Dementia Friendly Communities group and Dementia Action week activities planned and undertaken (13-19 May 2024)
- 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 – 2316 between January and December 2023
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Safe and Sound week reached 1156 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/>

#### **CASE STUDY – VULNERABLE PERSON**

James, a 79 year old gentleman, came to the attention of the Tamworth Fire and Rescue Service Prevent team following a referral form the West Midlands Ambulance Service. This was due to him living in a small flat that was heavily cluttered and the occupier presented mobility issues claiming there was no smoke detection.

A Safe and Well Visit was conducted in the Home. The initial concerns regarding the clutter had been somewhat addressed by James`s daughter however advice and tips were given to reduce trip hazards in the home along with Fire Safety. What became apparent during the visit was that James was scared and worried about using his appliances due to the increase cost in energy bills so was putting his health at risk by not eating hot meals nor heating his home appropriately this was also having an impact on his mental wellbeing.

Due to the Partnership links we have within Tamworth we made a referral to Communities together CIC, this is to see what support can be given and ensure he is receiving everything he is entitled to so he can heat his home and cook meals.

Referrals also made to Tele Care to provide James with a Falls Pendant alarm should he fall he is now able to press a button or the pendant will automatically call for help.

James is now receiving Support, able to heat his home and it was left with his daughter to get in touch if anything else further was needed.

## Future Plans

Further activity is outlined in the Community Safety Plan work plan and annual refresh to include:

- Review of strategic thematic meetings
- Problem solving approach to Vulnerability Partnership/ASB Coordination Group
- COMF/UKSPF projects
- Partnership events programme
- SFRS Safe and Sound Week 9<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April 2024
- Continued work on priorities as outlined in this report

The updated work plan is attached as Appendix 3.

All work streams continue to have a robust work plan with a number of underlying principles to ensure that we embed our approach to delivery of the plan:-

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

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

The Community Safety Plan will be continue to be overseen by the Tamworth Partnership Coordination Group and scrutiny will remain with the Infrastructure Safety and Growth Committee.

## 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):

- Locality Deal Fund £61,394 per year – to March 2025
- Small crime initiatives GY1601 - £11,000
- VCSE grants - £1,000 grants per Councillor and £15,590 for wider grants from April 2024
- UKSPF/COMF – grant income on a variety of projects
- TBC grant funding - £5,000 Samaritans Tamworth Branch
- Tamworth Advice Centre (financial and debt support) - £82,000 (£20,000 Housing Solutions and £30,000 Housing support) & £9,000 outreach
- £11,000 until March 2025 – CT CIC rental space for community groups (including Betterway)

**Legal/Risk Implications Background**

All covered in the report

**Equalities Implications**

As per the Tamworth Borough Council Making Equality Real in Tamworth (MERIT)

**Report Author**

Joanne Sands – Assistant Director Partnerships

**Appendices**

Appendix 1 – CSP Plan

Appendix 2 – Staffordshire Community Safety Agreement

Appendix 3 – Updated work plan

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