

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Report of the Assistant Director - Partnerships**

**Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan Bi-annual Update**

**Exempt Information**

N/A

**Purpose**

To consider actions arising from the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2023-2026, priorities, and progress to 30 September 2024

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Endorse the ongoing work of the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership

**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 (CSP). This provides the opportunity for Scrutiny to continue to have more detailed oversight from Tamworth Police, the Assistant Director Partnerships, Portfolio Holder and the Staffordshire Commissioners Office on an agreed bi-annual basis.

The CSP has recently been integrated as a priority thematic group for the Tamworth Strategic Partnership with the meetings being chaired by the Chief Inspector.

**The priorities set for 2023 (refreshed in 2024) are:**

- **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)**

An updated Community Safety Strategic assessment (CSSA) is currently under commission by the Staffordshire Commissioner for Police Fire and Crime. An updated the CSSA will be presented to the Committee in April 2025 when the plan reviewed.

The local plans are supported and informed by the Staffordshire Community Safety Agreement 2023-2026.

### Locality Deal Funding

The Staffordshire Commissioner's Office (SCO) confirmed the Tamworth LDF allocation from April 2022 to March 2025 was £61,394 per year 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 Commissioner's 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

In addition, projects which align with CSP priorities are or have been funded through the Covid Outbreak Management (Attached as Appendix 1a) and UK Shared Prosperity (Attached at Appendix 2).

**PRIORITY - Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)**

Key headlines:

- Neighbourhood Impact Team now embedded and tackling ASB across all tenancy types – social housing, private sector and owner occupied
- County wide training programme continuing 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 2024 Tamworth**

- 704 young people engaged
- 795 Targeted cohorts
- 1609 attendance
- 6339 Hours of engagement
- 5 providers

Youth ASB continues to fall

**Police ASB**

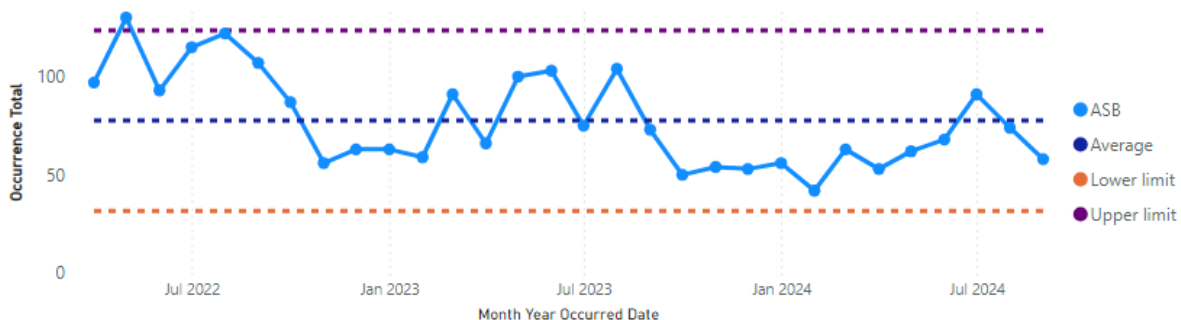
724

ASB Current 12 Months

940

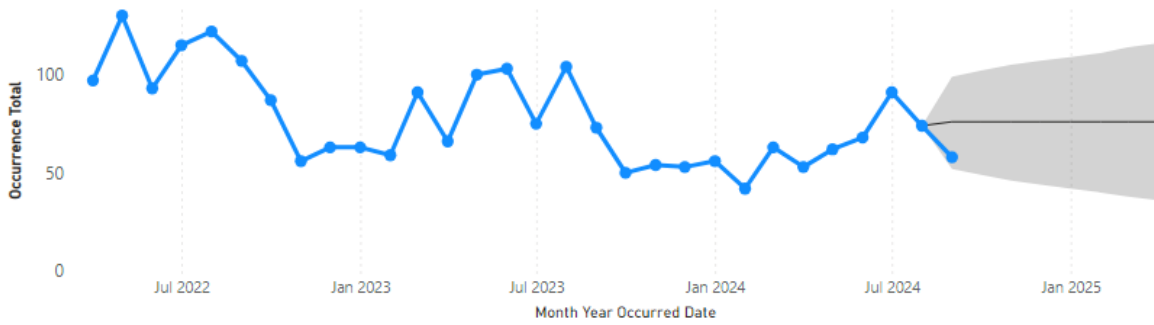
ASB Previous 12 Months

ASB Control Chart



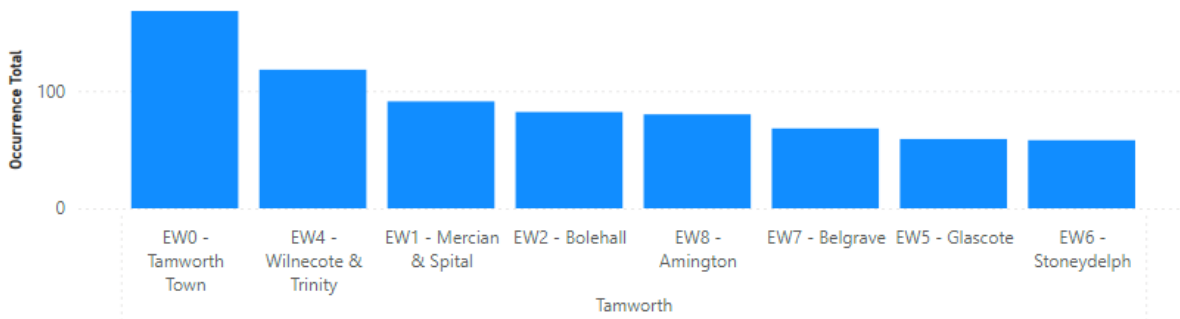
Overall, there has been a sustained decrease in reports of ASB over the past 12 months with an overall reduction of –20%.

ASB Forecast Chart



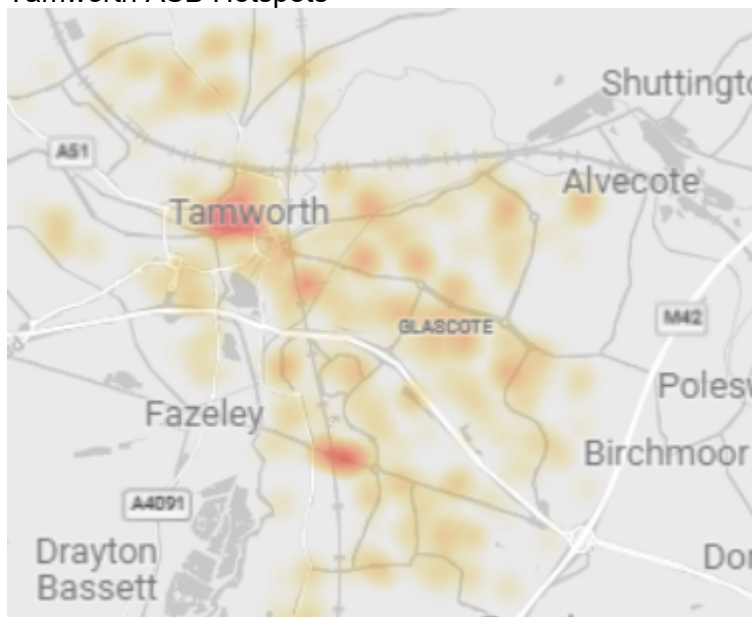
The predictive forecast chart indicates that this is likely to remain steady. Of note, we have seen reductions over the past 3 years. Last year's predictive chart suggested ASB would remain steady, however we actually saw a significant reduction.

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



The locality of ASB shows a trend that would be expected, with the highest volumes being in the town centre, likely due to the night-time economy and higher footfall at other times of the day. The second largest area for ASB reports being Wilnecote and Trinity, likely to be due to the size of the ward compared to others. The strongest concentration in this ward is focused on the locality of McDonalds restaurant and drive thru.

## Tamworth ASB Hotspots



### Partnership Enforcement April 2024 to September 2024:

Community Protection Notice Warnings	<b>59</b>
Community Protection Notices	15
Prosecutions	0
Litter fines issued	0
Flytip fines issued	1
Public Space Protection orders	0
Dispersal orders	0
Closure notices	1
Notice seeking possession (housing)	2
Injunctions	2
Good Neighbour Agreements	4
Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)	To be advised
ASB Case Review	0

### **PRIORITY - Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism**

There have been a number of community cohesion issues identified as a result of the riots on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

This priority is to be reviewed to separate Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism (Prevent) and will be considered as part of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment.

#### **Community Cohesion**

The Government have awarded Tamworth £600,000 Recovery Fund for specific projects to understand community cohesion issues and to aid recovery from the riots. An outline spend plan will be taken to Cabinet on 21 November and is currently being developed but includes:

- The appointment of The Belong Network to undertake public consultations in Tamworth and 'honest conversations', both with community groups, stakeholders and communities that have not previously been engaged.
- Consideration of a social crowdfunding platform funded through the Recovery Fund which will be aligned to our community engagement and involvement strategy work to encourage communities to undertake projects to improve community cohesion.

#### Other Community Cohesion work:

- Ongoing work with community and faith groups
- A community cohesion group has been established
- Ongoing strategic approach to persons seeking asylum in the contingency hotel and dispersed accommodation including FAQs and regular strategic and support meetings
- Further funding received for wraparound asylum seeker support secured and projects commissioned
- Silver Armed Forces Employee Recognition award
- 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
- Ongoing 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 to recognise radicalisation <https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/community-safety/preventing-terrorism>
- Full Prevent plan in place – 5 referrals from Tamworth through schools and college

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

- Updated county wide Domestic Abuse commissioned service through the Staffordshire Commissioners Office via NEW ERA
- Tamworth has formally become members of the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance to work with tenants, officers and other partners to ensure awareness and understanding of domestic abuse
- Target hardening process in place
- Multi agency attendance at MARAC meetings
- Home office funding grant to Pathway continues to support out of hours support at Tamworth Refuge
- Domestic Abuse Communication group arranged campaigns throughout the year

#### **New Era Victim Service**

The new contract arrangements for the New Era service commenced on 1st October 2023.

## Quarter 1 and 2 (April to September 2024)

Victims – Adults

Geography	Stoke-on-Trent City		Staffordshire County		Total pan Staffs	
	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date
<b>Total New Referrals</b>	604	1822	1133	3545	1737	5367
<b>Supported</b>	555	1669	910	3124	1465	4793

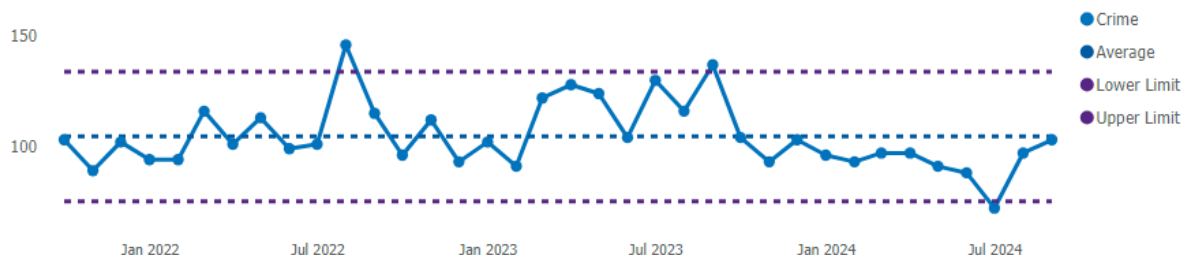
## Behaviour Change – Adults

Geography	Stoke-on-Trent City		Staffordshire County		Total pan Staffs	
	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date	Quarter	To Date
<b>Total New Referrals</b>	89	317	67	172	156	489
<b>Supported</b>	68	172	57	100	125	272

Demand for services pan-Staffordshire has increased and is expected to grow. Information for Tamworth will be available for April 2025 update.

## Police Reported Domestic Abuse

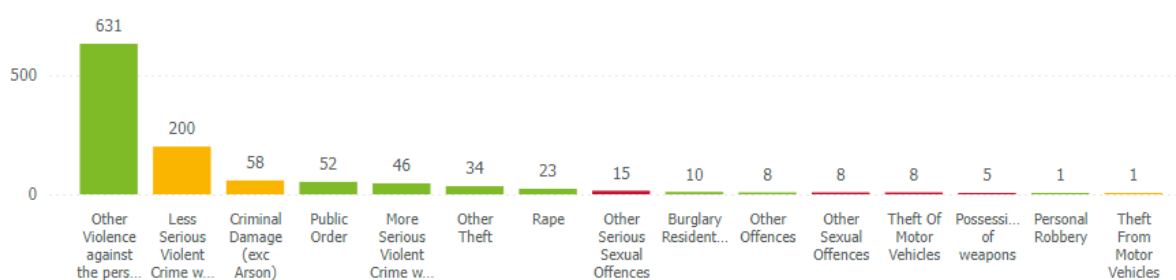
Crime Volume SPC Chart



-20%

Domestic violence crime volume has decreased by -20% in the past 12 months. This is likely to be due to increased proactivity and positive action taken against perpetrators. In particular a drive to intervene with repeat perpetrators and maximising opportunities to control through arrest, remand, and bail conditions.

## Crimes by Offence Group



The statistical increases in domestic violence sexual offences (+109%) may appear to be concerning. However, these are very low sample sizes and is likely to be due to encouraging disclosure of non-recent offences when officers complete risk assessments with victims.

### **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
- Safer Nights Operations – drugs dogs commissioned and a number of arrests made (October 2024)

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

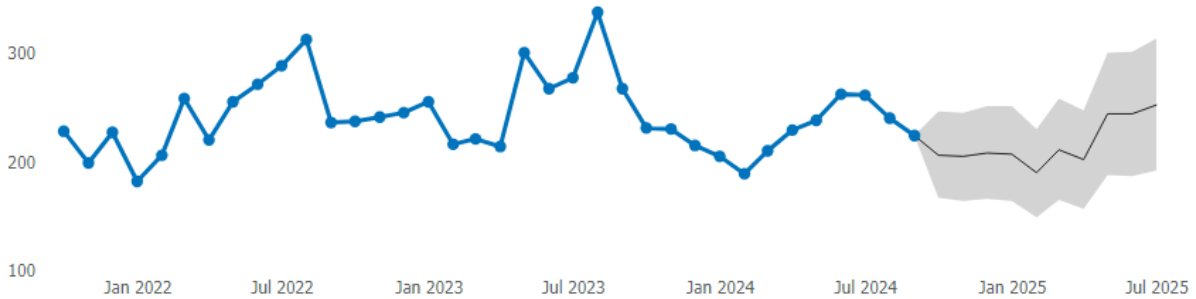
- Serious Violence duty in place
- Responsible Bodies Group in place
- Joint licenced premises visits Council/Police
- Support for Street Angels (£2,000 grant per year until March 2025)
- Safer Nights multi-agency support projects – 3 events in 2024
- Ask Angela promoted in licenced premises
- Pubwatch scheme in place through PABCIS
- Knife crime awareness talks in 5 schools
- 3 knife bins in place across Tamworth



## Public Spaces – (Night Time economy)

-14%

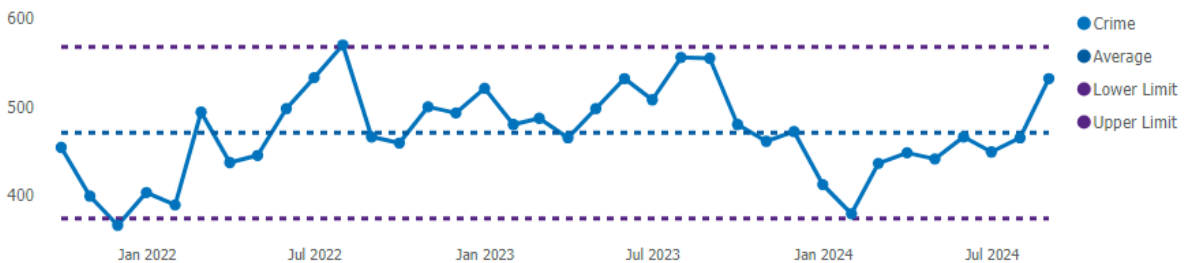
Occurrence Volume Chart



Offence recording in the night-time economy has reduced by -24% over 12 months, and the predictive chart indicates that trend may continue with seasonal increases in the summer months as anticipated. The reduction may be due to increased police presence and partnership-driven Safer Nights operations.

## Crime Overall

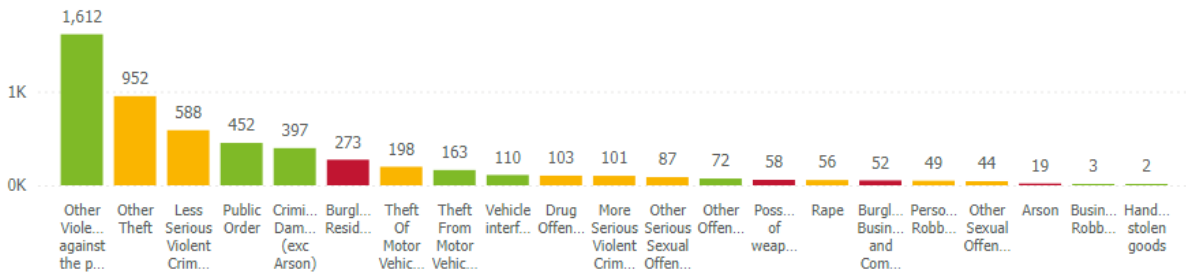
Crime Volume SPC Chart



-12%

The past 12 months have seen a decrease in overall crime of -12%. The last month indicates a sharp increase; however, this is consistent with expected seasonal trends and is lower than in previous years.

Crimes by Offence Group



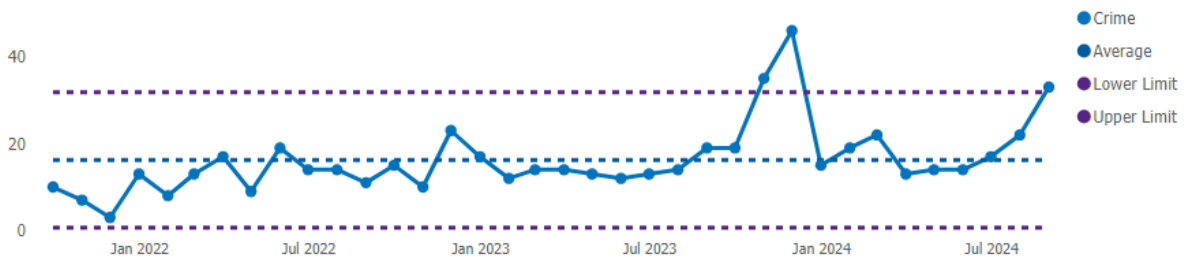
In terms of trends by offence group, there have been increases in 4 areas; Burglary Residential, Possession of Weapons, Burglary Business, and Arson. In the latter 3 crime types, the baseline numbers are low, so small variations in terms of volume have a greater statistical impact.

Possession of Weapon increase is due to a spike in October 2023 with volumes returning to a more normal level by October 2024.

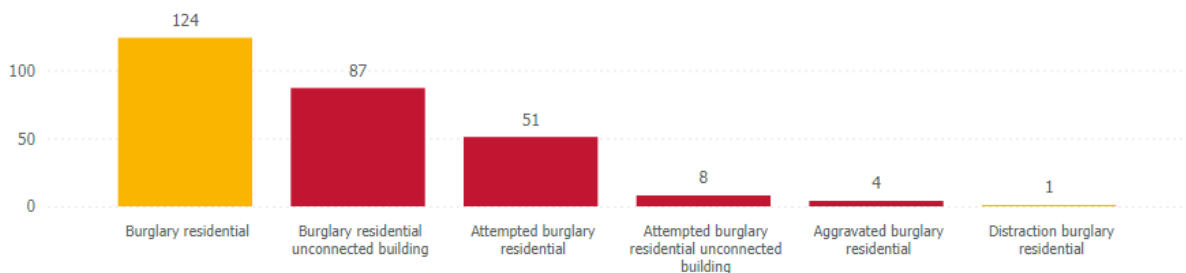
Both Burglary Business and Arson saw slight increases earlier this year with volumes returning to levels which are below average and at or around the lower control levels.

**Burglary Residential**

Crime Volume SPC Chart



Crimes by Offence Group



Over the past 12 months, Burglary Residential has increased by +53%. This is caused by two distinct spikes; in the winter last year, and over the past 2 months. These predominantly relate to unconnected buildings (sheds and outbuildings) as these are now classed as residential burglary. In both instances, suspected offenders responsible for the spikes were arrested and prosecuted for various

offences. Residential Burglary volumes have subsequently returned to a more normal level.

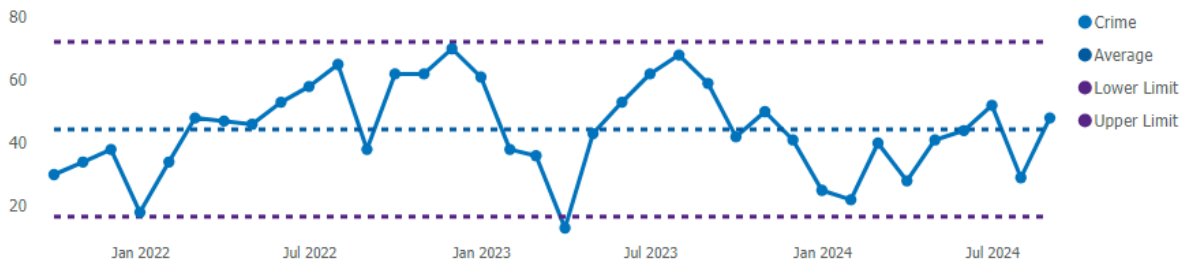
There has been an increase in reports of attempted burglary, which is in part due to an increase in reporting where video doorbells have alerted residents of offenders trying door handles. These would have gone unnoticed before and therefore not reported.

**PRIORITY - Vehicle Crime**

- Motorbike information and actions
- Community safety promotional items (including Faraday pouches)
- Nuisance Vehicle Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) remains in place
- Successful arrests during the year
- Police surgeries

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

Crime Volume SPC Chart



-23%

<b>Overall</b>	<b>-23%</b>
<b>Theft of MV</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>Theft from MV</b>	<b>-38%</b>
<b>Vehicle interference</b>	<b>-14%</b>

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

- Tamworth Vulnerability Partnership continues to meet weekly 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 – September 2024 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 2024 Betterway celebrated 2 years operating in Tamworth. They are now delivering 5 support groups over the 4 days that BWR are in Tamworth per week.

In the last 6 months we have successfully referred 6 recovery seekers into rehab, five of whom managed to complete their 12-week residential program.

One particular success story was a gentleman who had been sleeping rough in Tamworth for several months. We supported him into rehab, including driving him over to Derby. Unfortunately, he was discharged after 6 weeks, on the day of discharge he came straight to Better Way. We were successful in securing him temporary accommodation immediately, and within 2 months clean, and regularly commutes over to Tamworth to remain involved in Better Way.

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.

Funding has been successfully secured for a second year of work with the H.O.M.E. Hub. Thus far the project has proved successful with is helping support 12 recovery seekers into temporary accommodation, and successfully supporting 11 others with tenancy sustainment issues.

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	Three Year Funding Agreement Target	Progress update from 01 November 2022 – 31 September 2024
Centre Opening Days - Tamworth	2 increasing to 3, increasing to 4	4
Number of Recovery Seekers Supported	140 Individuals	234

Solution Focussed Groups	2 increasing to 3, increasing to 4	5
Phone Support	7	5.5
Outreach Visits to the Vulnerable	85	77
Multi-agency support meetings for the benefit of Tamworth Recovery Seekers	48	62
Partnership meetings to raise awareness with key partners to discuss our service and how we may link to support Recovery Seekers	22	24

- 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 for a second year
- 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 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/>
- Covid Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) projects commissioned – value £251,342 – details at Appendix 1a
- Tamworth Borough Council Community and Councillor Grants awarded – Details attached as Appendix 1b-1c

## Future Plans

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

- Review of strategic thematic meetings reporting to the Tamworth Strategic Partnership
- Community Cohesion 'Honest Conversations' Project commissioned through the Belong Network (Community Recovery fund)
- Further spend plan for Community Recovery Fund to be heard at Cabinet on 21 November
- Emerging work with the Integrated Care Board around Health Inequalities
- Evaluation of UKSPF funding and future planning
- Partnership events programme – safer nights and awareness continue in 2025
- SFRS Safe and Sound Week 2025
- Introduction of the Protect Duty (Martyn's Law) – event organiser seminar arranged for 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- Commissioning of the Walk Safe app in collaboration with the Street Angels
- Continued work on priorities as outlined in this report

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
- COMF – grant income on a variety of projects. Details attached at Appendix 2
- 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)
- NEW - £600,000 Awarded via the Community Recovery Fund
- NEW - £125,000 Awarded Asylum Dispersal Grant

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

All covered in the report

### **Equalities Implications**

The work undertaken by the CSP is fundamentally taken to protect those most vulnerable from harm through working together, as such the projects will have a positive effect.

Emerging community cohesion work will have an impact on all protected characteristics with the aim of fully ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion.

A separate CIA will be included to inform the Recovery Grants spend

**Report Author**

Joanne Sands – Assistant Director Partnerships

**Appendices**

Appendix 1a – COMF funded projects

Appendix 1b – Community Grants April-June 2024

Appendix 1c – Community Grants July-September 2024

Appendix 2 – Covid Outbreak Management Fund projects

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