

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:

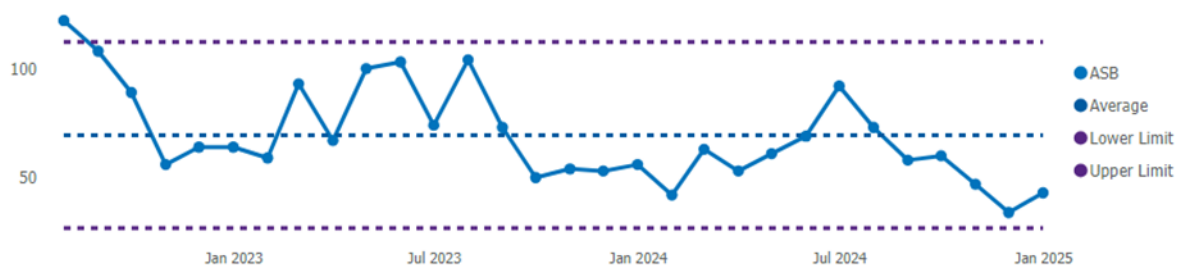
- ASB Case review process in place
- County wide training programme in place for police and council officers
- ASB recording module purchased linked to Assure project
- Fun Club Hub commissioning, youth diversionary activity all year
- Youth ASB Engagement Worker in post
- Staffordshire Commissioner’s 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

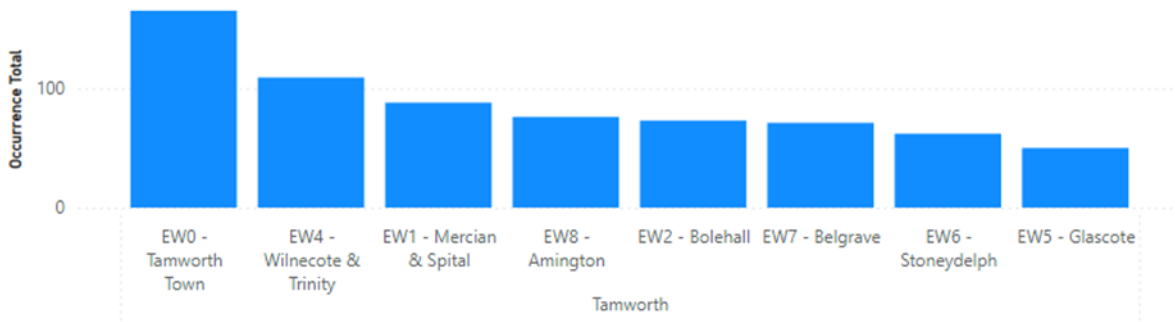
Police ASB

ASB SPC Chart

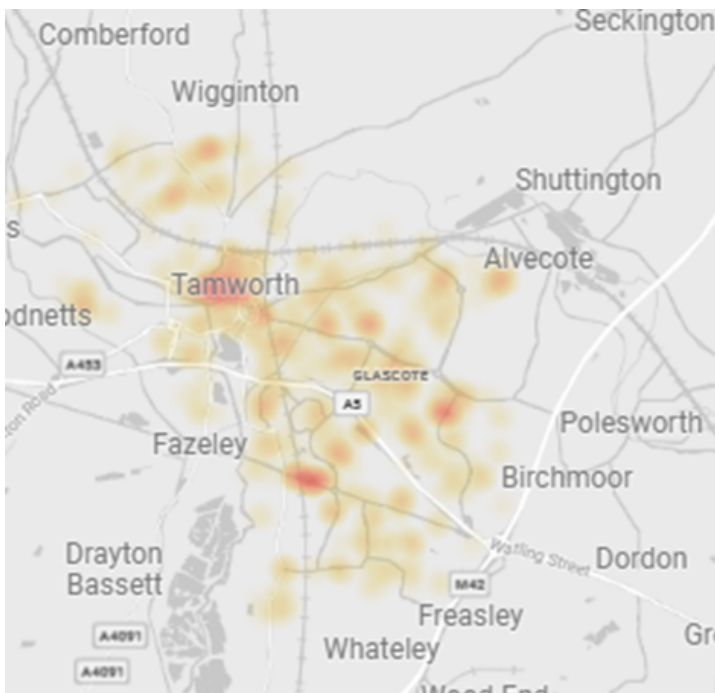


ASB continues to decline. Reduction of -22% over last 12 months

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

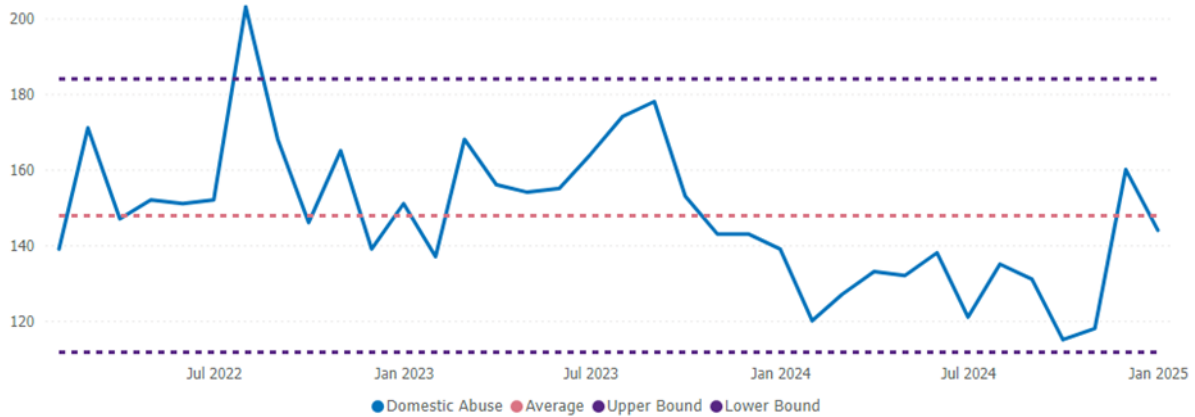
New Era Victim Service

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.

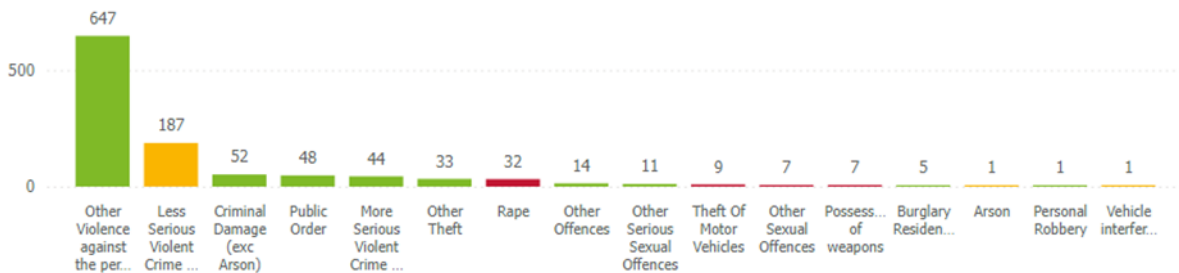
Police Reported Domestic Abuse



% 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

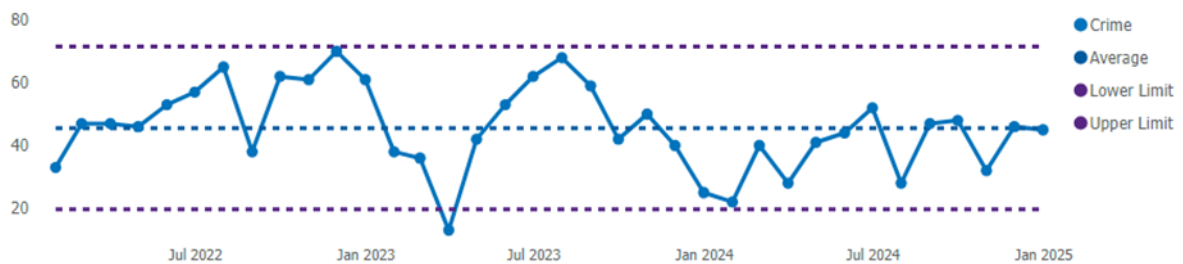


PRIORITY - Vehicle Crime

- 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

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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

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