

Community Safety Strategic Assessment

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent

2019

Produced on behalf of



Working in partnership with



Title	Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent: Community Safety Strategic Assessment (2019)
Description	This Community Safety Strategic Assessment provides evidence and intelligence to inform the strategic decision-making process for Staffordshire Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and Stoke-on-Trent Safer City Partnership (SCP), helping commissioners and partners to determine the priorities that require particular attention in their local area.
Date created	Final version (3.0) February 2020
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Introduction and Context

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

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

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

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

Local Population and Demography

The Staffordshire Police force-area of Staffordshire County and the city of Stoke-on-Trent has a combined population of 1,131,052 people. The force-area has a slightly smaller working-age population (16-64 year olds) than the national average (61% of residents, compared to 63% nationally), a similar proportion of under 16 year olds (18% locally, compared to 19% nationally) and a slightly larger proportion of adults aged 65 and over (21% of local residents, compared to 18% of the national population).

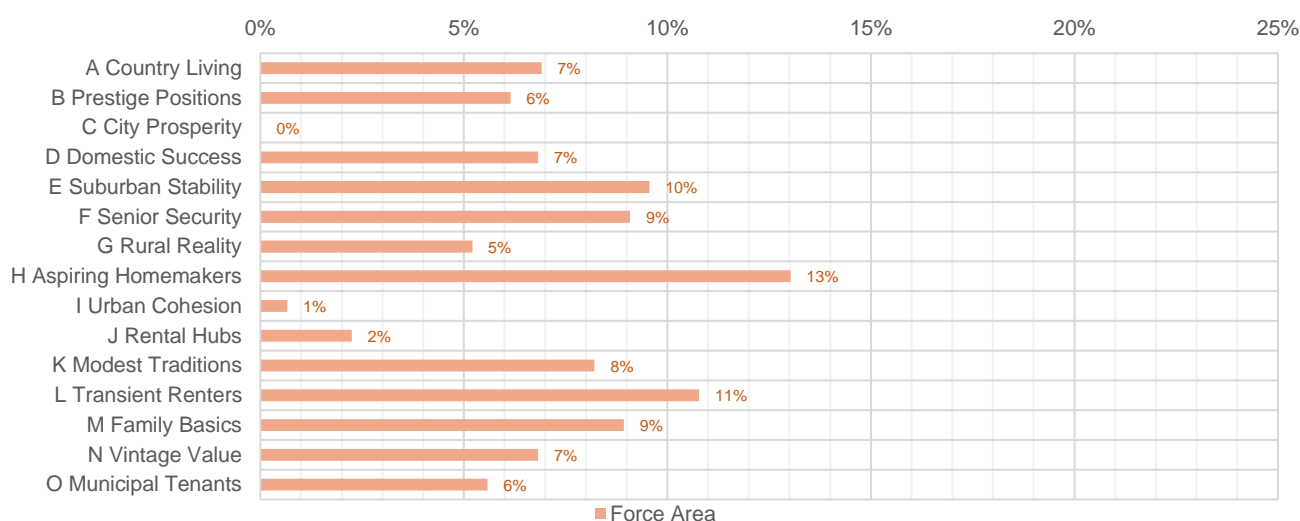
The majority (78%) of land in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is considered rural, with around 19% of the population living in rural communities. Levels of rurality vary by partnership area, with some wholly urban (Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth), some predominantly rural (Staffordshire Moorlands), and some seeing a mix of urban and rural areas.

While overall levels of employment are slightly better than the national average, earnings in the majority (6 out of 9) of the Safety Partnership areas are below the national average.

There are pockets of substantial affluence and advantage across the area, however, there are some communities in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent that are particularly impacted by significant levels of deprivation; these areas face substantial challenges in terms of quality of housing, health, education and qualifications, employment, and both children and elderly people living in poverty. While housing is statistically considered more affordable than the national average, levels of low-pay and access to universal credit in some of the areas most disadvantaged communities, mean that some residents rely heavily on privately and socially rented accommodation.

The mix of rural and urban areas, deprived and affluent communities, younger and older populations, rented and owned accommodation, across the force-area means that no one socio-demographic group is excessively dominant. Every Partnership area has at least one demographic group which is either significantly more present or significantly less present locally than across the force area overall.

Proportion of local population in each Mosaic¹ demographic group



¹ See Appendices for Mosaic Group characteristics

Staffordshire Commissioner's Office Priorities

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

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

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

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

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

Summary of Local Community Safety Priorities

A review of priorities has been undertaken, as set out in existing risk and threat assessment reports, primarily the Staffordshire Police Strategic Threat assessment and Force Management Statement 2019, in order to distil key strategic priorities and risks for the local area. These have been cross referenced against known existing local priorities and findings for the locality, which have been agreed previously. New and emerging issues and risks identified through the partnership and data analysis have been scored using the MoRiLE² approach, with the following being areas agreed as priorities across the majority of Safety Partnerships in the force-area;

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Domestic Abuse
- Drug Supply & County Lines³
- Fraud
- Public Place Violence & Serious Violence
- Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding⁴ (incl. Alcohol, Drugs and Mental Health)

And the following agreed as priorities primarily affecting specific parts of the force-area;

- Counter Terror / Counter Extremism
- Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking
- Car Key Burglaries / Vehicle Theft
- Community Cohesion & Hate Crime
- Rural Crime

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

- Repeat and Persistent Offending
- Business Crime
- Fire and Fire Risk

² Management of Risk in Law Enforcement: Home Office risk scoring and prioritisation methodology used by Police Forces in England and Wales.

³ County Lines refers to organised drug supply and trafficking routes into and out of 'county' and rural areas from metropolitan areas.

⁴ Contextual Safeguarding regards the practice of safeguarding individuals (particularly young people) within the context of the environment and setting that they are in, particularly in environments outside of their usual family environment, such as school and public places.

People and Communities at Greatest Risk

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

Those considered to be particularly vulnerable to experiencing crime, safeguarding concerns or being criminally exploited in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are identified as;

- Residents (and offenders) with known drug dependencies or previous drug-related offending
- Children (under 10s) in areas with high levels of Domestic Abuse and/or drug or alcohol-related offending
- Children and young people (aged 10-19) at risk of criminal exploitation.
- Socially isolated adults with mental health needs
- Socially and geographically isolated older and elderly adults
- Socially isolated adults with alcohol and/or drug dependencies

In every Safety Partnership area in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, those who belong to the Family Basics demographic group are disproportionately more likely to experience crime than those in other socio-demographic groups. In several areas, those in the Transient Renters demographic group are also disproportionately present amongst victims of crime.

While the Family Basics group account for around 9% of the force-area population, they account for 17% of victims of crime. Similarly, overall, although Transient Renters make up around 11% of the force-area population, they account for 17% of all victims.

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

Those in the Transient Renters group tend to be younger (18-24) singles, renting low-cost older terraced housing – often in houses split into multiple flats or apartments, in communities particularly affected by deprivation. These communities tend to be more ethnically diverse than many other areas. As a result of very low housing costs in these areas, they are often accessible to those who are amongst the most economically disadvantaged, with families with limited resources moving into these areas and living in overcrowded conditions.

Older people living in isolation, who are particularly vulnerable to experiencing Fraud offences, are also vulnerable to 'door step' crime, which may involve intimidating and aggressive behaviour on the part of the offenders or an element of befriending or grooming of the victim to facilitate the offending or repeat victimisation.

Priorities by Locality

While some Community Safety priorities identified through this Strategic Assessment apply to all Safety Partnership areas, some are less prevalent in specific areas, and some are only prevalent in a limited number of partnership localities.

Key priorities are set out by locality below, grouped into those most prevalent, which are a priority in more than half of the Safety Partnership areas, and those which are less prevalent, which affect four or fewer partnership areas.

Most prevalent priorities

Priority	Cannock Chase	East Staffs	Lichfield	Newcastle-under-Lyme	South Staffordshire	Stafford	Staffordshire Moorlands	Tamworth	Stoke-on-Trent
Domestic Abuse	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙	↙
County Lines	↙	↙	↙	↙		↙		↙	↙
Fraud			↙	↙	↙	↙	↙		↙
Public-Place & Serious Violence	↙	↙		↙				↙	↙

Less-prevalent priorities

Priority	Cannock Chase	East Staffs	Lichfield	Newcastle-under-Lyme	South Staffordshire	Stafford	Staffordshire Moorlands	Tamworth	Stoke-on-Trent
Counter Terror/Counter Extremism	↙	↙		(↙)					↙
Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking		↙		(↙)		↙			↙
Car-key Burglaries/Vehicle Theft			↙		↙			↙	
Rural Crime							↙		
Community Cohesion/Hate Crime		↙							

Overview of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

The overall rate of recorded crime in the Staffordshire Police force-area is well below the national average, and very slightly below the average across the group of Police force-areas considered most statistically and demographically similar⁵ to Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent.

Rates of all major types of crime are similar to, or below, rates seen across England & Wales overall; with Staffordshire Police seeing particularly low levels of Vehicle Offences overall and lower levels of Burglary, Drug Offences and Public Order offences.

Compared to similar forces and England & Wales, rates of Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) are high in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent. Rates of Stalking & Harassment offences in Staffordshire are also above England & Wales and the similar forces group average, however, recent changes in recording mean that there is still variation in recording across force areas, and it is currently difficult to make a meaningful comparison.

Rates of Recorded Crime and ASB – Home Office (2018-19)

		<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>		
Offence Type		Staffordshire Force	England & Wales	Similar Forces
Total Recorded Crime		76.1	89.5	78.2
Victim-based offences	Arson and Criminal Damage	9.6	9.8	8.8
	Arson and Criminal Damage - Criminal Damage	9.2	...	...
	Arson and Criminal Damage - Arson	0.5	...	...
	Burglary	5.2	7.2	5.9
	Burglary - Burglary Residential	3.3	5.0	4.0
	Burglary - Burglary Business and Community	1.9	2.2	1.9
	Robbery	0.9	1.5	0.8
	Robbery - Robbery of Personal Property	0.8	...	...
	Robbery - Robbery of Business Property	0.1	...	...
	Sexual Offences	3.0	2.8	2.5
	Sexual Offences - Other Sexual Offences	1.9	...	...
	Sexual Offences - Rape	1.0	...	...
	Theft	16.6	19.1	15.8
	Theft – Other Theft	8.3	9.3	7.3
	Theft – Shoplifting	6.8	6.4	6.3
	Theft - Bicycle Theft	1.1	1.7	1.4
	Theft - Theft from the Person	0.5	1.8	0.7
	Vehicle Offences	4.9	8.0	6.6
	Violence against the Person	28.1	28.4	26.3
	Violence against the Person - Violence without injury	9.8	11.5	10.4
Violence against the Person - Violence with injury	9.6	9.3	9.0	
Violence against the Person - Stalking and Harassment	8.6	7.6	6.8	
Crimes against society	Drug Offences	1.7	2.6	2.1
	Drug Offences - Possession of Drugs	1.3	...	...
	Drug Offences - Trafficking in Controlled Drugs	0.4	...	...
	Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	1.7	1.8	1.5
	Possession of Weapons	0.7	0.8	0.7
Public Order Offences	3.7	7.6	7.1	
Anti-social Behaviour	Total Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)	32.6	24.8	26.5
	Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour	20.9	...	...
	Neighbour disputes	5.0	...	...
	All other ASB	4.2	...	...
	Nuisance vehicles	2.4	...	...

⁵ Avon & Somerset, Derbyshire, Essex, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Northamptonshire, Cheshire

Community Safety Strategic Priorities

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Volume and potential harm:

High volume / Moderate individual harm / Severe community harm

CSPs with priority:

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

Summary:

ASB accounts for a significant amount of demand across the partnership. In 2018-19 in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent there were 36,680 ASB incidents recorded by the Police – roughly 20% of Police demand in the area.

The level of ASB across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is equivalent to a rate of 32.6 incidents per 1,000 residents, which is significantly higher than the national rate of 24.8 per 1,000 people.

ASB in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is dominated by reports of Rowdy & Inconsiderate Behaviour, the vast majority of which takes place in town and city centres and other public spaces. All of the six areas in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent with significantly high levels of Rowdy & Inconsiderate behaviour are city and town centres.

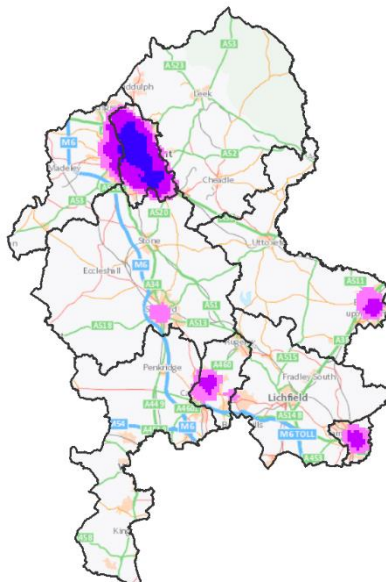
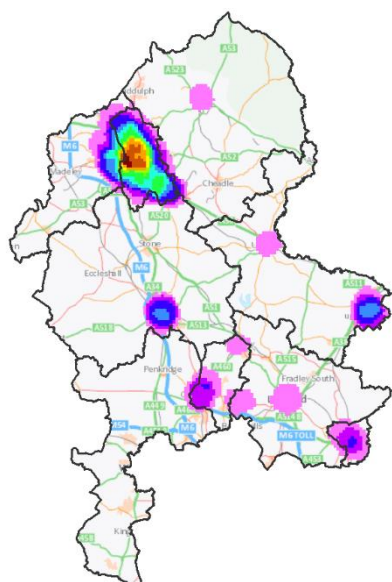
While less prevalent as a form of Anti-Social Behaviour, a number of communities experience significant issues with Neighbour Disputes, with levels substantially above the force average; most notably, Blurton West & Newstead, Ford Green & Smallthorne, and Tunstall wards in Stoke-on-Trent; Eton Park in East Staffordshire, Chasetown in Lichfield, and Hednesford North in Cannock Chase.

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

Anti-Social Behaviour, Staffordshire Police 2018-19 (heat-map):

Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour:

Neighbour Disputes:



Force rates (per 1,000 people):

All Anti-social Behaviour: 32.6

Rowdy & Inconsiderate: 20.9

Neighbour Disputes: 5.0

Direction of travel:

Ongoing challenge. No significant increase or decrease between 2017-18 and 2018-19 (+0.5%)

Public expectation: Moderate

At risk groups: Deprived and disadvantaged communities, particularly those in high housing density areas and with high proportions of social housing, are disproportionately affected by ASB related to Neighbour Disputes. Town centre areas are also high risk, particularly from alcohol-related and drug-related Rowdy & Inconsiderate Behaviour.

Domestic Abuse

Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Severe individual harm / Substantial community harm

CSPs with priority: All Safety Partnership Areas

Summary:

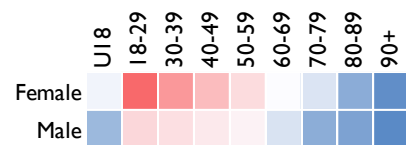
Domestic Abuse affects all communities to some extent and is not unique to any one part of Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent. While Domestic Abuse presents a significant risk to victims, it also has a wider negative impact where children are present in households. Links between Domestic Abuse and child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

In the 12 months to the end of March 2019 there were 17,850 domestic-flagged crimes in the force area; the large majority of these were Violence Against the Person offences (76%), primarily consisting of Violence without injury (28%), Stalking & Harassment (28%) and Violence with injury (20%). Although the majority of domestic-related incidents were violent offences, they cross a range of offence types; around 8% were incidents of Criminal Damage, 5% were incidents of Theft, and around 3% were Sexual Offences (two-thirds of which were incidents of rape).

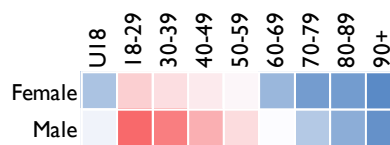
Victims of Domestic offences are disproportionately repeatedly victimised compared to victims of other types of crimes. In Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent in 2018-19, while 26% of victims of any crime were repeat victims and were the victims in 44% of all crime in the area; 42% of Domestic victims were known to be repeat victims, who experienced 65% of all recorded Domestic crimes committed in the area.

Repeat victimisation is particularly disproportionate for victims of domestic-related Stalking & Harassment – over half (52%) of all domestic-related Stalking & Harassment victims were known to be repeat victims, experiencing 76% of all domestic-related Stalking & Harassment.

Victim profile (age group and gender):



Offender profile: (age group and gender):



Force rate (per 1,000 people): 15.8

Direction of travel: Long-term

Public expectation: Moderate

At risk groups: Disproportionately younger women (aged under 30), and those who live in already disadvantaged communities. However, anyone can become a victim of DA, and there are male victims in the area, and victims who are older adults. Households where there are high levels of economic stress and alcohol/drug use and dependency are at particularly high risk – with areas of concern also facing challenges around alcohol and drugs. Offenders are also disproportionately younger (aged under 40) and male, although there are also female offenders. Stalking and Harassment victims are at particularly high risk of repeat victimisation and are predominantly females aged 20 to 34.

Drug Supply & County Lines: County Lines

Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Substantial individual and community harm

CSPs with priority:

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

Summary:

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

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

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

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

Nationally, levels of County Lines activity has been seen to be increasing, with Staffordshire also seeing increases in County Lines activity from urban areas into County. While Police intervention and enforcement action is having a positive impact on disrupting County Lines, there is still a need for ongoing wider Partnership contribution.

Direction of travel: Some increases (in line with national) **Public expectation:** Critical / National expectations

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

At risk groups:

Criminal exploitation:

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

'Cuckooing' risk:

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

Drug Supply & County Lines: Drug Supply

Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Substantial individual and community harm

CSPs with priority: Stoke-on-Trent

Summary:

In addition to County Lines concerns, some parts of the force-area also see their own self-contained drug supply and associated activity. This is an issue which particularly affects the largest metropolitan/urban parts of the force-area; particularly the city of Stoke-on-Trent, and to a lesser-extent, Burton in East Staffordshire.

Outside of Stoke-on-Trent, most safety partnerships in the force-area see limited levels of Drug Trafficking offences and experience more drug activity relating to County Lines. While around 36% of all crime (and a similar proportion of drug possession offences) in the force area take place in Stoke-on-Trent – 45% of recorded Drug Trafficking offences took place in the city.

Around 16% of residents across the whole force-area consider drugs to be a significant local issue. In recent years there have been additional concerns and press coverage around psycho-active substances such as 'Monkey Dust' focussed on the city, which appear to have heightened public concerns. As such, around 25% of Stoke-on-Trent residents consider drugs to be a considerable local issue.

Those involved in drug trafficking offences in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are disproportionately young and male compared to offenders overall; with 83% of those involved male, compared to 72% of offenders overall.

Around 22% of drug trafficking offenders are aged 20-24 years, in contrast with 12% across overall offending in the force-area. While there are a slightly above-average proportion aged 15-19 years, those involved in drug supply are significantly less likely to be aged under 18 than offenders overall – although under 18s are at particularly high risk of being recruited into organised crime and gang activity, which may eventually lead to involvement in drug trafficking and supply.

Those involved in drug supply are also even more disproportionately likely to be those from the most disadvantaged communities in the force-area, with 51% of drug trafficking offenders living in areas which rank in the Top 20% most deprived nationally, compared to 40% of offenders overall. In Stoke-on-Trent this is equally the case; around 83% of known drug trafficking offenders are from areas ranking in the Top 20% most deprived, compared to 73% of offenders across all other crime types.

Comparison to Force: High concern

Direction of travel: Ongoing challenge

Public expectation: Critical / National expectations

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

At risk groups:

Similarly to County Lines activity, young males (aged 10-19) in disadvantaged communities and in care (LAC) or attending Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) are at particularly high risk of being criminally exploited through organised crime and gang membership. To many OCGs these young recruits are seen as being 'expendable' unless they prove otherwise by rapidly rising through the ranks, and are often used in high risk activity such as violent attacks on rival crime groups and gangs, and street-dealing of drugs in areas where the OCG is not usually active or which may be considered to be a rival group's 'territory'.

Fraud

Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Severe individual financial harm / Moderate community harm

CSPs with priority: Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, South Staffordshire, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands

Summary:

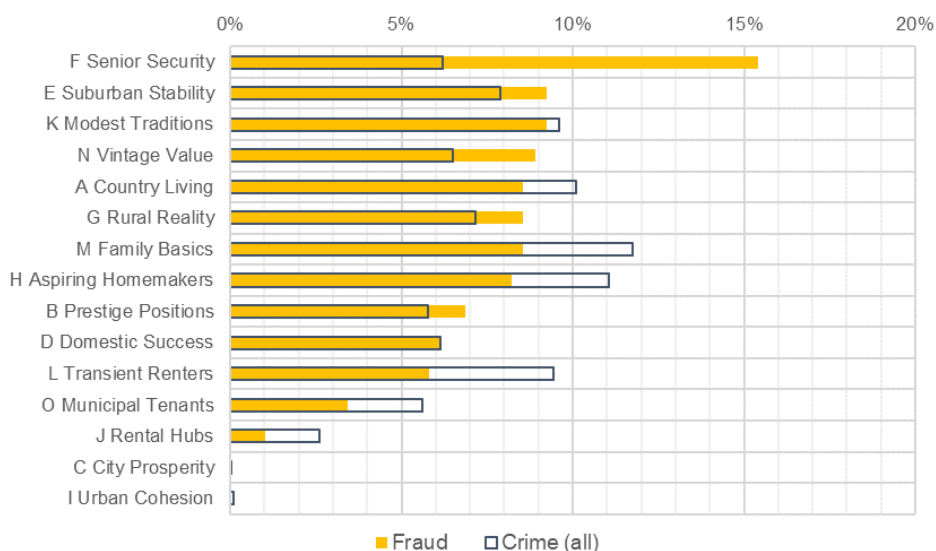
In recent years, Fraud has become increasingly sophisticated, organised and technologically advanced. Fraud scams using internet banking and remote computer access, mean that criminals can defraud individuals and businesses of large sums of money without ever having face-to-face contact. Nationally Police referrals to Action Fraud relating to Online Banking and Credit and Debit card Fraud have increased by 72% in the last 12 months. In some cases money can not be recovered - causing financial hardship for individuals, and causing some businesses to cease trading.

The majority of recorded Fraud is online – with online shopping/auction scams accounting for a significant proportion, although these incidents tend to result in lower levels of financial loss compared to more sophisticated types of Fraud. It is estimated that there are many hidden victims of Fraud and attempted Fraud who do not report their experiences to authorities. Nationally and locally there have been several instances of ‘Romance Fraud’ where a victim, usually socially isolated, is targeted online via friendship and dating websites – once the relationship has evolved, the criminal begins to ask for transfers of money, often requesting sums over a prolonged period of time.

In Stafford, there were around 590 referrals to Action Fraud in the 12 months to September 2019, equivalent to a rate of 4.4 per 1,000 residents – making Fraud more prevalent than Vehicle Offences (3.9 incidents per 1,000). This is the highest rate in the force area, although only fractionally above the force average of 4.0 incidents per 1,000 residents.

Those most affected by Fraud offences, tend to also be amongst those least affected by most other types of crime – particularly older people in more affluent communities. Those vulnerable to experiencing Fraud are also often vulnerable to ‘door step’ crime, which may involve intimidating and aggressive behaviour on the part of the offenders or an element of befriending or grooming of the victim to facilitate the offending or repeat victimisation. The average victim of doorstep crime is over 80 years old and lives alone.

Victims of Fraud compared to all victims of Crime in Fraud priority areas (socio-demographic group, Mosaic):



Force rate (per 1,000 people): 4.0

Direction of travel: Improving visibility

Public expectation: Critical

At risk groups:

The most disproportionately prevalent groups amongst Fraud victims are those in the Senior Security Mosaic Group – accounting for 15% of all Fraud referrals, but only 6% of victims of crime overall. Those in the Senior Security group are significantly more likely to be over 65 and even more likely still to be over 75, living in affluent communities, but fairly socially isolated and spending a lot of time in their home. Those in the Senior Security group tend to have below average incomes from pensions, but little or no outstanding mortgage value on their properties and reasonable levels of savings. Around 2-in-3 use online banking, although tend to use legacy technology and devices, only upgrading when items become obsolete – which may carry some cyber-security risks.

Public Place Violence & Serious Violence

Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Moderate to substantial individual harm / Substantial to severe community harm

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

Summary:

Around 12% of all recorded crime in the force-area was flagged as Public Place Violence (PPV), comprising of 10,430 incidents. Close to a quarter (24%) of all Violence Against the Person offences were recorded as being Public Place incidents.

Around a third (33%) of PPV incidents in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent happen late at night (between 21:00-04:00hrs). The PPV incidents that take place at night tend to be more serious than those in the daytime – while 37% of incidents in the daytime or evening are more serious violent offences (violence with injury) this increases to 49% amongst the incidents which take place between 21:00 and 04:00 hrs.

Alcohol appears to have a role to play in many Public Place Violence offences, and this is particularly the case with incidents that take place late at night. While 8% of crime in the force-area is alcohol-related and around 10% of daytime and evening PPV incidents are alcohol-related, more than a third (36%) of late night PPV offences are considered to be alcohol-related.

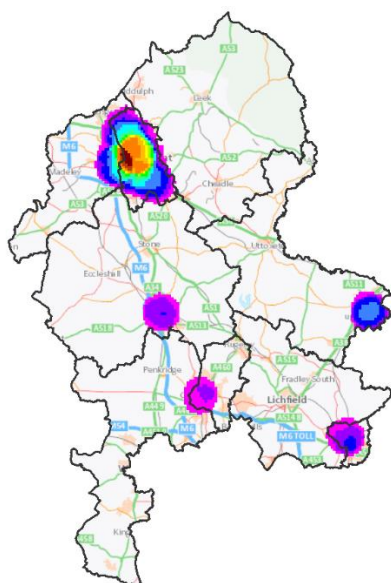
In a number of parts of the force-area there are also concerns about links between Urban Street Gang (USG) activity, Drug Supply/County Lines and serious violence; with particular concern about premeditated violent offences between gangs, and following reprisals. While Staffordshire does not see the same level of serious violence experienced by neighbouring force-areas, over the last five years, the level of serious violence seen locally has increased, with an increase in violent gangs and violence linked to Organised Crime Groups (OCGs).

Public Place and Serious Violence offences largely tend to be committed by younger males, against other younger males; with the most dominant group of both victims and offenders being males aged 18-29 years – although there are female victims and offenders who are also in the same age range.

While there is a considerable amount of media, government and public interest and concern over levels of Knife Crime, it is not a significant concern for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent overall. Although many force-areas have seen substantial increases in Knife Crime in the last 12-24 months, this has not been the case in Staffordshire – with rates remaining low and showing no significant increases between 2017-18 and 2018-19. In the 2018-19 financial year, Knife Crime accounted for 0.8% of all crime in the force-area (700 offences).

Although the number of offences are very low by comparison, as with Public Place Violence, many of the wards which see the highest levels of Knife Crime are town/city centre wards – with offences generally focussed towards most urban and metropolitan parts of the force area; primarily East Staffordshire, Stafford, Tamworth and Stoke-on-Trent.

Public Place Violence, Staffordshire Police 2018-19 (mapped):



At risk groups:

Public Place Violence offenders are mainly young men (aged 18-29), although there are some female offenders, mainly aged under 40 years. Knife Crime offenders are also mainly young men with a particularly high proportion of Under 18s and Under 15s.

With both PPV and Knife Crimes – both offender and victim are mainly young men. In many instances, the offender and the victim are of the same age group. Males aged 15-19 are disproportionately present amongst those who are charged with Weapons Possession offences. There are known links between criminal exploitation of young people through gang activity, organised crime and County Lines, and resulting serious and public place violence.

Public Place Violence is polarised towards town centres and commercial areas, and tends to pose the greatest risk of serious harm between 21:00 and 0:400 hrs. Although the majority of PPV incidents are not alcohol-related, it is a factor in a disproportionate amount of PPV compared to other offence types – although PPV incidents related to night-time economy have declined in Stoke-on-Trent.

Counter Terror / Counter Extremism

Volume and potential harm:

Minimal volume / Risk of mass loss of life / Critical community harm

CSPs with priority: Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, (Newcastle-under-Lyme), Stoke-on-Trent

Summary:

There are significant threats to community cohesion as a result of terrorist attacks either in the UK or abroad, as well as from those who have adopted and communicate extremist and hate-based ideologies. It is important to remember that the national threat level which indicates the threat of terrorist attack is 'substantial' meaning an attack is likely.

The recent terrorist attack on London Bridge in November 2019 was carried out by an individual who originated from the Staffordshire force-area and the resulting media, government and public interest highlights the need for all partners to continue to deliver against our statutory obligations to create stronger, more cohesive and safer communities. Stoke-on-Trent is a Home Office Prevent priority area and therefore the city council receives additional support from the Home Office for its work to tackle to extremism.

Channel is an early intervention, multi-agency process designed to safeguard vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremist or terrorist behaviour. Channel works in a similar way to existing safeguarding partnerships aimed at protecting vulnerable people. The process is shaped around the circumstances of each person and can provide support for any form of radicalisation or personal vulnerabilities.

At a national level 38% of Prevent referrals concerned individuals with a mixed, unstable or unclear ideology, followed by referrals for right-wing (24%) and Al-Qaeda/Islamic State (ISIL) radicalisation (24%). The majority of individuals referred were aged under 20 years old (58%) and male (87%). For the Prevent referrals that were adopted as Channel cases there were more Channel cases for concerns related to right-wing radicalisation (45%) compared with Al-Qaeda/ISIL radicalisation (37%). There is a need for all partners to fully utilise the Channel process in order to facilitate appropriate interventions for at-risk individuals.

Recent high-profile cases have highlighted very publicly that risks are not limited to Al-Qaeda/ISIL influenced groups, with individuals in the region having been sentenced for belonging to proscribed extreme right-wing terror groups such as the neo-Nazi group National Action.

In Staffordshire through the work of Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Prevent Board partners continue to deliver actions that counter extremist narratives and support vulnerable individuals through Stoke-on-Trent's and Staffordshire Channel Panel.

Comparison to Force:

- Persistent concern around Al-Qaeda/ISIL extremism and radicalisation
- Growing levels of concern around Far-right extremism and radicalisation

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

Direction of travel: Growing concern

Public expectation: Critical / National expectations

At risk groups: Based on the recent national Prevent referral figures those at the greatest risk of being radicalised are male, and usually under 20 years of age at the time they become radicalised. Around 71% of those who are referred through Prevent are considered to be vulnerable individuals.

Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking

Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Substantial individual and community harm

CSPs with priority:

East Staffordshire, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent

Summary:

Modern Slavery refers to the offences of human trafficking, slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour. This can then be considered as five sub-threats: sexual exploitation of adults; trafficking of adults into conditions of labour exploitation; trafficking of adults into conditions of criminal exploitation; trafficking of minors into conditions of sexual, criminal or labour exploitation; and other forms of exploitation⁶.

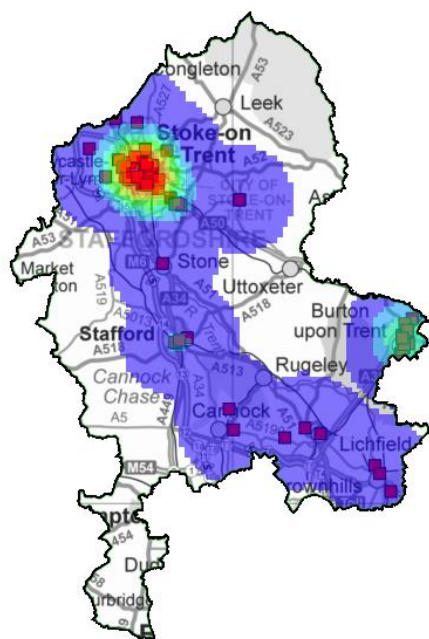
The scale and visibility of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking is gradually and consistently increasing, and is likely to continue to do so⁷. Modern Slavery is a highly complex and hidden crime which makes it challenging to accurately measure in terms of prevalence; however there have been year on year increases in the number of victims identified. Staffordshire Police have seen a gradual increase in the reporting of Modern Slavery which is in line with the national picture.

In the force-area Modern Slavery concerns mainly comprise of the offences of Forced or Compulsory Labour and Holding Persons in Slavery or Servitude, and to a lesser extent Human Trafficking and Facilitation of Travel with a view to Exploitation. In addition to recorded and prosecuted offences, there have been a number of incidents which have been flagged for potential Modern Slavery concerns.

Known victims and perpetrators of Modern Slavery offences in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are predominantly British, followed by Vietnamese; with both perpetrator and victim often being of the same nationality. British victims tend to have fallen on difficult times, making them vulnerable to the false promise of well-paid work complete with decent accommodation. Many non-British victims are brought into the UK from areas of conflict and economic hardship, with the promise of a new life, after paying significant sums of money for transportation. Frequently traffickers will add debt on to the money already paid, and expect those being illegally trafficked to either pay additional money or work for the traffickers until the additional 'debt' has been paid – in some instances this is linked to County Lines drug supply, with victims expected to manage cannabis farms/cultivations.

Although numbers affected are extremely low, the level of Organised Crime (OCG) activity related to Human Trafficking (related to Modern Slavery and Exploitation) and Organised Immigration Offending is of some concern in limited parts of the force-area – with criminals involved in these offences also often involved in the smuggling of other commodities and involved in money laundering offences.

Modern Slavery, Staffordshire Police (multiple years)



Direction of travel: Visibility of offences improving

Public expectation: Substantial

Local hotspots and at risk groups:

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

⁶ NCA – National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2018

⁷ <https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking>

Car Key Burglary / Vehicle Theft

Volume and potential harm:

Low volume / Moderate individual harm / Low community harm

CSPs with priority:

Lichfield, South Staffordshire, Tamworth

Summary:

As anti-theft technology in vehicles has improved, criminal approaches to vehicle theft have changed. With many modern cars and vans starting with their key-fobs present, criminals are increasingly using burglary to facilitate vehicle theft; entering properties with the sole intention of stealing car keys and key fobs, and driving the stolen vehicle away from the scene.

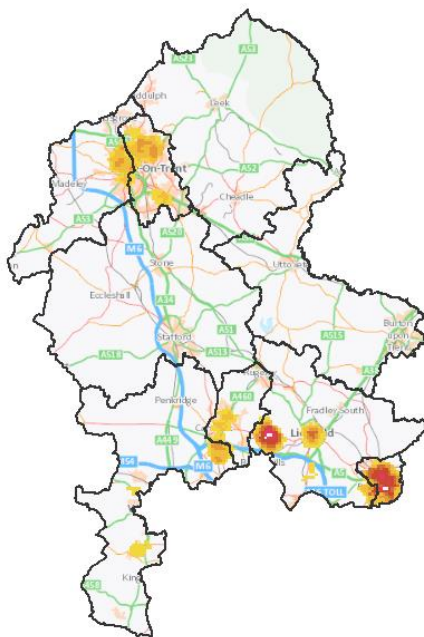
There is an additional growing challenge, relating to the use of electronic devices to facilitate theft of vehicles which use 'keyless' technology – without the criminal needing to access the key fob itself. So-called 'relay attacks' can be committed without an individual needing to enter a premises, using a device to pick up the key fobs signal from indoors, and 'relay' this to the vehicle outdoors. Regionally, it is considered that this approach to vehicle theft has contributed significantly to the rise in vehicle thefts across the West Midlands region.

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

Offences appear to be particularly targeted, and have affected areas and communities which typically do not experience high levels of overall crime. The wards in the force-area with some of the highest proportions of burglaries resulting in a vehicle theft are also often wards with some of the lowest rates of crime.

As a result, some of the demographic groups affected are very different to victims of crime overall. While those in the Prestige Positions Mosaic Group (usually families with high-paid senior jobs, in larger detached homes) account for around 3% of victims of overall crime, they were the victims of 14% of Car Key Burglaries. Similarly the Domestic Success Mosaic Group (those with younger children, in upmarket suburban homes), who make up around 5% of victims of crime overall, experienced 13% of all Car Key Burglaries.

Heat Map of Car Key Burglaries (Staffordshire Police, 2018-19)



Proportion of Burglaries resulting in a stolen vehicle

Average across priority areas:

11% of Burglaries

Force rate:

6% of Burglaries

Direction of travel: Keyless thefts emerging challenge

Public expectation: Moderate

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

Community Cohesion & Hate Crime

Volume and potential harm:

Low volume / Substantial individual harm / Moderate community harm

CSPs with priority: East Staffordshire

Summary:

The UK has seen increases in hate crime and racially aggravated offending in the aftermath of the European Union referendum vote. There remains concern that as the UK draws closer to leaving the EU, there may be continued increases in hate offences, which have the potential to significantly harm communities and community cohesion.

There were 1,590 incidents of Hate Crime in the force-area in the 12 months ending 31st March 2019, equivalent to a rate of 1.4 incidents per 1,000 population.

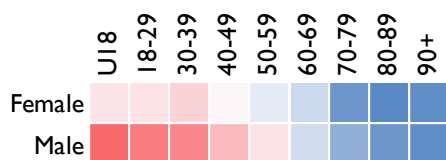
Although difficult to accurately measure, the majority (62%) of incidents of Hate Crime were recorded as being racially or religiously aggravated, followed by 11% which were committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and 5% on the grounds of an individual's disability.

The largest proportion of Hate Crimes (41%) were Public Order offences, followed by Stalking & Harassment (29% of Hate Crime), Violence without injury (13%), Violence with injury (7%) and Criminal Damage (6%). Around two-in-five Hate Crimes (39%) were classed as Public Place Violent offences.

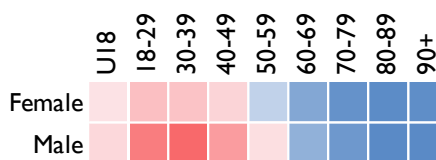
Offenders in Hate Crime incidents are predominantly male and aged under 40 years of age, but are particularly likely to be aged Under 18; while around 15% of crime in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent was committed by Under 18 year olds, around 20% of all Hate Crimes were committed by Under 18 year olds.

Victims are often older than the offenders in Hate Crime incidents, with most recorded victims aged 30-39 years. Similarly to Public Place Violence, the majority of victims were male. While under 18s account for 20% of Hate Crime perpetrators, a smaller proportion (14%) of Hate Crime victims were aged under 18 years.

Offenders (age group and gender):



Victims (age group and gender):



Force rate (per 1,000 people): 1.4

Direction of travel: Consistently high

Public expectation: Moderate

At risk groups:

Offenders are predominantly young men, and more likely to be under 18 than offenders overall. Females committing Hate Crimes tend to be in the 30-39 age group. Victims are predominantly males aged over 18, and particularly those aged 30-39. Although the majority of victims are male, there are more female victims than female perpetrators.

Those with Asian ethnicity are significantly disproportionately likely to be victims of Hate Crime, accounting for 5% of all victims crime overall (where ethnicity is known) but 31% of all victims of Hate Crime. Individuals whose ethnicity is recorded as Black are also over-represented, accounting for 2% of victims of crime overall, but 13% of victims of Hate Crime.

Rural Crime

Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Moderate individual harm

CSPs with priority:

Staffordshire Moorlands

Summary:

Rural communities are affected by the same types of crime as urban areas and by the same overall increases in recorded crime. Although the broad challenges faced by rural and urban communities may be similar, the demography and characteristics of those within these communities can be very different, with differing expectations, resilience, community assets, strengths, and needs.

Rural crime is an ongoing concern in Staffordshire. While overall rates of crime are significantly higher in urban areas than rural (83.8 per 1,000 people compared to 44.7 in rural Staffordshire) some types of crime see uncharacteristically high rates in rural locations.

Compared to the force-area overall and urban areas, the proportion of offences which are alcohol-related are similar (6% rural, 8% urban). Proportions of offences which are recorded as being domestic-related are slightly lower (18% compared to 21% in urban areas), however the proportion of crimes which are recorded as business crime are significantly higher in rural areas; 43% of crime in rural Staffordshire is business-related, compared to 34% in urban areas.

Rates of Burglary and Vehicle Crime are very similar in both Rural and Urban areas, with rates of Violent offences, Thefts, and Robbery are all significantly lower. While rural areas experience around 11% of force-area crime, they experience 16% of Vehicle crime, 18% of Burglary offences overall, and 24% of the Burglaries where a vehicle was taken.

Theft of vehicles resulting from a Burglary are slightly more of a concern in rural areas than force-wide – around 8% of Burglaries in rural areas resulted in a vehicle being taken, compared to 6% of Burglary force-wide.

Just under a one-in-five (19%) of the vehicles stolen in rural areas were vehicles which have a degree of agricultural use; either quadbikes, off-road motorcycles, 4x4 vehicles (such as Land Rovers) and a small number of plant vehicles and tractors. Around 22% of vehicles stolen in rural areas were vehicles broadly considered to be 'high value' which is slightly higher than those stolen in urban areas (18%). Rural areas also saw a higher proportion of vans being stolen (13% of vehicle thefts) than urban areas (10%).

Given the proportion of vehicles which could be described as 'working vehicles' it is likely that their theft has a significant impact on the day-to-day running of rural businesses – around 43% of vehicle thefts in rural areas were additionally flagged as Business Crime, this is compared to around 28% of vehicle thefts across the force-area.

Comparison to Force: Significantly more Burglary and Vehicle Offences in rural areas.

Direction of travel: Ongoing concern. Rural crime increases in line with force-area increases.

Public expectation: Moderate

Local hotspots: Incidents are distributed across a range of more isolated rural localities.

At risk groups:

Isolated rural areas with low housing / building density and farming / agricultural premises are at particular risk.

All-terrain vehicles such as off-road motorcycles and quad-bikes appear to be highly targeted in the north (Staffordshire Moorlands) compared to higher-value and high-performance vehicles in the south (South Staffordshire and Lichfield).

Vulnerable Persons: Alcohol

Volume and potential harm:

Moderate volume / Moderate individual and community harm

CSPs with priority: Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent

Summary:

Alcohol is often present as a factor in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Domestic Abuse, Violent crime and Public-Place offences in general, and this is also the case in Stoke-on-Trent. Those who are dependent on alcohol are also a particularly vulnerable group irrespective of whether they are victims of crime, offenders or neither; with poorer-than-average health outcomes, limited social and support networks, and vulnerability to being criminally exploited.

The rate of offences where alcohol is considered an aggravating factor is 5.8 per 1,000 people, with alcohol considered to be a factor in 8% of all crime in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent. Alcohol is more commonly a factor in violent offences compared to offending overall, with around 15% of violence against the person offences being alcohol-related. This is also the case in Public Place Violent offences, where 19% of incidents have alcohol as a factor. Alcohol is slightly more likely to be a factor in Public Order offences (11% alcohol-related) than most other types of crime. Acquisitive crimes such as Burglary, Theft, and Vehicle Offences see very low proportions with alcohol considered a factor (1%), although Robbery is similar to overall offending (8% alcohol-related).

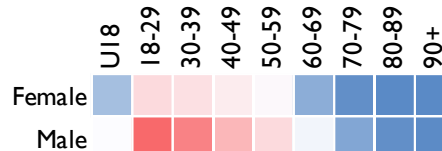
Similarly to offending overall, most offenders in alcohol-related crime are male and aged under 40. However, although offenders are primarily male, similarly to crime overall, in alcohol-related offences there is an almost even split (52:48) between female and male victims – with the majority aged under 40, and a large number between 18-29 years old.

Alcohol is also a significant health concern; rates of deaths from liver disease amongst those aged under 75 are a concern in two parts of the force area, and rates of hospital admissions amongst women for alcohol-related conditions are a concern in seven-out-of-nine local CSP areas, with alcohol-related admissions for men a concern in four-out-of-nine local CSP areas.

Victims in alcohol-related crime:



Offenders in alcohol-related crime:



Alcohol-related offending

Force rate (per 1,000 people): 5.8

Proportion of violent offences flagged as alcohol-related

Force rate (per 1,000 people): 15%

Direction of travel: Persistent concern

Public expectation: Moderate

Local hotspots:

Alcohol-related crime is at its most prevalent in large town and city centres – with all wards with rates significantly above force-average located in town and city centre areas.

Joiner's Square in Stoke-on-Trent sees the highest rate of alcohol-related crime in force (48.5 incidents per 1,000 pop.) followed closely by Newcastle-under-Lyme Town ward (43.9), Burton in East Staffordshire (43.5) and Stafford town centre (Forebridge ward, 34.0).

There is also concern in Burslem Central (18.4) in Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth town centre (Castle ward, 16.3), Leek East in Staffordshire Moorlands (15.3), Cannock South (14.9), and Lichfield city centre (Stowe ward, 13.4).

At risk groups:

Clinical and public health data suggest that men and women aged 40 to 65 are most likely to require hospital treatment as a result of alcohol dependency – to have arrived at this stage it is likely that many will have been alcohol-dependent for a considerable time prior. Alcohol-related offenders tend to be male and predominantly aged under 40 years (mainly 18 to 29) and primarily live in areas with high levels of deprivation and disadvantage (areas in the top 20% most deprived nationally)

Vulnerable Persons: Drug use and possession

Volume and potential harm:

Small volume / Substantial individual harm / Severe community harm

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

Summary:

Drugs can be a factor in a range of crimes – although drugs are significantly less present as an aggravating-factor than alcohol (2% of local recorded crime considered drugs a factor, 8% alcohol considered a factor), drugs still sit behind a range of offences; from acquisitive offences to fund addiction, to serious violent offences relating to feuds over supply activity, in addition to drug-specific offences relating to possession and supply.

Drug users themselves are a particularly vulnerable group, and as well as facing significant health, housing and employment challenges, drug users often also experience Domestic Abuse. Children in families where drug use is prevalent are often at significantly increased need of safeguarding and support. Health challenges relating to drugs are particularly an issue in Stoke-on-Trent, where rates of drug-related deaths (specifically amongst men) are significantly above national levels – however, there are other parts of the force-area where drug-related deaths are also uncharacteristically high.

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

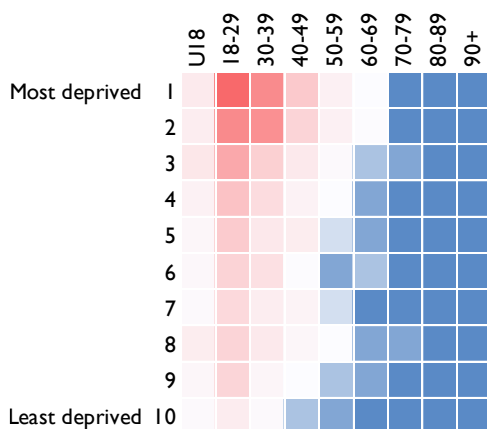
Around 9% of offenders in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent had committed drugs offences or other offences where drugs were an aggravating factor.

Drug-related offenders were disproportionately responsible for acquisitive offences such as Burglary, Theft and Shoplifting; accounting for around 17% of offending in the force-area, but for about 25% of acquisitive crime – particularly Burglary (32%), Vehicle Offences (28%) and Theft (27%). Although low in number, drugs were considered to be a factor in almost a third (30%) of Weapons Possession offences.

Repeat offending is heavily linked with drugs-related offending; while around 45% of offenders overall were Repeat or Persistent Offenders, 66% of those with recorded drug-related offences are known Repeat or Persistent Offenders.

Drug-related offenders are disproportionately male; 72% of all offenders in the force-area are male, compared to 86% of drug-related offenders. Known offenders with previous drug-related offences are mostly aged between 20 and 34 years, and significantly more likely to live in the most deprived parts of the force-area. There are very few drug-related offenders aged over 55 years, although there are an above-average proportion aged 15-19 years.

Heat map by age group and deprivation



Direction of travel: Consistent concern

At risk groups: Adults with known drug dependencies, particularly those who have previously accessed or who are presently accessing treatment programmes for Class A drug use or dependency. Children, young people and adolescents in households with adults with current or previous drug use or dependency concerns.

Vulnerable Persons: Mental Health and Missing Persons

Volume and potential harm:

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

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

Summary:

The impact of Mental Health needs on communities is difficult to quantify overall. In 2018-19 in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent there were around 5,560 calls to the Police relating primarily to Mental Health (with 3% relating to children), and 5,380 Missing Persons incidents (with 18% considered high-risk); equivalent to an overall rate of 4.9 per 1,000 population for Mental Health calls, and 4.8 per 1,000 population for Missing Persons. There were an additional 15,910 calls for general concerns about the safety of an individual.

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

Public Health England (PHE) estimates for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent suggest that around 9.5% of children aged 5 to 16 years (approximately 14,060 children) in the area are likely to have a common mental health disorder⁸. This is similar to the national level. Similar estimates from PHE suggest that the prevalence of such disorders amongst adults (aged 16 and over) and older adults (aged 65+) are also similar to national levels.

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

		% of population
Children (age 5-16)	England	9.2
	Force-wide	9.5
<hr/>		
Adults (age 16+)	England	16.9
	Force-wide	16.4
<hr/>		
Older adults (age 65+)	England	10.2
	Force-wide	10.2

GP practice-level data however, shows that the overall level of recorded diagnoses of depression in the force-area are above the national level (12.3% of those aged 18+, compared to 10.7% nationally), around 114,570 individuals. Levels of suicide (particularly amongst men) are in line with national levels (where data is available) with the exception of Stafford, where rates are above the national level, although these relate to a small number of incidents.

GP recorded prevalence of severe mental illnesses is fractionally below the national level (0.8% of those aged 18+, compared to 1.0% nationally) although equivalent to around 9,210 individuals across the force area.

Vulnerable people, including those experiencing mental health issues, are at greater risk of being a victim of crime - targeted by criminals who seek to exploit vulnerabilities and take advantage through financial or criminal exploitation.

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

Local research has shown that individuals who have experienced crime first-hand as either a victim or a witness, are likely to score much lower than average in terms of their overall levels of wellbeing, feelings of safety, and anxiety about being a victim of crime in the future.

⁸ Mental Health disorders include, but are not limited to; Anxiety, Depression, Eating Disorders, Schizophrenia, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Hyperactivity Disorders, Phobias and Paranoia.

Vulnerable Persons: Contextual Safeguarding

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

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

Summary:

Levels of safeguarding needs vary significantly across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, however, all Safety Partnership areas are home to children and young people who are in need of safeguarding from potential harm, and all areas have some communities with elevated safeguarding needs.

In terms of traditional children's safeguarding and Children's Social Care support to families, there are four Safety Partnership areas in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent where latest national data (2017-18) demonstrates that the proportion of children subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) is above the national average, and five where the rate of Looked After Children/Children in care (LAC) are above the national level.

While it is important to consider the safeguarding of young children and risk of harm within the family environment, as individuals move from early childhood and into adolescence, they spend increasing amounts of time socialising independently of their families. During this time the nature of young people's schools and neighbourhoods, and the relationships that they form in these settings, inform the extent to which they encounter risks of significant harm in settings outside their families. There are some parts of the force-area where this is a specific concern, where there are some genuine risks around criminal exploitation of young people overall, and exploitation risks attached to County Lines activity, gang activity, and wider organised crime.

Young people who are Looked After Children (LAC) and who have been placed in care, or who attend pupil referral units (PRUs) are at particularly increased risk of criminal exploitation and gang involvement due to their level of vulnerability and often unstable and limited social networks and networks of support. Young people who are groomed into criminal activity are often used for high risk activities, increasingly linked to County Lines drug supply activity, such as street dealing and transporting drugs, and carrying out violent offences against rival organised crime groups/gangs.

The level of children within the care system in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is of some concern, due to considerable links (evidenced in Prison Reform Trust [research](#) as well Department for Education data) between experience of the care system and increases in the likelihood of contact with the criminal justice system. These are a particularly vulnerable cohort who often require well-coordinated multi-agency support. Additionally, Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is both home and 'corporate parent' to a number of highly vulnerable unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC), many of whom have arrived in the U.K. from areas of conflict with no networks of support and completely alone.

Direction of travel: On-going concern in specific parts of the locality

At risk groups:

Criminal exploitation:

Young people aged 10 to 19 in disadvantaged communities (particularly including LAC and those in PRUs).

Child Sexual Exploitation:

Primarily, but not limited to, females aged 10-14 years. There is no strong correlation between areas of deprivation and CSE victimisation. CSE offences are more likely to have an online element compared to offending overall.

Children's safeguarding:

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

Additional Challenges for Consideration

Repeat and Persistent Offending

Priority: Re-offending

Priority sub-type: Repeat and Persistent Offenders

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

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

Summary:

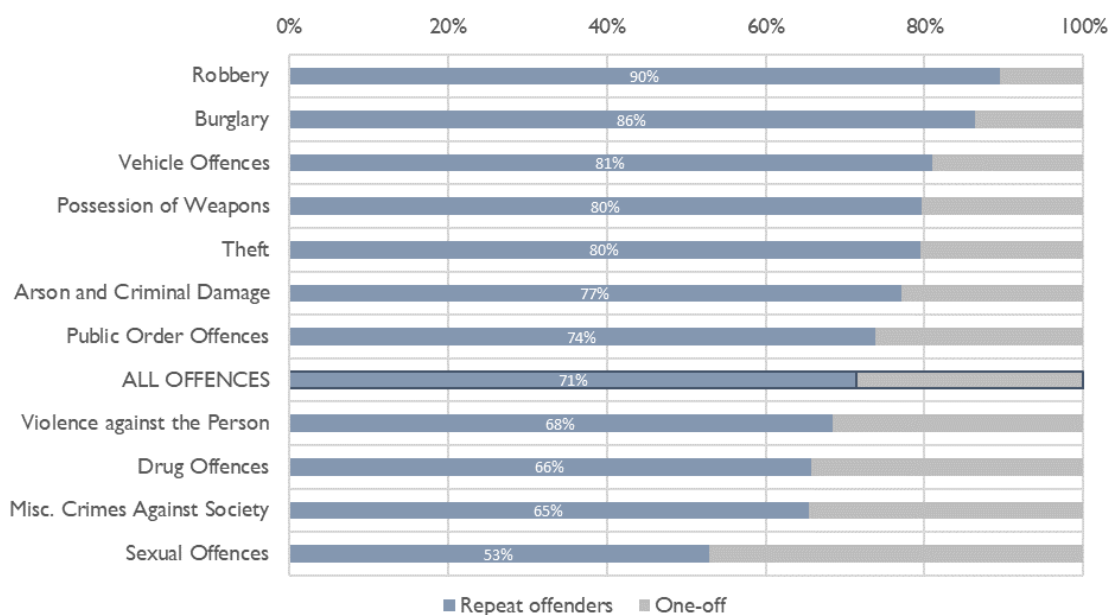
Repeat and persistent offenders are disproportionately responsible for crime in Staffordshire, with the minority of offenders responsible for the majority of offences.

While 45% of the 22,490 offenders living in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent were considered repeat or persistent, they were responsible for 71% of all recorded crime where an offender was identified. Young offenders (those under the age of 18) were not more likely to be repeat offenders and did not commit significantly more offences than known offenders who were aged 18 and over.

All major types of crime saw 50% of incidents or more committed by repeat and persistent offenders – and six⁹ out of eleven major crime types saw three-quarters (75%) or more committed by repeat offenders – including Weapons Offences. Sexual offences, however, were significantly less likely to be committed by repeat or persistent offenders compared to other major types of crime.

Offenders with known drug offences or offences where drugs were considered a factor in their recent offending history, are substantially more likely to be repeat and persistent offenders. Around 2-out-of-3 (66%) of those flagged for drug-related offending in the area were repeat and persistent offenders, compared to 43% of those with no recent drug-related offending.

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



Force proportion: 45% of offenders commit 71% of recorded crime

Direction of travel: N/A (New indicator)

Public expectation: Substantial

At risk groups: Offenders with previous drug-related offending are particularly likely to repeatedly offend – primarily committing acquisitive offences such as Shoplifting, Robbery and Burglary. There are a high proportion of repeat and persistent offenders who commit Possession of Weapon offences – which may pose additional risk to the public and law enforcement services.

⁹ Arson & Criminal Damage, Burglary, Possession of a Weapon, Robbery, Theft, Vehicle Offences.

Fires and Fire Risk

Some pockets of the force-area have a high proportion of lower value residential properties in areas of high housing density, and that may carry some fire risk. The majority are areas with higher proportions young families with limited resources and areas with older-persons (65+) who are living alone.

There are a range of factors which appear to disproportionately result in casualties compared to the number of dwelling fires that they are a factor in, these are primarily; incidents involving chip-pan or deep-fat fryers, fires that are started by smoking materials (such as cigarettes), fires in dwellings where no alarm system is present, fires where the main occupant is under the influence, and fires where the main occupant has an underlying medical condition or illness.

It is important that homes are fitted with functioning fire alarms as a minimum, and that communities are encouraged to engage with the Safe and Well programme ran by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue in order to have the safety of their homes assessed and addressed.

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

Business Crime

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

Staffordshire has a high proportion of small businesses, which do not have the same resilience as larger national and multi-national businesses, in turn being significantly harmed by experiences of crime. Business crime affects a broad range of businesses in Staffordshire; from incidents of criminal damage and arson, to large businesses who are victims of fraud, and farms who are victims of machinery and agricultural vehicle thefts.

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

Quality of Life and Wider Determinants

There are a range of factors which affect individual quality of life, life chances and overall vulnerability. Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, there are a number of communities which face considerable disadvantage and deprivation, as well as pockets of affluence and advantage.

The factors considered to be of most concern across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are; deprivation, economic inactivity and economic stress, crime and ill-health related to alcohol and substance dependence and misuse, social isolation amongst older-people, and children and young people in need of safeguarding against abuse and criminal exploitation.

The impact of unhealthy lifestyles in some parts Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is considerable, with some parts of the force-area experiencing proportions of both children and adults who are overweight or obese which are significantly above the national average and have been for many years.

Long-term alcohol use and dependency is a considerable concern across the force-area, with hospital admissions for alcohol-related conditions significantly higher than national levels in seven out of the nine Safety Partnership areas. Alcohol-specific deaths are a significant concern in the north of the force-area, primarily in Staffordshire Moorlands, Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent – where rates of alcohol-specific mortality (amongst women) are significantly above the national level.

School attainment in the area is below the national average at KeyStage 4 (previously GCSEs) with five Safety Partnership areas reporting average Attainment 8 (KeyStage 4) scores which are significantly below the national average. This is a particular concern, given the links between poor attainment at 16+ and barriers to further education opportunities and apprenticeships. Lack of qualifications amongst young people are a heightened concern in some communities within the force-area, as limited employment opportunities resulting from low levels of qualification may make young people more vulnerable to being criminally exploited.

Overall levels of employment across the majority of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is good, but there are some communities which face considerable employment disadvantage, where rates of adults claiming employment benefits for the long-term significantly above the national level. While employment levels are generally good across the force-area, levels of pay have failed to increase significantly in recent years, with average annual earnings around £660 less than the national average across the force area overall, and over £2,000 a year less in some areas.

Deprivation is a concern in a number of areas; there are pockets of Stoke-on-Trent which are amongst the Top 1% most deprived communities nationally, and communities in most Safety Partnership areas which are within the Top 20% most deprived – facing considerable challenges around employment, health and education, as well as experiencing high levels of crime.

There are also some parts of the force-area which face hidden challenges around deprivation and income; where lower wage levels mean that although families and individuals may live in communities which are not statistically classified as deprived, they struggle to get by financially and experience high levels of economic-stress – with little or no resilience against unplanned financial challenges such as temporary unemployment, or increased housing costs.

Public Confidence & Feeling the Difference

A high proportion of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent residents are generally satisfied with the area as a place to live, with 93% satisfied or very satisfied with the local area.

Just under 1-in-6 residents (16%) are concerned about people using or dealing drugs in the local area, a slightly smaller proportion concerned about anti-social behaviour (ASB, 15%) and in people misusing alcohol or being dependent on alcohol (13%).

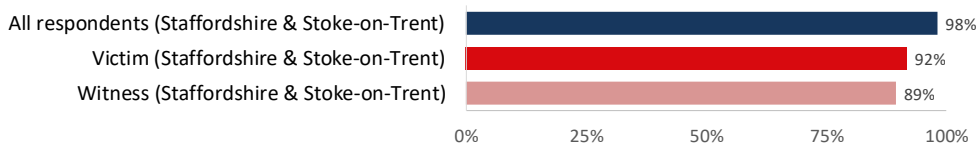
Around half of residents are satisfied with the level of visible Police presence across the force-area (48%) and the level of trust that residents have in the Police is particularly high (91% of residents).

The very large majority of residents report that they feel safe during the daytime (98%), and although there is a little variation across the force-area, nowhere sees fewer than 96% of residents stating that they feel safe during daylight hours. There is more variation across the force-area, however, when measuring how safe people feel after dark; while 84% of residents feel safe overall, proportions range from 77% to 90% depending on the Safety Partnership area.

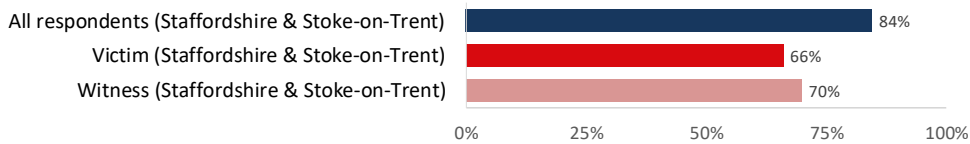
In addition to the majority of residents feeling safe both at daytime and after dark, a small proportion feel that they are likely to become a victim of crime in the future, around 15% of residents.

Data shows us that those who have previously experienced crime first-hand, as either a victim of crime or a witness to a crime, feel significantly less safe than the population overall. This is particularly acute when considering how safe residents feel at night or after dark, with a high proportion of those who have been a victim in the past (44%) feeling that they are likely to be a victim of crime again in the foreseeable future.

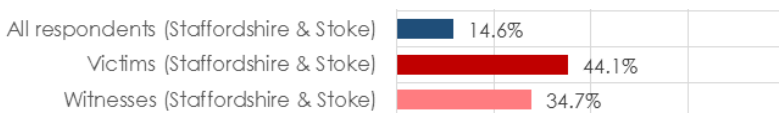
Feelings of safety during daylight hours



Feelings of safety at night/after dark



Feel likely that they will be a victim of crime



General recommendations

General partnership recommendations

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

Ensure that partnerships maintain links with Staffordshire Police, through the Knowledge Hub and local Policing Commanders, in order to identify where the partnership is able to contribute to emerging or ongoing targeted Policing operations as appropriate.

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

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

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

There is a likely need for the full partnership to explore options around the development of mechanisms which allow young people to anonymously report concerns around crime and criminal exploitation, which can then be escalated through mechanisms such as Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) or similar. In particular, but not limited to, giving young people an opportunity to communicate concerns that they may have about;

- Potential criminal exploitation of themselves or others (incl. gang-related activity/recruitment)
- Knowledge of weapons possession or 'stashing'¹⁰ amongst their peers
- Drug or alcohol misuse (their own, or that of others)
- Potential radicalisation or extremism, or other concerning hate-related behaviour
- Knowledge of other criminal behaviour in the community which is a cause for concern

Recommendations against key priorities

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

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

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

Where there are concerns that ASB might be hate-related, Partnerships should consider whether there is significant enough concern to refer cases to Prevent.

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

¹⁰ Stashing refers to the practice of hiding knives and other weapons in public places, such as parks or undergrowth, so that they are available for individuals to use in violent offences – without the additional risk of being in possession of the weapon.

Domestic Abuse

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

There is a continuing need for partners engaged in front-line service to have a strong awareness and understanding of the signs of non-physical types of domestic abuse, particularly coercive control, financial abuse, psychological abuse including stalking, and intra-family abuse (elder abuse and child-to-parent abuse). There is a need to continue to raise public awareness around these types of domestic abuse.

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

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

Drug Supply and County Lines

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

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

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

Fraud

There is a need for Safety Partnerships to support local services and communities in recognising signs of potential fraud and raising awareness of different types of fraud tactics. It remains critical for carers, relatives, friends or neighbours of someone who is vulnerable to know how to spot the signs of fraud.

It would be beneficial to centrally develop and implement a pan-Staffordshire Fraud strategy; to provide knowledge and tools directed towards residents and businesses, and to create a force-wide structured approach to fraud prevention.

Preventative activity remains essential; it is important to raise awareness of types of fraud, and the action that individuals can take in order to verify legitimacy if they are unsure of whether activity is fraudulent or not. Awareness raising activity must involve mechanisms for reaching those who live in isolation, those with additional needs and especially those who are not digitally, socially or geographically well-connected.

Telephone and courier fraud still present a high risk to particularly vulnerable and socially isolated groups. As these are individuals who are often not connected digitally, it is essential that awareness raising activity includes a focussed element for identified high-risk groups who might be missed by online and digital awareness raising activity.

Similarly to Fraud overall, there is an ongoing need to develop a more co-ordinated, joined up approach to dealing with doorstep crime across the range of agencies. There remains a need to raise awareness of the signs of doorstep crime, as well as provide advice and support to carers, relatives, friends or neighbours of those identified as vulnerable. At a central level there is a likely need to consider how doorstep crime can be addressed through existing and emerging strategy, with partnerships engaging and contributing towards ongoing development.

Businesses should be kept aware of links between cyber-security and Fraud risks attached to 'ransom-ware' cyber-attacks, and how to protect themselves.

Public Place Violence and Serious Violence (including Knife Crime)

Primarily, all Safety Partnerships should remain engaged with the development and delivery of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Serious Violence Reduction Strategy, which is heavily focussed on preventing serious violence before it occurs, by utilising early intervention opportunities and working in close partnerships with communities and residents.

As a significant proportion of PPV offences include alcohol as a factor compared to other crimes, it is recommended that partnerships continue to work with licensing authorities to identify and tackle heavy drinking in areas with significant levels of alcohol-related disorder and public place violence. It is also recommended that authorities work with licenced establishments to support bar-staff staff in recognising potential signs that an individual or group may be becoming aggressive or potentially violent and take appropriate preventative action.

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

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

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

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

There is an ongoing need to work with young people in schools, colleges and sixth forms, pupil referral units, care homes, prisons, youth groups, other youth services, and housing associations to raise awareness of the dangers, risks and legal repercussions associated with carrying knives and other weapons. Local evidence suggests that there is a particular need to focus on those aged 11-18 years.

Counter Terror / Counter Extremism

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

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

There remains a need for the Prevent Board and Safety Partnership areas to ensure that partner agencies with low Prevent referral rates are aware of how to make a referral and feel confident in doing so. Work should also support partners in their understanding of the referral mechanism to ensure that referrals are appropriate, proportionate and contain all relevant information.

There is a continuing need to raise awareness of extremism and potential signs of radicalisation within communities, and particularly in communities at risk of emerging extreme right-wing and far-right extremism.

Safety Partnerships and Prevent partners should explore approaches to raising awareness of existing and emerging far-right and extreme right-wing groups amongst other partners, and encourage reporting of any show of support through usual counter terror and counter extremism channels such as Prevent.

Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Organised Immigration Offending

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

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

It is important for partners and those in front-line services to have a strong awareness of the range of offending included under Modern Slavery and particularly be aware that in addition to individuals from outside of the UK who are victims of Modern Slavery, many victims and perpetrators of Domestic Servitude and Forced Labour offences in Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent are British. Safety Partnerships should remain engaged with Staffordshire Police and the Police Knowledge Hub in order to become aware of any shifts or emerging changes in Modern Slavery identified as knowledge and understanding improves and develops.

Car Key Burglary / Vehicle Theft

There is a need to raise awareness of the measures that individuals can take to reduce the risk of becoming victims of such types of crime, particularly in high risk and hot-spot areas, and amongst high risk groups. This is additionally the case for business and small business owners who rely on vehicles as a business asset, as around a third of vehicle theft incidents in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are also instances of Business Crime.

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

Community Cohesion and Hate Crime

Safety Partnerships must engage with and contribute towards the development of the pan-Staffordshire Hate Crime Strategy. Work with partners where relevant to ensure that there is intensive early intervention and support for young people who have committed hate-related offences in order to prevent further offending behaviour, with links into Prevent, where hate offences may be linked to extremism.

Consider appropriate focussed partnership work in areas with high levels of Hate Crime, and where there is a known cross-over between Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime. Ensure that information is being shared at appropriate partnership boards about repeat Hate Crime and Hate-related ASB perpetrators and victims.

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

Rural Crime

There is a need for an appropriate commitment to crime prevention in rural communities, to minimise the considerable personal, community and economic impact of crime. Approaches to tackling rural crime should consider that rural communities are more likely to be involved in proactive community safety activity such as Community Speedwatch and Neighbourhood Watch, and it is highly recommended that partners explore crime reduction options that engage with and develop new and existing community-based assets such as these in rural areas.

Rural communities reported to the National Rural Crime Survey (NCRS) that they sometimes do not report crime because they feel that 'nothing will be done'. Although this sentiment is not as strong in Staffordshire as other rural areas, services should still develop good knowledge and understanding of rural communities needs and expectations and focus on ensuring that there is greater confidence in the reporting of crime and disorder.

There is an additional need to continue to work with the agricultural community to continue to raise awareness of vehicles which might be at increased risk of theft, and improve knowledge of preventative measures that can be taken to reduce risk, as well as measures that can be taken to support the Police in identification of suspects.

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

Alcohol is a cross-cutting theme across a range of priorities - it is important that partners continue to consider where alcohol may be a factor in either offending behaviour, or in individuals' level of vulnerability, and that packages of support and intervention include consideration and support for alcohol misuse and dependency where identified. Support should be particularly intensive for young people with identified emerging alcohol concerns.

Being under the influence of alcohol remains a factor that disproportionately leads to casualties in dwelling fires, it is particularly important that those delivering support to individuals with alcohol misuse or dependency needs also assess their residences for fire-related risks.

Centrally there is a need to continue to promote activity to raise awareness of the significant risks attached to drug and substance misuse, including the significant health and psychological risks attached to psychoactive substances previously referred to as 'legal highs'.

There is a need to ensure that there is appropriate multi-agency support for young people with drug-related and suspected drug-related offending, in order to deter drug use and provide early treatment where addiction or dependency may be a concern. This should include work with schools, education providers, children's homes and foster carers where appropriate, to ensure that there is a sound understanding of the early signs of substance misuse, so that young people can be supported at the earliest possible opportunity.

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

It is vital that partners working with children, young people and families, are considering safeguarding in the wider context of environment and setting that young people are in, particularly outside of the home. Developing a greater awareness of contextual safeguarding is of growing importance in terms of protecting children and young people from harm. Partnerships should help lead the way in moving thinking around children's safeguarding and child protection forwards to address extra-familial risk; including supporting businesses in areas popular with young people in developing their awareness of risks to young people and their confidence in reporting concerns appropriately.

It is considered essential that young people are made aware of the signs of potential criminal exploitation, and that mechanisms exist to allow young people to appropriately and anonymously raise concerns about the criminal exploitation of themselves or their peers.

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

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

Recommendations against additional considerations

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

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

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

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

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

Appendices

Methodology

The prioritisation setting process for 19/20 has taken account of existing analysis, reporting and intelligence to identify relevant key priorities, which have been validated through conversations with individual CSP leads.

We have undertaken a review of priorities, as set out in existing risk and threat assessment reports, primarily the Staffordshire Police Strategic Threat assessment and Force Management Statement 2019, in order to distil key strategic priorities and risks. These have been cross-referenced against the known existing local priorities and findings for each CSP area which have been agreed previously. New and emerging issues and risks identified through the partnership and through exception reporting and data analysis have been scored using the MoRiLE approach, with a final list of CSP priorities developed for agreement with each Lead.

The final sets of priorities have been validated and finalised with individual CSP leads, to inform the core content for analysis and reporting.

Data tables

Overall Crime: Ward-level count and rate, 2018-19 (where rate is above ward-level average)

Ward Name	Partnership Area	Count (rounded) + rate per 1,000 population	Difference to ward average ¹¹
Joiner's Square	Stoke-on-Trent	3,460 (533.6 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Burton	East Staffordshire	1,670 (432.3 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Forebridge	Stafford	1,570 (375.7 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Town	Newcastle-under-Lyme	1,550 (282.2 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Broadway and Longton East	Stoke-on-Trent	1,300 (273.6 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Etruria and Hanley	Stoke-on-Trent	1,490 (252.9 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Burslem Central	Stoke-on-Trent	1,250 (233.7 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Castle	Tamworth	1,630 (217.1 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Penkhull and Stoke	Stoke-on-Trent	1,700 (200.0 per 1,000)	Above
Stowe	Lichfield	930 (182.6 per 1,000)	Above
Cannock South	Cannock Chase	1,460 (178.3 per 1,000)	Above
Little Chell and Stanfield	Stoke-on-Trent	1,040 (164.1 per 1,000)	Above
Dresden and Florence	Stoke-on-Trent	650 (158.1 per 1,000)	Above
Moorcroft	Stoke-on-Trent	870 (155.3 per 1,000)	Above
Fenton West and Mount Pleasant	Stoke-on-Trent	960 (150.8 per 1,000)	Above
Tunstall	Stoke-on-Trent	1,110 (143.6 per 1,000)	Above

¹¹ Difference is calculated as above the mean plus one increment of ward-level standard deviation. Significant difference is calculated as above the mean plus two increments of ward-level standard deviation

Overall Anti-Social Behaviour: Ward-level count and rate, 2018-19 (where rate is above ward-level average)

Ward Name	Partnership Area	Count (rounded) + rate per 1,000 population	Difference to ward average ¹¹
Joiner's Square	Stoke-on-Trent	1,450 (223.4 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Forebridge	Stafford	680 (163.3 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Burton	East Staffordshire	580 (150.1 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Etruria and Hanley	Stoke-on-Trent	830 (140.3 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Town	Newcastle-under-Lyme	690 (126.2 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Broadway and Longton East	Stoke-on-Trent	510 (106.6 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Penkhull and Stoke	Stoke-on-Trent	790 (93.4 per 1,000)	Significantly above
Burslem Central	Stoke-on-Trent	440 (82.1 per 1,000)	Above
Tunstall	Stoke-on-Trent	630 (81.5 per 1,000)	Above
Meir South	Stoke-on-Trent	480 (74.5 per 1,000)	Above
Chasetown	Lichfield	300 (71.6 per 1,000)	Above
Ford Green and Smallthorne	Stoke-on-Trent	360 (69.3 per 1,000)	Above
Fenton East	Stoke-on-Trent	390 (67.0 per 1,000)	Above
Fenton West and Mount Pleasant	Stoke-on-Trent	420 (65.8 per 1,000)	Above
Stowe	Lichfield	330 (64.6 per 1,000)	Above
Blurton West and Newstead	Stoke-on-Trent	480 (62.7 per 1,000)	Above
Bentilee and Ubberley	Stoke-on-Trent	720 (62.7 per 1,000)	Above
Cannock South	Cannock Chase	510 (62.5 per 1,000)	Above
Eaton Park	Stoke-on-Trent	250 (62.3 per 1,000)	Above
Hanley Park and Shelton	Stoke-on-Trent	450 (61.6 per 1,000)	Above
Birches Head and Central Forest Park	Stoke-on-Trent	720 (60.8 per 1,000)	Above
Meir Park	Stoke-on-Trent	230 (59.9 per 1,000)	Above
Castle	Tamworth	450 (59.9 per 1,000)	Above
Town	East Staffordshire	410 (59.0 per 1,000)	Above

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

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