



## DOCUMENT DETAILS

This document has been produced on behalf of the Lichfield District Community Safety Partnership by Staffordshire Observatory.



Title	Lichfield District CSP Strategic Assessment, 2011
Date created	August 2011
Description	The purpose of this document is to provide Lichfield District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) with a review of their current 2011/12 community safety priorities.
Produced by	Daniel Maddock, Senior Research & Information Officer tel: 01785 27 6538 email: <a href="mailto:daniel.maddock@staffordshire.gov.uk">daniel.maddock@staffordshire.gov.uk</a> and Susie Bentley, Assistant Principal Research & Information Officer tel: 01785 27 7371 email: <a href="mailto:susannah.bentley@staffordshire.gov.uk">susannah.bentley@staffordshire.gov.uk</a>  Staffordshire Observatory
Partnership contact details	Jenni Coleman, Community Safety Manager Lichfield District Council District Council House Frog Lane Lichfield WS13 6YY tel: 01543 308005 email: <a href="mailto:jenni.coleman@lichfielddc.gov.uk">jenni.coleman@lichfielddc.gov.uk</a>
Geographical coverage	Lichfield District
Time period	2010/11, plus historical data where available.
Format	PDF and Publisher files
Status	Version 1 (25 <sup>th</sup> August 2011)
Usage statement	This product is the property of Lichfield District CSP. If you wish to reproduce this document either in whole, or in part, please acknowledge the source and the author(s).
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## I. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

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### I.1 BACKGROUND

The Strategic Assessment is produced annually, and forms part of the partnership problem solving process. The Strategic Assessments produced in 2010 adopted a 'problem oriented approach' as pioneered by the 'Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science'. This placed a greater focus on an understanding of the problems, rather than the symptoms and consequences.

Due to the adoption of a genuinely strategic analytical approach, the Strategic Assessments were much more informative than in previous years. This also resulted in a more strategic approach to priority setting and as a consequence it is not necessary to repeat the Strategic Assessments in as much detail during 2011. Therefore the 2011 Strategic Assessment should be viewed as a 'companion' to the 2010 document.

The aim of this Strategic Assessment is to provide Lichfield District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) with a review of their current 2011/12 community safety priorities. This will enable them to determine whether they should continue as priorities, should be modified or replaced during the next financial year. The reports will also consider any new or emerging trends.

### I.2 STRUCTURE

In order to provide a holistic representation of problems across the district, the Strategic Assessment draws on a wide range of data that is shared across the partnership.

The Strategic Assessment is set out in four main chapters:

- Overview of Crime and Disorder in Lichfield District
- Lichfield District Community Safety Priorities
- Emerging Trends and Current Exceptions
- Conclusion, Summary and Recommendations for Strategic Priorities

The strategic approach which has been adopted by Lichfield District is structured around the three aspects of problem solving: neighbourhood management (location), reducing offending (offenders) and protecting the vulnerable (victims). The CSP community safety priorities identified therein will therefore be analysed according to this structure. The Lichfield District strategic priorities are as follows:

#### **Neighbourhood Management:**

Chasetown  
Lichfield City Centre  
North Lichfield  
Mile Oak and Fazeley  
Environmental Crime

#### **Reduce Offending:**

Adult Offenders  
Young Offenders

#### **Protect The Vulnerable:**

Domestic Violence  
Sexual Violence  
Road Safety  
Hate Crime  
Anti-social Behaviour

This Strategic Assessment is the starting point of the wider partnership business planning process, ultimately informing local partnership action plans, which are reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### 2.1 KEY FINDINGS

- All recorded crime in Lichfield District has reduced by 4% during 2010/11 and whilst most crime and disorder hotspots have also recorded reductions in overall crime, there have been no further areas identified that require a strategic focus.
- Violent crime has reduced by a quarter over the past four years to a rate of nine crimes per 1,000 population, considerably lower than the county rate (14.5 per 1,000). A third of violent crime was domestic related.
- Chasetown is the only hotspot location not to record a reduction in crime, and whilst violent crime has reduced by 14% during 2010/11, offences of burglary have increased.
- Anti-social behaviour has reduced by almost a third during 2010/11, as well as reducing in the previously identified hotspot locations. It is these areas that are most vulnerable to repeat ASB.
- Generally speaking, those people most likely to re-offend in Lichfield District are male, aged 19 to 21 years, on licence and have needs associated with alcohol, financial management and drugs. These offenders are most likely to commit serious acquisitive crimes and violence.
- The top hotspots for adult offenders are North Lichfield, Leomansley and Fazeley, with North Lichfield being in the top 20% most deprived areas in England. These are also hotspots for young offenders receiving a substantive outcome.
- The number of first time entrant to the justice system has increased slightly in Lichfield District, and is reflected in an increase in the number of young people committing violent offences, criminal damage and vehicle crime for the 1<sup>st</sup> time.
- Reported domestic violence offences have increased by almost a fifth over the past four years, and analysis shows that all socio-demographic groups are represented, with people profiled as 'residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots' accounting for a fifth of all victims.
- Whilst females make up a lesser proportion of total road traffic casualties, the age profile is similar to males, suggesting that age is a risk factor, as well as gender.

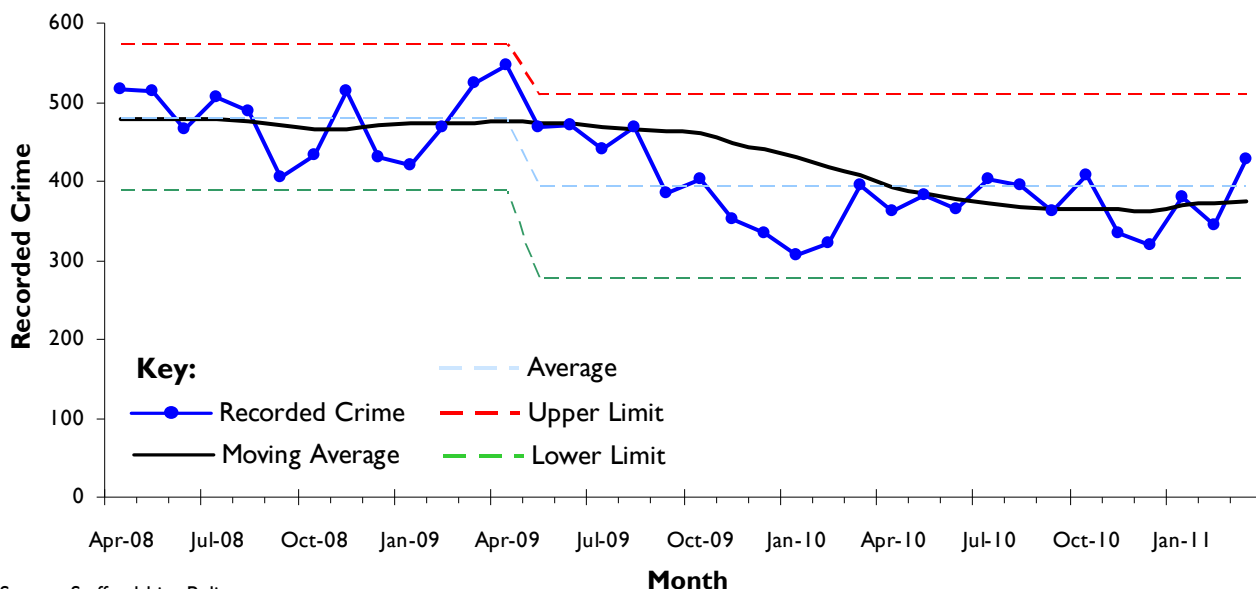
### 2.2 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is recommended that Lichfield city centre remains a priority and that the previously identified priority residential locations remain, but that the priority issues be expanded to encompass burglary (domestic and other buildings) in the Chasetown area. It is further recommended that environmental crime continue to be prioritised, with a focus on the arterial routes throughout the district.
- It is recommended that reducing re-offending continues to be prioritised in Lichfield District and is tackled through a partnership approach to Integrated Offender Management. This would provide an opportunity to reduce levels of serious acquisitive crime, which have shown an increase over the last 12 months. In Lichfield District there are links between higher rates of re-offending and offender need in relation to alcohol, drugs and finance.
- It is recommended that vulnerable people and people susceptible to harm continue to be prioritised in Lichfield District with a particular emphasis on tackling domestic and sexual abuse and repeat victims of anti-social behaviour. A large proportion of domestic violence victims live in areas described as 'lower income residents' and 'rural and small town inhabitants' and understanding how to engage with these communities most effectively can help to reduce under-reporting and signpost victims (and those at risk) towards the most appropriate support services.

### 3. OVERVIEW OF CRIME & DISORDER IN LICHFIELD DISTRICT

During 2010/11 there were 4,615 crimes recorded in Lichfield District, equal to a rate of 47 crimes per 1,000 population. This is a reduction of 214 crimes (4%) compared with the previous year and 22% lower than the number recorded during 2007/08. The direction of travel (as demonstrated in figure 1) shows a clear downward trend from Autumn 2009, although this has started to level off, with a current average of approximately 390 crimes per month.

Figure 1 - Long-term trend of crime recorded in Lichfield District



Source: Staffordshire Police

There have been considerable reductions in reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the district. During 2010/11 there were 2,262 reported incidents of ASB, equal to a rate of 23 per 1,000 population. This represents a 28% reduction (or 878 fewer incidents) from the previous year, and a 38% reduction over four years. The district rate is considerably below the current county rate of 32 incidents per 1,000. Criminal damage offences have reduced by 11% or 100 fewer offences during 2010/11 and by 35% over the past four years. Arson offences have reduced by 9% in this period, with the number of deliberate ignitions recorded reducing by a third.

Overall violent crime rates in Lichfield District have reduced by a quarter over the past four years, to approximately 9 crimes per 1,000 population, considerably lower than the county rate (14.5 crimes per 1,000). The severity ratio of violent crime (the proportion that involves injury or serious injury) has remained fairly constant in Lichfield District at approximately 47%, despite the number of serious violent offences has reduced by 37%.

During 2010/11, 30% of violent crime was recorded as being domestic related, and a fifth profiled as alcohol related (where the offender is profiled as being under the influence) and 8% recorded as both alcohol and domestic related. Although this represents an increase from the previous year, it is still considerably lower than may be expected, and infers a level of under-reporting which needs to be improved to fully understand the impact of alcohol on this type of offence. Sexual violence has increased during 2010/11, from 63 offences in 2009/10, to 67 offences, although long term trends are down.

Overall acquisitive crime in the district reduced slightly during 2010/11, however serious acquisitive crime increased by over 12%, and the rate per 1,000 population is over 20% higher than the county rate. This is attributable to increases in theft of motor vehicles, burglary of dwellings and shoplifting offences.



## 4. LICHFIELD DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PRIORITIES

### 4.1 NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The first key aim for community safety in Lichfield District is to provide a locality focus on priority neighbourhoods particularly in relation to reducing violent crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, including those that are alcohol related. The 2010 Strategic Assessment for Lichfield District identified Lichfield City Centre, North Lichfield and Chasetown as priority areas, as these areas experience multiple issues and also contain the highest concentrations of victims and offenders.

It is recommended that Lichfield city centre remains a priority due to its position as the commercial centre of the district and centre for the night time economy, that those previously identified priority residential locations remain, but that the priority issues be expanded to encompass burglary (domestic and other buildings) in the Chasetown area. It is further recommended that environmental crime continue to be prioritised, with a focus on the arterial routes throughout the district.

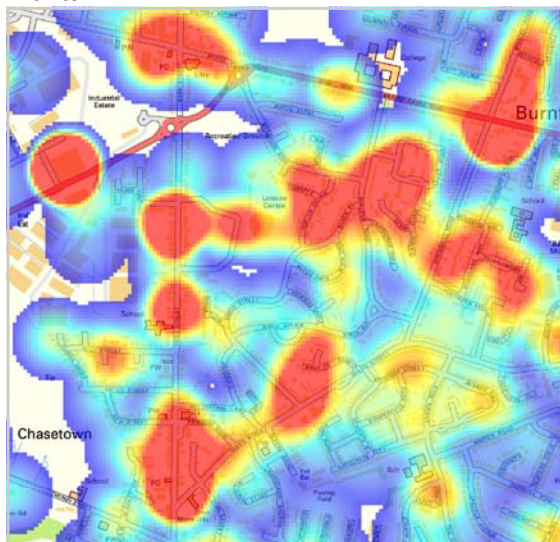
During 2010/11 there were 442 crimes recorded in **Chasetown** which represents virtually no change from 2009/10. Chasetown accounts for approximately 10% of crime in Lichfield District. During 2010/11 there has been an increase of 82% in burglary of dwellings (or 14 more offences) and a 75% increase in burglary of other buildings (or 12 more offences). There have however been reductions in other types of acquisitive crimes, such as theft from motor vehicles and other types of theft, including shoplifting.

Within this hotspot, the key concentrations of crime are around the High Street, Chase Vale and Queen Street. However, further concentrations of crime have emerged to the east of these hotspots, in the Poplar Avenue/Oakdene Road area, Springhill Road/Woodland Way area, and at the junction with Bridge Cross Road.

Violence is a key priority in Chasetown and there has been a 14% reduction during 2010/11 from 2009/10, although this has been confined to violence with less serious injury and other violence. Serious violent crime increased from three to nine offences, with one of these being a murder, and another an attempted murder. Of all violent crime reported during 2009/10, just 15% was profiled as being domestic in nature. However in 2010/11 this increased to 27% of total violence, close to the District wide proportion of 29%. As these offences are the subject of proactive efforts to increase reporting, these increases could be viewed as a success. Just 12% of violent offences in Chasetown were profiled as being alcohol related. Due to changes in the way the influence of alcohol is recorded, it is not possible to draw comparisons with previous years, although this proportion is still lower than may be expected, and is considered just a snapshot of the true extent of the problem.

Despite there being no improvement in crime levels, there has been a reduction of over 14% in the number of reported incidents of ASB in the area, which is largely attributable to a reduction in incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.

**Figure 2 - Chasetown Crime Hotspots 2010/11**



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During 2010/11 there were 630 crimes recorded in **Lichfield City Centre**. As the central business district and centre for the night-time economy in the District, the city centre was identified as a priority location. The number of offences recorded decreased by 12.5% during 2010/11, almost three times the reduction experienced across the District as a whole. This equates to 90 fewer than during 2009/10, although the city centre still accounted for 14% of total crime in the District. Overall serious acquisitive crimes have reduced, driven by a reduction in burglary offences, whilst the number of thefts from motor vehicles in the area rose from 10 in 2009/10, to 18 in 2010/11. There was also an increase in shoplifting offences, from 126 in 2009/10 to 140 in 2010/11, whilst levels of criminal damage remained similar to the previous year.

Violent crime within the city centre has experienced a 28% reduction during 2010/11 and the severity of incidents has also reduced, with just below 46% of violent offences involving an injury. Almost a third of these offences were profiled as being alcohol related, which is 10 percentage points higher than the district rate. This reinforces the association between violent crime and the night time economy. The number of these offences that were domestic in nature was unchanged in 2010/11 at ten. The number of sexual offences was also unchanged from the previous year at six recorded offences.

Coupled with this reduction in violent crime, the city centre has also experienced a considerable reduction in reported incidents of ASB of almost 22%. This reduction has been largely driven by a fall in reported incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, although the number of begging instances has increased from one in 2009/10 to seven in 2010/11, and complaints of noise from pubs and clubs have increased from eight incidents to 17.

The priority area of **North Lichfield** recorded 526 crimes during 2010/11, a reduction of 123 crimes or 19% from the previous year. There were reductions in serious acquisitive crimes, particularly burglary and theft of motor vehicles, as well as in criminal damage and violent offences, which reduced by 25% and 8% respectively. Almost a fifth of all recorded violent crime was profiled as being alcohol related, and 23% was domestic in nature. Just 8% of all violent crime was profiled as both alcohol related and domestic in nature.

The main clusters of offences within this hotspot are around the Oakenfield/Windmill Lane/Dimbles Lane area. However, the large cluster of offences around the Ponesfield Road/Stychbrook Gardens has dissipated from 2009/10, and is confined to the area of the Weston Road/Dimbles Lane Junction.

There has been a considerable reduction in reported incidents of ASB in north Lichfield, with the location experiencing a 40% reduction in overall incidents during 2010/11, 230 fewer incidents, driven mainly by a 45% reduction in reports of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.

The principal priority in the **Fazeley and Mile Oak** area is to reduce the number of incidents of ASB. During 2010/11, there was a reduction of 19% from 2009/10 levels, and whilst this is lower than the district wide reduction, the number of incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour has reduced by over 28%.

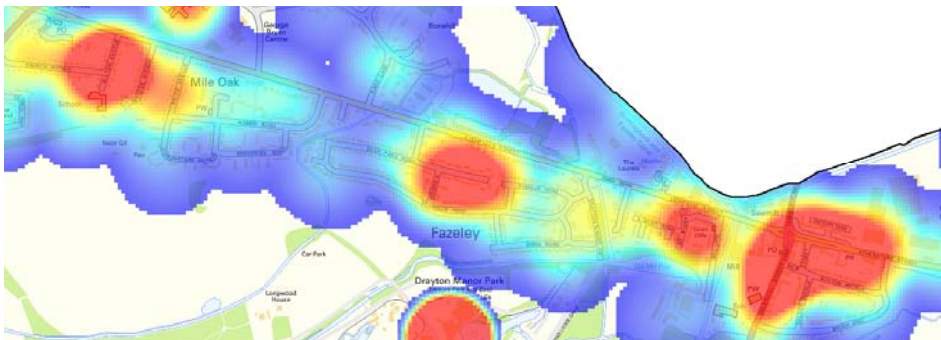


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In terms of crime, there has been a 4% reduction, which is similar to that recorded across the district, however criminal damage offences and serious acquisitive crime have experienced increases, with domestic burglaries doubling, from 14 in 2009/10 to 28 in 2010/11. The principal cluster of crimes in Mile Oak are around the Hospital and the School and Allton Avenue. In Fazeley, the hotspot is located about Coleshill Street and its' junction with Atherstone Street including the residential area in-between, and Victory Terrace to the north.

**Figure 4 - Fazeley and Mile Oak Crime Hotspots 2010/11**



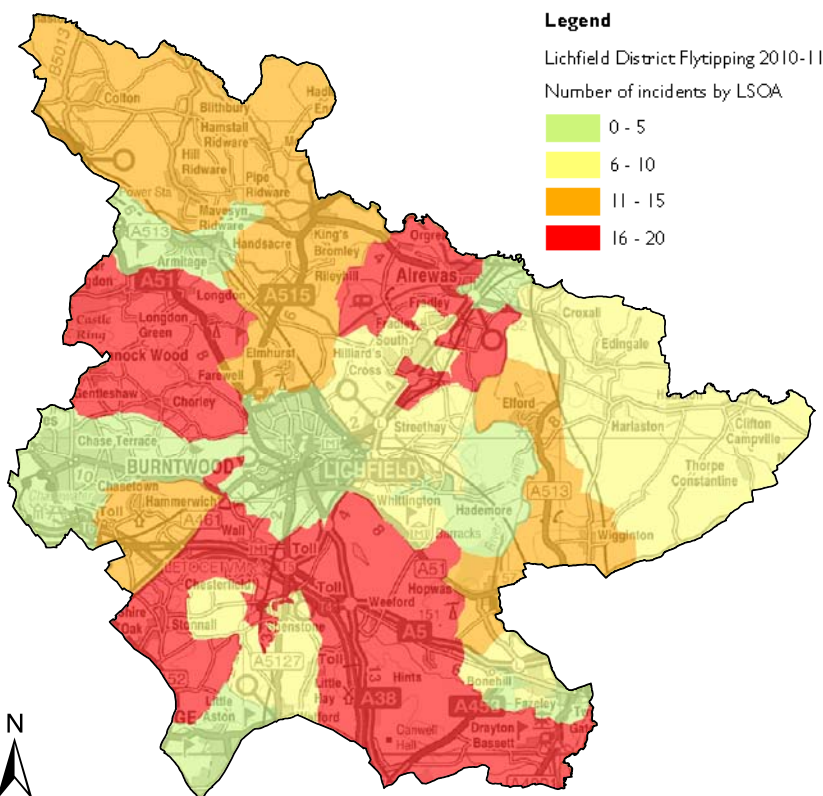
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The principal cluster of crimes in Mile Oak are around the Hospital and the School and Allton Avenue. In Fazeley, the hotspot is located about Coleshill Street and its' junction with Atherstone Street including the residential area in-between, and Victory Terrace to the north.

### Environmental Crime

Another key aspect of neighbourhood management and a key priority for Lichfield District is environmental crime. The level of fly tipping reported in Lichfield District has remained relatively unchanged over the last 12 months, with 278 incidents recorded during 2010/2011. Whilst there has been little change in the type of waste being fly tipped, the cost of the cleanup has increased from approximately £15k in 2009/10 to over £18k in 2010/11<sup>1</sup>. The number of abandoned cars has reduced from 25 during 2009/10, to 5 during 2010/11. As can be seen in figure 5, those wards that have the highest levels of fly tipping are those with main arterial routes passing through, suggesting that the majority of fly tipping instances occur on or immediately adjacent to the highway.

**Figure 5 - Fly Tipping Locations by Ward 2010/11**



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Criminal damage is also an environmental crime, but is also associated with incidents of ASB. The level of criminal damage recorded by the police has decreased significantly during 2010/11; a reduction of 11% when compared with the previous year and more than a third lower than the level recorded during 2007/08. Despite this overall reduction the hotspot locations remain the same, being concentrated on Lichfield City, Chasetown and Burntwood, Mile Oak and Fazeley, as well as Armitage and Handsacre.

<sup>1</sup> Flycapture - National Fly-tipping Database

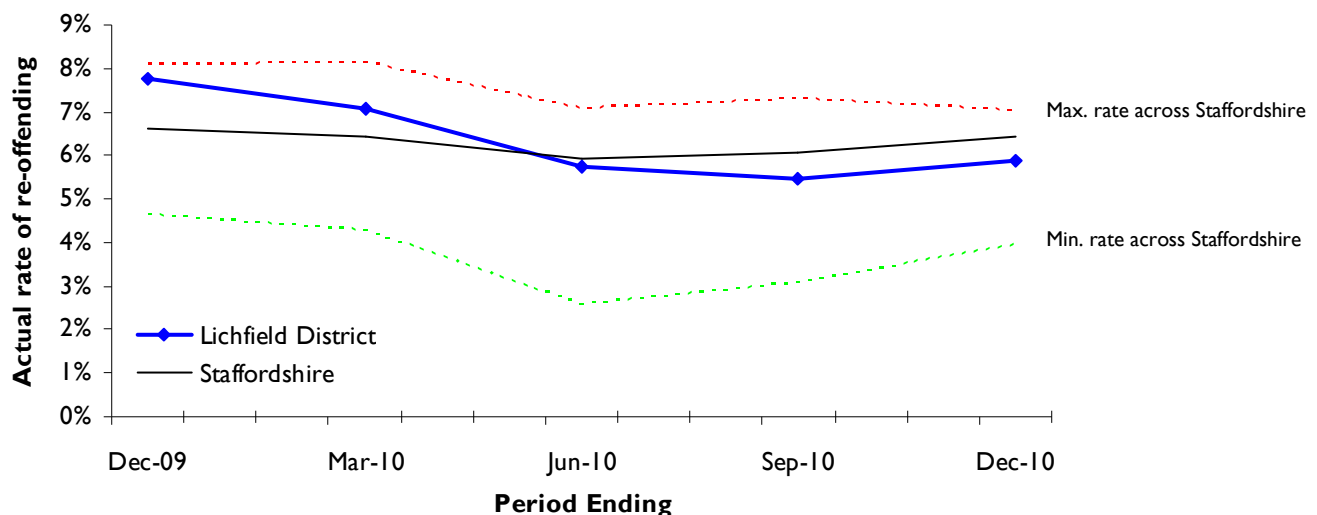
## 4.2 REDUCE OFFENDING

The second priority for community safety in Lichfield District is to reduce re-offending of adults and young people, in particular that linked to serious acquisitive crime. This will be achieved through an integrated approach to offender management, driven by a strong partnership focus. In order to achieve sustainable reductions in re-offending of both adults and young people, it is important to focus on the demographic and lifestyle risk factors that are most strongly associated with repeat offending.

It is recommended that reducing re-offending continues to be prioritised in Lichfield District and is tackled through a partnership approach to Integrated Offender Management. This would provide an opportunity to reduce levels of serious acquisitive crime, which have shown an increase over the last 12 months. In Lichfield District there are links between higher rates of re-offending and offender need in relation to alcohol, drugs and finance. There has also been an increase in the number of young people committing crime for the first time, particularly violent crimes.

The levels of adult re-offending in Lichfield District have decreased over the last 12 months, with the latest results showing a re-offending rate of **5.9%** (23% below the predicted rate for the same period). The graph below shows that this rate is now below the Staffordshire average, which is performing well when compared with other areas across both the West Midlands and nationally.

**Figure 6 - Adult re-offending rates in Lichfield District to December 2010**



Source: Ministry of Justice and NOMS West Midlands

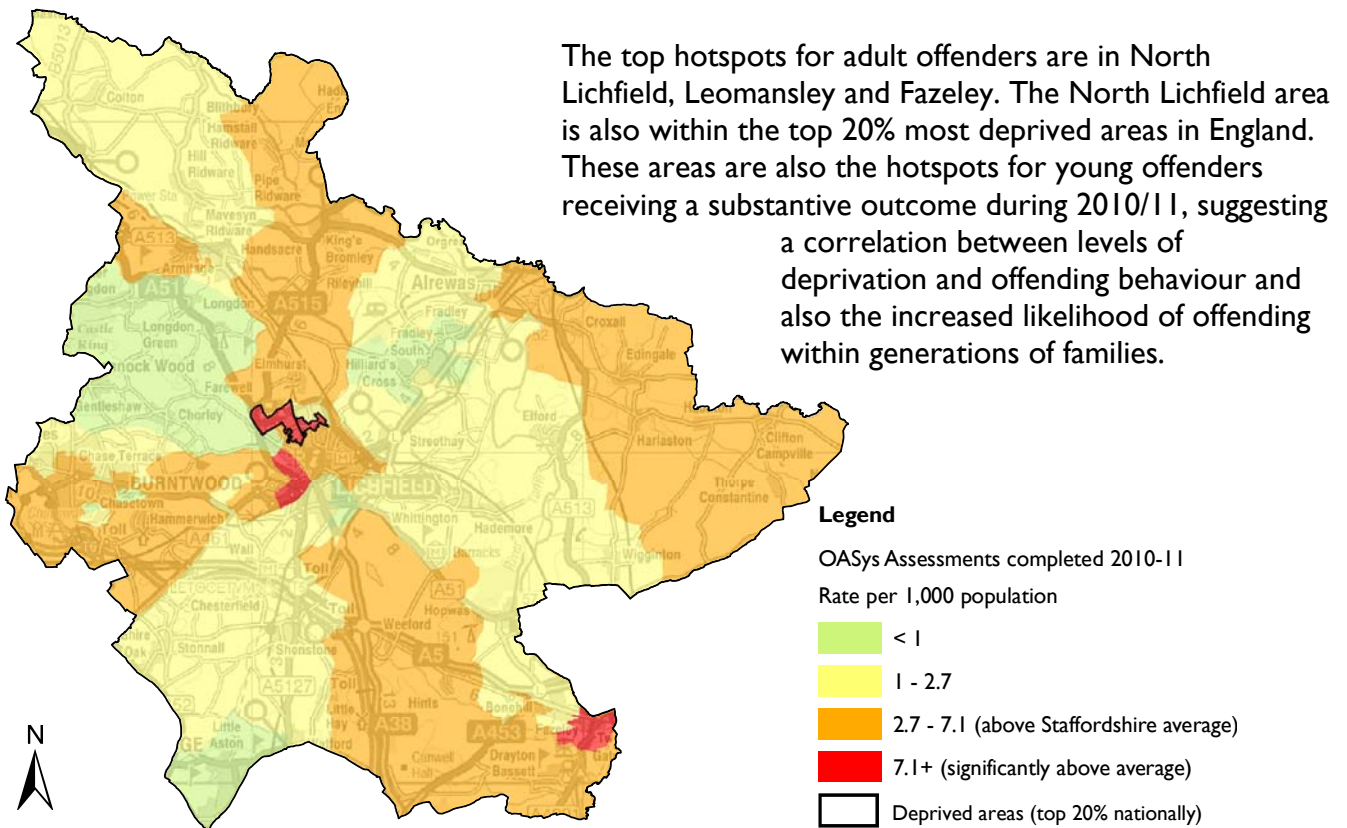
The level of youth re-offending in Lichfield District is slightly above the Staffordshire average, although the low number of young offenders within the cohort mean that this difference is not significant. There were 18 young offenders from Lichfield District included within the youth re-offending cohort tracked during 2010/11, 6 of which (33%) went on to re-offend within nine months (compared with 31% across Staffordshire county).

### Adult Offenders

There are some strong correlations between certain demographic characteristics and needs of offenders and rates of re-offending. In summary, adults most likely to re-offend in Lichfield District are:

- Male, aged 19 to 21 years old
- On licence
- Needs identified in relation to alcohol, financial management and drugs
- Committing acquisitive crimes and violence
- Living in the areas to record the highest rates of crime
- Living in areas described as 'residents with sufficient incomes in right-to-buy social houses'.

**Figure 7 - Hotspots of adult offenders in Lichfield District (OASys Assessments completed 2010/11)**



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 Data source: Staffordshire & West Midlands Probation Trust and CLG Indices of Deprivation 2010

The identified ‘needs’ of adult offenders in Lichfield District are in-line with those observed countywide, with the highest proportion of offenders having needs in relation to thinking and behaviour (93%), followed by lifestyle and associates (56%), alcohol misuse (49%) and relationships (42%).

Rates of re-offending are highest for adult offenders with need in relation to alcohol, drugs and financial management - all above the overall adult re-offending rate in Lichfield District of 5.9%. Offenders with other needs all record a rate of re-offending that is below the district average.

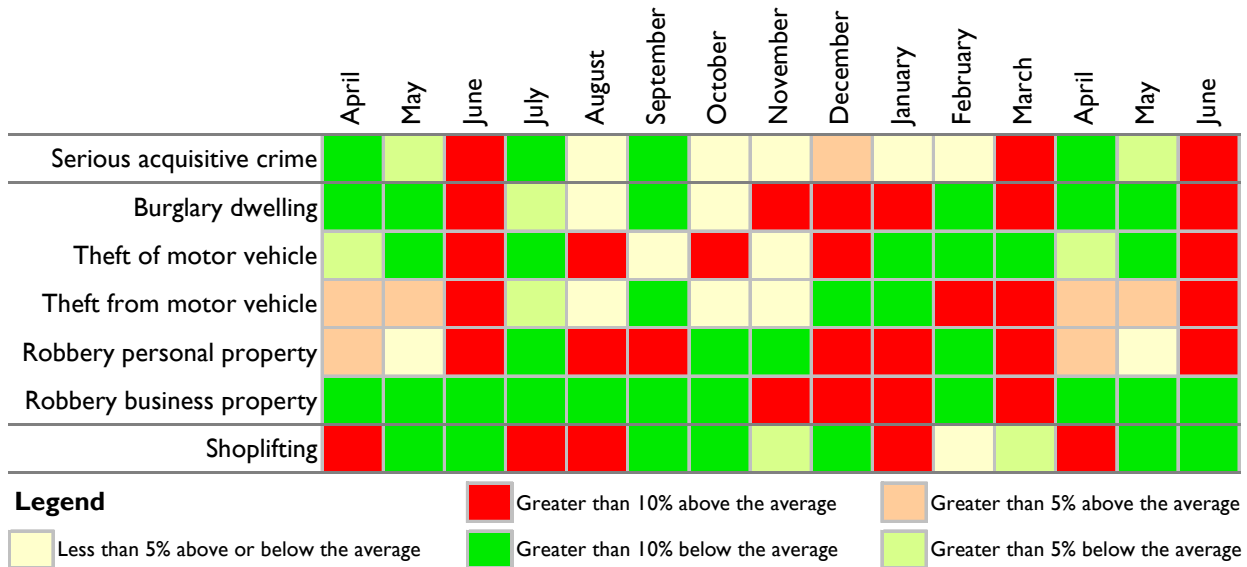
### Young Offenders

The number of first time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System has shown a slight increase over the last three years, with 54 FTEs recorded in Lichfield District during 2010/11. When measured relative to the number of young people within the district, this is the fourth highest rate recorded across Staffordshire; 555 per 100,000 10 to 17 year olds compared with 535 countywide. Just over 63% of FTEs are male, with a peak age of between 15 and 17 years old. These young offenders also live within the hotspots identified above for adult offenders. The increase in FTEs recorded during 2010/11 is reflected in an increase in young offenders committing violent crimes (up from 14 to 19), criminal damage (from 7 to 11) and vehicle crime (from 0 to 4) for the first time.

The identified needs of young offenders in Lichfield District are generally in-line with those recorded across Staffordshire. However, compared with the county average there is a higher proportion of young offenders assessed as having issues with their living arrangements (56% of young offenders compared with 47% countywide) and statutory education (47% compared with 41%) that show some association with their offending behaviour. These young offenders are most likely to live in North Lichfield (Chadsmead in particular) and Chasetown/Chase Terrace.

Re-offending rates for both adults and young people are highest for those committing acquisitive crimes, particularly those within the definition of 'serious acquisitive crime' (burglary of dwellings, theft of/from motor vehicles and robbery) and shoplifting. The number of serious acquisitive crimes recorded in Lichfield District has increased by 13% during 2010/11, although the 937 crimes recorded over the last 12 months is 15% lower than the total recorded three years previously. The rate of serious acquisitive crime recorded in Lichfield is also above the county average, with the biggest difference recorded for burglary of dwellings (38% above the Staffordshire rate per 1,000 households). The following table shows the peak months for acquisitive crime in Lichfield District, based on analysis of crime recorded over the last three years.

**Figure 8 - Seasonality of serious acquisitive crime in Lichfield District**



Source: Staffordshire Police

The biggest increase in burglary dwellings has occurred in Little Aston and Stonnall. During 2010/11 there were 53 burglaries recorded in these two area, an increase of 89% (25 crimes) from the previous year. There has also been an increase in Burntwood, specifically Boney Hay (an increase from 2 to 10) and Chasetown, south of Queen Street (an increase from 2 to 11).

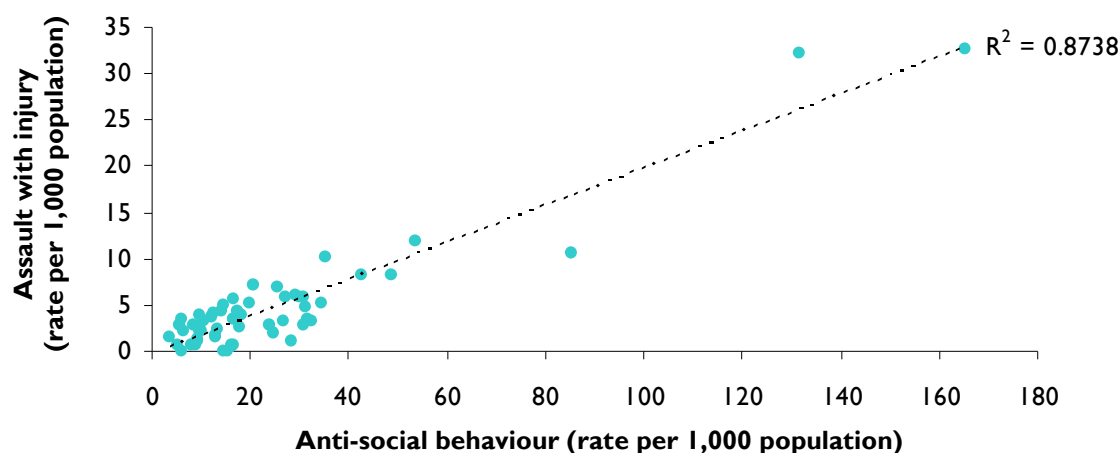
A large proportion of the offenders involved in these offences travel from the West Midlands and many are involved in organised crime groups. However, within Lichfield District the partnership can contribute towards a reduction in these offences by focussing on prevention, particularly within the identified hotspot areas.

There is also a second outcome as part of Aim 2; to reduce alcohol related violent crime, anti social behaviour and criminal damage and the associated environmental impacts.

There has been a significant reduction in violent crime recorded across Lichfield District during 2010/11. Assaults with injury have decreased by 22% (115 fewer offences) and most serious violent crime has decreased by 19% (7 fewer offences). Violent offences now make up less than 1 in 5 (19%) recorded crimes in the district, compared with almost 1 in 4 (24%) in the previous year. There has also been a reduction in anti-social behaviour, with the number of incidents recorded down by 28% between 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Analysis at a Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level shows that there is a significant correlation between the level of assault with injury and anti-social behaviour in an area. This does not mean that one type of offending causes another, but across Lichfield District we can say with some confidence that 87% of variation in the level of assault with injury in an area may be accounted for by variation in the level of anti-social behaviour. Therefore initiatives aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour are likely to have a positive impact on violent crime, and vice versa.

**Figure 9 - Correlation between assault with injury and anti-social behaviour at LSOA level in Lichfield District, 2010/11**



Source: Staffordshire Police

The top hotspot for both anti-social behaviour and assault with injury is in North Lichfield, including Oakenfield, Greencroft, Needwood Hill, Weston Road, Dimbles Lane and Leyfields. This area is also the hotspot for first-time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System, alcohol related crime (outside of Lichfield City Centre), criminal damage and deliberate fires. All of these issues have reduced in North Lichfield during 2010/11, with the exception of FTEs, which have remained unchanged, and deliberate fires, which have increased from two to 13 incidents over the 12-month period.

Within this North Lichfield hotspot, crime is most likely to be committed by males in two main age groups; 18 to 23 years old and 30 to 48 years old. Males in the younger age group are most likely to be involved in alcohol related offending whereas those in the slightly older age group are most likely to be involved in domestic offences, particularly violent crime and criminal damage.



### 4.3 PROTECT THE VULNERABLE

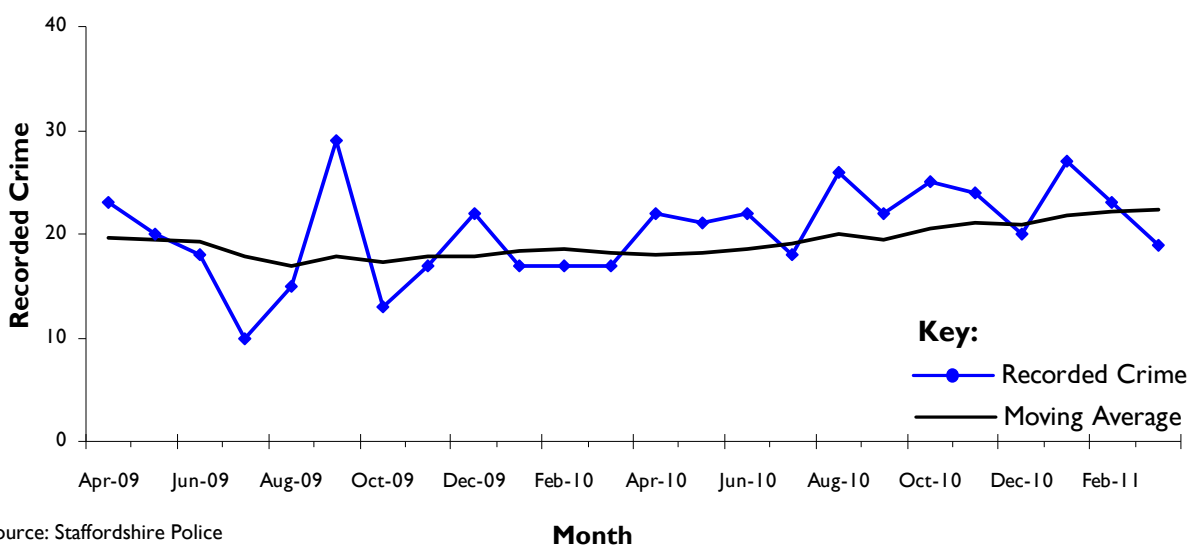
The third priority for community safety in Lichfield District is to focus on those within the community who are most vulnerable; including victims of domestic abuse and sexual offences (specifically women and their families and girls below the age of 19 years) and road safety (particularly young males involved in road traffic collisions). This will be achieved through partnership working with local support services and ensuring that local residents are fully engaged and feel safe in their local area.

It is recommended that vulnerable people and people susceptible to harm continue to be prioritised in Lichfield District with a particular emphasis on tackling domestic and sexual abuse and repeat victims of anti-social behaviour. A large proportion of domestic violence victims live in areas described as 'lower income residents' and 'rural and small town inhabitants' and understanding how to engage with these communities' most effectively can help to reduce under-reporting and signpost victims (and those at risk) towards the most appropriate support services.

#### Domestic Violence

In recent years domestic violence has been the subject of much proactive activity aimed at increasing reporting of this 'hidden' crime. Reported domestic violence increased by 55 offences during 2010/11 in Lichfield, and long term trends are up, with the number of reported crimes increasing by almost a fifth over the past four years. Domestic violence is subject to short term peaks and troughs in reporting, however the average number of crimes has increased from 19 per month in April 2009 to 22 per month in March 2011. More than a quarter of all domestic violence in the district is alcohol related, inferring that this continues to be a key contributory factor with these offences.

Figure 10 - Domestic Violence crimes recorded in Lichfield District with trend



Source: Staffordshire Police

Females are four-and-a-half times more likely to be the victim of domestic violence than males, with females between the ages of 17 and 25 being most vulnerable. The distribution of offences across the district suggests that a broad range of people are vulnerable to domestic violence and whilst there are clusters of offences in the previously identified crime hotspot locations, it is evident that domestic violence occurs in all communities.

Voluntary organisations offer an alternative insight into the true scale of domestic and sexual abuse. The Pathways Project is based in Lichfield and provides essential support for women and children experiencing domestic abuse in the home. As domestic violence is often a 'hidden crime' the Pathways Project can provide a valuable insight into the victims of domestic violence. During

2010/11, the project received approximately 1,700 calls, an increase of 18% from 2009/10. Of those calls where location details were recorded, 24% were from Lichfield District. The available data does not allow for further analysis by district, but of the calls received by the project, the peak age groups was 21 to 30 years.

Mosaic is a social classification tool that can provide us with an understanding of communities' socio-demographic and socio-cultural lifestyles and behaviours. Mosaic Public Sector classifies consumers by allocating them to one of seven Super-groups, 15 Groups and 69 Types. Analysis illustrates that all socio-demographic groups are represented within the victims of domestic violence, however there is significant variation between groups.

The 'treemap' in figure 11 shows the proportion of domestic violence recorded within each Mosaic Super-group in Lichfield District during 2010/11. The size of each box represents the proportion of the total offences recorded, and the shading represents the difference from the population of the district; the darker green, the greater the level of under-representation in cases of domestic violence, and the darker the red, the larger the over-representation.

**Figure 11 - Domestic Violence recorded in Lichfield District 2010/11**



Source: Staffordshire Police and Mosaic Public Sector (© Experian)

The highest proportion of victims in Lichfield (19%, which is roughly proportional to the population) fall into the Mosaic Group B, 'residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots', part of the Super-group 'Rural and small town inhabitants': This group contains residents who mostly live in medium sized and smaller towns of older housing where there is little turn-over from year to year. These are people who prefer to engage face-to-face who like to feel they have a personal relationship with service deliverers. Many of them are known to each other through other social networks, therefore the internet and the telephone are less favourable methods of communication. They are also non-receptive to SMS text messages and national press, favouring local press and magazines<sup>2</sup>.

The most over-represented Mosaic Group in the district is Group K 'residents with sufficient incomes in right-to-buy social housing' within the Super-group 'lower Income Residents'. Many of

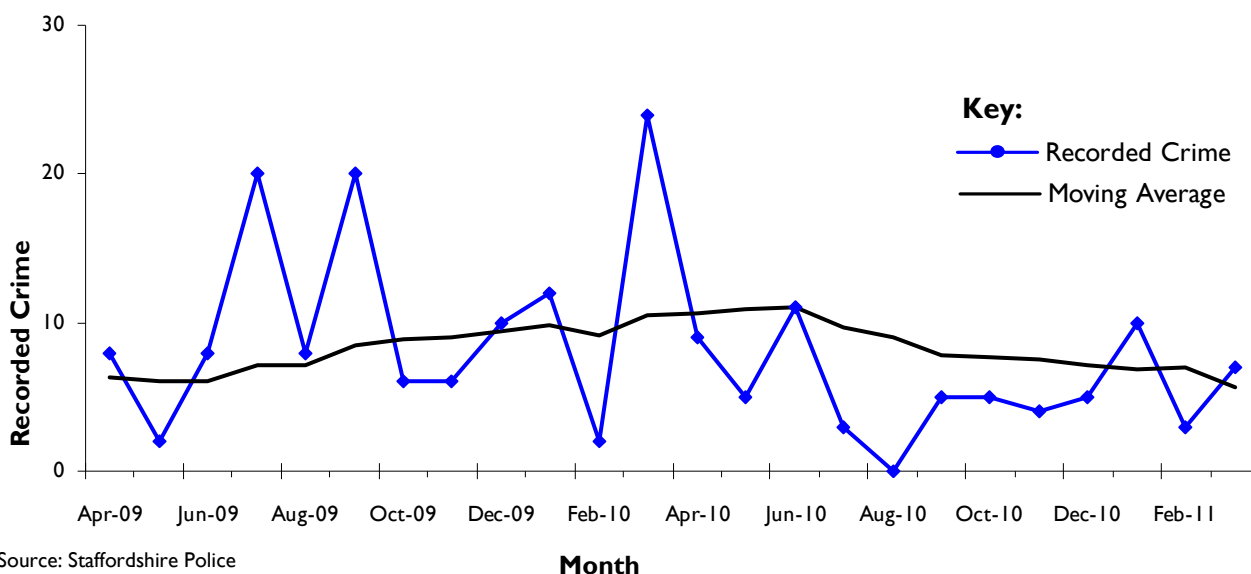
<sup>2</sup> Source: Mosaic Public Sector (© Experian) Interactive Guide

these people live on former council estates where a large proportion of the properties have been purchased under the government's right to buy legislation. People in this group feel more comfortable communicating face to face. The internet is used for shopping and entertainment, but is not necessarily seen as an appropriate tool for researching information on public services. People in this group tend to be non-receptive to mobile phone communications and direct mail<sup>3</sup>.

### Sexual Violence

Over the past four years, there have been sporadic changes in the levels of sexual violence reported to the police, due in part to the fact that, like domestic violence, sexual offences are hidden crimes which may be subject to under and late reporting.

**Figure 12 - Sexual Violence crimes recorded in Lichfield District with trend, April 2009 - March 2011**



Source: Staffordshire Police

According to those offences reported to the police in Lichfield District during 2010/11, females were considerably more likely to be the victim of sexual violence than males (just one offence against a male was reported), with females between the ages of 12 and 16 most vulnerable. Almost a third of offences was a rape offence, and almost two in five offences involved a child under the age of 16 years.

Savana, based in North Staffordshire, is a registered charity providing support for anyone who has experienced or is affected by any form of sexual violence including rape, sexual violence, domestic violence, 'honour' related violence and childhood sexual abuse. Only a small proportion of referrals to Savana were from Lichfield District, however the data they collect can provide a valuable insight into the true extent of sexual violence issues across our communities.

During 2010/11, there were 796 individuals referred to Savana, an increase in referrals of 37.5% (or 217 referrals) on the previous year. Of those referrals where an answer was provided, 40% had not reported the matter to the police. A large proportion were repeat victims: many have been victims of abuse for several years. 8% were of Black/Minority/Ethnic origin, twice the proportion than those reporting to the police (4%). 20% stated that alcohol and drugs were a factor in the abuse, whilst a quarter stated they had some sort of disability.

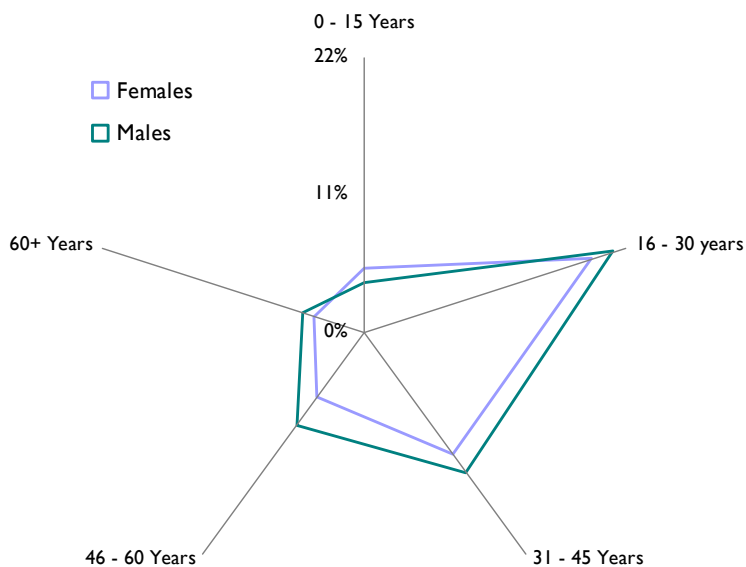
The data provided by Savana also indicates that a much wider age range of victim are vulnerable to sexual violence than the police data suggests. Over 15% of referrals were under the age of 18, and more than a quarter were between the ages of 20 and 29 years, although people of all ages are demonstrated to be vulnerable.

<sup>3</sup> Mosaic Public Sector (© Experian) Interactive Guide

## Road Safety

Road safety is a key priority in Lichfield District, with a particular focus on younger males involved in collisions on the district's roads. During 2010, there were 457 road traffic casualties in Lichfield District, which was a reduction of 13% or 70 fewer casualties from 2009. There were two fewer people killed or seriously injured (KSI) and 68 fewer slight injuries. Males accounted for 53% of casualties whilst females made up 47%

Figure 13 - Lichfield District total casualties by gender 2010



Source: Staffordshire Police STATS19

The radar chart in figure 13 illustrates the proportion of casualties per age group for males and females relative to total RTCs. As can be seen, there is a disproportional risk for males across all age groups aside from child casualties. The risk is greatest for the 16 to 30 years age group, then the 31 to 45 years group. Although females make up a lesser proportion of total casualties, the age profile is similar to male casualties, suggesting that age is a risk factor, as well as gender.

The majority of collisions in the district occur in similar areas, on the arterial roads through the district, principally at junctions/roundabouts or high-speed sections

of road, or in the congested and built up areas, such as Lichfield City Centre and the residential areas of Chasetown, Boney Hey and Burntwood. KSIs are also largely confined to main roads, however there is a noticeable cluster in the Chasetown area where three KSIs occurred during 2010, in close proximity on relatively minor roads.

## Hate Crime

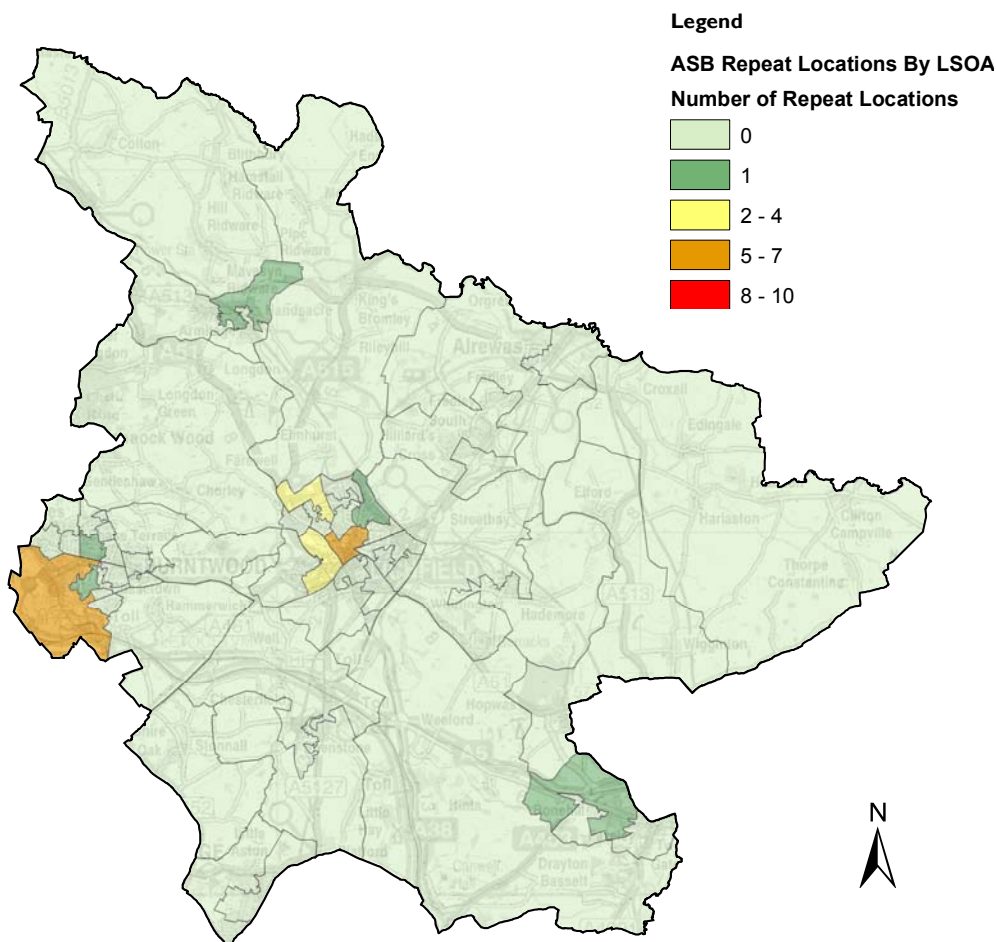
Protecting those people vulnerable to hate crime is a key priority for Lichfield District. During 2010/11 there were 31 hate crimes recorded in Lichfield, the lowest volume in Staffordshire and a reduction of 14% or five fewer incidents from 2009/10. The majority of these offences (80%) were race/religion hate related, with a further four offences trans/homophobic. Just two offences were disability hate crimes. All but one of these offences were violence or public order offences. Where the ethnicity of the victims was known, more than half were classified as White European. From the age profile of victims of hate crime, it is apparent that no one age group is particularly at risk, with the ages between 12 and 85 represented. In terms of homophobic offences, males were targeted, whereas for disability hate offences, females were targeted.

## Anti-social Behaviour

As previously identified, there have been considerable reductions in the levels of ASB in Lichfield District during 2010/11, particularly within the previously identified hotspot locations. It can be evidenced that those locations that experience high levels of ASB are also subject to high levels of other community safety issues. Social profiling allows us to examine the social and demographic profile of the areas where ASB incidents are reported across the district providing us with an insight into the types of environment in which ASB takes place.

The highest volume of reported ASB in Lichfield occurs in areas profiled as Group B, ‘residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots’<sup>4</sup>. Although communities in these areas are likely to be nearer retirement age, they are also quite diverse in terms of age distribution and type of household. According to the British Crime Survey, people in these locations are less likely to perceive that ASB has got a lot worse in the last two years than the national average, and residents generally experience moderate levels of crime, most of which is opportunistic and petty. The levels of ASB reported in these locations are generally proportional to the make-up of the population.

**Figure 14 - Repeat ASB Locations by LSOA 2010/11**



© Crown Copyright and database rights 2011. Ordnance Survey 100019422. Data source: Staffordshire Police

The locations in Lichfield in which the most disproportionate levels of ASB are reported are profiled as Group L ‘active elderly people living in pleasant retirement locations’. These locations contain large numbers of pensioners in their later retirement years, many of whom live on low incomes in social housing or in care homes. The policing of these neighbourhoods needs to be sensitive to the issue of reassurance, which is a reflection of their relative vulnerability. Whether or not residents see a visible police presence may be more important to them than the absolute level of crime or disorder, which tends to be low. The map in figure 14 illustrates the areas of Lichfield District that experience the highest number of repeat locations in terms of ASB.

As can be seen, those areas that experience the highest numbers of repeat locations are Lichfield city centre and Chasetown, two of the areas which have previously been identified as community safety hotspots. This is despite the reductions in the number of ASB incidents reported. This would indicate that there are still specific locations in these areas that are particularly vulnerable.

<sup>4</sup> Mosaic Public Sector (© Experian) Interactive Guide



## 5. EMERGING TRENDS AND CURRENT EXCEPTIONS

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The overall trend for community safety in Lichfield District is positive, with the majority of reported crimes showing a downward trend and improvements recorded in residents' perceptions. However, analysis of partnership performance has highlighted some areas of exception that may benefit from short-term interventions:

**Burglary of dwellings** - During 2010/11, burglary of dwellings increased by more than a fifth in Lichfield District (an increase of 63 crimes). During the first four months of 2011/12 (April to July) there was a slight reduction in burglary when compared with the previous year. However a hotspot has emerged in Bourne Vale and Fazeley, where the number of domestic burglaries recorded has increased from 8 offences recorded between April and July 2011 compared with 13 in the previous year.

**Theft from motor vehicles** - there has also been a general reduction in thefts from motor vehicles (10% reduction between April and July 2011), although increases have been recorded in Bourne Vale and Fazeley (27 offences, up from 16 in the previous year) and South Lichfield (11 offences, up from four).

It is also important to keep track of major developments and events, both across Staffordshire and nationally, that may influence future partnership performance and/or working arrangements.

**Integrated Offender Management** - is currently being rolled out across Staffordshire, following a successful pilot across Cannock Chase, Stafford and South Staffordshire. A strategic vision for IOM in Staffordshire has been developed by the IOM Strategy Group: "Together with our partners and based on a better understanding of re-offending behaviour, we will use recognised pathways out of crime to take a problem solving approach in 'controlling' and 'changing' offenders; finding long lasting solutions and breaking the cycle of crime. Proven methods of punishment and rehabilitation will be used to repair consequences and to reduce overall levels of crime. It will keep our communities' safe, whilst enabling us to reduce demand and deliver excellent, value for money services."

**Domestic Abuse** - 'Breaking the Cycle', a domestic abuse strategy for Staffordshire is currently out for consultation, and will be launched in Autumn 2011. The strategy provides a context for domestic abuse across the county and sets out how Staffordshire's Safer and Stronger Communities' Strategy Group (the Partnership) intends to tackle domestic abuse in Staffordshire.

**Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)** - The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill will provide that, in May 2012, 42 of the 43 Police Authorities in England and Wales will be abolished and in 41 force areas, replaced with a PCC. PCCs will not become a responsible authority on Community Safety Partnerships. There will however be a reciprocal duty for PCCs and responsible authorities to co-operate with each other and have regard to each others' priorities for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder (including antisocial behaviour), reducing reoffending and reducing substance misuse. Advice from the Home Office suggests that local CSPs should be preparing for the arrival of PCCs. From an analysis and evidence perspective, this includes considering whether the partnership has evidence of the success and value for money demonstrated by existing programmes to support PCC investment decisions.<sup>5</sup>

## 6. CONCLUSION

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Other than general reductions in the overall volume of incidents recorded, the majority of key findings and recommendations made in the 2010 Strategic Assessment for Lichfield District are still relevant and should continue to form the basis for community safety activity in the District. Despite the often significant reductions in overall crime and anti-social behaviour, it is important to maintain the emphasis on community safety, both in terms of continuing to reduce the levels of crime and disorder, and in identifying and tackling any emerging issues.

<sup>5</sup> Police & Crime Commissioners - Update No. 1, July 2011 (Home Office)

# APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY SAFETY DATA MATRIX

LICHFIELD  
2009 Mid Year Estimated Population 98,336

Issue/Problem	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Annual Change	4 Year Change	Volume	2007/08 Rate	2010/11 Rate	County Rate	Diff from County
<b>ALL RECORDED CRIME</b>	5,756	5,688	4,829	4,615	-214	-4.4%		58.53	46.93	55.72	-16%
<b>Anti-Social Behaviour</b>	3,646	3,678	3,140	2,262	-878	-28.0%		37.08	23.00	32.25	-29%
<b>Violent Crime</b>	1,189	1,159	1,138	887	-251	-22.1%	19.2%	12.09	9.02	14.54	-38%
Serious Violent Crime	46	31	36	29	-7	-19.4%	0.6%	0.47	0.29	0.53	-45%
Assault With Less Serious Injury (3 Year Change)	-	519	493	385	-108	-21.9%	8.3%	5.28	3.92	5.96	-34%
Violence With Injury (3 Year Change)	-	550	529	414	-115	-21.7%	9.0%	5.59	4.21	6.64	-37%
Alcohol related violence (3 Year Change)	-	-	212	173	-39	-18.4%	3.7%	2.23	1.76	2.85	-38%
Domestic Violence (3 Year Change)	-	219	207	262	55	26.6%	5.7%	2.23	2.66	4.30	-38%
Sexual Violence	77	64	63	67	4	6.3%	1.5%	0.78	0.68	0.77	-12%
<b>Acquisitive Crime</b>	2,768	2,733	2,323	2,288	-35	-1.5%	49.6%	28.15	23.27	24.85	-6%
Serious Acquisitive Crime	1,102	1,084	831	937	106	12.8%	20.3%	11.21	9.53	7.82	22%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	199	186	115	145	30	26%	3.1%	2.02	1.47	1.26	17%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	493	551	381	388	7	1.8%	8.4%	5.01	3.95	3.55	11%
Burglary of Dwellings (Rate Per Households)	344	280	296	359	63	21.3%	7.8%	8.88	9.27	6.71	38%
Burglary other Buildings	527	500	342	324	-18	-5.3%	7.0%	5.36	3.29	4.00	-18%
Robbery Personal	46	44	37	33	-4	-10.8%	0.7%	0.47	0.34	0.29	15%
Shoplifting	225	276	255	276	21	8.2%	6.0%	2.29	2.81	3.73	-25%
Theft of pedal cycle	78	81	72	56	-16	-22.2%	1.2%	0.79	0.57	0.96	-40%
Theft from Person	82	79	67	40	-27	-40.3%	0.9%	0.83	0.41	0.61	-33%
Other theft	620	593	598	574	-24	-4.0%	12.4%	6.30	5.84	6.58	-11%
<b>Business Crime</b>	866	864	490	545	55	11.2%	11.8%	8.81	5.54	6.43	-14%
<b>Hate Crime</b>	53	49	36	31	-5	-13.9%	0.7%	0.54	0.32	0.57	-45%
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	1,216	1,126	886	786	-100	-11.3%	17.0%	12.37	7.99	10.92	-27%
Arson	34	44	28	31	3	10.7%	0.7%	0.35	0.32	0.47	-33%
<b>First-Time Entrants to YJS (3 Year Change)</b>	137	44	41	54	13	31.7%		14.07	5.55	5.35	4%
<b>Deliberate Ignitions</b>	183	143	121	125		3.3%		1.86	1.27	2.39	-47%
<b>False alarm malicious calls</b>	17	10	6	18		200.0%		0.17	0.18	0.24	-23%
<b>Dwelling fires no smoke alarm</b>	25	17	16	11		-31.3%		0.25	0.11	0.19	-40%
<b>Casualties Killed or Seriously Injured</b>	29	25	30	25		-16.7%		0.29	0.25	0.26	-1%
<b>Children Killed or Seriously Injured</b>	-	3	1	2		100.0%		0.00	0.02	0.02	5%
<b>Motorcycle casualties</b>	29	38	42	30		-28.6%		0.29	0.31	0.34	-11%
<b>Casualties Young people 16-25 years</b>	156	110	111	135		21.6%		1.59	1.37	1.32	4%
<b>Drug Offences</b>	177	181	148	154	6	4%	3.34%	1.80	1.57	2.40	-35%
<b>Drug users - Young people (new referrals)</b>	23	46	57	49	-8	-14%	-	0.23	0.50	0.46	8%
<b>Street Drinking (ASB)</b>	83	69	66	77	-	17%	-	0.84	0.78	1.01	-22%

\* Domestic Violence Figures According to 2009/10 Family member Only Definition

## APPENDIX B - KEY MOSAIC GROUPS: COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

This section outlines the key features and general communication preferences of the Mosaic Groups identified within this analysis. There are three groups which experience above average levels of crime and vulnerability for a variety of issues, outlined below:

### Group B: Residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots

Most likely to experience anti-social behaviour and domestic violence in Lichfield District



#### Key features:

- Strong roots
- Traditional
- Small Towns
- Mixed housing
- Lower incomes
- Mid-Market papers
- Home improvement
- Varying ages
- Grandchildren

#### Communication preferences:

##### Access information

Face-to-face, local papers, magazines  
Not Internet, SMS, National papers or interactive TV

##### Service Channels

Face-to-face, post  
None Significant

### Group K: Residents with sufficient incomes in right-to-buy social housing

Most likely to experience domestic violence in Lichfield District



#### Key features:

- Council tenants
- Comfortable lifestyles
- Few qualifications
- Hard workers
- Self-reliant
- Focus on value for money

#### Communication preferences:

##### Access information

Face to face, local papers  
Not magazines

##### Service Channels

Face to face  
Not mobile phone or post.

### Group L: Active elderly people living in pleasant retirement locations

Most likely to experience anti-social behaviour in Lichfield District



#### Key features:

- Retired, Pensions
- Bungalow
- Bought a smaller property
- Heritage sites
- Grandchildren
- Pay off credit card in full
- Specialist shops

#### Communication preferences:

##### Access information

Face-to-face, local papers  
Not internet, telephone, SMS, national papers.

##### Service Channels

Face-to-face  
Not internet, telephone/mobile.