# Community Safety Strategic Assessment
## Annual Refresh Report

## Lichfield

## 2020

Produced on behalf of

STAFFORDSHIRE COMMISSIONER
Police | Fire and Rescue | Crime

and

Lichfield
district council

*Working in partnership with*

The Knowledge Hub

Staffordshire County Council

STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
preventing · protecting · responding

| | |
|---|---|
| **Title** | Lichfield District Community Safety Partnership: Community Safety Strategic Assessment Refresh Report (2020) |
| **Description** | This Community Safety Strategic Assessment provides evidence and intelligence to inform the strategic decision-making process - helping commissioners and partners to determine the priorities that require particular attention in their local area. |
| **Date created** | Final copy – February 2021 |
| **Produced by** | Strategy Team, Staffordshire County Council |
| **Contact** | Stuart Nicholls (Research Lead) Strategy Team, Staffordshire County Council<br><br>Email: stuart.nicholls@staffordshire.gov.uk |
| **Usage statement** | If you wish to reproduce this document either in whole, or in part, please acknowledge the source and the author(s). |
| **Copyright and disclaimer** | Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire Police, while believing the information in this publication to be correct, does not guarantee its accuracy nor does the County Council accept any liability for any direct or indirect loss or damage or other consequences, however arising from the use of such information supplied.<br><br>Mapping<br>(C) Crown Copyright and database rights 2020. Ordnance Survey 100019422. |

# Contents

# 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.

This SA (2020-21) is being produced as an annual refresh of the full three yearly assessment, produced last year.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had a considerable and unprecedented impact on the lives of everyone in the UK, including those in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

At the time of this report, latest data[1] shows that over 1,400 people in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent have lost their lives as a result of COVID-19, with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent currently (as at 2nd December 2020) in the highest tier of government restrictions, due to rates of infection which are above the national level.

The virus and measures to control rates of infection (such as the national lockdowns, systems to limit social contact, and the temporary closure of education settings) have had a significant impact on many; directly affecting individual's physical health, mental health and well-being, education, and employment.

A survey of local residents (n=3,921) carried out by Staffordshire County Council[2] highlights that more than 3-out of-5 people (63%) felt that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their life overall – with those with a disability or limiting illness, and those who have been furloughed, having experienced even greater negative impact.

The pandemic has also had a significant impact on how front line services have operated; including protective measures for front line staff through use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and limiting non-essential face to face contact with the public and service users, and with other professionals.

The combined impact of reduced contact with the public, significant limitations on travel and social contact, and closure and strict restrictions in public spaces and recreational spaces, is that almost all services have seen unprecedented shifts in demand. As a result, in approaching this year's annual CSSA Refresh report we must consider that data for the year is highly irregular, and that observations and analysis should be considered in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on 'normal' day-to-day life.

Rather than focus on Covid-19 within this assessment as a single specific priority or risk to community safety, the impact of the pandemic has been considered and discussed as a factor in each individual priority theme, wherever it is relevant.

---

[1] Office of National Statistics (ONS) Death registrations and occurrences by local authority (Week 47 – ending 20th November 2020)
[2] https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Coronavirus/Covid-19-residents-survey-results.aspx

# Key findings and comparison to previous (2019) assessment

## Significant overall changes and findings

Restrictions imposed as part of the government approach to controlling the Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in significant reductions in recorded crime and disorder from mid-March 2020 onwards. This is particularly the case with regards to crime, disorder and ASB taking place in public places.

The data for the period from April 2019 to March 2020 has shown limited significant change in most types of crime since the last assessment, and in the time leading up to the first UK lockdown in March 2020.

Across most major crime types, crime in Lichfield is statistically similar to England & Wales, with the exception of Criminal Damage & Arson, Public Order, and Weapon Possession offences – where rates are significantly lower.

Average increases in overall crime observed across all Safety Partnership areas nationally (+2%) have not been seen in the Lichfield Safety Partnership area (-1%). The most significant increase locally has been in recorded Stalking and Harassment offences (+19%), however this is in line with CSP areas across England & Wales (+21%).

There has been no significant shift in the composition of any of Safety Partnership area in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, and demographic analysis of Lichfield within the previous (2019) Strategic Assessment remains relevant.

## Changes against priorities

### Fraud

- Fraud is of increased and growing concern in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. Monthly Fraud incidents picked up by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) increased significantly following the first UK lockdown in March 2020 – and have remained consistently high since.

- Much of the increase has comprised of less-sophisticated fraud, taking place through online marketplaces and auctions. With increases in online shopping during the pandemic, it is likely levels will remain high into 2021.

### Vulnerable persons (all)

- There is growing concern that the wider impact of COVID will result in considerable increases in demand relating to all major vulnerabilities (alcohol, drug and substance misuse, mental health, safeguarding)

- Analysis[3] has already found that, taking account of pre-pandemic trajectories, mental health has worsened substantially (by 8.1% on average) as a result of the pandemic. Young adults and women – groups with worse mental health pre-pandemic – have been hit hardest.

## Changes against additional considerations

### Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism

- This priority replaces two pre-existing priorities around *Community Cohesion & Hate Crime* and *Counter Terror/Prevent* – with the two merged together and renewed focus on Community Cohesion.

- This merge is taking place in the wake of Brexit, as well as in response to increases in Right Wing extremism, and tension in some communities resulting from breaches of COVID guidance and legislation.

- Since the time of the last report the UK terror threat level has been increased from 'Substantial' to 'Severe' – the second highest threat level, following terror attacks in 2020 in mainland Europe.

---

[3] Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) - The mental health effects of the [first] lockdown and social distancing during the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK

## New and revised recommendations

*A full list of recommendations, including those still in place from the previous (2019) three-yearly full Strategic Assessment, as well as recommendations made below, can be found in Appendices A & B at the end of this report.*

### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Work is needed to better understand where Hate is a factor in ASB and identify if there are communities where Hate-related ASB is of particular concern. Where there are concerns that ASB is hate-related, Partnerships should consider whether this is significant enough to refer cases to Prevent.

### Domestic Abuse

Safety Partnerships should remain sighted on the Domestic Abuse Bill (2020) - due to become law in April 2021. This places statutory duties on upper-tier LAs, including the duty to provide victims (and their children) with appropriate safe accommodation and support whilst in accommodation. Responsible authorities will be required to form Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards and CSPs should ensure that they engage with these accordingly.

### Fraud

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. With growth in online auction/marketplace fraud, those who are connected digitally are also at increasing risk – awareness raising strategy should consider younger age groups who spend more time online – in addition to older age groups who have moved their essential shopping activity online for the first time throughout the pandemic.

### Drug Supply & County Lines

*[See recommendation below relating to Vulnerable Persons]*

### Vulnerable Persons

Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic; on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will increases in numbers of people and families considered to be vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase numbers of individuals who may be at increased risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure.

### Recommendations linked to additional considerations

**Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism:** There should be additional consideration for children who receive home education, including those who have started to be home educated throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that they are receiving a well-rounded education in order to prevent any extremist teachings.

Safety Partnerships should engage with the development of Community Cohesion partnership work through the Safer & Stronger Communities Strategic Group, which will link in to existing strategic Hate Crime work and the Prevent board. Partnerships should also strongly consider whether there is a need to work with local partners and stakeholders (such as voluntary sector partners) to develop local Community Cohesion strategy for their local area.

As people spend more time online as a result of COVID-19-related restrictions on social contact, it should be considered that there is increased risk around online radicalisation. Partnerships should continue to raise awareness of extremism and potential signs of radicalisation within communities, and particularly in those communities at risk of emerging extreme right-wing and far-right extremism. Young people, parents/guardians and community members should have an awareness of prevalent extremist groups.

**Public Place Violence & Serious Violence:** All Safety Partnership areas must anticipate that when COVID restrictions become more relaxed, activity in public places (including activity linked to the night-time economy) will increase considerably – and as such there will likely be an equivalent increase in Public Place Violent and alcohol-related offences.

**Business Crime:** Preliminary findings from Staffordshire Commissioner's Office report on Business Crime suggests that there may be a need for greater engagement with smaller businesses in partnership areas, in order to better understand their needs and how they are impacted by crime

# 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). Although recognising that these priorities may develop or change from April 2021 onwards, partnerships should consider opportunities to tackle priorities through;

**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, which is easily accessible.

**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 the priorities identified and confirmed in the three-yearly full CSA has taken place, in order to identify any changing or emerging key strategic priorities and risks for the local area. These have been be cross referenced against known existing local priorities and findings for the locality. Where priorities are changed or amended from the 2019 full assessment, this has been highlighted. The identified priorities are as follows;

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Domestic Abuse
- Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft
- County Lines[4]
- Fraud
- Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding[5] (including Alcohol and Mental Health)

The following are not considered a main priority for Lichfield, but they are recommended for additional consideration due to their volume, impact on communities and level of public expectation;

- Repeat and Persistent Offending
- **[REVISED]** Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism (*Replaces Counter Terror / Domestic Extremism*)

In addition, there are some challenges which, while not necessarily overly present 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;

- Modern Slavery
- Fire and Fire Risk
- Business Crime
- Serious Violence
- **[MERGED]** (Community Cohesion and Hate Crimes merged into *Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism*)
- **[MERGED]** (Counter Terror / Prevent merged into *Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism*)

---

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

[5] 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 tend to be consistent over time. There is no change to these groups from the 2019 Strategic Assessment, and in high-risk groups remain as;

- Socially isolated individuals with mental health needs and learning difficulties
- Socially isolated adults with alcohol and/or drug dependencies
- Offenders with known drug dependencies or previous drug-related offending
- Children (under 10s) in areas with high levels of Domestic Abuse and/or drug-related offending
- Children and young people (aged 10-19) in areas of high deprivation
- Children and young people (aged 10-19) at risk of criminal exploitation

Those who belong to the 'Family Basics' demographic Mosaic group tend to be the most disproportionately affected by almost all aspects of crime and anti-social behaviour in Lichfield (5% of population, 11% of all victims).

These 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. As the Lichfield population primarily comprises of those in more affluent socio-demographic groups, those in more disadvantaged communities may feel particularly isolated and detached from the rest of the district.

In Lichfield there are additional concerns in terms of risk of experiencing acquisitive crimes, such as Burglary, Car Key Burglary and Fraud, in particular affecting;

- Older adults (aged 50+) in more affluent, rural fringe areas with low levels of housing density
- Socially isolated older adults (aged 50+) with limited or no social networks

Those who belong to the 'Prestige Positions' demographic group remain particularly disproportionately affected by Burglary and Car Key Burglaries, despite being disproportionately *under* affected by crime overall.

These are primarily older adults (aged over 60) living in higher-value detached homes, usually in fairly isolated areas. Communities in this group tend to experience significantly less overall crime and disorder compared to more-disadvantaged areas, and as such are often less resilient to experiences of crime.

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.

## Places at Greatest Risk
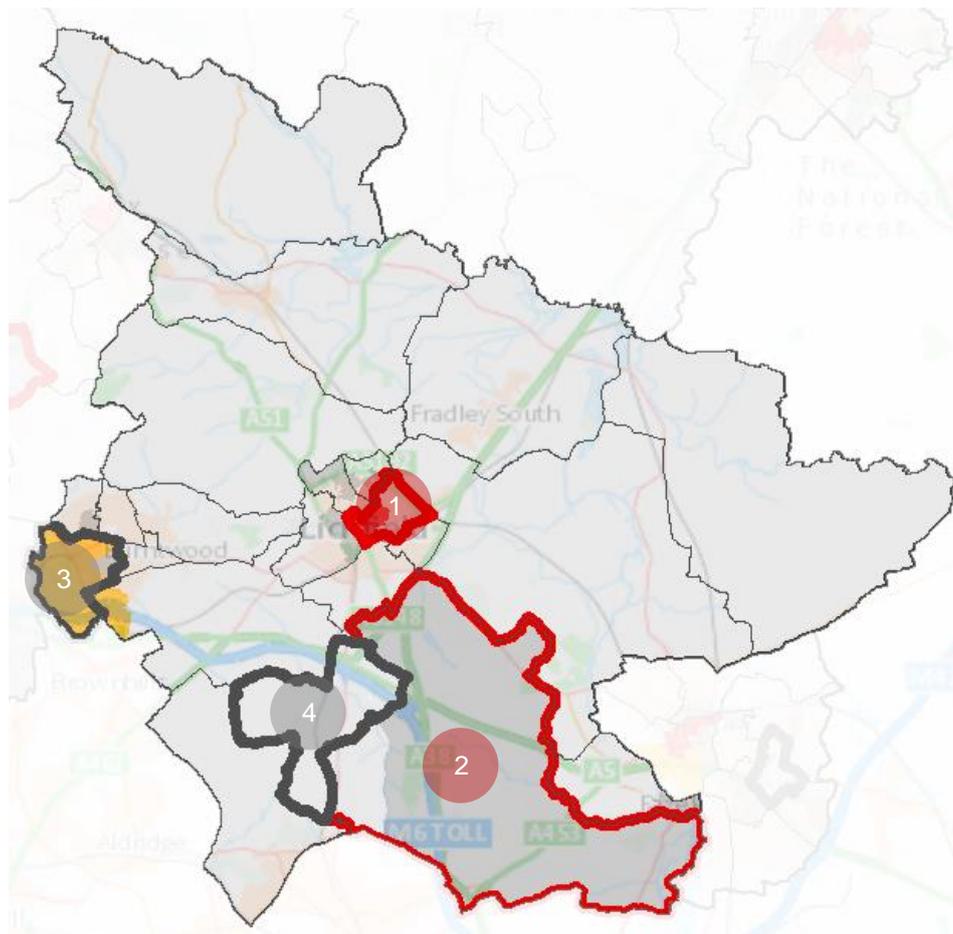


**1. Stowe (Lichfield City) (Overall crime, Public-Place Violence and Theft / Shoplifting)**
As the ward that covers the largest public-space in Lichfield, Stowe sees the highest rates of crime overall, as well as statistically high levels of Shoplifting and Theft from the person offences. Levels of public-place violence are above the force average, particularly late-night offences (21:00-04:00hrs) and offences including alcohol as an aggravating factor. As a result the area also sees a high level of ASB relating to Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour.

**2. Bourne Vale (Residential Burglaries, Drug Possession, Vehicle Offences, CSE flags)**
The Bourne Vale ward (Burntwood area, border with Cannock Chase) sees rates of overall offending and ASB which are in line with force averages, but Burglary and particularly Residential Burglaries which are far above the force levels. The area has seen a substantial number of Car Key Burglaries in the last 18 months and sits inside a force hot-spot for these offences. Bourne Vale is the only ward in Lichfield with high rates of Drug Possession, which are significantly above the force average. While Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is not an overall concern for Lichfield, and very low in volume, Bourne Vale sees an above-average number of CSE-flagged offences, compared to all other wards in Lichfield.

**3. Chasetown (ASB, Domestic Abuse, Child Protection – some Vehicle Offences)**
The ward sees the highest rate of ASB in Lichfield, primarily relating to Neighbour Disputes and Nuisance Vehicles – both of which are significantly higher than the force-wide rates. Chasetown also has the second-highest overall crime rate in Lichfield district. Domestic-flagged offences in the ward are the second-highest in the area – possibly contributing towards particularly high rates of children subject to Child Protection Plans.

*Although not flagged as a priority ward through overall offending rates or volume of incidents, the following may need consideration;*

**4. Shenstone**
While Shenstone sees low rates of crime and ASB overall, the area sees exceptionally high levels of Vehicle Offences. The rate of Residential Burglary in the area have fallen on the previous year, however the area remains highly affected by Vehicle thefts, with a rate of Vehicle Offences 3x higher than the force average, and almost double the rate for England & Wales.

# Overview of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Overall rates of recorded Crime and ASB in Lichfield are the third-lowest in the force-area, below the overall force-wide rate, and below the rates for the West Midlands region and England & Wales.

Rates of Burglary in Lichfield are above the force average, but not considered to be statistically high. However, there is one ward within Lichfield where Residential Burglary rates are considered significantly high, and two where vehicle offences are significantly above the ward average for Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent.

**Rates of Recorded Crime and ASB – Home Office (2019-20)[6]**

| | Lichfield | Staffordshire (Force Area) | West Midlands (Region) | England & Wales* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Rate per 1,000 residents* | |
| Total crime (excl. fraud) | **57.0** | **70.3** | **79.6** | **88.9** |
| **Criminal damage and arson** | **5.8** | **8.9** | **8.2** | **9.4** |
| **Robbery** | **0.4** | **0.7** | **1.7** | **1.5** |
| **Sexual offences** | **1.8** | **2.6** | **2.6** | **2.7** |
| **Theft offences** | **21.6** | **23.6** | **28.9** | **32.2** |
| Burglary | 4.2 | 4.2 | 6.6 | 6.3 |
| *Residential burglary* | *2.5* | *2.8* | *4.8* | *4.4* |
| *Non-residential burglary* | *1.7* | *1.5* | *1.8* | *1.9* |
| Vehicle offences | 5.7 | 5.0 | 8.1 | 7.7 |
| Theft from the person | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.9 |
| Bicycle theft | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.5 |
| Shoplifting | 4.6 | 6.3 | 5.7 | 6.1 |
| All other theft offences | 6.5 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 8.7 |
| **Violence against the person** | **21.2** | **26.9** | **29.0** | **29.9** |
| Homicide | … | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Death or serious injury - unlawful driving | … | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Violence with injury | 6.1 | 7.7 | 9.9 | 9.1 |
| Violence without injury | 7.7 | 10.2 | 11.2 | 12.3 |
| Stalking and harassment | 7.4 | 8.9 | 7.9 | 8.4 |
| **Drug offences** | **1.7** | **1.8** | **1.9** | **3.1** |
| **Possession of weapons offences** | **0.3** | **0.6** | **0.9** | **0.8** |
| **Public order offences** | **2.7** | **3.7** | **5.1** | **7.6** |
| **Miscellaneous crimes against society** | **1.4** | **1.4** | **1.4** | **1.8** |
| **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)** | **20.8** | **28.9** | **N/A** | **22.7** |

*Indicates higher than force-wide rate*
*Data for England & Wales excludes Greater Manchester Police*

---

[6] Table shows offence types as grouped by the Office of National Statistics (ONS)

# 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, with 2,185 incidents in 2019-20 – equivalent to around 26% of policing demand in the area.

Recorded rates of ASB in Lichfield are below the Staffordshire Force Area (20.9 per 1,000 compared to 28.9 per 1,000) and the rate for England & Wales (22.7 incidents per 1,000 people), but there are some hotspot areas – particularly around Lichfield centre (Stowe ward) and Chasetown.

ASB in Lichfield remains dominated by reports of incidents of 'Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour' and to a lesser-extent 'Neighbour Disputes'. The rate of Neighbour Disputes in Chasetown is statistically high compared to the Force average, as is the rate of reports of Nuisance Vehicles. Much of the 'Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour' is focussed towards Stowe ward, which covers the majority of Lichfield city centre.

In the 12 months to the end of November 2020, ASB incidents in Lichfield fell by around 4% compared to the previous 12 months. However, this period includes a surge in ASB reporting in April 2020 relating to COVID breaches – since 20th April COVID breaches have been recorded separately to other types of Anti-Social Behaviour.

Since new recording began (20th April 2020) up to 30th November 2020 there had been 801 ASB incidents in Lichfield which were specifically breaches of COVID-related legislation – equivalent to 7.6 per 1,000 residents. This is lower than the force-wide rate of 8.9 per 1,000 population.

**Lichfield – ASB Incidents, three years to November 2020, Staffordshire Police:**
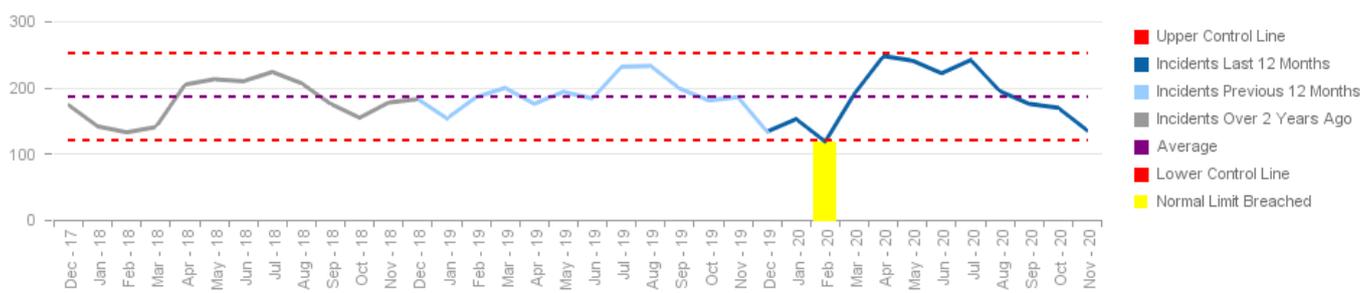


**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate similar / Some ward rates high

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 20.9                **Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 28.9

**Direction of travel:** Decrease (-4%) in 12 months to November 2020.

**Public expectation:** Moderate

**Local hotspot wards:** Chasetown (All ASB), Stowe (Rowdy and Inconsiderate behaviour)

**At risk groups:** Deprived and disadvantaged communities – particularly those in high housing density areas and with high proportions of social housing. Town centre areas are also high risk from Rowdy and 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 and is not unique to any one part of Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent. While Domestic Abuse presents a significant risk to the immediate 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.

Nationally reported increases in Domestic Abuse due to the March lockdown and wider impact of COVID on society have not been seen in Lichfield – in the 12 months to November 2020 there is a moderate reduction (-3%) on the previous 12 months. While there was a considerable drop in reported incidents in April 2020, these returned to average levels in May 2020, and have remained consistently within expected levels to date (November 2020).

In 2019-20 the majority (80%) of recorded Domestic offences in Lichfield were violent offences; 31% Stalking & Harassment, 29% Violence without injury and 20% Violence with injury.

Domestic incidents are not limited to Violent Offences and cross a range of offence types; around 7% of domestic offences in Lichfield are instances of Criminal Damage, 3% are instances of Theft and 2% were Sexual Offences.

Victims of Domestic offences are disproportionately repeatedly victimised compared to victims of other types of crimes. In Lichfield in 2018-19, while 21% of victims of any crime were repeat victims and were the victims in 38% of all crimes in the area; 38% of victims of Domestic-flagged offences were repeat victims, who were the victims of 62% of all Domestic crimes.

Although moderate numbers (773 incidents) Stalking and Harassment incidents have increased by 19% in the 2019-20 financial year in Lichfield – however rates still remain lower than the force-wide and national level. Around half (48%) of all Stalking and Harassment offences in Lichfield are domestic-related, which is the same as the level for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent overall.

**Lichfield - Domestic-related crime, three years to November 2020, Staffordshire Police**



**Comparison to Force:** Overall rate lower / Two wards above average

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 11.2          **Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 14.2

**Direction of travel:** Slight reduction (-4%) in 12 months to November 2020

**Public expectation:** Moderate

**Local hotspot wards:** Curborough (26.1), Chasetown (22.8), *(Chadsmead, 17.9)*

**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. Offenders are also disproportionately younger (aged under 40) and male, although there are also female offenders.

# Car Key Burglary and 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, approaches to vehicle theft have changed. With many modern vehicles unable to be driven without their keys, criminals are increasingly using burglary to facilitate vehicle theft; entering properties purely to steal vehicle keys and key fobs - driving the stolen vehicle away from the scene.

There additionally remains 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 physically access the keys, 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.

Although less common, and lower volume, changes in anti-theft technology have also resulted in some increases in aggravated vehicle-taking or "car-jacking" – where a vehicle is stolen whilst in use, usually on the road.

While acquisitive crime in general has reduced drastically in the year ending November 2020 (28% reduction compared to previous 12 months, compared to 17% reduction across crime overall), this has largely been driven by reductions in more prevalent and high-volume theft offences such as shoplifting – with Vehicle Thefts and Residential Burglary not reducing by the same level as other acquisitive types of crime. At the time of this report – Vehicle Thefts had returned to be in line with three-year monthly averages, although Residential Burglaries remain lower.

While Lichfield saw a substantial fall in Burglary in 2019-20 (-27% overall, -31% residential) compared to the previous year, the area saw a considerable increase in Vehicle Offences (+23%). Rates of Vehicle Offences in two wards (Shenstone and Chasetown) are significantly higher than the rate for England & Wales.

Rates of motor vehicle thefts per 1,000 population in Lichfield are the second highest in the force-area (2.1 compared to 1.6 force-wide). 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 overall.

The demographic groups affected are very different to victims of crime overall. Those affected tend to be working-age households with above-average incomes, in more affluent suburban areas, primarily with higher-value detached properties – in areas which in general experience very low rates of crime overall and ASB.

**Heat Map of Vehicle Offences, (Staffordshire Police, 2019-20)**
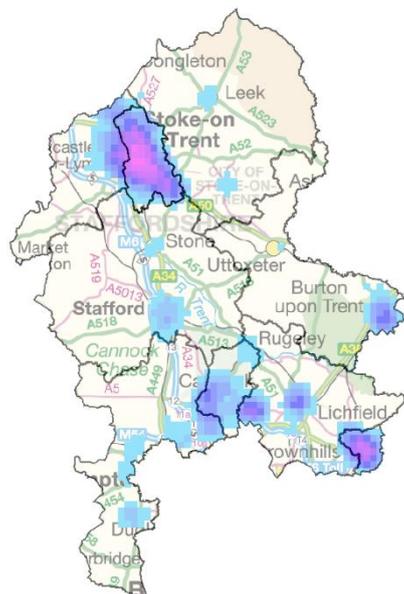


**Direction of travel:** On-going challenge. Remains highly targeted.
**Public expectation:** Moderate

**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.

**High risk areas:** Shenstone (15.1 – third-highest rate of vehicle offences of 201 wards in force-area). Chasetown (13.4 – seventh highest rate in force)

Bourne Vale remains of some concern with a slightly higher than average rate of Vehicle Offences (8.7) and a high rate of Burglary (8.1).

*NB: High density of Vehicle Offences shown in Stoke-on-Trent relates to the urban nature of the area – this is also the case in Burton-upon-Trent in East Staffordshire. Vehicle Offences in these areas are in line with general offending levels for the CSP areas.*

# 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 though 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.

Although Covid-19, and associated Government mandated travel and social restrictions, have undoubtedly had an impact on both levels and visibility of County Lines activity locally, there is still a persistent ongoing threat in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

**Direction of travel:** Long-term risk                **Public expectation:** Critical / National expectations

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

**At risk groups:**
**Criminal exploitation:**
Young males (aged 10-19) in disadvantaged communities. In Lichfield these are primarily the Chadsmead and Curborough wards.

**'Cuckooing' risk:**
Adults with 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.

# 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 the 12 months to October 2020, The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) recorded Fraud losses to business and individuals in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent totalling around £15million.

Fraud is increasingly sophisticated, organised and technologically advanced. Fraud and scams using internet banking and remote computer access, mean that criminals can defraud individuals and businesses of large sums of money quite rapidly. However, this does not mean that less-sophisticated Fraud, including doorstep crime and 'false representation' scams, are no longer a concern.

It appears that the Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on Fraud. In the six months following the UK lockdown in March 2020, NFIB reporting[7] shows that average monthly Fraud in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent has risen from around 390 per month (Oct 2019 to March 2020) to 500 per month (Apr to Sept 2020) – equivalent to a 29% increase.

Given that a high proportion of Fraud relates to online shopping and auctions, and 59% of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent residents reported[8] an increase in online shopping during the pandemic – it is likely that the two are linked. While incidents have increased significantly, estimated losses have not, suggesting that much of the increase seen from April 2020 onwards comprises of lower-loss Fraud. Issues around 'romance fraud' also remain a concern.

In the force-area[9], Action Fraud recorded 4,800 incidents of Fraud in the 12 months to October 2020, equivalent to a rate of 4.2 per 1,000 residents – making Fraud as prevalent than Burglary (4.1 incidents per 1,000). However, this is slightly lower than the rate for England (5.4 per 1,000 population).

Those most affected by Fraud tend to be amongst those less affected by most other types of crime – mainly older people in more affluent communities. Those vulnerable to Fraud are also often vulnerable to 'door step' crime, which may involve intimidating and aggressive behaviour or an element of befriending or grooming of the victim to facilitate 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 Lichfield, 2018-19** (socio-demographic group, Mosaic)**:**
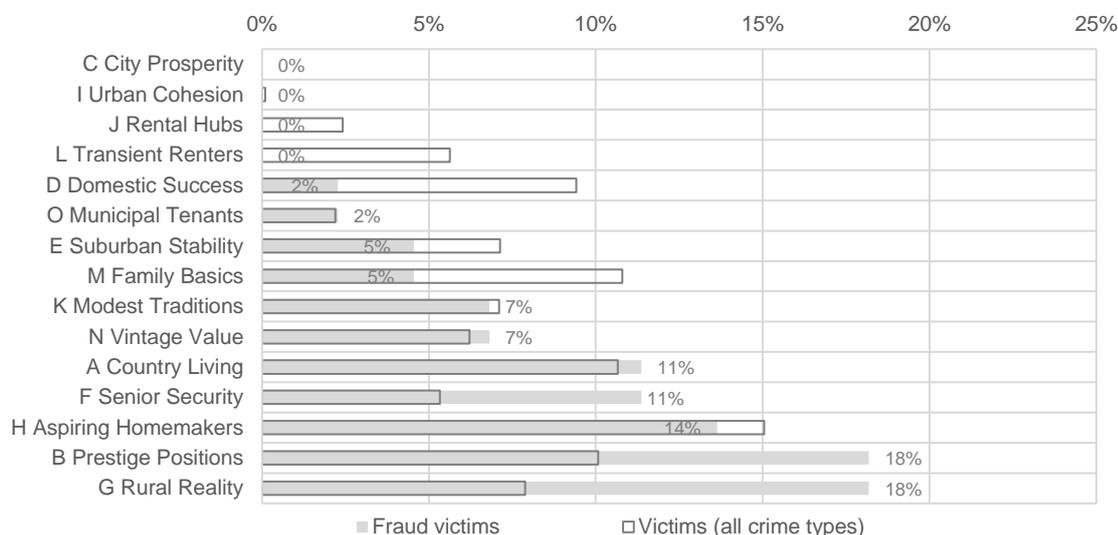


**Direction of travel:** N/A          **Public expectation:** Critical

**At risk groups:**
The most disproportionately prevalent groups amongst Fraud victims are those in the Rural Reality Mosaic group, the Prestige Positions group and Senior Security – accounting for 48% of all Fraud referrals, but only 23% of victims of crime overall. Victims of Fraud are more likely to be over 50 years of age than victims of most other types of crime, and more likely to live in more affluent and often more isolated communities.

---

[7] NFIB – Fraud dashboard - https://colpolice.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/60499304565045b0bce05d2ca7e1e56c

[8]  Staffordshire Resident's Survey – Covid-19 - https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Coronavirus/Covid-19-residents-survey-results.aspx

[9] NB: Data provided through the NFIB Fraud Dashboards are available at force-level only – and are not presently available by CSP area

## Vulnerable Persons: Alcohol

**Volume and potential harm:**
Moderate volume / Moderate individual and community harm

**CSPs with priority:** Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme

**Summary:**
Alcohol is often present as a factor in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Domestic Abuse, Violent crime and Public-Place offences. 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 alcohol-flagged offending in Lichfield is consistently amongst the lowest in the force area (4.1 per 1,000 compared to 5.4 per 1,000), however rates in some parts of the locality are uncharacteristically high.

Although rates of alcohol-related crime are below the force-wide level, alcohol is a local health concern[10]; hospital admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions amongst Lichfield residents overall are similar to the national level, however amongst women figures are significantly above the national level. Although rates of alcohol-specific deaths are amongst the lowest in the force-area (7.4 per 100,000) they are still statistically similar to the national level (10.8).

Alcohol is a factor in around 7% of crime in Lichfield, which is similar to the force-area average of 8% of crime. Similarly to the force-area overall alcohol tends to be broadly almost twice as prevalent in Violent offences (15%) in the CSP area compared to offending overall, and three times as prevalent in Violence with injury offences (24%).

While previously (2019 Strategic Assessment) alcohol had been more prevalent in Violent offences in Lichfield than the force average, in 2019-20 data the area has seen alcohol-related violent offences fall back in line with the average for Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent.

**Victims of alcohol-related crime:**          **Offenders in alcohol-related crime:**
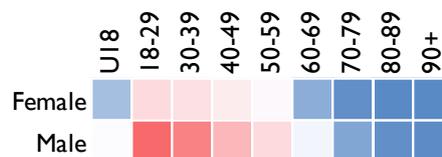


**Comparison to Force:**
Overall alcohol-related offending in line with force. Alcohol-related violent and public-place violent offending slightly above force levels.

**Alcohol-related offending**
Local rate (per 1,000 people): 4.1          Force rate (per 1,000 people): 5.4

**Proportion of violent offences flagged as alcohol-related**
Local rate (percentage): 15%          Force rate (percentage): 15%

**Proportion of Public-place violent offences flagged as alcohol-related**
Local rate (percentage): 24%          Force rate (percentage): 22%

**Direction of travel:** Persistent concern          **Public expectation:** Moderate

**Local hotspots:**
Stowe ward: 15.4 alcohol-related offences per 1,000 population.
Curborough: high rate of alcohol-flagged offences (9.7 per 1,000) despite average overall crime rate

**At risk groups:**
Clinical and public health data suggest that women aged 40+ and males aged 65+ are most vulnerable to health inequalities as a result of alcohol dependency. Victims of alcohol-related offences are equally male and female, but predominantly those aged 18-29 and 30-39.

---

[10] Public Health England (PHE) 2018-19 Health Outcomes Data – Public Health Outcomes Framework

## Vulnerable Persons: Mental Health

**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:**
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 with drug and/or alcohol challenges, 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.

The COVID-19 pandemic is anticipated to have a considerable impact on mental health and wellbeing over coming years. It is expected that demand relating to mental health will increase considerably into 2021 and beyond. In mid-April 2020, at the peak of the national lockdown, Staffordshire Police recorded a considerable surge in weekly mental health incidents – far above expected upper limits.

Local[11] and national[12] COVID surveys have highlighted that more than two-thirds of people feel that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their life, with many feeling stressed and anxious. Further analysis[13] found that, taking account of pre-pandemic trajectories, mental health has worsened substantially (by 8.1% on average) as a result of the pandemic. Young adults and women – groups with worse mental health pre-pandemic – have been hit hardest.

Public Health England (PHE) estimates[14] for Lichfield suggest that around 8.6% of children aged 5 to 16 years (approximately 1,150 children) in the area are likely to have a mental health disorder[15]. This is the 2nd lowest proportion in the force area and falls within the bottom 20% of Local Authorities in England.

Similar estimates from PHE suggest that the area has a below average rate for adults with common mental health disorders (13.9%), and is below average for adults aged 65 and over (8.9%) – both of these rates are amongst the lowest in the force area.

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

| | | % of population |
|---|---|---|
| Children (age 5-16) | England | 9.2 |
| | **Force-wide** | **9.5** |
| | Lichfield | 8.6 |
| Adults (age 16+) | England | 16.9 |
| | **Force-wide** | **16.4** |
| | Lichfield | 13.9 |
| Older adults (age 65+) | England | 10.2 |
| | **Force-wide** | **10.2** |
| | Lichfield | 8.9 |

Estimated prevalence of depression within Lichfield is statistically similar to England, although a the second-lowest in the force area.

**Comparison to Force:** Previously, rates of Mental Health calls to police were above the force average, although the estimated clinical prevalence of mental health disorders is low.

**Mental Health calls to Police (2018-19):**

**Local rate (per 1,000 people):** 5.5          **Force rate (per 1,000 people):** 4.9

---

[11] Staffordshire County Council – Residents Survey

[12] Office of National Statistics (ONS) - Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain

[13] Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) - The mental health effects of the [first] lockdown and social distancing during the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK

[14] https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/search/mental#page/0/gid/1/pat/6/par/E12000005/ati/201/are/E07000192

[15] 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, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth

**Summary:** While overall rates of Children's Safeguarding interventions in Lichfield are low, there are some communities in the area that still experience significant safeguarding challenges. The 'toxic trio' of risks that are most likely to result in home or family safeguarding concerns – parental mental ill-health, drug and alcohol misuse, and domestic abuse are present in parts of Lichfield, resulting in an elevated level of need for safeguarding of young children (under 11 years of age).

While Lichfield has some of the lowest rates of Child Protection Plans (CPP) and Looked-after Children (LAC) overall, there are some communities (such as Chasetown and Chadsmead) where rates are significantly higher than England.

Historically, the majority (63%) of children in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent who are subject to a Child Protection Plan are primarily being safeguarded as a result of neglect, followed by just under a third (31%) who have experienced emotional abuse. Compared to England, the force-area consistently sees a greater proportion of children subject to a plan as a result of neglect, with lower proportions experiencing emotional, physical or sexual abuse.

It is considered, that similarly to many other areas of vulnerability – the COVID-19 pandemic will result in considerable increases in demand for safeguarding services. In an assessment conducted by the NSPCC[16] it is considered that the Coronavirus pandemic will considerably intensify a range of risk factors that children face, particularly as a result of;

- **Increase in stressors to parents and caregivers**
  *The risk of child abuse is higher when caregivers become overloaded by the stressors in their lives. There are indications that the coronavirus pandemic has increased stressors on caregivers*
- **Increase in children and young people's vulnerability**
  *There are indications that conditions caused by the pandemic have heightened vulnerability of children and young people to certain types of abuse, e.g. online abuse, abuse within the home, criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.*
- **Reduction in normal protective services**
  *There is evidence that the 'normal' safeguards relied on to protect children and young people have been reduced during the pandemic. However social connections and support can provide a protective effect for children's safety and wellbeing.*

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.

Young people who are Looked After Children (LAC) and who have been placed in care, or who attend pupil referral units (PRUs) are at increased risk of criminal exploitation and gang involvement - due to their level of vulnerability and often unstable and limited social and support networks. Young people groomed into criminal activity are often used for high risk activity, increasingly linked to County Lines, such as street dealing and transporting drugs.

This presents some concern in Lichfield, particularly in Chadsmead, where the rate of LAC per 10,000 under 18s has previously been statistically higher than the rate for England.

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

**Local hotspots:** Chasetown (significantly high rates of Child Protection Plans), Chadsmead (significantly high rate of Looked After Children)

**At risk groups:**
*Criminal exploitation:*
Males aged 10 to 19 in disadvantaged communities (particularly including LAC and those in PRUs)

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

---

[16] NSPCC - Social isolation and the risk of child abuse during and after the coronavirus pandemic (2020)

# 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 consistently disproportionately responsible for crime in Staffordshire, with the minority of offenders responsible for the majority of offences.

In 2018-19 whilst around 40% (525) of the 1,310 offenders living in Lichfield were considered repeat or persistent, they were responsible for 65% of recorded crimes where an offender was identified – 1,495 incidents out of 2,250.

Most major types of crime (apart from Drugs Offences and Sexual Offences) saw more than half of all incidents committed by repeat offenders, however, acquisitive crimes, such as Burglary, Vehicle Offences, Theft and Robbery tend to see the highest proportion of repeat offenders, while the proportion of Domestic-flagged offences committed by repeat offenders was in a little higher than the proportion of overall crime committed by repeat offenders (69%).

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 51% of those flagged for drug-related offending in Lichfield were repeat and persistent offenders, compared to 39% of those with no recent drug-related offending. Offenders with previous drug-related offending tend to be responsible for a disproportionate amount of acquisitive offending across the force area (committed 25% of acquisitive crime, 17% of crime overall) this is particularly the case in Lichfield; with drug-related offenders responsible for about 12% of crime overall, but around 26% of acquisitive crimes, and very low proportions (4%) of Violent offences.

Youth offenders (those aged under 18) are not disproportionately likely to be repeat and persistent offenders (around 41%). The proportion of youth offenders for Lichfield is similar to the force area overall; 9% aged under 18 year olds, compared to 10% across the force area.

**Lichfield, Proportion of offences committed by Repeat Offenders, 2018-19** (key offence types)**:**
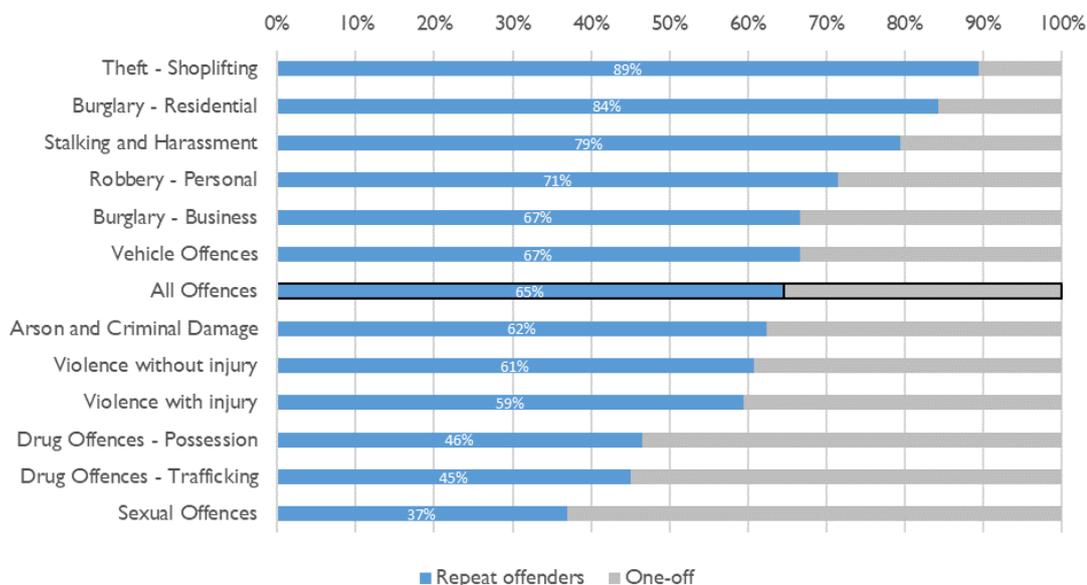


**Comparison to Force:** Slightly lower than force

**Local proportion:** 40% offenders, 65% crime    **Force proportion:** 45% offenders, 71% 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, Theft and Burglary.

# [REVISED] Community Cohesion[17] & Tackling Extremism

**Volume and harm – *Community Cohesion*:** Low volume / Substantial individual harm / Moderate community harm

**Volume and harm – *Extremism*:** Minimal volume / Risk of mass loss of life / Critical community harm

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

**Summary:**
In the period of the European Union (EU) referendum (2016-17) Hate Crime increased nationally by 30% (17,300 incidents) on the previous year, with increases seen in all following years to date at a national level. While the large majority of national incidents (76% in 2019-20) are based on the victim's Race or Religion, Hate offences against the Transgender community, based on Disability, or on Sexual Orientation have all more than doubled in recent years.

Locally in the 12 months to November 2020, there has been no change in levels of Hate Crime compared to the previous 12 months – although there was a significant spike in June 2020 after the easing of the national lockdown (highest numbers recorded in a single month in three years). It is considered that leaving the EU on 1st January 2021 will have a similar impact to the 2016 referendum, and there will be an increase in Hate-related offences.

The Covid-19 pandemic has also had an effect on Community Cohesion; while the pandemic has strengthened many communities within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, with people providing support to those in their local area, it has also exacerbated and highlighted issues within a small number of more fragmented communities – with local outbreaks and compliance with government guidance proving to be a source of friction, and a threat to cohesion.

The cost of Covid-19 to society and state has been significant. It has become clear that while the spread of virus has been fairly indiscriminate, the impact has not been felt equally across all communities. Opportunities for social mixing, one of the most powerful forms of reducing prejudice and promoting empathy, have been severely limited – with some restrictions likely to continue. As the full impact of the pandemic unfolds, government decision-making has the potential to affect social and political trust, which can be exploited by extremist groups.

In parallel to the Covid-19 pandemic, over Summer/Autumn 2020 terror-related attacks have been carried out in main-land Europe. As a result, the UK national terror threat level has increased compared to last year's report - and is now at Severe (the second highest threat level): meaning that an attack in the UK is considered '*highly likely*'.

The terror attack on London Bridge in 2019, which was carried out by an individual from the Staffordshire force-area, 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 remains a Home Office Prevent priority area with the city council receiving additional support from the Home Office for its work to tackle to extremism.

**Comparison to previous assessment:**

- Increasing evidence of Far-right support – with increasing Prevent referrals for Far-right ideologies.
- Risk and concerns around Al-Qaeda/ISIL-inspired extremism remain high
- Increase in National terror-threat level from 'Substantial' up to 'Severe'
- Departure from European Union to take place in January 2021.

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

**Direction of travel:** Growing concern          **Public expectation:** Critical / National expectations

**At risk groups:** Hate Crime offenders are predominantly young men and more likely to be under 18 than offenders overall. Female Hate Crimes offenders tend to be in the 30-39 age group. Victims are predominantly males aged over 18, and particularly those aged 30-39. Although most victims are male, there are more female victims than female offenders. Those with Asian or Black ethnicity are disproportionately likely to be victims of Hate Crime.

Based on recent Prevent referrals, those at greatest risk of being radicalised remain younger males (aged under 20 years) although a growing number are in older age groups, including those aged 50 and over. In the last year, around 1 in 25 of those referred through Prevent in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent was female.

---

[17] As per the Local Government Association (LGA) definition of cohesive community as one where; There is common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities; The diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued; Those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities; and, Strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods

## Modern Slavery

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 exploitation[18].

Many victims, some of which are children, work in the construction industry, in agriculture, in the sex industry, and in places like nail bars, car washes, and cannabis farms.

The scale of Modern Slavery is consistently and gradually increasing and it is likely to continue to do so[19]. 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 has seen a gradual increase in the reporting of Modern Slavery which is in line with the national picture.

Both 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.

Concerns remain over the ongoing problem of clandestine entrants found at motorway service stations which are common drop off locations for illegal immigrants.

**Modern Slavery recorded by Staffordshire Police**
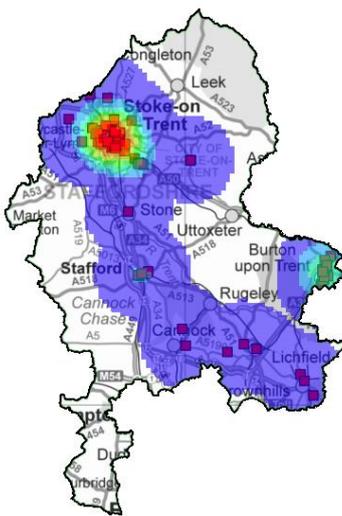


## Fire and Fire Risk

Some pockets of Lichfield 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 also areas with higher proportions young families with limited resources.

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.

---

[18] NCA – National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2018
[19] https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking

## 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.

In the 12 months to November 2020, there were around 630 instances of Fraud recorded by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) affecting organisations in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, with total losses of around £4.6million. Local research conducted on behalf of the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office has highlighted that many small businesses locally are particularly concerned about Fraud and Online crime, and this acts as a barrier to their development of online services.

Staffordshire has a high proportion of small and micro businesses, many of which do not have the same resilience as larger national and multi-national businesses. As a result, smaller businesses risk being significantly harmed and disrupted 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 'off-road' vehicle thefts (such as quad-bikes, 4x4s and Land Rovers) used in farming and agriculture.

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.

## Serious Violence: Knife Crime

Knife Crime is a high profile national and regional issue, with a significant amount of media attention and a critical level of public expectation that it will be addressed.

Staffordshire overall has not seen the same increases in Knife Crime experienced nationally and across the West Midlands region – with Knife Crime incidents continuing to fall in 2019-20. However, some parts of Staffordshire experience higher levels of knife crime than others, particularly Stoke-on-Trent and Tamworth, and to a lesser extent, East Staffordshire and Stafford.

While knife crime accounts for very low volumes of crime in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (0.5 offences per 1,000 population, 2019-20) it carries a substantial risk of harm to individuals.

In recent years, those who were known perpetrators of knife crime were drastically more likely to be those aged between 15-19 years (26% of knife crime, 12% of all other crime). Those either side of the 15-19 year age group, those aged between 10-14 and 20-24 are slightly more likely than average to commit knife crimes than other crimes, but this falls rapidly for those aged 25 and older.

# Quality of Life and Wider Determinants

There are a range of factors which affect individual quality of life, life chances and overall vulnerability. In Lichfield, while the overall area is one of the more affluent in the force-area, pockets of disadvantage and deprivation still exist and affect communities.

The factors considered to be of most concern within Lichfield are; deprivation and economic stress, alcohol, social isolation and children and young people at risk of safeguarding.

Although Child safeguarding demands are not high in Lichfield, rates of Child Protection Plans (CPP) are a particular concern in Chasetown, and rates of Looked-after Children (LAC) are a particular concern in Chadsmead – both of which see rates which are uncharacteristic for Lichfield overall and above national levels.

Lichfield is one of only two CSP areas in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent where school attainment at KeyStage 4 (previously GCSE) is above the national level.

School attainment in the area is generally above the national average at KeyStage 4 (previously GCSEs) however, in the most deprived parts of the area (particularly Chadsmead), school attainment is a concern. There has been additional challenge in the last 12 months, as 2020 exams were replaced with 'expected' grades due to the Coronavirus pandemic – which resulted in many children receiving Attainment 8 results which were below those required in order to access their preferred next stages of education.

Overall levels of out-of-work benefit claimants in Lichfield are below with the force area, with a higher proportion of adults employed in Managerial, Senior, Professional and Technical occupations. Levels of average earnings in Lichfield are above the national average, however, although more affordable than the national average, housing is the least-affordable in the force area – with the average house price at 7.3 times the average income, compared to 6.5 for the force area. In addition to disadvantaged parts of the district which have high levels of economic challenge, there are also number of communities in Lichfield where the cost of living still results in economic stress for residents, even though household earnings are above-average for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

There is evidence that long-term alcohol use has a negative effect on Lichfield residents, particularly those aged 65 and over and women – with levels of hospital admissions for alcohol-related conditions significantly above the national average amongst women.

# Public Confidence & Feeling the Difference

**It should be noted, that in 2019, the decision was made to redevelop its approach to a Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent public confidence residents' survey. As such the Feeling the Difference survey ceased.**
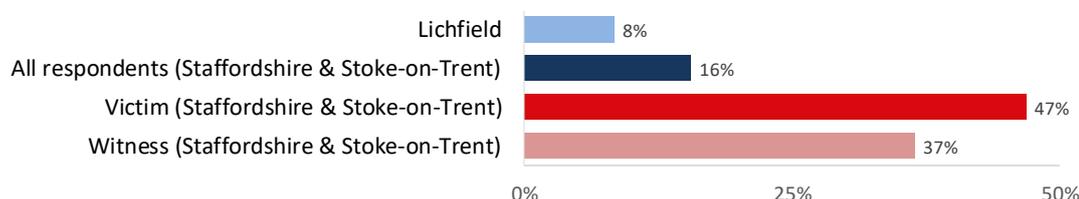
**The final wave of the Feeling the Difference surveys were completed in late 2018 (referenced below) with a new residents' survey introduced in late 2020. Findings from the new survey will be shared, as relevant, once made available.**

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

In previous analysis a high proportion of residents in the local area were satisfied with Lichfield as an area to live (95%) and the large majority were satisfied with their quality of life (88%).

Around 2-out-of-5 residents (42%) appear to be satisfied with the level of visible police presence in the local area, although Lichfield residents report the highest feelings of safety in the force area. Local residents report that they feel very safe in Lichfield during the day (99%) and the very large majority also feel safe after dark (90%). Most residents (92%) feel that it's unlikely that they will be a victim of crime at any point in the future.

Data shows us that those who have previously experienced crime first-hand, as either a victim of crime or a witness to a crime, generally feel less safe than the population overall. This is particularly acute when considering how safe residents feel at night or after dark.

**Feel likely that they will be a victim of crime**

| Category | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Lichfield | 8% |
| All respondents (Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent) | 16% |
| Victim (Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent) | 47% |
| Witness (Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent) | 37% |

# Appendices

## Appendix A: Overall 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 Knowledge Hub BRAIN Gateway, and making use of relevant emerging risk assessment and strategic documents.

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, through Local Authorities, and in other Safety Partnership areas, 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.

The full partnership should explore approaches which will allow young people to anonymously report concerns around crime, radicalisation or extremist behaviour, 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[20] 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

## Appendix B: Specific recommendations for key priorities

*As this is report considers the current position in the context of the priorities and recommendations set out in the full three-yearly Strategic Assessment (issued last year, 2019) many recommendations and priorities remain unchanged from the previous full SA. Where recommendations are new additions or revised compared to the previous report, these are clearly highlighted with a prefix.*

### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

**[REVISED]** Work is needed to better understand where Hate is a factor in ASB and identify if there are communities where Hate-related ASB is of particular concern. Where there are concerns that ASB is hate-related, Partnerships should consider whether this is significant enough to refer cases to Prevent.

***Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:***
*The pan-Staffordshire ASB Strategy group should continue to engage with Safety Partnerships and vice versa to help improve our knowledge and understanding of ASB in the force-area 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 and younger perpetrators (of both public place ASB and Neighbour Disputes) to ensure that individuals receive multi-agency support where appropriate in order to reduce re-offending. [Cross-cutting to Repeat & Persistent Offending recommendations]*

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

### Domestic Abuse

**[NEW]** Safety Partnerships should remain sighted on the Domestic Abuse Bill (2020) - due to become law in April 2021. This places statutory duties on upper-tier LAs, including the duty to provide victims (and their children) with appropriate safe accommodation and support whilst in accommodation. Responsible authorities will be required to form Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards and CSPs should ensure that they engage with these accordingly.

---

[20] 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.

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*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 in front-line service to have a strong awareness and understanding of signs of non-physical types of domestic abuse, (e.g. coercive control, financial abuse, psychological abuse including stalking). There is a need to continue to raise public awareness around these types of domestic abuse.*

*Reaching out to hard to engage cohorts; including men, BME, LGBTQ+, those with Learning Difficulties, Mental Health needs, those in rural areas, 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 to other services such as mental health, drug and alcohol misuse and homelessness, as well as education providers from age 14 and up.*

*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.*

## Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft
*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*There is a need to raise awareness of 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 equally the case for business and small business owners who rely on vehicles as a business asset.*

*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.*

## County Lines
**[NEW]** Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic; on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will increases in numbers of people and families considered to be vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase numbers of individuals who may be at increased risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure. *[Duplicated within Vulnerable Persons recommendations]*

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*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 community use of Crime Stoppers to allow anonymous reporting.*

*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) such as Care Homes and Foster Carers are aware of signs of criminal exploitation and feel confident in reporting concerns as appropriate.*

## Fraud
**[REVISED]** 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. With growth in online auction/marketplace fraud, those who <u>are</u> connected digitally are also at increasing risk – awareness raising strategy should also consider younger age groups who carry out much of their non-essential shopping online, as well as older age groups who are new to using online services for essential shopping.

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*Safety Partnerships should support local services and communities in recognising signs of potential fraud and raising awareness of different types of fraud tactics. It is critical that carers, relatives, friends or neighbours of someone who is vulnerable know how to spot signs of fraud.*

*It remains 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.*

*There is a need to develop a co-ordinated approach to 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 need to consider how doorstep crime can be addressed with existing and emerging strategy, with CSPs 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.*

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

**[NEW]** Given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on physical health, mental health and well-being, employment, and education – it should be considered that over the next 12-24 months there will be increases in numbers of people and families considered vulnerable. Partnerships must consider that this will not only increase demand on support services and partners, but also increase the number of individuals who may be at risk of criminal exploitation. It is important that mechanisms to document, share, and escalate concerns around exploitation and vulnerability can cope with increased pressure. *[Duplicated within Drug Supply and County Lines recommendations]*

***Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:***
*Alcohol is a cross-cutting theme across a range of priorities – partners should continue to consider where alcohol may be a factor in offending behaviour or in levels of vulnerability, ensuring support and intervention includes alcohol-related support. Support should be particularly intensive for young people with identified emerging alcohol concerns.*

*Being under the influence of alcohol remains a factor that disproportionally leads to casualties in dwelling fires, it is vital that those delivering support to individuals around alcohol 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 partners, 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.*

*Stronger knowledge of contextual safeguarding is essential in protecting vulnerable people. Partnerships should help lead the way in moving thinking around safeguarding forwards to address extra-familial risk; including supporting businesses in developing awareness of risks to young people and developing confidence in reporting any concerns.*

*It is essential that young people are aware of signs of potential criminal exploitation, and that mechanisms exist to allow young people to safely communicate concerns about 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 increased risk of 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:
*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*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.*

*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. [Duplicated within ASB recommendations]*

*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.*

### [REVISED] Community Cohesion & Tackling Extremism:
**[NEW]** There should be additional consideration for children who receive home education, including those who have started to be home educated throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure that they are receiving a well-rounded education in order to prevent any extremist teachings.

**[NEW]** Safety Partnerships should engage with the development of Community Cohesion partnership work through the Safer & Stronger Communities Strategic Group, which will link in to existing strategic Hate Crime work and the Prevent board. Partnerships should also strongly consider whether there is a need to work with local partners and stakeholders (such as voluntary sector partners) to develop local Community Cohesion strategy for their local area.

**[REVISED]** As people spend more time online as a result of COVID-19-related restrictions on social contact, it should be considered that there is increased risk around online radicalisation. Partnerships should continue to raise awareness of extremism and potential signs of radicalisation within communities, and particularly in those communities at risk of emerging extreme right-wing and far-right extremism. Young people, parents/guardians and community members should have an awareness of prevalent extremist groups.

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*All Safety Partnership areas must continue with Prevent activity and the work of the Prevent Board; maintaining and building further positive engagement between communities, police and partners; to enable 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 support partner agencies with low Prevent referral rates, including supporting their understanding of the referral mechanism to improve referral quality.*

*Safety Partnerships and Prevent partners should continue raising awareness of existing and emerging far-right and extreme right-wing groups and encourage reporting of concerns through usual channels such as Prevent.*

*Safety Partnerships should engage with other partners to improve 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.*

**Modern Slavery:**

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*Safety Partnerships should continue with co-ordinated partnership activity to tackle modern slavery, including the implementation of consistent training packages to improve awareness and knowledge of the factors which may highlight victims and perpetrators and 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 national discussion around Modern Slavery, and developments to make the National Referral Mechanism better tailored for victimised children and young people.*

*It is important for partners and front-line services to have strong awareness of the range of offending included under Modern Slavery including that 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.*

**Fire and Fire Risks:**

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*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:**

**[NEW]** Preliminary findings from Staffordshire Commissioner's Office report on Business Crime suggests that there may be a need for greater engagement with smaller businesses in partnership areas, in order to better understand their needs and how they are impacted by crime.

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*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.*

**Serious Violence and Knife Crime:**

**[NEW]** All Safety Partnership areas must anticipate that when COVID restrictions become more relaxed, activity in public places (including activity linked to the night-time economy) will increase considerably – and as such there will likely be an equivalent increase in Public Place Violent and alcohol-related offences.

*Existing recommendations for the duration of the three-year assessment period:*
*All Safety Partnerships should remain engaged with the development and delivery of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Serious Violence Reduction Strategy.*

*Partnerships should continue work with licensing authorities to identify and tackle heavy drinking in areas with high levels of alcohol-related disorder and public place violence. Authorities should work with licenced premises to support staff in recognising signs of potential violence amongst individuals/groups and take appropriate preventative action.*

*To reduce re-offending, 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 involvement and should to continue to engage in the delivery and development of gang prevention and disruption strategy as appropriate.*

*There is ongoing need to work with education settings, 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 a need to focus on those aged 11-18 years.*

## Appendix C: Methodology

The prioritisation setting process for 2020-21 has taken account of existing priorities, analysis, reporting and intelligence to identify any shift in, or emerging key priorities - validated through conversations with individual CSP leads.

Previous priorities have been identified through a review of existing strategic risk and threat assessments, analysis of locality data, local and force-wide intelligence, intelligence from appropriate partners and stakeholders and national bodies (such as Action Fraud).

## Appendix D: Data tables

**Overall Crime: Ward-level count and rate, 2019-20** (wards where rate is above average)

| Ward Name | ALL CRIME | Arson and Criminal Damage | Burglary | Drug Offences | Misc. Crimes Against Society | Possession of Weapons | Public Order Offences | Robbery | Sexual Offences | Theft | Vehicle Offences | Violence against the Person |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stowe | **134.3** | 15.2 | 5.8 | 4.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 8.9 | 1.1 | 3.2 | 45.0 | 5.7 | 42.3 |
| Chasetown | **118.5** | 13.4 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 2.3 | 1.2 | 4.9 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 30.3 | 13.4 | 38.9 |
| Bourne Vale | **87.6** | 4.0 | 8.1 | 4.4 | 13.4 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 9.7 | 8.7 | 31.2 |
| Curborough | **71.7** | 6.0 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 3.9 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 7.2 | 5.6 | 40.5 |
| Boney Hay & Central | **64.2** | 6.7 | 2.2 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 15.0 | 5.2 | 25.8 |
| Fazeley | **58.6** | 5.7 | 5.5 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 2.8 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 6.1 | 8.3 | 24.8 |
| Leomansley | **57.9** | 6.0 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 12.6 | 5.8 | 24.1 |
| Chadsmead | **57.3** | 5.8 | 3.1 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 7.1 | 3.9 | 28.5 |
| Shenstone | **56.0** | 9.2 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 6.0 | 15.1 | 11.5 |
| Summerfield & All Saints | **51.3** | 5.7 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 7.7 | 6.6 | 22.4 |
| Longdon | **49.8** | 4.1 | 10.2 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.6 | 2.0 | 21.3 |
| Alrewas & Fradley | **46.2** | 6.0 | 5.5 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 15.1 |
| Hammerwich with Wall | **43.0** | 5.4 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 8.9 | 6.6 | 9.9 |
| Little Aston & Stonnall | **40.6** | 4.0 | 6.2 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 9.4 | 5.6 | 11.0 |
| Armitage with Handsacre | **38.2** | 2.9 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 4.1 | 2.5 | 18.9 |
| Whittington & Streethay | **37.1** | 3.5 | 5.3 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 7.6 | 6.2 | 9.4 |
| St John's | **32.6** | 2.6 | 2.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 8.1 | 3.7 | 11.7 |
| Colton & the Ridwares | **32.0** | 2.7 | 5.4 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 11.3 |
| Highfield | **31.2** | 2.2 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 14.0 |
| Mease Valley | **29.5** | 2.6 | 7.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 6.7 | 4.1 | 5.7 |
| Chase Terrace | **27.4** | 3.6 | 3.2 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 4.5 | 3.2 | 9.8 |
| Boley Park | **26.6** | 4.2 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 5.4 | 2.8 | 9.6 |

**Key** 🟥 Significantly above average    🟧 Above average

## Appendix E: 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 |