



Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership Board Annual Report

April 2024 - March 2025

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Introduction from the Chair

Hello

Over the past twelve months the Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership has continued to deliver strong partnership working to further reduce crime and disorder in the borough.

I am proud of the achievements we have made, including an overall reduction in total recorded crime by 8%, including robbery offences reducing by 39%, residential burglary by 19% and vehicle crime by 19%.

We still have work to do. We have established a task group to implement the requirements of the serious violence duty, building on the success of our Safer and Stronger communities' programme, including evidence-based initiatives such as outreach work with St Giles trust and the implementation of the Licensing Security and Vulnerability Initiative (LSAVI) with licensed premises.

Serious violence remains a priority for the partnership. We have worked closely with the domestic abuse local partnership (DALP) to create a new pathway to deal with domestic homicide reviews, learning the lessons to prevent future offences. Over 11,000 hotspot patrols have been carried out by police in areas most likely to see serious violence and anti-social behaviour, supplemented by problem solving by a range of partners.

Recognising the concerns of the community in keeping everyone who using the road as safe as possible, we have established a task group to deliver on a new road safety priority of reducing deaths and serious injury on our roads.

We have welcomed the final report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation to Telford (IITCSE) by Tom Crowther KC and work to ensure recommendations and both implemented and sustained by all agencies and partners.

For the year 2025/26, Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership has four core priorities:

- a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment);
- a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area;
- a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area; and
- a strategy for preventing people from becoming involved in serious violence, and reducing instances of serious violence in the area.

Edward Hancox

**Superintendent Edward Hancox, West Mercia Police
Chair of Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership**

Who is the Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership Board and what does it do?

In Telford and Wrekin the CSP is called the Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership and the member organisations are:

- West Mercia Police*
- National Probation Service*
- Telford & Wrekin Council*
- West Mercia Youth Justice Service
- Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Service*
- West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service*

*Indicates organisations that are Responsible Authorities

Strategy

A new Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership strategy was implemented in September 2024. Following a needs assessment and consultation with the community the strategy includes the three existing priorities alongside a further two priorities.

The priorities are:

Priority 1: tackling Child Exploitation and Child Sexual Exploitation

Priority 2: reducing the harm and impact of Domestic Abuse

Priority 3: addressing crime and antisocial behaviour in high harm areas

Priority 4: addressing serious youth violence

Priority 5: reducing deaths and serious injury on our roads

Telford CSP was the first CSP within the force area to have reducing deaths and serious injury on our roads as a priority.

In line with the new strategy a priority action plan has been created to monitor the progress of each priority on a quarterly basis.

Progress has been made with CSP data with implementation of a new CSP dashboard to reflect the priorities and will highlight the progress of the priorities and the reduction in the number of recorded crimes. Since September 2024 the CSP has received raw all crime data with additional markers (serious violence, youth serious violence, domestic abuse, CSE, CCE, hate crime and modern slavery) attached in order for the data to be added into the new CSP dashboard. The dashboard is linked to the Safer Stronger Communities dashboard which will enable the data to be accurate across the boards. The dashboard has also been used in the Serious Violence subgroup looking at the serious violence data broken down by crime types to allow a focus on the priorities for the subgroup.

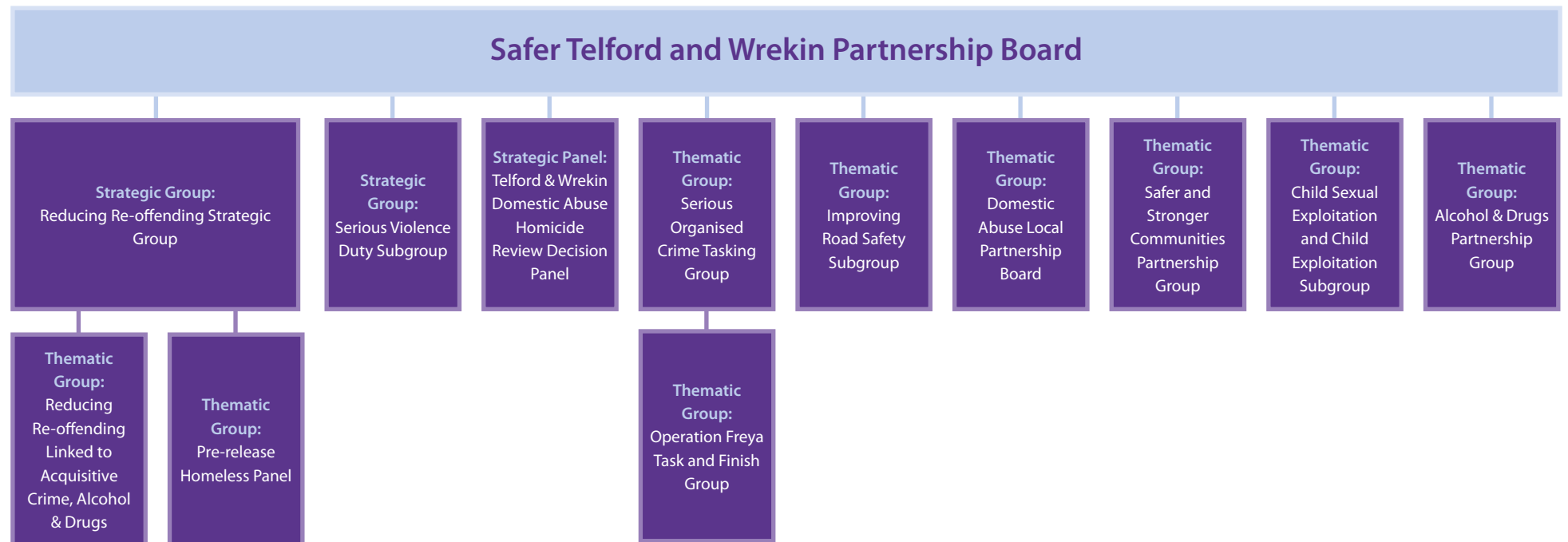
In addition to this the Partnership continued to monitor crime patterns and trends to identify issues that require a partnership response.

Through this approach, the Safer Telford Partnership continued to apply the underlying principles of a **public health approach** to include:

- a focus on a defined population e.g. vulnerable children, young people and adults who are known to be most at risk;
- a collaborative partnership approach – that is not limited by organisational or professional boundaries;
- putting in place long term, as well as short term solutions – e.g. prevention activities, and also more support for those affected now;
- an intelligence-led approach – which is based on local data and insight; and
- using the evidence of what works and best practice – e.g. Violence Reduction Units around the UK.

The Board is chaired by the West Mercia Police Superintendent appointed by the five statutory partners with the objective of providing challenge and scrutiny. As part of our arrangements for external challenge, the Chair presents the Board’s annual report to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

To drive delivery of its objectives, the Board has a series of sub-groups and Boards as set out below:



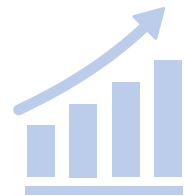
Telford and Wrekin the place

The borough which the board serves is a place of contrasts. Central to the borough is the New Town of Telford which was commissioned in 1968 and grew rapidly around existing communities including Wellington, Oakengates, Dawley and Madeley. Along the banks of the River Severn is Ironbridge, the birthplace of the industrial revolution and now a World Heritage site. Surrounding Telford is a rural hinterland – accounting for more than two thirds of the borough’s area.

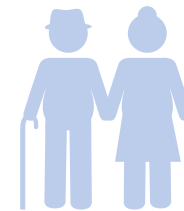
In 2023 the population of the borough was estimated to be 191,915 people. A quarter (47,609 people) are aged 0 to 19. Between 2013 and 2023, the borough’s overall population increased by 23,000 people – an increase of 13.5% – making it the fastest growing upper tier local authority in the West Midlands. As the population grows it is becoming more diverse and ageing, between 2013 and 2023, the number of people aged 65+ grew by 28.5 % which is twice the regional rate of 14.3%.



191,915
POPULATION



13.5%
POPULATION INCREASE
FROM 2013 TO 2023



28.5%
AGED 65+ POPULATION
INCREASE

Many people who have come to live in the borough have been attracted by the value for money housing offer, our schools, outstanding natural environment, growing economy and our connectivity via road and rail into the West Midlands conurbation and beyond.

Whilst at face value the borough is prosperous and thriving, the Index of Multiple Deprivation shows that there are 18 neighbourhoods in the borough which are ranked amongst the 10% most deprived in England. This impacts on the life experience of these residents in terms of poorer outcomes with regards to health, education employment and housing, such challenges have undoubtedly increased because of the current cost of living crisis.

Crime and anti-social behaviour

In 2024/25 there were 13,598 crimes recorded in the borough. This represented a reduction of 11.3% compared with 2023/24, with 1,733 fewer crimes recorded than in 2023/24. Over the same period, there were 2,529 incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to the Police. This was a reduction of 3.0% from 2023/24, with 79 fewer incidents reported. Reports of anti-social behaviour reported to the Council reduced by 25.5% between 2023/24 and 2024/25. In 2024/25 there were 841 reports of anti-social behaviour received by the Council, 288 reports fewer than in 2023/24.

Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 1 – tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Exploitation (CSE/CE) CSE/CE Subgroup

The purpose of CSE/CE subgroup board is respond to all existing and new forms of child exploitation and to address any strategic barriers to achieving this purpose whilst recognising that children and young people are vulnerable to exploitation in a range of social contexts by applying the principle of contextual safeguarding to help respond to and prevent child exploitation.

The CSE/CE subgroup meets quarterly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the subgroup has undertaken the following activities:

- MACFA looking specifically at young people at risk of exploitation with SEND/EHCP
- Renewed focus on Prevent and Channel Panel
- Refreshed Child Exploitation awareness session programme within school and wider community.

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

- Published and scrutinised the CSE Annual report.
- Welcomed the CSE inquiries chair to Telford to Review Multi agency response to recommendations.
- Telford's lived experience consultants' inquiry has been presented as a model of best practice nationally (House of Commons).
- Appointed an NRM co-ordinator and implemented a NRM panel.

Data

CSE/CE data 1 September 2024-31 March 2025 – in 2024/25 there were 139 crimes recorded with a CSE marker. This was an increase of 52.7% (48 more) compared with 2023/24. Numbers of crimes recorded with a CE marker are minimal.

Events

CSE awareness 2 weeks – over the CSE awareness 2 weeks, the CATE team visited 17 local schools and other child-centred organisations across the borough in the lead up to the National Child Exploitation Awareness Day, delivering awareness-raising sessions to young people and the staff and volunteers who work with them.

The sessions were interactive and included quizzes, visual aids and materials for young people to take away, as the team provided information on how and where to get support.



Seen something?
Say something

Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 2 – Reducing the harm and impact of Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALP)

The purpose of DALP board is to oversee the development and delivery of the Telford and Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy, which is intelligence-led and based on local needs gathered through a needs assessment. In doing this, the Board will have due regard to the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act which requires the strategy to make arrangements for the assessment of, and the need for accommodation-based support.

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

The DALP board meets quarterly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the partnership board has undertaken the following activities:

- There have been two domestic abuse animations commissioned which focus on domestic abuse in older people, honour-based violence and disability. Since their launch they have been viewed over 550 times on YouTube. The animations have been shared with partners, on the TWSP website and newsletters.
- Domestic abuse leaflets have been created and distributed in GP Practices, adult care homes and Telford town centre banks and opticians.
- Domestic abuse data set has been created with additional information being sought from probation to further enhance data.
- A draft comms plan was presented to the DALP in the March meeting and partners are currently feeding in additional events into the plan, which will continue to evolve.
- Registry office is now ensuring all couples are spoken to separately prior to marriage to address the risk of predatory marriage and identify DA.
- All partner agencies have provided evidence that they have robust policies and procedures in place to support workers experiencing DA.
- Work on the draft Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment has taken place with emerging headlines being presented to the March DALP. There had been a 79% increase in approaches to the Council's housing services for rehousing related to domestic abuse between 2021 and 2024 and a 58.5% increase in the number of domestic abuse-related temporary accommodation placements during the same period. A significant increase in the number of dependent children in households seeking rehousing due to domestic abuse, from 165 to 467 was noted. This information will be taken to the DA sub group under the Children's Board to explore packaging up the data to present at the strategic partnership and provide schools a wider overview rather than a case by case focus.
- Clare's Law (DVDS) has been an ongoing focus within the last two DALP meetings. All partners are promoting the scheme and police are exploring new ways to facilitate the disclosure of information safely, in cases where it is difficult for the applicant to attend the police station. Disclosure rates have now risen to 58.5% vs the West Mercia rate of 49.1% with ongoing work planned to further increase this figure.

Data

DA data 1 April 2024-31 March 2025 – there were 3,098 crimes recorded with a DA marker in 2024/25. This was a reduction of 5.7% (187 fewer) compared with 2023/24.

Events

We are currently refreshing our local Domestic Abuse Strategy and VAWG will sit under the prevention strand of the strategy – this will ensure that the work programme has sufficient oversight and governance. To commence this work we held a stakeholder event which was opened by the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Domestic Abuse and was attended by around 60 people, including local women with lived experience of VAWG. The morning presentations were about definitions and scale of VAWG in Telford, followed by presentations about different local services and programmes that are already being delivered, and the afternoon was spent in tabletop discussions about the gaps under 10 different themes. The next steps are to pull all this together into an action plan for a workshop at the next DALP Board meeting in July for approval and it will be incorporated into the overall action plan for the refreshed strategy.



Funding

Sanctuary (£4,000) – Sanctuary received 119 service referrals. 111 of the referrals engaged with the service and left the service with a positive outcome. Security equipment was installed into 81 private dwellings and 30 housing association dwellings over the 12 month period.

White Ribbon event (£1,500) – our annual White Ribbon event was held on the White Ribbon day 25 November 2024. The event itself was well attended by over 100 people. The main session was delivered by The Right Path and covered a broad range of topics from social media and television influences, misogynistic and sexist behaviours.

Target Hardening (£20,000 Serious Violence Duty Funding) – the programme was implemented in Q4. Staff have been trained and referral pathways established with partner organisations. 5 low to medium risk domestic abuse victims have had modifications carried out to their homes so that they can remain there safely and another 17 victims have received video doorbells who didn't need further modifications. The pilot project will continue in 2025/26 and will be evaluated after operating for 12 months.



Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 3 Addressing crime and antisocial behaviour in high harm areas

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

Over the last 12 months the CSP have:

- implemented new task and finish groups to reduce re-offending and prisoners being released with no fixed abode;
- created a new dashboard to look at crime and antisocial behaviour in the borough; and
- worked collaboratively with partners to reduce the number of antisocial behaviour crimes recorded.

Data

- Between 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 there were 549 ASB crimes reported this was a decrease of 0.5% (3 fewer) compared to the last year. There were 1,124 fly tipping crimes recorded which is a reduction of 12.9% (166 fewer). There were 2,906 crimes recorded which is a reduction of 5.8% (178 fewer). There were 642 Shoplifting offences recorded which was an increase of 3.5% (22 more). This is being addressed through the new task and finish group and has decreased since the group. Between 01 January 2024 and 31 December 2024, 1,736 shoplifting offences were committed.
- There has been a 10% (n=97) decrease in shoplifting offences in the last six months compared to the same period in the previous year.
- Offences in the most recent six months have decreased by 1.5% (n=13) when compared to the previous six months (01 November 2023 to 30 April 2024).

Reducing Re-offending Strategic Group and Reducing Re-offending Linked to Acquisitive Crime, Alcohol and Drugs Task and Finish Group

The purpose of the Reducing Re-offending Strategic Group is to have strategic oversight, establishing best practice and ensuring effective partnership working is taking place to reduce re-offending. George Branch the head of the Probation Service chairs the meeting. The Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 requires: provisions to be made about the release and supervision after release of offenders; make provision about the extension period for extended sentence prisoners; to make provision about community orders and suspended sentence orders; and for connected purposes.

The RRO strategic group meets quarterly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the strategic group has undertaken the following activities:

- Developed a robust data and intelligence framework inform priorities, deploy relevant interventions and monitor the impact that this intervention has made.
- Developed a strategy and priority action plan.
- The group identified a rise in shoplifting and created a working group to address re-offending linked to acquisitive crime, alcohol and drugs. This looked at the top 20 nominals in the borough and has demonstrated partnership working to reduce the shoplifting figures across the borough.
- The group have successfully implemented STaRS to attend Malinsgate custody suite on a weekly basis as an early intervention to stop re-offending and offer the drug and alcohol how service whilst the offender is in custody.

- The reducing re-offending linked to acquisitive crime, alcohol and drug model is being rolled out across West Mercia.
- The group have developed a pre-release and accommodation subgroup which looks at prisoners due to be released within 70 days who when discussed are shown as leaving with no fixed abode. Partners around the table discuss the prisoners and make sure that any duty to refer (DTR) is completed and identify if they are known to STaRS or if STaRS will need to make contact.

Building Safer, Stronger Communities Partnership Board and Local Neighbourhood Groups

The Building Safer, Stronger programme was launched in April 2021. The focus was to target small pockets of the borough working in partnership with the Police & Crime Commissioner, West Mercia Police and teams from across the council & wider partners, using data, intelligence and community collaboration to tackle crime, fly tipping, anti-social behaviour to protect those most at risk of being exploited to co-develop solutions to local concerns.

Six priority themes were established.

- Education & Skills
- Environmental
- Crime & ASB Housing standards
- Community resilience
- Crime Reduction
- Health inequalities

The purpose of building safer and stronger communities board is to address anti-social behaviour within the borough. The building safer and stronger

communities board meets bi-monthly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the partnership board has undertaken the following activities:

Evidence suggests that well-designed youth activities, including after-school programs, mentoring, and sports programs, can reduce crime and reoffending, particularly when they focus on building skills, promoting positive behaviours, and providing structured supervision. Youth activities developed to support the councils Youth Offer have included.

- Urban Games programme supporting activities during school holidays 9,000 Children and Young People have attended to date.
- Telford Kicks, Friday night free football offer across the borough that regularly has over 130 children and young people attend each week.
- Opened eight new youth clubs in partnership with Town and Parish councils.
- Making A Change Competition, where young people come up with a project to improve their neighbourhood.
- St Giles Trust lived experience mentoring, to engage with hard-to-reach young people.

A decent place to live is the foundation on which residents across the borough build their lives. The Council has been working hard to tackle housing concerns in Sutton Hill, Brookside, College, Hadley and Hollinswood to ensure rented property meets the correct standards. This work has enabled the council to proactively inspect over 900 properties and in doing so support both tenants and landlords.

Working with West Mercia Police Safer Neighbourhood Team, crime data and intelligence we are tackling Crime and Anti-social behaviour. In support of the Council's commitment to tackling violence against women and girls:

- CCTV in taxi's 20%, The council has worked in partnership with taxi operators to bring forward a voluntary scheme which, once all are installed, will see 20% of Telford and Wrekin licenced taxis fitted with CCTV units. This pilot has attracted interest from the Department for Transport that now sees Telford and Wrekin among the highest licensing authorities in the country with the number of CCTV units installed on a voluntary basis.
- Supported the instalment of 2 ID scanners in licenced premises.
- 34 venues signed up to Licensing Security and Vulnerability Initiative (LSAVI) This accreditation scheme commits nighttime economy venues to enhancing safety of all visitors, particularly women, through providing training and awareness to staff alongside developing best practice for venue safety and supporting vulnerable individuals.
- Target hardening to reduce shop lifting 5% reduction at Town Centre and Newport.
- ASB reduced in summer 2024 by 28%.
- Town centre crime reduced by 65% and ASB 43%.
- Multi agency partnership meetings to address ASB at Dawley Bandstand and Wellington, these multi-agency forums have provided focus to tackle community and business concerns in partnership and continue to make a difference locally.
- CCTV is deployed to tackle ASB/fly tipping.
- 170 New streetlights installed.

Fly tipping

- Number of reports has decreased in last 12 months some parts of the borough up to 48%.
- Investigated over 1,200 fly tips.
- Issued 186 warning letters.
- 40 Fixed Penalty Notices'.
- Telford and Wrekin Watch, community engagement and awareness tool allows members of the public to support the council with the identification of offenders.

- 14 Community Action Teams (CAT) working with in partnership with Town and Parish Councils which enables a local focus on priorities via a local area enforcement action plan.

Tackling Health Inequalities, the programme has supported:

- Low impact community activity Chair such as Yoga Walking football/hockey
- Tackle solation and loneliness through Knit & Natter clubs, tea, toast & talk, and coffee mornings.
- Models for Heroes, supporting our Veterans.
- Worked with the community to create Community Gardens.
- Volunteering opportunities such as Street Champions and CCTV monitoring.



Figure 1 rolling year comparison - 2023/24 to 2024/25

As shown in the above in figure 1 during the last 12 months there has been a reduction in crime, anti-social behaviour and fly tipping across the focus areas of Building Safer & Stronger Communities investment has been made. Since the start of the programme anti-social behaviour and fly tipping has also reduced with the recorded crimes per 1,000 people consistently below the regional average and below the national average since 2023.

Pre-release and accommodation task and finish group

The purpose of pre-release and accommodation task and finish group is to have operational oversight, establishing best practice and ensuring effective partnership working is taking place to manage accommodation of individuals being released from prison. The task and finish group meets monthly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- Developed a robust data and intelligence framework and Performance Dashboard to inform priorities, deploy relevant interventions and monitor the impact that this intervention has made.
- Worked collaboratively with partners to manage accommodation of individuals being released from prison.
- Reduced or prevented existing reoccurring problems by tackling the vulnerability of the individuals being released from prison.
- A new national pre-release homeless panel will be implemented in the next year.

Serious Organised Crime Tasking Group

The purpose of serious organised crime tasking group is to address serious organised crime within the borough.

The serious organised crime tasking group meets monthly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- A clear meeting structure remains in place which offers clarity and consistency as to the requirement of each partner.
- The protected partnership intelligence sharing forum provide by SOCJAG continues to feed our attempts to combat organised criminality.

- The group are seeking to implement a 'Partners update' during the meeting whereby partners can move away from the Police led agenda to discuss emerging trends or concerns from their respective organisation.
- Our local SOC profile highlights the challenges in South Telford, a hub of significant risk to our children and young people through violence and drug exposure. The Police CE Team and Local Authority CATE team, provide a collection of specialists who work collaboratively to identify and safeguard those children at risk.
- The team continue to be innovative, building on the well-established partnership process to identify Perpetrators of CE and robustly task disruption activity within the wider SOC arena.
- The team are driving the use of Civil orders namely Slavery Trafficking Risk Order's (STRO's) to tackle the criminality and protect adults and children at risk of exploitation.
- The team are undertaking a deep dive into County Lines landscape within Telford under the stewardship of a recently appointed, dedicated, Detective Sergeant. This will encompass an evaluation of our risk management plans which protect those at risk of serious and organised crime groups.
- The currently have nine 4P plans which are governed centrally through the Organised Crime Management Unit structure.
- Each 4P is unique and the team continue to make progress in the disruption and dismantlement of each OCG.
- Statistically, the team continue to trend in an upwards direction, leading the force in OCG nominal disruptions (APMIS).
- The number of mapped OCG nominals has been reduced allowing for effective resource management and a greater understanding of our serious and organised criminal landscape.
- Several significant OCG nominals are awaiting Crown Court trial. The team anticipate this will have a significant impact on the shaping of our OCG's during the last quarter.

Funding

- **Telford Street Pastors (£7,100)** – Telford Street Pastors have patrolled 49 nights across the financial year, this is a total of 1037 hours. Support team volunteers have provided 278 hours of support. During these patrols the teams have engaged with 1324 adults and 88 Under18's. The team have kept 23 vulnerable people safe and diffused 8 situations so that agitated or aggressive people did not commit violence or end up being arrested. The team have handed out flip flops, lollipops, provided first aid, vomit bowls, bottles of water and foil blankets.
- **Taxi Marshals (£16,000)** – the Taxi Marshals have successfully engaged with a total of 5,695 passengers and 3,849 taxi drivers, reflecting an increase of 1,158 interactions. They have provided guidance on unbooked fares and intervened to prevent drivers from plying for hire on 44 occasions. Additionally, there were two specific incidents where the marshals effectively de-escalated situations, thereby averting the need for emergency services intervention.
- **CCTV Systems in Taxis (£9,984)** – a total of 16 units have been ordered for delivery in March 2024 to the installer. In total, 18 units are available for installation (2 units carried over from 2024), which adds to the existing 43 units already installed from previous funding allocations.
- **Town Centre/Southwater Shoplifting project (£5,000)** – to have an additional ASB Officer working within the identified key times to enhance already existing partnership working arrangements. Whilst shoplifting is a criminal offence, with the Police taking the lead, this funding has been very worthwhile, supporting the existing partnership infrastructure in place, to address many types of ASB & crime across the Town Centre, Southwater footprint, building on existing operational and strategic partnerships, with shoplifting being a key focus point for all partners. Looking at the 3 LSOAs covering the town centre. Shoplifting, whilst only showing a 1% increase, is less than the borough overall which was 4%.

- **Southwater ASB/CCTV project (£10,000)** – the funding has enabled additional patrols for early evenings, weekends and at key times, which has included liveried vehicles, and cctv operators using CCTV to direct the team, working in partnership with the police to support positive partnership working and high visibility patrols. Comparing 2023 with 2024, we can demonstrate a decrease in all crime (-10%) and ASB reported to Police (-23%).
- **Cuckooing and Home Takeover Animation (£275)** – the animation was created to reduce the number of home take incidents therefore improving quality of life and reducing crime opportunities. The animation has been uploaded to the Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Partnership and Safer Telford websites, along with signposting to partner agencies and the newsletter.

VS

cuckooing

- Is there increased antisocial behaviour, including noise disturbances and littering?
- Are more people entering and leaving the property?
- Are more cars or bikes parked outside?
- Are there signs of drug use?
- You haven't seen the person who lives there recently or when you have, there's been an apparent decline in their mental health and general wellbeing.
- Is there damage to the property including:
 - Broken doors and windows
 - Blacked-out windows
 - New fences restricting access

Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 4 – Addressing serious youth violence

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

In June 2024 a deep dive took place to look at serious youth violence (aged between 10 and 19). The data was broken down into victims/suspects, locations, genders and by age. The key findings of the report show that crimes involving serious youth violence decreased by 21.6% from financial year 2022/23 into 2023/24, after a 10.4% increase from 2021/22 to 2022/23. Overall there is evidence to suggest that the interventions implemented in April 2022 onwards are having a positive impact on the reduction of serious youth violence.

There is a question around the increase in possession of a weapon offences. This could be down to an increase in West Mercia Police carrying out stop and searches or an increase in children carrying weapons.

Between July to December 2024 there were no county lines recorded. There was one hate incident and was an isolated offence. There were 19 knife crimes recorded in the same period, which was a 49% (18) decrease on the same three-month period last year. Two knife crime offences were youth, meaning the suspect was between 10 and 17 years old.

Within the new dashboard there were 175 crimes recorded with a serious youth marker between September 2024-March 2025.

Serious Violence Duty Sub Group

The purpose of SVD subgroup is to address preventing people from becoming involved in serious violence in the area and reducing instances of serious violence in the area.

The SVD subgroup meets bi-monthly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the subgroup has undertaken the following activities:

- New dashboard to show SVD data.
- Undertaken an audit on the delivery of the SVD across the specified authorities.
- Delivered a target hardening approach for low to medium risk victims of domestic abuse.

Operation Freya Task and Finish Group

The purpose of Operation Freya task and finish group is to address serious violence crime within the borough.

The Operation Freya meets monthly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- The group have identified the top 20 nominals at risk of being either a victim/suspect or both of homicide on a monthly basis to map out preventions for each nominal.
- The group identified children and young people on the list in November 2024 and since then Family Connect and West Mercia Youth Justice have attended the meetings.

- Telford Community Safety Partnership Board are the only board across West Mercia to have introduced Operation Freya.

Funding

- **ARID data (£3,900)** – Linxs consultancy provide monthly monitoring returns which we produce for the hospital to show the quality of the data provided and benchmark progress. Since they started data collection in 2009 we have managed to achieve specific street of assault information in over 70% of cases. In the last year there have been challenges, as the hospital changed their approach, using clinicians to obtain information rather than reception staff. This resulted in an initial decline, as clinicians were not accustomed to getting geographical information from patients. Linxs have worked with the hospital to liaise with clinicians, and provided presentation documents stressing the importance of the dataset. This has been well received, and we are now seeing month on month improvements in the data which are taking us back towards the 70% benchmark. It should also be noted that the change of system means that more cases are being collected (as previously some incidents bypassed reception and were not covered). The data provided is shared with partnership representatives and analysts. We cleanse the information to ensure that the data has precise geo-coordinates, enabling rapid use by analysts for prevention and early intervention.
- **Crucial Crew event (£10,000)** – This year's annual event took place from the 24th June to 12th July, excluding 1st and 2nd July. This event accommodated a total of 2,232 Year 6 students from 48 schools. Following the event, a wrap up video was produced to inform schools of the events success.
- **Target School Prevent Support (£10,000)** – Develop a quality framework for schools and colleges to develop standards of what 'good' looks like with regards to implementation of the 'Prevent' duty. The education lead for Prevent has undertaken home office training to become the Prevent Portal Training Lead, they have also engaged in further training with the DFE regional Prevent lead and in sessions focused on raising awareness of extremist ideologies through national and regional Prevent networks This has enabled the education lead for Prevent to disseminate information to all safeguarding leads including those in the outside of the current focus group through the termly governor and DSL briefing which was attended by one hundred and forty individuals working across the education sector in Telford and Wrekin. Through the focus work and raising awareness sessions we have ensured that we have a strengthened approach and better awareness in frontline staff working with children who may be susceptible to radicalisation. The development of the quality assurance framework will enable school leaders to self-evaluate their current approach to minimising the risk of radicalisation and reducing the likelihood of enabling permissive environments where radicalisation can take place. This will support the development of strong networks to tackle the risk of radicalisation across the borough.

- **MDT – Racism Awareness Sessions – primary schools (£300)** – To provide free Workshops to schools during Hate Crime Awareness week to raise awareness of hate crime and how to tackle it within the school and wider community. A total of 293 pupils directly attended a HCA workshop. The funding allocated was £300, which is a total of £100 per school, which is one workshop. Due to demand from schools to support all Upper KS2 pupils, individual workshops were delivered to both classes in the year groups, at an additional cost to Telford and Wrekin Council. The total number of workshops delivered were 6. The pupils were from Y5 and Y6 pupils and a total of 293 pupils directly attended a HCA workshop in the three schools.
- **MDT – Racism Awareness Sessions – secondary schools (£1000)** – Due to the success of the workshops in KS2, the PCC allocated an additional £700 to MDT to provide workshops to an additional two primary schools and five secondary schools. We were able to support a total of 4 secondary and an additional 6 primary to the first cohort giving a total of 13 schools altogether. This was matched funded by TAW staff time to enable so many schools to take part. A total of 4187 pupils directly attended a HCA workshop. The total funding allocated was only £1000, which is a total of 24p per pupil per workshop, which is amazing! Due to demand from schools to support all Upper KS2 and KS3 pupils, individual workshops were delivered to both classes in the year groups and in Secondary schools, as year groups with staff supporting. As a result, the total number of schools delivered to was workshops delivered were 13. One school cancelled at the last minute so a replacement school, who had initially requested a workshop, due to a recent high number of racist incidents, was approached and accepted the late offer.

Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 5 – Reducing deaths and serious injury on our roads

What we achieved in the last 12 months?

The purpose of Road Safety board is to develop and address issues within the borough of Telford and Wrekin by working in partnership through enforcement, engineering and education to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads within Telford and Wrekin.

By combining West Mercia’s vision to provide a quality policing service-protecting people from harm and priority to keep our communities safe (echoing the Police Crime Commissioner’s message to improve road safety by using practical and evidence led approaches), and Telford and Wrekin Council’s vision to protect, care and invest to make a better borough-we will coordinate activities with better effect and feed into our stakeholders Community Safety Partnership meeting board.

The partnership board started then it stalled and has been re-started again in November 2024. The board meets quarterly and is chaired by the Prevention and Protection Group Manager at Shropshire Fire and Rescue (Alec Thomas) which is attended by police and partners. There has been two meetings since it was introduced and the group are beginning to receive KSI data.

Funding

- **Use of ALIGHT MEDIA Advertising Boards (£1998)** – the purpose and aim of the project was to fund digital advertising on the Digital Screens and bus stops in and around Telford and Wrekin over two months on the run up to and including Christmas and New Year. On the breakdown of figures the header Impressions 194k is based on people for example driving to and from work. There is also a difference in the figures whereby the Male and Female amounts to 97k whereby the age ranges amount to 92k. The missing 5k is suggested to be under 18’s.



- **Road Safety (£10,000)** – this project was to raise awareness of road safety across the borough. The Active Travel & Road Safety used this funding to allow resource to build a greater working partnership with West Mercia Police, The NHS & Shropshire Fire & Rescue. This has now led to a 12 month campaign calendar around different aspects of road safety to be shared by Telford & Wrekin Council and involves partnership events and campaigns to reach a wider audience. The team have also developed their new ‘Young Driver & Passenger’ workshops. This is a three part workshop that has been developed using the expertise of Ian Edwards from Road Safety GB. This is the first time VR headsets will be incorporated into these types of lessons targeted at ages 14-25 and will be initially rolled out in Secondary schools and colleges as pilot to obtain feedback.

Domestic Homicide Reviews Panel (DHR's)

The **Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Decision Panel** seeks to ensure that the processes in Telford and Wrekin to determine when a case meets the DHR criteria and the ensuing actions necessary to complete the review meet the standards within the Home Office Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews 2016 (referred to as the statutory guidance)¹. The Domestic Homicide Review Decision Panel is responsible for making a recommendation to the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership about whether a DHR should be commissioned or not.

The statutory guidance makes it clear that “where a victim took their own life (suicide) and the circumstances give rise to concern, for example it emerges that there was coercive controlling behaviour in the relationship, a review should be undertaken, even if a suspect is not charged with an offence or they are tried and acquitted.”

During April 2024 and March 2025 the DHR Decision Making Panel received three referrals for consideration with all progressing to full reviews being led by an independent reviewer who will review the cases to identify learning for all partners involved.

Nationally there has been a steadily growing realisation about the numbers of people who go on to complete suicide having experienced domestic abuse in multiple forms especially violence, coercive and controlling behaviour and non-fatal strangulation. This has been identified by important national policing led research via the Vulnerable Knowledge Practice Programme which has a special domestic abuse project www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work/domestic-homicide-project

This work has helped all areas including Telford and Wrekin improve their awareness of suspected victim suicide after domestic abuse. So far there are now more DHRs taking place as a result and Public Health via the suicide prevention work is helping front line staff to better understand the links between the risk of suicide and domestic abuse. The Chair of the Community Safety Partnership is working to ensure that the police lead for the report's recommendation will have the time and support of the partnership to bring this work to the CSP.

This will continue to be a theme for next year especially as we move from the Domestic Homicide Review system to the new Domestic Abuse Related Death Review process.

¹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575273/DHR-Statutory-Guidance-161206.pdf

Alcohol and Drug Local Partnership Board (TWADP)

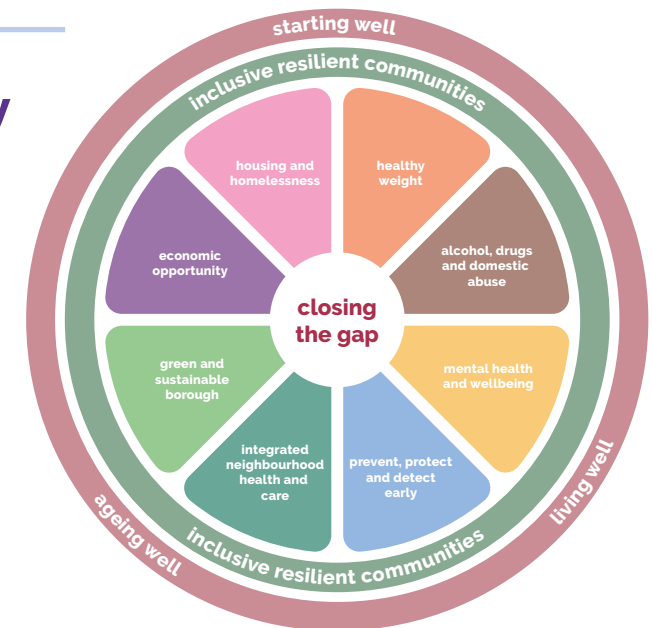
The purpose of TWADP is to develop strategic responses to address the misuse of alcohol and other drugs. The alcohol and drug local partnership board meets quarterly and between April 2024 and March 2025 the partnership board has undertaken the following activities:

- Commenced oversight of the implementation of a local Alcohol and drugs Strategy with prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery support as the priorities.
- Developed a strategic outcomes dashboard to monitor progress
- Steered a local alcohol and drugs forum to bring together local stakeholders to develop and annual action plan to implement the new strategy.
- Increased the number of new people commencing structured alcohol treatment
- Continued to commission additional organisational development support to further develop Telford's three Recovery Community Organisations
- Established incident response plans for incidents involving synthetic opioids and other novel or contaminated drugs posing serious health risks
- Carried out 270 Required Assessments for drug using offenders in the Criminal Justice System, and increase of 181.25% compared to 2023/24 and an increase of 358% compared to 2022/23
- Increased the proportion of prison leavers requiring drug treatment who commence treatment in the community from 50.72% in 2022/23, to 73.3% in 2023/24, and to 89% in 2024/25

Telford and Wrekin Health & Wellbeing Board Strategy

The Health & Wellbeing Strategy takes a broad approach incorporating priorities on the wider determinants of health, alongside lifestyle factors, better support for our most vulnerable children, young people and adults and the development of integrated neighbourhood healthcare.

The priorities which strongly impact on resident's health and wellbeing and align most strongly to the community safety agenda are: inclusive resilient communities, alcohol, drugs and domestic abuse and mental health.



A heartfelt thank you to...

The 100's of professionals up and down the borough who have continued to support the partnership, their colleagues and the residents of Telford and Wrekin to live in a safer, stronger community.

To find out more about the Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership and access resources please visit [Safer Telford](#)

