



Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership Board Annual Report

April 2025 - March 2026

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Introduction from the Chair

Hello

I am pleased to report that crime continues to decline across the Telford & Wrekin, even as the local population grows. Notable reductions include a seven percent decrease in violence resulting in injury, a twelve percent decrease in burglary, and a sixteen percent reduction in vehicle related crime.

Although levels of domestic abuse have remained stable, there has been a sixty nine percent increase in applications made under Clare's Law (Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme). This reflects stronger early intervention activity and provides improved safeguarding for those at risk.

Community concerns regarding road safety have been addressed through the establishment of a dedicated task group focused on reducing deaths and serious injuries. This work has contributed to significant reductions in people killed or seriously injured during 2025, including no fatalities.

The Safer Stronger model is now fully embedded across Telford, enabling coordinated action on local priorities, whilst targeted partnership operations continue to disrupt and reduce offending among individuals who pose the highest risk of harm. This has shown to be effective in reducing Serious and organised crime, with fewer organised crime groups identified as operating in Telford & Wrekin than in previous years.

This progress has been supported by a strengthened partnership approach, refreshed 'Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare' planning, an invigorated Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group, and improved Multi Agency Targeted Enforcement Strategy coordination. I would like to thank all partnership agencies for their support, and I look forward to continuing our collaborative work to make Telford & Wrekin a safer place.

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

The refreshed Safer Telford and Wrekin Partnership strategy was implemented in September 2024 with the following 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

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

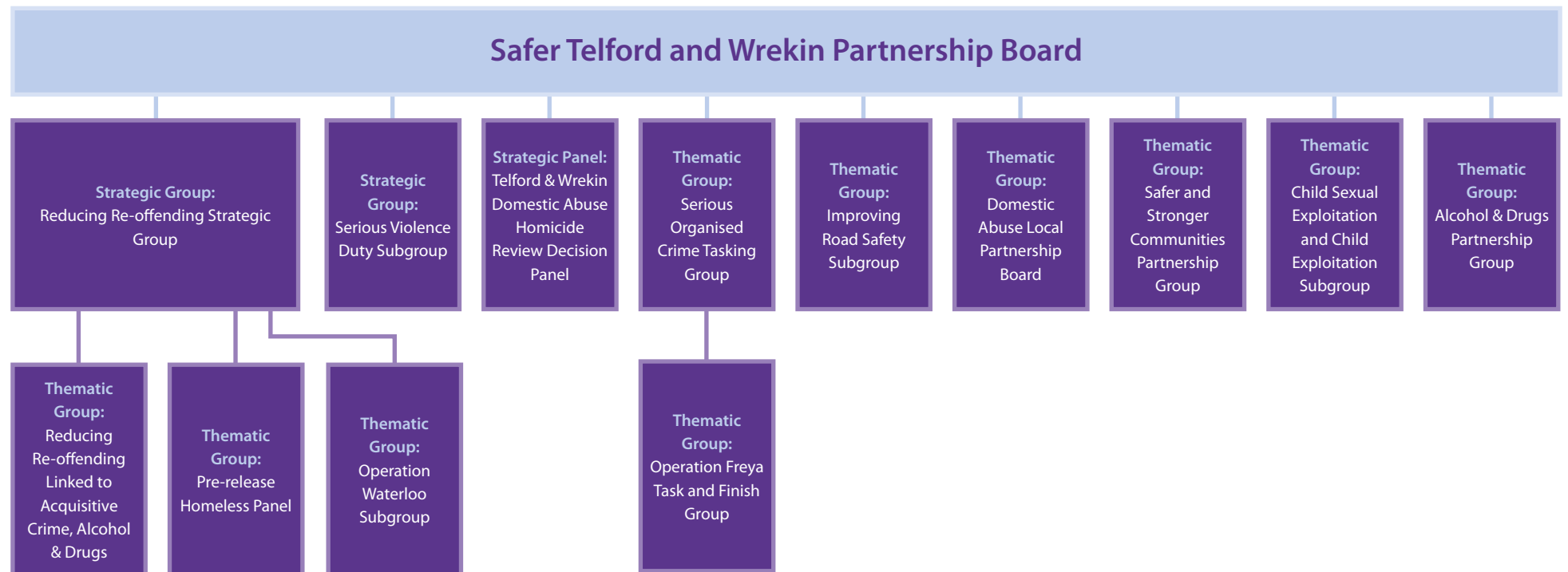
In addition to this the Partnership continued to monitor crime patterns and trends to identify issues that require a partnership response.

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



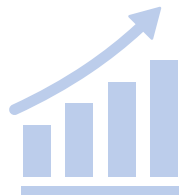
Telford and Wrekin the place

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.

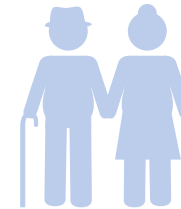
In 2024 the population of the borough was estimated to be 195,952 people. A quarter (48,833 people) were aged 0 to 19. Between 2014 and 2024, the borough’s overall population increased by 25,500 people – an increase of 15% - making it the fastest growing upper tier local authority in the West Midlands. As the population grows it is becoming more diverse and ageing, between 2014 and 2024, the number of people aged 65+ grew by 28% which is more than twice the regional rate of 13%.



195,952
POPULATION



15%
POPULATION INCREASE
FROM 2013 TO 2023



28%
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 15 neighbourhoods (13%) 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 2025/26 there were 13,044 crimes recorded in the borough. This represented a decrease of 6.6% compared with 2024/25, with 1,212 less crimes recorded than in 2024/25 (total 14,256). Over the same period, there were 2,907 incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to the Police. This was an increase of 14.9% from 2024/25, with 197 more incidents reported (total 2,710). Reports of anti-social behaviour reported to the Council increased by 28.3% between 2024/25 and 2025/26. In 2025/26 there were 1,079 reports of anti-social behaviour received by the Council, 180 reports more than in 2024/25.

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

Child exploitation in all its forms remains a key priority for the Safeguarding Children Board. The Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Exploitation (CE) Priority Subgroup consists of key statutory partners, charities, and services working to identify, support and educate young people, as well as disrupt and prosecute perpetrators. The Subgroup’s strategy focuses on strengthening professional understanding of contextual safeguarding and embedding these approaches across the wider workforce.

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

CATE Consultation Expansion (2025–2026)

Throughout 2025–2026, significant promotional activity has taken place to expand the CATE consultation offer. This process enables professionals to bring any concern, however small, to the CATE team, supporting them to explore potential exploitation indicators and ensuring that the level of intervention is proportionate to the risks identified. This offer is open to all professionals working with young people across Telford and Wrekin.

Testing New Processes and Workforce Awareness

A central workstream of the Subgroup involves testing the implementation of new processes and monitoring practitioner awareness of exploitation. The Subgroup has overseen MAFCA activity in the following area:

- A focus on compliance with local CATE and CE consultation procedures, ensuring that exploitation indicators result in timely consultation, proportionate referral and consistent safeguarding responses—particularly for children with:
 - SEND-related vulnerabilities
 - Reduced visibility due to Elective Home Education (EHE)
 - Experience of being in care

Private Taxi and Hotel Professional Education

The Subgroup continues to oversee ongoing projects assessing the response and reporting practices of taxi firms and hotel professionals. Local partners have delivered initiatives to understand how these sectors respond when encountering young people who may be vulnerable or at risk of exploitation.

Where learning needs have been identified, a multi agency training response has been implemented to strengthen awareness and improve safeguarding practices.

This included promotional and educational activities aimed at raising awareness among both young people and the staff and volunteers who support them.

Alignment with Latest Government Guidance

Finally, in line with the most recent Government direction relating to the Families First Programme, the Subgroup and wider partners working with young people in the exploitation space have reviewed all relevant policies, practices and pathways to ensure full alignment with current national guidance.

Events

CSE awareness fortnight – as part of annual awareness arrangements, the local partnership delivered a two week exploitation awareness programme around National Child Exploitation Awareness Day.



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

Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALP)

From April 2025 to March 2026, the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership (DALP) worked together to keep victims safer, improve services, and raise awareness across Telford and Wrekin.

Partners from the Council, Police, health services, schools, Women's Aid, Cranstoun and others made strong progress despite funding pressures and big changes happening nationally.

This year also focused on shaping the new Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy (2026-2028).

The DALP board meets quarterly and between April 2025 and March 2026 the partnership board has undertaken the following activities:

1 Prevention – Stopping abuse before it happens

What we did:

- Reached thousands of residents through **White Ribbon** and **16 Days of Action** events, school sessions, college activities and community stalls.
- Ran a high impact **social media campaign** on healthy relationships, Clare's Law and trauma bonds.
- Delivered education programmes in schools, with sessions on consent, healthy relationships, online harm and teen abuse.
- Helped over 2,500 young people take part in workshops about misogyny, stereotypes and respect.
- Promoted **Clare's Law**, helping more people access information about a partner's history.

2 Partnerships – Working better together

What we did:

- Created the new **combined Domestic Abuse & VAWG Strategy** for 2026–2028 with strong partner and community input.
- Strengthened links with the **Community Safety Partnership** to avoid duplication and share learning.
- Set up the **Safeguarding Domestic Abuse Sub Group**, bringing together children's services, Family Hubs and others to look at local need.
- Improved the Domestic Abuse Forum, including more focus on lived experience.
- Worked more closely with schools through the **Education Safeguarding Partnership** on Operation Encompass and DA education.

3 Provision – Delivering the right support

What we did:

- Responded to high levels of contact for help, with quicker waiting times for children and young people.
- Continued to provide strong specialist support through Cranstoun and Women's Aid.
- Expanded the **target hardening programme**, helping victims feel safer at home through extra security measures (e.g. locks, lighting).
- Completed a **Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment**, increasing the number of safe accommodation units, including accessible homes.
- Prepared for the new **DA service contract (2026)**, involving people with lived experience in the process

4 Pursuing and protection – Holding perpetrators to account and keeping people safe

What we did:

- Saw a **69% increase in Clare’s Law applications** and higher disclosure rates, helped by campaigns and Police focus.
- Improved **MARAC** processes, including better oversight, equality monitoring and consistent attendance.
- Continued to use new safety tech such as **TecSAFE apps and National Monitoring Alarms** for high risk victims.
- Strengthened learning from **Domestic Homicide Reviews**, including improving the “voice of the child” and setting up a new oversight panel.
- Planned a **suicide prevention session** for September 2026 to learn from review findings and better support victims.

Summary

In 2025–26, DALP partners made strong progress in prevention, protection, partnership working and service delivery.

Despite funding challenges and system changes, the Partnership stayed focused on:

- keeping victims and families safe;
- reaching more people early;
- improving the way services work together;
- strengthening local data and learning; and
- preparing for the next three year strategy

DALP enters 2026/27 with clearer priorities, stronger collaboration and a firm foundation for delivering the new DA and VAWG Strategy.

Data

DA data 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026. There has been a 2.6% increase in crimes recorded with a DA marker

Events

White Ribbon and 16 Days Campaign

Community events across hospitals, colleges, schools, extra care housing and town centre locations reached large numbers of residents, including 2,000 people at Telford College.

Funding

Sanctuary (£4,000) – Sanctuary received 135 service referrals. 128 of the referrals engaged with the service and left the service with a positive outcome. Security equipment was installed into 128 dwellings over the 12 month period.

Target Hardening (£5,000 Serious Violence Duty Funding) – Residential security items purchased have assisted in target hardening 26 properties. This has been completed at point of service delivery, with the purpose to secure a property and safeguard vulnerable victims. Additional safeguarding is often required in the form of safe rooms that is advised on and security items used to achieve this. The service provided is tailored and specialist support to victims of serious violence. Target hardening is often further enhanced with other safeguarding covert tactics such as police alarms and forensic products.

Case study: Young female victim seriously assaulted in her bedroom in the family home by her Uncle. DOCO visit completed, detailed crime risk assessment undertaken at the property. Target hardening assisted in securing relevant areas in the property. Safe room discussed and security items deployed. Personal Safety discussed when outside of the family home, and personal safety app information provided alongside a personal alarm. Items deployed, howsarlock, hasp/staple/padlock, door brace/wedge, panic alarm, sash jammers.

Case study: Female seriously assaulted/non-fatal strangulation by ex-partner who is due to be released from a 3yr custodial sentence. Female has relocated due to risk. Security tactics deployed at time of crime risk assessment to improve the current security at the property. Items deployed, video doorbell, external lighting to improve lines of surveillance, window and door alarms, panic alarm. Police alarm and covert forensic tactics to be reviewed at time of prison release.

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 Operation Waterloo to work collaboratively with partners to increase the number of drug users into treatment.
- Created a new IOM dashboard to look at the IOM cohort in detail to try and engage them with the drug and alcohol services.
- Worked collaboratively with partners to reduce the number of antisocial behaviour crimes recorded.
- Introduced a buddy tagging system (Operation Emberglass) to a cohort of offenders with community behaviour orders which will feed into the reducing re-offending linked to acquisitive crime, alcohol and drugs strategic group.
- Responded to the keeping town centres safe in summer and winter. This has continued as business as usual.
- A partnership evaluation meeting took place on 19 January to evaluate and monitor progress for ASB in Madeley and Oakengates. Both areas have seen a significant improvement however we are still seeing isolated incidents of rough sleeping and begging in Oakengates and Madeley. The ongoing actions will be monitored through the local neighbourhood action plans with a focus on the police following up on drug supply, ongoing support for individuals and the continuation of the comms strategy in both areas.
- The Building Safer and Stronger communities programme continues to work in partnership with local businesses and communities that impact on health and wellbeing offering various programmes of engagement and building on services already in place.

- Since September we have invested improving private sector Housing & Environment, we have inspected 900+ properties in areas like Sutton Hill and Brookside; addressed issues in Hollinswood through landlord/tenant engagement and multi-agency work.
- Tackled fly tipping: 48% reduction in some areas; 1,200 investigations, 186 warnings, 130 notices, 40 fines.
- Telford & Wrekin Watch: Community tool launched in 2022; 38 appeals in 2024 viewed 76,000+ times, leading to successful prosecutions.
- Continued partnership with 14 Town/Parish Councils via Community Action Teams for local enforcement.

Data

Between 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026. There were 2,907 instances of anti-social behaviour reported to the Police – an increase of 14.9% (378 more than 2024/25) – and 1,059 reported to the Council – an increase of 28.3% (238 more). There were 1,673 shoplifting offences recorded which was a decrease of 3.1% (53 less). This has been addressed through the new task and finish group.

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

The Reducing Re Offending (RRO) Linked to Acquisitive Crime, Alcohol and Drugs group brings together key partners to target and support individuals whose offending is driven by substance misuse, vulnerability, and repeat criminal behaviour.

Between **April 2025 and March 2026**, seven formal meetings took place, providing a clear view of the borough's most prolific shoplifters, operational pressures, diversion opportunities, and partnership performance.

The group met bi-monthly until January 2026 when Operation Emberglass was introduced and to support the operation it was agreed for the meeting to be moved to monthly.

The tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- Escalation of outstanding warrants by WMP
- Undertaken a deep dive of five nominals to gain better understanding of their support
- Integrated a STaRS worker presence at Malinsgate Police station
- Reintroduced drug testing on arrest which will continue until Q3 of 2026/27
- A significant development for the year, Op Emberglass was introduced as a new tagging supported intervention tool for prolific offenders. Key points included:
 - Tagging can be added to CBOs or licence conditions for **6-12 months**.
 - There are three live tags with a further three tags that will be activated as and when required.

- Police attending pre release homeless panels to identify suitable individuals early.
- Improved operational cooperation between CSP, Police, and STaRS.
- Maintained continuous review of the highest harm offenders.
- Initiated evidence driven case analysis.

The 2025/26 year represented a transitional period for the RRO link to acquisitive crime, alcohol and drug task and finish group. Significant progress was made with the commitment to understanding prolific offender behaviour in more depth.

Partnership relationships strengthened noticeably across the year, and the group has positioned itself well for a more structured, evidence driven approach in 2026/27.

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

Building Safer & Stronger Communities Programme

- The programme received a further **two years of funding**, bringing total investment since 2021 to **£6 million**.
- Funding continues to support:
 - Youth engagement activity
 - Environmental improvements
 - Community safety interventions
 - Projects addressing exploitation and vulnerability

Local Projects Making a Difference

- **Urban Games:** Over 5,000 children and young people took part in free activity sessions in 2025, with similar numbers expected in 2026.
- **Making a Change:** Young people again received grants of up to £2,000 to deliver their own community improvement projects.
- **Crucial Crew** celebrated its **30th anniversary**, involving over 3,000 Year 6 pupils in safety education.

Hotspot Policing

- Telford took part in the national Hotspot Policing Programme.
- Over **5,500 patrols** took place across priority areas with **95% compliance** on required standards.
- Early data shows decreases in ASB in hotspot areas, supported by more visible policing and stronger partnership action.

Fly tipping

- Number of reports has decreased in last 12 months by 8.28% (25/26 vs 24/25).
- Investigated 5,330 fly tips (between 1 April 2025 – 30 March 2026).
- Issued 248 warning letters.
- 11 Fixed Penalty Notices (specifically for Fly Tipping).
- Telford and Wrekin Watch, community engagement and awareness tool allows members of the public to support the council with the identification of offenders.
- 11 Community Action Teams (CAT) working 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 isolation 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

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 2025 and March 2026 the tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- Increased healthcare-to-local-authority information sharing, including fit note access
- Improvement of late or missing DTRs
- Raised National issues identified regarding female prisoner release data, leading to absence from pre release lists

Recall Policy Reform

- **28 day Fixed Term Recalls** for SDS 12–48 month sentences introduced mid 2025.
- **FTR48 changes** implemented from 2 September 2025 in national tranches (14 day recalls for under 12 month offenders).

Future Priorities (Entering 2026)

- Full reconciliation of national pre release lists and local datasets.
- Improving COM compliance with DTR deadlines.
- Addressing CAS2/CAS3 capacity shortages.
- Ensuring consistent Housing representation at meetings.
- Continued monitoring of recall changes and their community impact.

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 2025 and March 2026 the tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- Reduction in the number of mapped OCGs following successful criminal justice outcomes and intelligence led reviews.

- Significant drug and cash seizures, driven by proactive operations across all quarters.
- Ten Type 1 County Lines closures, directly dismantling high harm drug supply routes.
- Identification of a newly mapped Urban Street Gang (USG) influencing youth criminality and violence in South Telford.
- Expansion of work into emerging risks, including early stage criminal networks forming around younger, more transient offenders.
- Strengthened safeguarding through a devolved NRM panel, enabling faster identification of exploited children.

Urban Street Gang (USG)

- A new USG was mapped during 2025, heavily linked to:
 - Youth exploitation
 - Glamourisation of drug culture
 - Drill music and social media fuelled postcode rivalry
- Early partnership action—including relocating vulnerable young people—disrupted exploitation pathways and mitigated immediate risk

Pursue

- High profile arrests and major cash/drug seizures throughout 2025.
- Ten County Lines dismantled.
- Reduction of mapped OCG nominals enabling more precise targeting.

Prevent

- SNTs now leading much of the local Prevent and Prepare activity.
- Work expanded into emerging criminal groups to stop escalation into full OCG operations.
- Early intervention around youth drug culture and MDMA re emergence.

Protect

- Devolved NRM panel accelerating safeguarding decisions for exploited children.
- Multi agency tenancy actions and closure powers used to disrupt safe houses and drug locations.
- Community Protection Notices used to disrupt cannabis grow facilitation.

Prepare

- Expanded cross agency understanding of SOC through improved governance and profile led planning.
- SOCJAG developing new processes to strengthen community confidence and contribute to resilience building.

Areas of Focus for 2026/27

- Implement a SOC based approach to child exploitation, targeting peer on peer offending linked to drug distribution.
- Deepen intelligence around the new Urban Street Gang's wider network.
- Strengthen Prevent and Prepare as strategic priorities.
- Maintain pressure on OCG members awaiting Crown Court sentencing to prevent regrouping or new operating models.
- Accelerate partnership activity to counter youth drug trends (MDMA).
- Enhance real time partnership response to summer period transitional risk, when exploitation and recruitment patterns traditionally increase.

Operation Waterloo Subgroup

The purpose of the Operation Waterloo subgroup is to increase the number of drug users into treatment.

The Operation Waterloo subgroup was embedded in March 2026 and meets Quarterly. The tasking group has undertaken the following activities:

- Held the first meeting and agreed the terms of reference
- Partners have updated the list of nominals and the top 10 were discussed.
- Has sent text to over 200 potential customers of drugs lines to offer support into StaRS treatment.

Funding

- **Telford Street Pastors (£7,100)** – Telford Street Pastors have patrolled 50 nights across the financial year, this is a total of 1,207 hours. Support team volunteers have provided 319 hours of support. During these patrols the teams have engaged with 1625 people. The team have kept 23 vulnerable people safe and diffused 6 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.
- **CCTV Systems in Taxis (£18,417)** – A total of 26 units have been purchased in 2025/26. The key outcome measures are to reduce and mitigate risks to both passengers and drivers by using CCTV as a deterrent, as well as to provide evidential support where required. Our future plans include promoting the CCTV initiative across the trade to encourage wider uptake. The Department for Transport (DfT) is also considering national standards for taxis and private hire vehicles, including whether CCTV should become a mandatory requirement across the country.

Safer Telford and Wrekin Priority 4 – Addressing serious youth violence

What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

Across April 2025 – March 2026, the partnership delivered significant progress under the Serious Violence Duty. Despite challenges around funding and data, Telford and Wrekin partners strengthened multi agency oversight, enhanced support for vulnerable young people, improved responses to domestic abuse, and expanded local community safety activity linked to serious violence reduction. The partnership remains committed to evidence-led, preventative, multi agency approaches to reduce serious violence across Telford and Wrekin.

There were 246 crimes recorded with a serious youth marker between April 2025-March 2026.

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 2025 and March 2026 the subgroup has undertaken the following activities:

- Added A and E data to the CSP dashboard along with additional tabs for serious violence and serious youth violence.
- Delivered a target hardening approach for low to medium risk victims of domestic abuse.
- Implemented a Youth Worker with the Education service to provide intensive support to permanently excluded and suspended young people (11–16).

Operation Freya Task and Finish Group

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

Throughout 2025 and into early 2026, the operation evolved significantly – strengthening data quality, refining membership, and shifting its frequency and scope, while maintaining strong cross agency engagement across policing, children’s services, public health, probation, and CSP structures.

There was a pause in the meetings from October-December 2025 due to new focused deterrence data being implemented, this pause demonstrated a commitment to evidence based decision making.

Due to the change in data, it was agreed for this meeting to be moved to a quarterly basis in line with the data which shows a more intelligence led cyclical model.

Analysts will continue refining datasets, including outcomes for those receiving treatment and updates from STaRS and IOM deep dives.

Effective collaboration between Police, Probation, STaRS, Youth Justice, social care, housing, and public health.

Operation Freya sits as a critical bridge between reducing re offending, safeguarding, and vulnerability intervention.

Telford remains the **only CSP in West Mercia** running such a model.

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. The system process has changed with the move to clinician input rather than receptionists, and a modified extraction methodology. All assaults are now captured, with none able to bypass inputting as long as an assault has been acknowledged or presumed. They continue to have a very positive relationship with clinical staff at the hospital, and have a monthly dialogue with them about data quality. The relationship is so positive that, when there are areas for improvement, the hospital work with them to provide additional learning and training for clinical staff. The programme continues to routinely provide assault-related data for around 100 cases per month across Shrewsbury and Telford – this is vital intelligence which would otherwise not be received, as the vast majority will never be reported to the Police. Assault locations vary dramatically, including the home, public places, licensed premises and (increasingly) educational establishments.

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.

Between April 2025 and March 2026, the Telford & Wrekin Community Safety Partnership (CSP) continued to prioritise the reduction of deaths and serious injuries (KSI) on local roads. Across the year, the partnership strengthened data driven approaches, increased enforcement on high harm routes, and expanded education programmes for key risk groups including young drivers, mature drivers, and motorcyclists.

- KSI numbers in Telford and Wrekin remain comparatively low; however, emerging risks – including motorcycle collisions, anti social driving behaviour, car meets, and dangerous driving – required proactive action.

Anti Social Road Use (Car Meets, Street Racing)

- Summer 2025 saw substantial increases in car meet activity, some involving illegal racing
- WMP adopted new tactics, working with West Midlands Police
- Traffic restrictions added in some areas with Local Authority support
- No KSIs linked to this behaviour locally, but national evidence indicates high risk
- Further increases expected from Spring 2026

Operation Mantle (Updated Jan 2026)

- Targeted response to car meets
- Improved intelligence-sharing and proactive enforcement
- Planned comms strategy to respond to expected seasonal increases

Winter Enforcement: Op Limit (Dec 2025)

- 72 arrests across Telford and Wrekin:
- 19 alcohol
- 43 drugs
- 3 drunk in charge
- 7 unfit through drink/drugs
- Created a tab on the CSP dashboard to identify road collisions and any hotspot areas
- Delivered lowest KSI casualty figures in five years
- Strengthened multi-agency approach, especially data sharing
- Expanded education programmes for young and mature drivers
- Targeted motorcycle risk through THINK BIKE and tailored programmes
- High enforcement activity across Fatal Four and high-harm routes
- Tackled unregulated car meets through Op Mantle and cross-force tactics
- Allocated full PCC funding to high-impact community programmes
- Strategically reviewed major roads including A442, A518, and A41

A continued focus on young drivers, mature drivers, vulnerable road users, and high harm routes will be essential to sustaining and improving these outcomes.

Funding

- **BikeSafe (£5000)** – The purpose and aim of the project was to fund the BikeSafe is a national police run motorcycle initiative, aimed at working with motorcycle riders in a relaxed environment to raise awareness of the importance and value of progressing on to accredited post-test training. BikeSafe workshops involve an observed ride with a police graded motorcyclist or approved BikeSafe observer. With some local variation, BikeSafe workshops aim to cover: rider attitude, systematic methods, collision causation, cornering, positioning, overtaking, observation, braking, hazard perception and use of gears. A range of quality assurance activities were undertaken during and following the most recent BikeSafe workshop to ensure the continued delivery of a safe, professional and high quality service.

All participant comments, compliments and any potential concerns were captured through post course follow up emails. The overwhelmingly positive comments received – highlighting the professionalism, approachability and clear instruction provided by the police motorcyclists and observers were reviewed and shared with the team to reinforce good practice and maintain consistency of delivery. Any constructive suggestions raised by previous participants (such as requests for clearer pre course joining instructions) have been incorporated into subsequent workshop planning to improve the participant experience.

The BikeSafe programme continues to operate under nationally recognised standards delivered by trained, accredited police motorcyclists and trained civilian observers. The BikeSafe team remain compliant with internal West Mercia Police training requirements and maintain up to date qualifications aligned with national BikeSafe guidance. Oversight is provided by a co-

ordinating officer who ensures content delivery, safety procedures and observational ride practices adhere to the recognised framework.



Continuous improvement is embedded within the service. Debriefs are held after every workshop to review what worked well and identify any emerging trends or areas for refinement. Feedback from both riders and observers is used to adapt course content, as is merging trends within road traffic collisions and frequent causation factors, which ensures consistency in safety messaging, and address any identified gaps in rider understanding. Attendance data and engagement levels are monitored across sessions to assess accessibility and identify locations or rider groups who may

benefit from targeted promotion. This cyclical review process ensures the initiative remains effective, relevant, and responsive to the needs of local motorcyclists.

- **IAM Roadsmart Mature Driver Course (£4,000)** – This project was to fund the Mature Driver Review project to provide drivers aged 65+ living in Telford & Wrekin with a subsidised practical refresher course to have their skills reviewed by an independent Approved Driving Instructor (ADI). Through the nationally available IAM RoadSmart ‘Mature Driver Review’ course, mature drivers can undertake a 1-hour session in their own vehicle and on roads that are familiar to them. The course aimed to increase confidence on the roads, keep their driving skills sharp and give an honest, unbiased review of their driving with guidance on how to continue driving safely for years to come. The grant was used to subsidise the course for mature drivers in the Telford & Wrekin area, making it available at £20 for the 1-hour session instead of the full price of £85 (a subsidy of £65 per person). £3965 funding provided a subsidy for 61 courses. Reducing the amount of people killed or seriously injured on our roads remains a key priority for the force and mature drivers are a key focus of our KSI reduction strategy, building on the success of the Mature Driver Awareness Sessions introduced across West Mercia in 2024 alongside our partners. This project also supports the PCC’s Safer Communities Plan – delivering safer roads through collaborative working with partners, reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads through education and using a data-led approach to reducing harm on the roads.

- **Be Bright Be Seen (£1,000)** – Be Bright Be Seen is the force’s annual campaign, targeting vulnerable road users (ie pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) with visibility messages. The funding for this initiative has enabled the purchase of the following items:

- 250 x mini LED bike light sets
- 300 x hi-vis flashing armbands
- 300 x hi-vis magnetic bag clips

These items have been provided to Roads Policing officers within the OPU Team to share with vulnerable road users – particularly cyclists, pedestrians, runners and horse riders – as a way of enabling engagement with them and opening up a conversation about their visibility and safety on the roads.

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.”

As stated whilst the governance of the Domestic Homicide Review process rests with the Community Safety Partnership we think that this important work needs to be referenced in our annual report given the obvious degree of cross over between the two groups and the mutual way the Safeguarding Adult Board works with the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board. We have also focused on ensuring there is a better understanding of the circumstances in which people go on to complete suicide after experiencing domestic abuse. Work has taken place to share insights from important research in this area and this will remain an area of endeavour in 2025-26².

Jason's DHR – published October 2025

Jason was a 37 year old man whose life was marked by early loss, mental health struggles, and unstable relationships. After returning to Liverpool in his early twenties to care for his grandmother, the deaths of his grandparents and periods of unemployment had a lasting impact on his wellbeing



and contributed to alcohol and drug misuse. Throughout adulthood, Jason experienced repeated difficulties in intimate relationships, often becoming intensely attached and struggling to cope when relationships ended. This led to patterns of harassment, coercive control, and domestic abuse, including a conviction in 2010. Although he sometimes presented to services with anxiety, depression, and sleep problems, he denied suicidal thoughts and did not receive consistent support.

In the months before his death, Jason's behaviour escalated following the breakdown of brief relationships. He made repeated contact with police as both an alleged perpetrator and complainant, but often disengaged. As domestic abuse was known to have featured within his previous and recent relationships, this knowledge triggered the statutory requirement for a Domestic Abuse Related Death Review to take place.

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

² Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2022-2023 Report [https://www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work/domestic-homicide-project/#:-:text=Key%20findings%20from%20the%20report,31%20adult%20family%20homicides%20\(AFH\)](https://www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work/domestic-homicide-project/#:-:text=Key%20findings%20from%20the%20report,31%20adult%20family%20homicides%20(AFH))

The review identified the following recommendations (both local and national):

- **Clinical Guidance on Routine Enquiry on Domestic Abuse Where Indicators are Present in Relevant Health Conditions:** The Home Office to consider liaising with the Department of Health and Social Care and NICE to ensure that there is consistency across all clinical guidance for routine enquiry into domestic abuse for relevant health conditions which are evidence-based indicators of potential domestic abuse, such as those for depression and anxiety specifically.
- **Primary Care Response to Domestic Abuse:** Telford and Wrekin Public Health Team with the ICB, through the Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and GP Safeguarding Leads, to provide assurance to the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board that the domestic abuse pathway for primary care, which includes the PCN social prescribers, is effective in identifying and responding to domestic abuse in primary care.
- **Suicide Prevention & Domestic Abuse Perpetrators:** Telford and Wrekin Suicide Prevention Action Group, coordinated by the Public Health Team, to ensure that domestic abuse perpetrators, as well as domestic abuse victims, feature within their suicide prevention strategy.
- **Real Time Suspected Suicide Surveillance and Domestic Abuse (Local):** Telford and Wrekin Public Health to liaise with the Coroner and encourage local sign up with the Real Time Suspected Surveillance System.
- **Real Time Suspected Suicide Surveillance and Domestic Abuse (National):** Home Office to liaise with the chief coroner in respect of guidance to coroners to ensure that all coroners are part of Real Time Suspected Surveillance System.

- **Suicide Bereavement Service:** West Mercia Police and Telford Mind to work together to strengthen links and develop a referral route which will ensure that bereaved families are systematically offered signposting to specialist support services following police attendance at a sudden death.
- **Home Office Leaflets:** The Home Office to consider adding to their suite of leaflets for families and friends, leaflets specifically concerning domestic abuse related suicides.
- **Suicide Prevention Specialists on Review Panels:** Safer Telford and Wrekin to ensure that a suicide prevention specialist sits on all future Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews involving suicide in their area.

[Click here](#) to access the full report.

[Click here](#) to access the learning briefing.

A Domestic Homicide Oversight Panel is in place to monitor delivery and improvement against these, and all recommendations coming from DHR's.

During April 2025 and March 2026 the DHR Decision Making Panel sadly received one referral for consideration with agreement that it needed to progress to a full review which will be led by an independent reviewer who will review the cases to identify learning for all partners involved. When this review is completed the learning will be shared on the Safer Telford and Wrekin website: [Safer Telford](#)



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 2025 and March 2026 the partnership board has undertaken the following activities:

- Continued 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
- Overseen an ongoing increase in the proportion of prison leavers requiring drug treatment who commence treatment in the community from 50.72% in 2022/23, to 78.31% currently (above the 75% national ambition).

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.

Strategy quarterly progress

- Strong thematic links across health priorities were noted.
- More targeted work underway with underserved communities and those experiencing homelessness.
- Progress in CVD prevention and community blood pressure programmes.
- Rollout of the **Connect to Work** programme supported by DWP and NHS.
- TWIPP Accelerator Group established to drive delivery.
- Targeted work with underserved groups continued.
- Grant funding secured for projects including **Get Yourself Active**.
- Strengthened neighbourhood-level working.
- Sport England selected the area for its Place Expansion Programme.
- Reduced early death rates in people with mental health conditions.
- Declines in self-harm among young people.
- Increase in early cancer diagnosis.



A heartfelt thank you to...

The hundreds of dedicated professionals throughout the borough who have consistently supported the partnership, their colleagues, and the residents of Telford and Wrekin to help build a safer, stronger community.

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

