



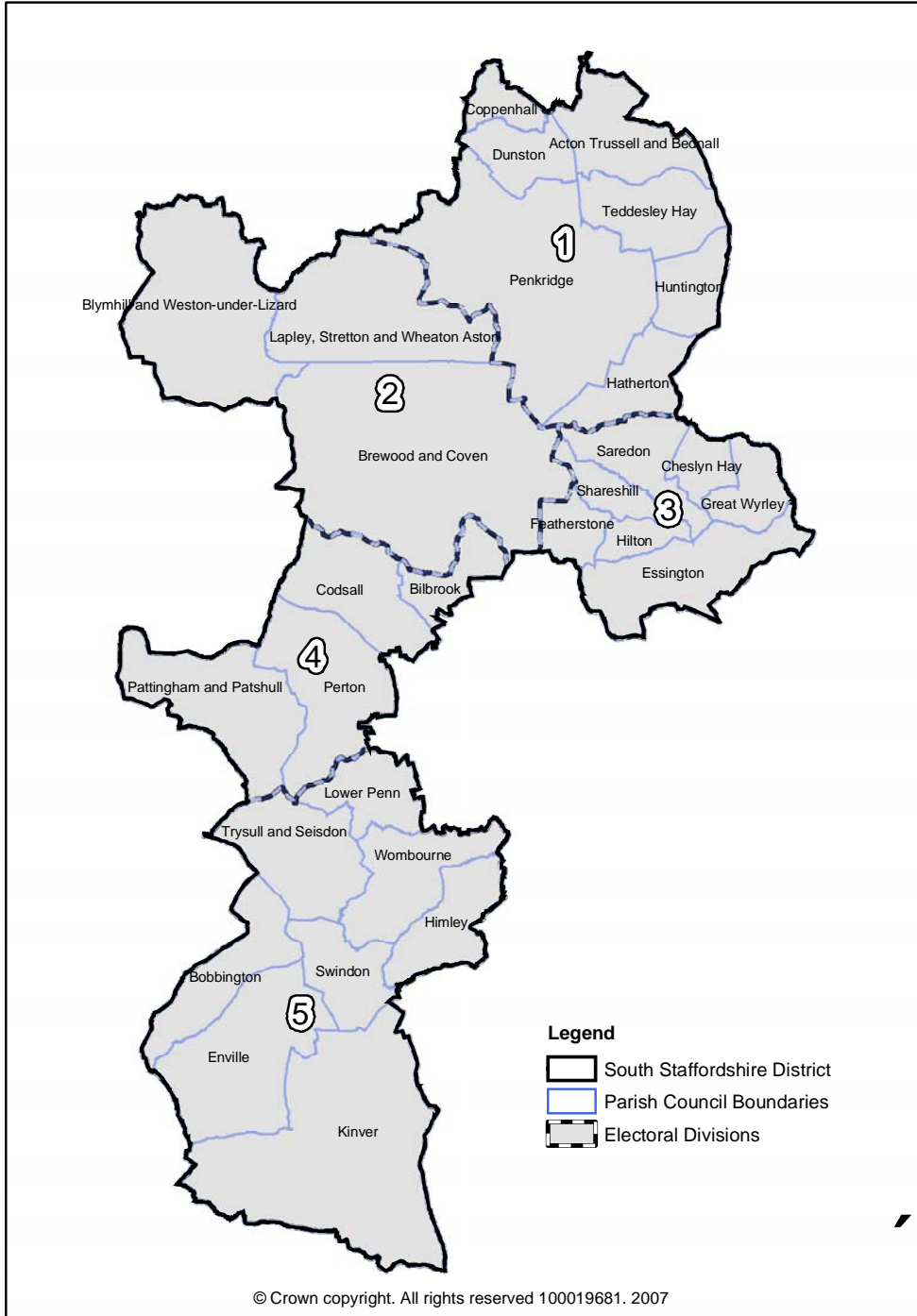
South Staffordshire
Community Safety
Partnership

“Working to make South Staffordshire Safer”

**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2007/2008.

South Staffordshire District:



Produced by Information Technology Services, South Staffordshire Council, April 2007.

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Forward

This purpose of this Strategic Assessment is to update Partners on the key risks to the Community Safety agenda across South Staffordshire. It is intended to inform decision-making across Partner agencies so that we can ensure we make the best use of our mainstream and financial resources.

Over the past 8 years the Community Safety Partnership members have worked together to identify problem areas and to develop resolutions to address them. The current risk assessment has been developed by the partner organisations using local knowledge but it is planned to use this as the basis for public consultation throughout the life of the assessment to ensure that the next one identifies those issues that are most important to the residents and businesses within the South Staffordshire district.

The development of the Local Area Agreement Safer and Stronger Communities block enhances the possibility of identifying areas with similar problems and trialled solutions across Staffordshire.

Home Office guidelines have recognised the need to deliver services and targeted action on the basis of evidence of local need. Our customers are no longer satisfied with public money being spent on a raft of initiatives that make no difference to their quality of life. To be successful we have to focus and involve our residents and empower them to take local action that will encourage them to work together thus fostering community engagement and participation to develop local solutions to local problems.

Even at district council level different communities experience different levels of crime and various hotspots have been identified for different types of crime which allows action to be targeted where it will have most effect. Partners are coming together to draw up information sharing protocols to enable details about perpetrators and their families to be identified and for preventive work to be undertaken to reduce the risk of re-offending.

This Assessment details the priorities and will begin to develop targeted solutions to address them.

Aim

The aim of the Strategic Assessment is to identify and explore the potential actions both in the short and long term that can be taken to address the risks that affect the South Staffordshire district area in terms of crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and behaviour adversely affecting the environment.

It will offer South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership(SSCSP) and its Partner agencies options for enforcement, intervention, prevention and reassurance.

A key part of this is the development of a prioritised list of community safety related issues which will review and corroborate key findings of strategic priorities from Partner agencies' most recent strategic/threat assessments, control and delivery plans. This will provide a more comprehensive and holistic Partnership-focussed approach to tackling crime, reassurance, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and behaviour which adversely affects the environment.

This will enable the SSCSP to review the effectiveness of current strategies and action plans and provide focus and direction for the district in forthcoming years.

Purpose

The document will provide strategic guidance to the members of South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership and its Strategic Groups and assist in the central co-ordination of these and facilitate performance management within the partnership.

It will provide a detailed strategic assessment of key community safety issues in South Staffordshire that is founded on intelligence and performance led information. Through the detailed analysis of Police, Fire and Rescue Service, South Staffordshire Council and Staffordshire County Council and other Partner data it will identify hotspots within the district.

Introduction

This Strategic Assessment for South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership (SSCSP) covering the period 01/06/2007 to 31/10/2007. The aim of this document is to provide an accurate picture of the issues affecting the community within South Staffordshire.

These priorities have been developed using a variety of methods:

- Actual data relating to the number of incidents and instances of different types of crime across the district.
- Geographical information – mapping locations using local knowledge to identify hotspots for targeted intervention
- An external partner event was held to enable them to share the relevant information and priorities for each of their organisations
- An internal event for staff at South Staffordshire Council to enable individual departments to share information
- All partners were then asked to award Level of Harm scores for each category of crime/incident that impacted on their organisation or service area.
- Staffordshire Police then provided information which was used to calculate a probability score for each type of crime/incident

All of the above information was then collated by the Project Group an average score was calculated for each type of crime/incident, which was then multiplied by the probability score to provide a means for prioritising each type of crime across the district.

These priorities and the actions planned to address them will be covered over the following chapters.

Finally the wider issues such as the political environment, demographics, and technological advancements (PESTELO) will be examined to provide an overall assessment for the South Staffordshire District.

These are the priority areas for South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership.

Data Sources

The main source of information, which drives this document, is the South Staffordshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership *Risk Matrix and Threat Assessment July 2007*. The reader of this report must refer to this matrix. References for this report are contained within the Risk Matrix and Threat Assessment document. Data is extracted from the Staffordshire Police Systems CJAD and STORM using 'Business Objects' and is used as a basis for some of the statistics referred to in this document. Current year to date performance is also included, published on the Staffordshire Police Intranet PDT *live update* pages.

Information was also drawn from other specialist Police departments in the form of; Problem Profiles, Target profiles, Home Office Publications and other published research.

A full list of References is attached at the rear of this report along with appendices of key products that are repeatedly referred to within this product.

Contributors to this report are:

Staffordshire County Council Development Services
Staffordshire County Council Consumer Services
Staffordshire County Council Youth Services
Victim Support
Safer and Stronger Communities Block of LAA – Outcome 6 lead officer
Safer and Stronger Communities Block of LAA – Outcome 8 lead officer
Staffordshire Police Analyst for Chase Division
Staffordshire Police Performance Development Team
Staffordshire Police Neighbourhood Policing Teams
Staffordshire Police Community Contact Records
South Staffordshire Council: Financial Services
Architectural and Landscape Services
Community Services (Housing, Leisure)
Environmental Services
South Staffordshire Domestic Violence Co-ordinator
South Staffordshire Residents

Methodology

Many key findings in relation to crime, and criminality have been reported to the CDRP during the previous 12-month period through statistical and other key intelligence products including crime pattern analysis and research by Chase Division specialist departments. Therefore, only those key findings that enable decision-makers to assess the long-term threats accurately were included in this document with references made to original source material if the reader wishes to explore further.

To achieve the assessment each area of crime or criminality that is contained within the Community Safety Strategy has been analysed to establish the level of probability and the level of harm posed to Stafford Borough. Once each predicted threat is completed using this technique, a 'league table' of HIGH, MEDIUM and LOW risks will be produced to assist in making an informed threat assessment.

Risk Analysis for this process is an adaptation of the ACPO 3 PLEM model, which is a basic scoring matrix for levels of harm. The Probability Matrix is shown below. Ultimately each predicted threat will have two scores – one for probability and the other for harm which is also displayed below. These are then multiplied together to give a final score that will relate to a HIGH, MEDIUM or LOW risk area.

The probability matrix is explained overleaf.

Probability Matrix

To commence realisation of our true threats, formal control charts will have to be completed for all crime and incident groups within the Strategy, the results of which will establish whether the crime/incident type is in control, uncontrolled or reducing. To identify what the PROBABILITY factor is, a sliding scale/score is displayed in the Matrix below. The score for each crime/incident type will be dependant on the percent that each offence accounts for within the overall crime figure and the established level of control:

Total % of volume committed	Level of Control or Reduction	Score
10% and over	Uncontrolled	18
	Controlled	17
	Reduction	16
8% and over	Uncontrolled	15
	Controlled	14
	Reduction	13
6% and over	Uncontrolled	12
	Controlled	11
	Reduction	10
4% and over	Uncontrolled	9
	Controlled	8
	Reduction	7
2% and over	Uncontrolled	6
	Controlled	5
	Reduction	4
1% and over	N/A	3
0.5% and over	N/A	2
0% and over	N/A	1

Level of Harm Matrix

To identify what the HARM factor is for each offence, a number of 6 separate factors were originally looked at to establish their overall effect. The six relevant factors to this exercise are as follows:

FACTORS	LEVEL OF HARM	RATING
Physical - Individual	Death	4
	Serious injury	3
	Minor injury	2
	None	1
Psychological - Individual	Extremely Concerned	4
	Significantly Concerned	3
	Fairly Concerned	2
	Minor Concern	1
Psychological - Community	Extremely Concerned	4
	Significantly Concerned	3
	Fairly Concerned	2
	Minor Concern	1
Political – YOUR organisation	Internal	4
	Local	3
	County	2
	National	1
Economic – YOUR organisation	Very High	4
	High	3
	Medium	2
	Low	1
Economic - Social	Very High	4
	High	3
	Medium	2
	Low	1

Physical – Individual:

Is this offence likely to result in the death or serious injury of an individual; in less serious injury, or is it more likely to involve threats of violence and/or harassment not resulting in actual physical injury?

Psychological – Individual:

Is the offence likely to cause extreme, significant or minor concern to the individual?

Psychological – Community:

What level of psychological impact is this type of offence likely to have on the community as a whole? Is the community likely to be extremely

or significantly concerned, or is the occurrence of such crime only likely to cause minor concern?

Political – Your Organisation: Is this area of criminality an issue for your organisation?

Economic – Your Organisation: Does this area of criminality have a very high, a high or a medium economic impact on your organisation?

Economic – Social: Does this area of criminality have a very high, a high or a medium economic impact in your community?

Each priority area was be considered and awarded a score of 4,3, 2, or 1 for each factor and then add these together to give an overall level of harm. This process has been completed by all members of the focus group and the total results combined to give an average score for each classification. The focus group which meet to assign each priority area a score consisted of the below partnership representatives:-

Persons Required	Group/Agency
Maggie Quinn	South Staffordshire Council
Linda England	South Staffordshire Council
Andy Buttery	Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Russ Cartlidge	Stafford Borough Council
Nick Hackney	Cannock Chase Council
Catriona Hamilton	Cannock Chase Council

The Probability score and the Harm score will be multiplied together to give an overall Risk Score, depending on that result the priority area can be grouped into either Low, Medium or High as below:

Low Risk = 0 to 108 **Medium Risk** = 109 to 216 **High Risk** = 217 to 324

Please note that for the Risk Analysis stage there are a variety of ‘threats’ to the Strategy that cannot be attributed a Probability score due to the lack of statistical information.

So that these threats can be measured at this vital key stage 1 of the process a Level of Harm score will be established by the Focus Group at the same meeting that other Level of Harms will be agreed upon. The way these issues will be grouped into Low, Medium & High Risk threats will be as below:

Low Risk = 0 to 9 **Medium Risk** = 10 to 13 **High Risk**= 14 to 18

These results were collated onto an Excel spreadsheet and circulated to all partnership members. (A copy of the completed Matrix is attached hereto at Appendix 'A')

In addition to the process outlined so far, further analysis and justification is required. A review of the current control strategy priorities for Stafford CDRP has also been considered and identified a number of emerging trends.

Following completion of the *Matrix*, all reviewed classifications were divided into theme groups, i.e. Violence; Building Communities; Business, Burglary and Vehicle Crime; LSP Environmental Quality Group, JOG, Community Engagement and Road Traffic Issues. (A copy of these groups is attached hereto at Appendix 'B')

This complete process ensures a standardised approach to producing the Control Strategies for the Partnership and ultimately provides an auditable process that will prove we are targeting the right priority areas within our area. Ultimately, we will be a more informed Partnership with a greater understanding of risk, improved planning and effective deployment of resources.

Recommendations in relation to Prevention, Intelligence, Enforcement and Reassurance activity in line with recommended control strategy priorities have been added following consultation with the strategic owners of each chosen priority. The recommendations will be put forward to the Responsible Authorities Group to authorise the planned activity.

Priorities

Priority 1: Violent Crime

1.1 Key Findings

There were 1340 reported incidents of violent crime in South Staffordshire in 2006/2007. Over the last 3 years, there has been an increase in violent crime in South Staffordshire of between 18 and 19%.

Contained within violent crime incidents are the acts of common assault, actual bodily harm, alcohol and drug related violence and other acts of violence in the district be it wounding, attempted murder or stranger violence.

The definition of violent crime as recorded by the police includes robbery, sexual offences and 'violence against the person' offences such as assault and murder. However, most recorded violent crime amounts to "low-level thuggery" of which around half of incidents involve no injury to the victim.

In 2001-2002 nearly half of victims of violent crime believed that the offenders were under the influence of alcohol so consequently much of the targeted action to reduce this type of crime involves restrictions around the sale of alcohol. However, the number of offenders under the influence of alcohol has decreased over the past 3 years, with South Staffordshire having the lowest rate in the county of 1.4 per 1000 population.

Nationally the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 came into force in November 2006 and includes the following powers:

- a civil order to tackle alcohol-related crime and disorder – a Drinking Banning Order;
- creation of Alcohol Disorder Zones – to ensure that licensed premises take collective responsibility for alcohol-related disorder
- the power for police to impose 48-hour bans on pubs and clubs persistently selling alcohol to minors

- the maximum penalty for possession of a knife in a public place without good reason doubled from 2 years to 4 years
- tougher sentences for carrying imitation firearms
- a new offence of using another person to hide or carry guns

- increasing the age limit for buying a knife, air weapon or crossbow to 18

Within the total number of violent crime incidents recorded for South Staffordshire, there were 498 incidents (37%) of Domestic Violence, including repeat incidents and incidents of sexual violence. Domestic violence, within the level of harm context, has detrimental effects on the individual both physical and psychological, it is destructive, insidious and can cause serious injury or death. One of the main targets for domestic violence in the district has been to encourage victims to come forward and report offenders and to increase the reporting of domestic violence incidents. South Staffordshire has seen an 83% increase in reporting between 2003/04 and 2006/07.

1.2 Emerging Trends

There are two main sources of information about violent crime in England and Wales, crime reported to the police and the British Crime Survey.

Evidence from the British Crime Survey indicates that as a society we are becoming less tolerant of violence and less inclined to violence and levels of violence committed to people known to victims are falling. However, there are changes in patterns of leisure activities that increase the opportunities for violence; young people are spending more time in pubs and clubs and alcohol consumption is rising especially amongst young people and especially outside of home. As a result of this stranger violence is not following the same downward trend.

Statistics recorded by the police can be affected by the fundamental change in recording procedures and this can show an increase, which may be artificial. Nevertheless, statistics indicate that alcohol is becoming an increasingly obvious feature in violent incidents, incidents of this sort are not falling and there is a clear possibility that they are on the increase.

Further analysis within South Staffordshire shows there is no distinction between the two Neighbourhood Policing Units (NPU) and no 'hotspot' locations are obvious. A lot of the incidents involve young people including school children and a large proportion of them are domestic related i.e. incidents between two people (not domestic violence).

Within the Local Area Agreement (LAA), Safer and Stronger Communities Block: Outcome 8, a Domestic Violence Flagship is proposed within the target "To increase support and improve safety of survivors of domestic violence and their families".

1.3 Intelligence Gaps

Violence relating to drug and alcohol influence needs to be researched, in order to establish a link between substance misuse and violent crime. Drugs can have a bearing on crime including sexual violence and domestic violence and alcohol can change a person's behaviour leading to violent affray and violent disorder.

In 2006/07 South Staffordshire exhibited rates above the County Average of 3 per population. These figures need to be broken down, as this can be attributable to the 'V' Festival and Featherstone Prison.

1.4 Recommendation

Violent Crime encompasses several types of crime. The Community Safety Partnership needs to address all these types within a designated Violence Theme Group. This group will contribute towards delivering the targets of the Safer Stronger Communities Block: Outcomes 1, 2, 3 contained within the LAA.

Within this group all aspects of violent crime would be addressed, focussing on specific elements of drug and alcohol related violence. A sub-group of this Theme Group will be the existing Domestic Abuse Forum, concentrating on all aspects of Domestic Violence including sexual violence. As a 'Charitable Organisation' funding can be sought to progress the work already undertaken and for research into the influence of substance misuse on Domestic Violence. It will also deliver the Flagship Action Plan contained within the LAA.

It is important that the Community Safety Partnership delivers on the BVPI 127 – violent crime per thousand population and BVPI 225 – tackling domestic violence.

1.5 Prevention

Across the West Midlands there is a regional Tackling Violent Crime Programme which includes:

- Use of Fixed Penalty Notices for alcohol related offences
- Routine visits to “hotspot” premises
- Multi Agency enforcement tactics with other partners i.e Fire Service, Environmental Health, Council Licensing Offices, and Trading Standards
- Test purchase operations at ‘on’ and ‘off’ license premises
- Promotion of proof of ID schemes to address under age drinking.

Although this is currently funded by Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) in 11 Basic Command Units, the principles could be promoted through the Community Safety Partnership.

1.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available to the Partnership. Other data sources include British Crime Survey, GOWM, Staffordshire Women’s Aid all other agencies involved in the Domestic Violence Forum.

1.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies.

1.8 Reassurance

For South Staffordshire 92% of people say that they feel ‘very’ or ‘fairly’ safe when outside in Staffordshire during the day which falls to 63% after dark. This implies that resident’s perception of violent crime generally is relatively low although this may hide alterations for different sections of the community such as the young and old.

One locality area, including the parishes of Featherstone, Essington and Great Wyrley shows a distinct difference in their perceptions where 36% of residents feel very safe, in contrast to the other localities where 52% and 58% if residents describe themselves as feeling safe outside during the day.

The Community Safety Partnership, through a media strategy have been striving to reduce the fear of crime amongst local residents over

the past three years, and this now includes a viewpoint from young people. It is essential that this work continue to ensure our local communities feel safe and secure in their own locality.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 256

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- All aspects of violent crime is a priority area for South Staffordshire

Priority 2: Road Traffic Accidents

2.1 Key Findings

In 2005 787 people were slightly injured in Road Traffic Accidents in South Staffordshire which represents 18% of the figure for Staffordshire as a whole. In the same year the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads in South Staffordshire was 43, 13% of the Staffordshire total. In 2006/07 the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in South Staffordshire was 0.5 per 1000 population, which is the same as the national average, but the highest in the County.

The vast majority of accidents occur due to road user error, with speed being a key causation factor. There is also a direct link to the severity of injury sustained. For example, hit a pedestrian at 40 mph and they are almost certain to die, hit at 20 mph, most will survive.

Nationally excessive speed is a contributory factor in over 1,000 deaths and over 40,000 injuries every year. Within Staffordshire approximately 20% of all road accidents had speed as an attributing cause.

Reducing vehicle speed will play a significant part in influencing child pedestrian and cyclist casualties, especially within key areas of deprivation (as highlighted in Staffordshire's Child Safety Audit). Speed is also a key factor within young driver and motorcyclist accidents. It is, therefore, a central element within the agreed LAA Road Safety Strategy. This also aims to reduce casualties involving: young people (16-25); motorcyclists and children. For each group key issues are explained.

Children

Key Issues:

1. Child pedestrians are 44% of the total pedestrian casualties.
2. 60% of child pedestrian casualties are boys.
3. 86% of child cyclist casualties are boys, 93% of these are between the ages of 8 and 15.
4. Child cyclist casualties increase during the summer months, child pedestrians and car occupants are distributed throughout the year.
5. 40% of child casualties were car occupants, 33% were pedestrians and 20% were pedal cyclists.
6. Child car occupant casualties are evenly distributed between girls and boys. A high number of 0-4 year olds are injured in cars, exceeding the number of 5-7 year olds.

7. Child car occupant casualties increase at weekends, possibly due to leisure activities.
8. Between Monday and Friday child pedestrian casualties peak between 15:00 and 15.59.
9. Between Monday and Friday child cyclist casualties peak between 16:00 and 17.59.
10. Between Monday and Friday child car occupant casualties peak between 08:00 and 08:59.
11. 30% of all child pedestrian casualties are on the school journey.

Young People (16-25)

Key Issues:

1. Accidents involving young drivers constitute 40% of all accidents over a 10 year period.
2. Accidents involving young drivers peak in October.
3. Between the hours of 20:00 and 03:59 53% of all accidents involve young drivers.
4. 12% of accidents involving young drivers have bend as a contributory factor compared to 9% of all accidents.
5. 26% of accidents involving young drivers have excessive speed recorded as the cause compared with 19% of all accidents.
6. 71% of young drivers involved in accidents are male. This peaks between 18 and 20 years of age.
7. The majority of passenger casualties are within the same age group as the driver, 16-25.
8. 4% of young drivers provide a positive breath test compared to 2% of all drivers.
9. The postcodes of young drivers, of which 85% are recorded, show that Cannock and Burntwood, Newcastle and Kidsgrove, Stafford, Burton and Tamworth have the highest number of young drivers involved in accidents.
10. 18% of young adult are recorded as having hit an object off the carriageway compared to 11% of drivers of all ages.

Motorcyclists

Key Issues:

1. 91% of riders involved in accidents are male.
2. 29% of riders involved in accidents are under 20 years of age.
3. 82% of KSI accidents involving motorcycles in rural areas occur between April and October.

4. 31% of accidents involving motorcycles occur at T-junctions compared to 25% of all accidents.
5. 41% of accidents in urban areas that result in KSI are at T-junctions.
6. Overtaking was a factor in 17% of urban accidents involving motorcycles, compared to 9% of all accidents, and 25% of rural accidents, compared to 18% of all accidents. This may involve either a motorcycle overtaking a vehicle or itself being overtaken.
7. 22% of accidents involving motorcycles were attributed to vehicles emerging and 18% to excessive speed.
8. The postcodes of riders, of which 85% were recorded, show that Newcastle and Kidsgrove, Cannock and Burntwood and Stafford have the highest number of riders involved in accidents.

2.2 Emerging Trends

Appendix 1 shows the 2006 all KSI casualty data by County, Police District and District Council area. This shows that Chase Police Area had a target of 145 KSI in 2006, the actual figure was 164. This was made up from: Cannock Chase 28 (target 31), Stafford 65 (target 52) and South Staffordshire 71 (target 62).

The County target for 2006 for both Child KSI and Slight Injuries was achieved as indicated below:

	Target	Actual
Killed and Serious Injuries (KSI)	325	358
Child KSI	32	32
Slight Injuries	4251	4154

Young People

Young People are a key target group as they form 10.4% of Staffordshire's population, yet are heavily over-represented in the number of casualties as a proportion of the County total. This situation has not improved in 2006 as the table below shows:

YEAR	FATAL	SERIOUS	SLIGHT	TOTAL 16 TO 25 YEAR OLDS	ALL	%
1994	30	169	1426	1625	5304	31%
1995	17	167	1405	1589	5134	31%
1996	15	121	1518	1654	5348	31%
1997	19	116	1514	1649	5605	29%

1998	15	99	1349	1463	4968	29%
1999	12	96	1269	1377	4838	28%
2000	13	92	1321	1426	4919	29%
2001	22	83	1278	1383	4953	28%
2002	12	97	1308	1417	4757	30%
2003	28	112	1204	1344	4788	28%
2004	23	103	1279	1405	4649	30%
2005	12	90	1369	1471	4603	32%
2006	28	96	1349	1473	4512	33%

Motorcyclists

Motorcyclists are similarly over-represented across the County and in Chase District forming 18% of the killed and serious injuries over the last 3 years, whilst comprising 1% of the vehicles. The table below indicated the current situation.

Year	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	All	%M/C	All KSI	%M/C KSI
2004	13	52	300	365	4649	8	373	17%
2005	12	55	285	352	4603	8	329	24%
2006	16	58	275	349	4512	8	358	21%

2.3 Intelligence Gaps

Problem profiling is essential if we are to target valuable revenue and capital resources. Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire Police will continue to use STATs19 data to identify local hot spots. Accident analysis has guided the development of the 2007/08 LAA Road Safety programme. Key vulnerable groups have been identified and the Road Safety Task Group will undertake local delivery, solving locally identified issues using the PIER model.

2.4 Recommendation

That the Strategic Assessment supports and allocates appropriate resources to delivery Appendix 2 (Task Group 2007/08 Delivery Plan).

2.5 Prevention

Using the PIER methodology a County Road Safety Control Strategy has been produced. This will be delivered through the implementation of the Local Area Agreement – Road Safety Objectives for 2007/8 (Appendix 2)

Education is a major factor and Staffordshire County Council Road Safety Scheme have targeted programmes to cover all age groups. Brewood CE Middle School were the first in the district to develop a travel plan aiming to cut vehicle overcrowding at the school gate. Led by nine school travel plan ‘champions’, pupils from school examined the issues relating to travel to the site and looked at who used alternatives to the car to get to the school. A

display was created at the Christmas Fair to advise the school community on the developments they have made towards sustainable travel.

2.6 Intelligence

Intelligence in relation to road safety issues is a compilation of statistics from the Police, Highways departments and partnership members.

2.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the governing legislation is undertaken by Police and the Road Safety Team (GATSO). With the advent of decriminalisation of parking restrictions Stafford Borough Council will be responsible for enforcement throughout the Borough.

2.8 Reassurance

Reassurance is undertaken by a variety of methods including media campaigns, 'face the public' sessions and through Theme group working.

Residents in South Staffordshire rated road safety (speeding related) to be the third 'biggest problem' in their local area with 52% highlighting this issue.

In relation to becoming a victim of crime, 38% of residents in South Staffordshire are worried about other drivers acting in an aggressive manner towards them on the roads.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 216

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership Board;- This remains a Priority for South Staffordshire CSP

Priority 3: Criminal Damage

3.1. Key Findings

In 2006-2007 there were 1, 362 incidents of criminal damage across South Staffordshire. Criminal damage refers to crimes where a person intentionally or recklessly destroys or causes damage to another person's property. Criminal damage, often referred to as vandalism, includes graffiti, arson and other forms of damage to property. It affects households, vehicles, commercial premises and public areas.

It accounts for just under a quarter of all British Crime Survey (BCS) offences, and just over a fifth of recorded crime. Criminal damage is frequently seen as a minor crime, but neglected physical environments are unsafe, cause fear and undermine pride in the local community. Criminal damage can also be seen as a catalyst to other forms of anti-social behaviour and crime.

The way we perceive our surroundings has a massive impact on both communities and individual behaviour. A neglected physical environment is unsafe. It undermines pride in the local community that can lead to further degradation. It can also act as a catalyst to other forms of anti-social behaviour and crime.

There are also numerous examples of those involved in more serious crimes also being involved in, or starting out committing, crimes like criminal damage, - tackling this type of crime may therefore provide a way of stopping more serious offending developing both in the short and longer term.

As part of a target to reduce overall crime, the Home Office is working with partners to identify ways to tackle criminal damage.

The level of criminal damage is measured through the British Crime Survey (BCS) which surveys over 40,000 householders to measure experience of crime, and through police recorded crime which includes householders, commercial property and public space.

There were 2.7 million offences of vandalism against private property as measured by the BCS in 2005/06. This represents 25 per cent of all BCS offences (16% damage to vehicles and 9% to other private property).

Recorded crime figures show a one per cent fall in total criminal damage between 2004/05 and 2005/06 to 1,184,683 offences. Of these 40 per cent were to vehicle and 25 per cent to dwellings.

Criminal Damage is one of the crimes recorded within the BCS Comparator crime, which makes up the Government's Public Service Agreement 1. The County reduction for the comparator crime is 15% from 2002/03 to 2007/08, however South Staffordshire set it's own district target of 12.5% to contribute towards the overall 15% reduction. South Staffordshire exhibit rates below the County average, but have see tempered by increases of 8.4% and 3.9% respectively over the last 3 years.

Reporting rates based on 2005/06 BCS interviews estimate that just under a third (31%) of incidents of vandalism are reported. BCS and recorded crime figures do not show the full extent of criminal damage, particularly damage to public and commercial property.

The police state that anti-social behaviour and criminal damage go hand-in-hand, often beginning with low level ASB that degenerates into criminal damage and if alcohol is added to the picture can then lead to violence. The 'broken-window syndrome', as it is called, means that if an area has graffiti, broken glass or vandalism that more of the same occurs as respect for that particular area decreases.

It is therefore important that criminal damage is not tackled in isolation, but as part of the whole anti-social behaviour agenda.

3.2 Emerging Trends

It is estimated that the economic and social cost of criminal damage in England and Wales for 2003/04 was £2.2 billion. The estimated average cost to an individual who has been a victim of criminal damage is thought to be approximately £850 (The Economic and Social Costs of Crime against Individuals and Households - Home Office On-Line Report 30/05). This includes an estimated cost of emotional impact.

The 2005 Offending Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS) found that the majority of offenders' estimated the value of items damaged was under £50. The British Crime Survey found that the median cost of criminal damage was £100 (2004/05).

Most police-recorded criminal damage is to either a vehicle (39%) or dwelling (25%) (2005/06).

The BCS data for 2004/05 shows that most damage to private vehicles involved scratched body work (38%) damaged body work (23%) and damage to wing mirrors (21%).

The main damage to residential properties involved broken walls, fences or other garden items (30%) and broken windows (15%), (BCS 2004/05).

Overall 7.6 per cent of households interviewed for BCS 2005/06 experienced vandalism once or more.

BCS interviews for 2005/06 indicated that victims of vandalism (30%) were most likely to suffer repeat victimisation and 12 per cent of those victims experienced vandalism three or more times in a year.

Of those interviewed for BCS 2005/06 29 per cent perceived vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property as a problem in the area.

The most recent Commercial Victimization Survey (2002) showed that 23 per cent of retailers and 16 per cent of manufacturers are victims of criminal damage.

3.3 Intelligence Gaps

Anti-Social Behaviour database, to monitor anti-social activity and prevent low-level ASB escalating into criminal damage.

Information in relation to County buildings including 'hotspots', type of damage and costs of damage.

3.4. Recommendation

Witnesses and victims are crucial to tackling vandalism: information from them will help you identify the problem areas and develop a strategy for tackling vandalism; evidence against the perpetrators can be used to support a prosecution; the experience of witnesses and victims can inform Community or Victim Impact Statements which are used prior to sentence. There are, however, a number of barriers to witnesses and victims stepping forward with this information.

Less than a third (31%) of those who are victims of criminal damage report it to the police (BCS 2005/06ⁱ). Frequent reasons for non-reporting included that it is too trivial, authorities were not interested or couldn't do anything and that they didn't know who to contact. Advice on how incidents of vandalism can be reported should be clear and the lines of reporting should be very simple.

Witnesses and victims are often fearful of reprisals from offenders so need to be supported. Of those who had been victimised 30% of households suffered a repeat incident of criminal damage within 12 months (BCS 2005/06). It is important that incidents of criminal damage are responded to quickly to identify measures which may prevent further incidents. Criminal justice agencies are required to follow a code of practice for victims of crime. These set minimum standards of service from the Criminal Justice Systemⁱⁱ. Further information is available in the good practice guide: Criminal Damage and Repeat Victimisation.

There are several crimes that fit into the anti-social behaviour agenda, criminal damage being one of them. Anti-social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have been used by British Transport Police to address criminal damage and a Home Office study of 90 ASBOs found that 36% had a criminal damage aspect.

Criminal damage should be tackled through a group designated to tackle all aspects of Anti-Social Behaviour including rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, neighbour disputes and arson which all link together.

This group will contribute towards delivering the targets of the Safer Stronger Communities Block: Outcomes 2, 4 and 6 contained within the LAA.

Criminal Damage is one of the crimes listed within the PSA1 targets, interventions are being put into place in order for the partnership to be under target.

3.5. Prevention

A vandalism problem within a community is usually best tackled by local people and organisations working together. The most effective interventions to tackle vandalism around the country are a result of partnerships between different local organisations. It is important that local businesses, community groups and others such as schools and youth groups are involved.

Reducing opportunity means making it harder to commit criminal damage.

Understanding who or what is being repeatedly targeted may help to focus activity on areas at highest risk. Problem analysis is key to identifying hot spots, trends in occurrence and characteristics of criminal damage and can lead to solutions.

When designing public spaces, opportunities for reducing criminal damage can be considered. Taking part in the Safer Parking and Secure Stations schemes may also help to improve security.

Underage drinking is a problem linked to criminal damage. The Offending Crime and Justice Survey (2004) shows that a significant proportion of criminal damage offences are committed under the influence of alcohol, more so than violence. In areas where criminal damage related to alcohol is a problem, working with trading standards to ensure proper enforcement of existing regulations is important.

Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings are to be organised in 'hotspot' locations, one of the items for discussion will be 'tidy-up' days, where the local community get together to enhance to local area, either by a litter pick, graffiti removal, or planting of bulbs etc.

Work will continue in 'hotspot' locations through the Community Safety Joint Operations Group (JOG) and measures implemented.

3.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available at the JOG and wider Partnership.

Staffordshire County Council, other partners and members of the public supply information.

Supporting partners and enabling them to work together more effectively is key to tackling criminal damage. We recognise that there are a range of different organisations involved or interested in reducing damage. These activities are aimed at helping them work together, removing obstacles to their work and providing other support.

3.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies and a Community Response.

3.8 Reassurance

Often communities are blighted by the kind of low level, nuisance crime committed in our neighbourhoods like graffiti, vandalism, etc. The Governments Respect Agenda recognises that problem behaviour can over time create havoc for communities. Practical reparation in the community allows local people to see that graffiti is being cleaned off walls, that litter is being cleared up and that other repairs or improvements are made to community areas.

When exploring the issue further about resident's perceptions of feeling unsafe by day or after dark in their local area, 73% indicated that one of the main factors were the large number of young people hanging about.

Residents in South Staffordshire rated Vandalism, Graffiti and other deliberate damage to property to be the fifth 'biggest problem' in their local area with 32% highlighting this issue. 38% of residents are worried about becoming a victim of anti-social behaviour.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 192

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership Board;- Criminal Damage sits within a designated Theme Group tackling all aspects of Anti-Social Behaviour and is a Priority for South Staffordshire CSP

Priority 4: Actual Bodily Harm

4.1 Key Findings

In 2006-2007 577 people suffered actual bodily harm. This means that they were the victims of an intentional assault that resulted in injuries that typically required medical treatment.

The following are examples of actual bodily harm:

- Loss or breaking of a tooth or teeth
- Temporary loss of sensory functions (which may include loss of consciousness)
- Extensive or multiple bruising
- Displaced broken nose
- Minor fractures
- Minor, but not merely superficial, cuts of a sort probably requiring medical attention (e.g. stitches)
- Psychiatric injury that is more than fear, distress or panic. (Such injury will be proved by appropriate expert advice.)

Actual Bodily Harm is included within Violent Crime.

4.2 Emerging Trends

Actual Bodily harm, due to the ethical reporting procedures of Staffordshire Police, has increased as it includes incidents such as playground fights, incidents including children pushing each other at school and physical bullying both in schools and residential care homes.

4.3 Intelligence Gaps

Information requires further analysis to ascertain whether there is an issue in the district with young people, or are the figures skewed due to the ethical procedures.

4.4 Recommendation

Actual Bodily Harm falls within the spectrum of violent crime and should therefore be addressed through a Theme Group designated to tackling violent crime

4.5 Prevention

As an action through a designated Violence Group, a protocol be set up in locations such as schools and residential care homes for the reporting of Actual Bodily Harm incidents, including a definition and procedure for reporting. In this way hotspot areas can be identified and appropriate action be taken.

4.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available to the Partnership.

4.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies.

4.8 Reassurance

Messages via the media strategy are required in respect of Actual Bodily Harm for clarification to the school system, the pupils, the care system, the residents of care homes and their families.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 183

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- Actual Bodily Harm sits within a designated Theme Group tackling all aspects of Violent Crime and is a Priority for South Staffordshire CSP

Priority 5: Vehicle Related Nuisance

5.1 Key Findings

In 2006-2007 there were 585 reports of vehicle related nuisance. This means the inappropriate use of vehicles on or off-road by gangs or individuals, which can be noisy, intimidating and dangerous. It is important that the local community is protected from such activity and a number of interventions can be used. Agreements and warnings can help those involved to understand the impact of the nuisance on their local community. Environmental improvements can stop inappropriate use of vehicles within a residential area. For repeated and persistent dangerous and anti-social driving, vehicle confiscation, anti-social behaviour orders, injunctions, and/or prosecution under the law are available.

Nuisance parking caused by the sale and repair of a number of vehicles for profit on a street can cause a nuisance to residents who wish to park their own vehicles and are unable to do so. Persons using the street as a car workshop and showroom can be fined under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

5.2 Emerging Trends

Vehicle related nuisance in South Staffordshire includes the revving of car engines in residential areas, revving of engines and 'boy racing' on residential streets and along country lanes and also off-road bikes.

Hotspots in relation to the off-road bikes have been identified and with further analysis information has been supplied to Environmental Health Officers for them to take action against the owner of the land, where bikers are congregating. Other incidents of vehicle related nuisance have been addressed under the auspices of anti-social behaviour.

5.3 Intelligence Gaps

Anti-Social Behaviour database, to monitor anti-social activity and prevent low level ASB escalating into dangerous driving or off-road nuisance.

It is essential to ascertain names and addresses of people involved in these vehicle related nuisance incidents for enforcement of relevant legislation.

5.4 Recommendation

There are several crimes that fit into the anti-social behaviour agenda, vehicle related nuisance being one of them. Anti-social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have been successfully used against perpetrators engaged in joy-riding. In addition the power to disperse groups can be used in an area where there has been persistent anti-social behaviour to prevent gangs from meeting to engage in anti-social driving.

Vehicle related nuisance should be tackled through a group designated to tackle all aspects of Anti-Social Behaviour including rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and criminal damage which all link together.

5.5 Prevention

Through a media campaign, discourage people from purchasing off-road bikes such as quad bikes, mini-motorbikes or go-ped outlining that there is nowhere legal in the district to ride them.

Section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002, which is the seizure of motor vehicles:

Vehicles used in a manner causing alarm, distress or annoyance (applies to off-road vehicles) Seizure of motor vehicles:

(1) Where a constable in uniform has reasonable grounds for believing that a motor vehicle is being used on any occasion in a manner which— (a) contravenes section 3 or 34 of the Road Traffic Act [1988 \(c. 52\)](#) (careless and inconsiderate driving and prohibition of off-road driving), and (b) is causing, or is likely to cause, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public, he shall have the powers set out in subsection (3).

(2) A constable in uniform shall also have the powers set out in subsection (3) where he has reasonable grounds for believing that a motor vehicle has been used on any occasion in a manner falling within subsection (1).

(3) Those powers are—

(a) power, if the motor vehicle is moving, to order the person driving it to stop the vehicle;

(b) power to seize and remove the motor vehicle;
(c) power, for the purposes of exercising a power falling within paragraph (a) or (b), to enter any premises on which he has reasonable grounds for believing the motor vehicle to be;
(d) power to use reasonable force, if necessary, in the exercise of any power conferred by any of paragraphs to (a) to (c).

5.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available to the Partnership.

Neighbourhood Watch and Rural Watch and members of the public provide information.

5.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies.

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the South Staffordshire Council's Environmental Health Department.

5.8 Reassurance

Media coverage of Section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002, will reassure local communities that this type of anti-social behaviour is being addressed.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 144

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- Vehicle Related Nuisance sits within a designated Theme Group tackling all aspects of Anti-Social Behaviour and is a Priority for South Staffordshire CSP

Priority 6: Theft from vehicles

6.1 Key Findings

In 2006-2007 there were 667 incidences of theft from vehicles across the district.

The majority of crimes happen due to items being left on view in vehicles.

6.2 Emerging Trends

With the growing popularity of satellite navigation systems these seem to be proving increasingly attractive to thieves. In addition the thieves use the information stored in the system to identify the homes of the victims knowing that they are likely to be empty.

Theft from vehicles are usually opportunist crimes, 'hotspot' locations in South Staffordshire include the A5 corridor including hotels, pubs, lorry parks etc. for easy getaway.

6.3 Intelligence Gaps

A lot of incidents go unreported to the police, therefore there is a large dark figure.

6.4 Recommendation

The existing designated Theme Group, which tackles Vehicle Crime will continue and be joined by Business Crime.

A sub group from this group will be set up to look at Distraction Burglary and Domestic Burglary (through this sub group acquisitive crimes will be addressed which in turn will assist in reducing the fear caused by these types of crime)

It is important that the Community Safety Partnership delivers on the BVPI 126 – burglary per household and BVPI 128 – vehicle crime per thousand population.

Theft from vehicles is one of the crimes listed within the PSA1 targets, interventions are being put into place in order for the partnership to be under target.

6.5 Prevention

Operation Habit to continue, whereby if a vehicle is seen with items on view, a letter will be sent from Staffordshire Police outlining the dangers of leaving valuables on display.

General media campaigns to remind the public not to leave valuables on display in their cars.

6.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available to the Partnership.

South Staffordshire Council Leisure Centres provide information about incidents occurring on their car parks.

6.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies and a Community Response.

6.8 Reassurance

31% of South Staffordshire residents are worried about having items stolen from their cars; this is compared to 47% who are worried about having their home broken into and having something stolen.

Campaigns about the dangers of leaving items on view over the last few years have reduced the number of offences of theft from motor vehicles and these will continue to assist in reducing the number of offences in the future.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 143

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- Vehicle Crime sits within a designated Theme Group to tackle Vehicle Crime and Business Crime and is a Priority for South Staffordshire

Priority 7: Business Crime

7.1 Key Findings

There were 607 reported crimes against businesses in the district in 2006-2007. These include violence against staff, robbery and shoplifting.

The Health and Safety Executive define work related violence as:
"Any incident in which a person is abused, threatened, or assaulted in circumstances relating to their work."

The four main causes of violence within a business environment are dealing with customer thieves, customer disputes, robbery and payment disputes.

What is robbery?

A person is guilty of robbery if he or she steals and immediately before or at any time of so doing, and in order to do so, uses force, or puts or seeks to put any person in fear of being then and there subjected to force. In summary, robbery is stealing aggravated by violence.

South Staffordshire's main type of crime involving businesses is theft from industrial units. Hotspot locations have been identified and crime reduction measures implemented as a result.

7.2 Emerging Trends

Computer equipment is the most likely target for thieves, costing businesses several thousand pounds to replace, which in turn impacts on their insurance premiums and costs are incurred installing security equipment. Due to the high costs of securing the business properties, several become repeat victims.

Theft of copper, other metals and other materials is now a growing problem, not only in South Staffordshire but also nationally.

An emerging crime series involves a gang targeting public houses for gaming machines.

Isolated premises e.g. nurseries and utility sites being targeted.

Repeat crime locations emerging such as sports clubs and service station.

7.3 Intelligence Gaps

Research to be undertaken to establish the level of confidence businesses have in the criminal justice system.

South Staffordshire Council owned industrial estates – information on crime incidents.

7.4 Recommendation

The existing designated Theme Group, which tackles Vehicle Crime will continue and be joined by Business Crime.

Building closer links with the local business community through various organisations such as Business Link, Chamber of Commerce and British Business Parks.

7.5 Prevention

Tackle hotspot locations through the Partnership JOG and assist in advising and supporting local businesses to enable them to make their property more secure.

Link more closely with the established Local Strategic Partnership Economic Vibrancy Theme Group.

Investigate the establishment of 'Business Watch' schemes on industrial sites.

7.6 Intelligence

Staffordshire Police supply intelligence through the Police Tasking Group for information to be made available at the JOG.

7.7 Enforcement

Enforcement of the relevant legislation is undertaken by the Police but is assisted wherever necessary by partner agencies and a Community Response.

7.8 Reassurance

With the introduction of 'Alert Boxes' in small shopping precincts in South Staffordshire, small businesses have felt much safer and less vulnerable and have built up a 'community spirit' between themselves.

With the introduction of the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), a rapport has been built up between the local police and local businesses offering reassurance.

Probability x Harm Total Score;- 143

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- This is a priority area for South Staffordshire

Priority 8: Anti Social Behaviour

8.1 Key Findings

Current statistics show that ASB incidents increase during school and bank holiday periods with the main type of ASB being groups of youths causing noise nuisance, playing football in the street causing damage and underage drinking.

The Chase Division Police Risk Analysis process conducted in August 2006 found an increase in ASB incidents of 1.7% for the year to date April to August 2006, with significantly high levels observed in June and July 2006 and an increasing trend since February 2006.

The majority of ASB offenders are found to be under the age of 25 and mainly male.

South Staffordshire currently has no actual anti-social orders in force. There is a seven-stage intervention process prior to an ASBO and in most occasions this has seen a change in behaviour resulting in the process continuing no further. Designated Public Places Orders, creating alcohol-restricted areas, have been made in Kinver and Codsall, with one pending in Perton.

8.2 Emerging Trends

Research shows that there are likely to be more incidents of alcohol related Anti-social behaviour near to Christmas and possibly more ASB incidents in the daytime during the Christmas Holidays. Halloween and bonfire night are also likely to cause an increase in reported incidents of anti social behaviour. Operation Good Guy will be operated again and also further supported by an extended 'Seasonal Helpline' joint initiative. The lead agency for 'GoodGuy' is Trading Standards who will be producing a leaflet/package for members of public. Extra emphasis will be given to intelligence gathering, youth service/young person's involvement and extending the initiative to also incorporate the festivals of Diwalhi, Eid and possibly Christmas/New Year along with Chinese New Year. The Seasonal Helpline will also be operated during the Schools summer break, which has been identified as a period of increased ASB activity.

Featherstone, Penkridge, Great Wyrley, Codsall, Bilbrook, Perton and Wombourne continue to be areas affected by anti-social behaviour. Shops, community centres, play parks and designated open spaces are highlighted as hotspot areas for youths congregating causing noise nuisance, underage drinking, and criminal damage. Young people playing football in the street is another aspect of anti-social behaviour causing concern to residents throughout the district.

8.3 Intelligence Gaps

Information is required on repeat offenders in respect of alcohol related violence. Currently, keeping up with individuals is difficult as it means researching many different systems which is time consuming.

An ASB Data Base is required to be able to research individuals in a less time consuming approach.

8.4 Recommendation

The Chase Risk Analysis process found that Anti-Social Behaviour incidents account for 17.3% off all incidents reported between 01/08/05 and 31/07/06. This crime type is included as a priority in 15 out of 21 National and Local plans and 3 National plans.

Anti-Social Behaviour continues to be a threat to the CDRP area and action development and strategy needs to be implemented more quickly. Current Police data confirms a threat to the District, particularly with the strong links to Criminal Damage and Vehicle Related Nuisance. There continues to be a number of important intelligence gaps, particularly in respect of the recording of ASB information and subsequent research and analysis which need to be addressed if ASB is to be brought under control and reduced in the long term. Analysis of the situation is key to the development of the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy

Operation 'Good Guy' was again run throughout South Staffordshire from Sept 06 to Nov 06 by the Police in partnership with Fire and Rescue, Trading Standards and the Community Safety Partnership, and resulted in a further reduction of calls relating to nuisance fireworks to the fire service and Police. A joint CDRP/Police 'Seasonal Helpline' which was operated for the Halloween/bonfire night period supported and further reduced the number of ASB incidents.

A Youth Crime Prevention Panel is now in place and is led by Youth Offending Service and supported by the Community Safety Partnership. This covers the 'prevent and deter' aspect of the programme and is a multi agency panel looking at 8 to 18 year olds and the process has been incorporated into the seven stage intervention process. The other strands i.e. catch and convict, resettle and rehabilitate are addressed by our membership in the PPO Oversight Group.

Great Wyrley and Featherstone have been two areas where the Community Safety Partnership has undertaken projects.

8.5 Prevention

The Anti Social Behaviour Theme Group should continue and the multi agency ASB strategy needs to be developed. New Neighbourhood Watch Schemes are to be encouraged and support for greater participation in areas that traditionally suffer from nuisance and disorder should be provided.

The Community Safety Partnership will continue to support initiatives aimed at changing behaviour of young people at risk of ASB such as the Student Fire-fighter Course, the Youth Crime Prevention Panel and the Junior Youth Inclusion Project.

The Community Safety Partnership will continue to support local Parish Groups and Youth Action Groups and are encouraging Parish Councils to nominate a young persons Champion.

8.6 Intelligence

Through the JOG, identify hot spot locations and develop appropriate multi agency action plans and identify individuals suitable for targeting within the ASBO policy

Gather information and take action on repeat offenders in respect of alcohol related violence linked to ASB.

More detailed analysis of ages of perpetrators, type and geographical locations of incidents and times of day/year etc is needed to help develop prevention strategies.

8.7 Enforcement

Use the appropriate legislation including section 30, Section 59 and Designated Public Places Order.

Engagement of partners through local action groups linked to neighbourhood priorities.

Support Housing Associations in using interventions aimed at reducing ASB by or against their tenants.

8.8 Reassurance

Real time interventions with partners to combat recognised signal crimes, e.g. graffiti removal.

Robust Media policy including positive interventions and results.

Support the use of Neighbourhood Policing Tools, e.g. Street meetings, SNIQ's, SNEVA's and CCR's to identify community priorities, and conduct results analysis of same.

Support Social Landlords estate walkabouts, identifying needs on their estates.

Encourage and support projects aimed at increasing tolerance and understanding, eg community mediation or intergenerational projects

Total number of incidents 4369

Recommendation to South Staffordshire Community Safety Partnership;- This is a priority area for South Staffordshire

Section 8. References

- The 2001 Census;
 - Adult & Community Development Plan 2004-2007, Staffordshire County Council
 - All crime & incidents section, Chase Strategic Assessment September 2006, Chase Intelligence Cell;
 - Business Objects report for BVPI 129a: Number of offenders charged, reported for summons or cautioned for supply offences in respect of drug offences period 01/09/04 to 31/07/05 and 01/09/05 to 31/07/06;
 - Chase Anti social behaviour Officers;
 - Chase Division Risk Matrix & Threat Assessment August 2006, Chase Intelligence Cell;
 - Community Safety in Staffordshire 2006, Research Business Unit, Development Services Directorate, Staffordshire County Council;
 - Force Intelligence Bureau Strategic Analyst, August 2006;
 - Health Profile for South Staffordshire District, Department of Health 2006;
 - PC Andy Clarke, Chase Division Hate Crime Officer, September 2006;
 - South Staffordshire Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008;
 - South Staffordshire Domestic Violence Strategy 2006-2009
 - National Crime Victimization Survey Violent Crime Trends 1973-2005
 - Trends in Violent Crime since 1999/2000 – The Institute for Criminal Policy Research School of Law – King’s College, London (*Mike Hough, Catriona Mirlees-Black, Michelle Dale*)
 - Respect Action Plan
 - Police Reform Act 2002
 - South Staffordshire Council User Satisfaction Survey
 - South Staffordshire Viewpoint Summer 2007 Survey
 - The State of Staffordshire September 2007
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PESTELO

The PESTELO analysis is adapted from the PESTLE analysis which is a tool used to find out the current status and position of an organisation in relation to their external environment. It covers Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental, Legal, and organisational.

For the purposes of producing this strategic assessment each of these factors will be considered in terms of the national, regional and local context.

Category	Factors
Political	<p>Respect agenda The Respect Task Force was established as a cross-Governmental organisation in September 2005. Headed up by the Government Co-ordinator for Respect, Louise Casey, it is responsible for co-ordinating and delivering the Respect Action Plan. The Respect Task Force works closely with local areas to ensure that the Respect Programme is delivered successfully across the country as well as developing policy and communicating the Respect message to a variety of audiences.</p> <p>PCSO's Police Community Support Officers are members of support staff employed, directed and managed by their Police Force. They will work to complement and support regular police officers, providing a visible and accessible uniformed presence to improve the quality of life in the community and offer greater public reassurance. PCSOs are not replacement police officers but are there to address some of the tasks that do not require the experience or powers held by police officers, which often take officers away from more appropriate duties. South Staffordshire currently has 11 PCSOs who work across the district.</p> <p>Police Profiling Police Division (Chase) is divided into neighbourhood policing units to deliver neighbourhood style of policing, which gives ownership of the neighbourhood and its issues, fostering links with the community, at the same time being visible and offering reassurance. This model also works in partnership. Police Profiling itself draws upon crime research & data, as well as new legislation.</p>

South Staffordshire Council's Political Makeup

The District of South Staffordshire is served directly by 49 District Councillors, there are also 8 County Councillors representing wards in South Staffordshire who sit in Staffordshire County Council. The District is also represented by 3 members of parliament. Councillors are elected every four years and are democratically accountable to residents of their ward. There are 42 conservative, 1 labour, 1 Liberal Democrat, and Five independent members.

Staffordshire County Political Makeup

There are 62 County Councillors who are elected every four years.

- Labour 32
- Conservatives 27
- Liberal Democrats 2
- Independent 1

Health Scrutiny

The NHS Plan created a vision for involving patients and the public in decisions about health and healthcare, this included the introduction of local authority overview and scrutiny committees.

Fire

Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire Authority was created as a separate body corporate in 1997, The Fire Authority became the Fire and Rescue Authority with the implementation of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. It consists of 25 councillors, six appointed by Stoke-on-Trent City Council and 19 by Staffordshire County Council. There are no independent members. The fire service employs firefighters and others to give fire safety advice to fight fires and attend road traffic accidents and other emergencies such as flooding. They have a statutory duty to community fire safety.

National Community Safety Plan

The National Community Safety Plan underlines the need for residents to be active in helping to identify community safety priorities for their local areas and to work with key agencies to make sure they are tackled.

The key themes in the plan are:

- Making communities stronger and more effective
- Further reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, creating safer environments
- Protecting the public and building confidence

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving people's lives, so they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend
<p>Economic</p>	<p>South Staffordshire - Local Context</p> <p>The economy of South Staffordshire was traditionally a mix between agriculture, manufacturing and the production industries. Manufacturing continues to be of importance in the district although production industries have now all but disappeared. There has been some restructuring of the economy, with increased levels of importance in service industries – particularly Distribution, Hotels and Catering, and Public Administration, Education and Health. Banking, Finance and Insurance are also important within the district.</p> <p>The economic competitiveness of the area is shaped by relatively low levels of productivity in the area, including around the strong manufacturing base and slightly lower levels of enterprise in terms of new firm creation, measured by new VAT registrations. South Staffordshire has 33 registrations for VAT per 1000 over 16 population compared to 38 in England as a whole. It is slightly lower than the levels of Staffordshire County and the West Midlands Region. The employment rate in the district (78.1%) is higher than national (74.3%) and regional (72.9%) averages. The working age and economically active are broadly similar to Staffordshire County, regional and national averages. There are certain pockets of the district however with economic activity rates which fall below the national average. Featherstone and Shareshill, Huntington and Hatherton all have Economic Activity rates below the national average. In other wards rates tend to exceed the national average. Unemployment in the district is below the regional and national averages and slightly above the county average.</p> <p>Unemployment tends to be concentrated in certain pockets which experience other forms of socio-economic deprivation. Parts of Huntington and Hatherton and Wombourne and South West have the highest levels of unemployment.</p> <p>South Staffordshire average household income was £34,200 in 2006, slightly above the GB average of £32,400. However pockets of low income do exist, particularly in the more deprived parts of South Staffordshire. For example in Huntington and Hatherton ward, mean household income is just over £28,600 per annum, compared to £39,500 in Perton East ward. Average annual wages in South Staffordshire are slightly lower than for Great Britain as a whole. Mean gross annual pay for all employee jobs in the district stands at £26,385 (93.9% of the Great Britain average of £28,106). This wage level is however the 3rd greatest in the county. While unemployment in the district is relatively low, some parts of the district suffer from higher than average levels of claimants for Income Support and Incapacity Benefit. Claimant rates tend to be highest in Huntington and Hatherton, Bilbrook and Wombourne South West. South Staffordshire has not seen development or major regeneration to the same extent as some of the other local authority districts in Staffordshire. Its location</p>

adjacent to the Black Country and wider West Midlands conurbation means that the district comes under some pressure to accommodate growth. The Major Investment Site at Wobaston Road (i54) has recently benefited from planning permission and could create or safeguard around 6,000 jobs for South Staffordshire and the wider Black Country area.

Regeneration of I54

The Regional development Agency has finalised plans for its flagship £67 million i54 development in Wolverhampton. The site is on the border of South Staffordshire with plans to transform 220 acres of brownfield land next to the M54 by 2020. There are plans for a major single occupier using up to 135,000sq metres of floor space; a Technology Gateway of iconic buildings for hi-tech companies and business support services; high quality offices suitable for corporate businesses; a four-star hotel; a small business village; and plots of various sizes to attract SMEs and start-ups.

CDRP funding / LAA unknown funding arrangements

Funding for South Staffordshire's Community Safety Team comes from Safer and Stronger Communities fund. The County Council agreed 2007/08 funding would be passported to the Districts. 2008/09 funding arrangements have yet to be clarified. This fund received a 14% cut earlier in the financial year.

Temporary enhancement of rural prosperity

Tourism also makes an important contribution to the local economy, helping to diversify job opportunities, sustain farming through farm diversification and attract income to the District. However there could be pressure in the future provision of new facilities such as hotels, caravan and camping sites, chalet sites and holiday villages, golf courses and other sporting and leisure facilities. Many of these developments may be associated with farm diversification as farmers look for alternative uses for land and redundant buildings.

LPSA2

Staffordshire County Council entered its second Local Public Service Agreement in October 2005. The agreement covers the period 1 April 2005 to 31st March 2008 and includes 13 stretch targets, which if the County Council and partners are successful in achieving the Government will pay a reward grant. The Community Safety team contribute to the delivery of a number of these targets including:

- Reducing domestic violence
- Improving perceptions of anti –social behaviour
- Improving road safety
- Reducing arson / deliberate fire setting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving street scene <p>House prices South Staffordshire is a very attractive place to live and as a result has seen rapid housing expansion in the last 30 years, as it has proved appealing to people moving out from nearby major urban areas (MUAs). The District is dominated by the sphere of influences from the MUAs with Wolverhampton having the largest influence, but also Dudley in the south of the District and Walsall in the northeast of the District. As the trend has been for outward migration into the District from the MUAs, and the Green Belt having an impact on land supply, house prices in the District are considerably higher than in the conurbation and it is one of the most expensive parts of Staffordshire.</p>
Social	<p>Population demographics In the twenty years between 1982 and 2002 the population of South Staffordshire grew by 9.7% compared with an increase of 2.4% for the West Midlands as a whole, reflecting the fact that our villages prove very attractive as places to live for the people of the West Midlands conurbation. The 2003 mid year estimate show that South Staffordshire has a population of 105, 482, projected figures for 2020 expected to be 103,000, showing a gradual decline in population across the District.</p> <p>These trends have undermined efforts to regenerate the conurbation, making housing less affordable for local people, (average house prices in the District are currently £187,544 compared with £172,003 nationally (quarter one figures for 2005/06 from the Land Registry), and put great pressure on the built and natural environment of the District.</p> <p>The demographic changes affecting the District are dramatic and are typified by the general ageing population, particularly the very old. Overall 20.2% of the population are of retirement age or older which compares with 18.5 % in England and Wales.</p> <p>The other significant feature is the decline of the 0-19 age group. This will clearly have a longer term impact on household formation and local authority services.</p> <p>The population is predominately white with 98.04% classing themselves in this ethnic group in the April 2001 Census. This is above the national figure of 91.31%. The main minority ethnic groups are Indian (0.75% compared to a national figure of 1.99%), Black Caribbean (0.21% compared to a national figure of 1.08%) and Chinese (0.11% compared to a national figure of 0.44%).</p>

V festival

South Staffordshire stands out as witnessing by far the highest number of drug possession offences with 4.5 per 1000 population. This high rate can be attributed to the annual 'V' festival held in Weston Park, during which an extremely high number of drug arrests are made.

Religion

Census data shows that the majority of residents in the district are Christian.

Christian	88,459	83.53%
Buddist	104	0.10%
Hindu	254	0.24%
Jewish	31	0.03%
Muslim	173	0.16%
Sikh	496	0.47%
Other	143	0.14%
No Religion	9,787	9.24%
Not Stated	6,449	6.09%
	105,896	100.00%

Public reassurance / Fear of crime

Reducing fear of crime is a national priority. Research shows that elderly people particularly worry about being a victim of crime more than any other age group, and that crime in rural communities is relatively low but there is often a high level of fear of crime in these areas. South Staffordshire experiences rates of concern that are lower than the county average. When asked about what makes an area a good place to live, people in South Staffordshire district stated the most important issue by far was a low level of crime (two thirds of residents mentioned it as one of their five most important factors).

Education

There are 36 primary schools, and 11 secondary / middle schools in South Staffordshire District. There are no further Education Collages in the District, but facilities can be found in nearby Stafford and Cannock Chase. Rodbaston agricultural college is found in the district and provides a locally important agricultural college is found

	<p>in the district and provides a locally important agricultural education purpose.</p> <p>Attainment as Key stage 2 in South Staffordshire is above the national, regional and county averages in English, Maths and Science.</p> <p>Attainment as GCSE level in the District is good. A higher proportion of students (57%) passed 5 or more GCSEs at grade A* to C than as England as a whole.</p> <p>Skills and qualification levels among the working age population in the district are just below national averages, with a higher proportion of people with no qualifications and lower proportions of people with higher qualifications.</p> <p>South Staffordshire has slightly lower levels of its working age population achieving a Level 2 qualification than England in both literacy and numeracy – a Level 2 qualification is defined as a GCSE or equivalent pass at A* to C.</p>
<p>Technological</p>	<p>CCTV The scheme first became operational in March 2002. Substantial grant assistance towards the start up costs were received from the Home Office’s national CCTV initiative and the balance of the costs was funded by South Staffordshire Council together with several of the local Parish Councils (namely Codsall, Great Wyrley and Swindon).</p> <p>The scheme initially comprised of 22 cameras linked to a central control room located inside Codsall Police Station. A further 10 cameras have since been added, including 2 no. at Penkridge train station (these were installed by Central Trains and are currently being monitored on their behalf). The Home Office CCTV funding stream ceased after March 2004 and no further cameras are planned at present.</p> <p>The scheme is jointly authorised by the Council’s Chief Executive and Staffordshire Police’s Chief Constable. The CCTV equipment is wholly owned, operated and maintained by the Council. The scheme operates in accordance with the Policy, Procedures & Strategy that have been agreed by the Staffordshire CCTV Users Group, which is a partnership between Staffordshire Police and Staffordshire Local Authorities.</p> <p>ANPR – Automatic number plate Automatic Number Plate Recognition is a device attached to several of the CCTV cameras located in South Staffordshire. The device is linked to a database at the CCTV monitoring control room based at Codsall Police</p>

Station. When a car with a suspect number plate passes the camera, an alarm sounds in the control room indicating that a suspect vehicle is in the district. Depending on the nature of the information contained on the database (which can range from non payment of tax to known drug dealers), police will be informed via the two-way communication system.

Information Sharing Regulations

These regulations came into force on 1st August 2007, and pertain to the nature of information to be shared between relevant authorities. The information must be shared at least quarterly, and the duty to share will commence on 1st October 2007. In each instance, responsible authorities are only required to provide such data as they already possess. There are no requirements to collect additional information.

Flycapture

Flycapture is a web-based, fly-tipping database for England and Wales which helps local authorities and the Environment Agency tackle fly-tipping. It was introduced in the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and became 'live' on the we in April 2004. It is managed by the Environment Agency, on behalf of the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and is a strategic tool that helps local authorities to improve intelligence on fly-tipping and focus resources on fly-tipping hot spots. All contributors have access to figures at local, regional and national level.

Covalent

The Covalent Performance Management Software package was purchased by South Staffordshire Council to enhance the monitoring and management of performance information across the council. It allows data such as statistical data to be collated, analysed and reported in a format that is easy to understand and consistent across the authority. The Community Safety Partnership also use Covalent to report their data each quarter and annually with performance measured against locally set targets and reported to both South Staffordshire Council's elected members and the Audit Commission. The system uses a set of 'Traffic Light' (Red, Amber and Green) symbols to denote whether performance is on target or not and also allows a note to explain performance to added. Covalent is also used to monitor and report action plans. It is currently utilised to monitor the Partnership Services Service Plan (which includes a set of actions for the CSP) and reports are submitted to the relevant officers and elected members when required.

Mobile home working

South Staffordshire Council currently does not have an agreed policy on home or mobile working in place. The council does however, have the IT capacity to introduce such ways of working and there are already some limited

	<p>examples of Home and Mobile working already being trailed. The Councils Virtual Private Network (VPN) is now in place and the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Directors and the Executive all have access to this - thus enabling them to work from home and access critical information if required. South Staffordshire Council also has 'Front End Exchange' available to those staff and members who require it. This allows staff and councillors to access their e-mails and electronic diaries whilst out of the office or using mobile technology such as PDAs or Tablet PCs. Take up is, at the moment low however and much work needs to be done to encourage greater take up of this.</p> <p>Mobile Working South Staffordshire Council is one of only five councils across the country taking part in a trail of mobile working using 'Tablet' technology to update Housing and Council Tax Benefit claims on-site i.e. in the homes of the claimants themselves. The aim of this Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) sponsored project is to reduce the amount of time spent updating claims and reduce the amount of bureaucracy involved in such updates. If successful, it will be retained and similar projects will be introduced.</p>
<p>Legal</p>	<p>Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Bill On 7 April 2005 the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill received Royal Assent following a successful passage through Parliament to become the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act deals with many of the problems affecting the quality of our local environment - which forms part of a continuum with anti-social behaviour, vandalism, disorder and levels of crime.</p> <p>The Act provides local authorities, parish and community councils and the Environment Agency with more effective powers and tools to tackle poor environmental quality and anti-social behaviour. In particular the Act includes sections on nuisance and abandoned vehicles, litter, graffiti, waste, noise and dogs.</p> <p>Fireworks Act The Fireworks Act makes it an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let fireworks off in a public place. A public place is anything other than your own property such as parks, the street or at school. • For anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in a public place (other than a sparkler). • Possess public display fireworks by anyone other than a firework professional.

- Set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am - apart from on 5 November, Diwali, New Year's Eve and the Chinese New Year, when the curfew is extended to midnight.
- It is illegal for shops to sell fireworks without an appropriate licence. Shopkeepers must also display a notice for customers, explaining the law.
- There is a compulsory training course and a 120-decibel noise limit for all those organising large public fireworks displays.
- If you misuse fireworks and break the law you could be fined or be issued with an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO)

Section 17

Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act requires (by imposing a legal duty on) all local authorities, including joint authorities, police authorities, National Park authorities and the Broads Authority to consider crime and disorder implications while exercising their duties. It also places a duty on responsible authorities to all that they reasonably can to prevent crime & disorder in their area, subject to complying with any separate legal obligation imposed upon them.

"Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area."

This duty will normally extend to any co-operating person or organisation, where they have agreed to co-operate in the exercise of the functions on behalf of a responsible authority. This should ideally be in the form of a written agreement and where the exchange of personal information is envisaged, a suitable information sharing protocol, clearly outlining compliance with common law and relevant statutory restrictions (such as the Data Protection Act 1998).

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 does not allow for the blanket disclosure of personal information for crime & disorder purposes. It is a requirement of the Data Protection Act, that the minimum amount of personal information should be exchanged, where this is necessary to fulfil a specific objective, which requires it (for example, preparing an anti-social behaviour order). Non-personal or de-personalised information should be exchanged for general crime and disorder analysis. This should constitute the bulk of cross-departmental

information sharing activity.

Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007

The Crime and Disorder Regulations came into force 1st August 2007, and related to the five responsible authorities within the CDRP. There are six regulations concerning:

- CDRP strategy group requirement
- Provisions to facilitate information sharing within CDRPs
- Strategic Assessment preparation requirements
- Requirements for two tier areas to have a county-wide strategy group that will produce a county-wide strategic assessment
- Partnership Plan preparation requirements
- Requirements to ensure that when preparing and implementing a strategic assessment and partnership plan the CDRPs engage with and inform their communities

Local Government White Paper

The Local Government White Paper, Strong and Prosperous Communities refers to placing Community Safety at the heart of the place-shaping role of local authorities – reflecting the high priority that local communities place on community safety issues.

Terrorism Bill

This bill addresses the UK's need to tackle terrorism at home and abroad, particularly in the wake of the 7 July bomb attacks on London. Main provisions of the Bill include:

- Extends maximum pre-trial detention period for terror suspects from 14 to 90 days and amends other investigatory powers
- Introduces new power to outlaw groups which glorify terrorism with intent to incite terrorist acts
- Creates new offence of attending a terrorist training camp or being instructed in the commission, preparation or instigation of terrorism
- Introduces new nuclear terrorist offences
- Sets out new procedures in preparing terrorist cases for trial

Secure by design

Secured by Design is the UK Police flagship initiative supporting the principles of "**designing out crime**" by use

of effective crime prevention and security standards for a range of applications.

Section 106

Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a local planning authority (LPA) to enter into a legally-binding agreement or planning obligation, with a land developer over a related issue. The obligation is sometimes termed as a 'Section 106 agreement'.

Such agreements can cover almost any relevant issue and can include sums of money. Possible examples of S106 agreements could be:

- the developer will transfer ownership of an area of woodland to a LPA with a suitable fee to cover its future maintenance
- the local authority will restrict the development of an area of land, or permit only specified operations to be carried out on it in the future eg, amenity use
- the developer will plant a specified number of trees and maintain them for a number of years
- the developer will create a nature reserve

S106 agreements can act as a main instrument for placing restrictions on the developers, often requiring them to minimise the impact on the local community and to carry out tasks, which will provide community benefits.

Licensing Act

The Licensing Act 2003 came into effect on 24th November 2005, and all premises involved in the sale of alcohol or the provision of late night refreshments or regulated entertainments need to apply for a licence from the District Council from 7th February 2005 (the first appointed day).

This effects the way in which pubs, clubs, restaurants, cinema's etc are licensed and it will become the responsibility of local authorities to license these premises in future. In addition, new licences will apply to businesses that do not currently hold licences, such as some take away outlets, including burger vans, chip shops

and kebab vans.

South Staffordshire Council will accept applications for;

- Premises Licences
- Club Premises Certificates
- Personal Licences
- Temporary Event Notices

These Licences will be required for:

- the sale or supply of alcohol,
- the provision of regulated entertainment, and/or
- the supply of late night refreshment.

Violent Crime Reduction Bill

The Violent Crime Reduction Bill ensures that police and local communities have the necessary powers to reduce violent crimes involving imitation guns, knives and alcohol in their neighbourhood.

The Bill includes new powers to ban the manufacture and sale of imitation firearms and toughen sentences for carrying imitation firearms, increase the age limit for purchasing a knife to 18 and ban those individuals responsible for alcohol-related violence from specific areas for up to two years.

Road Safety Bill

This bill improves road safety measures to reduce casualties on the roads.

- Police given power to use roadside breath testing admissable as evidence
- Offenders disqualified for two years or more to re-take the driving test, closing a loophole allowing those at highest risk of re-offending to drive pending medical enquiries and encouraging take-up of the Drink Drive Rehabilitation Scheme and introducing an experimental scheme for alcohol ignition interlocks
- Variable fixed penalties for speeding, increasing the range of penalty points from 3-6 to 2-6 and

	<p>maximum penalties increased for other road traffic offenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bans the carriage or use of speed camera detectors and jammers • Exemptions from speed limits and other traffic restrictions allowed in certain cases, such as donor vehicles • Provision is made to prevent foreign drivers escaping punishment in the UK by requiring them to pay a deposit where an offence is committed • Gives police the power to detect uninsured driving through the use of Automatic Number Plate Reading technology • Gives police access to insurance data and confers new enforcement powers on vehicle examiners
<p>Environmental</p>	<p>Climate Change Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge facing the world today. Rising global temperatures will bring changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. The effects will be felt here in the UK and internationally there may be severe problems for people in regions that are particularly vulnerable to change. South Staffordshire Council are currently producing their first Climate Change Strategy which will set out a range of options which aim to reduce CO2 emissions.</p>
<p>Organisational</p>	<p>LAA The Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement between central Government and the local authorities, and other partners in an area. It represents a fundamental change in the relationship between central government and local areas, to devolve greater decision making and flexibility to a local area so that local, joint action can be taken on local priorities.</p> <p>LAA's reflect the long term vision for local government, providing a framework for addressing key national policies while focusing on local needs, priorities and delivery. Essentially, they are about working better, closer and smarter together.</p> <p>LAA's have been developed and implemented in phases throughout the country. The pilot LAA's began in April 2005, whereas Staffordshire is a third and final phase LAA. This means that the Staffordshire LAA began implementation on 1st April 2007.</p> <p>The LAA is based around five priority areas or 'blocks' each of which has a Block Lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young People

- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Economic Development and Enterprise
- Sustainable Development

The targets under these blocks are set for three years. Importantly, whilst the LAA may be structured around these five blocks many of the targets will cut across the themes.

Local Strategic Partnership

South Staffordshire's Local Strategic Partnership is currently undergoing a restructure. Community Safety are a thematic group of the partnership.

Crime/ Criminality/ Incidents For the period 05.07.06-05.07.07	Locality One=Penkrige & District=CE4	Locality Two = Wheaton Aston, Brewood & Coven = CE1	Locality Three=Essington, Featherstone, Cheslyn Hay & Great Wyrley=CE2 & 3	Locality Four=CF2 & 1	Locality Five=CF3, 4, 5, 6 & 7	Totals
Violence against the person (children)	12	7	33	20	11	83
Violence against the person (adults)	81	66	168	71	76	462
R.T.C - Slight injury	40	29	63	35	80	247
Criminal damage inc. mv	179	140	419	249	380	1367
Vehicle related nuisance	84	21	121	63	95	384
Business theft e.g. shoplifting + drive-off crime	49	27	254	76	35	441
Theft from vehicle	110	105	217	50	111	593
Neighbour disputes	52	18	75	62	61	268
Domestic Violence (inc. juveniles & unidentified repeats)	232	100	416	257	186	1191
Burglary - other inc. commercial burglary	82	89	214	67	139	591
Domestic burglary	54	38	141	56	51	340
Theft of vehicle	45	27	108	24	69	273
Drugs Possession (Class A-C)	27	28	40	13	56	164
R.T.C - Serious injury	3	3	4	0	4	14
Fireworks nuisance	16	6	15	9	14	60
R.T.C Death	0	0	1	0	3	4
Arson inc. FARS code	30	18	48	24	61	181
Hate crime	1	3	6	3	3	16
Racial Crime	4	1	21	5	10	41
Noise Nuisance - pubs& clubs	13	1	4	9	3	30
Substance Misuse/Drugs Information	5	14	9	2	6	36
All ASB	227	78	324	268	262	1159
Sexual Violence (not rape)	7	5	12	12	11	47
ASB - Animal involment	31	22	31	22	36	142
Distraction Burglary	4	1	0	3	3	11
Street drinking (inc. under-age)	9	1	20	17	10	57
Fly-tipping/Littering	1	1	7	2	7	18
Purposely abandoned vehicles (inc. stolen)	22	20	75	16	37	170
Public Disorder	30	7	54	30	26	147
Class A Drug supply	0	4	8	0	0	12