



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Public Performance Meeting

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Service Development Unit

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Foreword from Chief Constable Gareth Morgan

We face significant challenges; nationally, for the first time in several years we are seeing crime rates rise, and this is not just a result of more confidence in reporting or changes to Home Office reporting standards. In addition, we face a raft of new and emerging threats, including cyber-enabled crime – be that online fraud, or the pernicious use of the internet to groom and abuse the young. Nationally our communities face a growing risk from extremism, as terror-related incidents have illustrated. Ensuring our strategic capabilities can address these risks is a priority for all forces across the UK.

Alongside the challenge of rising and increasingly complex demand, the force is facing sustained financial pressure and we will need to make further significant savings from our annual budget by March 2021 on top of the savings we have already delivered since 2010. This means that we will need to review our plans for the coming years and make some difficult decisions.

We understand people's concerns around any rise in crime and the impact it can have on the quality of life for those who live, work and visit Staffordshire and we will continue to prioritise the crimes that cause the greatest harm, as well as tackling the issues that cause local concern. We are working hard to continue to transform how we operate to maximise efficiency and performance and achieve the best outcomes for our communities.

This summer the force implemented a new policing model changing the way we are structured and organised to deliver our service. The new model places a premium on better understanding, managing and reducing demand; improving our connection with our communities; and our ability to act earlier to protect the most vulnerable and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

This has seen a major investment in providing additional focus and resource to neighbourhood policing. These officers are focusing more on proactive policing in communities, developing specialist capabilities for more complex crime and working with our partners to find effective ways of intervening early to prevent crime and harm. We have also invested in our investigations and emergency response capability and we have created new Resolution Centres to deal with non-emergency cases which is helping to improve efficiency.

Alongside this, the force continues to modernise its working practices and embed a culture of continuous improvement; improve the well-being and welfare of officers and staff, while becoming more reflective of the communities we police; and exploit technology more effectively to modernise our policing practices. Our developing performance framework underpins our commitment to continuous improvement, as we reflect on what we do well, and build on it; and where we need to improve. Our results continue to be monitored and scrutinised against our five strategic outcomes which directly align to the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan Objectives.

Executive Summary

Across England and Wales the volume of recorded crime is increasing and becoming more complex. The increase nationally amounts to 9.6% or 433,000 more crimes during the last 12 months.

The National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) acknowledge that police forces continue to see increases driven by better recording practices and improved victim confidence in coming forward to report crimes like domestic violence and non-recent sexual abuse.

Rises in public order, sexual offences and in violence without injury have been major factors. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) attributes these increases to improved crime recording processes and victims having greater confidence to report incidents to the police – which is particularly important for those experiencing domestic abuse, sexual offences and harassment. Police forces are not complacent about any crime rises, even if analysis suggests changes to recording and reporting are behind these figures. Latest estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales showed that only 2 out of 10 adults experienced crime in the latest year.

The latest estimate released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) captured through the Crime Survey for England and Wales, showed an 8% increase in theft compared with the previous year. The overall increase in theft was not driven by one type of theft, but non-significant increases across many subcategories. For types of theft thought to be relatively well reported and recorded, police recorded crime data can also provide useful insights. The police have recorded increases in theft over the past year, but the annual increase is lower than seen in recent quarters.

Staffordshire Police is currently rated by HMICFRS as having “Good” Crime Data Integrity (CDI). Forces rated less than “Good” are likely to see substantial increases in their number of crimes following a CDI inspection.

Overall, the picture for Staffordshire mirrors the national picture and the Force recorded 84,187 crimes in the last 12 months to the end of September 2018. This represents an increase of 2% compared to the previous 12 months. There has been a growth in some of the ‘traditional’ acquisitive crimes or those high harm crimes like violence, domestic abuse and sexual assaults.

Acquisitive type crime has seen a reduction in the last 12 months, however four crime types within this category have increased. Business Robbery by 12%; Personal Robbery by 26%; Theft of Motor Vehicles by 39%; and Burglary Business and Community by 14% and three of these are explored further in the report.

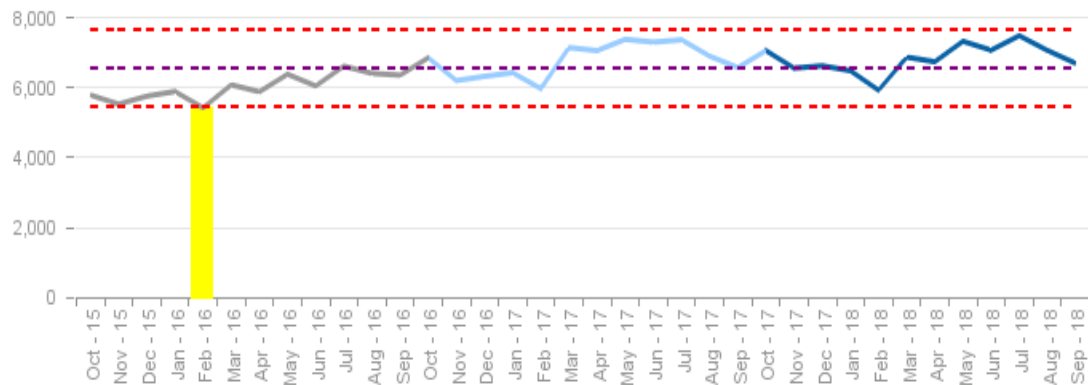
Violence against the Person has increased by 7% and the majority of this increase is ‘Other’ violent crime. This crime type has the most significant volume increase particularly over the last 2-3 year and represents 55% (1,658 crimes) of the overall crime increase. It includes non-physical type violent crimes such as harassment, malicious communications and stalking.

Sexual offences have increased by 6% and the majority of the increase is Rape and Other Serious Sexual offences. Rape has increased by 11% which equates to 115 more offences and this has been increasing sharply since the latter half of 2012. Other Serious Sexual offences have increased by 7% which equates to 105 more offences.

Overall Crime Performance

Over the last three years crime has steadily increased and this can be seen from the chart below. This has created a new level of demand across several crime types.

In the last 12 months to the year ending 30th September 2018, committed crime has continued to increase gradually by 1% or 404 additional offences.



When looking at the increases and decreases in crime, the table below shows crimes by committed date for all types, except Sexual and Drug Offences where we use recorded date due to historic sexual offences and crime recording rules for drug offences.

Less than half of the crime types have seen an increase and certain ones have risen more sharply than others.

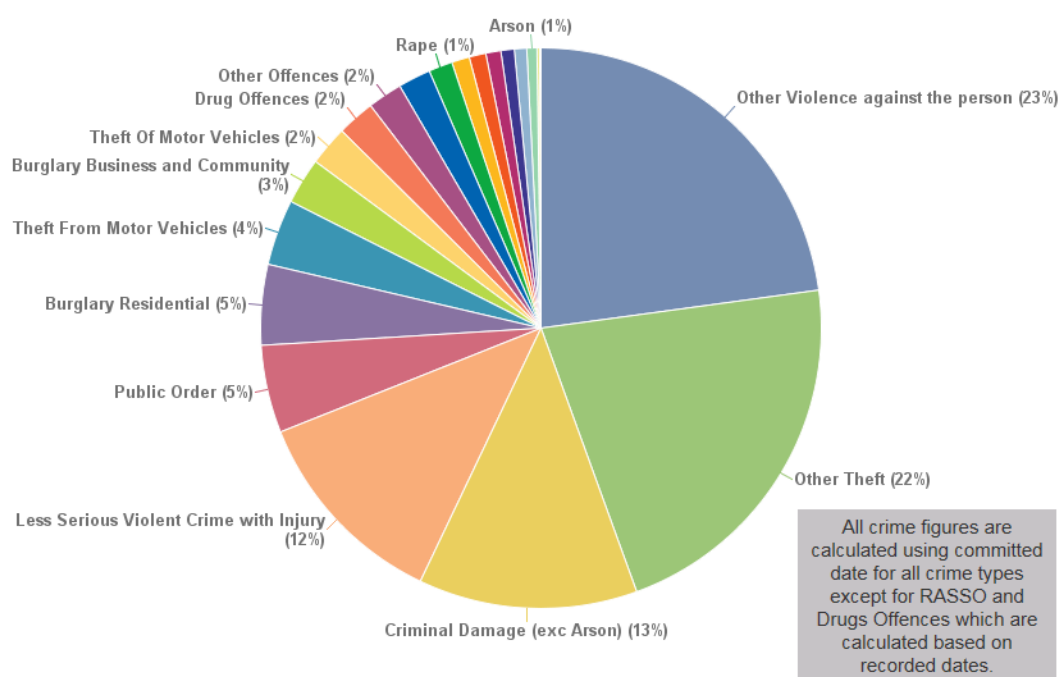
The table below shows these ordered from highest to lowest in terms of % change.

Crime Types	Last 12 months	Proportion of Total	Previous 12 months	Total % Change	Difference
Theft Of Motor Vehicles	1907	2%	1371	39%	536
Personal Robbery	799	1%	634	26%	165
Possession of weapons	721	1%	595	21%	126
Burglary Business and Community	2217	3%	1939	14%	278
Business Robbery	129	0%	115	12%	14
Rape	1140	1%	1025	11%	115
Other Violence against the person	18955	23%	17297	10%	1658
Other Serious Sexual Offences	1561	2%	1454	7%	107
Less Serious Violent Crime with Injury	9864	12%	9951	-1%	-87
Criminal Damage (exc Arson)	10479	13%	10603	-1%	-124
Other Theft	17948	22%	18358	-2%	-410
Public Order	4197	5%	4299	-2%	-102
Arson	483	1%	503	-4%	-20
Theft From Motor Vehicles	3151	4%	3365	-6%	-214
Other Sexual Offences	640	1%	684	-6%	-44
More Serious Violent Crime with Injury	854	1%	937	-9%	-83
Burglary Residential	3850	5%	4287	-10%	-437
Other Offences	1660	2%	1877	-12%	-217
Handling stolen goods	64	0%	73	-12%	-9
Drug Offences	1802	2%	2218	-19%	-416
Vehicle interference	589	1%	739	-20%	-150
Total	83010	100%	82324	1%	686

Last 12 months – 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018

Previous 12 months – 1st October 2016 to 30th September 2017

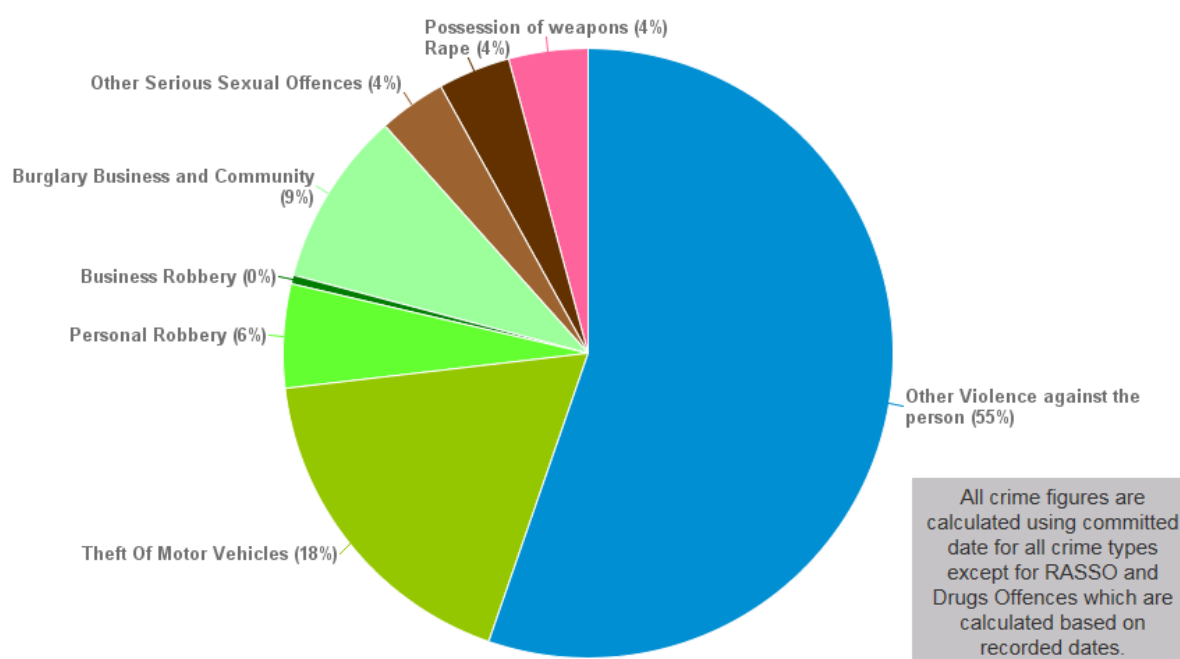
All Crime apportioned by crime type



The proportions of the different crime types have remained fairly static compared to previous year.

The chart below shows how the crime types which are showing an increase are split based on their proportion of the total increase in the last 12 months.

Proportion of the increase by type of crime



Increases compared to the previous 12 months have been seen across 8 crime types. 55% of the increase can be attributed to Other Violence against the Person. This is an area where recent changes to legislation have been introduced since 01/04/2018, relating to harassment and stalking. This has had a tangible effect. Rape and Sexual Offences account for 7% of the increase and Possession of Weapons accounts for 4% of the increase.

Overall Acquisitive crime has seen a reduction in the last 12 months, notably residential burglary has reduced by 10%; Theft from motor vehicle by 6%; and vehicle interference by 20%. However, there have been increases in 4 types of Acquisitive crime:

- Theft of Motor Vehicles accounts for 18% of the increase
- Burglary Business and Community accounts for under 1% of the increase
- Personal Robbery accounts for 6% of the increase
- Business Robbery is 0.5%

There has been variation in relation to increases and decreases across the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, with only 3 showing an increase in the last 12 months.

NPT	Current 12 months	Proportion of Total	Previous 12 months	Total % Change	Difference
SOT South	14221	17%	13345	7%	876
SOT North	15932	19%	15432	3%	500
Lichfield	5546	7%	5489	1%	57
Moorlands	4700	6%	4702	0%	-2
South Staffs	5567	7%	5586	0%	-19
Stafford	7954	10%	8025	-1%	-71
Cannock	6851	8%	6931	-1%	-80
East Staffs	8104	10%	8260	-2%	-156
Tamworth	5659	7%	5778	-2%	-119
Newcastle	8476	10%	8776	-3%	-300
Total	83010	100%	82324	1%	686

Last 12 months – 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018

Previous 12 months – 1st October 2016 to 30th September 2017

Personal Robbery

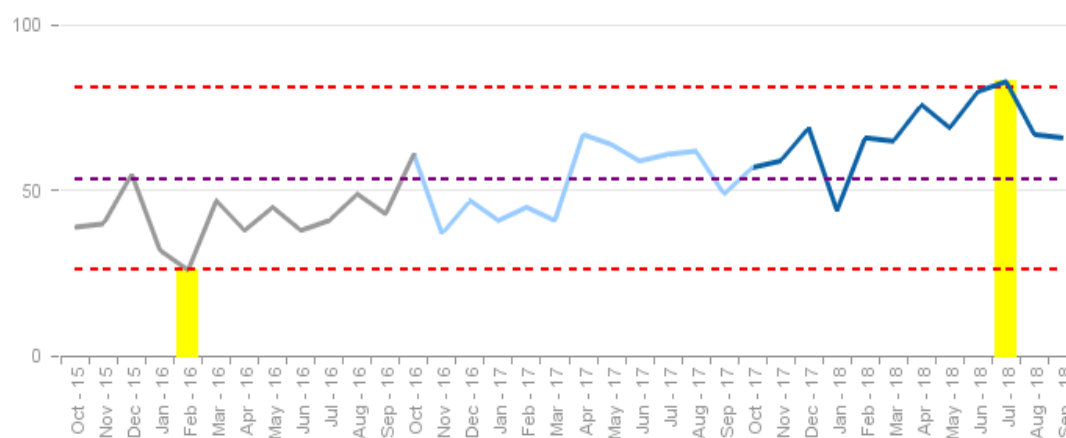
'Robbery from a Person' is property stolen by force or threat to a person.

Examples of this type of crime might be :

- 1) A victim is walking down the street and the suspect grabs his/her shoulder bag causing the victim to fall over.
- 2) A man has his pocket picked he feels it and his wallet or mobile phone are stolen after a tussle.

Over the last three years Personal Robbery crime has increased steadily and this can be seen from the chart below.

Personal Robbery offences rose by 26% or 165 crimes during the period October 2017 – September 2018 compared to the previous 12 months. This is reflected by the overall upward trend thus far in 2018, which breached the upper control limit in July and levels remain above average.



Where is this happening?

The aforementioned rise has been driven by the increased number of crimes of this nature particularly in the East and North areas (20% and 35% respectively).

Eight of the ten Neighbourhood Policing Teams in the Force area recorded an increase, indicating that the rise has occurred across most of the Force, with the largest percentage increase in Stoke on Trent North (53%) where there have been a small number of crimes at repeat locations. By contrast, Personal Robbery offences have been halved in Staffordshire Moorlands over the last 12 months, equating to only 14 committed in that time.

How we compare to other areas?

This is consistent with the national picture which has increased by 20%.

For the 12 month ending May 2018, Staffordshire is ranked 4th in its group of Most Similar Forces with regard to crime levels per 1000 population, but with a higher rate of increase compared to the group as a whole.

What has happened?

A third of victims are below the age of 30 and a number of offences are committed by individuals linked to groups. A series of personal robbery offences committed by juveniles has occurred, notably in the North of the County

What are we doing about it?

Staffordshire Police has carried out multiple investigations into these crimes (in addition to other associated crimes, e.g. for example, burglary, possession of an offensive weapon).

Further Operational context and problem solving activity:

There are various governance meetings in place to tackle issues such as personal robbery, for example, "CID Accountability Meeting" and our "Neighbourhood Locality Meeting". Another objective of this meeting is to monitor the service to the public, internal partners and our neighbourhood policing teams.

The information provided through our governance structures helps the Force Tasking Process to make excellent risk based decisions.

Robberies are a priority issue for the Force and an action plan is in place to address this. A Force Lead is responsible for the management of the Locality Plan and is accountable for its delivery. Recent activity has resulted in the arrest of 20 individuals and one main offender has received an 18 month prison sentence. There are a number of individuals who have been identified as committing more than one of these offences, some offenders have been imprisoned, charged or are awaiting a court hearing.

Theft of Motor Vehicles

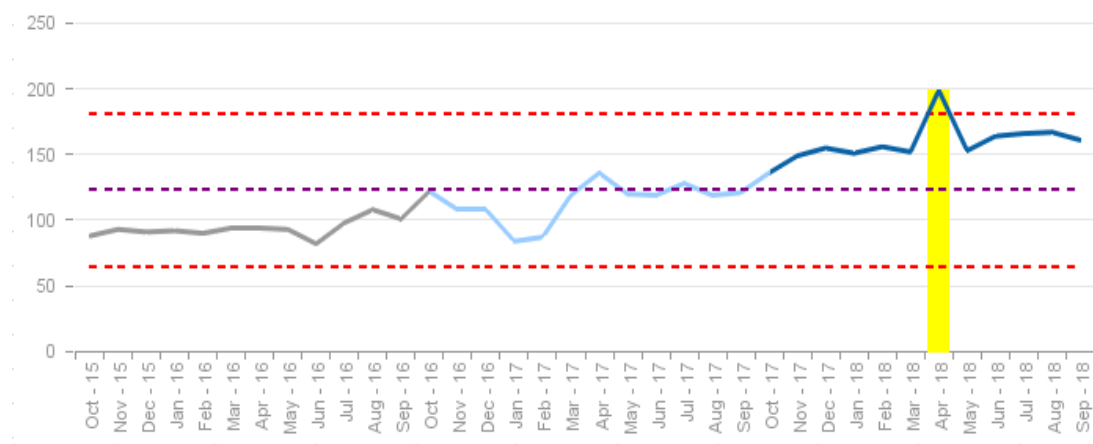
'Theft of Motor Vehicle' is the Theft of a car or goods vehicle.

Examples of this type of crime might be:

- 1) A vehicle is reported stolen and later found abandoned
- 2) Three taxis belonging to same company are reported stolen

Over the last three years Theft of Motor Vehicle crime has increased and this can be seen from the chart below.

The number of Thefts of motor vehicles has increased by 39% or 536 crimes during the period 1st October 2017 – 30th September 2018 compared to the previous 12 months, reflecting the overall upward trend seen over the last 12 months, with crimes continuing to be above average levels.



Where is this happening?

Similar patterns have occurred across Staffordshire.

All ten Neighbourhood Policing Teams have recorded increases over the last 12 months, mostly significantly in South Staffordshire and Lichfield, where increases of 88% and 83% respectively have occurred.

How we compare to other areas?

This type of crime is a national issue.

For the 12 month ending May 2018, Staffordshire is ranked 7th in its group of Most Similar Forces with regard to crime levels per 1000 population, but with a higher rate of increase compared to the group as a whole.

What has happened?

High Performance vehicles have been taken through either traditional methods such as residential burglaries (stealing the keys from inside a house) or by new technology of car key cloning devices. Breaking into someone's home to steal car keys and then using technology to steal their vehicles is currently more advanced than the technology to prevent it.

A series of thefts have been carried out by individuals who are understood to be based in neighbouring Force areas, focusing on rural areas that are located close to the borders.

The new car key cloning devices are available to purchase online and this has enabled the theft to take place easily and away from the property instead of individuals entering homes to steal the keys before making off with the vehicle.

What are we doing about it?

Staffordshire Police continues to focus activity to address this type of crime through daily and structure tasking meetings and also works closely with neighbouring Forces to share information and join resources to bring these individuals to justice.

Further Operational context and problem solving activity:

The purpose of Staffordshire Police's Early Intervention Strategy is to "Tackle root causes before they become a problem".

This is underpinned by 'prevention is better than cure' and one of the early intervention processes currently in place is raising awareness with car owners of potential risks and how they can prevent crime.

Some of the ways this is achieved is through the Force's control room, where call takers are able to provide advice. Police Community Support Officers carry out leaflet drops to make communities aware of this criminal activity and they have received training on the smart alert technology.

The below are examples of recent smart alerts asking the community for information:

“Overnight between the hours of 22.30 and 08.30 a van parked on the driveway of, Hednesford has been stolen and between the hours of 15.00 and 15.30 a van parked on Street, Chadsmoor, Cannock has been stolen. It contained fishing tackles, tools and things for dogs. If anything was seen please contact 101”

“Staffordshire Police is appealing for witnesses following the theft of three motorcycles from ... car park, in Cannock town centre between the 4 and 12 September”.

A Force Lead is responsible for the management of the Locality Plan to address this problem and is accountable for its delivery. Through problem solving activity, in recent months:

- 2 individuals were arrested following the theft of a high performance vehicle in the South Staffs area, the vehicle was found outside Staffordshire.
- 2 individuals were arrested for theft of transit vans in the Lichfield area.
- A vehicle Operation in Lichfield Neighbourhood Policing Team led to the arrest of three individuals.

Burglary Business and Community

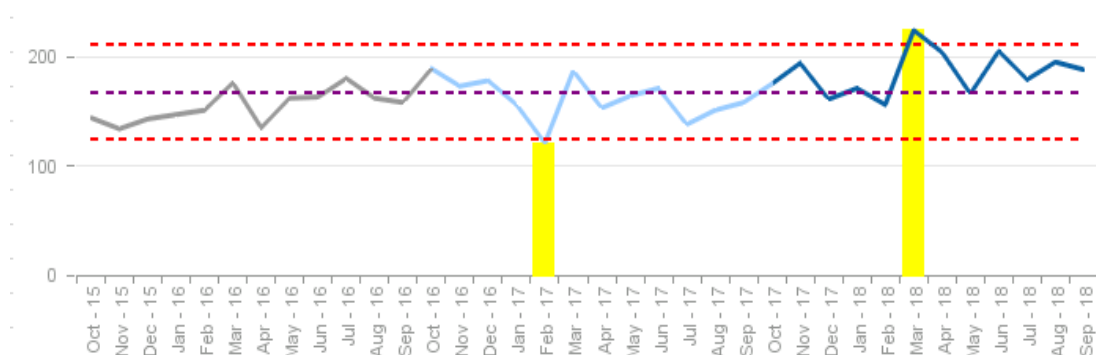
‘Burglary Business and Community’ is the burglary of a premises that would not otherwise be regarded as a residential premises.

Examples of this type of crime might be:

- 1) A warehouse is burgled by a group of five people
- 2) A hotel offering ‘short-stay’ accommodation reports that someone has entered the premises and burgled three rooms

Over the last three years Burglary Business and Community crime has remained relatively stable, but has increased particularly from March 2018 and this can be seen from the chart below.

Burglary business and community offences have risen by 14% or 278 crimes in the period 1st October 2017 – 30th September 2018 and reflects the overall upward trend during that period.



Where is this happening?

The overall Force increase is driven by the rises in the North and West of the County.

Three of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams have achieved reductions in Burglary Business and Community crimes while the other seven have experienced increases. Newcastle, South Staffs, Lichfield and Cannock have in particular experienced rises of note in the last 12 months:

How we compare to other areas?

For the 12 month ending May 2018, Staffordshire is ranked 4th in its group of Most Similar Forces, but with a higher rate of increase compared to the group as a whole.

What has happened?

The types of premises recently targeted are:

- Licensed Premises
- Children's Nurseries
- Convenience stores
- Premises that contain small items of high value, e.g. cash, scratch cards, cigarettes.

What are we doing about it?

Staffordshire Police tackles criminality in a variety of ways and some of these are through task driven meetings, Locality Plans that focus activity such as high visibility patrols and dedicated Operations. Every opportunity is taken to engage with residents, partners, schools, businesses and other agencies through social media or face to face contact.

A different engagement approach was introduced in March 2016 by The Commissioner, called 'Smart Alert'. This service is free and can send instant alerts when a crime has just taken place or someone is missing. Local Businesses also receive alerts relevant to their needs and this commitment is embedded in the Force's Community Engagement Strategy.

By utilising this type of technology, residents and businesses can be more actively involved and act as the 'eyes and ears' of their Community to help stop or prevent crime.

Further Operational context and problem solving activity:

A Force Lead is responsible for the management of the Locality Plan to address this problem and is accountable for its delivery.

A number of individuals committing these types of crime do not reside in Staffordshire and joint working with neighbouring Forces continues.

The individuals responsible for the burglaries on the four licensed premises lived outside the force area and have since been arrested.

The individuals responsible for the children's nurseries burglaries have also been arrested and remanded in custody.

Drugs Offences

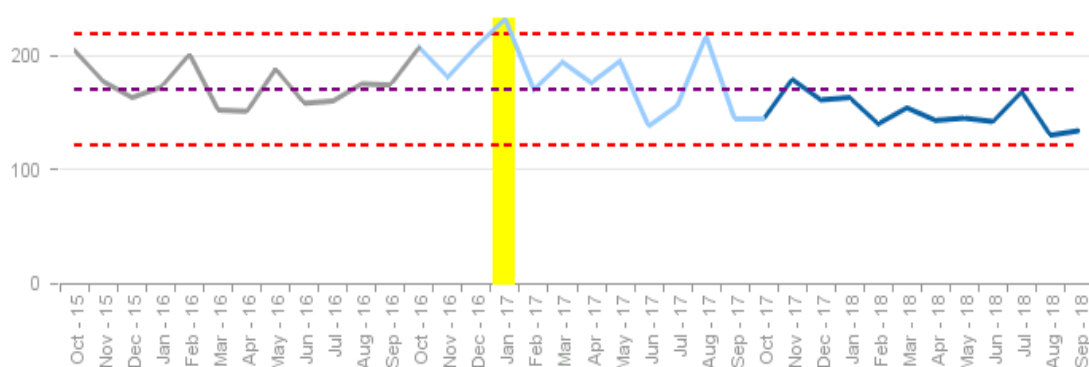
'Drug offences' refers to any drug related offence

Examples of this are

- 1) Possession
- 2) Supply
- 3) Production
- 4) Other

Drugs offences have remained relatively stable until August 2017, however since this time levels have seen a gradual decline and this can be seen from the chart below.

In the last 12 months there has been a reduction in recorded drugs offences of 19% or 419 offences. In recent months the number of drugs crimes recorded has decreased to their lowest levels in the last three years.



Where is this happening?

All Neighbourhood Teams have experienced a reduction in recorded drugs offences. The largest percentage change is in Stafford Neighbourhood Team which has seen a 36% decrease in recorded drugs offences (-90) over last 12 months compared to the same period in the year before. The higher levels in Stoke-on-Trent reflects the issues relating to the drug also known as 'monkey dust', while Tamworth LPT has a higher number of offences relating to the possession of Cocaine.

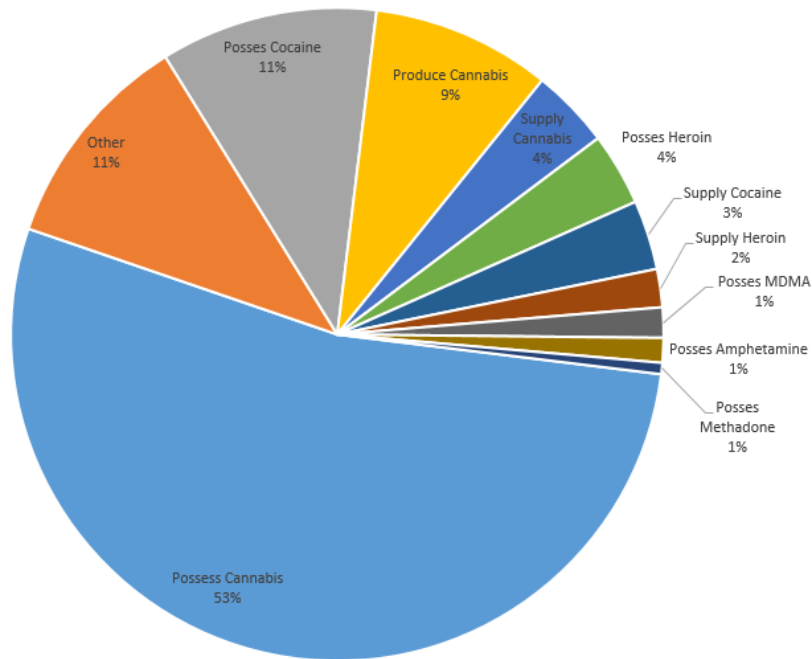
How we compare to other areas?

For the 12 month ending May 2018, Staffordshire is ranked 1st in its group of Most Similar Forces, but with a higher rate of decrease compared to the group as a whole.

What has happened?

Drug types range from Heroin to Cannabis and Possession of Cannabis accounts for approximately half of drugs offences.

Recorded Drugs Crime by Offence Type October 2017 to September 2018

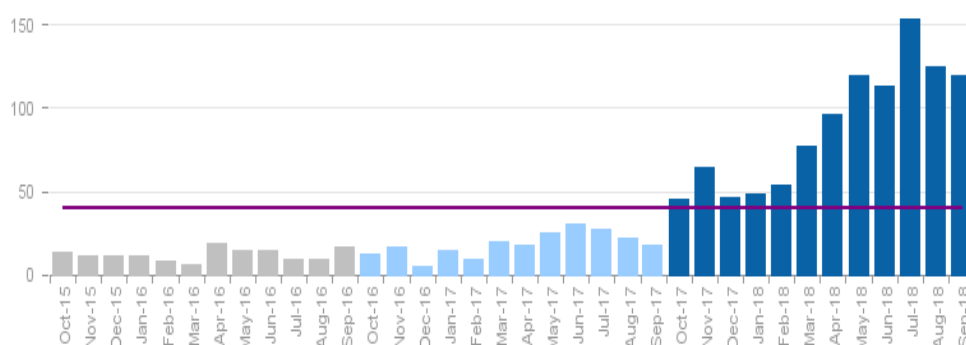


Groups largely source the drugs from outside the County, rather than producing them. Vulnerable people, particularly young people are targeted by offenders to partake in high risk activities such as street dealing and transporting drugs.

The supply of drugs can also have a significant impact on communities in a number of ways such as:-

- devastating impact of the loss of friends and family members to drugs overdose or sustained drug abuse
- Individuals who use these drugs can suffer from psychological ill health such as psychosis
- drug users engaging in criminal activity to fund their habits, or to pay drug debts
- drug related anti-social behaviour

There has been an increase of 384% or 841 Offences in drug related ASB. This does not reflect the reduction in drug related crime. This has been a sustained increase since October 2017 and one of the reasons for this is new recording practices.



In order to understand the trends around drug related ASB there will need to be a significant period of stability in classification to enable like for like comparison between two periods

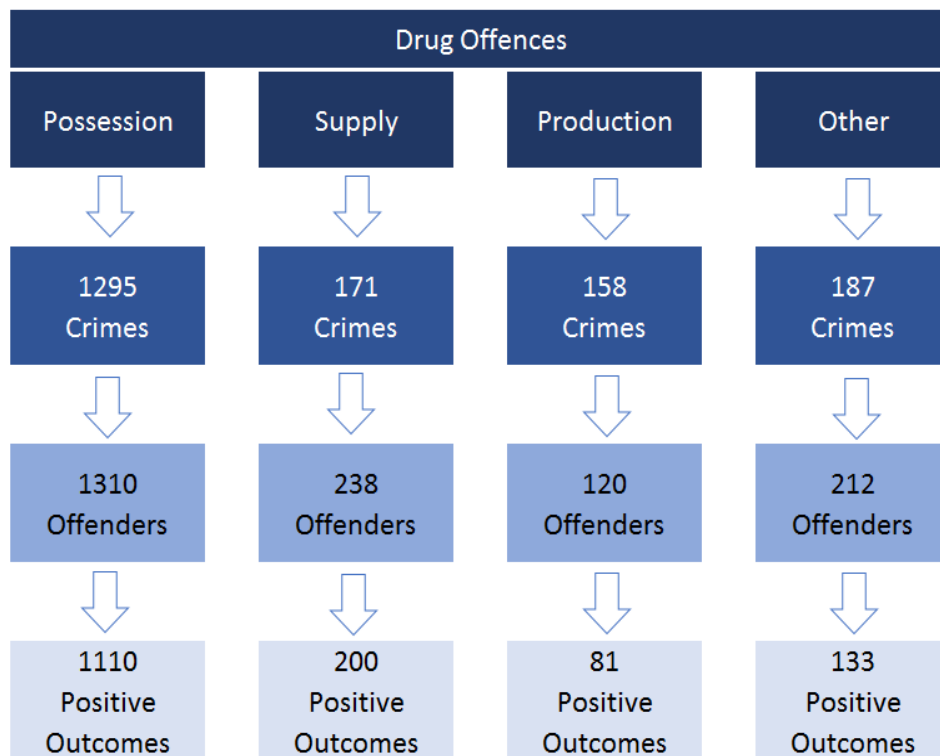
What are we doing about it?

In addition to existing police enforcement activity, the Force has introduced Neighbourhood Policing Team Locality Plans to address local/community issues within their areas. These plans detail the problem and set out actions/activity that will take place to solve the problem. Tackling drugs, anti-social behaviour and other related crime are key features within these plans. A Force Lead is responsible for the management of this Locality Plan and is accountable for its delivery.

Many drug type calls received are linked and can often result in the recording of one crime. What this means is one crime will not always demonstrate:

- The number of individuals linked to it. E.g. one crime for drug supply has 9 offenders linked to it.
- The amount of resource and time taken to identify the offenders and investigate the crime.

The Force also continues to focus activity and resources on these larger groups who supply and bring drugs to Staffordshire. This relentless determination to keep our communities safer is securing higher numbers of positive outcomes for these individuals and this can be seen from diagram below:



Positive Outcomes are:

- Charges
- Cautions
- Community Resolutions (out of court disposals)

Further Operational context and problem solving activity:

Specific Police Operations are set up to tackle the wider drug related issues which aims to make Staffordshire a hostile place to travelling criminals who are engaged in drug supply, violence and exploitation of the vulnerable and is part of a wider National led strategy.

The Strategies Priorities include:

- Tackle drug suppliers travelling into Staffordshire from any region
- Provide a dynamic and targeted response to intelligence and enforcement opportunities
- Together with our partners, maximise the safeguarding of vulnerable persons involved or associated with the offending.
- Engage dynamically with the public through social media and maximise the opportunities
- Capture outcomes and identify any organisational learning

The example below shows how one piece of information can yield great results:

- Following information received, a small team of officers focussed on an individual they believed to be supplying drugs in Stafford. The individual was seen on closed circuit television dealing Class A drugs and was arrested along with others.

One month later one of the individuals was arrested again following the use of stop and search powers and was found to be in possession of a quantity of cannabis. A search on an address also resulted in the seizure of crack cocaine and heroin.

Following the arrest of another individual for possession of Class A drugs and working with neighbouring Forces, the investigation revealed that this individual was also linked to the above drug related problem.

The investigation and enforcement activity continued at pace and it revealed that a group of individuals across a number of Force areas were involved in the supply of drugs to Stafford. A joint Operation pursued these individuals and numerous arrests have been made together with drugs and weapons seized.

The Force together with Partners, combine knowledge and resources to tackle a variety of community issues. One of the Force's commitments within our Community Engagement Strategy states:

"We will continue to support community action by helping communities to develop solutions to local problems, participating in problem solving days, setting up neighbourhood watch or other citizen schemes".

The examples below provide a glimpse of some excellent problem solving work that is making a difference to local communities:

- As a result of issues raised by the Portland area of Stoke-on-Trent, a combined partnership effort resulted in sixteen warrants being executed over the last 18 months, problem premises have been closed and tenants of private landlords have also been evicted. Three individuals have also been issued with a Community Protection Warning Notice which means they are subject to a number of conditions which prohibits them from continuing with this type of behaviour.
- A 'Week of Action' in Stoke Town Centre saw the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, Rough Sleepers team, Voices, Stoke-on-Trent City Council Environment Services and Dept of Work and Pensions, providing community safety advice and awareness of their services.

This equated to a total of 300 police hours which resulted in the issue of 2 warrants on local addresses where drugs were seized and one individual was arrested. 6 vehicles were stopped and drugs and a weapon was seized. A number of other individuals were arrested during the week and the Force are now contacting owners to return their stolen property.