



Telford & Wrekin
C O U N C I L

Addenbrooke House Ironmasters Way Telford TF3 4NT

CABINET

Date **Thursday, 13 December 2018** Time **5.00pm**
Venue **Meeting Rooms G3/4, Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT**

Enquiries Regarding this Agenda:

Democratic Services	Deborah Moseley / Stacey Worthington	01952 383215 / 382061
Media Enquiries	Corporate Communications Manager	01952 382403
Lead Officer	Richard Partington, Managing Director	01952 380102

Cabinet Members:

Councillor S Davies	Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Pride Programme
Councillor R A Overton	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Enforcement
Councillor L D Carter	Cabinet Member for Finance, Commercial Services and Economic Development
Councillor A R H England	Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
Councillor R C Evans	Cabinet Member for People Services, Visitor Economy and Partnerships
Councillor J C Minor	Cabinet Member for Leisure, Green Spaces and Parks
Councillor S A W Reynolds	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Councillor H Rhodes	Cabinet Member for Transport, Roads and Broadband
Councillor P R Watling	Cabinet Member for Children & Adults Early Help & Support

Invitees

Councillor A J Eade	Conservative
Councillor W L Tomlinson	Liberal Democrat/Independent

AGENDA

			<u>Page</u>
	1.	Apologies for Absence	
	2.	Declarations of Interest	
	3.	Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 November 2018	Appendix A 3
K C	4.	Youth Justice Plan 2018/19	Cllr P R Watling Appendix B 7
K	5.	Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021	Cllr R C Evans Appendix C 52

Continued ...

... Continued

K	6.	Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan	Cllr R A Overton	Appendix D	73
NK	7.	Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018	Cllr S A W Reynolds	Appendix E	133

		Key		
K	Key Decision	C	Item reserved for Council	
NK	Non-Key Decision	Orange	Exempt Item	

FILMING, RECORDING & PHOTOGRAPHY

The Council supports the principle of transparency and encourages filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public. It also welcomes the use of social networking websites (such as Twitter and Facebook) and micro-blogging to communicate with people about what is happening, as it happens.

There is no requirement to notify the Council in advance, but it should be noted that the Chairman of the meeting will have absolute discretion to terminate or suspend any of these activities if, in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice proceedings at the meeting. Full details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at meetings can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20243/council_meetings/365/filming_photography_recording_and_use_of_social_networking_at_meetings

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 13 December 2018 at 5.00pm in Meeting Rooms G3-G4, Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2018

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: THURSDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2018)

Present: Councillors S Davies (Leader and Chair), R A Overton (Deputy Leader and Vice Chair), L D Carter, A R H England, R C Evans, S A W Reynolds and H Rhodes.

Also Present: Councillors A J Eade (Conservative Group Leader) and W L Tomlinson (Liberal Democrat / Independent Group Leader)

CB-032 Apologies for Absence

Councillor J C Minor

CB-033 Declarations of Interest

Councillor S Davies declared an interest in minute number CB-035, Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, due to his work as a solicitor occasionally practising in the Youth Court.

Councillor A R H England also declared an interest in minute number CB-035, Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, due to his work in the Youth Court.

CB-034 Minutes

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CB-035 Youth Justice Plan 2018/19

Key Decision identified as **Youth Justice Plan 2018/19** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

Recommendation for Full Council – not subject to Call-in.

Cllr P R Watling, Cabinet Member: Children and Adults Early Help & Support presented the report of the Director: Children's and Adult Services which outlined the responsibilities of the West Mercia Youth Offending Service and presented the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 for approval and endorsement to Council.

It was noted that the Youth Justice Service was a youth justice partnership between the Local Authorities and NHS organisations across West Mercia, National Probation Service, West Mercia Police and the Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. Youth justice partnerships had a statutory duty to produce an annual youth justice plan which was prepared on behalf of Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council and Worcestershire County Council.

The Youth Justice Plan for 2018/19 was prepared in May/June 2018 in line with the guidance issued by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), agreed at the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board on 12 July 2018 and submitted to the YJB at the end of July 2018.

The Youth Justice Plan sets out how youth justice services across West Mercia were structured and funded and identified key actions to address identified risks to service delivery and improvement. Members noted the partnerships priorities for 2018/19 and commentary on the three national performance indicators for youth offending services (YOS). Performance against the indicators was outlined in the plan and actions identified to address risks to performance improvement. For the 'rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system' it was reported that Telford and Wrekin's performance had significantly improved. For 'the number and rate of custodial sentences', Telford and Wrekin's rate equated to a rate of 0.30 per 1,000 youth population which compared favourably to the national rate of 0.39. For 'the proportion of young people re-offending', Members noted that there were proportionally less young people re-offending in Telford and Wrekin than for West Mercia.

The plan provided additional data across all 4 Local Authorities in West Mercia. In 2017/18 Telford and Wrekin recorded 105 young people entering the criminal justice system which equated to 0.64% of our youth population. The peak age of offending was 17 years of age.

Members noted the twelve main priorities for 2018/19 which were detailed in the report and the actions being taken to address each priority. Members also discussed the impact on young people of reforms in the Court Service which had seen the centralisation of remand cases in Kidderminster and it was agreed that group leaders would write jointly to HM Courts and Tribunal Service on this issue. Members also noted that they would appreciate a more detailed breakdown of the data for future reports.

RESOLVED that the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 be RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL for approval and endorsement and that the West Mercia Youth Justice Service responsibilities be noted.

CB-036 Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021

Key Decision identified as **Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

Councillor R C Evans, Cabinet Champion for Domestic Violence presented the report of the Assistant Director: Health & Wellbeing

This report introduced the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021. The strategy proposed a joined up response aimed at tackling domestic abuse across strategic partnerships, with a clear recognition that no single agency could address this complex issue in isolation.

The strategy recognised that domestic abuse was wider than violence, and therefore the scope included: controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

The lives of women and children and young people and men were significantly affected by domestic abuse and it was not always easy to identify. Domestic abuse rarely took place in a vacuum and substance misuse and poor physical and mental health could contribute and amplify the consequences. Its impact could be seen across many aspects of the community, including child development and attainment, family dynamics, crime rates, the local workforce.

The rate of domestic abuse offences recorded in Telford & Wrekin was high. The strategy aimed to raise awareness, identify, prevent, and better support victims of domestic abuse and their children. At the same time as investigating and prosecuting, but also supporting perpetrators to break the cycle of abuse.

The strategy would be delivered through an action plan, based on the six objectives detailed in the report. Engagement with professionals had identified as a clear early priority, the need to strengthen the local offer of specialist services and support to victims, children and young people affected and also to perpetrators, to change their behaviour.

Raising awareness and understanding of domestic abuse across the community was delivered through the White Ribbon campaign, which was strongly supported by Cabinet members.

RESOLVED that the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021 be approved and RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL for endorsement.

CB-037 Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Key Decision identified as **Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan – Post Referendum** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

Councillor R A Overton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member: Communities, Housing and Enforcement, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Business Development & Employment. It was noted, that the Localism Act (2011) introduced legislation which allowed Parish Councils to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan for their administrative area. This Report recommended that Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan became the fifth Neighbourhood Development Plan in the Borough to be adopted (made).

The Plan was part of a programme of Neighbourhood Development Plans being prepared by Parish and Town Councils across the Borough with the support of the Council, reflecting the commitment to engage local communities further in planning for development in their local areas.

Lilleshall Parish Council submitted their neighbourhood development plan (the "Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan") and other supporting documents to Telford & Wrekin Council as local planning authority in February 2018. In response and in accordance with its statutory duties, Telford & Wrekin undertook a number of checks

to ensure that all the procedural and other requirements had been met and completed a 6-week publicity period which allowed written representations to be made. An independent examination took place between July and August 2018.

The appointed Independent Examiner (the Examiner), Mr John Parmiter, submitted his report to the Council on 8 August 2018. The Report recommended proceeding to Referendum, subject to a number of modifications. Those modifications were applied to the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan and on 13 September 2018 Cabinet agreed to proceed to formal Referendum. The Referendum took place on 15 November 2018.

It was outlined that the policies within the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan would become part of the Development Plan for Telford & Wrekin and would be considered in the determination of planning applications in the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan area alongside national and Borough wide planning policy.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan be made**
- (b) the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment be authorised to exercise all of the Council's relevant powers and duties and undertake all necessary procedural arrangements relating to the making of the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan.**

CB-038 Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018

Non Key Decision

Councillor S A W Reynolds, Cabinet Member: Employment, Education and Life long learning, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Education & Corporate Parenting.

The report noted that the Childcare Act (2006) required local authorities in England to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents, parents studying or training, and for disabled children. Childcare sufficiency relates to the provision of registered childcare for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs. Under section 6 of the Act there was also a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area which involved the collection and publication of information on the supply of provision and demand for childcare in their area.

The Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, appended to the report, was conducted in the Summer Term 2018 by Hemsalls, and was based on an analysis of Ofsted registration data, provider audit responses and the parent/carer questionnaire survey. The findings and recommendations detailed in the report provided a summary of the Sufficiency Assessment.

The Sufficiency Assessment's conclusions were very positive, concluding that there was sufficient registered childcare provision to meet the needs of younger children

(under 5 years) and to deliver the early years entitlements in the borough of Telford and Wrekin. However, there were indications that the offer for older children (aged over 5 years) needed further strengthening. The cost of childcare was the most commonly cited barrier to use.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the information in the report be noted about the supply and demand in the borough of:**
 - Early Years childcare for children aged, 2, 3 and 4
 - Childcare for school aged children
 - Holiday care for school aged children

- (b) the recommendations made as a result of the sufficiency assessment and the strategies proposed to address these gaps be approved**

The meeting ended at 5.31pm

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

Jonathan Eatough
Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning
Date: 19 December 2018

Signed:
Date:

CABINET

A

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 15 November 2018 at 5.00pm in Meeting Rooms G3-G4, Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2018

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: MONDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2018)

Present: Councillors S Davies (Leader and Chair), R A Overton (Deputy Leader and Vice Chair), L D Carter, A R H England, R C Evans, J C Minor, S A W Reynolds and H Rhodes.

Also Present: Councillors A J Eade (Conservative Group Leader) and W L Tomlinson (Liberal Democrat / Independent Group Leader)

CB-026 Apologies for Absence

None.

CB-027 Declarations of Interest

None.

CB-028 Minutes

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CB-029 Overnight Closure of A&E at Princess Royal Hospital

The Leader provided an update on the Council's work to safeguard overnight A&E services at Princess Royal Hospital. 3000 people attended the recent march in protest of the closure and council leaders from across the West Midlands had supported the Council in opposing the closure. The Leader stated that the Trust entering Special Measures had negatively affected recruitment at SaTH and urged the Government to intervene rather than monitor. He called for the Future Fit Process to be halted and supported a national approach to support the Trust.

The Cabinet Members thanked the members of the public who had attended the march and signed the petition. Members supported the innovative approaches for encouraging recruitment at SaTH, such as the free accommodation for Doctors.

The Conservative Group Leader and Liberal Democrat / Independent Group Leader also expressed their concerns about the proposals and supported a cross-party approach. The Conservative Group Leader and Liberal Democrat / Independent Group Leader called for a renewed effort for members of the public to sign the Council's online petition.

CB-030 2018/19 Financial Management Report

Key Decision identified as **Financial Management Report 2018/19 Update** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 15 August 2018.

Reserved for Council

Councillor L D Carter, Cabinet Member: Finance, Commercial Services & Economic Development, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Finance & Human Resources and Chief Financial Officer.

It was reported that the net projected outturn position for 2018/19 was estimated to be within budget. This was a positive position despite £7.6m savings being required to balance the 2017/18 budget, which currently left £4.8m uncommitted balance in the central contingency. Senior Managers would aim to sustain this position if possible, so that the one-off contingency benefit was available to support the medium term budget strategy. However, it was noted that potentially the Council could face significant financial pressures if, for example, the winter was particularly hard or if the NHS faced significant winter pressures.

Children's Safeguarding and Early Help & Support continued to be key areas of focus and both had cost improvement plans in place to reduce costs and deliver savings. These plans were monitored on a regular basis both by senior managers and Cabinet Members.

A number of variations from the approved budget were reported, including some beneficial variances. The key areas highlighted were:

- A benefit of £2.2m relating to Treasury Management activities - the majority of which related to benefits from low interest rates for short term borrowing.
- A benefit of £0.6m relating to the Property Investment Portfolio and delivery of benefits ahead of schedule from the Council's £50m Growth Fund Investments.
- Children's Safeguarding was a key pressure with an anticipated requirement for £2.9m additional investment necessary in the current year. This mainly related to the cost of placements for Looked after Children and the cost of social workers. A four year model was in place, designed to deliver efficiencies over the remainder of the year and medium term.
- Education & Corporate Parenting – the service was currently projecting that an overspend of £0.4m in the current year mainly relating to the cost of providing school transport and an increase in the number of children with high needs.

It was noted that the capital programme totalled £74.6m which included all approvals since the budget was set. At the time of compiling the report projected spend was 98% of the budget allocation. Some new allocations and slippage had been identified which would go to Full Council in January for formal approval.

Sales Ledger and Business Rates collection were slightly behind the targets set. The level of outstanding Council Tax debt was slightly behind the target set for the year.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) it be noted that 2018/19 revenue spending is currently projected to be within budget and work will continue with SMT to sustain this position, and approve the transfer to reserves as detailed in section 4.3 and Appendix 2 of the report, and the use of contingency detailed in section 5 with authority granted to the Director: Customer, Neighbourhood and Wellbeing Services after consultation with the Cabinet Member: Council Finance, Commercial Services and Economic Development;
- (b) the position in relation to capital spend be noted and **TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that the new allocations and slippage detailed in Appendix 3 of the report be approved; and
- (c) the collection rates for NNDR, council tax and sales ledger be noted;

CB-031 Declaration of Lightmoor Local Nature Reserve

Key Decision identified as **Lightmoor Local Nature Reserve** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 17 October 2018.

Councillor J C Minor, Cabinet Member: Leisure, Green Spaces & Parks, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment.

The Council had made a commitment to the retention of locally important green spaces which had value to local communities. This already included the protection afforded to the Green Network through policies in the adopted Local Plan, through the existing 200 Green Guarantee Sites and 13 Local Nature Reserves. The report sets out proposals to designate a new Local Nature Reserve at Lightmoor. Through this commitment the area of LNR protected would increase by 24.4 hectares to a total of 477.4 hectares of approved LNR. The extent of LNR provision was nearly triple the minimum recommended standard and meant that 89% of households were within 300m of greenspace. Maps showing the proposed LNRs were attached to the report at Appendix 1 and 2.

These proposals had been developed by the 'Lightmoor LNR Steering Group' in liaison with the local community including the local Parish Councils and would involve local friends groups and volunteers carrying out small scale conservation tasks as part of the management of the sites. The designation of additional LNRs further reflected the Council's commitment to promoting health and wellbeing.

The selection, declaration and management of Local Nature Reserves was a function of local authorities. The proposed sites were all within Council ownership, with land to the north east of the proposed LNR within the Council's ownership and leased under a 999 year agreement to the Lightmoor New Community.

Following the approval, the sites would progress through a formal process with Natural England prior to final legal declaration.

Members welcomed the report and supported the protection of green spaces in the Borough.

RESOLVED that –

- (a) the declaration of Lightmoor Local Nature Reserve be approved in principle; and**
- (b) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment to complete the declaration process.**

The meeting ended at 17.46.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

Jonathan Eatough
Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning
Date: 21 November 2018

Signed:

Date:

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**CABINET – 13 DECEMBER 2018****FULL COUNCIL – 17 JANUARY 2019****YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S AND ADULT SERVICES****LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR PAUL WATLING****PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT****1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

Youth offending partnerships have a statutory duty to produce an annual youth justice plan which is submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State,

The Youth Justice Plan is prepared on an annual basis on behalf of Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council and Worcestershire County Council in accordance with the guidance “Youth Justice Plans: YJB Practice Note for Youth Offending Partnerships”¹

The Youth justice Plan sets out how youth justice services across West Mercia are structured and funded and identifies key actions to address identified risks to service delivery and improvement.

The plan outlines the partnerships priorities for 2018/19 to 2019/20 and provides commentary on the three national performance indicators for youth offending services;

- Rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system
- The number and rate of custodial sentences
- The proportion of young people re-offending

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 recommended to Full Council for approval and endorsement and that the West Mercia YJS responsibilities are noted.

¹ Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, May 2018.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Priority Plan objective(s)?	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put our children and young people first Protect and support our vulnerable children and adults Ensure neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Young people already involved with offending or at risk of offending
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	The Youth justice plan is for 18/19 and the plan will be reviewed in the final quarter of 18/19 in order to prepare the Youth Justice Plan for 19/20.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	<p>Adopting the strategy is not expected to incur any additional costs over and above the annual budgeted levy. However, the constituent authorities have indemnified risks undertaken by the OPCC and may be called upon to contribute further funds in the event of pressures on the budget if those pressures are not mitigated.</p> <p>Therefore, based on current known information, there are no financial implications anticipated from adopting the recommendation of this report.</p> <p>RP-13.11.18</p>
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	Under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the relevant persons and bodies, to formulate and implement a youth justice plan for each year setting out how youth justice services are to be provided and funded in their area; and how the youth offending team or teams established by them (whether alone or jointly with one or more other local authorities) are to be composed and funded, how they are to operate,

		and what functions they are to carry out. The youth justice plan is required to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board and be published in such manner and by such date as the Secretary of State may direct.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	Yes	The Youth Justice Plan outlines actions to reduce offending and reoffending by young people
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	Borough-wide impact

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

Under section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 each Local Authority has a duty to produce a Youth Justice Plan setting out how Youth Justice Services in their area are provided and funded and composed. The plan is submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

The Youth Justice Plan for 2018/19 was prepared in May/June 2018 in line with the guidance issued by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), agreed at the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board on 12th July and was submitted to the YJB at the end of July 2018.

Each Local Authority, in cooperation with Police, Probation and Clinical Commissioning Groups must put in place a youth justice service for their area, and in doing so the Local Authority may act together with one or more Local Authorities to establish a joint service for their area. Following a review of the delivery of youth justice services across West Mercia, undertaken in 2012, a decision was taken by the four Local Authorities in West Mercia to establish a joint Youth Justice Service and on the basis of further review undertaken in 15/16 a decision taken for the service to be hosted by the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner from 1st April 2016.

The plan identifies four main priorities for 2018/19 to 2019/20 as follows:

Priority 1: Our People

- 1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively
- 1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes
- 1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement

Priority 2: Our Partnerships

- 2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings
- 2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met
- 2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants

Priority 3: Our Performance, Quality and Practice

- 3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners
- 3.2 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems
- 3.3 Develop our practice and encourage innovation

Priority 4: Our Governance

- 4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders
- 4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users
- 4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision

To help address very real challenges facing the system, including the centralisation of remand cases to Kidderminster Magistrates Court which has led to young people being held for longer, more often than previously without their parents, having to return for adjourned cases, delays in remand to local authority care and the associated transport difficulties. There are other challenges including delays in the system that can lead to youths being treated as adults by the time that their case comes to court, issues over the equitable treatment of local authority looked after children in the court process and out of court decision making arrangements.

Performance

The Youth Justice Service is subject to three national indicators:

- First time entrants to the youth justice system
- Use of custody
- Re-offending

Performance against the indicators is outlined in the plan and actions identified to address risks to performance improvement. The Telford and Wrekin specific information is set out on pages 32-35 of the plan.

- First time entrants to the youth justice system

The first time entrant rate is expressed as first time entrants per 100,000 youth population, a lower figure indicates good performance. The Telford and Wrekin performance for 2017 was 304, representing a significant improvement on the previous year when it was 478.

- Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population, a lower rate indicates good performance. In 2017 there were five custodial sentences in Telford and Wrekin equating to a rate of 0.30, this compares favourably to the national rate of 0.39.

- Re-Offending

There are two re-offending measures both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency rate, is the average number of re-offences per re-offender in the cohort. The second, the binary measure, is the percentage of the young people in the cohort who have re-offended. In both measures a lower figure indicates good performance.

For the cohort identified in the period July 2015 to June 2016 the frequency rate for Telford and Wrekin is 6.22 and the binary rate 29.7%, which compares to 4.04 and 33.9% for West Mercia, therefore there are proportionally less young people re-offending in Telford and Wrekin than for West Mercia, but when they do re-offend, on average, they are committing more offences.

It should be noted the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In the year ending June 2010 there were 451 offenders in the cohort and 531 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 182 with 336 re-offences in reporting period to June 2016. The number of actual re-offences has therefore decreased by 36% between the two reporting periods.

5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The principal aim of the Youth justice System is the prevention of offending and re offending by children and young people. The Youth Justice Plan sets out an action plan to address the significant risks identified to future service delivery and improvement.

6. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Cabinet Report 14th September 2017

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- West Mercia Youth Offending Service – Youth justice Plan 2018/19

Report prepared by:

Keith Barham, Head of West Mercia Youth Offending Service

Helen Didlock, Commissioning Specialist for Children and Young People

WEST MERCIA YOUTH JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP



YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN

2018/19



CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	3
1.1	Approval of the Plan	4
2.0	REVIEW OF 2017/18	5
2.1	Changes in Service Delivery	5
2.2	Review of Key Developments	5
2.3	Thematic Inspections	7
2.4	Pilot Inspection	7
2.5	Views of Young People	8
2.5	Performance	9
3.0	YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19	
	SERVICE PRIORITIES AND RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY	
	AGAINST NATIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES	12
3.1	Priorities 2018/19 to 2019/29	12
3.2	Safeguarding	13
3.3	Risks to the Future Delivery against the National Outcome Measures	13
3.4	Delivery Plan	15
APPENDICES:		
Appendix 1	Resources	18
Appendix 2	Staffing and Structure	20
Appendix 3	Governance and Partnerships	21
Appendix 4	Area Profile – Herefordshire	24
Appendix 5	Area Profile – Shropshire	28
Appendix 6	Area Profile – Telford and Wrekin	32
Appendix 7	Area Profile – Worcestershire	36

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Introduction from Karen Bradshaw, Chair of West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board and Director of Children Services, Shropshire Council



West Mercia Youth Justice Service (WMYJS) is partnership between the Local Authorities, National Probation Service, West Mercia Police, NHS organisations across West Mercia and the Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. The service is accountable to the WMYJS Management Board, comprised of senior officers from each partner agency. The service is hosted, on behalf of the Local Authorities and the partnership by the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

During 2017/18 the service, whilst still embedding the changes to the information system, assessment framework and service re-structure, also experienced churn within the leadership team, so it was pleasing to see, in the pilot inspection undertaken at the end of the year, that our assessments were rated as good and despite the changes within the management team throughout the year staff reported that they found managers supportive in carrying out their role. More information on the pilot inspection is provided in section 2.4, and there is an agreed inspection improvement plan, the actions from which have been incorporated in the delivery plan in section 3.4 of this plan.

There is a mixed picture in respect to the service's performance against the national outcome indicators. Performance in relation to the rate of young people receiving a custodial sentence has improved between 2016/17 and 2017/18 from 0.27 to 0.11 custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population, and this rate is significantly below the national rate of 0.38. The first time entrant (FTE) rate for 2017 is at 354, which is above the national rate of 295, however the performance is an improvement on the previous year when it was 408. The inspection team judged that the higher than might be expected rate of FTEs in West Mercia is due in large part to the out of disposal system in West Mercia and one of our key actions for 2018/19 is to revise that system, further commentary on this is provided in section 2.6. The proportion of young people re-offending (July 15 to June 16 cohort) is 33.9% which is significantly lower than the national rate at 41.9%, and an improvement on the previous year when it was at 36.9%.

The priorities for 2018/19 and 2019/20 are a result of joint management board and management team workshops, informed by a range of information including a review of the Youth Justice Plan 2017/18 and the unpublished pilot inspection report, and are based on the four themes of;

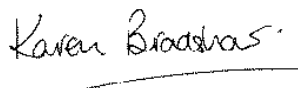
Our People
Our Partnerships
Our Performance, Quality and Practice; and
Our Governance

The service and management board do not work in isolation in reducing offending by children and young people and improving the outcomes for children and young people who have entered or at risk of entering the youth justice system. The board are committed to promoting better joint work between the service and other agencies at a local level. A particular focus for the year is better sharing of information between the children social care services of the Local Authorities and the service and securing better engagement of partner agencies in the planning for high risk offenders.

1.1 Approval of the Plan

This plan was approved at the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board held on 12th July 2018

Signed:



Date: 12th July 2018

Karen Bradshaw
Chair – West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board

2.0 Review of 17/18

2.1 Changes to Service Delivery Arrangements

When the service was re-structured in November 2016 the Management Board agreed to keep the structure under review. The experience throughout 2017/18 demonstrated that the service has limited capacity within the management team. The team managers and senior practitioners were primarily engaged, during 2017/18, in building the new teams and embedding and improving the quality of AssetPlus, and capacity in the management team to progress other service development tasks and Youth Justice Plan actions was limited. As a result the Management Board have agreed to the establishment of an additional 2.0 fte management and administrative posts and adopted a two year financial plan until March 2020 in order to support these.

2.2 Review of Key Developments

The Youth Justice Service Management Board agreed seven main priorities for 17/18. The following developments were achieved during the year:-

Priority: Reducing First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

- Completed the bureau evaluation
- Developed a screening tool to be used in a revised out of court disposal system
- Scoped a FTE analysis

Priority: Reduce custody and young people entering the adult criminal justice system

- Revised the Management of Risk Policy
- At a local team level work has commenced to map the pathways into other services
- Commenced research on prevalence of adverse childhood experiences in young people in justice system

Priority: WMYJS Interventions are of a consistently good quality

- Revised the assessment and planning quality assurance tool
- Partnered with Worcester University to recruit students as learning mentors for young offenders
- Reviewed reparation activities and implemented a reparation development plan
- Developed a new gate keeping tool for reports

Priority: We have systems in place to understand young people's journey through our services.

- Reviewed youth justice substance misuse provision and implemented recording on the NDTMS
- Undertook a detailed analysis of the mental health needs of young people in the justice system
- The Management Board reviewed actions being taken to secure appropriate education placements for young people
- In partnership with the national Youth Justice SEND project commenced a SEND self assessment

Priority: The voice of service users directly impacts on service delivery

- Commissioning ViewPoint and work to develop service user feedback questionnaires

Priority: Team morale is good, staff feel enabled and have the tools required to do their job effectively

- Development of an in-service progression pathway to enable unqualified staff to progress to management
- Delivery of assessment and planning training
- The arrangements for covering out of hour courts have been reviewed and revised
- Development of a service domestic abuse policy and guidance

Priority: The Management Board and operational staff are working together with clear collective responsibility for improving outcomes for young people

- Key management board member visits to area teams

2.3 Thematic Inspections

The WMYJS Management Board considered the findings of the thematic inspection report “The Work of Youth Offending Teams to Protect the Public” and approved an action plan addressing the main recommendations.

2.4 Pilot Joint Inspection

WMYJS was subject to an unpublished pilot joint inspection in late March/early April 2018. The Inspectorate found:

“There are many strengths of the youth justice practice in West Mercia. Staff carry out assessments of children and young people and implement and review court orders well. Their planning is not as strong, although managers have taken recent action to improve the planning skills of their workforce. Staff have a strong focus on the safety and well-being of young people and place a high priority on continuity of the relationship between professional practitioner and the child or young person. That relationship is the basis for achieving positive change for children and young people who have offended. Work to protect victims and apply restorative justice principles is less well developed.....

There is a well-supported management board; however, there were areas where the board could have done more to drive the service. They had not developed an effective response to the relatively high number of first-time entrants, and information-sharing between the Youth Offending Team and children’s services was short of current best practice. Additionally, West Mercia does not have a clearly stated vision for its service.”

Overall the service was judged to be requiring improvement, however across the 12 main standards; there was one inadequate, four that required improvement and seven good. The seven good ratings were for quality of practice standards in assessment, implementation and delivery of interventions and for joint working on out of court disposals. The inspectorate made five main recommendations:

1. Develop a clear vision for the service, outlining its underpinning values.
2. Reconfigure its decision-making process on out of court disposals to make sure that children and young people are considered for the full range of disposals available.
3. Identify ways that information-sharing between YOT practitioners and local authority children’s services departments can be improved through the use of technology underpinned by an effective information-sharing agreement.

4. Develop the intervention planning skills of the workforce to make sure the plans drawn up between children and young people and their supervisors to implement court orders are comprehensive and based on the assessment.
5. Make sure that practitioners understand child and adolescent mental services thresholds and are able to help those children and young people who do not meet the criteria for mental health services

The findings of the inspection have informed the planning process and priorities for 2018/19 and there is an inspection improvement plan in place. The actions from the inspection improvement plan are included in the delivery plan in section 3.4.

2.5 Views of Young People

Previous plans have included information taken from the annual HMI Probation survey of young people on court orders held by West Mercia Youth Justice Service. The last survey was conducted in the last quarter of 2016/17 and was reported on in the Youth Justice Plan 2017/18. The service has commissioned ViewPoint, an internet based service user feedback tool, in order to collect service user feedback for the future. The service has been working with ViewPoint in the latter part of 2017/18 to develop the specific questionnaires, and implementation will be in 2018/19.

Young people, however, complete a self-assessment as part of the YJS assessment, review and closure process. From an analysis of self assessments completed in 2017 young people identified the following areas that YJS helped most with in relation to stopping offending:

- Understanding the risks of offending and the consequences for themselves and others
- Managing anger and controlling temper
- Finding an appropriate job/ETE placement
- Managing problems and problem solving
- Reducing drug use
- Addressing mental health issues and reducing stress

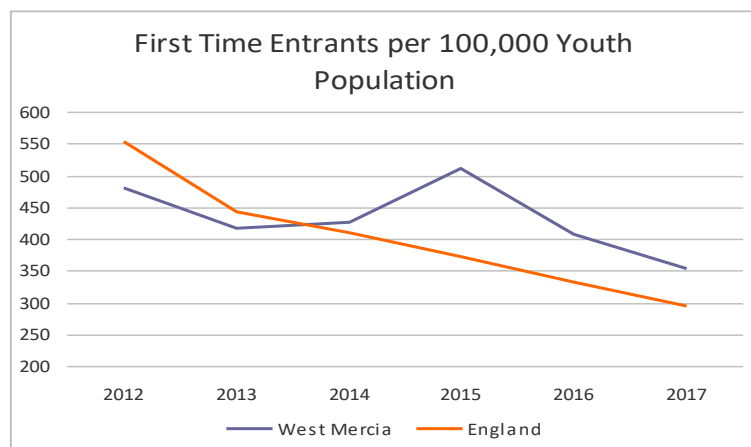
In relation to what the young person liked about the YJS a number identified the importance of the relationship with their worker who had been a significant source of support.

2.6 Performance

Youth Justice Partnerships are subject to three national outcome indicators;

- First Time Entrants (FTE) to the Youth Justice System
- Use of Custody
- Re-Offending

(i) First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System (FTE)



The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (Youth Caution, Youth Conditional Caution or Conviction). A lower figure denotes good performance.

The rate of FTEs across West Mercia for 2017 was 354, which is an improvement on the performance for the previous year when the FTE rate was 408. The rate in West Mercia is higher than the national rate of 295.

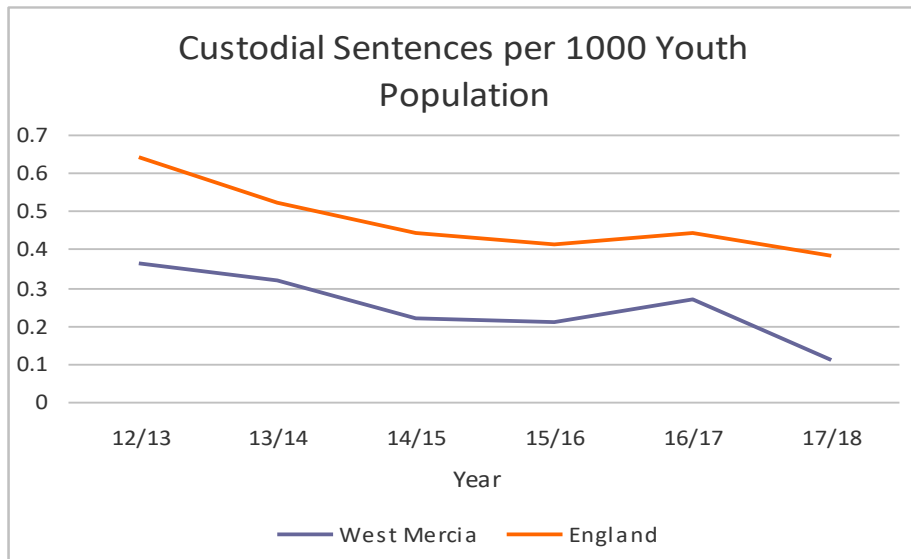
The percentage reduction in the rate of FTEs in West Mercia over the period 2012 to 2017 has been 26%.

Within West Mercia there are differing FTE rates between the four Local Authority areas, with the highest being 447 and the lowest 308. WMYJS was subject to a pilot joint inspection at the end of 17/18, and the inspection team judged that the higher than might be expected rate of first time entrants in West Mercia is in large part due to the out of court decision joint decision making processes within West Mercia. Although the process meets statutory requirements, there is a cohort of young people currently receiving cautions, who could be appropriately diverted from the formal justice system through the use of an informal response to their behaviour, such as a community resolution.

Informal disposals, used at the right stage in the system, are an effective and efficient method of dealing with the onset of criminal behaviour. In 2016 there were 723 community resolutions associated with 657 young people. Typically a young person will only receive a single community resolution but, as the figures highlight, a small number of young people will be subject to two or more resolutions. All young people subject to Community Resolutions in 2016 were followed up to ascertain the proportion who re-offended within a year of the outcome.

It was found that only 15.7% of young people subject to a Community Resolution committed a further offence in the 12 month follow up period. This is a lower rate of re-offending than that found for first time entrants and also typically found for young people subject to youth cautions. There was, for example, a re-offending rate of 29% for youth cautions (n=610) included in the 2014/15 cohort.

(ii) Use of Custody

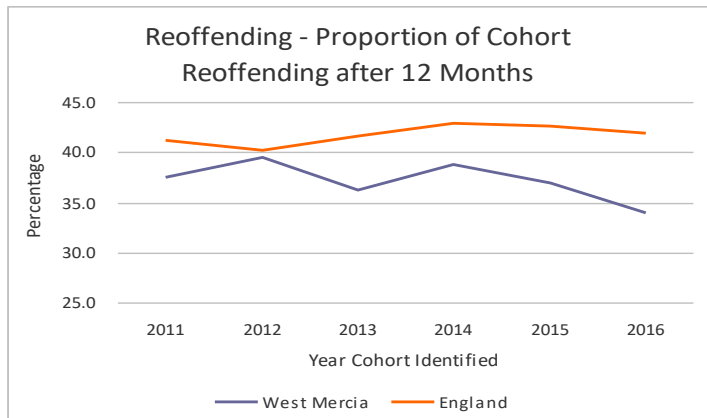
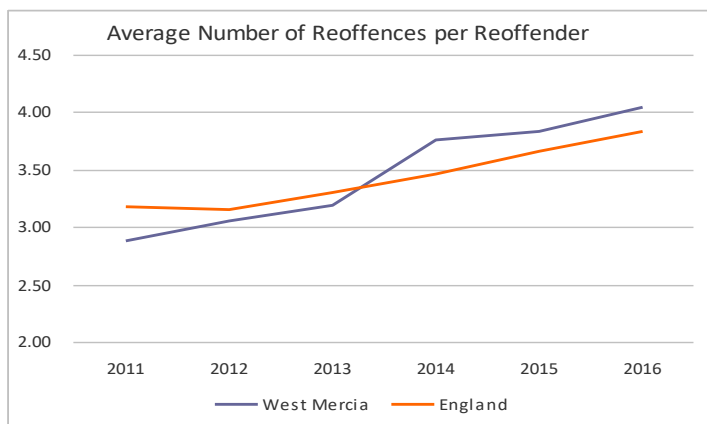


The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of the 10 to 17 year old population. West Mercia has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. A lower figure denotes good performance.

For 2017/18 the use of custody rate for West Mercia was 0.11 against the rate for England of 0.38, West Mercia performance is, therefore, significantly better than the national performance. The West Mercia rate for 2017/18 has improved from 2016/17 when it was 0.27.

Over the six year period to 2012/13 to 2017/18 the rate has reduced from 0.26 to 0.11, a reduction of 58% which is better than the reduction nationally which was 41% over the same period. The actual decrease in the number of sentences between these two periods is from 41 in 12/13 to 12 in 17/18.

(iii) Re-Offending



There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per re-offender in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

For the year July 15 to June 16 the frequency measure performance for West Mercia was 4.04, compared to national performance 3.83. The binary measure performance for the same period for West Mercia was 33.9% compared with national performance of 41.9%.

A comparison over a five year period shows that this measure is volatile varying year on year in a range between 34% and 39%. The national rate also shows a year on year variation within the range of 40% and 43%.

The cohort size is falling, from 1750 young people in the year ending June 2011 cohort compared to 930 young people in the year ending June 2016. The number of re-offences has also decreased over the same period from 1886 to 1273 a decrease of 33%.

In 2017/18 and continuing into 18/19 the service is participating in research to identify the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in young people in the youth justice system. There is a growing evidence base suggesting that young people who have experienced ACEs need to have those issues addressed before any work to prevent re-offending is likely to be effective. The research outcomes will be used to inform changes in practice in the future.

3. YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2018/19 SERVICE PRIORITIES AND RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY AGAINST THE NATIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES – 2018/20

3.1 Priorities for 2018/19 to 2019/20

Two joint Management Board and Leadership Team workshops have been held to identify the service priorities for 2018 to 2020. The priorities have been informed by the annual service performance assessment, a review of the youth justice plan for 2017/18 and the findings and recommendations of the pilot inspection of the service. There is a delivery plan supporting the priorities and addressing the findings of the pilot inspection at section 3.4 of the plan.

Priority 1: Our People

- 1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively
- 1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes
- 1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement

Priority 2: Our Partnerships

- 2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings
- 2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met
- 2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants

Priority 3: Our Performance, Quality and Practice

- 3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners
- 3.2 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems
- 3.3 Develop our practice and encourage innovation

Priority 4: Our Governance

- 4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders
- 4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users
- 4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision

3.2 Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains a key area of focus for the service. WMYJS has a key role in safeguarding young people, in terms of assessing and reducing the risk of harm to young people either from their own behaviour or the actions of others and reducing the risk of harm they may pose to others.

During 2017/18 the service undertook critical learning reviews (CLRs) as part of the YJB safeguarding and public protection reviewing process (CSPPI). Learning from these reviews has informed service planning. WMYJS will continue to undertake CLRs, even though the CSPPI process was ended by the YJB in the latter part of 17/18. During 2017/18 the service revised its management of risk policy and procedures, however the pilot inspection identified that the involvement of other agencies in the process could be improved and work will be undertaken in 2018/19 to better secure the engagement of other agencies in high risk panel meetings. The service is taking part in research to identify the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in young people who are in the justice system, the work will inform the implementation of trauma informed practice within the service. The service has completed S11 compliance audits for each of the LSCBs and there are S11 action plans in place.

3.3 Risks to the Future Delivery against the National Outcome Measures

The current performance against the national outcome measures are contained in section 2.6 of this plan. As the section notes although the FTE rate is higher than the national rate, the most recent performance is an improvement on the previous year. The rate of custodial sentences remains very low, at 0.11 per 1,000 population. Re-offending performance is volatile and rises and falls within a range of 34% to 39%. It is intended to implement trauma informed interventions to assist in reducing re-offending of young people who have experienced adverse childhood experiences.

Outcome Measure	Performance Indicator	Risk	Key Mitigating Actions	Other Relevant Delivery Plan Actions
First Time Entrants	The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system per 100,000 youth population	The current out of court disposal joint decision making process is the cause for the higher than might be expected rate of FTEs in West Mercia	Develop and implement a new system of joint decision making	2.3.2 2.3.3 2.3.4
Custody	The number of custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population	Absence of a remand management strategy may lead to an increase in young people being remanded	Development of a remand management strategy	3.3.4
Re-Offending	(i) The average number of re-offences per re-offender (ii) The proportion of offenders (%) re-offending within 12 months	Inconsistent and poor quality planning leading to factors for desistance not be adequately addressed	Commissioning staff training in planning	2.1.1 2.1.2 3.1.2
		Poor quality assessments, plans and delivery against local/national standards	Continued work on embedding AssetPlus.	3.1.2
		Interventions are not focussed on the most significant factors or are not delivered with integrity	Implementation of trauma informed interventions Review Aim2 programme work	3.3.4 3.3.6

3.4 Delivery Plan for 2018 to 2020

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
1.0 Our People			
1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively			
1.1.1	Appraisals to be completed in Q2 18/19 and then annually	Supervisors	Q2 18/19
1.1.2	Annual report on outcome of appraisals	HoS	Q4 19/20
1.1.3	Investigate use of apprenticeship levy to support in house progression	DCSs	Q3 18/19
1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes			
1.2.1	Development of a revised Learning and Development Framework	Train'g Lead	Q4 18/19
1.2.2	Training plan to address training needs identified in the inspection (including intervention planning and A+ refresher)	Train'g Lead/ A+ Lead	Q2 18/19
1.2.3	Access to LA training: LA training link for WMYJS to be identified in each LA	DCSs	Q2 18/19
1.2.4	Access to LA training: LA link and WMYJS Team Manager to agree training plan (LA training that includes YJS staff)	TM/LA Link	Q3 18/19
1.2.5	Annual reporting on access to training for each LA area	TM/LA Link	Q2 19/20
1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement			
1.3.1	Conduct staff survey	HoS	Q3 18/19
1.3.2	Use survey responses to develop action plan	HoS	Q4 18/19
1.3.3	Develop staff recognition scheme	HoS	Q3/4 18/19
2.0 Our Partnerships			
2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings			
2.1.1	Secure the attendance of key agencies at high risk panels through: DCSs ensuring there is a named officer responsible in within ChSC	DCSs	Q2 18/19
2.1.2	Secure the attendance of key agencies at high risk panels through: Regular reporting of agency attendance/non attendance to management board	DCS/HoS	Q4 18/19
2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met			
2.2.1	Arrange events in each area to raise awareness of E&MH services available, referral criteria and processes	Train'g Lead	Q3 18/19
2.2.2	Agree a minimum common core role for mental health workers within WMYJS	Health Lead	Q3 18/19
2.2.3	Refresh or replace WMYJS/CAMHS protocols in each area	Health Lead	Q4 18/19
2.2.4	Commission training for practitioners on supporting young people with emotional and mental health issues	Train'g Lead	Q3 18/19

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants			
2.3.1	Business case to be prepared for new out of court decision making system which brings more decisions into the scope of the process	HoS	Q2 18/19
2.3.2	Agree new OoCD process jointly with West Mercia Police	Head of CJ	Q3 18/19
2.3.3	Develop and agree a new screening tool/assessment for decision making panel process	HoS	Q2 18/19
2.3.4	Review the recording of Community Resolutions on ChildView	B.S. Admin	Q2 18/19
3.0 Our Performance, Quality and Practice			
3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners			
3.1.1	Development of a new performance and quality assurance framework to include: role of SPs in cross service QA and learning reviews, role of management board members in practice oversight and ETE monitoring and reporting.	PQA Lead	Q4 18/19
3.1.2	Review of A+ QA tool to ensure it addresses assessment/planning deficits identified in the pilot inspection	A+ & PQA Leads	Q3 18/19
3.1.3	West Mercia Police to develop a mechanism and a process to ensure WMYJS Police Officers are notified when new information emerges on young people on YJS caseloads	Head of CJ	Q3 18/19
3.1 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems			
3.2.1	LAs to nominate a lead officer	DCSs	Q2 18/19
3.2.2	LAs to explore the solutions to and implement WMYJS practitioners access to the Social Care information systems.	DCSs	Q2/4 18/19
3.2.3	Agreements to be put in place in each area in relation to WMYJS staff accessing children social care systems	DCSs	Q4 18/19
3.2 Develop our practice and encourage innovation			
3.3.1	Implementation of trauma informed interventions	Prog Lead	Q4 18/19
3.3.2	Review remand management strategy	Court Lead	Q1 19/20
3.3.3	Develop a resettlement framework	Court Lead	Q1 19/20
3.3.4	Further develop the work of the attendance centres	TM – S Wide	Q4 18/19
3.3.5	Review AIM2 arrangements		Q3 18/19
3.3.6	Commission VSS RJ Co-ordinator to assist in developing the service strategy for victim work and RJ	RJ Lead	Q1 18/19
4.0 Our Governance			
4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders			
4.1.1	Alternative draft vision statements and underpinning values to be developed	MB Chair	Q1 18/19
4.1.2	Staff consultation on draft vision statements	HoS	Q2 18/19
4.1.3	Management Board agreement of vision and underpinning values for 2018/20	MB Chair	Q2 18/19
4.1.4	Development of a service communication plan	HoS	Q4 18/19
4.1.5	Develop a WMYJS website	HoS	Q2 19/20

Ref	Action	Owner	Timescale
4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users			
4.2.1	Agree role of management board members as leads for priorities or key areas of work	Chair MB	Q3 18/19
4.2.2	Agree role of management board members in oversight of practice within QA framework	PQA Lead	Q4 18/19
4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision			
4.3.1	Risks to be a standing MB agenda item	Chair MB	Q1 onwards
4.3.2	Management Board to maintain risk register	Chair MB	Q1 onwards

Appendix 1

West Mercia Youth Justice Service Resources 2018/19

Income

The Youth Offending Service has a complex budget structure comprising of partner agency cash, seconded staff and in kind contributions and the Youth Justice (YOT) Grant from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. The table below outlines the agreed contributions for 2017/18.

Agency	Staffing costs Secondees (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local Authorities ¹			1,228,499	1,228,499
Police Service	237,892		63,000	300,892
National Probation Service	63,033		15,000	78,033
Health Service	129,860		36,894	166,754
Police and Crime Commissioner			180,293	180,293
YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant			1,195,802	1,195,802
Total	430,785		2,719,488	3,150,273

The grant to run the Attendance Centres, £50,519, is included in the total for the YJB Youth Justice Grant in the table above

¹ Where YOTs cover more than one local authority area YJB Youth Justice Plan guidance requires the totality of local authority contributions to be described as a single figure.

The YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant

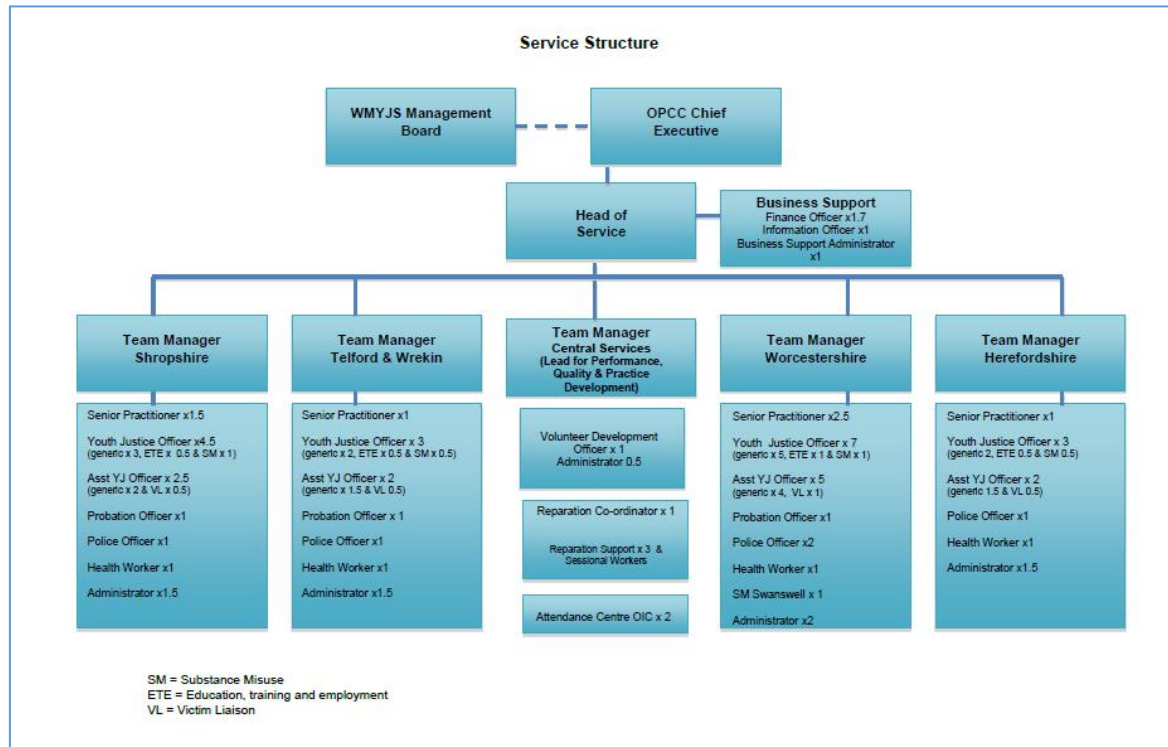
The YJB Youth Justice (YOT) Grant is provided for the provision of youth justice services with an aim of achieving the following outcomes; reducing re-offending, reducing first time entrants, reducing the use of custody, effective public protection and effective safeguarding. The grant will form part of the overall pooled partnership budget for WMYJS, which is used to deliver and support youth justice services across West Mercia. The outline draft budget for 2018/19 is provided below; the expenditure against the Youth Justice Grant is included in this budget.

Category	Budget (£)
Employee Costs	2,012,840
Other Employee Costs	30,000
Premises	175,299
Supplies and Services	67,279
ICT	106,974
Third Party Payments	220,109
Transport	106,987
TOTAL	2,719,488

Appendix 2

West Mercia Youth Justice Service Structure and Staffing Information

The West Mercia Youth Justice Service comprises four multi-agency service delivery teams, aligned to the Local Authority areas to deliver the majority of services. The reparation service and volunteer services are co-ordinated centrally across the whole service, as are the finance and data and information functions.



WMYJS is compliant with the minimum staffing requirements outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as can be seen from the structural diagram above. There are four HCPC registered Social Workers within the staffing group.

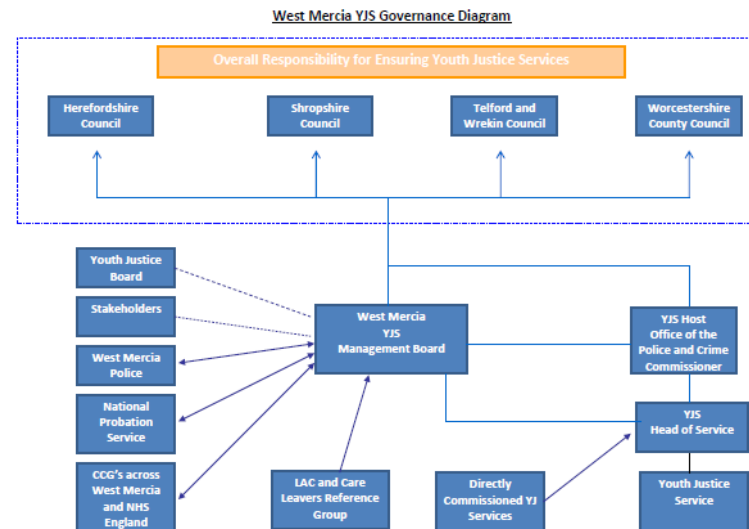
Appendix 3

West Mercia Youth Justice Service Governance and Partnership Information

Governance

WMYJS is managed on behalf of the Local Authorities and the WMYJS partnership by the Office of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). Day to day management of the Head of Service is provided by jointly the Chief Executive of the OPCC and the Chair of the Management Board (DCS Shropshire). The Youth Justice Service is accountable to the WMYJS Management Board and the Management Board is accountable to each of the Local Authorities for the commissioning and delivery of youth justice services.

The partnership Youth Justice Plan is approved by the Management Board and by each of the four top tier Councils. The diagram below outlines the governance arrangements of West Mercia Youth Justice Service.



The Youth Justice Service Management Board is currently chaired by the Director of Children Services for Shropshire Council. The Membership of the Board at 1st April 2018 is outlined in the table below:

Agency	Representative	Role
Worcestershire County Council	Catherine Driscoll	Director of Children, Families and Communities
Shropshire Council	Karen Bradshaw	Director of Children Services
Telford and Wrekin Council	Clive Jones	Director of Children, Family and Adult Services
Herefordshire Council	Chris Baird	Director of Children's Wellbeing
National Probation Service	Jackie Stevenson	Head of West Mercia
West Mercia Police	Dawn Hartland	Head of Criminal Justice
West Mercia Clinical Commissioning Groups	Dawn Clarke	Director of Nursing, Quality and Patient Experience, Shropshire CCG
Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner	Andy Champness	Chief Executive

The Management Board meets every two months and monitors the performance and quality of the service through regular reporting. Where necessary the Management Board will monitor compliance with the YJB Grant conditions through exception reports. There is an agreed process of reporting community safeguarding and public protection incident reviews into the Management Board and the Board monitors the progress of critical learning review action plans as a standard agenda item. The Management Board is supporting a process of continuing to commissioning learning reviews for incidents which previously qualified for CSPPI notification now that notifications to the YJB have been ended.

The Management Board has a schedule of thematic deep dives and practice presentations, the purpose of which is to identify any issues, in particular with regards to provision of services and multi-agency working, and agree actions for the Management Board or individual board members in order to improve services for young people in the youth justice system.

Management Board members ensure that, where relevant, commissioning across partner agencies takes account of the needs of young people in or at risk of entering the youth justice system, and where appropriate explore joint commissioning arrangements.

Partnerships

The Youth Justice Service only has one outsourced service, the provision of Appropriate Adults for young people in Police custody. The service is provided by a local voluntary sector organisation YSS.

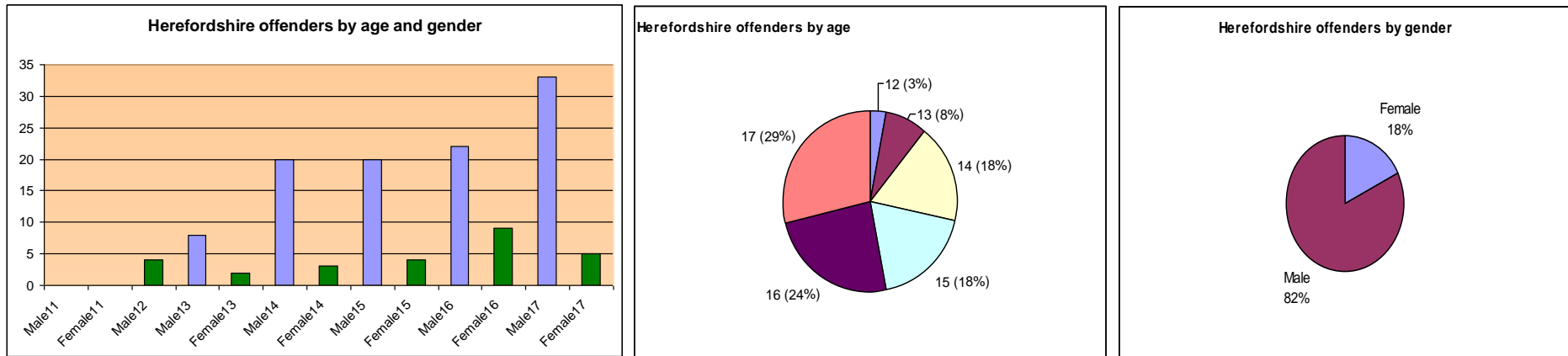
WMYJS is a member of the four Safeguarding Children Boards and several of the board's sub groups and the Children's Trusts or equivalent partnerships. WMYJS is represented on the Crime and Disorder reduction partnerships at the unitary or top tier authority level. WMYJS is an active member of the West Mercia Criminal Justice Board, the West Mercia Crime Reduction Board, the West Mercia Victim and Witness Board and the MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

WMYJS is represented on the Channel Panels across West Mercia established as part of the Prevent strategy. WMYJS staff have undertaken WRAP training in most areas. The service are participant members of the area reducing re-offending groups and the Serious and Organised Crime Joint Agency Groups.

APPENDIX 4 - AREA PROFILE – HEREFORDSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

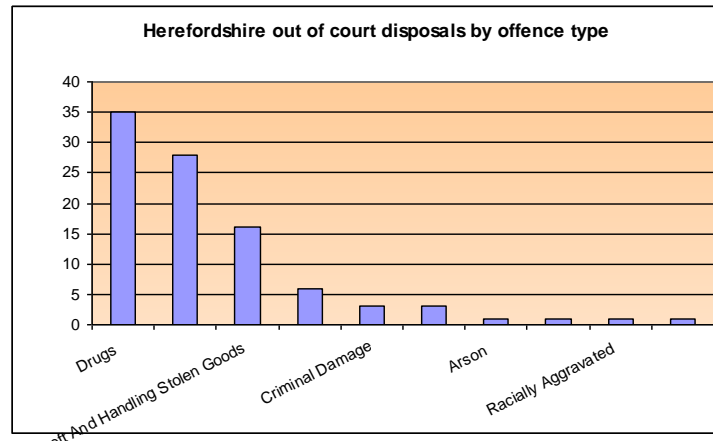
There are 16,101 young people aged 10 to 17 in Herefordshire. In 2017/18, according to the Youth Justice Service records, there were 156 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Herefordshire young people. A total of 130 individual young people accounted for these 156 outcomes, 0.81% of the youth population.



Of the 130 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 82% were male. The majority, 72%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females 16 years.

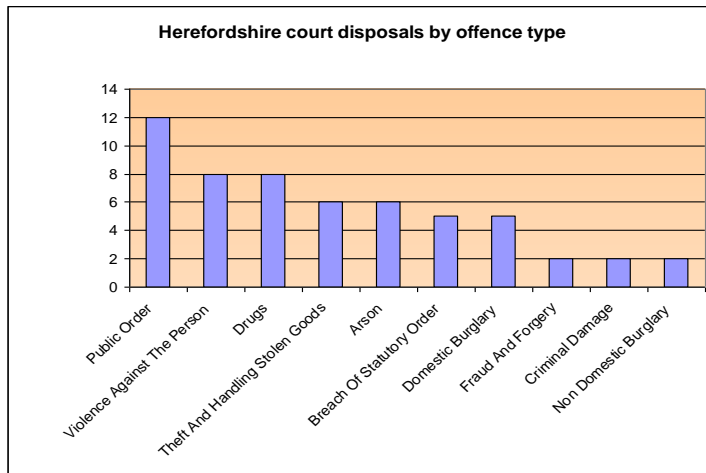
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 95 pre-court disposals made on 40 Herefordshire young people, 88 of these were Youth Cautions and 7 Youth Conditional Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 15 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were drug offences, 37%, violence against person, 29%, and theft and handling, 17%. In the previous year the most frequently occurring offence was violence against the person accounting for 28% of primary offences, followed by drug offences 24%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 90 Herefordshire young people accounted for 61 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 40 of the 61 court outcomes.

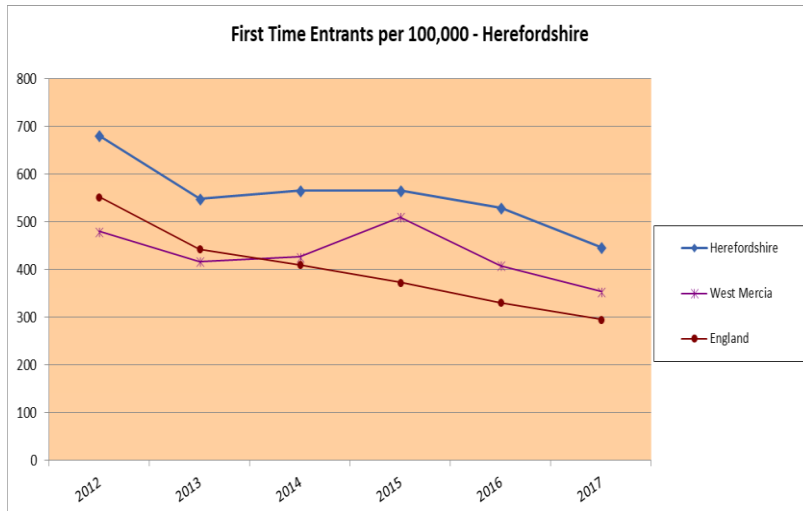
The majority, 84% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 16 year olds accounting for 46% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring primary offences for court sentences were public order offences, accounting for 20% of all offences. Violence against the person and drug offences were the next frequently occurring offence type at 13% for each, followed by theft and handling and arson at 11%.

Performance against the National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicated by a lower rate.



In 2017 there were 447 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Herefordshire, representing a reduction of 34% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 26% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 72, compared to 86 in 2016. The rate of 447 is an improvement in performance on the previous year when the rate was 529.

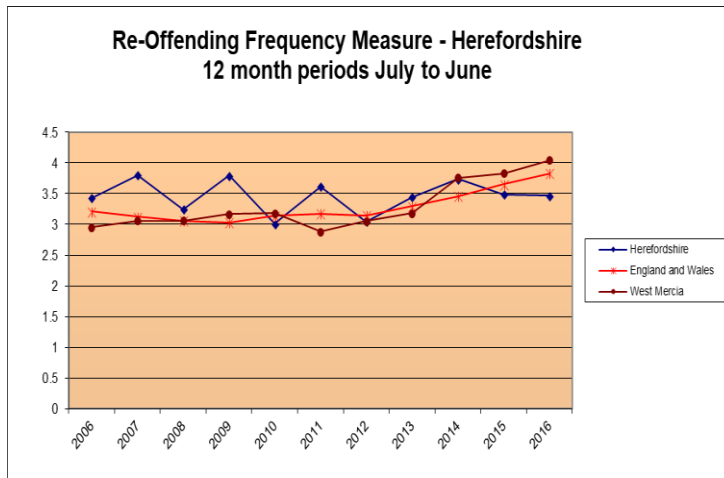
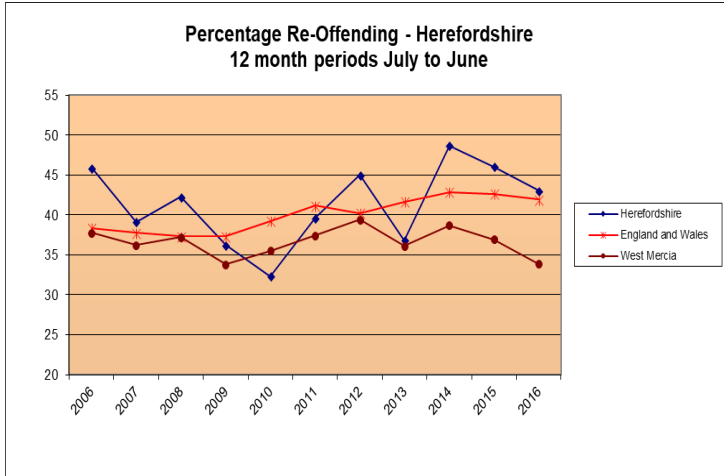
At 447 Herefordshire has the highest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, the range in rates across the West Mercia authorities is 304 to 447. The reduction of youth offending has been adopted as a priority by Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership, and some analysis of the FTE cohort is planned. During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason

for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Herefordshire has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. There was 1 custodial sentence during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.06 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a reduction in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 3 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.19. The 2017 rate of 0.06% compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending



There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per re-offender in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Herefordshire for the period is 3.47, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. Herefordshire is, therefore, performing better than England and West Mercia as a whole. The performance has slightly improved from the previous year when it was 3.49.

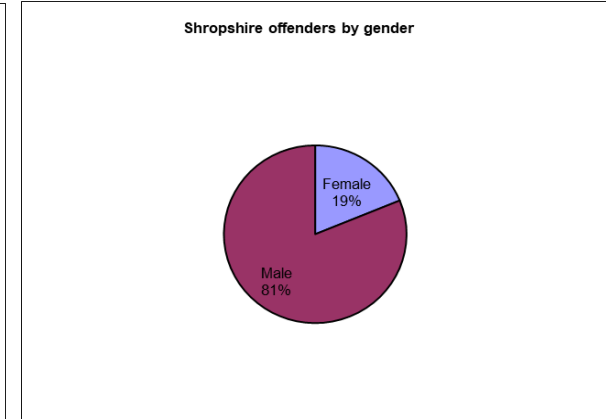
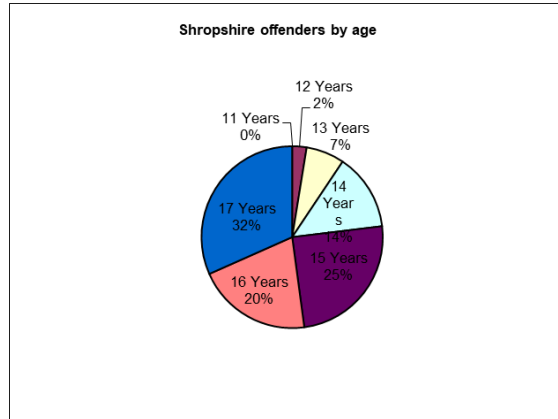
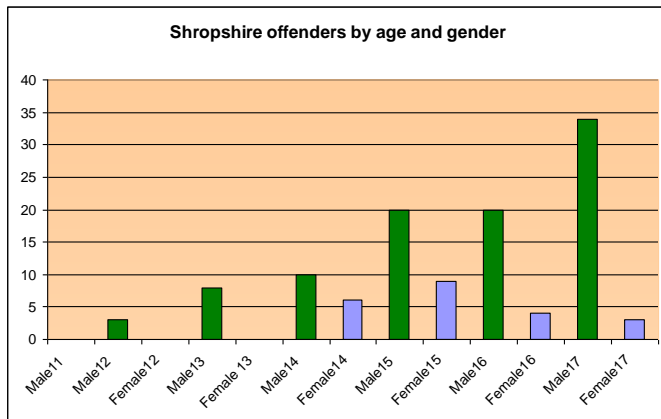
For the year July 2015 to June 2016 the binary measure for Herefordshire is 43.0% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%. For the period, therefore, there were a greater proportion of the cohort re-offending than for West Mercia, but they were, on average, re-offending with less frequency. The performance of 43.0% represents an improvement on the performance for the previous period when it was 46.1%. It should also be noted, that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In 2011/12 there were 255 offenders in the cohort and 344 re-offences and compared to a cohort size of 179 and 267 re-offences in the 12 month period ending June 2016.

Reducing youth offending has been adopted a priority for the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership and a delivery plan is currently being developed.

APPENDIX 5 - AREA PROFILE – SHROPSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

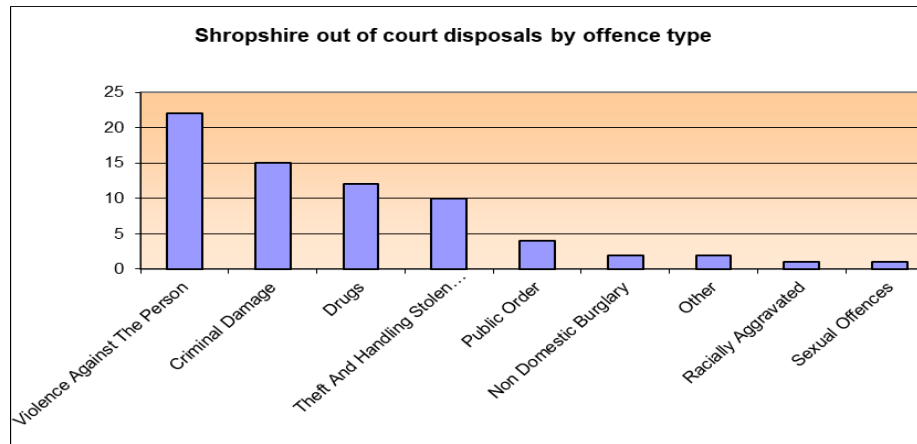
There are 27,663 young people aged 10 to 17 in Shropshire. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 123 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Shropshire young people. A total of 117 individual young people accounted for these 123 outcomes, 0.42% of the youth population.



Of the 117 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 81% were male. The majority, 77%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females 15 years.

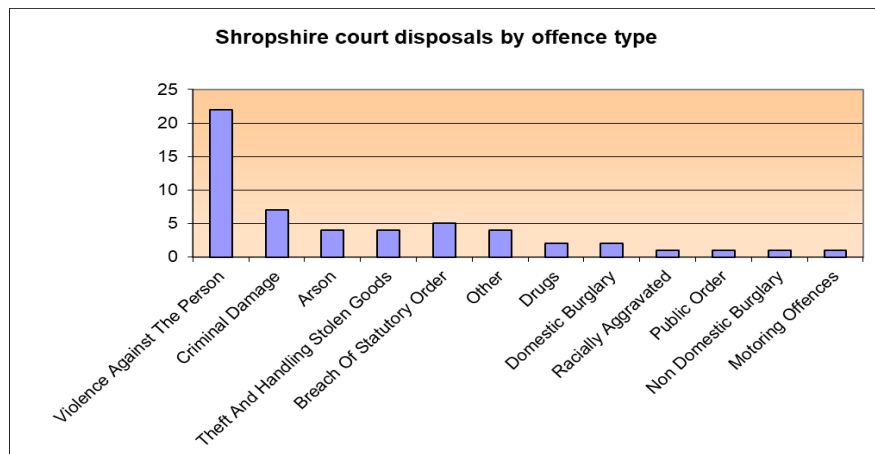
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 69 pre-court disposals made on Shropshire young people, 58 Youth Cautions and 11 Youth Conditional Cautions. The youth justice service is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Caution and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 30 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were violence against the person, 32%, followed by criminal damage, 22%, drug offences, 17%, and theft and handling 14%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 45 Shropshire young people accounted for 69 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 51 of the 69 court outcomes.

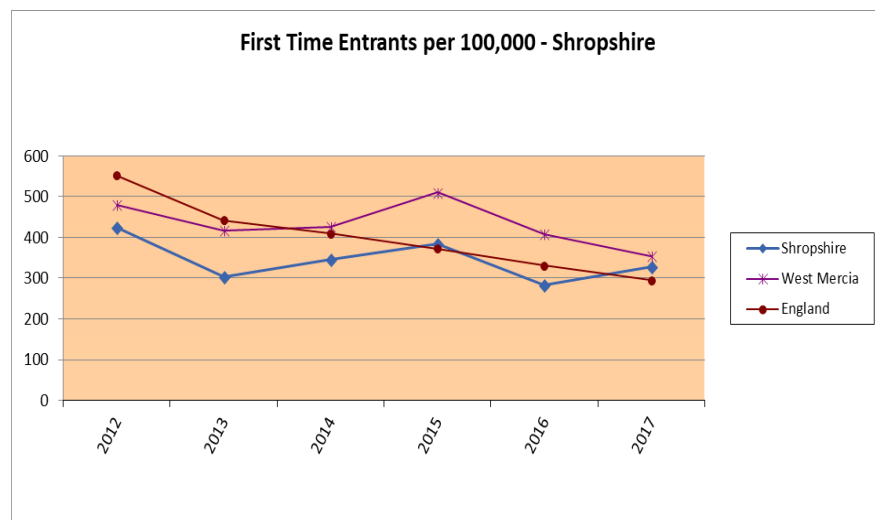
The majority, 85% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 43% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 41% of all outcomes. Criminal damage was the next frequently occurring offence, 13%, followed by breach of a statutory order 9%.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicated by a lower rate



In 2017 there were 329 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Shropshire, representing a reduction of 23% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 34% over the same period. It should be noted that the rates in 2012 for England and West Mercia were significantly higher than for Shropshire (552, 680 and 426 respectively). The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 is 91, compared to 128 in 2012.

At 329 Shropshire has the second lowest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, in the range of 304 to 447. The Shropshire rate is higher than the national rate, 295 but lower than the West Mercia rate of 354. The 2017 rate of 329 represents deterioration of performance from the previous year when the rate was at 282.

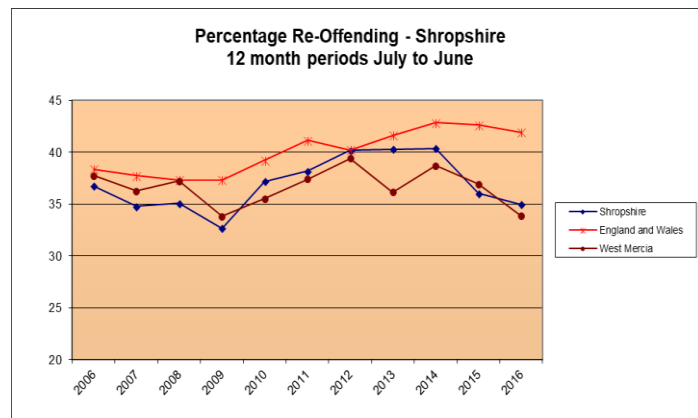
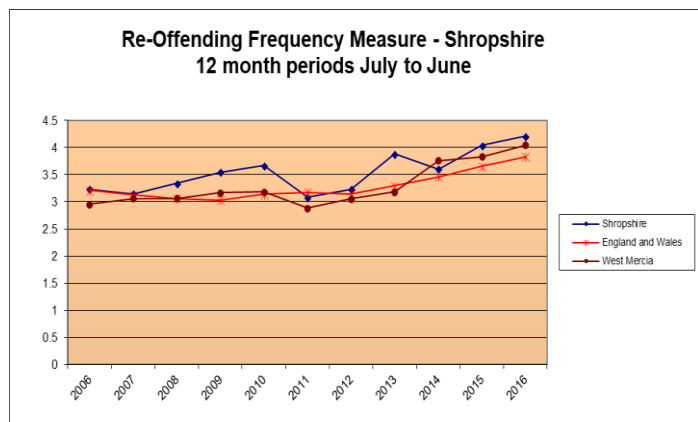
During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Shropshire has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences.

There were 7 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.25 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a decrease in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 8 custodial sentences. The 2017 rate of 0.25 compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending



There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Shropshire for July 2015 to June 2016 is 4.21, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.82. Shropshire is, therefore, performing slightly worse than for West Mercia and for England and the performance represents a slight but not significant deterioration on the previous year when it was at 4.04. The general pattern of a rise follows both that of the West Mercia and national rates. The rises since 2014 are partly a result in changes in the methodology used by the Ministry of Justice to calculate this measure.

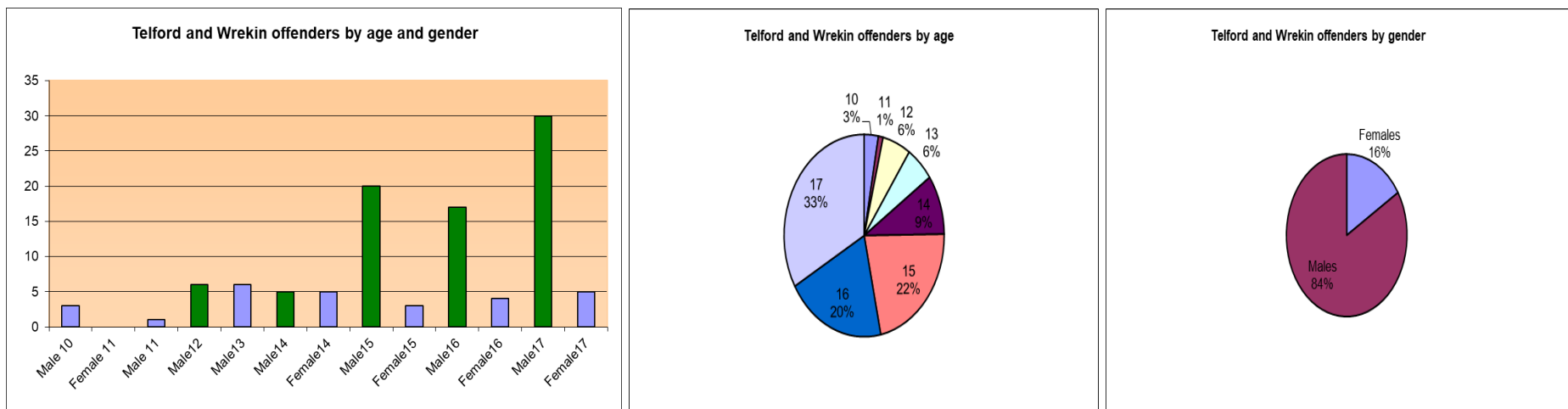
For the period the binary measure for Shropshire is 35.0% which is in line with the West Mercia performance of 33.9% and significantly better than the national performance of 41.9%. It should also be noted that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year, in the current period there were 168 offenders in the

cohort and 240 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 341 with 443 re-offences in period ending June 2012. The number of actual re-offences has therefore decreased by 46% between the two periods.

APPENDIX 6 - AREA PROFILE – TELFORD AND WREKIN

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

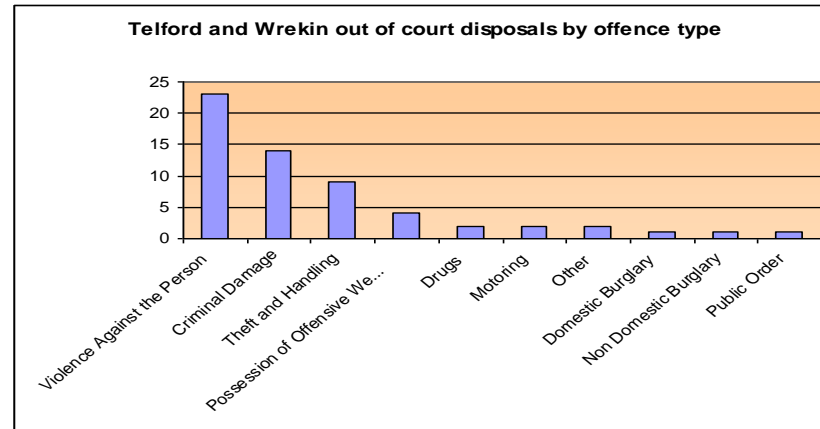
There are 16,444 young people aged 10 to 17 in Telford and Wrekin. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 135 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Telford and Wrekin young people. A total of 105 individual young people accounted for these 135 outcomes, 0.64% of the youth population.



Of the 105 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 84% were male. The majority, 75%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for both young males and young females was 17 years.

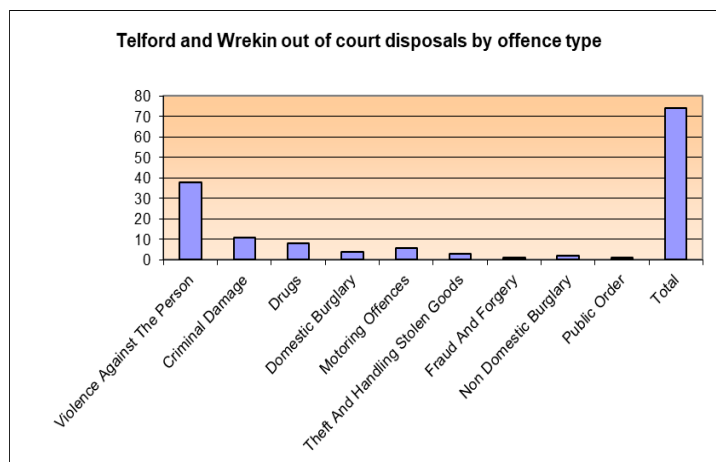
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 74 pre-court disposals made on 64 Telford and Wrekin young people, all of these were Youth Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 28 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offence for out of court disposals was violence against the person, 51%, followed by criminal damage, 15% and drug offences, 11%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 41 Telford and Wrekin young people accounted for 61 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 51 of the 61 court outcomes.

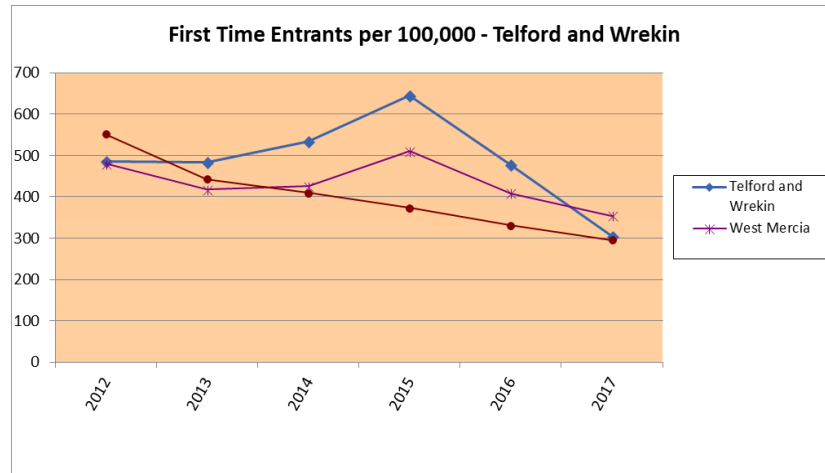
The majority, 82% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 41% of court outcomes.

The most frequently occurring offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 31% of all outcomes. Arson was the next most frequently occurring offences, 10%, followed by criminal damage, 8% and theft and handling 8%. These four categories of offences accounted for 57% of all sentencing outcomes.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicated by a lower rate.



In 2017 there were 304 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Telford and Wrekin representing a reduction of 37% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 26% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 50, compared to 86 in 2012.

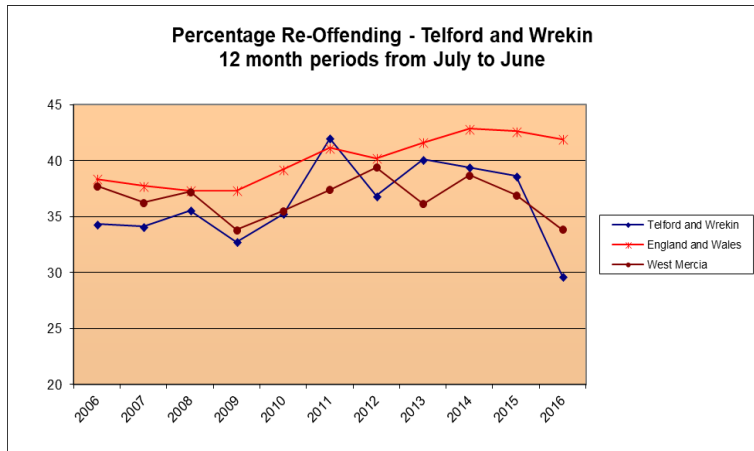
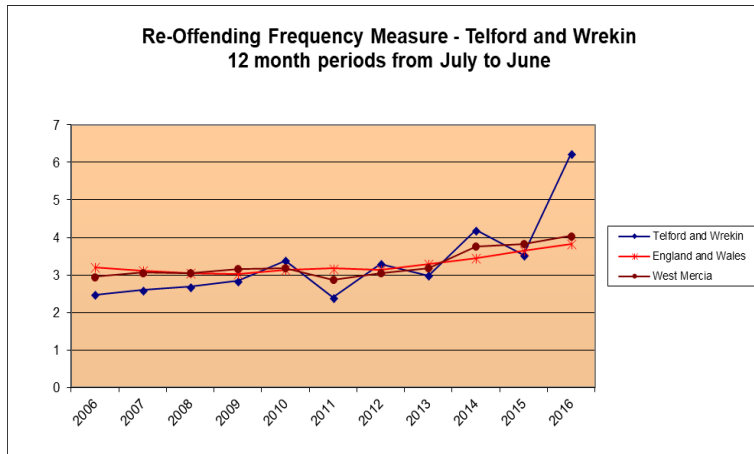
At 304 Telford and Wrekin has the lowest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, the range of rates across West Mercia being 304 to 447, but slightly higher than the rate for England which was 295. The rate in Telford and Wrekin has decreased from the previous year when it was significantly higher at 478. The number of FTEs has reduced from 79 to 50 between the two years, a decrease of 37%.

During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. Telford and Wrekin has, historically, had a low rate of custodial sentences. There were 5 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.30 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents an increase in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 2 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.12. The 2017 rate of 0.30 compares to a West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending



There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for cohort identified in the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Telford and Wrekin for period is 6.22, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. The frequency measure of 6.22 represents a significant rise from the year ending June 2015 when it was 3.53.

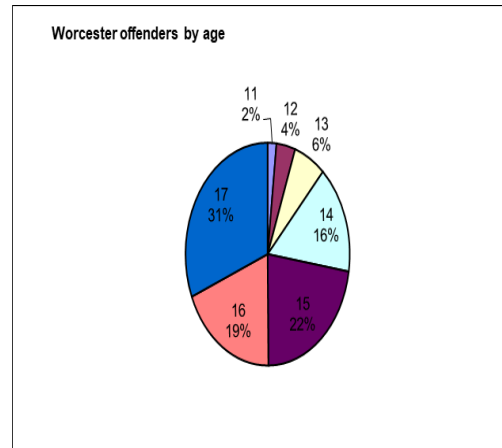
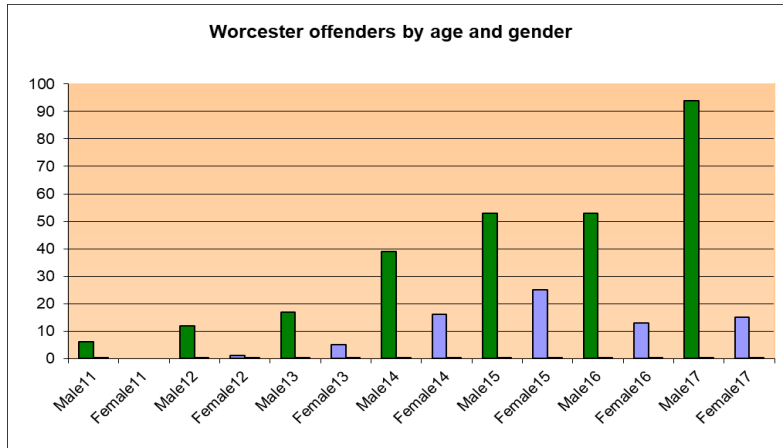
For the year ending June 2016 the binary measure for Telford and Wrekin is 29.7% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%, Telford and Wrekin is therefore performing better than West Mercia and England. The current performance has significantly improved from the previous year where the performance was 38.6%. When the two measures are considered together, there are, proportionally, less young people re-offending in Telford than in West Mercia as a whole, however those who are re-offending are committing more offences. It

should, however, be noted the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In the year ending June 2010 there were 451 offenders in the cohort and 531 re-offences compared to a cohort size of 182 with 336 re-offences in the current period. The number of actual re-offences have therefore decreased by 36% over the seven year period.

APPENDIX 7 - AREA PROFILE – WORCESTERSHIRE

Youth Offending Population – all Young People

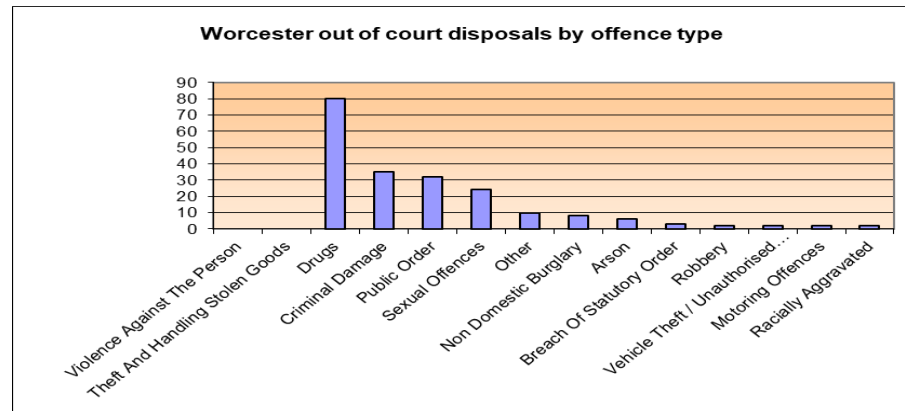
There are 50,812 young people aged 10 to 17 in Worcestershire. In 2017/18, according to WMYJS records, there were 404 youth justice sanctions (youth cautions, youth conditional cautions or convictions) made on Worcestershire young people. A total of 349 individual young people accounted for these 376 outcomes, 0.69% of the youth population.



Of the 349 young people entering or in the youth justice system in 2017/18, 79% were male. The majority, 73%, were aged 15 to 17 years. The peak age of offending for young males was 17 years and young females 15 years.

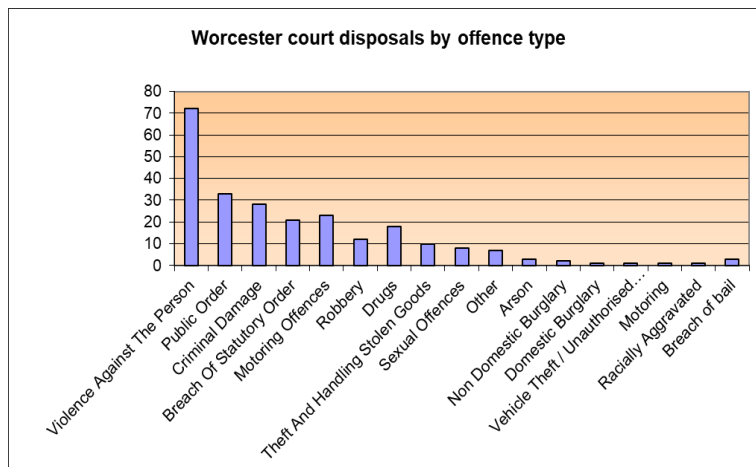
Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Out of Court Disposals

During 2017/18 there were a total of 208 pre-court disposals made on 194 Worcestershire young people, 189 of these were Youth Cautions and 19 Youth Conditional Cautions. WMYJS is required to assess all young people made subject to second or subsequent Youth Cautions and all Youth Conditional Cautions and if assessed appropriate provide a programme of intervention, in 2017/18 intervention programmes were provided for 74 pre-court disposals.



The most frequently occurring primary offences for out of court disposals were violence against the person, 38%, followed by theft and handling, 17%, drug offences, 15% and criminal damage 12%.

Youth Offending Population – Young People Subject to Court Outcomes



In 2017/18 a total of 155 Worcestershire young people accounted for 244 court outcomes. Orders requiring WMYJS interventions (Referral Orders, YROs and Custodial sentences) accounted for 208 of the 244 court outcomes.

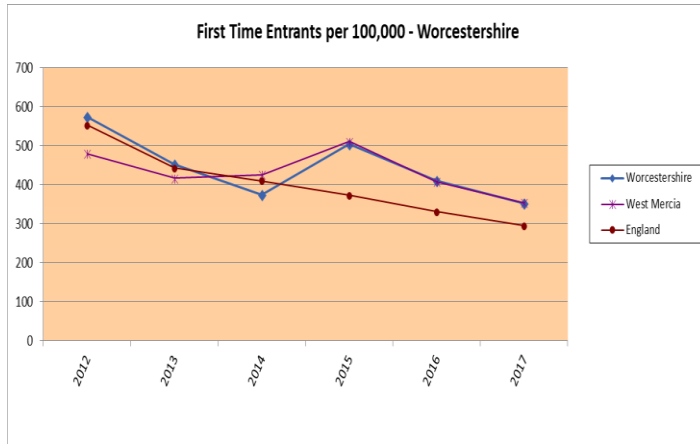
The majority, 82% of young people receiving court sentences were aged 15 to 17, with 17 year olds accounting for 43% of young people receiving a court sentence.

The most frequently occurring primary offence for court sentences was violence against the person, accounting for 30% of all outcomes. Public order offences were the next frequently occurring offences, 14%, followed by criminal damage, 11%.

Performance against National Indicators

(i) First Time Entrants

The first time entrant measure is expressed as the number of first time entrants per 100,000 of 10 to 17 year old population. First time entrants are those young people receiving a first formal youth justice sanction (a Youth Caution, Conditional Caution or Conviction). Good performance is indicated by a lower rate.



In 2017 there were 352 first time entrants per 100,000 youth population in Worcestershire, representing a reduction of 39% since 2012. This compares with a reduction for England of 46% and for West Mercia of 34% over the same period. The actual number of first time entrants in 2017 was 179, compared to 313 in 2012.

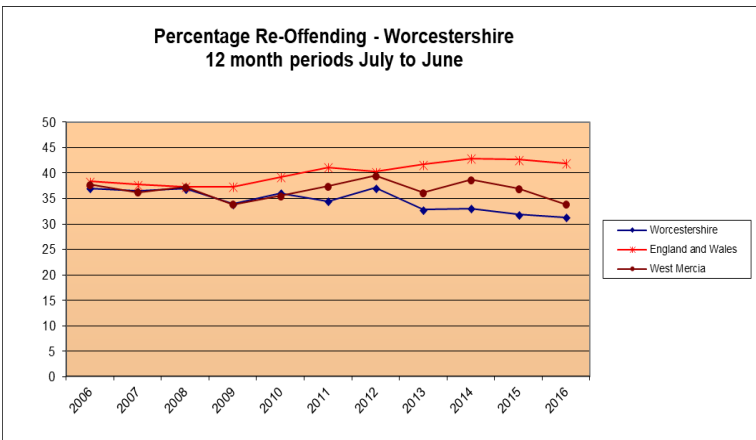
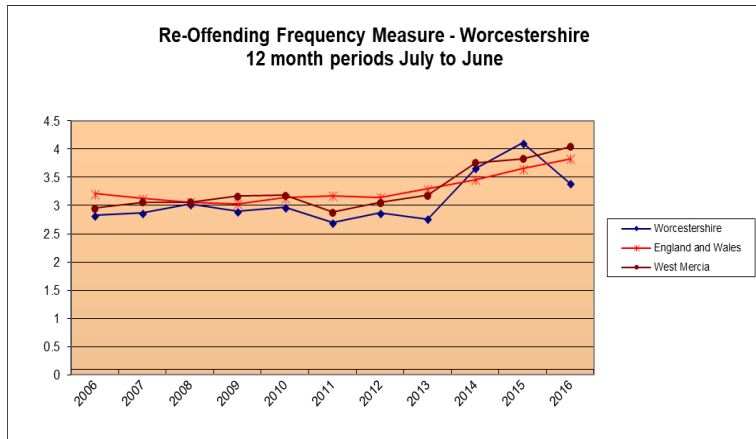
At 352 Worcestershire has the second highest rate of FTEs across West Mercia, with the highest rate at 447 and lowest at 304. The rate is higher than the national rate which is 295. The rate in Worcestershire has decreased from the previous year when it was 410. The number of FTEs has reduced from 209 to 179 between the two years, a decrease of 14%.

During the recent pilot inspection of the youth justice service the inspection team formed the opinion that one reason for the higher than might be expected rate of FTE in West Mercia is the out of court decision making process. A business case is being developed to adapt the process to bring more young people into the scope of joint agency decision making.

(ii) Use of Custody

The use of custody measure is expressed as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 of 10 to 17 year population, a lower rate indicates better performance. There were 9 custodial sentences during 2017, equating to a rate of 0.17 custodial sentences per 1000 youth population this represents a decrease in custodial sentences from 2016 where there were 16 custodial sentences equating to a rate of 0.31. The 2017 rate of 0.17% compares to the West Mercia rate of 0.16 and a national rate of 0.39.

(iii) Re-Offending



There are two re-offending measures, both measuring re-offending in the same cohort of offenders over a 12 month period following the youth justice sanction that placed the young person in the cohort. The first, the frequency measure, is the average number of re-offences per offender who re-offends in the cohort. The second measure, the binary measure, is the percentage of the offenders in the cohort re-offending. In both cases a lower rate denotes better performance. The most recent data for the re-offending measure is for cohort identified in the year July 2015 to June 2016. This is the year where the cohort is identified, they are then followed for re-offending for a 12 month period, hence to June 2017.

The frequency measure performance for Worcestershire for year ending June 2016 is 3.39, compared to the West Mercia performance of 4.04 and national performance of 3.83. Worcestershire has, therefore, a better performance than West Mercia and England for this measure. The current performance is an improvement on the performance for the previous year where it was at 4.11.

For year ending June 2016 the binary measure for Worcestershire is 31.3% compared with a West Mercia performance of 33.9% and a national performance of 41.9%. Worcestershire is therefore performing better than West Mercia and England for this indicator. It should also be noted that the overall cohort sizes are decreasing year on year. In the year ending June 2012 there were 645 offenders in the cohort and 686 re-offences compared

to a cohort size of 406 with 430 re-offences in the current period. The number of actual re-offences has therefore decreased by 37% between 2012 and 2016.

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD – 6 DECEMBER 2018
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – 11 DECEMBER 2018
CABINET – 13 DECEMBER 2018****TELFORD & WREKIN DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY 2019-2021****REPORT OF: LIZ NOAKES, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HEALTH &
WELLBEING****LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR RAE EVANS****PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT****1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

This report introduces the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021. The strategy proposes a joined up response aimed at tackling domestic abuse across our strategic partnerships, with a clear recognition that no single agency can address this complex issue in isolation.

The strategy recognises that domestic abuse is wider than violence, and therefore the scope includes: controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

The lives of women and children and young people and men are significantly affected by domestic abuse and it is not always easy to identify. Domestic abuse rarely takes place in a vacuum and substance misuse and poor physical and mental health can contribute and can amplify the consequences. Its impact can be seen across many aspects of our community, including child development and attainment, family dynamics, crime rates, our local workforce.

The rate of domestic abuse offences recorded in Telford & Wrekin is high. The strategy aims to raise awareness, identify, prevent, and better support victims of domestic abuse and their children. At the same time as investigating and prosecuting, but also supporting perpetrators to break the cycle of abuse.

The strategy will be delivered through an action plan, based on the following six objectives:

- Use intelligence and robust data to assess need, inform commissioning and service provision and raising awareness campaigns
- Review and develop specialist services and support and implement comprehensive multi-agency pathways, for both victims and perpetrators and children and young people affected by domestic abuse
- Develop practitioner's knowledge on the dynamics of domestic abuse on

the whole family and provide them with the appropriate training and resources to support the family

- Increase awareness and understanding in the community of the impact of domestic abuse, to challenge and prevent domestic abuse
- Review current policies and procedures and raise awareness associated with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honor Based Violence (HBV) and Forced Marriage (FM), within the community and across the professional workforce
- Embed the learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews to ensure recommendations are addressed and acted upon

Engagement with professionals has identified as a clear early priority, the need strengthen the local offer of specialist services and support to victims, children and young people affected and also to perpetrators, to change their behaviour.

Raising awareness and understanding of domestic abuse across the community is delivered through the White Ribbon campaign, which is strongly supported by Cabinet members.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet are requested to approve the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and support our most vulnerable children and adults • Put our children and young people first • Ensure that neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained • Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Domestic abuse can affect anybody, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation, and it occurs across all of society, regardless of age, race, religion, wealth or geography. However, certain people are disproportionately affected, such as women, young people under 25, those with disabilities or mental health problems.
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	The domestic abuse strategy action plan will be implemented and monitored from 2019.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	<p>The Council currently provides a number of support programmes both to groups and one to one, including the Freedom Programme, through its Early Help practitioners.</p> <p>The White Ribbon Campaign is supported by the Council within existing resources and through a grant paid by the Police and Crime Commissioner of £2,500.</p> <p>Any additional services identified as being required as the action plan is implemented will need to be considered within the partners existing resources. If additional funding is required this will need to be</p>

		discussed amongst partners and a request made through the relevant governance arrangements of each organisation.
LEGAL ISSUES	No	No issues with the legality of the strategy or indeed the proposed manner of implementation. <i>Oliver Nicholas 19/11/18</i>
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	Yes	<p>This plan commits to improve and develop the service and support offer for victims of domestic abuse, children and young people affected and perpetrators. As highlighted above additional funding will require discussions between partner organisations to agree funding arrangements for these developments. Any delay in identifying funding streams to support the service improvement will impact on delivery of the strategy ambitions.</p> <p>There are various potential opportunities to apply for Government funding to support the strategy, through MCHLG, Home Office and Public Health England initiatives, which are being actively pursued.</p> <p>Officers are also proactively working with partners and the OPCC to identify possible funding streams.</p>
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	Yes	Borough-wide impact

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

Refer to Appendix 1 Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy and Action Plan for further information.

5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6. PREVIOUS MINUTES

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report prepared by Helen Onions, Consultant in Public Health,
Telephone: 01952 380824

Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019 - 2021

Working together to break the cycle of abuse

Draft for:
HWB 6/12/18
Cabinet 13/12/2018



Contents

Contents

Foreword

1.	Acknowledgements	1
2.	Mission Statement	1
3.	What this aims plan to deliver	1
4.	What is Domestic Abuse?	2
5.	Background	2
6.	National Picture	4
7.	Introduction	5
8.	Local Picture	6
9.	Our Objectives	9
10.	Governance and Accountability	11
11.	Further Information	12
	References	13

Foreword

Domestic abuse impacts upon women and men, children and young people, families and communities and it is not always easy to identify. It is often referred to as the 'hidden' crime as different forms of abuse can mean some victims suffer for far too long before getting help.

More victims in Telford and Wrekin are coming forward to report abuse and the demand on services for victims and perpetrators is increasing. Our services and support need to be responsive at the earliest opportunity, and balanced with prevention activities designed to stop abuse from happening in the first place.

We want everyone in Telford and Wrekin to be kept safe from domestic abuse and have the opportunity to lead healthy and happy lives. We can achieve this by:

- Preventing domestic abuse from happening in the first place, by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it, and intervening early to prevent it from continuing, reoccurring or escalating.
- Reducing the risk to victims and their families ensuring that perpetrators are held to account and supporting them to change their behaviour.
- Working in partnership to provide the right specialist services and support to women, children and young people and also men affected.

The aims of the strategy are to raise awareness, prevent, identify, investigate, prosecute and appropriately support victims of domestic abuse. The effects and impact of domestic abuse cut across a number of service areas across organisations and is therefore supported by the following partnerships:

- Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board (TWSCB)
- Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Adults Board (TWSAB)
- Safer Telford & Wrekin Partnership (STWP)
- Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB)

The strategy aims to support the partnerships through a joined up response for those affected by domestic abuse, underpinned by a clear recognition and understanding that no single agency can address this complex issue in isolation. Together we will break the cycle of abuse.



Andrew Mason
Independent Chair
Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding
Children and Adults Boards



Superintendent Tom Harding,
West Mercia Police and Chair of the
Safer Telford & Wrekin Partnership

1. Acknowledgements

The Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Group have developed this strategy on behalf of the partnerships. The group includes representatives from multiple Council teams, Police and NHS colleagues, and providers of domestic abuse services. There has been wide engagement across the partnerships and with a variety of groups, teams and colleagues.

2. Mission Statement

The Telford & Wrekin [Community Safety Partnership Strategy¹](#), the vision is that:

“The community are able to identify domestic abuse, know where to turn to for help, victims and their families are supported and perpetrators are dealt with effectively (from prosecution to reducing future harm and offending).”

Together we can make a difference.

3. What this plan aims to deliver

- ✓ **Improved recording of domestic abuse, and fewer repeat victim incidents, but ultimately a reduction in the numbers of incidents and victims**
- ✓ **Victims and families reporting improved health and wellbeing and resilience**
- ✓ A better understanding of the local picture of domestic abuse, to direct prevention work and shape services and support based on our local need
- ✓ A greater awareness across the community of what domestic abuse is and how to respond
- ✓ Training to a wide range of professionals, across organisations and teams
- ✓ Early identification of victims and their children to prompt support to break the cycle of domestic abuse in families
- ✓ More coordinated, responsive specialist services and support offer to victims and children affected, with clear accessible pathways to support recovery and reduce future risks
- ✓ Timely and appropriate referral and support for children and young people at risk of harm from domestic abuse
- ✓ Support for perpetrators to enable them to change their behaviour
- ✓ Better justice for victims, holding perpetrators to account through policing and the criminal justice system
- ✓ Learning from domestic homicide reviews is embedded across the system
- ✓ Women and girls are better protected from the risks of honour based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

4. What is domestic abuse?

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse, 2018² is:

“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional”

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

Domestic abuse can involve a range of behaviours, which are abusive and which would not always be classed as violent. In Telford & Wrekin the definition has also been widened to include 16-17 year olds and reflect coercive control, ‘honour’ based violence (HBV), female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage (FM).

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is the partial or total removal of external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. It's also known as female circumcision or cutting.

Honor Based Violence (HBV) is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community.

Forced Marriage (FM) is where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. It is recognised as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and an abuse of human rights.

5. Background

Domestic abuse can affect anybody, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation, and it occurs across all of society, regardless of age, race, religion, wealth or geography. However, certain people are disproportionately affected, such as women, young people under 25, those with disabilities or mental health problems.

Occurring in the main in the home, domestic abuse is often without witnesses. It has tremendous costs for the victim, their children, family and friends, and upon the community as a whole. Although domestic abuse is predominately a gender-based crime against women and girls, men are also subjected to abuse at home and in relationships.

The impact of domestic abuse on victims, children and young people and families can have a lasting significance. Its results are not only physical, but impact on emotional wellbeing, health, work and can affect housing, income, and relationships.

The Adoption and Children Act 2002³ recognises the fact that witnessing domestic violence can have serious implications for children. National learning^{4,5} from Serious Case Reviews identifies domestic violence, mental ill-health and drug and alcohol misuse as the most common issues relating to children's families.

The Care Act 2014⁶ also acknowledges domestic abuse as a category of abuse that particularly affects adults with care and support needs, including older people.

Domestic abuse rarely takes place in a vacuum and substance misuse and poor mental health can be both contributory factors and can amplify the consequences. It impacts all aspects of communities including health and crime rates, and the ability to participate in the workforce, child development and family dynamics. For example:

- Children and young people who are exposed to violence in the home may suffer from emotional trauma, poor health and trouble learning at school.
- Children and young people raised in violent situations are more likely to use violence to solve problems as they grow older than if those not exposed to it.
- Adult victims suffer from a host of long-term health problems like heart disease, chronic pain, stress disorders, and arthritis, increasing health care costs for everyone.
- It can impact on organisations effectiveness, which is why organisations have started addressing domestic abuse within their policies. An employee who knows they are supported, will be more loyal and will maintain productivity.

There is evidence⁷ indicating that work with perpetrators, to address the underlying cause of the violence, is key to breaking the cycle and therefore reducing domestic abuse and its effect on people lives and crucially the impact on families.

6. The National Picture

Key Statistics

An estimated 1.9 million people in the UK suffer from some form of domestic abuse⁸ and each year more than 100,000 people in the UK are at high or imminent risk of being murdered or seriously injured as a result of domestic abuse⁹.

One in four women experience domestic abuse at some point in their lives and as reported by the Home Office¹⁰ accounts for almost a quarter of all crime.

Domestic abuse accounts for 1 in 5 of all violent crimes

Every minute, police in the UK receive a domestic assistance call – yet only 35% of domestic violence incidents are reported to the police¹¹

1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men endure violence from a partner, ex-partner/family member during their adult life in England and Wales – equivalent to 1.2 million women and 784,000 men (16-59 years old) in 2012/13¹²

Between 6% and 10% of women suffer domestic violence in a given year¹³

1.2 million women and 700,000 men experience domestic abuse every year

High-risk victims live with domestic abuse for 2.3 years before getting help and 85% of victims sought help five times on average from professionals before they got effective help to stop the abuse⁹

Victims of domestic violence are more likely to experience repeat victimisation than victims of any other type of crime

Two women are killed every week in England and Wales by a current or former partner¹⁴

On average, victims experience 50 incidents of abuse before receiving effective support

Witnessing domestic abuse can be particularly traumatic for children and young people. A minimum of 750,000 British children and young people a year (around 6.5%) are witnesses to domestic abuse and around 30% of domestic abuse begins or escalates during pregnancy¹⁵

7. Introduction – our approach

This Domestic Abuse Strategy sets out the Telford & Wrekin Partnerships vision, aims and objectives for dealing with domestic abuse, and the outcomes we expect to see as a result. It is vital that our response is informed and developed by the local picture, intelligence on need, the voices of victims and what is important to them and also best practice guidance of what works. Our approach needs to also include a clear understanding of the issues that contribute to domestic abuse. The strategy's commitment will be delivered through an ambitious action plan. The key groups intended to benefit from this strategy are:

- Victims and survivors of domestic abuse
- Children and young people who have experienced or are living with domestic abuse
- Perpetrators of domestic abuse, who should be held to account, and supported to change their behaviour to reduce the risk to victims and their children
- Partner agencies involved in supporting adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

We already have a number of local good practice initiatives, including:

- White Ribbon Town accreditation, awareness raising events and campaigns
- Operation Encompass, which ensures children and young people have support in schools following an incident, if needed
- West Mercia Women's Aid Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs)
- The Sanctuary Project which provides additional security for victims
- Shropshire Domestic Abuse Advisory Service

Raising the awareness and understanding of domestic abuse across the community and working to prevent domestic abuse are key commitments of the strategy. Telford continues to be a White Ribbon Town, which means that the Council and partners proactively support people who campaign to step up and positively make a stand towards ending domestic abuse. This is the 5th year of Telford's commitment to be a White Ribbon Town, and partners reaffirmed the town's pledge to ending domestic abuse at the annual White Ribbon event on 23th November 2018 at the Park Lane Centre. The evaluation of the White Ribbon awareness raising activities is used to assess the reach and impact of the campaign. Council Cabinet Members strongly support the White Ribbon campaign activities.

Engagement with partners has identified that a clear early priority for the strategy is the need to develop better support those already affected – victims and their children, through accelerating the development of our services, support and pathways. There is a recognition that working with the perpetrators is integral, to enable couples and families to achieve positive outcomes.

Domestic abuse impacts on all agencies work within the borough and through the programme of work a variety of organisations and teams (statutory and voluntary) will be involved, for example:

- Telford & Wrekin Council teams: Adult and Children Early Help, Social Care and Safeguarding, Housing Services, Community Safety and Public Health
- West Mercia Police
- Women's Aid
- Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service
- Victim Support
- NHS Clinical Commissioning Group and Provider Trusts

This joined up approach will ensure that we stimulate community-based action to challenge attitudes and develop local solutions that empower and support those affected by domestic abuse.

8. The Local Picture

The Telford & Wrekin picture of domestic abuse described below is based on police data. As there is no specific offence of 'domestic abuse', crime offence and incident records where a domestic setting has been identified at the time have been used. The local current picture represents only those records of domestic abuse reported to the police, and it is acknowledged that there will be further unreported offences occurring.

Key Headlines for Telford & Wrekinⁱ

- In 2016/17 a total of 4,832 domestic abuse offences were recorded in Telford and Wrekin, which was the highest rate of any Community Safety Partnership, within the Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police Alliance. (Figure 1)
- The gender profile for offences consists of 73% female victims and 27% male victims. 74% of perpetrators are male and 26% female. (Figures 2 and 3)
- In terms of the relationship profile - 40% of total harm and 48% of offences are between ex partners, and 56% of harm is caused by partners (Figure 4)
- The main types of Domestic Abuse offences can be broken down into the following categories:
 - 45% Emotional Domestic Abuse Incident
 - 16% Common Assault By Beating
 - 13% Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm

ⁱ Source: Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police

Further work is needed to understand the profile of need and demand on local services, and this will be undertaken through the strategy objectives as part of the action plan.

Figure 1 Domestic Abuse Offences in Warwickshire and West Mercia

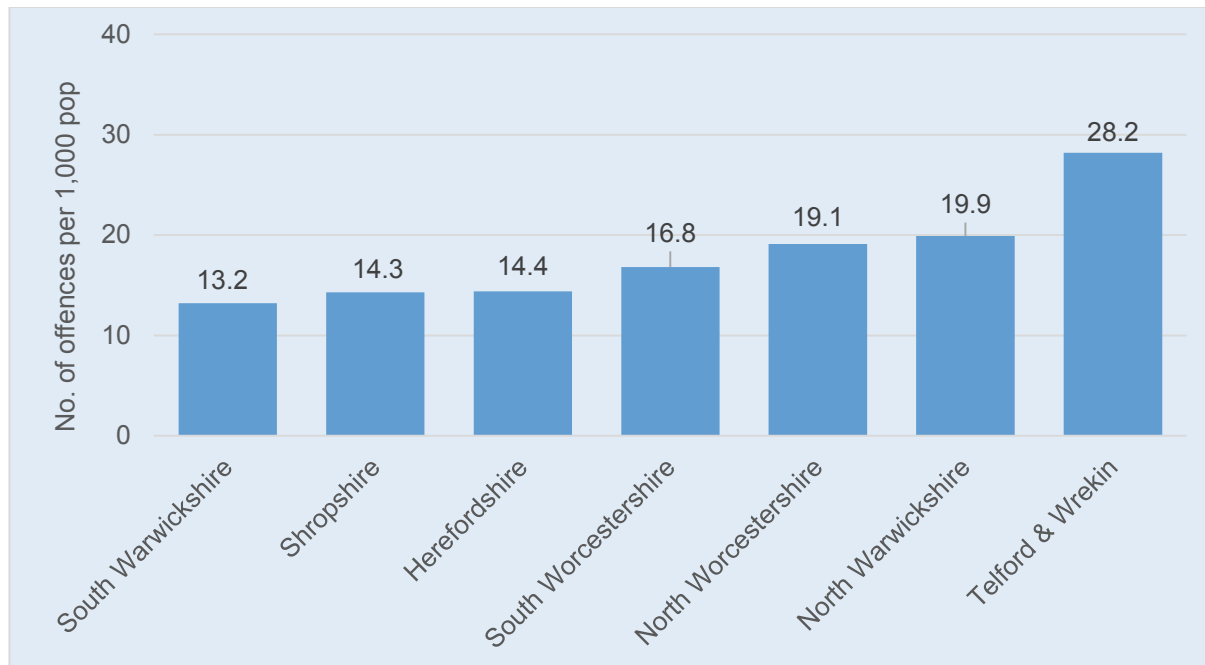
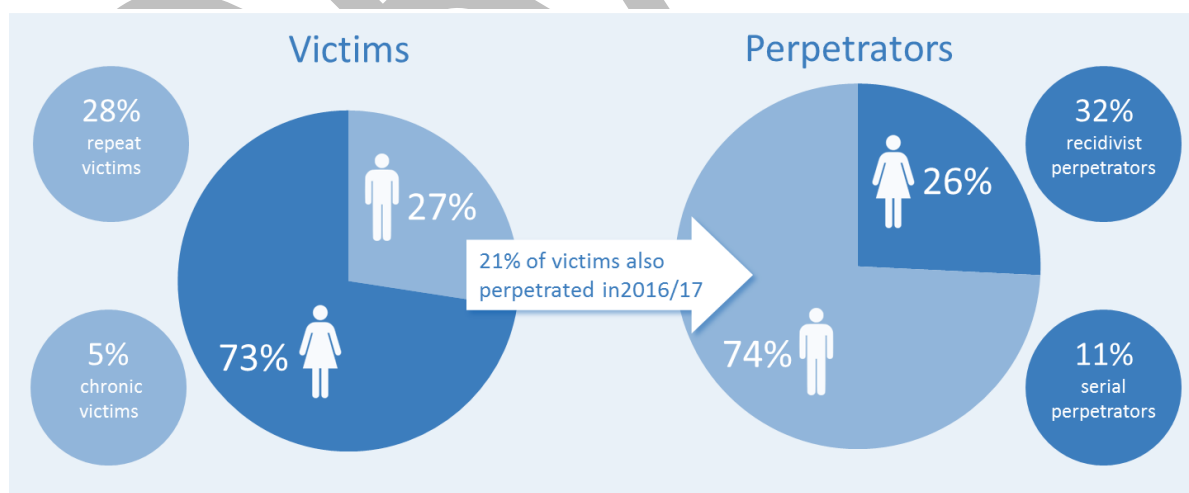


Figure 2 Telford & Wrekin Victims and Perpetrators profile



Please note:

- Repeat victims: Victims of more than one crime
- Chronic victims: Victims in more than one relationship
- Recidivist perpetrators: Repeat perpetrators
- Serial perpetrators: Perpetrators in more than one relationship

Figure 3 Telford & Wrekin perpetrator and victim gender profile

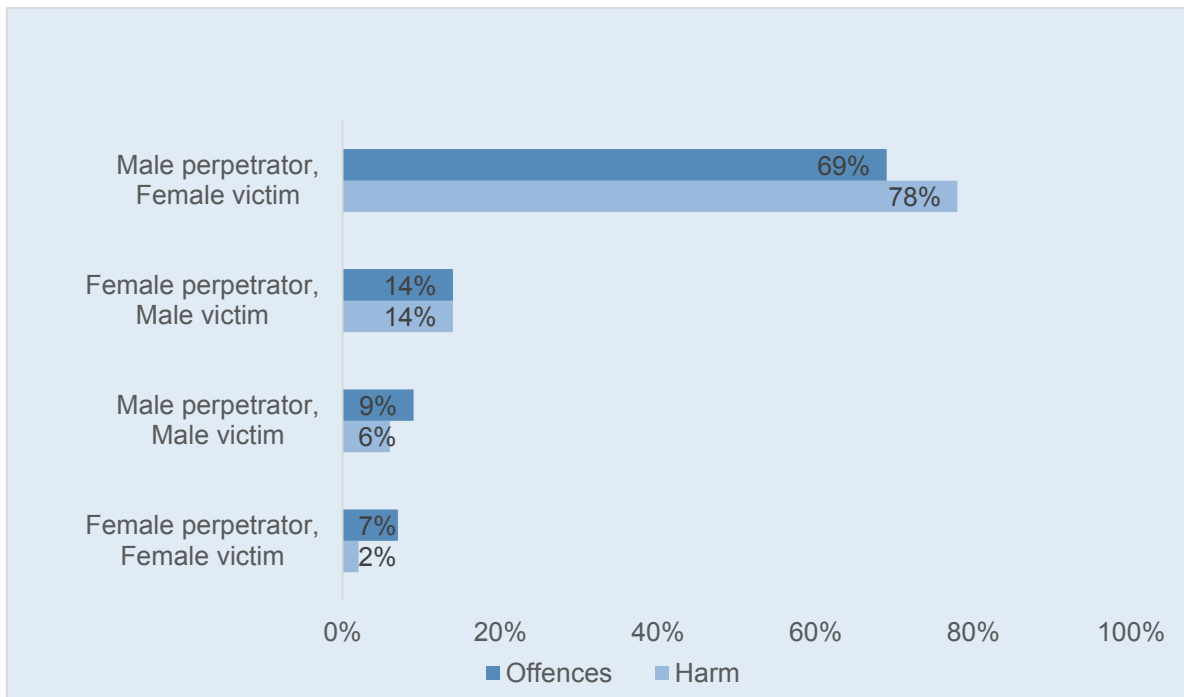


Figure 4 Telford & Wrekin perpetrator and victim relationship profile

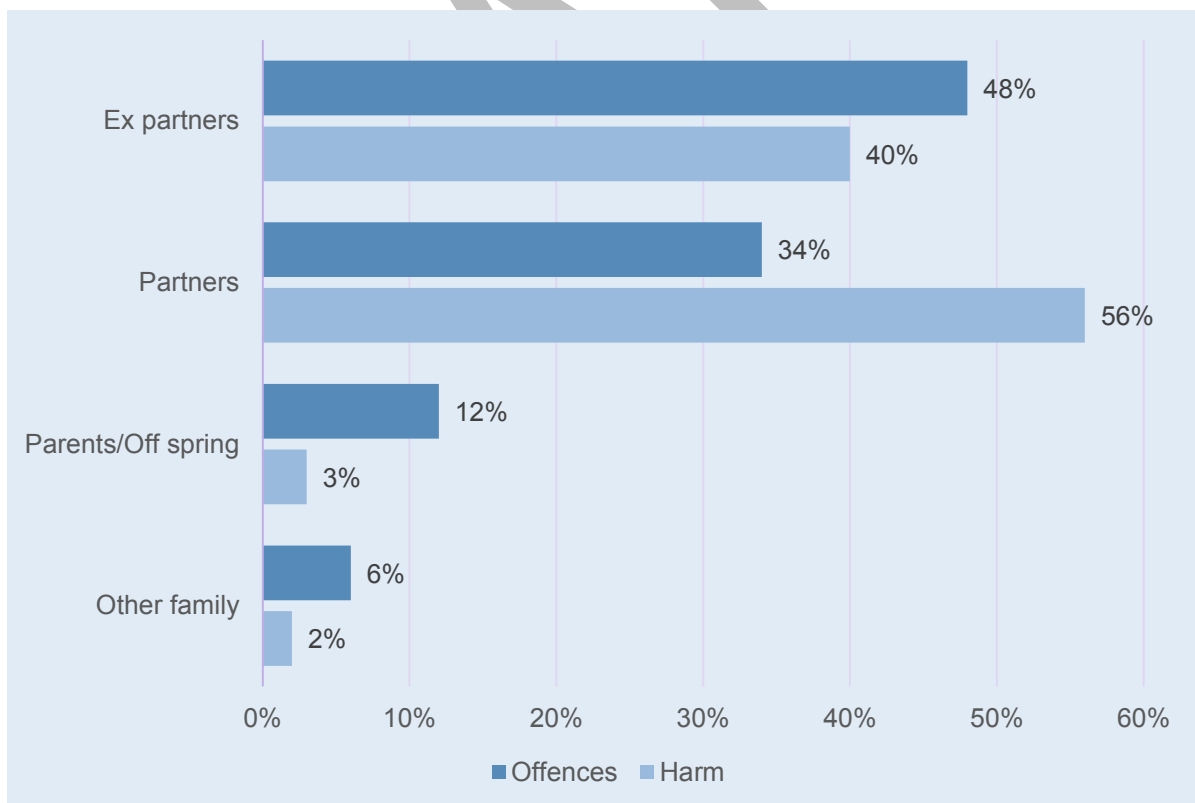
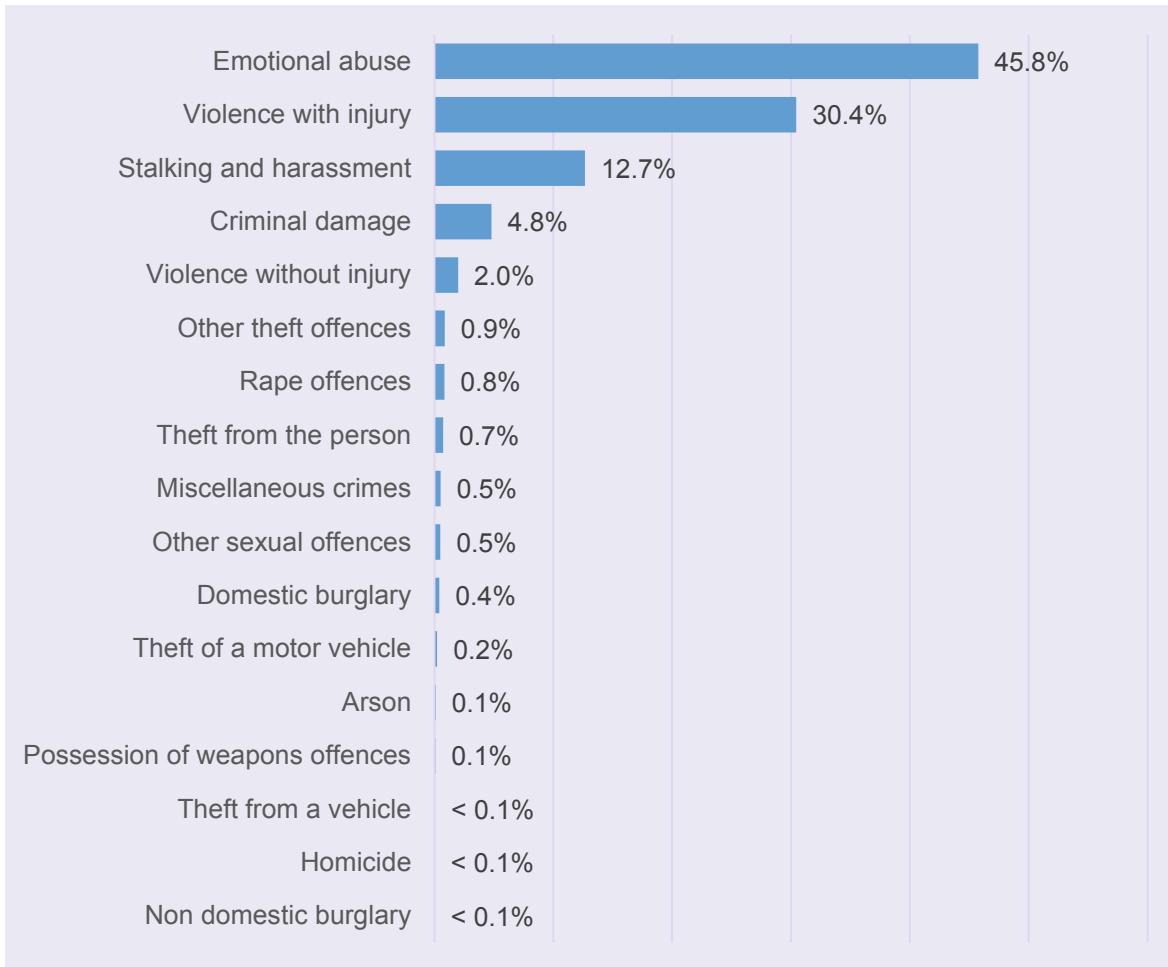


Figure 5 Telford & Wrekin domestic abuse type profile



9. Our Objectives

Our intelligence indicates that domestic abuse is a challenge within the borough, and the impact this type of abuse and crime has on the victim, their families and the community is well recognised. Addressing domestic abuse continues to be a priority for strategic partnerships including the Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Adults and Children Boards. Telford & Wrekin Health and Wellbeing Board has prioritised a work stream on the so called “toxic trio” which aims to tackle the combined impacts of domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health in families, relationships and our communities.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) provides guidance on planning and delivering multi-agency services for domestic violence and abuse¹⁶. The guidance aims to help identify, prevent and reduce domestic violence and abuse among women and men in heterosexual or same-sex relationships, and among young people. To deliver the aims of the strategy, in line with NICE guidance six key objectives have been agreed.

Objective 1

Review and develop specialist services and support and implement comprehensive multi-agency pathways, for both victims and perpetrators and children and young people affected by domestic abuse

To ensure local pathways are clear and fit for purpose to include monitoring of implementation, and inform professionals on how to support and signpost the victims and children and young people. Pathways for perpetrators will also be clear and fit for purpose.

Objective 2

Use intelligence and robust data to assess need, inform commissioning and service provision and raising awareness campaigns:

To ensure that the understanding of the scale of domestic abuse in the Borough, continues to evolve through ongoing profiling.

Objective 3

Develop practitioner's knowledge on the dynamics of domestic abuse on the whole family and provide them with the appropriate training and resources to support the family.

To ensure that professionals feel confident that they understand the characteristics of domestic abuse and what to do should a concern arise. Practitioners will have training and clear guidance about what happens when someone reports domestic abuse and what support is available, ensuring consistency and appropriate support.

Objective 4

Increase awareness and understanding in the community of the impact of domestic abuse, so we can challenge and prevent domestic abuse.

To stimulate the community to be aware of what domestic abuse is, the signs and what to do if it is happening.

Objective 5

Review current policies and procedures and raise awareness associated with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honor Based Violence (HBV) and Forced Marriage (FM), within the community and across the professional workforce

To ensure that professionals feel confident that they understand the characteristics of FGM, HBV and FM, what to do should a concern arise and what support is available.

Objective 6

Embed the learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews to ensure recommendations are addressed and acted upon.

To ensure that all agencies have an important source of information to inform national and local policy and practice. It is important to draw out key findings of domestic homicide reviews and their implications for policy and practice.

10. Governance and Accountability

The Joint Domestic Abuse Thematic Sub-group to date has been accountable to the TWSCB and TWSAB. The sub-group is made up of multiagency, multi professional strategic and operational leads (see below). The group have developed and shaped the Strategy and the action plan, which will continue to evolve. Task and finish groups will be set up and engagement events held to support delivery of the action plan.

Ongoing monitoring of the progress of the Strategy will be through the governance structures of the TWSCB and TWSAB. However, the overall progress of this work stream will also be reported regularly to the Safer Telford & Wrekin Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

It is recognised that there are key links and interdependencies for this domestic abuse strategy across a range of local strategies, such as the Early Help Strategy, the Drug and Alcohol Strategy and the Mental Health Strategy. As these strategies are updated and refreshed it is envisaged that there will be shared commitments and actions across these plans, to ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to preventing harm and supporting the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Telford & Wrekin Joint Domestic Abuse Thematic Sub-group Members

Helen Onions (Chair)	Consultant in Public Health, Telford & Wrekin Council
Graham Preece (Vice Chair)	West Mercia Police
Tina Knight	Strategic Safeguarding Lead Domestic Abuse, Telford & Wrekin Council.
Sarah Hall	Early Help & Support, Telford & Wrekin Council
Michelle Astbury	Service and Clinical Lead, Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Vicky Worthington	Safeguarding and Case Management, Telford & Wrekin Council
Toni Guest	Housing, Nuplace & Commercial Projects, Telford & Wrekin Council
Jas Bedesha	Community Safety Team, Telford & Wrekin Council
Lyn Stepanian	Public Health Practitioner, Telford & Wrekin Council
Cathy Hobbs	Education and Corporate Parenting, Telford & Wrekin Council
Sue Coleman	West Mercia Women's Aid
Wendy Bulman	Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service
Damion Clayton	Research & Intelligence Officer
Kathy George	Telford & Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group
Claire Hinstead	Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT)
Claire Hughes	Shropshire Community NHS Trust
Teresa Tanner	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust (children)
Sharon Woodland	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust (adults)
Adam Mathews	Shropshire Fire and Rescue
Louise Cotton	West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company
Kerry Woodhouse	Partnership Development Officer, Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Boards

11. Further Information

Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board

www.telfordsafeguardingboard.org.uk/

Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Adults Board

www.telfordsafeguardingadultsboard.org/

Safe West Mercia Plan – West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner

<http://www.apccs.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/West-Mercia-Police-Crime-Plan.pdf>

West Midlands Multi-Agency Policies and Procedures

westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/

NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources

Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service

www.shropsdas.org.uk/

Refuge

www.refuge.org.uk/

West Mercia Women's Aid

www.westmerciawomensaid.org/

Men's Advice Line

www.mensadvice.org.uk

A Call to Men

www.acalltomen.org/

Victim Support

www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/support-near-you/west-midlands/west-mercia

National Centre for Domestic Violence

www.ncdv.org.uk

References

- ¹ Telford & Wrekin Community Safety Partnership Strategy
www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/6557/csp_strategy_2017
- ² HM Government, 2018. Domestic Violence and Abuse
www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-violence-and-abuse#domestic-violence-and-abuse-new-definition
- ³ HM Government, 2002. Adoption and Children Act 2002
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/38/contents>
- ⁴ HM Government, 2010. Serious Safeguarding Case Reviews: Lessons Learnt
www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-learning-lessons-from-serious-case-reviews-2009-2010
- ⁵ DfE, May 2016. Triennial Analysis of Serious Case Reviews 2011 to 2014
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/533826/Triennial_Analysis_of_SCRs_2011-2014_-_Pathways_to_harm_and_protection.pdf
- ⁶ HM Government, 2014. The Care Act 2014
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/enacted>
- ⁷ Strang et al, July 2017. Reducing the Harm of Intimate Partner Violence: Randomized Controlled Trial of the Hampshire Constabulary CARA Experiment
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs41887-017-0007-x>
- ⁸ Office for National Statistics, 2016. Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yereadingmar2016>
- ⁹ SafeLives (2015), Getting it right first time: policy report.
<http://safelives.org.uk/policy-evidence/getting-it-right-first-time>
- ¹⁰ Home Office, 2003; DOH 2006
- ¹¹ Stanko, 2000 & Home Office, 2002
- ¹² Ranford et al 2012
- ¹³ Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, 2002. Domestic violence against women
<http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=17055>
- ¹⁴ Homicide Statistics, 1998
- ¹⁵ Home Office 2010
- ¹⁶ The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, February 2014. Domestic violence and abuse: multi agency working Public Health guideline (PH50)
www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH50

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

- 1.1 The Localism Act (2011) introduced legislation which allows Parish Councils to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for their administrative area. This Report recommends that Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan become the fifth Neighbourhood Plan (NP) in the Borough to be adopted (made). The Plan is part of a programme of NPs being prepared by Parish and Town Councils across the Borough with the support of the Council, reflecting the commitment to engage local communities further in planning for development in their local areas.
- 1.2 Lilleshall Parish Council submitted their neighbourhood development plan (the “Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan”) (NP) and other supporting documents to Telford & Wrekin Council as local planning authority in February 2018. In response and in accordance with its statutory duties, Telford & Wrekin undertook a number of checks to ensure that all the procedural and other requirements had been met and completed a 6-week publicity period which allowed written representations to be made. An independent examination took place between July and August 2018.
- 1.3 The appointed Independent Examiner (the Examiner), Mr John Parmiter, submitted his report to the Council on 8 August 2018. The Report recommended proceeding to Referendum, subject to a number of modifications. Those modifications were applied to the Lilleshall Parish NP and Cabinet on 13 September 2018 agreed to proceed to formal Referendum.
- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to recommend that Cabinet ‘make’ the Lilleshall Parish NP following the outcome of the local Referendum on 15 November 2018. This will mean that the policies within the Lilleshall Parish NP will become part of the Development Plan for Telford & Wrekin and will be considered in the determination of planning applications in the Lilleshall Parish NP area alongside national and borough wide planning policy.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Cabinet agree to make Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan**
- 2.2 That Cabinet authorise the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment to exercise all of the Council’s relevant powers and duties and undertake all necessary procedural arrangements relating to the making of the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan.**

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Priority Plan objective(s)?	
	Yes	Co-operative Council: - Involving local people more in planning and running services - As a Council, supporting our community better and encouraging people to do more to help their own communities
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	NDP’s contribute to the local planning framework for future development within a designated area. Production of the Lilleshall Parish NP has involved the whole of the community and people have had the opportunity to provide formal comments on policies which will affect the future development of their area including a minimum 6-week formal publicising consultation period. The referendum stage

		provided an opportunity for the whole Lilleshall Parish to vote on the plan prior to formally making the plan.
TARGET COMPLETION/ DELIVERY DATE		Subject to Cabinet approval, once the Lilleshall Parish NP is made it will be used as part of the Development Plan for the Borough
FINANCIAL/ VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	<p>The costs associated with the introduction of Neighbourhood Development Plans, including the additional costs of designations, examinations and referendum have to be met by the Local Authority. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed in their letter dated 30 May 2018 that £20,000 funding is available to LPA's which would cover those costs.</p> <p>November 2018 was the next claim period and The Authority has submitted a claim at that time, subsequent payment will be received in February 2019 and the cost of this NP will be met from those funds.</p> <p>AEM – 14/11/2018</p>
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	<p>Because the referendum has now taken place and more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the LNDP, the LPA must make the LNDP as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 8 weeks of the referendum, unless it considers that the making of the plan would breach or otherwise be incompatible with any European Union obligation or any of the Convention Rights within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998.</p> <p>If the recommendation is agreed and the LNDP is made, there are further statutory procedural requirements on the Council which include an obligation to publish its decision and its reasons for that decision. The Council also has to publish on its website the LNDP as made and details of where and when it can be inspected.</p> <p>IR – 14.11.18</p>
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	Yes	Opportunities associated with the Lilleshall Parish NP include a strengthening of local engagement in the planning process. Making of the neighbourhood plan allows it to come into force as part of the statutory development plan in Telford & Wrekin. The LNDP must be made within 8 weeks of the referendum. A successfully made NP raises the profile of the Council locally and nationally.
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	Yes	Church Aston and Lilleshall Ward

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

- 4.1 Neighbourhood planning was introduced by the Localism Act 2011. It provides the opportunity for a Parish/Town Council or local forum to produce a neighbourhood development plan with the involvement of local people, helping to inform future planning decisions in their area. Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Telford & Wrekin Council as LPA has a statutory duty to assist communities in the preparation of the NP through the various statutory stages in the process.
- 4.2 In accordance with the 1990 Act and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, Lilleshall Parish Council submitted their NP in February 2018 for Telford & Wrekin Council to complete the necessary checks and proceed to the next stages of publication, examination and referendum.
- 4.3 The referendum version of the Lilleshall Parish NP is in accordance with and supports the policy approach to Lilleshall and the rural area in the adopted Telford & Wrekin Local Plan. The Lilleshall Parish NP and supporting documents are available at:

www.telford.gov.uk/lilleshallndp

4.4 A Referendum relating to the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan was held on Thursday 15 November 2018. The question which was asked in the Referendum was: “**Do you want Borough of Telford & Wrekin to use the neighbourhood plan for Lilleshall to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?**” The count took place on Thursday 15 November 2018 and 80.5% of those who voted were in favour of the Lilleshall Parish NP being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area.

5. Considerations for Cabinet

5.1 The referendum has now taken place and more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the NP. The LPA is now obliged to make the Lilleshall Parish NP. The LPA can only decline to make the Plan if they consider that it would breach any EU obligations or any Convention rights. It is not considered that the Lilleshall Parish NP breaches any EU obligations or Convention Rights. Therefore, following the result of the Referendum, it is recommended that the Lilleshall Parish NP is made by Telford & Wrekin Council. This will allow the Lilleshall Parish NP to be given full weight in the determination of planning applications within the Parish of Lilleshall alongside national and borough-wide adopted policy.

5.2 Once the Lilleshall Parish NP is made, it will be published on the Telford & Wrekin Council website and used in the determination of planning applications for the Neighbourhood Plan area i.e. the Parish of Lilleshall.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Lilleshall Parish Council is the fifth “qualifying body” in the Borough to progress a NP to this stage, working closely with their community to produce a plan which reflects local views on future development in the Parish and policies which, once the Lilleshall Parish NP is made, will be taken into consideration in the determination of planning applications in the Parish of Lilleshall.

7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

7.1 Once the Lilleshall Parish NP is made, it will become part of the statutory planning framework for the Borough. In accordance with the ethos of neighbourhood planning, the Lilleshall Parish NP is based on extensive community engagement and therefore a product of the community with policies reflecting their views.

7.2 In accordance with legal requirements, planning applications should be determined in accordance with the provisions of relevant Development Plan which, for Lilleshall Parish, would include the Lilleshall Parish NP as well as the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan. This is unless material considerations indicate otherwise, meaning that the Lilleshall Parish NP policies must be balanced with other considerations as part of the decision making process undertaken by the LPA.

8. PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Consideration of Examiner’s Recommendations and Proposed Modifications Prior to Referendum (Cabinet, 13 September 2018)

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Version
- Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Independent Examiners Report
- Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 15 Submission
- Consultation Statement and appendices
- Basic Conditions Statement
- Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening Statement
- Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement
- Local Green Spaces Technical Paper

Available at: www.telford.gov.uk/lilleshallndp

10. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Made Decision Statement

Date: 09 November 2018

**Report prepared by Lawrence Munyuki, Senior Planning Officer, Strategic Planning Team
Telephone: 01952 384241**

BOROUGH OF TELFORD & WREKIN
Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement
Regulation 19 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

1. Summary

1.1. Following a positive referendum result Borough of Telford & Wrekin (“Telford & Wrekin Council”) is publishing its decision to make the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan is now part of Telford & Wrekin Councils Development Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1. In June 2016, Telford & Wrekin Council designated the area comprising the Parish of Lilleshall as a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (England), Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- 2.2. Following the submission of the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 15 Consultation Version) to Telford & Wrekin Council, the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period began on 10 April 2018 and ended on 29 May 2018.
- 2.3. Telford & Wrekin Council appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr John Parmiter, to review whether the Plan met the Basic Conditions and satisfied certain other criteria as required under the legislation and whether it should proceed to Referendum.
- 2.4. In August 2018 the Council received the Independent Examiner's report on the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The report concluded that with a few modifications the Plan should proceed to Referendum.
- 2.5. Having considered each of the recommendations made in the Independent Examiner's report, and the reasons for them, Telford & Wrekin Council decided to make the recommended modifications to the draft Plan to secure that it met the Basic Conditions set out in legislation. At its meeting on 13 September 2018, the Council agreed that the Examiner's recommended

modifications should be accepted and that the amended Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.

2.6. A referendum was held on 15 November 2018 and 80.5% of those who voted were in favour of the plan.

2.7. Paragraph 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended requires that the Council must make the neighbourhood development plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan.

2.8. However, the council are not subject to this duty if the making of the plan would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

3. Decision and Reasons

3.1. With the Examiner's recommended modifications, the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, is compatible with EU obligations and the Convention rights and complies with relevant provisions made by or under Section 38A and B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended.

3.2. The referendum held on 15 November 2018 met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 posing the question: 'Do you want Borough of Telford & Wrekin to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Lilleshall to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood area?'

3.3. The count took place on Thursday 15 November 2018 and greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the Plan being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area. The results of the referendum were;

Response	Votes	% of votes cast
Yes	302	80.5
No	72	19.2
Rejected	1	0.2
Turnout –	375	34.2
Electorate total	1098	

3.4. Telford & Wrekin Council has assessed that the Plan, including its preparation, does not breach, and would not otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

3.5. The Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan has now been made and planning applications in the area to which the Plan relates i.e. the administrative area of the Parish of Lilleshall, must be considered against the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan, as well as existing planning policy, such as the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework and Guidance.

Richard Partington Managing Director Telford & Wrekin Council

This statement is dated 16 November 2018



LILleshall PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2018 - 2031

REFERENDUM VERSION





FOREWORD

Neighbourhood Plans arise from the Government's determination to ensure that local communities are closely involved in the decisions which affect them.

Developed to establish a long term view for our Plan Area and to help deliver the local community's aspirations and needs for the plan period 2018 - 2031, our Plan has been produced by the, Lilleshall Parish Council as the formally designated Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan Qualifying Body; and project managed by Mr David Shaw, it is based upon the views of the Parish residents. The Parish Council has consulted and listened to members of the community on a wide range of issues that will influence the well-being, sustainability and long term future of our community.

The Parish Council has sought the views of people who live and work in the neighbourhood plan area including formal information gathering events and surveys to provide everyone with the opportunity to contribute ideas and opinions.

A Neighbourhood Plan has many benefits and will:

- Help protect the rural and historic character of the Parish and village.
- Help protect our green spaces from poorly located development.
- Help to provide the right type and number of houses and to address local need, wherever possible.
- Ensure that future development makes a positive and sympathetic contribution to the character of the Parish.

We value the enormous amount of time that the residents of the Parish have put into their responses to the various consultation elements of the process. The thoughtful and detailed comments received have assisted the Parish Council to reach a point where we feel confident that the Neighbourhood Plan accurately reflects the views of the community.

Councillor David Shaw

Chairman Bob Taylor

CONTENTS

Lists of Figures and Tables	page 4
1 Introduction.....	page 6
2 Setting the Context.....	page 7
3 Why are we preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Lilleshall?.....	page 11
4 Process of Preparing the Plan.....	page 12
5 National and Local Planning Framework (NPPF).....	page 13
6 Evidence Base.....	page 15
7 Vision and Objectives.....	page 17
8 Policies	page 18
Policies Map.....	page 35
9 Monitoring and Review.....	page 36
Appendix 1 – Parish Profile.....	page 38
Appendix 2 – Telford & Wrekin Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study 2013.....	page 49
Appendix 3 – Community Aspirations – Developer Contributions.....	page 51
Appendix 4 – Additional Technical Evidence.....	page 52

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Parish Boundary and Neighbourhood Plan Area	page 10
Figure 2:	The Neighbourhood Planning Process	page 12
Figure 3:	Contiguous boundary with Telford built-up areas	page 21
Figure 4:	Locations of Local Green Spaces	page 25
Figure 5	Cricket Ground and adjacent field	page 26
Figure 6	School Playing Field and Children’s Play Area	page 27
Figure 7	Lilleshall Hill	page 28
Figure 8	Allotments, Wellington Road	page 29
Figure 9	Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Policies map	page 35
Figure 10:	Lilleshall Parish Agricultural Land Classification	page 46
Figure 11:	Lilleshall Parish Flood Risk Areas	page 47
Figure 12:	Lilleshall Parish Landscape Typology	page 48

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Local Green Spaces	page 23
Table 2:	Example of Policy Monitoring	page 37
Table 3:	Lilleshall Parish Population and Age Profile	page 38
Table 4:	Ethnicity	page 39
Table 5:	Travel to Work Patterns	page 39
Table 6:	Economic Activity	page 40
Table 7:	Highest Level of Qualification	page 40
Table 8:	Housing Stock in Lilleshall	page 41
Table 9:	Comparison of House Prices	page 41
Table 10:	Lilleshall Parish Housing Tenure	page 42
Table 11:	Lilleshall Parish Household Types	page 42
Table 12:	Car Availability	page 43

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Our Neighbourhood Plan

1.1.1 This Draft Plan has been formulated on the basis of public responses to the Parish Council's consultations carried out via the Community Engagement and Consultation process detailed within the Parish Council's Consultation Statement. All responses from the public and consultees have been considered by the Parish Council and used to inform this Regulation 15 version of the Plan.

1.1.2 Our Regulation 15 Submission of the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan is the vision of the community for the future of Lilleshall Parish and sets out a clear set of policies based on comments received throughout the consultation process and has been developed to comply with the basic conditions for Neighbourhood Plans in so far as our Policies:-

1. Have regard for the National Planning Policy Framework
2. Contribute to sustainable development within the Parish, and the Borough of Telford & Wrekin
3. Support the Aims, Objectives and Policies of the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan 2011-2013
4. Through conformity with the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan 2011-2013 and the NPPF the are compatible with EU Regulations

1.1.3 This plan is now submitted to Telford and Wrekin Council for further consultation and examination along with supporting documentation which includes: -

1. Map of the Designated Area for Lilleshall Parish Ward
2. The Consultation Statement demonstrating the level public consultation and community engagement
3. A Basic Conditions Statement



2 SETTING THE CONTEXT

2.0.1 The Parish of Lilleshall is in the Borough of Telford and Wrekin and the ceremonial county of Shropshire. It is located 2.5 miles (4.0km) south west of the market town of Newport, and 6.1 miles (9.8k) north east of Telford. The primary residential area is Lilleshall village, with a further small development in the west of the parish at The Humbers; the remaining homes are made up of farms, holdings and cottages spread across the rural parish.

2.0.2 The parish has one public house (The Red House), located at the junction of Wellington Road and Limekiln Lane. Recreational facilities include the Lilleshall Cricket Ground and Tennis Courts, both being situated in the centre of the village; sports fields at the Humbers currently maintained by Defence Estates; plus the parish Memorial Hall and Youth Centre each of which are located within the village.

2.0.3 There is an extensive network of footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways covering the parish, including the Hutchison Way long distance footpath and National Cycle Route 55. The footpaths cover a wide range of ecological and historical features, including Lilleshall Hill which dominates the parish, the old limestone quarry, and related abandoned canal routes.

2.0.4 The parish church and primary school are located in the centre of the village. The church lies within the Archdeaconry of Salop and was dedicated to St Michael and All Angels around the 12th century, however, records indicate a much earlier church being located on the site that is believed to be the first resting place of the remains St Alkmund, before their translation to Derby. The primary school and adjacent pre-school are also located within the village, with both facilities serving the parish as well as residents of neighbouring parishes.

2.0.5 Records indicate that the Lilleshall Parish has been occupied by predominantly farming communities since the first Iron Age settlements by the Cornovii, and subsequently Anglian settlement around the 7th and 8th century when the local people, the "*Lilseate*" took their name from "*Lillas hill*", and eventually passing on that name to the village and parish as Lilleshall.

2.0.6 Key historic features of the parish include are the Lilleshall Abbey ruins, maintained by English Heritage, the Duke of Sutherland Memorial at the summit of Lilleshall Hill, the refurbished Triple and Deep limekilns within the old quarry, and the Hughs Bridge Inclined Plane which once formed part of the old Tub Boat Canal network. There is also speculation about reopening the old Newport and Shrewsbury Canal, a short section of which passes through the mediaeval deer park at Lubstree in the west of the parish.

2.1 Natural, Cultural and Heritage Assets

2.1.1 Although the surrounding area is dominated by the Lilleshall hill and monument, the parish benefits from a wide range of valued assets which provide it with a unique character. These include nationally and regionally recognised monuments, as well as locally recognised natural and archaeological features that contribute to the parish and wider area's social and industrial history.



2.2 The Landscape

2.2.1 The west of the parish includes a portion of the Weald Strategic Landscape, made up of reclaimed and managed wetlands, managed woodlands, along with a section of the currently abandoned Shrewsbury-Newport Canal. Moving east the land progressively improves from wetland and woodland, through open pasture to an extensive area of highly productive arable land. All of this is dominated by Lilleshall Hill and its monument to the 1st Duke of Sutherland. Whilst at 132m AOD the hill is not large by many standards, its character is defined by the way it dominates the landscape, providing a key feature to the surrounding area. The hill also provides the centre point for Lilleshall Village, which has grown to its current size over a period of around 1500 years. To the east of Lilleshall Hill, the land forms a shallow valley, bounded by the hill and village in the west, and the ancient Abbey Woods in the east; the valley falls from the old Willmore Grange southwards towards the Abbey and its string of fish and mill ponds, which run along the valley floor between the Abbey remains and Honnington Pool.

2.3 Nationally and Regionally Recognised Natural Features

- Ancient Woodlands of the Lilleshall Abbey Woods
- Lilleshall Hill Local Wildlife and Geological Site
- Lilleshall Old Quarry Local Wildlife and Geological Site

2.4 Areas of National and County Archaeological Interest

- Lilleshall Abbey Ruins, maintained by English Heritage
- Lilleshall Abbey Fish Dams
- The Duke of Sutherland Memorial
- Lilleshall Triple Lime Kilns
- Shropshire Tub Boat Canals. Totalling 6.5 km. the canal routes within the Area, they include:-
 - Donnington Wood Canal
 - Hugh's Bridge Incline Plane
 - Lilleshall Branch Canal
 - Pitchcroft Branch Canal
 - Pitchcroft ropeway
- LNW Railway, Stafford – Shrewsbury Branch, track route and bridges.
- Shrewsbury-Newport Canal, Humber Arm and Lubstree Wharf
- The Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels

2.5 Particular Features and Attributes

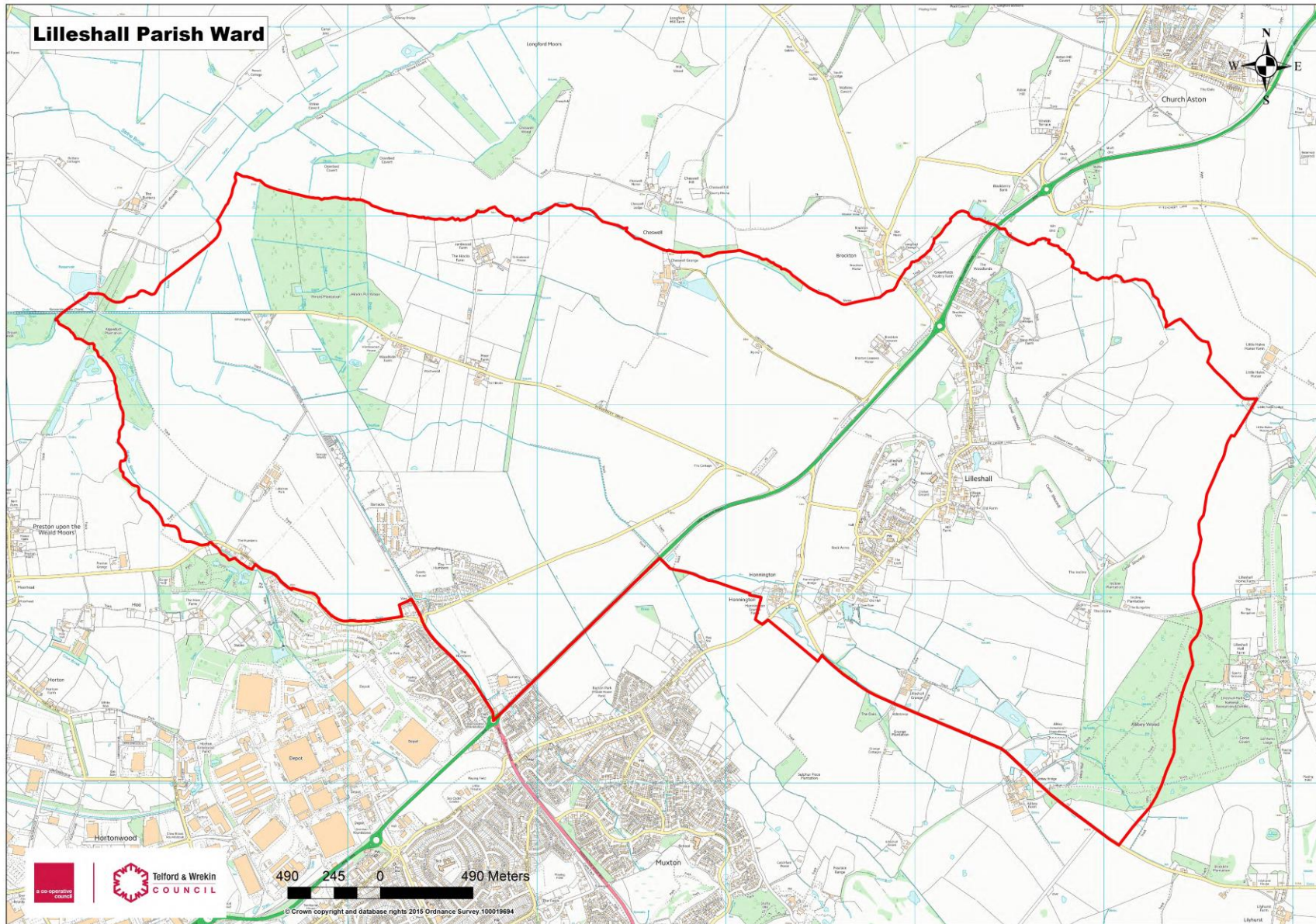
- The Area is covered by almost 20km. of public footpaths and pathways, some of which follow the old canal towpaths, providing good access to rural amenities across the Parish.
- The Parish is connected to other parts of Telford, Shropshire and Staffordshire via the Hutchison Way Long Distance Path, and the National Cycle Route 55
- The Parish includes thirty eight Listed Buildings and Structures, including two Grade 1 listings
- Lilleshall Abbey Mediaeval mill and fish ponds (still in use)
- Views from and to the Lilleshall Hill and monument

2.5.1 When incorporated with the natural environment and agricultural landscape, these listed features combine to provide a unique area which, it should be noted, is not exclusive to local residents, as location, public transport and ease of access provides a facility for neighbouring parish and the broader population of Telford, Shropshire and Staffordshire.

2.5.2 Further detail is contained in the Parish Profile in Appendix 1



Figure 1: Parish Boundary and Neighbourhood Plan Area



3 WHY ARE WE PREPARING A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR LILLESHALL?

3.0.1 Neighbourhood Plans are a relatively new part of the Statutory Development Planning system. Local Authorities, such as Telford & Wrekin Council, have the power to produce Development Plans to promote, guide and control development of houses, businesses, open spaces and other uses of land. The preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan provides Parish Councils with the same powers.

3.0.2 Neighbourhood Plans form part of the Statutory Development Plan for an area. They are used to promote, guide and control local development and importantly, are used to help determine local planning applications.

3.0.3 Not all Parish Councils have chosen to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, however, in September 2015 Lilleshall Parish Council decided that this was an important right to exercise, and applied to be designated a Neighbourhood Planning body for the whole area covered by the Parish (Figure 1). The Parish Council submitted its application to Telford & Wrekin Council for designation of its Neighbourhood Area in March 2016. After a formal six week consultation which began on 7th April and ran until 19th May 2016, Telford & Wrekin Council resolved in June 2016 to support the Neighbourhood Area application made by Lilleshall Parish Council and confirmed that the area shown in the application should be designated as a Neighbourhood Area. A formal notice was published on the 8th June 2016 that confirmed the designation.

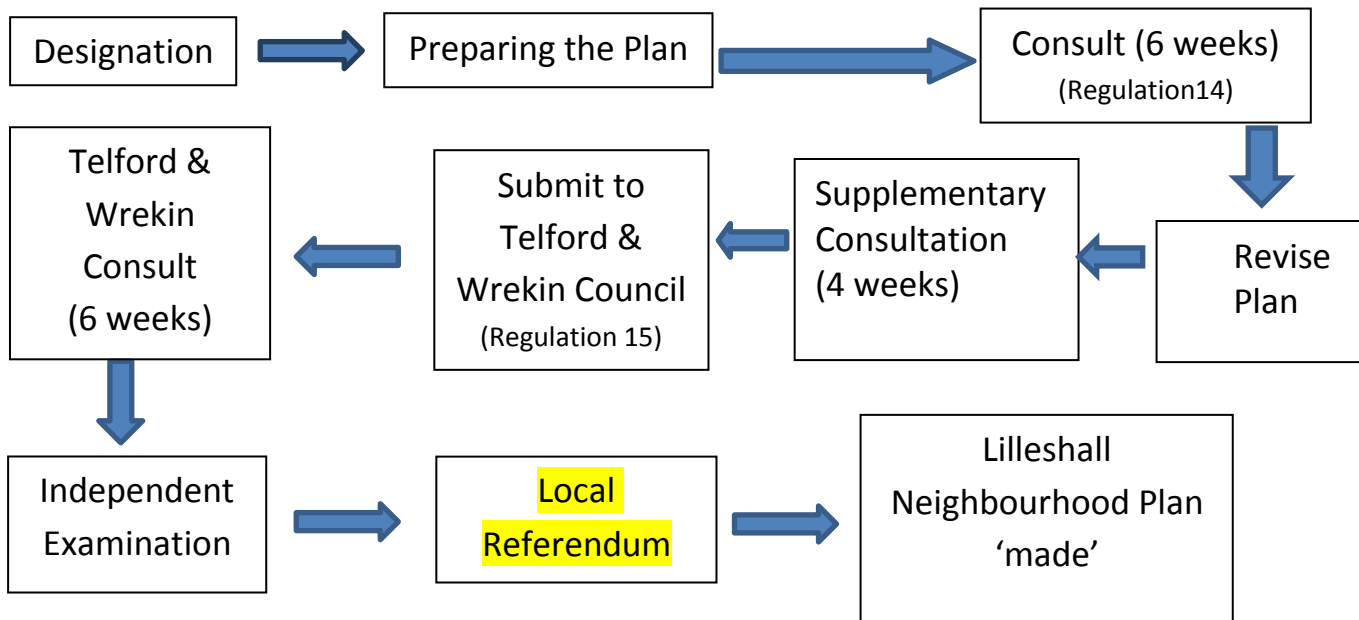
3.0.4 The Parish Council has been preparing this Draft Neighbourhood Plan since October 2016. When the Plan is finalised, following consultation with residents and stakeholders, its policies will reflect the aspirations of the majority of the people of Lilleshall who have all had an opportunity to play a part in shaping the future of their Parish.



4 PROCESS OF PREPARING THE PLAN

4.0.1 Neighbourhood Plans have to be prepared following a procedure set by government (Figure 2).

Figure 2: The Neighbourhood Planning Process



4.0.2 In accordance with Regulation 14, a six week consultation of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 was carried out with Lilleshall Parish residents, businesses and consultative bodies between 26th May 2017 and 14th July 2017.

4.0.3 However, following Independent Examination, Telford & Wrekin Council's Local Plan was subsequently revised in line with the changes recommended by the Inspector. In this instance, the Parish Council considered the implications of these changes, as well as considering the responses to the representations made in this Regulation 14 Consultation.

4.0.4 Consequently, the Neighbourhood Plan was revised to take account of responses from consultees and the changes to the Local Plan proposed by the Inspector. The Parish Council decided therefore that an additional 'supplementary' consultation should take place before submission. A further six-week consultation by Telford & Wrekin Council will then take place when the Plan is submitted under Regulation 15. The Plan, its evidence base and consultation responses, will then be submitted by Telford & Wrekin Council for Independent Examination and the process will culminate in a local referendum on whether the plan should be made part of the Statutory Development Plan for the Borough of Telford & Wrekin.

5 NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

5.0.1 The Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan must take account of national planning policy. This is primarily contained in one document - the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

5.0.2 This means our Neighbourhood Plan must “...*plan positively to promote local development*” and must “...*support the strategic development needs*” set out in Telford & Wrekin Council’s Local Plan. Therefore, our Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to be in “general conformity” with Telford & Wrekin Council’s planning policies.

5.0.3 Telford & Wrekin Council’s strategic planning policy is contained in the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan. The Local Plan was submitted on 30th June 2016 and underwent examination in public during January and February 2017. The Local Plan was subsequently revised to adopt the changes recommended by the Inspector and adopted by Telford and Wrekin Council on 11th January 2018

5.0.4 The Parish Council considered that the appropriate and sensible approach was to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan on the basis of the strategy and policies within the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan 2011 - 2031 and to work closely with the Borough Council during the preparation of the two documents. Consequently the need to consider implications arising from the examination of the Local Plan and the resultant revisions it proved necessary to pause the Neighbourhood Plan process in order that the relevant revisions could be taken into account.

5.1 Strategic Framework

5.1.1 The Telford & Wrekin Local Plan (policy HO10) already states that a limited amount of infill housing will be supported in Lilleshall and so the development strategy for Lilleshall has largely been set. Consultation responses during the Neighbourhood Plan process show that there is no support within the Parish to pursue other development strategies. The options stage of the Local Plan preparation considered different approaches to development in the rural area alongside considerable consultation and dialogue with the rural parishes. This culminated in a spatial strategy which allowed for the inclusion of development in existing rural communities which could have positive effects if carried out at the appropriate scale consistent with the capacity of the rural communities, services and infrastructure. Small scale focused development could be undertaken to help encourage provision of services without changing the character of rural Telford & Wrekin.

5.1.2 Telford & Wrekin Council considers this approach has the greatest potential to achieve appropriate growth with minimal detrimental environmental effects. It recognises that careful consideration should be given to the location of new development to avoid sensitive sites, to optimise positive community effects and to take the opportunity to maximise the benefits of innovative sustainable design (by ensuring efficient use of land and resources) to mitigate any potentially significant negative impacts.

5.1.3 The Spatial Strategy for the Borough is set out in Chapter 3 and policies SP1, 2 and 3 summarised in Table 9 of the Local Plan. Telford is the dominant settlement, and the importance of its continuing growth dictates that the vast majority of development takes place here. As a historic market town with a population of around 11,000, it is appropriate that some new development be directed to Newport.

5.1.4 The small remainder of new housing development will be directed to the most appropriate

rural settlements with access to services and other infrastructure in order to support rural economic activity whilst protecting sensitive landscapes and settings. Given the context of the Borough and the lack of realistic and appropriate alternatives, the broad Spatial Strategy is appropriate and there is no justification therefore in exploring, through the Neighbourhood Plan process, other development strategies for Lilleshall.

5.1.5 To consider other strategies that seek to provide substantially more housing in the rural area would conflict with Government policy which seeks to promote sustainable development by encouraging effective use of brownfield land and locating as much housing as possible closest to existing infrastructure in Telford or Newport. The majority of housing in the rural area is hoped to be delivered on two large brownfield sites at Allscott and Crudgington. Allowing for other existing supply, the remainder will be located through limited infill development in 5 settlements, the selection of which is justified by the process set out in the Technical Paper – Rural Settlements (B2f) that considers the presence of primary and secondary facilities and services, accessibility and existence of previously developed land. Options exploring other strategies for distribution and/or additional development in the rural area would impact on the successful implementation of these large brownfield sites.

5.1.6 It is believed that there is sufficient remaining provision for development in 5 rural settlements to meet the requirements of the NPPF to support a prosperous rural economy (paragraph 28), deliver affordable housing (paragraph 54) and support community vitality, whilst avoiding isolated development in the open countryside (paragraph 55). Telford & Wrekin Council takes the view that its Spatial Strategy for the rural area (policy SP3) and its approach to planning for rural housing (policy HO10) is consistent with government priorities to boost significantly the supply of housing generally but also takes account of the scale and context of the Borough’s villages which, highlighted in the Technical Paper – Rural Settlements (B2f), do not have extensive infrastructure provision.

5.1.7 Outside the named settlements, housing development is to be strictly controlled to protect sensitive landscapes and the open countryside and to avoid coalescence of settlements. Any need for rural affordable housing is to be focused as far as possible around settlements with the best infrastructure or on brownfield sites that can deliver substantial amounts of housing allowing for small scale rural exceptions to come forward under policy HO11.



6 EVIDENCE BASE

6.1 Consultation and Engagement

6.1.1 Being such a small community, we were able to collect many more of the concerns and ideas of residents and stakeholders during face to face discussions than would be possible in a larger community. Following discussions at Parish Council Meetings, the process to produce a Neighbourhood Plan started with two Open Forum meetings in Lilleshall during May 2016 to gather initial views and to identify the areas to be considered for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan.

6.1.2 Following the approval of the Designated Area and building on the responses from the Open forum sessions, a comprehensive survey was designed and undertaken with the assistance of Shropshire Rural Community Council (SRCC) to further establish the scope and content of the Neighbourhood Plan. Every household in the Parish was asked to complete a survey during November 2016. Whilst a further Open Forum was held on 12th November 2016 to answer any questions or issues people may have had about the survey. In total 574 surveys were completed and an analysis of the responses was undertaken by SRCC. (This is listed in the evidence base as item 2.)

6.1.3 The survey was divided into 6 main sections covering the main key themes identified from the Open Forum sessions:

- Providing Homes
- Jobs and the Local Economy
- Protecting our Environment
- Improving Community Services
- Creating a Sustainable Community
- Housing – Identifying Needs

6.1.4 Building on responses to the survey subsequent analysis and available evidence these key themes were reformulated into 6 main headings for relevant planning policies to be effective.

1. Development
2. Heritage and Design
3. Local Environment
4. Community Infrastructure
5. Transport and Accessibility
6. Employment/Economy

6.1.5 Using these main headings alongside the survey analysis a neighbourhood plan vision and a set of objectives for the Plan were identified and policies to achieve these were developed.

6.1.6 The aim is for the Neighbourhood Plan to be focused and concise and to concentrate on those issues that can be influenced by town and country planning legislation. Other broader issues or those that aren't controlled through planning legislation will be part of a broader Action Plan linked with the existing Parish Plan. Following the pre-submission (Regulation 14) consultation earlier this year, 9 representations in total were received including those from Telford & Wrekin Council, the MOD (Defence Infrastructure Organisation) Environment Agency, Natural England, Mott MacDonald; and individuals, households, and organisations in Lilleshall Parish.

6.1.7 Many of the responses received at the regulation 14 stage were concerned with the draft Plan's approach to Lilleshall's rural character and context. Moreover, at the same time, modifications in the light of the Inspector's Report were being made to the emerging Telford and Wrekin Local Plan. The Parish Council decided therefore that an additional 'supplementary' consultation should take place before submission to respond to both comments received and Local Plan modifications. A further 7 representations were received to this additional consultation.

6.1.8 The Regulation 15 Consultation Statement summarises all statutory and non-statutory consultation undertaken with the community and other relevant statutory bodies and stakeholders on the pre-submission draft Plan. In particular, it describes how concerns have been addressed and what changes have been made to the Plan as a result of consultation.

6.2 Technical Evidence

6.2.1 A great deal of additional technical evidence has been collated by the Parish Council in preparing the draft Neighbourhood Plan. This has naturally been drawn from Telford & Wrekin Council sources; in particular, information compiled during the preparation of the Local Plan and contributing to its extensive evidence base. A list of the technical evidence considered by the Parish Council is available in the Parish Profile in Appendix 2.

6.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

6.3.1 Neighbourhood Plans must not breach, and must be compatible with EU and Human Rights obligations. Neighbourhood Plans therefore need to be considered against the Habitats and Strategic Assessment Directives and associated regulations and might, subject to their scope and the issues they are seeking to address, be required to produce an Environmental Assessment if the Plan is determined as likely to have significant environmental effects.

6.3.2 Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) are required by the **Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations)**. This regulation also prohibits the adoption or submission of a Plan before the responsible Authority has determined whether the Plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment. It is not possible to categorically rule out the need for an SEA, without first carrying out a screening process to establish whether or not the Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. A draft Screening Report has been prepared and is published for consultation alongside the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

6.3.3 At this point the three statutory agencies: the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England are consulted as required by the regulations and their views determine whether a further formal SEA is necessary.



7 VISION AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 VISION

7.1.1 To continue to thrive as a vibrant and distinctive place, to continue to respect and reflect the views of its community, to evolve while retaining its rural character and identity and to protect and enhance the natural and built environment for the benefit of everyone.

7.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OBJECTIVES

Development

1. With the exception of sites contiguous with the current urban area of Telford to only support future development of appropriately designed housing on infill sites.
2. To support delivery of a limited amount of appropriately designed and located affordable housing
3. To prevent the merging of built up areas to retain the rural character and identity of Lilleshall village and the wider Parish

Heritage/Design

4. To ensure development preserves and enhances the traditional character and setting of the parish through support for sympathetic design
5. To ensure that all development is based upon sound environmental sustainability principles; including energy sourcing and conservation, flooding/drainage and sewerage management, waste minimisation, wildlife conservation and habitat protection

Local Environment

6. To protect and enhance the environment and landscapes such as the parish's designated and non-designated heritage assets, in particular the Strategic Landscape Areas.
7. To protect and enhance green areas, natural habitats, wildlife and biodiversity throughout the Parish and to encourage appropriate management in particular of the disused limestone quarries.

Community Infrastructure

8. To seek and support improvements to utility infrastructure and digital connectivity
9. To protect and enhance existing community facilities and seek and support opportunities to expand provision in particular for allotments and recreational facilities

Transport and accessibility

10. To ensure that new developments have enough car parking to meet current and future needs.
11. To encourage the provision of alternative, safe and convenient means of travel so as to minimise the use of cars in and around the Parish and reduce the associated problems of noise, pollution and parking.
12. To provide a safe, accessible and well maintained network of roads, pavements, cycle routes and rights of way whilst retaining a rural character to support a more sustainable environment, reduce reliance on the car and offer healthier lifestyle options.

Economy and Employment

13. To support the local economy and employment by encouraging appropriate agricultural diversification, environmental farming initiatives, appropriate home working and tourism development.

8 POLICIES

8.0.1 The following policies were devised to deliver the objectives listed above by guiding and influencing new development proposals and the decisions made about new development through the planning application process.

8.0.2 The policy framework is set nationally by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and locally by Telford & Wrekin Council's planning policy guidance – in this case the recently adopted Telford & Wrekin Local Plan 2011-2031. Policies in a Neighbourhood Plan must align with the framework both nationally and locally and not conflict with or undermine it (NPPF paragraphs 183, 184, 185).

8.1 Housing

POLICY DEV1: INFILL HOUSING IN LILLESHALL VILLAGE

Housing infill development and the conversion of existing buildings to residential use will be supported. In order to protect the rural character and setting of Lilleshall Village, only proposals which meet the ALL of the following criteria will be supported:

- The land to be developed is a suitable infill site;
- The proposal contributes positively to local character and distinctiveness.
- Demonstrates a contribution to the delivery of an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes including affordable housing, to meet the needs of all sectors of the community;

Infill sites definition:

Infill development is usually small scale housing development (normally 1-5 dwellings) on sites within the main built area of a settlement in an otherwise built-up frontage. In planning the growth of Lilleshall, the council will factor in the potential for infill development over the plan period, but such sites will not be allocated in the plan.

8.1.1 The majority of Open Forum comments and survey responses understood the need for limited infill development in the village but were also in favour of protecting the character of the village from too great a scale of new development.

8.1.2 This policy builds on Telford & Wrekin Local Plan policies SP3 and HO10 which support new development where it meets the needs of rural communities and seeks to direct a limited amount of new housing development in Lilleshall to infill sites only.

8.1.3 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: SP3 Rural Area; SP4 Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development; HO10 Residential Development in the Rural Area; BE5 Conservation Areas.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 16, 54, 55, and 126.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 1, 2, 3, and 4.

POLICY DEV2: DESIGN OF RESIDENTIAL INFILL DEVELOPMENT

Development will be supported where it meets all the following criteria:

- a) Designed to be an integrated addition to the village, well connected to the existing village settlement and community facilities;
- b) Development shall not result in the loss of important features such as stone walls, trees, hedgerows, or green spaces that contribute to the unique character of the village;
- c) The scheme should be consistent with the prevailing scale, density and materials that reflect the locally distinctive character so that the village feel is retained;
- d) Ensures appropriate and safe access can be achieved;
- e) It does not impact adversely on the amenity of neighbouring properties
- f) Is of high quality design and is in keeping with the immediate surroundings, environment and rural landscape;
- g) Infill development should provide adequate off street parking to relieve congestion on the narrow local access roads and seek opportunities for pedestrian links through the village where possible.

8.1.4 Open Forum comments and survey responses stressed the need for new housing to be in keeping with the character of the village and sympathetic to existing design and materials. This policy approach is seen as particularly important when dealing with proposals for infill applications to avoid inappropriate developments.

8.1.5 This policy complements the criteria set out in policy BE1 of the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan which seeks to promote good design in line with the requirements of the NPPF which recognises that good design contributes positively to improving people's quality of life.

8.1.6 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: SP4 Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development; HO10 Residential Development in the Rural Area; BE1 Design Criteria; BE5 Conservation Areas; C3 Impact of development on highways; C4 Design of roads and streets; C5 Design of parking

NPPF paragraphs: 9, 16, 35, 56, 58, 126, and 128.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 1, 4 and 10.

POLICY DEV3: SITES CONTIGUOUS WITH TELFORD BUILT-UP AREA

Development proposals on sites contiguous with the boundary of Telford built-up area, as shown on Fig 3, will be supported provided they:

- Respect the area's rural character and open aspect; and
- Are designed and laid out to minimise any adverse scenic impacts

8.1.7 The draft T&W Local Plan had allocated a number of sites for new housing development in and around Telford. One of these, site H1 for approximately 750 new homes known as Donnington and Muxton Sustainable Urban Extension was located on the north-eastern edge of the Telford urban area within the defined 'built-up' area for Telford but that is also within Lilleshall Parish boundary. This allocation and proposed Sustainable Urban Extension have been removed from the adopted Local Plan. There is though general understanding within the Parish of the need for development in Telford

to meet its growth requirements but equally that the impact on the wider environment and rural character of the Parish should be minimised. Any proposals for new development in this area will be judged against this policy as part of the development plan.

8.1.8 In line with comments expressed at the Open Forums and survey responses concerned with the protection of views, landscape amenity and traffic impact, this policy aims to support and encourage design measures for development in this area to minimise these impacts for the Parish.

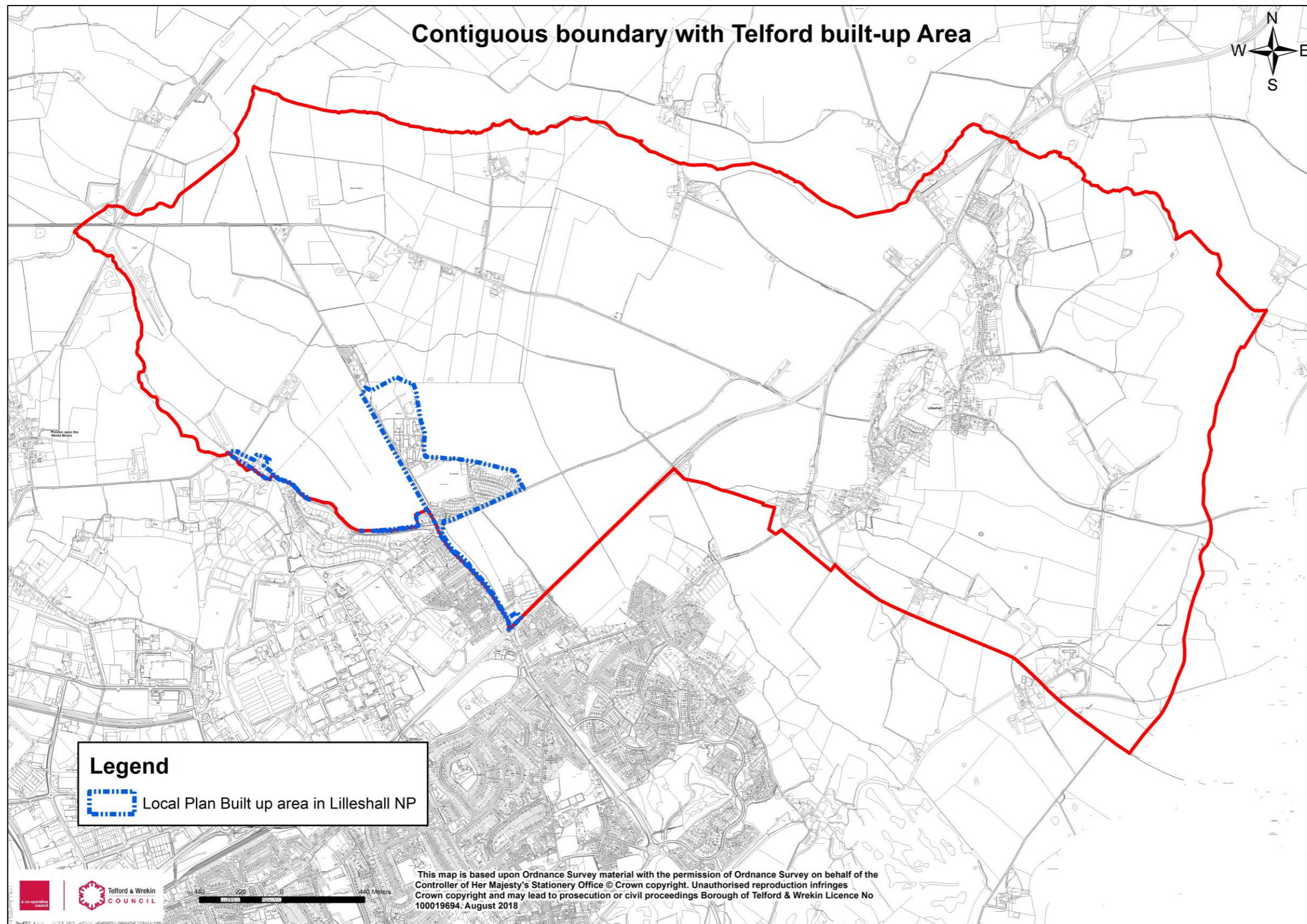
8.1.9 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: HO2 Housing Site Allocations; NE2 Trees, hedgerows and woodlands; NE7 Strategic Landscapes; C3 Impact of development on highways;

NPPF paragraphs: 9, 16, 35, 52, 56, and 58.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 1, 6, and 12.

Figure 3: Contiguous boundary with Telford built-up Area



8.2 Heritage and Design

POLICY D1: SYMPATHETIC DESIGN

All development proposals must provide a high level of design that responds to the local character, reflects the identity of the local surroundings and materials, and preserves and enhances heritage assets and their settings within the Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan area. This should be demonstrated through the submission of a statement setting out how this has been achieved.

Development proposals should in particular deliver sympathetic and complementary design where the presence of 'Duke of Sutherland' style dwellings is an important local or neighbourhood feature.

8.2.1 Particularly strong support was expressed through survey responses and Open Forum comments for new development to be in keeping with the local character respecting design and surroundings and the use of local materials. Consultation responses highlighted the community's desire for new development to be in keeping with its character and landscape setting with particular regard to the scale of existing development. It is considered that the presence of many Duke of Sutherland style dwellings in the Parish is an important element of its unique rural and historic setting and should be explicitly referred to. Where identified through the planning process Duke of Sutherland style cottages should be considered for Telford & Wrekin Council local listing.

8.2.2 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: BE1 Design Criteria; BE2 Residential Alterations; BE6 Buildings of Local Interest.

NPPF paragraphs: 9, 16, 17, 56, 57, 58, 126, 135, and 141

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 1, 4 and 6.

POLICY D2: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Development that incorporates environmental and ecological features to reduce energy and water consumption, minimise waste and impact on utilities infrastructure will be supported. Wildlife conservation and habitat protection will be expected to be integral to new development proposals, where appropriate.

8.2.3 Many comments and survey responses were concerned with various elements of sustainable design and how new development can be integrated into existing water, sewerage and energy infrastructure. Survey responses showed strong support in particular for domestic solar energy solutions and energy conservation in new buildings. Whilst the need to support and promote habitat and wildlife management also featured in survey responses.

8.2.4 This approach is reflected in Telford and Wrekin Council's Local Plan which seeks to promote sustainable design of new development integrating elements of resource management and habitat and wildlife conservation into design and construction.

8.2.5 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: BE1 Design Criteria; ER1 Renewable Energy; ER8 Waste Planning for residential developments; ER11 Sewerage systems and water quality.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 17, 58, 95, 97, 99, and 109

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 1, 5, 7, and 8.

8.3 Local Environment

POLICY LE1: GREEN SPACES
<p>The following areas as shown on the policies map and figure 4 are designated as Local Green Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cricket Ground and adjacent field • School Playing Field and Children’s Play Area • Lilleshall Hill • Allotments, Wellington Road <p>Proposals for built development other than community facilities on these Local Green Spaces will not be permitted.</p>

8.3.1 Significant support for the protection of certain open spaces was a feature of comments received at the Open Forum sessions. The survey therefore asked specifically for suggestions for suitable spaces to be identified. Responses to the survey highlighted the importance of these open spaces both to the community in terms of their recreation and amenity value but also their importance to the character and rural setting of the village. These sites are designated in accordance with NPPF paragraphs 76 and 77 which specify that Neighbourhood Plans can seek to protect areas of open space of significant importance to local communities but that the designation is not appropriate for all open space and should only be used where the site is in close proximity to the settlement, it is demonstrably special and is local in character.

8.3.2 This policy builds on Local Plan policies NE1 and NE3 by designating Local Green Spaces thus protecting these areas space to contribute to provisions for sport, recreation and biodiversity as well as local health and well-being.

Table 1: Local Green Spaces

Name of Site	Distance From Community Centre	Special Qualities/ Local Significance	Value Factors	Site Area	Ownership
1) Cricket Ground and adjacent field	Located within the core of the community, adjacent to Church Road.	The cricket field has been played upon by the Lilleshall Cricket Club for over 100 years. The adjacent field has been identified as a ridge and furrow system and provides a natural element of the continuous green link between the field lying North and East of the Lilleshall Hill	~ Sport and recreational value ~ Tranquillity ~ Visual impact	2.9Ha (OTA)	Private
2) School Playing Field and Children’s Play Area	Located within the core of the community.	In addition to providing green space for sports and recreation, the playing fields and play area form part of the continuous green link between the fields lying North and East of the	~ Sport and recreational value ~ Visual impact	1.34Ha (OTA)	Telford & Wrekin Council

Name of Site	Distance From Community Centre	Special Qualities/ Local Significance	Value Factors	Site Area	Ownership
		Lilleshall Hill			
3) Lilleshall Hill	Located within the heart of the village community	Lilleshall Hill and the Duke of Sutherland Monument is an outstanding features that form the heart of the community. The hill provides a primary attraction for local residents and visitors, who enjoy the views from the hill overlooking the adjacent agricultural landscape across the county and beyond into the mountains of Mid Wales. The Parish Council and Telford & Wrekin Council have entered into the process to formally register the site as a Local Nature Reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Visual impact ~ Local character ~ Historic significance ~ Recreational value ~ Richness of wild life 	4.1Ha (OTA)	Telford & Wrekin Council
4) Allotments, Wellington Road	Located between the old Wellington Road and New Trench Road	The allotments and nursery occupy an area of land created by the re-alignment of the A518 primary road. The allotments are managed jointly by the Parish Council and the Lilleshall Allotments Association providing a key recreational asset for parish residents. The popularity of the allotments means that there is a continual waiting list for plots. The adjacent nursery area extends the intensive horticultural use of the area and provides a natural opportunity for further allotments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Recreational value ~ Local character 		Lilleshall Parish Council

8.3.3 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: SP4 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development; NE3 Existing public open space; COM1 Community facilities

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 70, 74, 76, and 77.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Figure 4: Locations of Local Green Space designations

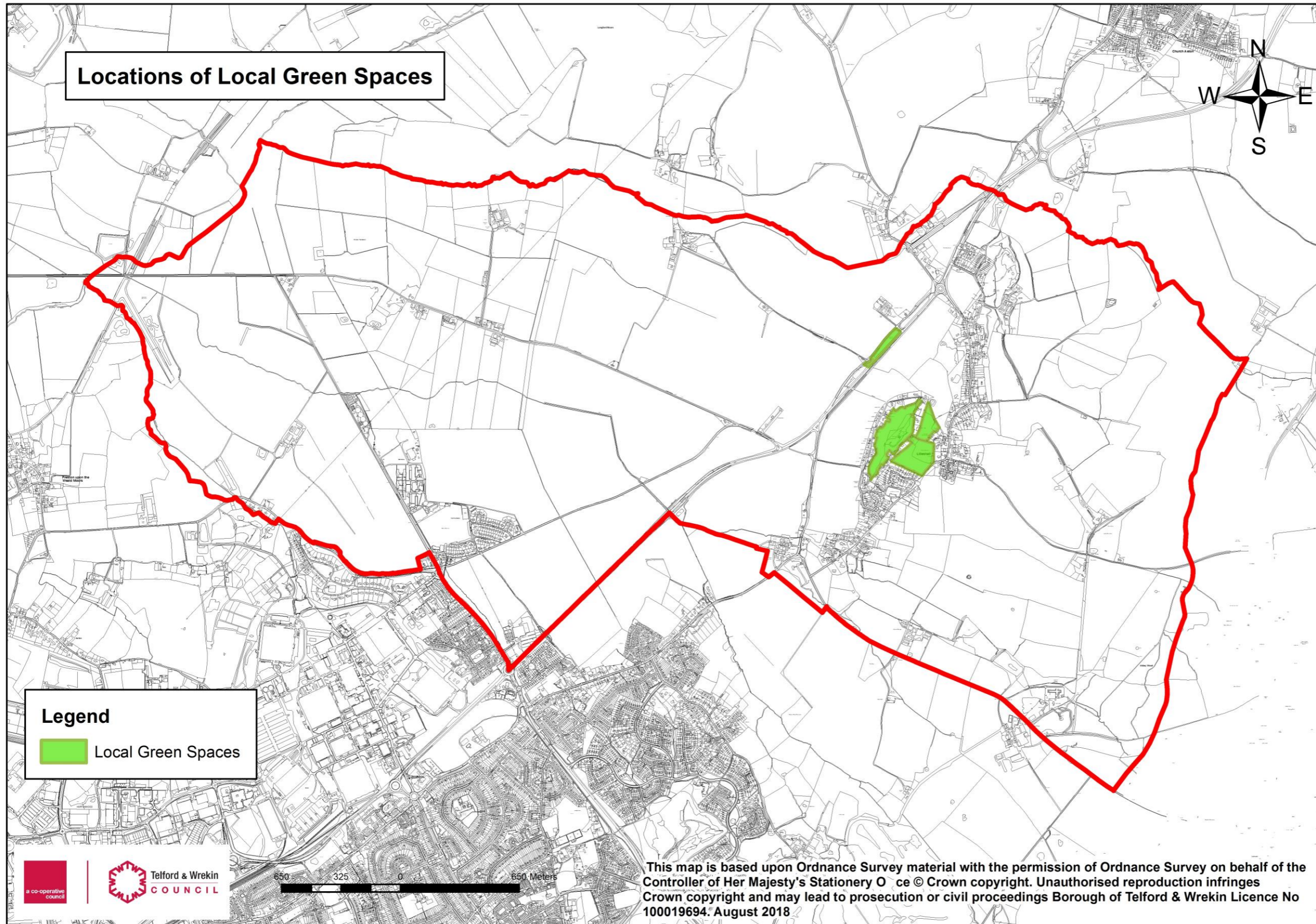


Figure 5: Cricket Ground and adjacent field

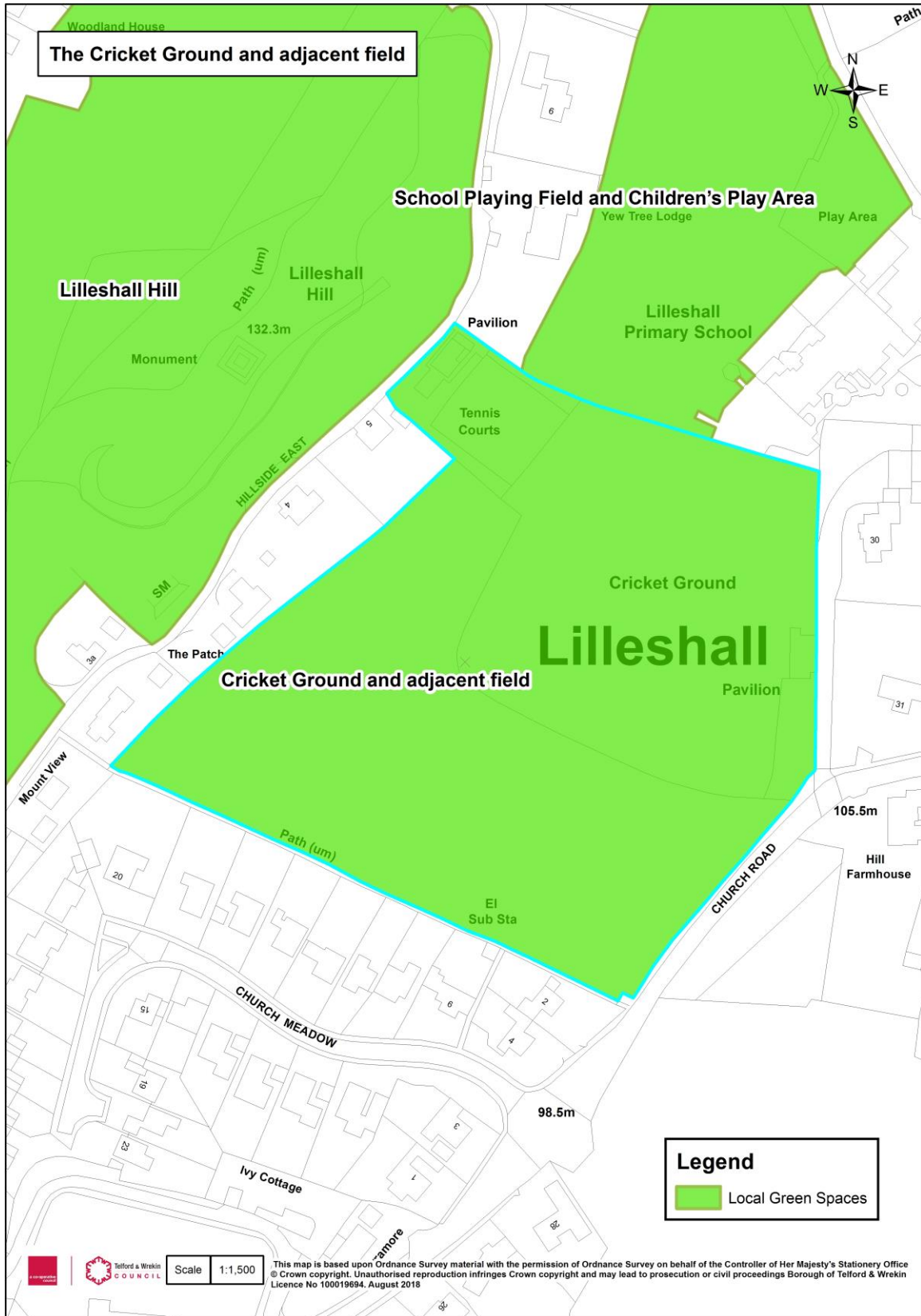


Figure 6: School Playing Field and Children’s Play Area

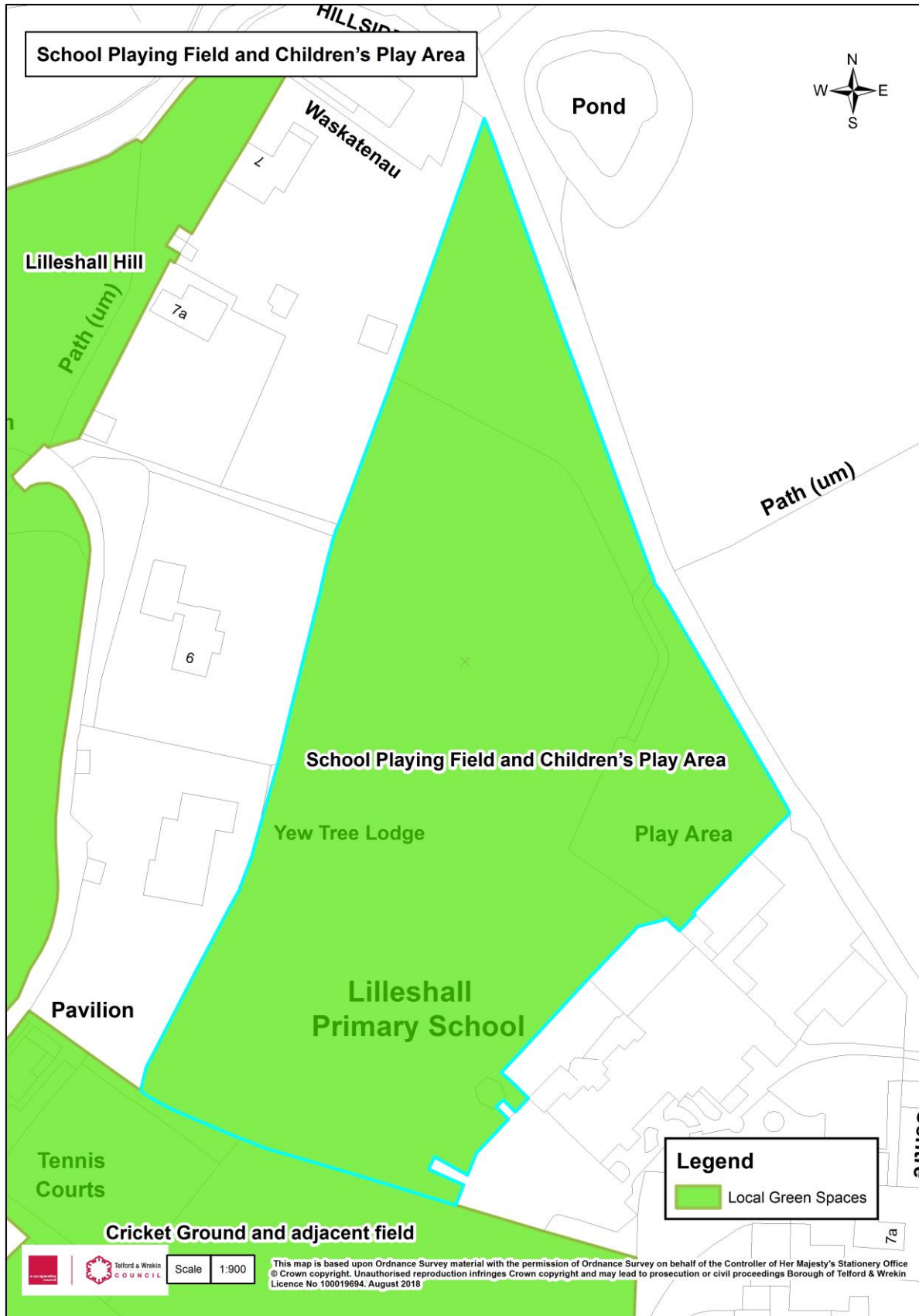


Figure 7: Lilleshall Hall



Figure 8: Allotments, Wellington Road



POLICY LE2: ECOLOGY AND LANDSCAPE

Development will be expected to protect and enhance features of high nature conservation or landscape value, including mature trees, species-rich hedgerows, ponds and existing areas of woodland. Improvement of the connectivity between wildlife areas and green spaces will be encouraged to enhance the green infrastructure of the Parish.

8.3.4 A recurring theme throughout the Open Forum sessions and survey responses has been the protection of the landscape and green or 'biodiversity' elements in the Parish. Many responses have stressed the importance of the environment and the need to ensure that development of whatever scale respects and wherever possible improves the local environment through appropriate measures. This policy seeks to work with Policy D2 - Sustainable Design and Policy TA1 – Linkages and Connections by emphasising the importance of wildlife, habitats and the links between them in contributing to the rural character of the Parish.

8.3.5 This policy complements Local Plan policies NE1 and NE2 by seeking to protect the biodiversity and landscape assets of the Parish.

8.3.6 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: SP4 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development; NE1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity; NE2 Trees, hedgerows and woodlands;

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, and 117.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 5, 6, and 7.

8.4 Community Infrastructure

POLICY INF1: CONNECTING THE PARISH

Development proposals to provide access to a super-fast broadband network to the village and outlying properties in the countryside, and to improve the speed of existing services, will be supported, provided the location and design of any above-ground network installations have regard to the character of the local area.

Proposals must provide appropriate ducting suited to fibre communications technologies that is either connected to the public highway; through satellite broadband; a community led local access network; or to another location that can be justified.

Proposals should demonstrate how any development will contribute to and be compatible with local fibre or internet connectivity. This should be through a 'Connectivity Statement' provided with relevant planning applications. Such statements should include details of:

- The intended land use and the anticipated connectivity requirements of the development.
- Known nearby data networks and their anticipated speed (fixed copper, 3G, 4G, fibre, satellite, microwave, etc.).
- Realistic viability and delivery assessments of connection potential or contribution to any such networks.
- Measures taken by the applicants to work with Telecom providers to ensure that Superfast Broadband is available at the point of occupation.

8.4.1 Infrastructure could refer to anything to do with community facilities, services as well as infrastructure in terms of roads, pipes, cables, broadband etc. However the main overlying infrastructure issue articulated through the survey responses is the need for high quality and consistent broadband and mobile phone coverage. In addition a number of responses highlighted the importance of digital connectivity for homeworking and other rural enterprises. High speed broadband is a critical factor in securing the sustainability of the parish and unlocking untapped economic potential. National Planning Policy supports the need for high quality communications infrastructure, acknowledging its role in supporting economic activity and enhancing the provision of local facilities and services, particularly in rural areas. Very poor broadband speed in the parish was the primary infrastructure concern of residents, having a demonstrable impact on business and education in the parish. It was acknowledged as having a negative effect on businesses in the area, for those working from home and for students/school children who also require good internet speeds for study.

8.4.2 This policy complements Local Plan policies C7 and C8 by seeking to support development that improves digital communication and connectivity.

8.4.3 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: C7 Enhancing communication networks, and C8 New telecommunications network;
NPPF paragraphs: 7, 17, 28, and 43.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 8, 9, 11 and 13

POLICY INF2: COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There will be a presumption in favour of the protection of existing community facilities.

The proposed re-use of local community facilities will only be supported for other similar uses. Any proposal that would result in the loss of community facilities will not be supported unless it satisfies the following criteria:

- The proposal includes alternative provision, on a site within the locality, of equivalent or enhanced facilities. Such sites should be accessible by public transport, walking and cycling and have adequate car parking; or
- Satisfactory evidence is produced that there is no longer a need for the facility.
- Does not lead to the loss of community facilities

8.4.4 A particular concern to the community highlighted by survey responses and consultation responses to the Local Plan is the need to ensure the retention of community facilities to keep the Parish a viable and active community whilst ensuring the level of house building does not place too great a strain on existing services. The Local Plan recognises the importance of community facilities in the rural area and stresses that it is especially important that these facilities are protected. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to build on this approach by identifying and seeking to protect the relevant facilities in the Parish. These facilities are as follows:

- Village Memorial Hall
- Youth Centre
- Cricket Club
- Tennis Club

- Parish Allotments
- Primary School
- Church of St Michael and All Angels

8.4.5 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: Policy SP4 Presumption in favour of sustainable development; COM1 Community facilities.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 28, and 70.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 8 and 9.

8.5 Transport and Accessibility

POLICY TA1: LINKAGES AND CONNECTIONS

Proposals for the enhancement and improvement of the existing Public Rights of Way will be supported. Proposals for improved linkages and accessibility within Lilleshall and to the areas beyond will be supported. All new proposals shall include the following enhancements to maximise accessibility to residents and to support local biodiversity, where appropriate:

- Enhanced public access and appropriate signage from residential areas
- New footpaths and cycle routes linking to existing and new networks and village facilities; and
- Linkages to wildlife corridors and provision of landscaping and planting along routes to support local biodiversity objectives such as provision of new areas of woodland and orchards, new hedgerows, grassland and wetland habitats

8.5.1 Many views and survey responses reflected a desire to seek to protect and improve the network of rights of way and pedestrian links. Although strictly speaking not controlled by planning legislation these are certainly affected or influenced by new development and appropriate enhancements can be sought through the planning process.

8.5.2 This policy is reflected in Telford & Wrekin Council's Local Plan which seeks to improve existing or deliver new linkages and connections under a variety of policy headings including the natural environment, connections and the built environment.

8.5.3 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: NE1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity; C1 Promoting alternatives to the private car; C3 Impact of development on highways; C4 Design of roads and streets; BE1 Design criteria.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 35, and 75.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 4, 6, 9, 11, and 12.

POLICY TA2: CAR PARKING IN LILLESHALL

Planning applications for new residential properties of two bedrooms or more will include a minimum of two car parking spaces within the residential curtilage of the property. A single garage can be classed as one parking space but only if the use of the garage for parking is controlled by appropriate planning condition or the removal of permitted development rights (NPPF paragraph 40).

Other development proposals that generate traffic and associated parking will be required to provide sufficient off-street parking.

8.5.4 Open Forum comments and a number of survey responses sought to raise the issue of car parking and associated congestion particularly in Lilleshall village itself. A lack of sufficient car parking can lead to significant congestion and increased accident potential in rural communities and it is important that any new development does not exacerbate the situation and ideally helps to improve the situation. Many responses highlighted the need for a separate off-street car-park and this policy seeks developer contributions to enable this. It is important however not to tip the balance in favour of unnecessary car journeys with an over provision of car parking.

8.5.5 This policy is reflected in Telford & Wrekin Council's Local Plan which seeks to ensure new development provides sufficient well-designed integrated car-parking.

8.5.6 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: C5 Design of parking; C6 Commuted parking payments.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 28, and 39.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 10 and 11.

8.6 Employment

POLICY EC1: RURAL DIVERSIFICATION AND SMALL-SCALE EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT

Development proposals to provide small-scale B1 uses and/or tourism employment opportunities will be supported where there is.

- No detrimental effect on the distinct character of the Strategic Landscape Area and Lilleshall village and promotes tranquillity and the quiet enjoyment of the countryside
- No adverse effect on the surrounding infrastructure, particularly local road networks and water supply and sewerage
- Benefit to the local community, through for instance, provision of local employment opportunities and improvements to local service provision, and is proportionate to the size of settlement in which it located; and
- Where feasible it involves the re-use of existing buildings or is part of farm diversification.

8.6.1 Survey responses highlighted the need to ensure that opportunities for local small-scale employment development should be supported through the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote rural enterprise by supporting small scale B1 employment uses (B1 use refers to: offices, research and development of products and processes, light industry appropriate in a residential area) which could be provided by new buildings, conversions of agricultural buildings, or other changes of use. While it is appropriate that the Local Plan directs larger-scale enterprises, or

those more suited to urban locations, to either Newport or Telford, policy EC3 supports new employment development in the rural area.

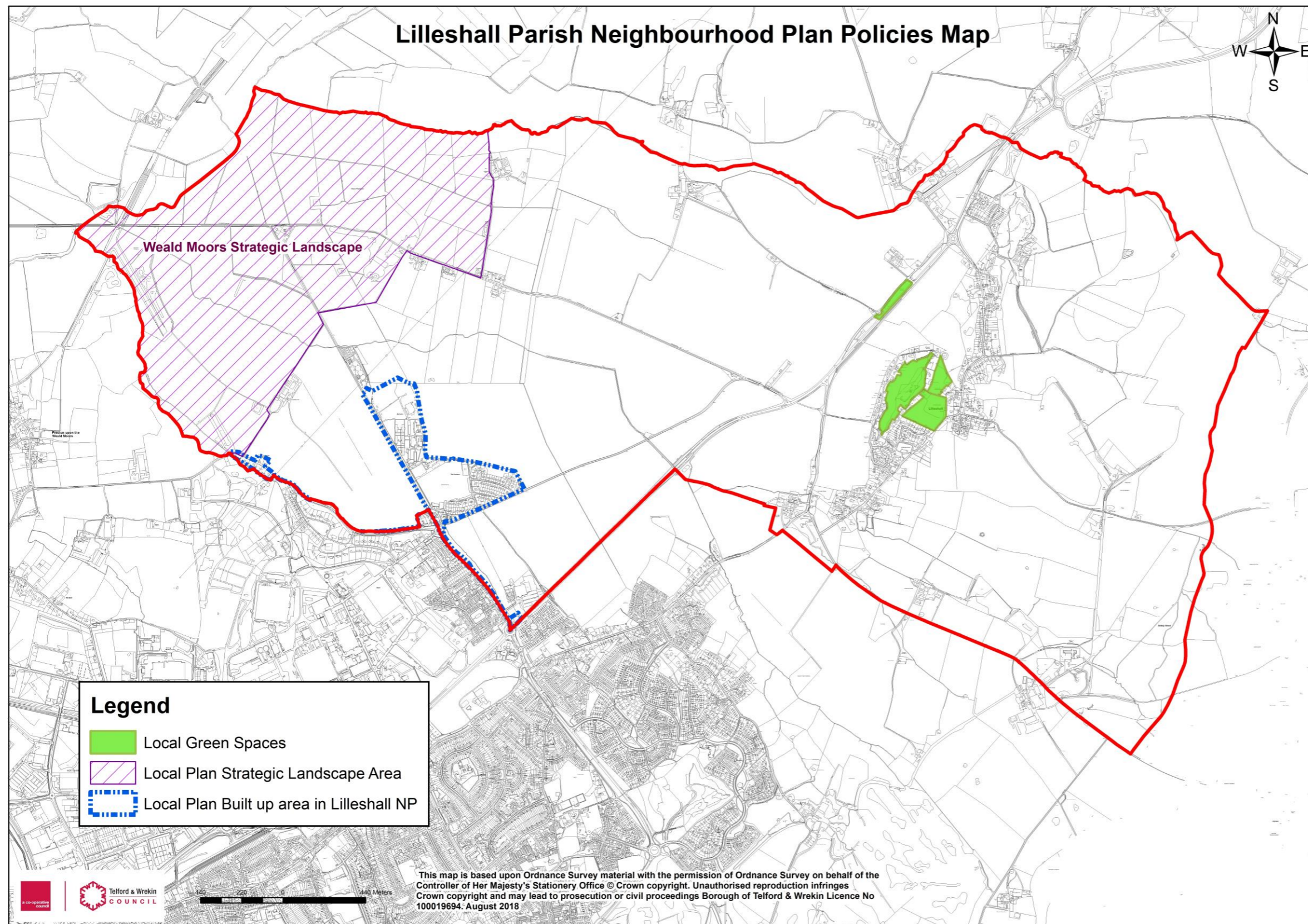
8.6.2 This policy conforms to:

Local Plan policies: SP3 Rural Area; SP4 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development; EC3 Employment in the rural area; C3 Impact of development on highways; C4 Design of roads and streets.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 19, and 28.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 5, 6, 8 and 13.

Figure 9: Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan Policies map



9 MONITORING AND REVIEW

9.0.1 It is expected that Telford & Wrekin Council, as the Planning Authority, will continue to monitor progress relating to the number of dwellings and number of affordable homes delivered during the Plan period, as part of the wider monitoring responsibilities for the Borough set out in their Annual Monitoring Report.

9.0.2 The Plan covers the period until 2031. For long term success it is essential that developments in the Plan area are reviewed against the Plan's Objectives and Policies.

9.0.3 Lilleshall Parish Council will monitor the delivery of its policies and work to ensure that benefits to the communities within the Parish are achieved.

9.0.4 Each agenda for the Parish Council meetings will include an item 'Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan' which will ensure that the item is continually reviewed and reported upon during its life.

9.0.5 On the anniversary of the adoption of the Plan, the Parish Council will assess the impact of the Plan during the previous year and discuss the implementation of the Plan for the forthcoming year, taking into consideration any significant changes that have come about. The Parish Council will bring to the attention of the Borough Council any matters or problems that have been identified and this will be used as part of their contribution to the Annual Monitoring Report produced by Telford & Wrekin Council.

9.0.6 In 2022 and 2027, there will be thorough five-year reviews of progress by a recruited community-based Steering Group. The purpose of these more comprehensive reviews will be to hold the Parish Council to account by assessing how/whether the 'Objectives' are being achieved. Continued confidence in the Plan for the next Plan period will depend upon ensuring that all current and relevant information is taken into account. Each five-year review will be assessed along with the combined Annual Monitoring Reports, and their results will inform any decision on the need for a 'Full Formal Review'. If there is a need for a Full Formal Review, up-to-date data on Housing Needs Survey, Parish Profile, Census results etc will be used.

9.0.7 In 2028, a community-based Steering Group will be re-formed to undertake a Full Formal Review to decide on the need for a subsequent 15 year Plan, and to oversee the development of this new Plan if required. This should coincide with work at the Local Authority on the Local Plan for Telford & Wrekin.

9.0.8 In conjunction, Telford & Wrekin Council will undertake its statutory role and continue to monitor Neighbourhood Plans as part of its monitoring framework set out in Local Plan Appendix A tables 12- 18.

9.0.9 The Parish Council may be best placed to monitor the progress of certain elements of the Neighbourhood Plan; the division of responsibility will be agreed with Telford & Wrekin Council. This might mean that Telford & Wrekin Council leads on monitoring the strategic delivery of housing while the Parish Council monitors local delivery. Monitoring arrangements are to be recorded in a *Memorandum of Understanding* between the two Authorities.

9.0.10 The Parish Council's monitoring could take the form of a spreadsheet listing all planning applications and the decisions made on them. It should be possible to see the extent to which the

Neighbourhood Plan has been successful in influencing planning and development decisions by recording which policies are being used in decision making and the outcomes. Hence, we should be able to assess how well policies are providing the expected outcomes. Findings from this should be shared with other interested parties to inform future Plans.

Table 2: Example of Policy Monitoring:

Policy	No. of times used	Decision in accordance	Decision against policy	Commentary



APPENDIX 1

PARISH PROFILE

1 This profile of the parish draws on a number of data sources including 2011 Census, the Telford & Wrekin Rural Settlements paper (June 2016) and local knowledge.

Physical characteristics

2 Lilleshall Parish is a newly formed parish in the north of the borough of Telford & Wrekin east of Telford and west of the town of Newport. It is focused primarily on the village of Lilleshall and Honnington and incorporates rural land as well as an area of land around ‘the Humbers’ and one of the MoD barracks at the Donnington base that are part of the ‘built up area of Telford’

Population

3 The 2011 Census recorded a population of 1,326 people. The age profile for Lilleshall is compared to the Borough as a whole in Table 1 below.

Table 3: Lilleshall Parish population and age profile (Source: ONS, Table KS102EW)

Age	2011		Telford & Wrekin	
	Number	%	Number	%
All usual residents	1,326	100.0	166,641	100.0
Age 0 to 4	55	4.1	11,344	6.8
Age 5 to 7	49	3.7	6,185	3.7
Age 8 to 9	24	1.8	3,822	2.3
Age 10 to 14	91	6.9	10,594	6.4
Age 15	18	1.4	2,256	1.4
Age 16 to 17	28	2.1	4,675	2.8
Age 18 to 19	24	1.8	4,565	2.7
Age 20 to 24	44	3.3	10,863	6.5
Age 25 to 29	67	5.1	10,888	6.5
Age 30 to 44	234	17.6	34,329	20.6
Age 45 to 59	299	22.5	33,021	19.8
Age 60 to 64	103	7.8	10,010	6.0
Age 65 to 74	156	11.8	13,928	8.4
Age 75 to 84	98	7.4	7,481	4.5
Age 85 to 89	26	2.0	1,771	1.1
Age 90 and over	10	0.8	909	0.5
Mean Age	43.8	-	38.1	-
Median Age	46.0	-	38.0	-

4 Typical with other rural areas, the parish has an older age profile than urban Telford and the rest of the Borough.

Ethnicity

5 More than nine out of ten of the parish's recorded population was white, and in this respect the parish profile is similar to that of the rest of the rural area of the borough¹.

Table 4: Parish population by ethnicity (Source: ONS, Table QS201EW)

Ethnic Group	Number	%
All categories: Ethnic group	1,326	100
White	1,259	94.9
Mixed	12	0.9
Asian	50	3.8
Black	4	0.3
Other	1	0.1

Economics and Employment

6 There are no major employers in the parish. Much of the rural land adjoining the village of Lilleshall is used for arable farming.

7 Most residents of working age commute out to work with a mean travel to work journey of 19.8 km. Some 13.6% of all people in employment work from home. This is a pattern noted across other rural areas of England but lower than other villages in the borough². However, given the proximity of employment in Donnington, Telford and Newport, over 40% of all Lilleshall parish residents have a journey to work of less than 10 km.

Table 5: Travel to work patterns (Source: ONS, Table QS702EW)

Distance travelled to work	2011	%
All categories: Distance travelled to work	663	100
Less than 2km	51	7.7
2km to less than 5km	92	13.9
5km to less than 10km	185	27.9
10km to less than 20km	53	8.0
20km to less than 30km	77	11.6
30km to less than 40km	15	2.3
40km to less than 60km	21	3.2
60km and over	36	5.4
Work mainly at or from home	90	13.6
Other	43	6.5
Total distance (km)	10,494.5	
Average distance (km)	19.8	

¹ Refer Rural Settlement paper, page 41

² Telford & Wrekin Rural Settlements paper, p11

The recorded civilian population, despite being relatively old, had a large proportion that were economically active (72%). This is slightly higher than the Borough average (69.5%).

Table 6: Lilleshall parish economic activity (Source: ONS, Table QS601EW)

Economic Activity	Lilleshall		Telford & Wrekin	
	Number	%	Number	%
All categories: Economic activity	955	100	122,279	100
Part-time	157	16.4	16,530	13.5
Full-time	369	38.6	50,567	41.4
Self-employed with employees: Part-time	5	0.5	293	0.2
Self-employed with employees: Full-time	29	3.0	1,724	1.4
Self-employed without employees: Part-time	17	1.8	2,134	1.7
Self-employed without employees: Full-time	67	7.0	4,437	3.6
Unemployed	19	2.0	5,806	4.7
Full-time student	25	2.6	3,456	2.8
Retired	180	18.8	16,798	13.7
Students (including full-time students)	29	3.0	6,213	5.1
Looking after home or family	32	3.4	5,923	4.8
Long-term sick or disabled	16	1.7	6,001	4.9
Other	10	1.0	2,397	2.0

Educational attainment

8 The 2011 Census shows that the parish population of working age and above is generally educated to a high level academically with more than 50% high incidence of people educated to degree level (refer Table 6).

Table 7: Highest Level of Qualification - comparison between Lilleshall, the rural area of the borough and Telford & Wrekin (%) (Source: ONS, Table QS501EW)

Qualification	Lilleshall	Rural area	Telford & Wrekin
	%	%	%
No qualifications	19.8	19.2	24.6
Level 1 qualifications	12.2	10.9	15.1
Level 2 qualifications	17.0	15.5	17.9
Apprenticeship	3.5	3.8	3.3
Level 3 qualifications	10.7	17	13
Level 4 qualifications and above	33.1	29.8	20.9
Other qualifications	3.6	3.9	5.1

9 Lilleshall Primary school is very popular and achieved an Outstanding Ofsted rating at its last inspection in 2013. It is popular with residents in Donnington and other parts of Telford as well as Lilleshall parish residents.

Deprivation

10 The Index of Deprivation 2015 ranks the parish³ as being within among the top 10% of least deprived neighbourhoods in England.

Housing stock

11 Table 7 below sets out the parish's housing stock by dwelling type with the majority being detached and semi-detached dwellings. The unusually high proportion of flats for a rural parish is a reflection of the MoD accommodation at the Humbers.

Table 8: Housing stock in Lilleshall (Source: ONS, Table QS402EW)

Dwelling type	%
Detached house	49.0
Semi-detached	38.8
Terraced (including end-terrace) house	4.1
Flat	7.2
Other	0.9

House prices

12 The parish has relatively high house prices compared to the rest of the borough and Telford in particular.

Table 9: Comparison of Church Aston & Lilleshall Local Government electoral ward and Telford & Wrekin house prices in 2014 and 2015 (Source: SHMA 2016 – Table 3.1)

	Lowest quartile (25%)	Median figure
Church Aston & Lilleshall Ward	£184,975	£250,000
Telford & Wrekin	£108,000	£140,000

Housing tenure

13 As a relatively affluent parish, home ownership is predictably high among the settled permanent population with nearly four in five households owning their own home, either outright or through a mortgage or loan.

³ LSOA Telford and Wrekin 004A, 004C and 004D

Table 10: Lilleshall housing tenure by household (source: ONS, Table QS405EW) relative to Telford & Wrekin

Tenure	Lilleshall		Telford & Wrekin
	Numbers	%	%
All categories: Tenure	539	100	100
Owned: Total	410	76.1	64.2
Owned: Owned outright	200	37.1	27.8
Owned: Owned with a mortgage or loan	210	39.0	36.4
Shared ownership (part owned and part rented)	1	0.2	0.4
Social rented: Total	59	10.9	19.7
Private rented: Total	62	11.5	14.9
Living rent free	7	1.3	1.2

Household Type

14 As would be expected in a rural Parish there are a significantly greater proportion of households with members over 65 years old. There are also relatively few one-person and lone-parent households in Lilleshall - a reflection of the urban/rural split that is seen across the Borough. The presence of MOD accommodation can be seen in the relatively high proportion of single person households aged under 65 for a rural parish.

Table 11: Household Type in Lilleshall Parish (source: ONS Table KS105EW)

Household Type	Lilleshall	Telford & Wrekin
	%	%
One person household	21.3	25.2
One person household: Aged 65 and over	12.6	10.7
One person household: Other	8.7	14.5
One family household	73.1	67.6
One family only: All aged 65 and over	14.3	7.6
One family only: Couple	53.2	48.2
One family only: Couple - no children	24.9	19.5
One family only: Couple - Dependent children	21.9	22.0
One family only: Couple - All children non-dependent	6.5	6.7
One family only: Lone parent	5.6	11.7
One family only: Lone parent - Dependent children	3.2	8.1
One family only: Lone parent - All children non-dependent	2.4	3.6
Other household types	5.6	7.2
Other household types: With dependent children	2.4	2.9
Other household types: All full-time students	0.2	0.3
Other household types: All aged 65 and over	0.4	0.2
Other household types: Other	2.6	3.8

Heritage

15 The village of Lilleshall dates back to Anglo Saxon times and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. It has a number of listed buildings including the Grade 1 Norman parish church of St Michael and All Angels.

16 The Lilleshall Monument is a 21m high obelisk erected in the 19th century in honour of the 1st Duke of Sutherland, a local landowner.

Access to services and public transport

17 Most publicly accessible community services are located in the village of Lilleshall.

18 These include:

- A part time post office
- Youth centre
- A thriving Church of England church - The St Michael and All Angels
- A memorial hall that is available for hire

19 There are a number of active community clubs and societies in the parish including the Lilleshall cricket club, Lilleshall Tennis Club, Lilleshall Womens Institute, Lilleshall Pre-School, Lilleshall Scouts and Cubs. The Lilleshall Hall Golf Club and the National Sports Centre are located just over the parish boundary.

20 The parish does not have a shop but there is a range of services in Muxton (some 2.5 km away). The nearest public house, the Red House Inn, is located on the edge of the village of Lilleshall, west of the A518. The Wyevale Garden Centre also stocks locally produced food.

21 Reflecting the rural location of the parish, levels of affluence and travel to work patterns identified above, many parish residents are dependent on the car (Table 12).

Bus Services

22 A scheduled service is provided by Arriva Midlands linking the village with Midland and West Coast rail services at Telford Central and Stafford stations. The service also provides access to the shopping centres of Telford, Newport, and Stafford.

23 There is no bus or rail service provided in the west of the parish for residents in the Humbers.

Table 12: Car availability (Source: ONS, Table QS416EW)

Cars	Lilleshall	Rural Area	Telford & Wrekin
	%	%	%
No cars or vans in household	7.4	7.2	20.6
1 car or van in household	36.9	33.1	43.1
2 cars or vans in household	42.1	40.2	25.8
3 cars or vans in household	10.0	13.2	5.9

4 or more cars or vans in household	3.5	6.2	2.1
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

24 The proportion of households without access to a car or van is obviously lower than Borough wide. 55.6% of households in Lilleshall have access to 2 or more cars or vans compared to 33.8% of the Borough's households.

Transport infrastructure

25 Lilleshall Parish has good north connections to Newport and south connections to Telford via Wellington Road (A518). It enjoys some of the best links to public transport for a rural area, including Arriva bus route 5 which runs seven days a week and on a half hourly basis during weekdays⁴. It serves major employment areas too (for example, Donnington and Telford). There is a good network of footpaths in the parish.

Broadband

26 It is anticipated that the parish will be connected to superfast broadband by the end of 2017⁵.

Public open space

27 Telford & Wrekin Council have a village playing field with a mix of facilities.

Farmland quality

28 Much of the surrounding countryside is of high quality agricultural land with the village itself in good to moderate quality agricultural land.

See Figure 5.

Minerals

29 The village of Lilleshall and surrounding land to the east of the Parish sit on sand and gravel deposits.

See Figure 6.

Water and flood risk

30 Telford & Wrekin Council has commissioned a number of borough-wide studies concerning water quality and flood risk⁶.

31 The parish is served by a waste water treatment works. The parish is within the Rushmoor wastewater treatment works catchment.

⁴ <https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/midlands/services/5-5a---telford-to-stafford/?direction=outbound>

⁵ www.superfast-telford.co.uk

⁶ Refer Scoping Water Cycle Study 2012 and Strategic Flood Risk Assessments prepared to support the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan.

32 The 2012 Scoping Water Cycle Study was done with the old parish boundaries and confirmed that development within the Lilleshall, Donnington and Muxton parish is assessed as having a medium potential impact on sewerage infrastructure.

33 There are known capacity issues to the north west of Muxton and records of minor flooding to the west of Donnington.

34 Dependent on the scale and location of development, hydraulic modelling may be required to determine the impact and any requirement for capacity improvements.

See Figure 7 for flood zones in Lilleshall Parish.

Landscape

35 Figure 8 shows the landscape typologies in the Parish based on the Shropshire Landscape Assessment⁷

36 The majority of the parish is categorised as Farmlands and Lowland Moors to the west.

37 The Telford & Wrekin Local Plan recognises the intrinsic value of the landscape around Lilleshall and proposes that it be designated as the Lilleshall Strategic Landscape⁸.

⁷ <https://new.shropshire.gov.uk/environment/landscape/shropshire-landscape-assessment/>

⁸ Refer Strategic landscape Study (2015)

Figure 10: Lilleshall Parish Agricultural Classification

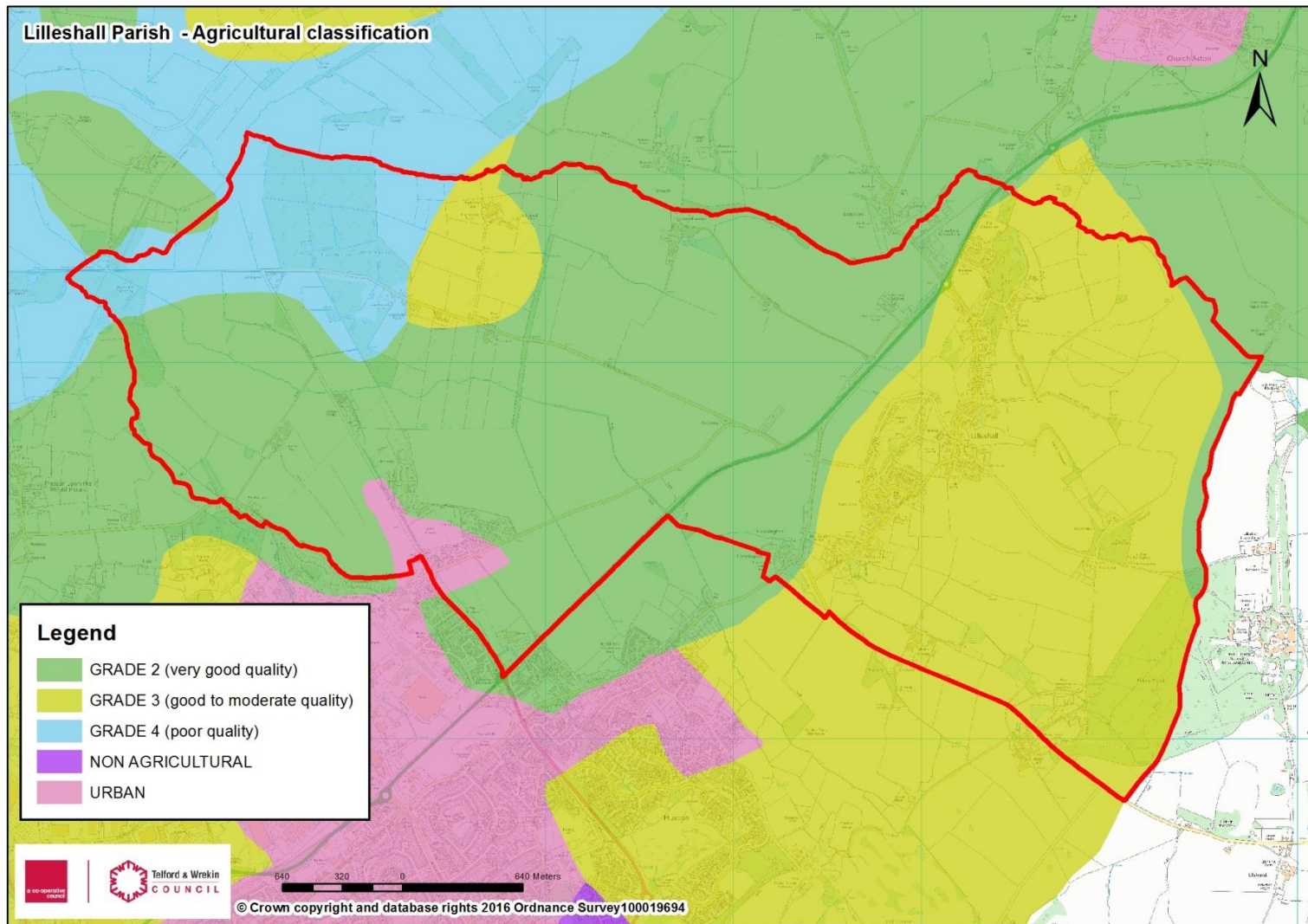


Figure 11: Lilleshall Parish Flood Risk Areas

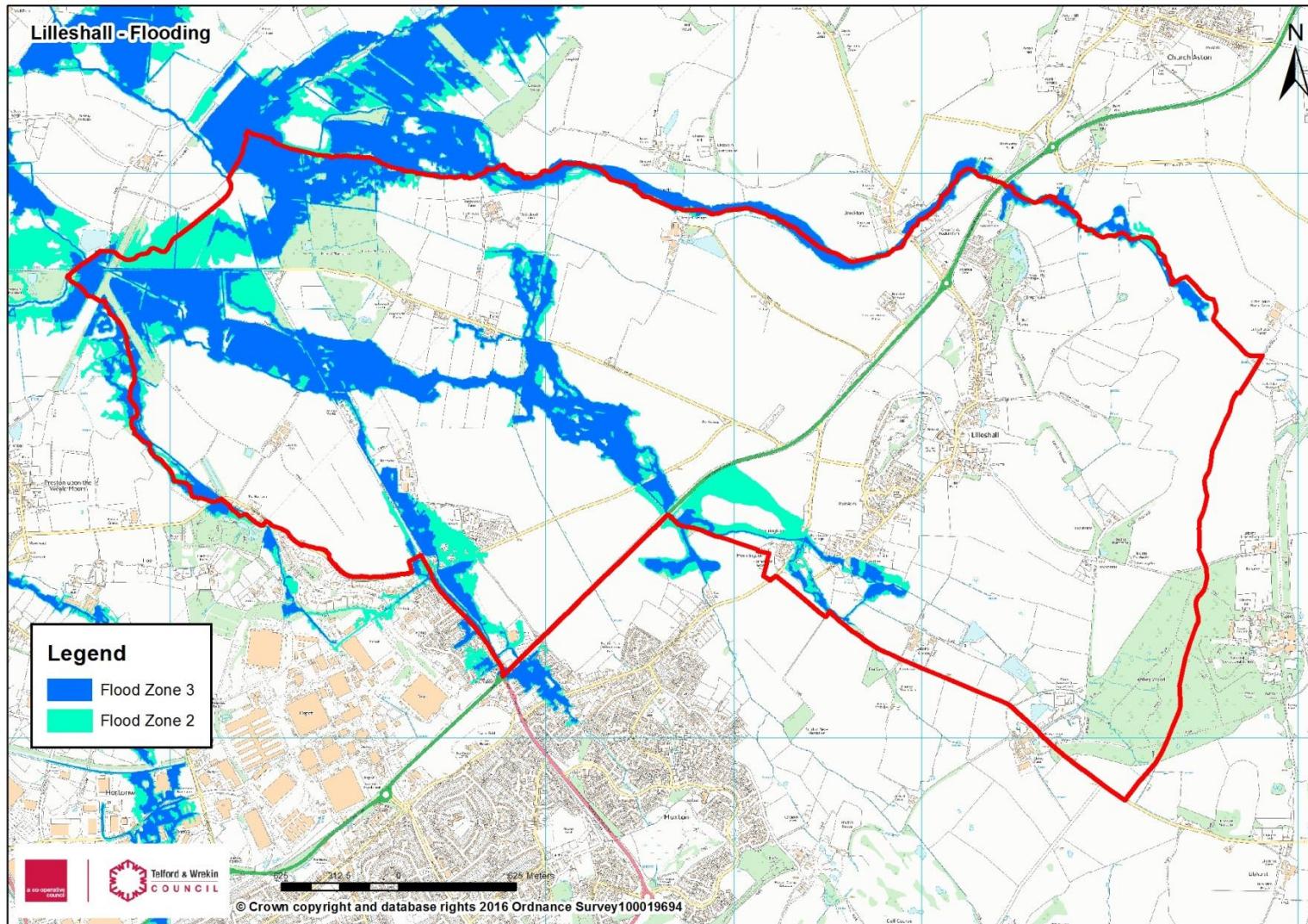
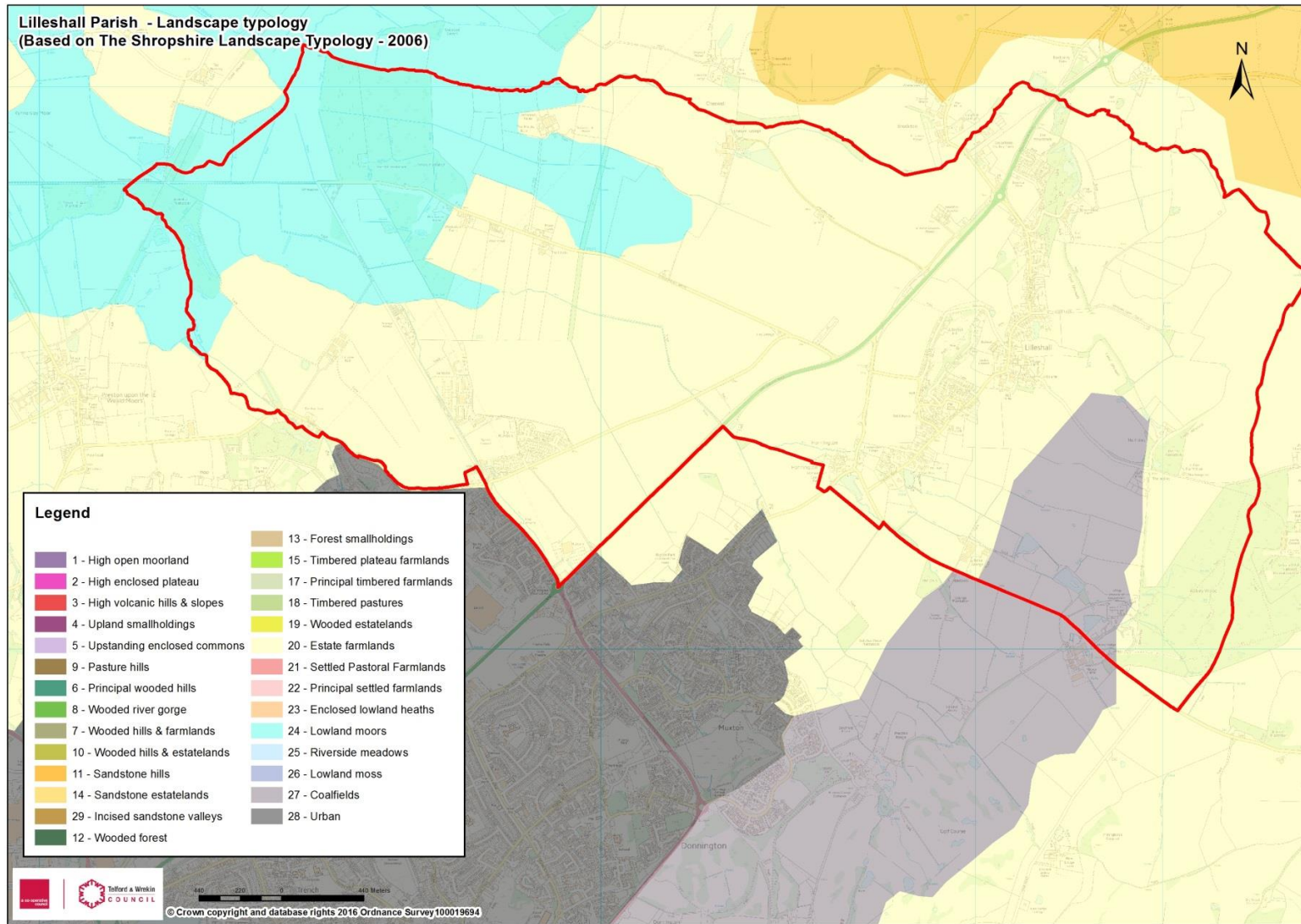


Figure 12: Lilleshall - Landscape Typology



APPENDIX 2

Telford & Wrekin Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study 2013

The function of local green infrastructure in helping to preserve and manage the landscape settings for heritage assets

Need for preserved/managed landscape settings for heritage assets

INDICATOR: Immediate surroundings of heritage designations.

This coarse approach provides more an indication of potential landscape sensitivity than an actual measure of needs. Each site will have a different need that warrants bespoke investigation. Fine grain spatial data reflecting these individual needs was not available to inform the present study. The findings derived from the coarse approach taken therefore provide a non-exhaustive map of areas where further investigations are needed.

Map 46 – Need for preserved/managed landscape settings for heritage assets

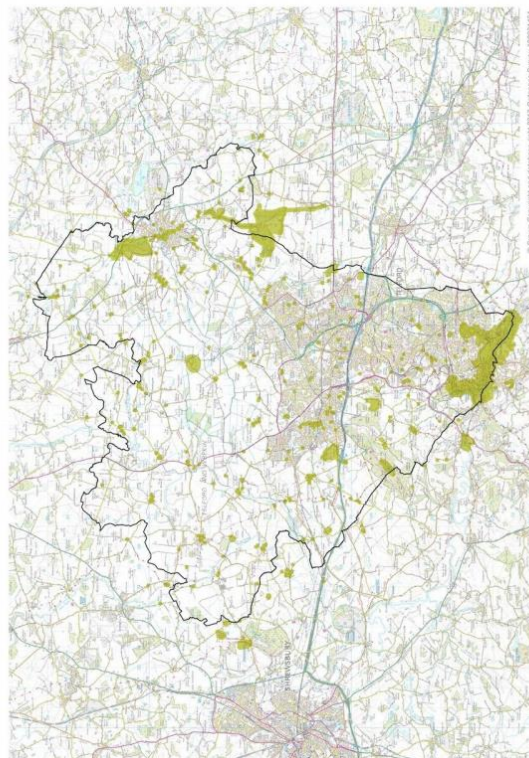


MAPPING TECHNIQUE: Map 46 identifies needs for preserved or managed landscape settings for heritage assets by showing 100-metre buffers around listed buildings, World Heritage Site, scheduled monuments, heritage parks and gardens.

FINDINGS

All parishes have some areas where further investigations on the needs for preserved or managed landscape settings for heritage assets warrant further investigation.

Map 46 – Need for preserved/managed landscape settings for heritage assets



Telford & Wrekin Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study 2013

3.4. Spatial quality

This theme considers needs related to the effective design and use of space.

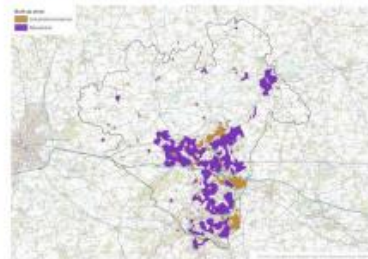
Need for separation of built-up areas

INDICATORS: Interface between industrial and residential areas; open space and countryside preventing coalescence between Telford and Newport.

Map 42 – Need for separation of built-up areas



Map 42bis – Location of residential and main industrial or commercial areas

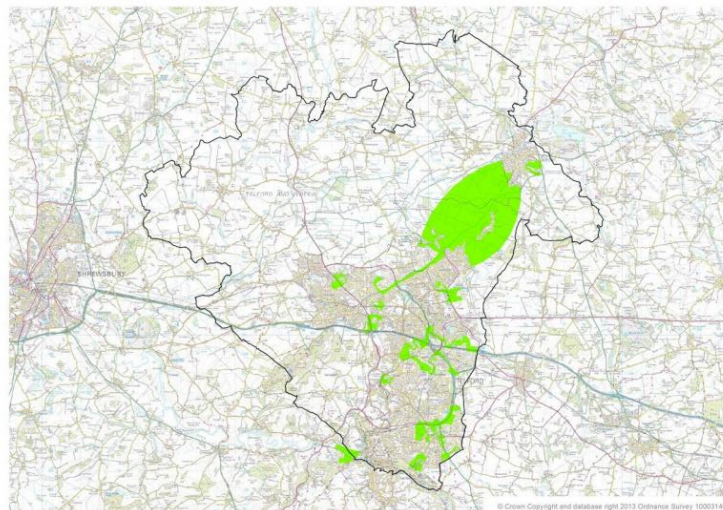


MAPPING TECHNIQUE: Map 42 identifies areas of need for the separation of built-up areas by highlighting fringes between industrial and residential neighbourhoods as well as the open countryside on either side of the A518 (Wellington Rd) ensuring Telford and Newport remain two distinct settlements. To help further illustrate how this map was derived, map 42bis shows the locations of residential and industrial/commercial areas

FINDINGS

Need for separation between built-up areas has been identified across 13 parishes. For Telford and Newport to remain two distinct settlements, the open countryside surrounding the villages of Church Aston, Chestwynd Aston and Lilleshall and Muxton needs to be preserved.

In Telford, several industrial estates abutting residential areas also create needs for careful design and management of linear “in-between” spaces, often (albeit not always), consisting of incidental green space along highways.



Map 42 – Need for separation of built-up areas

APPENDIX 3

Community Aspiration Developer Contributions

1. Wherever appropriate developer contributions will be sought for local infrastructure improvements. In particular highway and junction configurations and the use of the A518 as the main route between Telford and Newport may require local highway/junction safety improvements as a contribution from new development.
2. As public sector budgets continue to shrink it is becoming increasingly important for new development to contribute to local infrastructure and community facilities to balance its impact on existing provision. This is normally done through agreements (s106 agreements) negotiated during the planning application process. However, during the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan Telford & Wrekin Council may implement a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on new housing development across the Borough; all areas with an adopted Neighbourhood Plan will receive 25% (as the Local Fund) of CIL monies received in the area (Parish). Many comments and survey responses reflected the desire to improve highway safety and seek highway improvements and by seeking developer contributions this is one way the Neighbourhood Plan can influence this. The Local Plan supports the retention and improvement of community facilities and this policy seeks to implement this by setting out a particular approach.
3. This conforms to:
Local Plan policies: Policy SP4 Presumption in favour of sustainable development; COM1 Community facilities; C1 Promoting alternatives to the private car; C3 Impact of development on highways; C4 Design of roads and streets.

NPPF paragraphs: 7, 9, 16, 28, and 70.

It will help to deliver Neighbourhood Plan Objectives: 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

APPENDIX 4

Additional Technical Evidence

1. Telford and Wrekin Local Plan 2011 – 2031 Submission Version
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4486/a1_telford_and_wrekin_local_plan_2011-2031 - submission version low res](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4486/a1_telford_and_wrekin_local_plan_2011-2031_-_submission_version_low_res)
2. SRCC Lilleshall Parish Survey Report and Annexe 1 – February 2017
3. Lilleshall Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Group Survey Evaluation – April 2017
4. Telford and Wrekin Local Plan 2011 – 2031 – Integrated Appraisal
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4362/a3_twlp_intergrated_appraisal - submission version](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4362/a3_twlp_intergrated_appraisal_-_submission_version)
5. Telford and Wrekin Local Plan 2011 – 2031 – Representations
http://telford-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/local_plan/local_plan/twlp?tab=list
6. Telford & Wrekin Annual Monitoring Reports
http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20172/planning_policy_and_strategy/124/annual_monitoring_report_amr
7. Telford & Wrekin development monitoring database
8. Telford & Wrekin Strategic Housing Market Assessment
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4427/c2b-it and w strategic housing market assessment shma 2016 -final report](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4427/c2b-it_and_w_strategic_housing_market_assessment_shma_2016_-_final_report)
9. Telford & Wrekin Water Cycle Study
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4456/c6c-iii twc detailed water cycle study - update 2016](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4456/c6c-iii_twc_detailed_water_cycle_study_-_update_2016)
10. Telford & Wrekin Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4460/c6e twc llfa flood risk management strategy](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4460/c6e_twc_llfa_flood_risk_management_strategy)
11. Telford & Wrekin Local Plan Technical Paper B2f – Rural Settlements
http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4379/b2f_rural_settlements_update
12. Telford & Wrekin Local Plan C3f – Telford & Wrekin Strategic Landscapes Study
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4439/c3f t and w strategic landscapes study](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4439/c3f_t_and_w_strategic_landscapes_study)
13. Lilleshall Parish Council Response to EiP Matters and Issues Q3.2
14. Telford and Wrekin Local Plan A4 – HRA Screening Report Submission Version
[http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4364/a4_twlp_hra_screening_report - submission version](http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4364/a4_twlp_hra_screening_report_-_submission_version)
15. Telford & Wrekin Strategy and Options – Shaping Places 2013
http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/1383/strategy_and_options_document

16. Telford &Wrekin Strategy and Options – Sustainability Appraisal 2013
http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/4395/d2b_shaping_places_lp_sustainability_appraisal_strategy_and_options
17. Telford &Wrekin Strategy and Options - Consultation report 2013
http://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/1395/shaping_places_local_plan_strategy_and_options_summary_of_comments_december_2013
18. Shropshire Landscape Typology study 2006
<http://shropshire.gov.uk/media/1059492/EV15-the-shropshire-landscape-typology.pdf>
19. 2011 Census – population and household statistics
20. Telford & Wrekin Ecology officer
21. Telford & Wrekin Highways Department
22. Appeal Decision: Appeal Ref: APP/C3240/W/16/3149398: Land off Muxton Lane, Muxton, Telford, Shropshire TF2 8PG

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET – 13 DECEMBER 2018

EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2018

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: EDUCATION & CORPORATE PARENTING

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR SHIRLEY REYNOLDS

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

The Childcare Act (2006) requires local authorities in England to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents, parents studying or training, and for disabled children. Childcare sufficiency relates to the provision of registered childcare for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs.

Under section 6 of the Act there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area which involves the collection and publication of information on the supply of provision and demand for childcare in their area.

The Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment was conducted in the Summer Term 2018 by Hempsalls, and is based on an analysis of Ofsted registration data, provider audit responses and the parent/carer questionnaire survey. The findings and recommendations in this report are a summary of the Sufficiency Assessment. The Sufficiency Assessment's conclusions are very positive: there is sufficient registered childcare provision to meet the needs of younger children (under 5 years) and to deliver the early years entitlements in the borough of Telford and Wrekin.

- Providers reported having spare capacity (vacancies) in the summer term. This is traditionally the busiest term with places filled ahead of the intake into Reception in September
- A high percentage of parents were using childcare (85%) and most of these reported being satisfied with the childcare used (92%)
- Take-up of the early years entitlements in Telford and Wrekin are high for the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds compared to regional and national averages and broadly in line with national averages for 2 year olds.
- Take-up of 30-hours childcare in the first year of implementation is good and take-up by those with an eligible code is ahead of national and regional averages.

- There have been no recorded complaints from parents unable to access an early years place across all three entitlements indicating that provision is generally available for parents where needed.

There are indications that the offer for older children (aged over 5 years) needs further strengthening:

- Parent/carer survey findings identified unmet demand for out of school provision for school-aged children (5 years old and above)
- There is much less available information about childcare for older children as it is not required to be registered with Ofsted (for children aged 8 years old and over) and is often available in the form of clubs, activities and groups that are run by schools, for pupils attending the school, and for less than 2 hours.

The cost of childcare is the most commonly cited barrier to use.

Factors to take into consideration

- Working parents need flexible childcare, opening earlier in the day and closing later in the evening, as well as spread out across the year. 30-hours childcare is shifting the market for 3 and 4 year olds away from the maintained sector towards the Private and Voluntary sector. The market needs to be supported to adapt to new and emerging demand patterns.
- Demand for older (school-aged) children may increase as parents benefitting from 30-hours childcare become accustomed to having flexible childcare to support them to work.
- There are ambitious new housing plans that will increase the child population and parental demand for childcare.
- The child population is forecast to decrease over the next 3 or 4 years. This may be counter-balanced by the new housing stock but needs to be taken into consideration when looking at sustainability and sufficiency.
- Take-up of the 2 year old early years entitlement in Telford and Wrekin has decreased by 9 percentage points between January 2017 and January 2018. This may reflect the roll-out of Universal credit in the area, but further investigation is required.
- Validation of 30-hours codes decreased in the summer term 2018. This needs to be monitored ahead of the autumn term with further investigation if validation continues to be lower than previously.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Cabinet note the information in the report about the supply and demand in the borough of:

- **Early Years childcare for children aged, 2, 3 and 4**
- **Childcare for school aged children**
- **Holiday care for school aged children**

2.2 That Cabinet approve the recommendations made as a result of the sufficiency assessment and the strategies proposed to address these gaps.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put our children and young people first. Improve local people's prospects through education and training.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Children and young people. Working families. Disadvantaged children.
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	Implementation of the findings in this report will be ongoing and regularly re-evaluated for impact.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes/No	Funding for early years provision is allocated by the Government to Councils based on the actual children in settings at the annual January census. Thus in principle, the Council can encourage parents to take-up the free entitlements for their children without this leading to additional net costs for the Council. T.D
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes/No	<p>Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 places a duty upon a local authority to secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare (whether or not by them) is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in their area who require childcare in order to enable them to take up, or remain in, work, or to undertake education or training which could reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work.</p> <p>A local authority must have regard to the needs of parents for provision in respect of which the child care element of working tax credit is payable; in respect of child care costs</p>

		<p>which may be included in the calculation of universal credit and in respect of provision which is suitable for disabled children.</p> <p>Section 7 of the 2006 Act places a duty upon a local authority to secure such free of charge early years provision for each young child under school age as is prescribed by regulations.</p> <p>The current statutory guidance to which a local authority must have regard was published by the Department for Education in June 2018 and came into force on 1st September 2018.</p> <p>The statutory guidance at paragraph B.2 requires a local authority to report annually to elected council members on how it is meeting its duty to secure sufficient childcare and to make the report available and accessible to parents</p> <p>KF 16.11.2018</p>
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	This work will have borough wide impact on the provision of Early Years and Childcare provision, both on the quality of provision for children and the sufficiency of places for working families.

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Background

1. Quality in the early years

Quality in early years provision in Telford and Wrekin (as judged by Ofsted) has improved over the last 5 years, from 79% of settings judged 'good' or 'outstanding' in 2013 to 98% in 2018. Telford and Wrekin has a higher proportion of early years settings judged good or better than regional and national averages, both 94% and this means that young children in Telford and Wrekin are receiving good early years education and provision which will help them to develop school 'readiness' which is likely to support their success as they make the transition into school.

2. Local Authority sufficiency duties

The duties in the Early Years and Childcare Act (section 6) require local authorities to shape and support the development of childcare in their area in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. This role is described as a market management function, supporting the sector to meet the needs of parents, children and young people and stakeholders.

Section 7 requires local authorities to secure prescribed early years provision free of charge. This provision is for children aged 2, 3 and 4 years of age. In the region of 40% of two year olds nationally are legally entitled to free early years provision, and all three and four year olds.

Section 12 places a duty on local authorities to provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents relating to the provision of childcare, services or facilities that may be of benefit to parents and prospective parents, children and young people.

The Childcare Act (2016) extended the universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement to 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks to an additional 570 hours for qualifying children (Section 1 of the 2016 Act). Section 2 of the 2016 Act allows the Secretary of State to discharge their duty under Section 12 of the Act by placing a duty on English local authorities to secure free childcare for qualifying children.

For more information on the national Early years and Childcare offer and eligibility for parents please see Appendix 1.

It is the duty of the local Authority to report annually to elected council members on how the duty to secure sufficient childcare is being met, and make this report available and accessible to parents.

3. The strategic context for childcare sufficiency

The focus of childcare sufficiency is on supporting working parents/carers and those studying or training to do so, and supports a number of other national and local policy priorities, including:

Social Mobility

The Secretary of State for Education launched 'Unlocking Talent; Fulfilling Potential; A plan for improving social mobility through education' in December 2017. This ambitious plan recognises that opportunity is not equally spread across the country and is based on equal opportunity starting with education.

The Plan outlines four key ambitions:

- Close the word gap in early years
- Close the attainment gap in school while continuing to raise standards for all
- High quality post-16 education chances for all young people
- Everyone achieving their full potential in rewarding careers

Good quality early years education is regarded in the Plan as the corner stone of social mobility.

Supporting economic well-being

Accessible and affordable childcare supports families to work and good quality pre-school experience supports children's cognitive and emotional development, aiding transition between home and school and improving school readiness.

Links to the Troubled Families Programme

The Troubled Families Programme supports families with multiple and complex problems. Troubled families are defined as those that have problems and cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector. For some children living in a troubled family, access to childcare and out of school activities can provide structure and routine, supporting socialisation and school attendance. Childcare can support a parent to attend counselling, training, or to take up employment.

Supporting the children's centre remit

A healthy and engaged childcare market supports children's centres by signposting families to services and identifying where early intervention may be required. This supports children's centres in achieving their objectives to improve outcomes for young children and their families and reduce inequalities between families in greatest need and their peers in:

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

Supporting children to achieve their potential

There is a large body of evidence demonstrating the lasting impact of good quality early years childcare and the savings in future expenditure that can be made by investing in children aged under five years old. A 2012 DfE research report evidenced that early education starting at an early age had a direct impact on the attainment of children, particularly the least advantaged.

4. Summary of the Early Years Sufficiency Assessment report findings and recommendations

Telford and Wrekin is a unitary district with borough status located between the urban areas of Birmingham and the Black Country to the east and the rural areas of Shropshire and Wales to the west. It is a borough of contrasts with parts of the borough amongst the most deprived in England with deprivation rates comparable with inner cities, whilst other areas are amongst the least deprived in England.

The population

The population has increased by just under 4% since the 2011 Census, reaching around 173,000 by 2016 and is forecast to grow by 14% by 2031, with over half the increase in the over 65 year old age group. The population is becoming more diverse, attributable to new migrants with a key driver of change being the younger age structure of BME groups leading to a greater likelihood of them having children (Telford and Wrekin Key Facts December 2017). This is reflected in a greater level of diversity in the child population. As at January 2017, 77.7% of pupils attending a state-funded primary school were White British, and 79.9% of pupils attending state-funded secondary schools were White British, (DfE Schools pupils and their characteristics 2018).

The child population

The child population (0-14 years old) is estimated at 33,132. Overall, population estimates for 2016 show an increase in the child population (0-14 years) between 2011 and 2016 of 3.9%. This growth has been driven by large increases in the 5-9 year old population. Looking ahead, population estimates project a declining 0-4 year old population over the next few years (decreasing by 5.4% between 2016 and 2020), with growth in the older age range child population, consistent with the current cohort of 5-9 year olds ageing.

The proportion of children with Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND) in Telford and Wrekin's schools is increasing and the proportion of children with SEND accessing early education places is higher in Telford and Wrekin than in the West Midlands region and England as a whole.

Recommendation

The Local Authority should support childcare settings to forecast and respond to fluctuations in local demand for childcare based on population change, parental demand and policy drivers (e.g. 30-hours childcare).

4.1 New housing and employment opportunities

There are plans for the delivery of approximately 17,280 dwellings in the borough by 2031 and an associated amount of employment land of at least 76 hectares. New housing development is focused in three distinct areas: Telford (approximately 14,950 new homes up to 2031); Newport (1,330 net new homes) and; rural area (1,000 net new homes).

Recommendation

New housing development and employment opportunities will require the availability of good quality early years and childcare provision. It is recommended that plans for new housing and employment take account of the potential increase in demand and need for childcare, in the same way school place planning takes this into account.

4.2 Economic activity and unemployment

Telford and Wrekin has a slightly lower economic activity rate compared to the national average, and median gross weekly and hourly pay for employees living in Telford and Wrekin is lower than across the West Midlands and nationally.

In the year January – December 2016, 7,300 households in Telford and Wrekin were Workless – 13.7% of total. This compares to 16.4% in the West Midlands and 15.1% in Great Britain (source: NOMIS).

Recommendation

Telford and Wrekin is a borough of contrast with areas of deprivation and affluence. Whilst employment levels are relatively high across the borough there may be pockets where unemployment is higher. The local authority should work with Jobcentre Plus to explore where a lack of accessible and affordable childcare may be a barrier to employment and to ensure potential employees are aware of the various support available to meet the costs of childcare.

4.3 The childcare market

There are a total of 191 registered childcare settings in Telford and Wrekin who are collectively registered by OFSTED to offer a maximum of 4,592 places.

In the region of 80% of all registered places are for children aged 0-4 years old and the majority of these are in day nurseries and pre-schools (estimated at

89%). This does not include funded early years places available in maintained school nurseries or nursery classes

For school-aged children (aged 5 years and older) there are an estimated 876 Ofsted registered places. Out of school provision may also be available after school (in the form of clubs, activities and groups) that are run by the school, for pupils attending the school. This type of activity is not required to be registered as childcare and cannot be reliably included as provision which meets the sufficiency duty because of the limited hours provided and the potential for this provision to be cancelled at short notice.

4.4 Funded early years places

Of the 191 registered childcare settings in Telford and Wrekin, 145 (76%) offer early years entitlement funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds, collectively registered for 4,016 places the vast majority of which (97%) are places for 0-4 year olds.

Around a fifth of children taking up the 2 year old early learning entitlement and 42% of 3 and 4 year olds taking up the universal entitlement (as at January 2018, source: DfE Statistical First Release) are in a maintained nursery or nursery class.

There are 29 maintained settings offering around 1,700 places, the vast majority being for funded 3 and 4 year old children.

4.5 Take-up of the early years entitlements

Nationally, there has been a slight increase of 1% in the number of 2 year olds accessing the free entitlement between 2017 and 2018. In Telford and Wrekin there was a decrease of 9% from 79% of eligible children being funded January 2017 to 70% January 2018 (note: the percentage take-up for eligible 2 year olds excludes Universal Credit claimants and will therefore over-estimate percentage take-up by eligible families). The reduction in take-up may reflect families in Telford and Wrekin moving onto Universal Credit, which has a lower threshold, and therefore not appearing on eligibility lists issued by Department of Work and Pensions.

Recommendation

Telford and Wrekin should continue to monitor take-up of the 2 year old early learning entitlement, and work with partners (including Jobcentre Plus, Health Visitors and Children's Centres) to actively target eligible parents and support them to access their entitlement.

The percentage of children taking up 3 and 4 year old universal funding in Telford and Wrekin is 98% which is above the national figure of 94%.

The Private and Voluntary sector (PVI) in Telford and Wrekin accounts for a relatively low proportion of children in receipt of early years funding, in particular

for 3 and 4 years olds accessing the universal entitlement, who are in school settings.

4.6 30-hours childcare

30-hours childcare is an extended early years entitlement which includes the 15 hours universal early years entitlement and an additional 15 hours (per week up to a maximum of 38 weeks, or 570 hours stretched across more weeks of the year). Eligibility for 30-hours childcare is based on both parents working in a couple household, and a single parent working in a lone-parent household, with minimum and maximum income thresholds applied.

Estimating demand for 30-hours, and therefore sufficiency needs, is a challenge. Many families in the first year will have converted from paying a fee for a place, to receiving funding. As new parents not currently buying additional hours become eligible, demand may change. Early indications (based on the first year of delivery) are that providers in Telford and Wrekin have responded well to the challenge, with 85% of settings overall delivering (or offering) 30-hours childcare to eligible children.

30-hours Childcare in Telford and Wrekin

Eligible parents are given a code which their chosen childcare provider validates before a place is taken up. The rate of validation of these codes is a factor used to measure the extent to which local childcare markets have adapted to the new entitlement. A high percentage of issued codes that have not been validated could indicate a sufficiency issue.

In Telford and Wrekin, 850 eligibility codes were issued for the first term (autumn 2017), of which 92% were validated. A total of 839 children were in a place in Telford and Wrekin in the autumn term 2018, more than the 785 codes that were validated for children living in the borough. This indicates children living outside of Telford and Wrekin were accessing their 30-hours entitlement in settings located in the borough in the first term.

There was a decrease in the summer term 2018 in Telford and Wrekin with only 84% of children in a place as a percentage of issued codes compared to a national average of 90%.

Recommendation

The proportion of codes validated should be monitored termly as a potential indicator of either insufficient places or places at times that do not meet parental need.

It is anticipated that there will be a shift in patterns of take-up as working parents may seek to access their 3 and 4 year old 30-hours entitlement in settings that are more flexible, opening earlier, closing later and delivering across the year not just in term-time. There has been a 2% shift nationally from the maintained sector to the PVI sector between 2016 and 2018 in terms of parents accessing

their universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement. This may increase, unless schools are in a position to offer greater flexibility and solutions to meeting childcare demand beyond the school day and throughout the year. As new cohorts of working families become eligible for 30-hours childcare, there may be an increase in demand for a more flexible and stretched provision.

Recommendation

Telford and Wrekin Early Years team should work with schools to explore opportunities for more flexible delivery of the early years entitlements, especially for 3 and 4 year olds. This could include partnership or cluster delivery to provide greater flexibility for working parents.

4.7 The availability of childcare

The majority of early years and childcare provision opens between 7.30am and 9am. Provision early in the morning (before 7.30am) is offered mainly by childminders. Over half of settings (53%) close between 5pm and 6pm with 19% closing after 6pm. There is very little childcare available after 7pm. Based on provider audit responses, a third of all settings are open term-time only (38 weeks a year); this may result in a lack of flexibility for working parents who may need childcare throughout the year.

4.8 Use of childcare

85% of respondents to the parent and carer survey were currently using, or had used childcare in the past 12 months. Use of childcare was highest amongst the 3-4 year old age range, reflecting the universal early years entitlement and the extended entitlement to 30-hours childcare for this age range.

For school-aged children, (and in particular for children aged 5-10 years old) there is an identified need to further expand after school provision and out of school provision (including breakfast and holiday provision).

Parents using 30-hours childcare will become accustomed to having, flexible childcare to support them to work. This may increase demand for out of school provision for school-aged children (including before school, after school available until the evening, and holiday provision).

Recommendation

In anticipation of a potential increase in demand for childcare for school-aged children, Telford and Wrekin should work with settings in the maintained and PVI sectors (including childminders) to explore options for establishing sustainable and accessible provision.

The cost of childcare is the most commonly cited barrier to accessing additional childcare. There are a number of Government initiatives to support parents to meet the cost of childcare, including 30-hours childcare and Tax Free Childcare.

Recommendation

Ensure childcare settings and agencies working with parents (e.g. Jobcentre Plus, health visiting) are aware of the support available to parents to support them to meet the costs of childcare and signpost parents to the Childcare Choices website and childcare costs calculator. Support childcare providers not yet signed up to deliver Tax Free Childcare to do so, in order that parents using their services can benefit from the financial support available.

4.9 Satisfaction with childcare

Parents and carers responding to the survey were generally satisfied with their current childcare arrangements and the quality of their childcare.

A small number of survey responses suggest that some parents would like a wider variety of childcare choices in their local area. Findings support a need for more flexibility in delivery models with 21% of parents reporting childcare is not available at the times or on the days required and 15% for the weeks required. There was also evidence that there may be demand for childcare at weekends and/or to cover shift patterns.

Recommendation

Telford and Wrekin should support childcare settings to explore options for reconfiguring their offer to parents to meet unmet demand for childcare including earlier starts and later finishes, weekend childcare, flexible delivery and childcare available outside of term times.

4 Next steps

In response to the Sufficiency Assessment and in order to improve the Early Years and Childcare offer in the borough still further, we have identified the following steps to be taken by the Early Years and Childcare Team, working with Early Years and Childcare providers and a range of other partners:

- Findings from the sufficiency survey will be shared at a local level to enable settings and providers to work together to find sufficiency solutions for working parents and meet the demands of the market. Settings will be signposted to business planning and support tools and guidance where relevant to support them to develop their offer.
- The team will continue to support the newly established locality partnership hubs to develop collaboratively a flexible child care offer for parents, extending the day, or stretching delivery across more weeks of the year.
- In order to meet the demand from new housing developments planned in the borough, opportunities will be sought, where appropriate, to

negotiate S106 funding to support capacity development for school places and early years and childcare.(S106 funding is contributions from developers towards the costs of providing community and social infrastructure which are required as a result of new development taking place).

- The team will continue to work with Children's Centres and Jobcentre Plus to explore where a lack of accessible and affordable childcare may be a barrier to employment and to ensure potential employees are aware of the various support available to meet demand.
- The team will continue to monitor take-up of the 2 year old early learning entitlement, and work with Jobcentre Plus, Health Visitors and Children's Centres, to actively target eligible parents and support them to access their entitlement. They will identify all eligible families who do not access their entitlement currently, identify the reasons for this and support them to access provision where appropriate.
- The team will continue to monitor the rate of validation of codes for the 30 hour offer and where take-up of children with a valid code drops (as in the case of summer 2018), make additional checks to review any increase in brokerage requests or complaints from eligible parents around not being able to find a suitable place.
- The team will continue to work with schools to find creative ways to offer more flexible childcare for parents, either through partnership working through locality hubs, or by extending their own provision.
- Where new school provision or school expansion is planned, Early Years and Childcare provision will always be considered in order to provide a cohesive offer for families close to their home address.
- The team will continue to work with settings in the maintained and PVI sectors (including childminders) to explore options for establishing sustainable and accessible out of school and holiday club provision.
- Work with Family Connect will continue, to maintain and promote details of all childcare provision, including services for school-aged children not required to be registered with Ofsted on the website. This will support parents to locate and access provision for children aged 0-14 years (and up to 18 years for children with SEND).
- The team will continue to work with Jobcentre Plus and Health Visitors to ensure that parents have accurate and up to date information about the support available to them to help them meet the costs of childcare, including signpost parents to the Childcare Choices website and childcare costs calculator.
- Copies of the full report will be made available on the Local Authority Early Years website.

5. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Telford and Wrekin Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
2018

**Report prepared by Liz Smith, SDM School Performances and Delivery,
Telephone: 01952 380895**

2 Year Old Funding

Parents or carers of two year olds who meet the [criteria](#) can apply for a free early learning place to fund childcare sessions for 15 hours per week flexibly, 38 weeks of the year from the term after their 2nd birthday.

3 & 4 Year old Universal Funding

All 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to a 15 hour early education place, the term after their 3rd birthday this entitlement consists of 570 hours per year which can be used in a variety of ways, the childcare provider of your choice will inform you of their offer.

3 & 4 Year Old Extended Funding

Working parents/carers will be entitled to a further 15 hours of childcare in addition to their universal offer if they meet the criteria, this entitlement consists of a further 570 hours per years increasing the offer to 1140 hours which can also be used in a variety of ways where childcare providers have space to do so.

Eligibility:

- Both parent/carers are working (or sole parent in a lone parent family) and each parent earns on average: a weekly minimum wage the equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) or national living wage (NLW) and less than £100,00 per year each.
- Both parents are employed but one or both is temporarily away from the workplaces on parental, maternity, paternity, adoption leave or statutory sick pay
- One parent is employed and the other parent has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits received for caring.
- One parent is employed and one parent is disabled/incapacitated based on specific benefits
- Foster parents who are in paid work outside their role as a foster parent

You do not need to actually work 16 hours per week but your earnings must meeting the minimum equivalent of national minimum or living wage.

Tax Free Childcare

Tax free childcare is a new government scheme to help working parents with the cost of childcare.

Parents will be able to open an online account, which they can use to pay for childcare from a registered provider.

For every £8 a parent pays in, the government will pay in an extra £2. Parents can receive up to £2,000 per child, per year, towards their childcare costs, or £4,000 for disabled children.

The scheme will be available for children up to the age of 11, or under 17 for children with disabilities.

To qualify, parents will have to be in work, and each expecting to earn at least £120 a week. Each parent must not have income over £100,000 per year