

Date: Wednesday 24 January 2024 at 9.00 am

Venue: Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, Church Road, Stockton on Tees, TS18 1TU

Cllr Steve Nelson
Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE

Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy

AGENDA

- 1 Evacuation Procedure** (Pages 7 - 8)
- 2 Apologies for Absence**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Minutes**
To approve the minutes for the last meeting held on 22nd November 2023 (Pages 9 - 14)
- 5 New Cleveland Fire Brigade Arson Reduction Strategy** (Pages 15 - 30)
- 6 Op Harmony Update**
- 7 Recorded Crime & Disorder Report** (Pages 31 - 36)
- 8 VCAS Launch**
- 9 Any Other Business**
- 10 RESTRICTED - iQuanta Report** (Pages 37 - 42)
- 11 Date & Time of Next Meeting**
9am Wednesday 20th March 2024, Jim Cooke Conference Room 1, Municipal Buildings.

Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: Democratic Services Support Officer - John Devine on email john.devine@stockton.gov.uk

KEY - Declarable interests are:-

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance



Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Subject	Description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land and property	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
 - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
 - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
 - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

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Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library **Evacuation Procedure & Housekeeping**

If the fire or bomb alarm should sound please exit by the nearest emergency exit. The Fire alarm is a continuous ring and the Bomb alarm is the same as the fire alarm however it is an intermittent ring.

If the Fire Alarm rings exit through the nearest available emergency exit and form up in Municipal Buildings Car Park.

The assembly point for everyone if the Bomb alarm is sounded is the car park at the rear of Splash on Church Road.

The emergency exits are located via the doors between the 2 projector screens. The key coded emergency exit door will automatically disengage when the alarm sounds.

The Toilets are located on the Ground floor corridor of Municipal Buildings next to the emergency exit. Both the ladies and gents toilets are located on the right hand side.

Microphones

During the meeting, members of the Committee, and officers in attendance, will have access to a microphone. Please use the microphones, when directed to speak by the Chair, to ensure you are heard by the Committee.

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SAFER STOCKTON PARTNERSHIP

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Wednesday 22 November 2023.

Present: Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE (Chair), Superintendent John Wrintmore (Vice), Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Ann McCoy, Marc Stephenson (SBC – Community Services), Gary Knight (SBC – Housing), Jon Carling (Catalyst), Dawn Tryeman (SBC – Community Protection), Richard Brown (Cleveland Fire Brigade), Mandie Rowlands (SBC – Children Services), Sharon Cooney (SBC – Community Services), Tanja Braun (SBC – Adults, Health & Wellbeing).

Officers: John Devine.

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Angela Corner (Thirteen), Alex Sinclair (NHS), David Willingham (AD Children Services)

SSP/16/23 Evacuation Procedure

The Evacuation Procedure was noted by members.

SSP/17/23 Introductions/ Apologies

Introductions and apologies for absence were given.

SSP/18/23 Minutes

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held 20th September 2023. Agreed that the minutes be approved.

SSP/19/23 Bonfire Season Update

The Partnership heard from Officers about the initial outcomes following the Bonfire Season. The sustained campaign that all partners ran through out the lead up to Bonfire night and weekend was noted, the campaign was considered successful in comparison to pre covid incident levels. Officers were keen to highlight a number of areas in which partners worked well together.

- Officers who organised and delivered Social Media campaigns alongside leaflet drops to educate the public on the issues.
- The use of drones to identify hoarding of materials and then enabling the safe disposal of those materials.
- Joint visits with partner organisations to business and private dwellings in the weeks prior to Bonfire night.
- The usual high issue areas where the same as pervious years but the number of incidents that were reported were noticeably reduced.
- No reported violence against Fire Brigade personnel.

The Partnership were pleased by the update from Officers and expressed an interest for Officers to return with a follow up report showing the data for number of incidents

Members NOTED the Update.

SSP/20/23 New Cleveland Fire Brigade Arson Reduction Strategy

Officers apologised to members as the presentation hadn't been included in the agenda due to an email issue. But officers would share the presentation with Members outside of the meeting and agreed to add the item to an agenda for a later date.

Members Noted the Update

SSP/21/23 Selective Licensing Proposal

The Partnership were presented with details of the Selective Licensing Proposal, Officers began by highlighting the requirements for introducing a Selective Licensing Scheme which are as follows:

- Low housing demand
- Significant problems with anti-social behaviour
- Higher than average crime rates
- High levels of deprivation
- Poor housing conditions

Members of the Partnership were also informed that three areas in the borough which were outlined in the proposal would be Central Stockton, North Thornaby & Newton. Under the scheme Owner/Managers of properties would be required to be licenced for each residential property they let. Each licence would be valid for five years with a proposed fee of £653 per property with a proposed £50 discount for members of the following:

- SBC Landlords Accreditation Scheme
- Private Landlords Supporting Stockton (PLuSS)
- National Landlord Associations

Before the Selective Licensing scheme would be implemented the Council would undertake consultation with those residents, businesses, landlords, managing agents and other stakeholders that would be affected by the scheme.

Members discussed the impact on renters in the proposed areas due to the scheme sign up cost possibly being passed onto them. Officers acknowledged that they would be unable to stop Landlords passing the cost onto renters but advised that when other Authorities had been consulted that it had not happened. Officers would report back to members with further details on the questioned that had been raised at the next meeting.

Best practices and lessons learned would be incorporated through studying other Authorities with Selective Licensing Schemes already in place.

Members AGREED to note the report.

SSP/22/23 Prevention and Intervention

The Police presented to members a report which outlined the strategic response to tackling youth crime.

Officers highlighted the points raised in the report which were, had Police and partners focused on the right areas and the right agencies. Were the measures undertaken working and if there was room for improvement. That evidence shows that early intervention with vulnerable children reduces the risk of offending, and that the total cost of children reoffending was around £1.5 Billion per year.

Following the report members discussed:

If the actions outlined in the report were local or national actions, Officers explained that the actions would be local rather than national. The report had originated with Offices present at the meeting and they expressed their commitment to maximise the impact of those actions.

Members then asked if any central Government funding had been acquired, which Officers told members that no funding had been secured at the time of the meeting. But discretionary funds could become available.

Officers warned against the possible criminalisation of children and noted that work had been undertaken by Children Services which supported that. Childrens Services would link in with Police after the meeting to coordinate on that issue.

Members AGREED to note the report.

SSP/23/23 Any other Business

The Chair asked members if they had any further business and updates, they wished to share at the meeting.

There were not additional updates for the partnership.

SSP/23/23a Operation Harmony Update

Surveys had been issued to local residents for them to highlight the issues which they face locally. The surveys had also been available online to allow greater ease of access. Officers had attended various Resident meetings to ensue a complete consultation would take place. The issues raised were noted by Officers.

Members AGREED to note the update.

SSP/23/23b Safer Streets 5 Update

Officers had already touched on some of the work they had undertaken in the previous item. They further updated members of work which had been undertaken at North Shore Academy to help prevent pupils being caught up on grooming and pressures to become involved in criminal activity.

Members AGREED to note the update.

SSP/23/23c DHR Oversight Pilot

Officers presented a report outlining two proposals for Domestic Homicide Review Oversight. Members then discussed the following:

That Stockton Council had historically a low volume of cases which would limit any beneficial impact the authority would have reporting to the PCC (Police & Crime Commissioner).

How the low volume of cases could be because of the criteria which needed to be met for a case to be raised. Members then discussed altering the referral process in the future.

Members also noted the need for more joint working with other boards going forward in possible cases to ensure that no work is being duplicated, and that referrals were happening correctly.

Officers would bring back to members a follow report on those areas identified in discussion.

Members AGREED to noted the report.

SSP/24/23 Restricted - iQuanta Report

Members were presented with a restricted report that provided an overview on crime comparisons against other similar CSPs utilising iQuanta.

This report was a restricted document due to the statistical information only made available as an intelligence tool for partnerships until released by the Home Office.

AGREED that the report be noted.

SSP/25/23 Recorded Crime and Disorder Report

Members read the report and heard from Officers who highlighted some of the most pertinent sections of the report.

From October to November 2023 some reported levels of crimes had fallen, with Robbery and Public Order Offences being highlighted. Officers did acknowledge that some offenses had increased over the same period, they were hopeful to continue the positive downward trend displayed in other offences.

Members discussed the following:

That Officers had continued to attend local surgeries engaging with the public and to help show increased levels of policing.

Reported cases of shoplifting down from previous levels, Members enquired if the cases had been displaced to other areas. But the Police were not aware of any evidence of transferred crime due to the decrease.

The number of reported sexual offences was noted as being down but Officers reflected this could be due to under reporting. Police were aware that cases of sexual assault had historically been under reported, work would continue to improve the outcomes of cases to encourage victims to come forward.

Members AGREED to note the report.

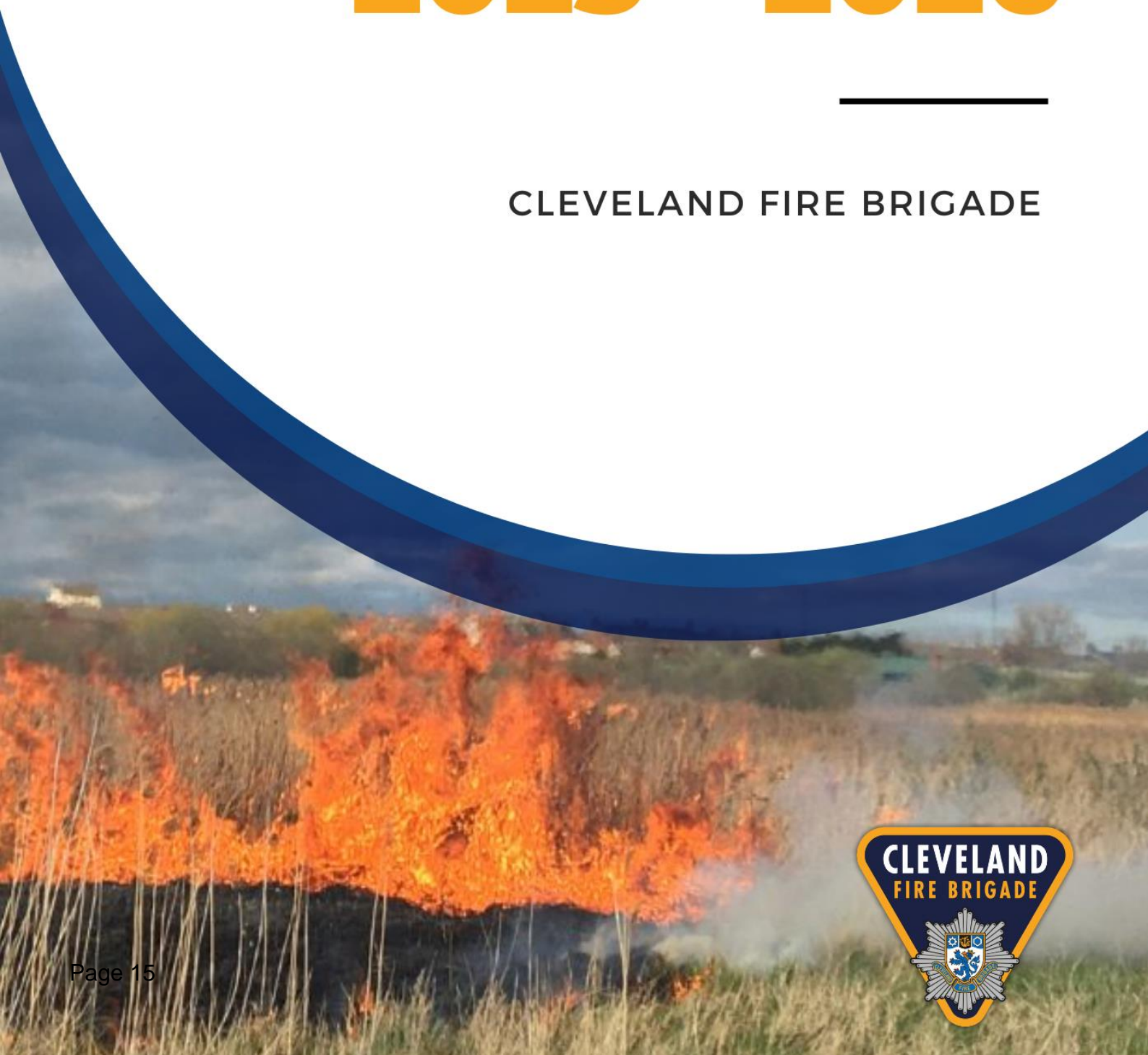
SSP/26/23 Date & time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Safer Stockton Partnership would be Wednesday 24/01/2024, which would start at 9am.

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**ARSON & DELIBERATE
FIRE REDUCTION STRATEGY**
2023 - 2026

CLEVELAND FIRE BRIGADE



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Introduction

Arson and deliberate fire setting is a chronic, and at times acute, problem in Cleveland, with our rate of deliberate fires per 100,000 population being significantly higher than the national level. Whilst great inroads have been made to reduce these numbers through previous arson reduction strategies, the level of deliberate fire setting throughout our communities remains unacceptable.

The majority of fire related incidents that we attend are small outdoor fires that involve refuse or grassland that cause a blight on our neighbourhoods and are of financial detriment to the local economy. Deliberate fires divert our resources away from other key activities, and we believe the time is now right to refocus our efforts to reduce the prevalence of arson and deliberate fire setting throughout our communities.

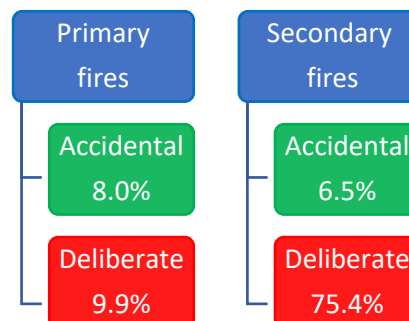
Background

Primary fires are potentially more serious fires that harm people or cause damage to property and include any fire that occurred in a (non-derelict) building, vehicle or outdoor structures.

Secondary fires are generally small outdoor fires, not involving people or property, and include refuse fires, grassland fires and fires in derelict buildings or vehicles.

Both primary and secondary fires can be either accidental or deliberate in their

cause. The average composition of the primary, secondary, accidental and deliberate fires attended over the last five years is illustrated below:



Context

Arson is categorised within the Criminal Damage Act 1971 (section 1)¹ as an act of attempting to destroy or damage property, and/or in doing so, endangering life, and only offences that meet the definition should accurately be termed as arson.

Deliberate fires² are those fires where the motive was 'thought to be' or 'suspected to be' deliberate. These include fires to an individual's own property, others' property or property of an unknown owner but not necessarily with the intention to deliberately damage or destroy property or endanger life.

Although deliberate fire records include arson, deliberate fires are not the same as arson.

¹ [Criminal Damage Act 1971](#) .

² [Deliberate fires](#)

Strategic drivers

There are a range of factors that influence the direction of the Cleveland Fire Brigade arson and deliberate fire reduction strategy, including:

[The Cleveland Fire Brigade Corporate Plan 2022 - 26³](#)

The Cleveland Fire Brigade Corporate Plan 2022 - 26 sets out the vision of Cleveland Fire Authority for 2030 and the strategic direction until 2026 and it directs a suite of strategic documents, including the Community Risk Management Plan 2022 – 2026, which describes how the Brigade will manage the risks to local communities.

[Community Risk Management Plan 2022 - 2026⁴](#)

The Community Risk Management Plan 2022 - 2026 sets out the Brigade's risk management priorities and improvement proposals, including the tackling of arson and deliberate fires.

[Social and Economic Value⁵](#)

Increasing budgetary pressures, the impacts of a growing and ageing population plus the general cost of living expenses all influence the need to support the development of our communities, and create safer homes, buildings and neighbourhoods for people to live, work and prosper.

[The Serious Violence Duty⁶](#)

The Serious Violence Duty was legislated for as part of the Police, Crime,

Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 and is focussed on the reduction of serious violence, which may involve threats to life from the criminal use of fire. Fire and rescue services are often able to identify the early stages of anti-social behaviour associated with deliberate fire setting and our trusted position within partnerships and communities can help to find a solution to the core problems caused by anti-social behaviour.

[The Fire and Rescue Services National Framework for England⁷](#)

The Fire and Rescue Services National Framework describes that fire and rescue services are expected to promote fire prevention and work closely with other partner organisations to target prevention resources on those most likely to engage in arson or deliberate fire setting. Collaboration with local and national partners will also increase the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. Furthermore, fire and rescue services should evaluate their prevention interventions and share details of activities that are proven to be effective.

[The National Fire Chiefs Council Arson and Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy 2023/26](#)

The NFCC Arson and Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy 2023/26 provides guidance to fire and rescue services on the strategic priorities to influence the reduction of deliberate fire setting throughout communities.

³ <https://www.clevelandfire.gov.uk/crmp/>

⁴ <https://www.clevelandfire.gov.uk/crmp/>

⁵ [Economic and Social Value of the UK FRS](#)

⁶ [Serious Violence Duty](#)

⁷ [The Fire and Rescue Services National Framework for England](#)

Our existing position

Number of deliberate fires

Despite a longer-term decline in the frequency of deliberate primary and secondary fires throughout the United Kingdom, over the last decade some fire and rescue services, including Cleveland Fire Brigade, have observed a general levelling off, followed by an increase in the prevalence of deliberate fire setting.

Home Office data shows that the number of deliberate primary and secondary fires

over the previous five-year reporting period is in contrast to the national direction of travel. While the total number of deliberate primary fires has decreased by around 29.9% and deliberate secondary fires by around 8.5%, throughout the Cleveland Fire Brigade area, deliberate primary fires have increased by almost 15.7% and deliberate secondary fires have increased by over 58.0%, as illustrated below:

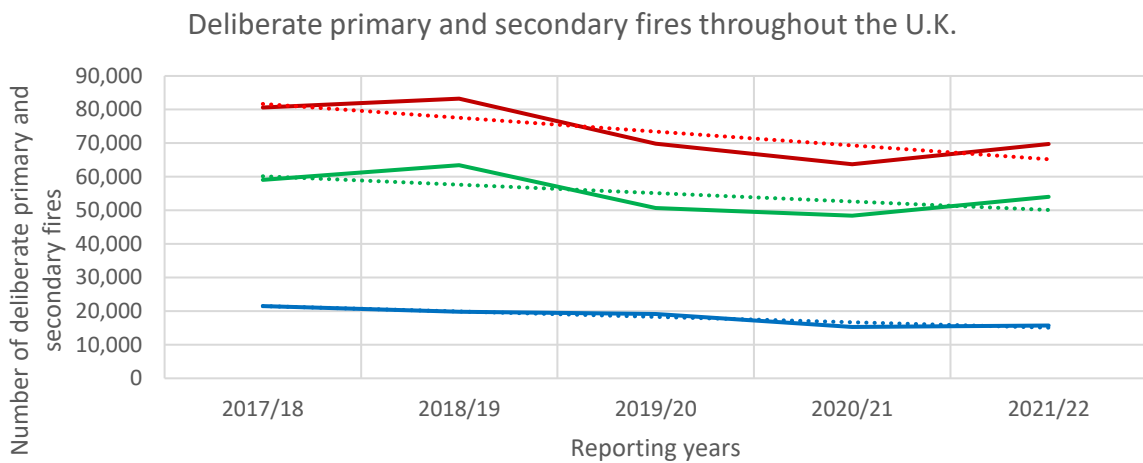


Figure 1 Deliberate primary and secondary fires throughout the U.K. from 2017/18 to 2021/22

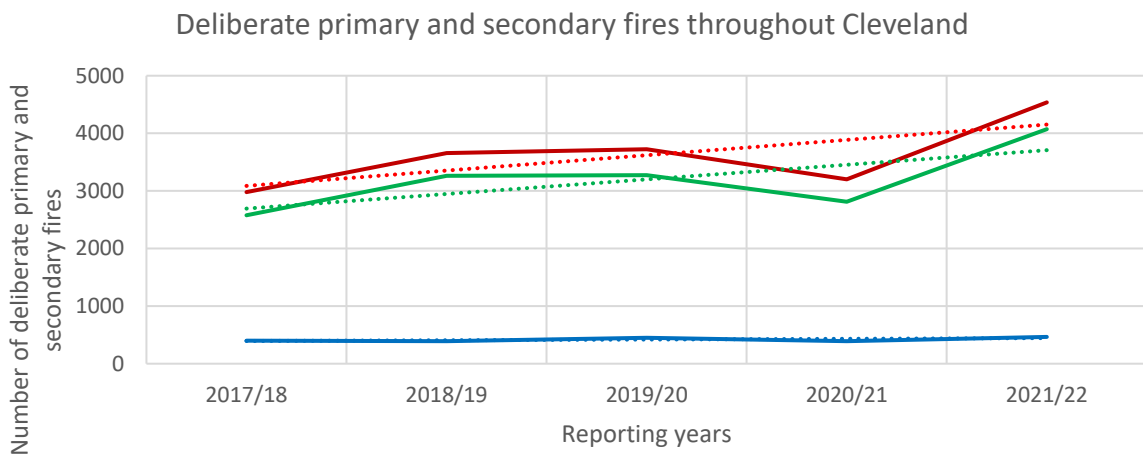


Figure 2 Deliberate primary and secondary fires throughout Cleveland from 2017 /18 to 2021/22

Distribution of deliberate fires

Over the last five years, the proportion of deliberate fires throughout the Brigade

area has generally remained consistent, with their distribution illustrated below:

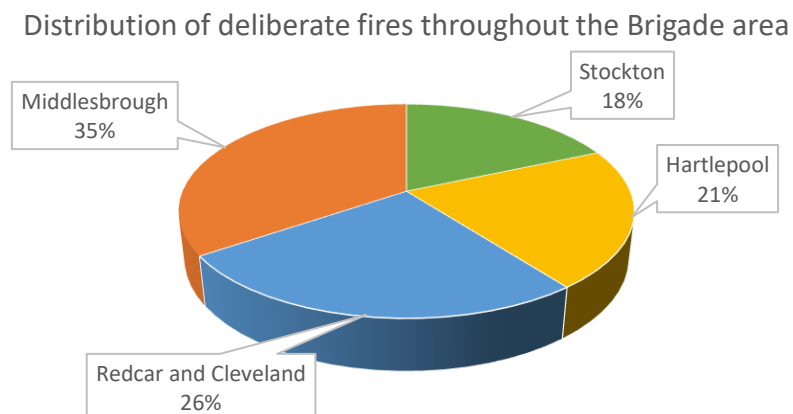


Figure 3 Distribution of deliberate fires throughout the Brigade area.

Types of deliberate fires

Deliberate fires throughout the Brigade area comprise of both primary and secondary fires, however they are predominantly attributed to refuse,

grassland and scrubland. The proportion of the types of deliberate fires over the previous five years is shown below:

Composition of deliberate fires	Proportion
Refuse	49.4%
Grassland and scrubland	15.7%
Vehicles	5.2%
Wheelie bin	6.8%
Hedge	3.4%
Litter Bin	3.3%
Single tree	2.4%
House	1.8%
Commercial refuse container (skips)	1.4%
Fence	1.1%

Table 1 Types of deliberate fires throughout the Brigade area

Rate of deliberate secondary fires

The population of each local authority area is used to determine the rate of deliberate secondary fires, as shown below:

Local authority area	Population of local authority area ⁸
Middlesbrough	143,734
Redcar & Cleveland	136,616
Stockton	197,030
Hartlepool	92,571
Total Brigade area	569,951

Table 2 Cleveland Fire Brigade local authority population estimates (December 2022)

The rate of deliberate fires per 10,000 population for each local authority throughout the Brigade area is illustrated below:

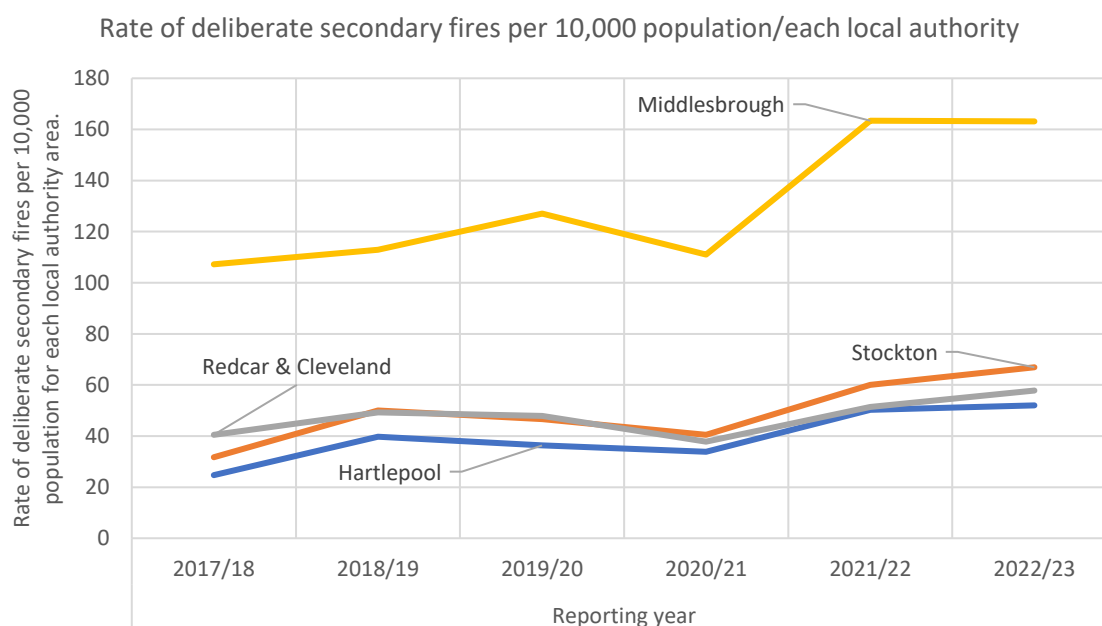


Figure 4 Rate of deliberate secondary fires per 10,000 population for each local authority area.

⁸ [Estimates of the population for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland \(December 2022\)](#)

Where do we want to be?

Our Strategic Goal is to create Safer and Stronger Communities.

We want to achieve Safer Neighbourhoods and improve the Environment by reducing the risks throughout our communities from arson and deliberate fire setting.

We aim to achieve this success through the delivery of four strategic priorities, described below.



Strategic priorities

Partnerships to protect communities

Effective partnerships are needed to achieve a sustained reduction to the risk of arson and deliberate fire setting throughout the communities of Cleveland. Community Safety Partnerships established in each local authority area provide the opportunity to work with responsible authorities such as Cleveland Police, local authorities, health education and probation services to develop arson and deliberate fire reduction targeted interventions. By working with partners, businesses, community groups and volunteers, our communities can be protected by reducing the capabilities, opportunities, and motivations for people to engage in arson and deliberate fire setting.

Partnership activities to help protect communities include:

- Work with Cleveland Police to jointly investigate deliberate fires and support the prosecution of arsonists;
- Work with each local authority to manage the risk to both communities and operational crews from void, insecure and derelict buildings that have the potential to attract fly tipping, property damage or vandalism;
- Work with school governors, headteachers and school premises managers in reducing the risk of deliberate fire setting in schools

and other educational establishments;

- Engage with landowners and agricultural communities to support a reduction in the prevalence of arson and deliberate fires throughout rural communities which may also lead to wildfires;
- Fly tipping is the illegal dumping of waste instead of using authorised methods to avoid paying a disposal fee, and it may often become the fuel for deliberate fires.

Partnerships with local authorities and the promotion of fly tipping reporting lines can reduce the availability of waste material used as fuel for deliberate fires⁹. Effective partnerships with the Environmental Agency can also assist in the in the removal of waste from private land;

- Arson is a common cause of fire in retail premises. Engagement with the business sector to provide support on how to decrease unplanned and opportunist attacks can reduce the prevalence of deliberate fires;
- Partnerships with the housing sector and resident/community groups can also assist in target hardening localities susceptible to anti-social behaviour which may lead to deliberate fire setting.

⁹ The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) publish [fly tipping statistics](#) reported by local authorities.

Early intervention

People may show an interest and become involved in deliberate fire setting for a range of different reasons. These may include children or young people playing with sources of ignition to it being used by people with criminal intent to deliberately damage property or cause harm to others.

Determining the capabilities, opportunities and motivations of people who engage in deliberate fire setting enables appropriate interventions, such as education and early intervention programmes to be applied which can influence a positive behavioural change.

The delivery of education and early intervention programmes to achieving long term behaviour change can help reduce the prevalence of arson and deliberate fire setting. Recognised behavioural change frameworks¹⁰ can also

help to achieve positive changes in the behaviours of individuals or communities.

The activities that support education and early intervention programmes include:

- Engagement with partners such as schools and youth groups to identify at the earliest opportunity children and young people who may participate in deliberate fire setting;
- [StayWise](#) resources can assist in delivering essential safety messages. [StayWise](#) facilitates a more effective and consistent way of imparting knowledge and life skills to support the creation of a safety conscious environment;
- The provision of development opportunities for children and young people¹¹ which can improve their life skills and provide diversionary activities away from deliberate fire setting and anti-social behaviour.

¹⁰ An example of a behavioural change framework is [Achieving behaviour change: A guide for local government and partners](#), which provides a structured approach to achieving behaviour change, and is based on a framework known as the Behaviour Change Wheel (BCW). The BCW can be used to help develop behaviour change interventions from scratch, build on or modify

existing interventions, and choose from existing or planned interventions.

¹¹ The [NFCC Early Intervention Implementation Framework](#) provides fire and rescue services with clear guidance and a suite of practical tools for strategic direction, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to deliver effective Early Intervention Programmes.

Communication and engagement

The effective communication of our deliberate fire reduction strategy, activities and their outcomes is essential to ensure that all our stakeholders are aware of the economic and social cost of deliberate fires throughout our communities and the activities that we deliver to reduce its impact.

A communication plan will provide the opportunity to deliver clear, consistent and targeted key messages that can heighten awareness of the risks and costs from deliberate fire setting, deter arson and deliberate fire setting behaviours and influence a cultural shift to perceive deliberate fire setting as being socially unacceptable.

The activities that support effective communication include:

- Identifying relevant stakeholders and analysing their degree of influence and contribution

towards the successful delivery of arson and deliberate fire reduction activities;

- Delivery of an effective communication plan which conveys consistent messages with target audiences that support local and national campaigns to prevent arson and deliberate fire setting behaviours;
- Engaging with communities can both increase public participation and involve communities in the decision making around the activities that can reduce arson and deliberate fire setting in their localities. Improved community engagement can also help to build long term effective relationships between fire and rescue services and communities, building trust, ownership and achieving a cultural shift where arson and deliberate fire setting are seen as socially unacceptable.

Evaluation

The Fire and Rescue Service National Framework describes that prevention activities should be assessed to determine their expected outcomes, which activities would achieve these outcomes and how the outcomes should be evaluated. The evaluation of arson and deliberate fire reduction related activities is essential to understand their impact, the processes of how they are delivered and their economic cost. Evaluation can help inform decisions about why an activity is effective or ineffective, and whether it is an appropriate use of resources. It can also help to highlight future improvement needs and determine whether an activity is worth delivering again, and whether it may be transferrable to a different location.

Through the evaluation of arson and deliberate fire reduction activities, the knowledge gained can be shared with

other fire and rescue services to promote the interventions that deliver the greatest reduction in the economic and social value of deliberate fire setting.

The activities that support evaluation include:

- The proportionate evaluation of arson and deliberate fire reduction activities to determine their cost, impact and return on investment;
- Sharing the outcomes of the evaluation of deliberate fire reduction activities throughout the fire sector;
- Assessing and initiatives and learning from other services throughout the fire sector that have provided information and case studies into the NFCC good practice portal;
- Ensuring the accuracy and consistency of recording the cause of fires will influence the quality of evaluation outcomes.

Monitoring and review

The effective monitoring of progress is essential to gauge the impact of arson and deliberate fire reduction activities.

Leading indicators are predictive measures that lead to the performance of lagging indicators. Lagging indicators are historical in nature and focus on the results at the end of events.

A blend of leading and lagging indicators will provide a holistic overview of the resource allocation, cost, benefit and outcomes of arson and deliberate fire reduction activities.

Examples of performance indicators to support the delivery of strategic priorities include:

Partnerships

- The number of void, insecure or derelict buildings and the corresponding number of deliberate fires and incidents of anti-social behaviour;
- The number of deliberate fire incidents affecting educational establishments;
- The number of deliberate fires in rural locations;
- The number of incidents of fly tipping reported to local authorities and the number of deliberate fires involving refuse;
- The number of deliberate fires in non-domestic buildings;
- The number of fire investigations completed and their

corresponding percentage of positive outcomes such as arrests, cautions or other charges.

Education and Early Intervention Programmes

- The number of school education sessions focussed on arson and deliberate fire setting;
- The number of referrals made to engage with children and young people and implementation of suitable early interventions;
- The number of adult referrals made to fire and rescue services relating to deliberate firesetting behaviours;

Communication with communities

- Engagement from communities with arson and deliberate fire related communications, such as social media interactions or their response to targeted campaigns;
- The number of deliberate fire related communications targeted towards communities identified as being harder to reach through conventional communication channels.

Evaluation

- The number of deliberate fire reduction activities evaluated;
- The number of evaluations published or shared through the fire and rescue sector.

Summary

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support the achievement of the Brigade's corporate goal of creating Safer and Stronger Communities.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce community risk through a year-on-year reduction of deliberate fires throughout our communities.
Why we need a strategy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliberate fires account for around 75.4% of all fires attended by the Brigade over the previous five years.• The proportion of all fires that are deliberate in their cause has gradually increased over the last five years from around 81.1% in 2017/18 to around 87.5% in 2021/22,
Strategic themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnerships to protect communities;• Education and Early Intervention Programmes;• Communication;• Evaluation.
What we intend to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect communities by working with partners to reduce the capabilities, opportunities and motivation for people to engage in arson and deliberate fire setting;• Apply a structured approach to education and early intervention programmes to achieve a longer-term behavioural change;• Develop communication plans to deliver clear, consistent and targeted key messages to deter deliberate fire setting and influence a cultural shift to perceive deliberate fire setting as being socially unacceptable;• Use appropriate technology to maximise the conveyance of deliberate fire communications and the opportunity to report deliberate fire setting;• Conduct proportionate evaluation of deliberate fire reduction related activities and share best practice with other fire and rescue services.
How we will achieve our aim:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with partners to develop and implement effective interventions that reduce the prevalence of deliberate fire setting;• Communicate and engage with communities to influence behaviour change;• Evaluate deliberate fire reduction activities and share best practice with other fire and rescue services;• Measure success through a range of leading and lagging indicators.

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RECORDED CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Introduction

1. This report provides an overview on recorded crime, anti-social behaviour incidents and domestic abuse in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees for the 12-month period of December 2023.
2. The bulk of the statistics utilised for this report have been obtained from Cleveland Police crime statistic databases with the figures correct at the time of data extraction (02/01/2024). The data is extracted from 'live' systems and therefore remains the subject of on-going operational activity, audit and scrutiny.
3. This report will not provide any detailed analysis unless there are any substantial changes to patterns or trends.
4. A comparison against other similar Community Safety Partnerships utilising iQuanta is noted within a separate report (This report is a RESTRICTED document due to the statistical information only made available as an intelligence tool until released by the Home Office).
5. Any references to rates per 1,000 population are based on the ONS UK Mid-year population estimates for 2021.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Crime

The rate per 1,000 population (all ages)¹ for publicly reported crime in Stockton-on-Tees was 120.2 for November 2022- December 2023.

Between November 2022- December 2023, there were 19,968 publicly reported offences, which is a decrease of -304 crimes (or -18%) on the same period in the previous year. Police generated crime, which includes crimes such as drug offences, public disorder and possession of weapons has decreased by -364 crimes in comparison with the previous period, giving total police generated crime figure of 3715 offences, down -8.9% on the same period the previous year. Overall, there was a total of 23683 crimes, equal to 156 (0.7%) more crimes compared with the same period last year.

Comparing the number of crimes recorded in the period November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023, there were more of the following crime types recorded in the Borough: Death or injury due to driving, Violence with injury, Other Sexual offences, Burglary – Residential, Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.), Shoplifting, Other Theft, Possession/Use of drugs and Misc. crimes against society.

Comparing the number of crimes recorded in the period November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023, there were fewer of the following crime types recorded in the Borough: Homicide, Violence without injury, Stalking and Harassment, Rape, Burglary - Business & Com., Bicycle Theft, Theft from the person, Criminal damage and Arson, Trafficking of drugs and Possession of Weapons.

Compared with November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023, the largest reduction (-25%) in Police recorded offences in Stockton-on-Tees was in relation to Homicide.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

As at 03/01/2024, reports of ASB to Cleveland Police show that across the Borough in the last 12 months, there was 5039 ASB incidents, which is -13.5% on the previous 12 months.

Between November 2022- December 2023, 4,084 Service Requests were recorded by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Civic Enforcement team as ASB (including noise and alcohol issues). This is equal to an overall increase of 114 incidents (+2.9%) in the last year. In the same comparative period, the number of begging incidents was 704, equal to -361; and the number of rowdy/nuisance behaviour incidents was 1177, equal to -147.

¹ SOURCE: [Mid-Year Population Estimates, UK, 2021](#)

Crime: November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023

Table 1 below shows the number of crimes that have been recorded in Stockton-on-Tees between November 2022- December 2023 and Table 2 provides a one-month snapshot of the same for the last available month (December 2023). Please note, this does not necessarily mean that the crime occurred during that month, but it is the date that the crime was reported to Cleveland Police.

Key to note in Table 1 below, between November 2022- December 2023:

- Between November 2022- December 2023, there were 19,968 publicly reported offences, which is a decrease of -304 crimes (or -18%) on the same period in the previous year. The largest reduction (-25%) in Police recorded offences in Stockton-on-Tees was in relation to Homicide.
- Police generated crime, which includes crimes such as drug offences, public disorder and possession of weapons has decreased by -364 crimes in comparison with the previous period, giving total police generated crime figure of 3715 offences, down -8.9% on the same period the previous year.
- Overall, there was a total of 23,683 crimes in the current period, equal to 156 (+0.7%) more crimes in the same period last year.
- The rate per 1,000 population (all ages)² for publicly reported crime in Stockton-on-Tees was 120.2 for November 2022- December 2023. This has increased from a rate of 119.4 in the same period last year.

Key to note in Table 2 below:

- In December 2023, 1383 publicly reported offences were recorded in the Borough, which is a decrease of -304 (or -18.0%) on December 2022. The largest increase was in relation to Other Sexual offences.
- Police generated crime, which includes crimes such as drug offences, public disorder and possession of weapons was 227 in December 2023, down by (-37.8%) versus December 2022. The largest decrease was in relation to trafficking of drugs.
- Overall, there was a total of 1610 crimes in the current period, equal to -442 (-21.5%) less crimes in December 2023 versus December 2022.

² SOURCE: [Mid-Year Population Estimates, UK, October 2021](#)

Table 1. Cleveland Police Crime Statistics for Stockton-on-Tees: November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023³

Crime Type	Dec-23	Dec-22	Difference (No. and %)	
Violence against the person	8638	8899	-199	-2.2%
<i>Homicide</i>	3	4	-1	-25.0%
<i>Death or injury due to driving</i>	10	5	5	100.0%
<i>Violence with injury</i>	2087	2074	13	0.6%
<i>Violence without injury</i>	3038	3199	-161	-5.0%
<i>Stalking and Harassment</i>	3500	3617	-117	-3.2%
Sexual offences	806	853	-47	-5.5%
<i>Rape</i>	267	326	-59	-18.1%
<i>Other Sexual offences</i>	539	527	12	2.3%
Robbery	257	171	86	50.3%
Theft	7492	6707	785	11.7%
<i>Burglary - Residential</i>	1277	972	305	31.4%
<i>Burglary - Business & Com.</i>	295	338	-43	-12.7%
<i>Bicycle Theft</i>	231	248	-17	-6.9%
<i>Theft from the person</i>	100	141	-41	-29.1%
<i>Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)</i>	1467	1078	389	36.1%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	2335	2228	107	4.8%
<i>Other Theft</i>	1787	1702	85	5.0%
Criminal damage and Arson	2775	2880	-105	-3.6%
Publicly Reported Crime	19968	19448	520	2.7%
Public Order Offences	2237	2595	-358	-13.8%
Drug offences	646	653	-7	-1.1%
<i>Trafficking of drugs</i>	168	216	-48	-22.2%
<i>Possession/Use of drugs</i>	478	437	41	9.4%
Possession of Weapons	228	253	-25	-9.9%
Misc. crimes against society	604	578	26	4.5%
Police Generated Crime	3715	4079	-364	-8.9%
Total Crime	23683	23527	156	0.7%

³ SOURCE: Cleveland Police monthly crime statistics database

Table 2. Cleveland Police Crime Statistics for Stockton-on-Tees: November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023⁴

Crime Type	Current Period	Previous Period	Difference	% Difference
Violence against the person	603	697	-199	-28.6%
<i>Homicide</i>	0	3	-3	-100.0%
<i>Death or injury due to driving</i>	0	0	0	-
<i>Violence with injury</i>	138	152	-14	-9.2%
<i>Violence without injury</i>	218	251	-33	-13.1%
<i>Stalking and Harassment</i>	247	291	-44	-15.1%
Sexual offences	42	48	-6	-12.5%
<i>Rape</i>	15	26	-11	-42.3%
<i>Other Sexual offences</i>	27	22	5	22.7%
Robbery	9	19	-10	-52.6%
Theft	534	558	-24	-4.3%
<i>Burglary - Residential</i>	67	86	-19	-22.1%
<i>Burglary - Business & Com.</i>	24	21	3	14.3%
<i>Bicycle Theft</i>	11	11	0	0.0%
<i>Theft from the person</i>	3	13	-10	-76.9%
<i>Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)</i>	105	108	-3	-2.8%
<i>Shoplifting</i>	178	175	3	1.7%
<i>Other Theft</i>	146	144	2	1.4%
Criminal damage and Arson	195	260	-65	-25.0%
Publicly Reported Crime	1383	1687	-304	-18.0%
Public Order Offences	119	230	-111	-48.3%
Drug offences	49	66	-17	-25.8%
<i>Trafficking of drugs</i>	12	19	-7	-36.8%
<i>Possession/Use of drugs</i>	37	47	-10	-21.3%
Possession of Weapons	15	21	-6	-28.6%
Misc. crimes against society	44	48	-4	-8.3%
Police Generated Crime	227	365	-138	-37.8%
Total Crime	1610	2052	-442	-21.5%

Performance Highlights: November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023

Table 3 below highlights all areas where crime has reduced and has been ranked by the percentage reduction against the previous year, numeric reductions have also been provided for additional context, offence types in bold are combined offence types, whilst all others are individual offences.

⁴ SOURCE: Cleveland Police Monthly Crime Statistics Database

Table 3. All recorded offences which REDUCED against the previous year in Stockton-on-Tees: November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023⁵

Offence Type	Numeric Reduction	Percentage Reduction
Theft from the person	-41	-29.1%
Homicide	-1	-25.0%
Trafficking of drugs	-48	-22.2%
Rape	-59	-18.1%
Burglary - Business & Com.	-43	-12.7%
Possession of Weapons	-25	-9.9%
Bicycle Theft	-17	-6.9%
Violence without injury	-161	-5.0%
Stalking and Harassment	-117	-3.2%

Key to note in Table 3:

- Compared with November 2021- December 2022 versus November 2022- December 2023 overall the largest percentage reduction (-29.1%) in recorded offences in Stockton-on-Tees was in relation to Theft from the person.

END OF REPORT

⁵ SOURCE: Cleveland Police monthly crime statistics database

Agenda Item 10

By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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