

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Community & Environment Committee

This meeting will be clerked by Katy Pepper. Please ensure that all apologies are made directly to the clerk of the meeting no later than 5pm on the day of the meeting.

Agenda for the meeting to be held on Monday 6 December 2021 at 7.00pm in The Ballroom, Sandbach Town Hall.

1. **COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR**
To appoint Community and Environment Committee Chair.
2. **COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE VICE - CHAIR**
To appoint Community and Environment Committee Vice - Chair.
3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
4. **CO-OPTION TO THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**
To co-opt Cllr Ann Nevitt to the Community and Environment Committee.
5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair will adjourn the meeting to allow questions from members of the public. Following questions, the Chair will reconvene the meeting.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

[Attached: Minutes]

Action: *To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2021.*

7. VCP PHASE 2

[Attached: Briefing and VCP Agreement Principles]

Lead: Meeting Clerk

Action: *To consider STC future role as VCP and all associated requirements, detailed within attachments, and agree:*

1. *We are proceeding as a VCP and agree to the next steps*
2. *We are no longer seeking approval to continue as a VCP*
3. *We no longer wish to be part of this work.*

8. WHITE RIBBON ACCREDITATION

[Attached: Public Speaking from Council Meeting of 8th April 2021]

Lead: Chair

Action: *To consider whether Sandbach Town Council will take steps to make Sandbach a White Ribbon accredited Town.*

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 PLAQUE INSTALLATION FOR EDWARD WILLIAMS

[Attached: Email string with the Clerk beginning 18th March 2021]

9.2 COMMUNITY RESILIANCE PLANS

[Attached: Email from 19th April 2021]

9.3 CEC CCTV CONTROL ROOM UPDATE

[Attached: Update received 6th August 2021]

9.4 CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

[Attached: Email received 22nd October 2021]

9.5 ChALC – SPEEDING ISSUES CONSILTATION UPDATE

[Attached: Email received 4th October 2021]

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Wildflowers Project

Youth Survey for Leisure Provision

Diversity and Inclusion Training

Friends Groups for Parish Parks

11. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community & Environment Committee is scheduled to take place on Thursday 3rd March 2021.

Please note, this meeting will be recorded and the audio recording made available to the public within 5 working days of the meeting.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 4 March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

In attendance: Cllr R Hoffmann
Cllr G Merry
Cllr D Hegarty
Cllr K Flavell
Cllr D Jack (Arrived 7.07pm)

Also present were five members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs M Lea, G P Jones and L Crane

Absent without apologies: Cllr S Broad

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Flavell declared that in the interest of openness and transparency, she is a Member of Cheshire East Council Cabinet.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair adjourned the meeting to allow questions from members of the public in attendance, there being no questions the meeting was immediately reconvened.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020 be approved.

4. UPDATE ON TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS

Lead: Cllr Merry

Cllr Merry summarised the attached document which updates the Committee on the plans and status of the Events Committee's events for 2021. It was confirmed by Cllr Merry that budgets for all the Events were in place and being adhered to. She also confirmed that all events are being organised with the capacity of the Council on mind. It is hoped that Party in the Park will be a successful event if allowed to go ahead, as many people will want to get out in the park and enjoy the event, following lockdown.

Resolved: That the verbal report be received.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EVENTS SUB-COMITTEE

5.1 APPROVAL TO SPEND – PARTY IN THE PARK

Lead: Cllr Merry

Permission to incur costs relating to events was sought.

Resolved: To:

- i. approve a spend of £1920 +VAT for Fireworks for Party in the Park 2021. The spend will be allocated to budget line 140 5820 – Community Events.
- ii. approve a spend of £4772.25 +VAT for PA and Staging for Party in the Park
- iii. delegate any further event delivery spend required to the Town Clerk's Office. Further spend to be made in accordance with approved budget and financial regulations and allocated to budget line 140 5820 – Community Events.

5.2 FAMILY FUN DAY EVENTS

Lead: Clerk

The Events and Business Promotion Officer was thanked for the work she has done to date in organising these activities and events.

Resolved: To:

- i. note the plan for activities and events, which will replace the Family Fun Day 2021.
- ii. note that costings will follow via the Events Sub-Committee.
- iii. approve the use of the Family Fun Day budget 2021 amount of £2500 (140 5820 – Community Events) for the delivery of these activities and events. Necessary spend to be delegated to the Town Clerk's office, in accordance with approved budget and financial regulations.

6. DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TRAINING

Lead: Cllr G Price Jones

As Cllr Price Jones was not in attendance and no information was available, this item was deferred until the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolved: That the item is deferred until the next meeting of the Committee.

7. WILDFLOWERS PROJECT

Lead: Chair

Council has previously resolved to support wildflower planting at locations to be determined. As the planting season is rapidly approaching and no firm plans for planting are in place, it was agreed that we should trial two areas within the Town.

Negotiation with CEC/ANSA will be required, to enable planting and maintenance.

Area 1: Salt Line Way to the Scrapyard on Moston Road.

Area 2: Nr to Bargain Booze

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RESOLVED: that:

- i. The two locations be used as pilot areas.
- ii. That negotiation regarding location, planting and maintenance be undertaken with CEC and ANSA as required.

8. EXTENSION OF CCTV AROUND SANDBACH TOWN

Lead: Chair

The Chair introduced the item and invited members to identify places which might benefit from additional CCTV.

Members felt unable to comment due to inadequate information.

The Clerk suggested that members should visit the CCTV Unit in Macclesfield and seek guidance from the CCTV Officers. Information could then be collated along with benefits and cost and presented to a future meeting for considerations.

RESOLVED: that members gather and collate information for presentation to a future meeting.

9. YOUTH SURVEY FOR LEISURE PROVISION

Lead: Chair

As members are aware, the provision of a skatepark in the Town has been subject to consideration for several years. As time has passed, it should no longer be assumed that this is what every young person wants and therefore it was suggested that another youth survey is undertaken, to ensure that the leisure needs of young people are being clearly identified.

It was suggested that a STC representative approach both secondary schools, with a view to attending assembly and speaking to young people about what they would like. A note of caution was expressed, that the Council should be careful not to raise expectations.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Flavell engage with both secondary schools and report back to Committee in due course.

It was acknowledged that there is currently tremendous disruption within schools due to Covid-19

10. FRIENDS GROUPS FOR PARISH PARKS

Lead: Chair

The Chair introduced the item and asked whether 'Friends' groups could be provided for all of the Town's parks and play areas. The Clerk mentioned that those parks which have a 'Friends' group, have all previously been supported by the Sandbach Partnership, who have assisted in their formation, advising on matter such as constitution, insurance etc.

Members agreed that the formation of such groups is an excellent idea, but that more work is required to understand appetite and need. It is to be noted that all parks and play areas are owned and managed by CEC, although STC has been involved in some minor maintenance and funding over the years.

RESOLVED: that this item is deferred to a future meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Council Events and Activities – Officer Update

Diversity and Inclusion – Mayor to lead.

Wildflower Planting – Officer Update

CCTV – Chairman Update

Youth Survey – Cllr Flavell Update

Friends of Parks – Chairman Update

13. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

TBA

Meeting Closed at 7.58pm

Cllr R Hoffmann, Chair.

MW/ALB

People Helping People (PhP) Phase 2 Briefing 15th October 2021

Background

The PHP Phase 2 service is to provide a community support service in collaboration with available community-based activities and recruited volunteers. Enabling residents to remain independent, connected to community networks whilst also supporting enjoyable and meaningful volunteer experiences. The objective is to provide and build a sustainable network of community support.

The Councils Communities team are excited to share that as part of the **People Helping People** service and our new investment in technology called 'AMI' we can now connect local volunteers with residents needing support. The service offers bespoke support via our newly appointed Community Connectors managing the service. Our Community Connectors will:

- Provide information and signposting to community support, and also facilitate connections and introductions to a variety of support organisations.
- Facilitate the matching process connecting a resident to a volunteer providing person centred support.
- Provide a consistent contact point throughout the journey of support for both short- and long-term needs of clients.

Our staff

Communities Lead: Dan Coyne – Communities Manager Daniel.coyne@cheshireeast.gov.uk

<u>Care Communities</u>	<u>Macc</u>	<u>BDP</u>	<u>Knuts</u>	<u>CHAW</u>	<u>CHOC</u>	<u>SMASH</u>	<u>Crewe</u>	<u>Nant</u>
<u>Community Connectors</u>	Lisa Moss Lisa.Moss@cheshireeast.gov.uk			Emma Kelly Emma.kelly@cheshireeast.gov.uk (starts 1 st Nov)			Kerry Ball Kerry.Ball@cheshireeast.gov.uk	

How does the service work? -

Our Community Connectors will:

- Intercept a referral made via the People Helping People Request form through the Livewell site [People Helping People \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](http://People Helping People (cheshireeast.gov.uk)) Please note all referrals will need to come through this single route in order for the team to progress the case.
- Check all information and contact you if any clarification is required
- Verify the client needs via a telephone assessment with them or their carer
- Work in a person-centred way to ensure that the client's needs are identified
- Identify if the client can be supported by a local volunteer Coordination Point - Working closely with a range of partners (Volunteer Coordination Points) these act as local points in our communities to recruit, mobilise and recognise volunteers. On some occasions clients will be referred directly to these organisations who will provide the requested support.
- Identify all the community-based activities and/or a volunteer support to meet needs of the client.
 - If there is suitable community-based activity in the area they will be linked to the available service.
 - If a volunteer is required, the clients contact details will be uploaded to AMI and the recruitment process will commence. *Please note this process may take a number of weeks dependant on the task at hand and the vulnerability of the client a number of weeks to support recruitment, training and relevant checks.*

- When the volunteer is recruited the community connector will make face to face introductions where appropriate with the client and volunteer. *Please note this may not be practical if this is a one-off small volunteer interaction such as travel support to GP appointment etc.*
- Update case notes on Liquid Logic and notify the referrer throughout the process to keep the referring staff member updated
- The task requested and level of vulnerability of the client will dictate the training, induction and safeguarding checks (references/basic or enhanced)
- A regular review will take place with the community-based activity or volunteer and the client.
- Both parties will also have a direct link back to the community connector and/or Volunteer Coordination Point or in case the relationship between either party breaks down between reviews. This is also to monitor in case the support can be reduced or needs to be increased.

Who can use this service, what is the criteria?

The initial target audience is to meet the needs of our vulnerable residents identified by Adult Social Care colleagues or those who have been identified in the Community by Volunteer Coordination Points. This is to support Care at Home with unregulated activity to identify volunteer support and/or local community-based activities that can meet local needs. This service is not an emergency service or one that replaces domiciliary care or regulated activity. If a resident presents with urgent/emergency needs please contact the local community connector in that area to discuss options for support.

Our menu of support - *Responding to local need and supporting our communities to Recover*

1. Responding to local need – Wrap Around Community Offer

Examples could include:

- Practical tasks “errands”: (/ advocacy / admin / post office /personal shopper)
- Medication Reminders: / <https://saltbox.org.uk/carelink/service/overview-outcomes/> Saltbox (Stoke on Trent) have a great model for this
- Sitting in service (carer respite)
- Befriending services
- Food provision delivery - next or same day
- Meals at home delivery including cultural food
- Supporting Fuel poverty
- Dementia friendly volunteers – Dementia support is increasing amongst referrals
- Self-isolation cases

2. Supporting our communities to Recover

Examples could include:

- Engagement with Hard-to-Reach Groups – including re-engaging people with communities
- Tackling loneliness
- Mental Health Support low level (befriending and higher level) for young people and adults.
- Providing support to complete forms (claims etc – over the phone)
- Supporting Digital Poverty

Making a referral

The referral route access the form is here -

<https://livewellcare.cheshireeast.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/php>

How to find out how to volunteer in Cheshire East - <https://cheshireeastvolunteers.co.uk/>

How to promote AMI to get your client the volunteer required:

<https://cheshireeastvolunteers.co.uk/about-ami/>



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Cheshire East Virtual Volunteer Network Volunteer Coordination Points Development Principles

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Cheshire East Social Action Partnership, working in partnership with Cheshire East Council, has helped establish a number of Volunteer Coordination Points (VCPs). This is part of the People Helping People (PHP) response, which has received online and telephone enquiries from people in need of support and those offering their support, including as volunteers.

The VCPs have also formed as a 'virtual' network to share information and best practice. The aim is for VCPs to fully cover all 8 of the Cheshire East Care Communities Areas, which include:

- Bollington, Disley and Poynton (BDP)
- Chelford, Handforth, Alderley Edge and Wilmslow (CHAW)
- Congleton and Holmes Chapel
- Knutsford
- Macclesfield
- Sandbach, Middlewich, Alsager, Scholar Green & Haslington (SMASH)
- Crewe
- Nantwich & Rural

Following engagement with existing VCPs, there has been an expressed interest in continuing to develop their role and functions in support of Covid-19 Response, Recovery, and Beyond. The VCPs have shown what can be achieved by working in local networks, and by coordinating and supporting volunteers locally. PHP is now considered as an essential service by Cheshire East Council. Connections and engagement have never been stronger. All see the value in continuing to build on the principles of mutual aid and the development of local assets, and consider that the VCPs can have a further significant positive impact on resident's health and wellbeing, including through early intervention, prevention and social action.

2020-21 What did we achieve?

- Reflection over last 12-18 months
- Reactive and Volume - Cheshire East Overall PHP Support Cases
- 4226
- Success and High Profile – continuation with investment (short term)
- Hard to Reach residents engagement – Early Intervention & Prevention
- Relationship between CEC and VCPs

This document sets out the principles for continuing the 'development journey' as a VCP, including a VCP definition, potential future role/ functions, and the support being developed.

What is a Volunteer Coordination Point (VCP)?

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The original aim of a VCP is to offer support to individuals and families that may be impacted upon by Covid-19, or who may be vulnerable. VCPs can be a range of different types of VCFSE organisation, mutual aid groups established in response to Covid-19, or Town & Parish Councils. It is recognised each VCP is different, providing a unique response for their areas.

VCP Definition

A local 'go to' place for people who need community support or who want to volunteer and to work with local community groups to help meet the needs of vulnerable people.

VCPs support local networks, build connections, and provide volunteer coordination and help in matching volunteers to vulnerable and isolated people needing help.

People Helping People Phase 2 - Responding to local need and supporting our communities to Recover,

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• Responding to local need - Out of Hours and Crisis Provision of Community Offer

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Examples could include:

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Practical tasks "errands": (/ advocacy / admin / post office / personal shopper)

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Medication Reminders: / <https://saltbox.org.uk/carelink/service/overview-outcomes/> Saltbox (Stoke on Trent) have a great model for this

Sitting in service (carer respite)

Befriending services

Food provision delivery - next or same day

Meals at home delivery including cultural food

Supporting Fuel poverty

Dementia friendly volunteers – Dementia support is increasing amongst referrals

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• Supporting our Communities to Recover

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Examples could include:

Engagement with Hard-to-Reach Groups – including re-engaging people with communities

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Tackling Loneliness

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Mental Health Support low level (befriending and higher level) for young people and adults.

Providing support to complete forms (claims etc – over the phone)

Supporting Digital Poverty

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VCP Role and Functions – 'the ask'

- Provide coordination of volunteers locally, helping to match volunteers to people needing support (including linking to People Helping People)
- Provide a central point of contact for enquiries
- Signpost volunteers to groups in their local networks
- Help volunteers to access training and pastoral support
- Maintain relevant up-to-date information on local volunteering opportunities
- Share information, data, and intelligence about volunteering in their area
- Help promote the value of volunteering in their local area
- Work closely with the Community Development Officers and CESAP, including helping to codesign future support opportunities
- Provide storage space where practical/ available to assist People Helping People, e.g. for the distribution of equipment to help support digital inclusion in communities

- Work with other VCP's to share good practice, skills, and knowledge
- Help raise the profile of volunteering in communities as positive and beneficial
- Help recognise and celebrate the achievements of volunteers
- To sign up to using AMI including the Data Sharing Agreement within it
- To accept referrals from PHP through AMI
- To report on support provided to the individual
- To regularly review the support the volunteer and vulnerable pers
- To utilise AMI to recruit volunteers and work with coordinating local groups to also use the site to recruit local volunteers
- Measure the volunteer experience, such as, did the volunteer role meet their expectations, what do they feel went well, what do they feel could be improved, would they recommend volunteering to others, did they gain employment/skills through their volunteering

Support for VCPs – 'the offer'

- Free access to People Helping People volunteers through SharePoint, including technical support, and forthcoming access to the planned new Ami Volunteering Platform
- Free DBS checks (for volunteer roles where these are needed)
- Access to training resources and support (including support, training, and toolkits for volunteer managers/ coordinators; and training, learning, development, and future opportunities available for volunteers) through the WACE site: <https://cheshireeastvolunteers.co.uk/>
- Access to a range of free policy templates and procedures
- Back up support and ongoing help, information, updates, and advice
- Information about available funding and resources
- Invitation to Cheshire East Virtual Volunteer Network meetings to share learning and best practice, and jointly develop proposals, for example for partnership funding bids, supported by CESAP
- ~~Access to offers of free help, e.g. car parking permits to support volunteer roles~~
- Inclusion in Network marketing and promotional opportunities (including social media, campaigns, communications, and publicity) to help raise the profile of VCPs and impact they are making
- Engagement in volunteer celebration events to recognise volunteers and to showcase the important work and role of VCPs
- Connection to wider community infrastructure to help develop joint priorities, e.g. Neighbourhood Partnerships and Care Communities
- Usage of a volunteer recruitment platform: <https://cheshireeastvolunteers.co.uk/about-ami/>

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VCP Standards

- Maintain safe working practices in line with current Government and Cheshire East Council guidelines
- Adopt/ maintain up to date policies including Children's and Adult's Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Data Protection/ Privacy Policy, and Confidentiality Policy
- Sign up to/ adhere to the principles of a forthcoming Cheshire East Volunteer Charter
- Be able to demonstrate good governance and values
- Be welcoming, positive speaking, active listeners, inclusive, caring, and aspirational role models

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Speaker Number 2

Vigils have been held following the death of Sarah Everard, which has triggered a public reaction in relation to domestic abuse and violence. Sandbach Town Council is asked if it will make steps to make Sandbach a White Ribbon accredited Town.

Members agreed that this should be referred to the Community and Environment Committee for further consideration.



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Sent: 18 March 2021 16:58
To: Info <info@sandbach.gov.uk>
Subject: Edward Williams

Dear Sirs

My father Edward Williams of [REDACTED] Sandbach Cheshire, recently passed away on the 7th February 2021, he had been a Town Councillor (Sandbach) and had during his life contributed to Charities to enable Leighton Hospital to obtain a new Kidney machine

My Brother and Family wish to inquire as to how we can obtain a small plaque for remembrance for one of the seats that are outside the Sandbach Town Council , His widow and my Brother still reside in Sandbach and pass the seats every day

If you can let me know what the process is I will be grateful for your assistance

very much look forward to your reply

Sent: 12 May 2021 13:52
To: Ann Banks <clerk@sandbach.gov.uk>;
Subject: Edward Williams

Dear Ms Banks

Just a friendly reminder, to see if there any updates to the below request, we have a small Brass plaque engraved , but as discussed, I presume, if approved - it would have to be fitted to the bench by Council Technicians -

Very much look forward to your reply

Kind Regards

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Dear Town and Parish Council

The recent Flooding events in January, caused by Storm Christoph, has again highlighted the importance and need for Community Resilience. We at the Joint Cheshire Emergency Planning Team (JCEPT) would like to assist you in the creation of Community Emergency Plans. These plans would form your initial response during any number of potential emergencies that could happen within your towns and parishes. The document would be produced, maintained and owned by yourselves. We at JCEPT would assist you on your journey and provide you with direction and guidance in producing this document.

Local emergency responders will always have to prioritise those in greatest needs during an emergency, especially where life is in danger. There will be times when you may be affected by an emergency but your life is not in immediate danger. During this time, individuals and communities may need to rely on their own resources to ensure they are able to cope with the consequences of the emergency. Many communities already spontaneously help each other in times of need, but previous experience has shown that those who have spent time planning and preparing for emergencies are better able to cope, and recover more quickly reducing the overall impact on people's lives. Having a Community Emergency Plan would help you to assist your communities whenever an emergency strikes. It would also assist the Blue Lights Services by having an organised community response in place for when they arrive. The plan would be activated by yourselves and where possible during the making, you would involve the community and advertise the existence of such a plan.

Within JCEPT, Julie Barnard (Cheshire East) and I, Rob Ruddock (Cheshire West) will be your points of contacts throughout the process. We will be able to provide you all with a template of a plan to use, guidance on what should/should not be included in the plan and provide advice on a range of issues.

If you would be interested in creating a Community Resilience Plan, please contact Julie (if you are located in Cheshire East) or myself, Rob, if in Cheshire West:

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Quarter 1 2021

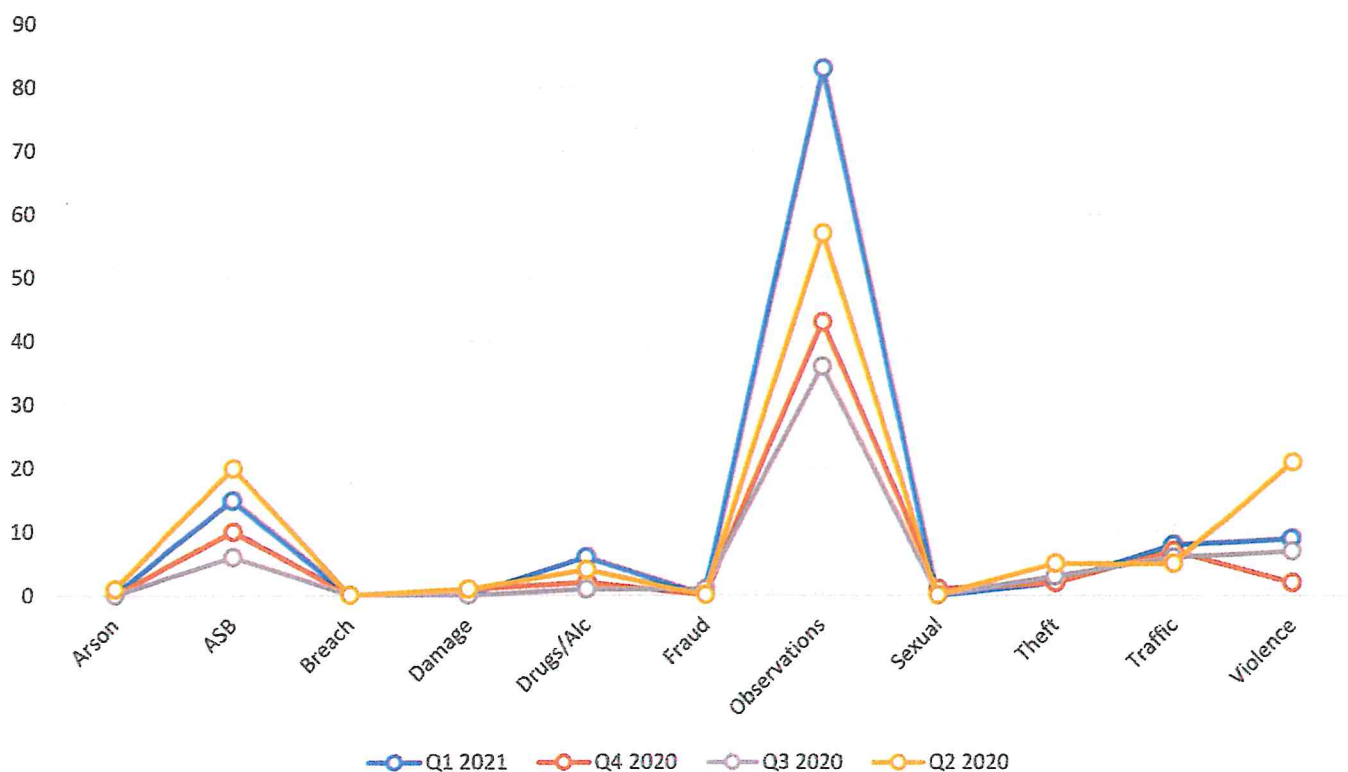
As we start a new quarter, a quick recap for members. The Control Room changed greatly during 2020. We invited officials from the Home Office to the Control Room in late 2020 to audit our operation in great detail. They did this in person and took a full day. We are proud to say we were accredited in full to the UK Surveillance Camera Commissioner Code which we now hold until 2025 showing we are operating to the governments best practice for Public Space CCTV Operation. We also employed a new Supervisor for Operations who is an ex-Cheshire Police Officer of 21 years. Jim comes with a wealth of experience across some of the busiest areas of Cheshire and really has hit the ground running given he joins us in the middle of a pandemic.

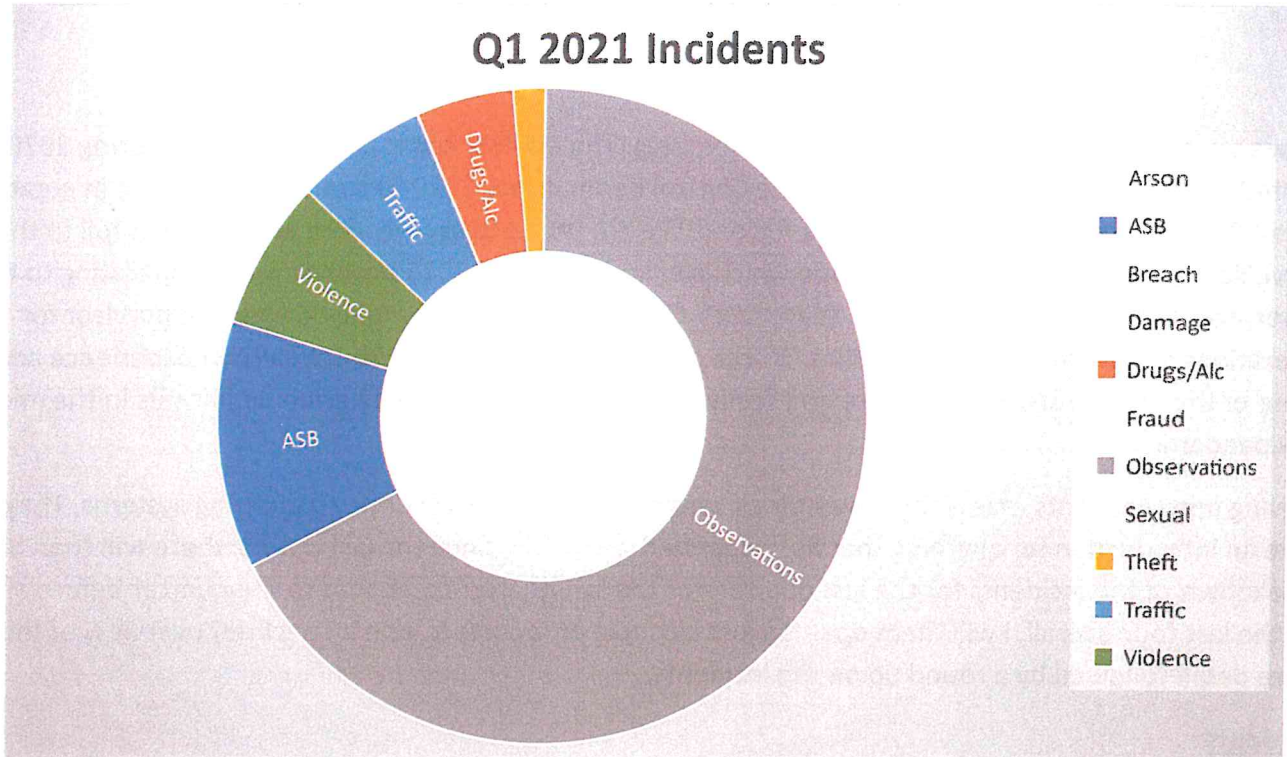
Moving onto incidents, this is the new style of report whilst we await our new reporting systems. They will have an introduction for anything that has happened with CCTV since the last report, there will then have a breakdown of the incidents for the last quarter, for the last quarter compared to the quarter before and for the last four overall. I will then open up just a couple of reports to give a very brief overview of them in more detail followed by a round up on the incidents.

Incidents

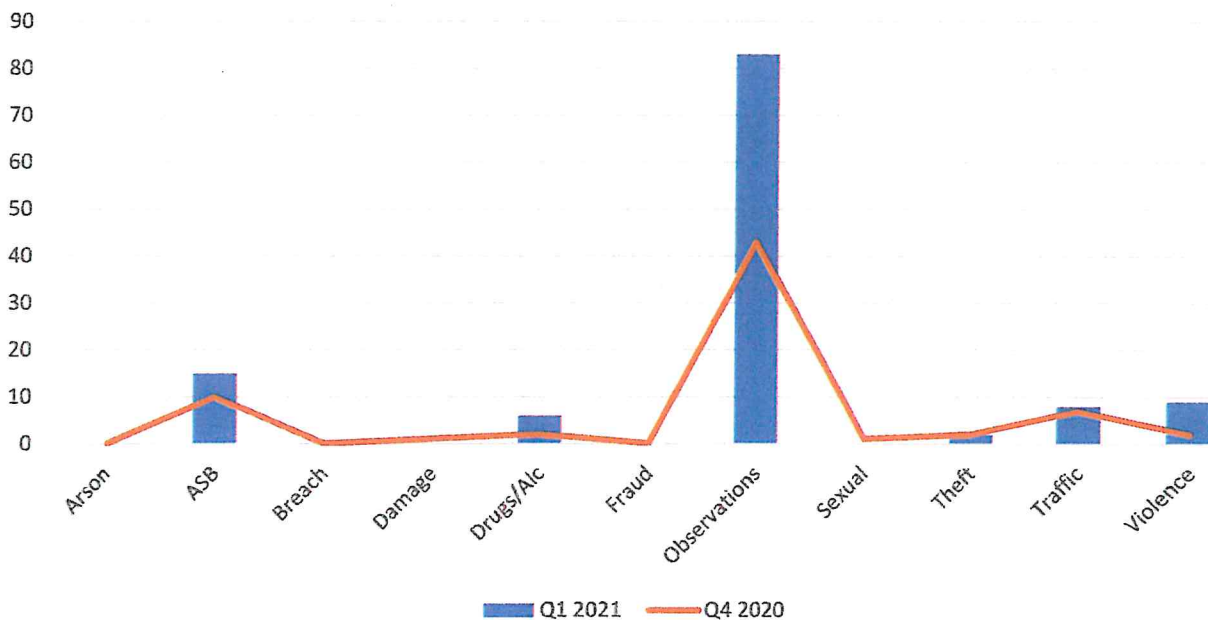
We break our incidents down to 12 incident types of which 11 are reported these 11 umbrella incident types never change to allow for easier comparison. I made the decision early in my tenure to remove the 12th incident type which was council related incidents from the reports as I didn't feel they were crimes or related to the CCTV. Figures are all over the shop at the moment which I will detail towards the end due to the pandemic affecting behaviour and indeed deciding who can go out and when.

Incidents By Type





Comparison with last Quarter



Incident Discussion

What I have done here is randomly selected a couple of the incidents we have dealt with to add a little more detail and show what the Control Room is doing.

One incident being where whilst monitoring Sandbach, Operators spot a person dealing drugs from a rucksack. CCTV monitor on two separate cameras to cover any escape route and radio Police. Police guided in who attempt to stop said person. Person legs it and chucks the bag. CCTV guide Police in to where the offender is hiding and also to where the bag is. Person is arrested for possession with intent to supply drugs.

The second incident I have chosen is a group fighting outside a pub in town. CCTV request Police who start making over. Before their arrival, the fight ends and we track both groups. One person then heads to a vehicle parked on a car park, person is quite clearly drunk. CCTV radio Police with details and they stop the car leaving Sandbach. Occupant arrested and taken to custody.

Conclusion

Incident figures can be strange at the best of times, however, Covid 19 has certainly shaken that up somewhat. I am hearing reports that the last two weekends have been very busy indeed. The figures do however tell a story of the lockdown and reopening rollercoaster we have been on quite uniformly in a way with rises in many incidents over Q1. We won't see the full extent of this until the end of Q2 but we feel we have a very good lid on things in Sandbach along with local Policing teams.

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Subject: Sandbach and the Climate Emergency

Dear Sandbach Town Councillors

May I start by thanking you all for the time and energy you give to being Town Councillors for our wonderful town. I have been a Sandbach resident since 2017 and before that I lived in Congleton. I have two teenage children at school in the town.

I am writing to enquire where the Town Council stands on the Climate Emergency and what, if any, plans it has to tackle this issue at a local level? From my research, I note that Cheshire East Council declared a Climate Emergency on 22nd May 2019. How does this relate to what we are (or are not) doing here in Sandbach? For example, does the Town Council have any plans to reduce its own carbon footprint, or to assist local businesses and residents to do the same? Is the impact on the climate considered in discussions or when making any decisions?

I have browsed the Sandbach Town Council website and can find no mention of Climate Change or the Climate Emergency anywhere. Does that mean that as a town we are not doing anything? I would argue that the climate crisis is the most important issue that we currently face, not just as a town, but as a county, a nation and as a global population, so I am keen to hear what we are doing here in Sandbach.

In my research I have also discovered that both Congleton Town Council and Middlewich Town Council declared a climate emergency in 2019. This means that they are actively doing things to mitigate the effects of climate change in their areas, putting pressure on CEC to fulfil its promises in relation to climate and educating and encouraging residents to engage with the issue and start to make changes in their own lives. Please could you explain to me why Sandbach Town Council did not do the same? This is something that we *all* have to be involved in and I hope that you can tell me what you are doing to help the people of Sandbach to be part of the solution.

Out of interest, please have a look at everything that Congleton Town Council are doing - <https://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk/climate-emergency/> . I would love to see something similar happening in Sandbach.

Thank you for your time in reading this email and I look forward to your responses.

With kind regards.

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Subject: Speeding Issues Consultation - Further Update and Offer

Speeding Issues Consultation Further Update

Speeding is a very real problem in many localities, and this was underscored in the responses to the survey that we, ChALC, undertook at the beginning of this year. Unfortunately, many of you have not been successful in engaging with the statutory bodies to get something done. We have therefore approached this from a different but positive angle.

We have been working with John Dwyer, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), and his officers to develop a new partnership to identify localities where there is community concern about speeding expressed by their local council and where that local council is willing to contribute to delivering a solution.

The PCC is proposing an initial pilot scheme in at least four localities where average speed cameras could be installed. These are evidenced to be the most effective way to reduce speeding.

We are seeking local councils that would wish to participate in this pilot scheme (or indeed a subsequent roll out if it is successful). To do so, a local council would need to:

- feel that speeding was one of the top issues that its community faces;
- be prepared to contribute financially to the cost of average speed cameras, and
- to work with the partnership (the Police, Principal Authorities and ChALC) on the details of siting, electricity supply, signage, etc. as the knowledge of the local council on these matters is vital.

We do not yet know precisely what financial commitment this will entail, but one of the Parish Councils which wishes to participate in the pilot scheme feels the issue is important enough for up to contribute up to £5,000 per annum to have a pair of average speed cameras installed (this might be as a revenue payment or to service a Public Works Loan Board loan).

We hope that the pilot scheme can be started very soon, and if you are interested in being part of it can you please start a discussion with us via Stephen Jones

(~~REDACTED~~).

A copy of the most recent News Release issued jointly by the PCC and ChALC is attached for your information.

Kind Regards

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OFFICE OF
Police & Crime
Commissioner
for Cheshire

News release: 29 September 2021
For immediate release

Commissioner and councils tackling speeding in Cheshire

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, John Dwyer, and the Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC) have been working together to find solutions to speeding across Cheshire following a county-wide survey.

ChALC conducted a survey earlier this year in order to get an idea of how much speeding affects parishes and towns across the county. The exercise found that a number of areas were desperate to put permanent solutions in place in order to bring an end to long-running problems, and the group has been working closely with Police and Crime Commissioner John Dwyer and his office.

John Dwyer, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, said: "Speeding and dangerous road use is one of the main issues that the police have to deal with, so I am determined to do what I can to help local councils and communities across Cheshire combat this problem.

"People deserve to live in safe communities where drivers are conscientious and understand that we all share the road. Tackling this issue head on will make Cheshire a safer place for pedestrians, drivers and all road users."

ChALC and the Commissioner have been discussing a variety of measures to address the concerns that have been raised and are hopeful that significant progress will be made

soon. One possible solution being explored is expanding the use of average speed cameras across the county; a measure included in the Commissioner's soon-to-be-published Police and Crime Plan.

John Dwyer added: "This issue is a key priority for me and that is clearly reflected in my Police and Crime Plan. I'm very clear that I want to work with organisations like ChALC to tackle speeding and make the biggest difference possible to communities across Cheshire.

"I look forward to seeing what ChALC and I can achieve together. It's important for me to know what each community's needs are, as well as the overall picture in the county, and working closely with the councils that represent them is the best way to bring about change."

Terry O'Neill, Chairman of ChALC, said: "We are delighted to see that partnership in action is going to enable us all to work together for a better outcome for our communities. In areas where speeding has become nightmarish for residents I am sure this will be very much welcomed."

Ends

Notes to Editors

For further information please contact Sam Baxter on samuel.baxter@cheshire.police.uk or 07989 311548.

Image caption: