



**SAFER
CORNWALL**

Kernow Salwa

Safer Saltash Year to Date Summary 2020/21

Safer Saltash facilitates and supports a coordinated multi-agency approach to community safety issues to improve feelings of safety and public reassurance, reduce the risk of harm to the community and protect vulnerable groups.

Safer Saltash involves community members in the work of the partnership and encourages social inclusion and community participation through being part of the problem-solving process and having a sense of pride in Saltash.

This group is now in its third year and has developed a comprehensive work plan¹ based on the evidence presented in the previous Saltash Town Profile and feedback from the Residents Survey. Safer Saltash has identified the following community safety priorities for the Town:

- a) Drug related harm and recovery;
- b) Domestic Abuse;
- c) Suicide attempts off the Tamar Bridge;
- d) Anti-social behaviour and public disorder on the Waterfront and Tamar Bridge;
- e) Crime prevention and improved feelings of safety;
- f) Communications, community engagement and building community resilience

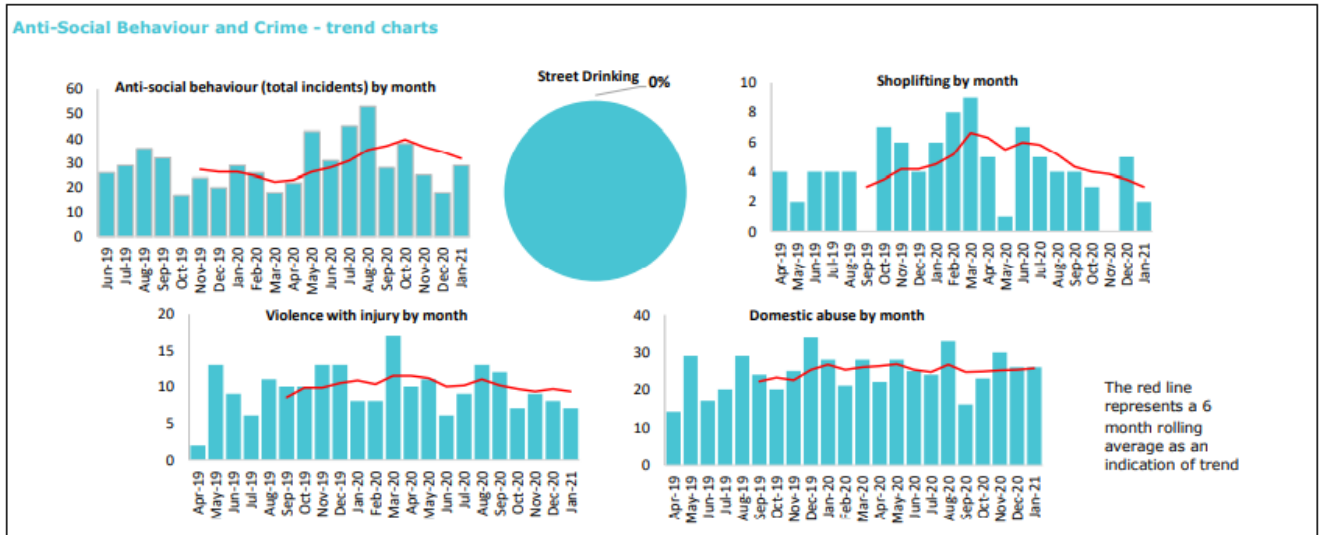
Reported Crime

As of January 2021, the number of crimes reported in Saltash has seen a small 2% reduction when compared with the previous year. There have been notable reductions in violence without injury, non-dwelling burglary and criminal damage. There has been a significant increase in the number of possession of drugs offences, which is likely linked to proactive police operations. The number of drug trafficking (more serious) offences is low and is consistent with the previous year.

¹ March 2020 saw the **start of the COVID-19 pandemic** and the nationwide move into lockdown conditions, testing the Partnership's agility to respond under unprecedented circumstances. **All partners prioritised their resources into providing the emergency response**, supporting communities, reducing risks and developing new ways of working to support the most vulnerable in our community.

Inevitably this has had an **effect on what all ten Safer Towns could deliver in 2020/21** and the impact of COVID-19, the lockdown restrictions and socio-economic implications have **also introduced new risks and themes** which we must consider. In light of this, Delivery Plans across all Safer Towns have been put on hold whilst the Safer Town partnerships respond to community safety impacts of Covid 19.

Saltash Community Safety Data Snapshot



Anti-Social Behaviour

Saltash has experienced a year on year increase of 12% or 38 incidents of reported ASB (compared with a 23% increase across Cornwall) when compared with the previous 12-month period ending January 2020. This can mainly be attributed to the increase in incidents reported just after the initial lockdown ended during the Summer of 2020. Since October 2020 the trend has begun to reduce. Nearly a third of ASB incidents reported in January 2021 are Covid related, which will account for the increase seen between December and January.

Safer Saltash Delivery 2020/21

In light of the changes brought about by Covid 19 restrictions, Safer Saltash have adapted and met virtually every 2-3 weeks since March 2020 to ensure that regular dynamic intelligence and updates about the rapidly changing nature of crime and risk across the town is fed in and acted upon. The new model has been praised by members of the partnership who are still fully engaged and appreciate the speed of actions and the frequency of the communications. Local issues have been predominantly related to the impact of COVID restrictions and more recently anti-social behaviour in specific areas of Saltash. Partners have worked closely together to address these issues.

During quarter 1, the focus was very much on supporting vulnerable families during lock down and supporting access to services and provisions; partnership activity took place with Young People Cornwall and Livewire providing additional supplies in the care packages provided and delivered to families by Saltash Community School. Safer Saltash supported Volunteer Cornwall with their work with individuals in the town and promoted the services provided by PL12 throughout the lockdown period. Safer Saltash have worked with key partners to promote new Neighbourhood Watch schemes to increase community resilience and crime prevention. A multi-agency approach was put in place to address issues with large groups of young people beginning to congregate in key areas and specific ASB problems have been addressed. There was a multi-agency plan delivered in advance of the licenced premises reopening. No community tensions in relation to second homeowners emerged in Saltash but there were reports from nearby Kingsands and Cawsands during this period. There has also been

significant promotion of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence services and 'We Are With You' and how to access during lockdown along with awareness raising of scams and financial exploitation in particular with vulnerable groups.

During the Summer months in quarter 2, there was an increase in ASB on the Waterfront; Safer Saltash worked closely with the Plymouth ASB team to identify specific young people and promote safety messaging about tombstoning on the waterfront in line with the wider 'Don't Jump into the Unknown' campaign. Collectively, Safer Saltash partners increased efforts to promote the work done to tackle community safety issues in order to alleviate some concerns raised on social media platforms. Across the Town partners increased their visibility and numerous joint patrols were undertaken to provide public reassurance.

In the third quarter of the year, concerns were raised regarding close proximity of Saltash to Plymouth/Devon and different tier 1/2 restrictions, specifically around people from tier 2 areas travelling to Saltash to drink in licenced premises without purchasing a substantive meal. Joint comms with Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council were promoted by the partnership and close monitoring of the situation was managed at the multi-agency meetings. Low level ASB involving young people reduced during this period, following the partnership actions taken. Young People Cornwall provided additional outreach in Saltash for a 3-week period, this has now come to an end however they are considering funding options to enable them to continue this valuable work.

Currently, Safer Saltash continue to meet virtually every 3 weeks to ensure a dynamic, timely and proportionate response to any community safety issues that arise during this lockdown period. As we look to the future, the group are considering the community safety risks likely to emerge as we slowly move out of lockdown, and preventative measures that can be put in place.

We would like to thank all the partners who have been involved with Safer Saltash and continue to support the work of the partnership. If you would like to find out more about Safer Saltash please visit <https://safercornwall.co.uk/safer-towns/safer-Saltash/> or email communitysafety@cornwall.gov.uk. Please follow East Cornwall Community Safety Officer

on Twitter here  https://twitter.com/LucyAllison_CS0

